

Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2020

7,384: The UN Sustainable Development Goals from a Legal Perspective

ECTS credits: 4

### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (70%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Presentation (individual) (30%)

Examination time: term time

#### Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

7,384,1.00 The UN Sustainable Development Goals from a Legal Perspective -- Englisch -- Egli Patricia

# Course information

#### Course prerequisites

There is no specific prior knowledge required, however, students should be prepared to work with legal texts and literature.

#### Learning objectives

- Firstly, the students learn about the historical background and the development of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).
- Secondly, the students will write papers to analyze the legal status of the SDC and their implementation on international level. In addition, there will be student papers on the legal status of the SDG and their implementation in Switzerland.
- Thirdly, against the background of the legal analysis, the students critically evaluate the SDG from a legal perspective and try to combine their conclusions in a "shadow report" on the implementation of the SDG in Switzerland.

# Course content

On 25 September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development in the form of a resolution. The central element of the Agenda 2030 are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), which define the social, economic and environmental goals to be achieved by the 193 member states of the UN by 2030. In principle, the resolutions of the General Assembly of the UN have no binding effect. However, a differentiated analysis shows that the SDGs are not only a declaration with political content, but also have legal dimensions.

The course approaches the topic in such a way that the basics (historical development of the SDG, contents of individual SDGs and general legal aspects) are examined in a kick-off meeting (part 1). On the basis of these theoretical principles, students then write a paper and deal either with the legal status and implementation of a specific SDG on international or national level in Switzerland (part 2). Finally, the individual conclusions are analyzed and discussed in detail in student presentations in order to combine them as a "shadow report" on the implementation of the SDG in Switzerland (part 3).

### Course structure

The course is structured in three parts:

- Part 1: Kick-off: Teaching of the theoretical basics.
- Part 2: Individual writing of the term paper.
- Part 3: Break: Presentation of the results of the term paper.



#### Course literature

Reader available on StudyNet.

Students are expected to use additional literature for the papers.

#### Additional course information

In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in AS2020, the course information listed above will be changed as follows:

- The course is conducted online via the platform Zoom.
- The recordings of the course will be available for 30 days
- The lecturer informs via StudyNet on the changed implementation modalities of the course

The examination information listed below would be changed as follows:

• The presentations are conducted online and are being recorded.

### **Examination information**

#### Examination sub part/s

# 1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (70%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Term papers

Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship which is a published template in StudentWeb.

The documentation of sources (quotations, bibliography) has to be done throughout and consistently in accordance with the chosen citation standard such as APA or MLA.

For papers in law, the legal standard is recommended (by way of example, cf. FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R. et SCHINDLER B., Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende, newest edition respectively, or according to the recommendations of the Law School).

The indications of the sources of information taken over verbatim or in paraphrase (quotations) must be integrated into texts in accordance with the precepts of the applicable quotation standard, while informative and bibliographical notes must be added as footnotes (recommendations and standards can be found, for example, in METZGER, C., Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien, newest edition respectively.

For any work written at the HSG, the indication of the page numbers is mandatory independent of the chosen citation standard. Where there are no page numbers in sources, precise references must be provided in a different way: titles of chapters or sections, section numbers, acts, scenes, verses, etc.

Supplementary aids

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**Examination languages** 

Question language: English



Answer language: English

### 2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (individual) (30%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Presentations

In presentations, aids for visual presentation can be used. These aids can be specified or restricted by the lecturers.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages Question language: English Answer language: English

#### **Examination content**

The examination content is based on the reader, on the inputs and discussions in the lectures, and on own research. The topics for the papers will be assigned in the first weeks of the semester.

#### Examination relevant literature

Reader available on StudyNet.

Students are expected to use additional literature for the papers.

# Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are is binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 34 (Thursday, 20 August 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 12 October 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 12 October 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 44 (Thursday, 29 October 2020).