SUBJECT DETAILS

Data on the subject	
Name	Navigating AI: Legal and Ethical Frontiers
Degree	Postgraduate Master in International and European Business Law
Year	2024-25
Nature	Spring
ECTS Credits	10 hours (1 credit)
Department	Law
Area	Law Faculty

Data on the teaching staff	
Teaching staff	Iñigo A. Navarro Mendizabal
e-mail	inavarro@comillas.edu
Telephone	915422800 (Ext. 4383)
Office	CD-413
Tutoring Schedule	Upon request from students

CLASS DESCRIPTION

SPECIFIC DATA ON THE SUBJECT

Pre-requisites
None
Contribution of the degree to the professional profile
Conceptual (knowing): This subject will provide students with a general knowledge of the normative framework and the main challenges regarding AI in the EU **Procedural (doing)**: The students will develop the type of skills required to analyze and think critically of the ongoing changes that AI are posing. The aim is to provide students with the necessary tools to critically assess the challenges regarding AI and how to use the legal

tools to ensure responsible business conduct.

Professional (knowing how): The students will have to produce reports and understand current challenges and efforts to regulate them.

COMPETENCES TO BE IMPROVED

What skills you´ll gain from this class:

Generic Skills:

- GC 2: Ability to communicate orally and in writing
- GC 4: Problem-solving skills
- GC 5: Decision-making skills
- GC 7: Ability to work in an international context

THEMATIC AREA AND CONTENT

AREA 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE REGULATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

AREA 2: THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

2.1 United States
2. 2 China
2.3 The urgent need for European regulation

Comparison and Debate

Assessment of the different interest: consumers, citizens and businesses.

AREA 3: ETHICAL PRINCIPLES FOR AI AND DO NO HARM

AREA 4: THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ACT AND OTHER EUROPEAN DOCUMENTS

AREA 5: DAMAGE THAT AI CAN CAUSE
AREA 6: WHY THE FRAMEWORK WE HAVE FOR AI LIABILITY DOESN'T WORK
AREA 7: THE IMPORTANCE OF A EUROPEAN REGULATION OF AI CIVIL LIABILITY
AREA 8: THE PROPOSAL FOR A DIRECTIVE ON LIABILITY FOR DEFECTIVE PRODUCTS AND THE PROPOSAL
AREA 9: CONCLUSION
Debate in class

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES

Bibliography

Navarro Mendizabal, Iñigo, The Civil Liability of Artificial Intelligence Systems in European Union. What is at risk, and what do we need?, Working Paper

Scherer, Matthew U., «Regulating Artificial Intelligence Systems: Risks, Challenges, Competencies, and Strategies» (May 30, 2015). *Harvard Journal of Law & Technology*, Vol. 29, No. 2, Spring 2016, Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=2609777 or http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2609777

European Regulations and Proposals:

European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles
https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/european-declaration-digital-rights-and-principles

Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on liability for defective products COM/2022/495 final
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52022PC0495

Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on adapting non-contractual civil liability rules to artificial intelligence (AI Liability Directive) COM/2022/496 final
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Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence (Artificial Intelligence act) and amending certain union legislative acts COM/2021/206 final
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European Documents:

European Commission, *Report on the safety and liability implications of Artificial Intelligence, the Internet of Things and robotics*, Brussels, 19.2.2020 COM(2020) 64 final
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0064

European Commission, *White Paper on AI. An European approach to excellence and trust*, Brussels, 9.2.2020, COM (2020) 65 final
https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/d2ec4039-c5be-423a-81ef-b9e44e79825b_en?filename=commission-white-paper-artificial-intelligence-feb2020_en.pdf

European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Comitte of the Regions *Building Trust in Human-Centric Artificial Intelligence,* Brussels, 8.4.2019
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https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52019DC0168

European Commission, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, *Ethics guidelines for trustworthy AI*, Publications Office, 2019, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2759/14078

European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, *Liability for artificial intelligence and other emerging digital technologies*, Publications Office, 2019, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2838/573689

European Parliament resolution of 16 February 2017 with *recommendations to the Commission on Civil Law Rules on Robotics* (2015/2103(INL))
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US and China

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http://fi.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/kxjs/201710/P020210628714286134479.pdf

National Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act de 2020 (USA)
https://www.congress.gov/116/crpt/hrpt617/CRPT-116hrpt617.pdf#page=1210

State Council of China, *Made in China 2025*
https://cset.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/t0432_made_in_china_2025_EN.pdf

State Council of China, *New Generation Artificial Intelligence Development Plan (2017)*
https://digichina.stanford.edu/work/full-translation-chinas-new-generation-artificial-intelligence-development-plan-2017/

White House, *Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights (Making automated systems work for the American people)* https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/ai-bill-of-rights/

White House, *Executive Order on the Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence*, 30 October, 2023.
https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2023/10/30/executive-order-

on-the-safe-secure-and-trustworthy-development-and-use-of-artificial-intelligence/

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

General methodological aspects of the subject
Contact hours methodology: Activities
The format followed for this class will not only be a series of lectures, but a discussion and general participation by the students commenting on the suggested regulations, articles and other materials. **Students will have to intervene in the discussion and their participation will be taken into account in the final evaluation**
Independent study methodology: Activities
Reading materials and preparation of the cases.

