



**EIPA** | European  
Institute of  
Public  
Administration



SWEDISH  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION  
AGENCY

# **EU Environment Academy 2023**

## **Programme**



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## Introduction

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The EU Environmental Academy will officially start in the first week of April. By then, all participants will have received a login and a password allowing them to access EIPA's Moodle platform (LMS). On the platform, participants will be able to access the schedule and to receive announcements before any activity or task is started.

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## Module 1 content: Defining the EU acquis and the EU legal and institutional framework

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The overall objective of the first Module is to provide the participants with a comprehensive overview of the functioning of the EU, both from the perspective of the institutional framework and from the legal architecture of the EU. The institutional aspect will aim at clearly presenting the different institutions, bodies and agencies of the EU and specifying their roles, as well as their interaction with the authorities of Member States and consequently also the authorities of a candidate country. The legal perspective will focus on explaining the functioning of the EU norms and acts, namely: primary law (Treaties), secondary law (legislative acts and acts of executive nature) and to a certain extent non-binding acts (communications, conclusions, resolutions, reports, etc.).

This comprehensive overview will be framed into a certain number of integration theories which each help to understand the factors underlying European integration and to predict possible future scenarios of the EU integration. The participants will get a comprehensive overview of theories on the general nature of the integration process ("Grand Theory"); conceptual works attempting to describe the organisational nature of the EU; and, conceptual approaches to particular aspects of the functioning of the EU ("Meso Theories").

In addition, given the overarching objective of the EU Environment Academy to provide a necessary foundation to commit to work on EU accession matters within the environmental field, the objective of this Module will be to provide participants with key concepts necessary to follow successfully the next two Modules, in particular Module 3 dedicated to Chapter 27. Indeed, in order to understand the accession negotiations process as well as the contents of Chapter 27, it is paramount that participants do understand, for example, how the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) provides for a legal basis for certain institutions to adopt legally-binding acts in the area of environmental protection, what is the difference between a regulation and a directive and why, up until recently, directives are the preferred instrument used to implement the environmental policy.

Sessions will be grouped as follows:

- **General introduction into the history and logic of the EU integration**
- **The EU Institutional framework (with a focus on the Commission, Council and Parliament)**
- **Typology of EU acts (treaties, legislation, implementing and delegated acts, non-binding acts)**
- **Legal system of the EU (role of the Court of Justice of the EU, primacy, direct effect and state liability)**
- **Integration Theories**

The total duration of teaching hours foreseen is 56 h 30 min.  
This module will be followed by an examination online.



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## Module 2 content: Understanding the Accession process

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The overall objective of this Module is to ensure awareness and understanding of the EU accession process throughout the national administrations in the beneficiary countries.

The learning outcome will be the strengthening of the ability of national civil servants and other public employees to prepare for and participate in the accession negotiations. To that aim, the main focus of this Module will be on the EU enlargement policy and methodology, the approximation strategy and the accession negotiations. Special attention will be given to the screening process, as well as the structure and process of the accession negotiations.

The delivery of the pedagogical content will be based on a methodology which uses a balanced mix of live webinars (online lectures which are mixed with case-studies and simulations) and self-learning (specific academic readings before or after a given webinar, case-studies and exercises to be prepared by the participants on their own or in working groups).

Sessions will be grouped as follows:

- **Introduction to the Enlargement Policy and Process**
- **EU Accession Process step-by-step – focus on the Negotiations**
- **EU Accession Process step-by-step – focus on Screening**
- **EU Accession Process step-by-step - focus on Negotiation Abilities and Skills**
- **EU Accession Process step-by-step – focus on the Negotiations**

The total duration of teaching hours foreseen is 62 h 30 min

This module will be followed by an examination online.



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## Module 3 content: Chapter 27 of the EU environmental acquis

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The third and final module will cover all directives and regulations under Chapter 27 (EU environmental acquis), thus providing the participants with a complete overview of EU Environmental legislation which candidate and potential candidate countries need to integrate into their national systems.

The module will cover horizontal legislation (such as environmental impact assessment, strategic environmental assessment, the three pillars of the Aarhus convention...) as well as sectoral legislation (waste management, water protection, biodiversity, air quality...).

A particular attention will be dedicated to Ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (directive 2008/50/EC), Nature protection, covering the birds directive (2009/147/EC) and the habitats directive (92/43/EEC), both establishing the Natura 2000 network, and finally the first pillar of the Aarhus Convention, the access to environmental information (directive 2003/4/EC. In addition, a part of this module will be dedicated to the legislation on climate change, with a particular focus on the importance of the European Green Deal, including the links with other chapters (such as Chapter 15 on Energy, or Chapter 11 on Agriculture). Finally, Gender Equality, Equity and Environment will also be covered by this module.

Sessions will be grouped into “Academic Blocs” as follows:

**Block 1: Introduction the main principles of the EU environmental policy:**

- Allocation of competences in environmental matters between Member States and the EU
- Main environmental principles: prevention principle, precautionary principle, polluter-pays principle, principle of rectification at source, principle of integration

**Block 2: Horizontal legislation of Chapter 27:**

- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA directive) and the Strategic Impact Assessment Directive (SEA)
- The Aarhus Convention with focus on pillars II and III
- The Aarhus Convention with specific focus on Pillar I (access to environmental information)
- Directive on protection of environment through criminal law and Directive on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage



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## Block 3: Sectoral legislation of Chapter 27:

- **Waste Management Legislation: Waste framework directive, Shipment of waste regulation, waste stream legislation and landfill directive**
- **Industrial Emissions Directive**
- **Air quality legislation, including the current revision process under the Green Deal**
- **Water protection legislation: water framework directive, nitrates directive, urban wastewater directive, bathing water directive, drinking water directive**
- **Legislation on chemicals**
- **Biodiversity & Nature protection legislation: birds and habitats directives, Natura 2000 network**
- **Noise pollution legislation**
- **Framing the big picture: The European Green Deal, climate change and links with other policies such as energy policies**
- **Gender equality, equity and environment**

The total duration of teaching hours foreseen under this module is 152h, indicatively from the first week of September until mid-December.

This module will be followed by an examination online.