

## **GROUP MOBILITY PROJECT**

*Academic year 2017-2018*

Between the Following Partners:

Universidad Bernardo O'Higgins, Université Paris-Sorbonne Abu Dhabi, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Objective**

The Department of International and European Law started to implement a Group Mobility project, sponsored by the International Relations and Mobility Office (IRMO) of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, from the academic year 2015-2016 onward. The goal of the project is to stimulate students to follow an intensive two-week course (15 ECTS) at a partner institution. The project offers 15 students of International and European Law studies each year the possibility to participate in this exchange. The programme for the current academic year 2017-2018 has been established under the following modalities.

### **What, when, where?**

During the academic year 2017-2018 the following courses have been opened up to foreign students of the participating universities under the Group Mobility Project:

1. [Universidad Bernardo O'Higgins](#) (Santiago de Chile, Chile)

[Trans-disciplinary Analysis of National and Regional Conflicts in Contemporary Chile](#)

Main course: 12 March – 23 March 2018

Field research: 24 March – 30 March 2018 (optional)

2. [Université Paris-Sorbonne Abu Dhabi](#) (Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates)  
Geopolitics of conflicts (11 March - 22 March 2018)

3. [Vrije Universiteit Brussel](#) (Brussels, Belgium)  
[Law of the Sea: Special Issues](#)

12 March – 23 March 2018

## Modalities?

The evaluation of the courses enrolled in will NOT take the form of a written or oral exam. Instead, a 20-page paper (approximately 10.000 words, excluding bibliography) is required. The evaluation process is organized under the following conditions:

### 1. Choice of topic

a. The student seeks agreement with the professor teaching the course on a suitable topic. The students must coordinate their efforts to make sure the topics chosen are sufficiently diversified. The course convener forwards a list of topics to the local administrator. (Universidad Bernardo O'Higgins: virginie.delalande@ubo.cl; Université Paris-Sorbonne Abou Dhabi: Michele.Anbar@psuad.ac.ae); Vrije Universiteit Brussel ([faculteit.rechten@vub.ac.be](mailto:faculteit.rechten@vub.ac.be)).

### 2. Writing

a. Students are free to start working on their papers during their stay at the receiving university but need not finish them in two weeks' time.

b. Students continue working on the paper back home and keep the course convener informed about their progress. They ask the course convener for further guidance if necessary.

### 3. Deadlines

a. Students hand in their papers digitally by June 8, 2018, 17h00 Brussels time (UTC+1) with the course convener and the receiving university's administrator (listed above under 1.a).

b. The course convener grades the papers on a scale from 1 to 20 (with 10/20 as the lowest passing grade) by June 22, 2018 and provides the sending university administrators (listed above under 1.a) with the grades as well as the scanned copies of the corrected papers.

Upon successful completion of one of the above-mentioned courses, the student will receive a certificate issued by the receiving university offering that particular course.

## Financial implications?

The costs depend on the destination chosen. The costs of airplane tickets, as well as local accommodation and expenses are borne by the students. The students are exempt from paying registration fees in the receiving institution. They will be granted access to normal student facilities (university internet, libraries, sport infrastructure, dining halls, etc.). The receiving universities will also help the students in finding proper accommodation if so requested.

To give an indication of the financial costs involved with respect to on-campus housing, offered by certain of the participating universities, the following examples can be given based on past experience:

1. The students participating in the courses provided by Universidad Bernardo O'Higgins elected to organize alternative accommodation by renting an apartment for all the students with the same destination. The university provides one free lunch for the participating students during their stay in Santiago de Chile.
2. The *Université Paris-Sorbonne Abou Dhabi* provides [on-campus single dormitories](#) at a price of 1000 AED per week.
3. The *Vrije Universiteit Brussel* offers [on-campus single hotel accommodation](#) at a preferential rate. The students are required to make their individual bookings with [U-residence](#) for a [short stay](#) by credit card. Students can obtain a voucher code for their reservation from the Department of International and European Law, once selections at the sending universities are completed. Alternatively, students are free to look for accommodation through other informal channels.

### How to apply?

The application procedure differs from university to university and is determined by the sending university.

For outgoing students from the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, the procedure is as follows:

Send an e-mail by November 17, 2017 at the latest (in Dutch) to [faculteit.rechten@vub.ac.be](mailto:faculteit.rechten@vub.ac.be) referring to "Groepsmobiliteit 2017-2018" in the subject line, including

- a. A letter of motivation
- b. Indicating your language skills
- c. A first and second preference of destination. If your preference includes the program provided by Universidad Bernardo O'Higgins, indicate whether or not you wish to participate in the optional field research program (third week, extra cost of approximately 800 Euros for a six day stay, domestic flight and accommodation included).

Students accepted for this program are exempt from enrolling for the following courses:

2nd year Master of Laws in International and European Law:

- a. International Law II
- b. International Organisations

Master of Laws in International and European Law (LL.M)

- a. Exempt from enrolling in elective courses

### Selection

The objective of this program is to exchange students evenly amongst the participating universities.

The application procedure differs from university to university and is determined by the sending university.

For the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, the procedure is as follows:

Selection takes into account the candidate's dossier and motivation. As regards students enrolled in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Master of Laws, not having completed courses from previous years serves as grounds for exclusion.

Language skills are taken into account for determining the students' destination (for Universidad Bernardo O'Higgins, for instance, the knowledge of Spanish is taken into account) as well as the principle of "first come, first served".