



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code LAW-357	Course Title European Human Rights Law	ECTS Credits 6
Department Law	Semester Fall / Spring	Prerequisites Two from LAW-202, LAW-212, LAW-242 and LAW-252/6
Type of Course Law Elective	Field Law	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 3 rd / 4 th	Lecturer(s) Dr Costas Paraskeva
Mode of Delivery Face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

The aim of the course is to give students a good, critical general understanding of the European Convention on Human Rights, the most developed international human rights instrument in the world. Students will be taught the background and context of the Convention, its status in Europe and the world, the Convention's relationship to other international instruments, as well as its substance, procedure and application in practice.

Historical background and an overview of the rights contained in the ECHR and key concepts such as: margin of appreciation; derogation; protocols and imposing positive obligations on states. Evaluating the various articles of the Convention including: right to life (Article 2); freedom from torture (Article 3); liberty of the person (Article 5); fair hearing (Article 6); right to respect for privacy (Article 8); freedom of expression (Article 10); and future challenges for the European Court of Human Rights.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Explain the case-law under the Convention and how to read and interpret it.
2. Apply that case-law to domestic and international issues.
3. Explain Convention issues to an audience of their peers and how to analyse the issues.
4. Illustrate outline knowledge of the European Convention on Human Rights, its content, control and supervision mechanism.
5. Explain the significance of the ECHR developments in their historical and political

context.

6. Apply and analyse the ECHR and its jurisprudence to facts and critically discuss an area of law and policy.
7. Analyse the impact of the ECHR on the domestic legal order.
8. Discuss the case-law of the European Commission and Court of Human Rights, to analyse and address practical legal problems.
9. Identify procedural and substantive issues under the Convention, in accordance with the procedure in Strasbourg.

Course Content:

During the course, the student will cover the following:

1. General Introduction - Historical context, establishment of the Council of Europe – Adoption of the European Convention on Human Rights - Original supervisory mechanism - Reforms of the system - admissibility criteria.
2. Implementation of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (Interpretation, Positive obligations, Margin of appreciation).
3. Articles 2 & 3 of the ECHR: The right to life and prohibition of torture.
4. Article 6 ECHR: the right to a fair trial.
5. Article 8 ECHR: the right to respect for private and family life.
6. Article 10 ECHR: Freedom of Speech.
7. Article 1 of protocol No.1 to the ECHR: Right to property.
8. Future challenges for the European Court of Human Rights: guaranteeing the long-term effectiveness of the Court and the relationship with the European Union.

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Interactive lectures, tutorials, written examinations and assignments

Assessment Methods:

One written assignment, mid-term exam, final exam

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
David Harris, Michael O'Boyle, Ed Bates, Carla Buckley	Harris, O'Boyle & Warbrick law of the European Convention on Human Rights	Oxford ; New York : Oxford University Press	2009

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Jacobs, White, and Ovey	The European Convention on Human Rights	Oxford ; New York : Oxford University Press	2010
Helen Keller and Alec Stone Sweet	A Europe of rights: the impact of the ECHR on national legal systems	Oxford ; New York : Oxford University	2008

		Press	
Philip Leach	Taking a case to the European Court of Human Rights	Oxford ; New York : Oxford University Press,	2005
Costas Paraskeva	The Relationship Between Domestic Implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights and the Ongoing Reforms of the European Court of Human Rights	Intersentia	2009
Mark W. Janis, Richard S. Kay, Anthony W. Bradley	European human rights law: text and materials	Oxford ; New York : Oxford University Press	2008