SUMMARY OF STUDENT WORK HOURS			
Activity	Number of class hours	Number of independent study hours	Total number of hours
Lecture	10	10	
Practical class and debate			
In class presentation			
Individual work	-		
Work in collaboration	-		
Evaluation: one-minute paper	-		
Evaluation: class test			
Evaluation: exam	-	15	20
Evaluation: exam review	-		
Others	-		
ECTS Credits:	1 (10h)	25	35

GRADE EVALUATION AND CRITERIA

Evaluation Activities	Generic Competences	Indicators	Evaluation Weighting
Group work	Continuous mid-course evaluation. Group assignment: 3 page legal analysis on the concepts presented in the context of a case submitted by professor.	Capacity of analysis, prioritization of salient human rights issues, ability to find solutions	40%
Exam: Case study	The final exam will consist of a practice case covering the course.	• Evaluate and identify strategies to improve human rights practices and within a given situation • Identification of applicable law and relevant regulations • Degree of assimilation of course contents.	50%
Attendance		• Regular attendance to classes	10%

SUBJECT DETAILS

Data on the subject	
Name	Human Rights and Business in Europe
Degree	Postgraduate Master in International and European Business Law
Year	2024-25
Nature	Spring
ECTS Credits	10 hours (1 credit)
Department	Law
Area	Law Faculty

Data on the teaching staff	
Teaching staff	Pia Navazo
e-mail	mpnavazo@comillas.edu
Telephone	
Office	
Tutoring Schedule	Upon request from students

CLASS DESCRIPTION

SPECIFIC DATA ON THE SUBJECT

Pre-requisites
None
Contribution of the degree to the professional profile
Conceptual (knowing): This subject will provide students with a general knowledge of the normative framework and the main challenges regarding international regulations an challenges on business and human rights in the EU • **Procedural (doing)**: The students will develop the type of skills required to work in law firms, corporations, international organizations, NGOs, or public institutions. The aim is to

provide students with the necessary tools to critically assess the challenges regarding corporate related human rights harm and how to use the legal tools to ensure responsible business conduct.

- **Professional (knowing how)**: The students will have to produce reports and an exam that will reflect a real case in the same way as in a professional environment.

COMPETENCES TO BE IMPROVED

What skills you´ll gain from this class:
Generic Skills: • GC 2: Ability to communicate orally and in writing • GC 4: Problem-solving skills • GC 5: Decision-making skills • GC 7: Ability to work in an international context

THEMATIC AREA AND CONTENT

AREA 1: INTRODUCTION
Theme 1: Theory
1.1 Introduction to business and human rights 1.2 Current trends in business and human rights 1.3. International framework for business and human rights: overview of the UN Guiding Principles on BHR
AREA 2: INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW
Theme 1: Theory
2.1 European Law: status, upcoming regulations 2.2 Focus on Due diligence Sustainability Directive: Due Diligence as the cornerstone for

business and human rights EU practice
Theme 2: Practice
Significance in business and relevant legislation in practice

AREA 3: landing theory to practice: examples
Theme 1: Theory
3.1 Supply chains. Challenges for BHR 3.2 From theory to practice, professor will present a case, students shall debate in class
Theme 2: Practice
Lessons offered by due diligence practice: real-life examples of human rights issues in the supply chain. The increasingly important regulatory framework of the EU and its implications for EU and foreign companies and their supply chains
AREA 4: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE
4.1 Sector examples 4.2. Exam

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES

Basic Bibliography
Readings

- 30 basic human rights: https://opseu.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/30_basic_human_rights_list_english.pdf
- Summary of the report of the Working Group on Business and Human Rights to the General Assembly, October 2018 (A/73/163): Corporate human rights due diligence: emerging practices, challenges and ways forward: https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Business/ExecutiveSummaryA73163.pdf
- White and Case (2024): Time to get to know your supply chain: EU adopts Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive: https://www.whitecase.com/insight-alert/time-get-know-your-supply-chain-eu-adopts-corporate-sustainability-due-diligence
- Human Rights Watch (2022):-"Obsessed with Audit Tools, Missing the Goal": https://www.hrw.org/report/2022/11/15/obsessed-audit-tools-missing-goal/why-social-audits-cant-fix-labor-rights-abuses

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

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