

International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

Europa-Universität Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder)
Master of Laws



Program

The foundation for a career in the field of the human rights or in related fields

The special character of the program International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law lies in its integration of the protection of human rights generally with rights protection in diverse situations of armed conflict.

Thus many aspects of the program are directed specifically to providing understanding and insight into the links between tradition international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

As well, the program aims not only to provide a solid theoretical understanding of the issues, principles, structures, substantive law and institutions relevant to this topic but also to aid students in acquiring reliable practical skills in the application of their theoretical knowledge:

- comprehensive knowledge of the system of protection of the individual spanning both the international law of peace and the international law of armed conflict, including the philosophical, political and historical foundations of that system
- in-depth knowledge of legally binding international rights and guarantees and their protection and enforcement under various legal remedial regimes
- practical skills in applying international standards of protection in specific circumstances, in particular in international court proceedings and other institutional procedures, the investigation of facts, or conflict resolution
- skills and procedures in undertaking academic investigation and research including the preparation of reports
- intercultural communication and transfer of knowledge
- The Master's program is open to graduates with sufficient background in law, especially those from central, eastern and south-eastern Europe, but also from other regions of the world.



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Studieninhalte

The program is constructed to meet the needs of people seeking to establish or develop a career in field of the human rights or in related fields whether on the governmental or private level, both internationally, regionally or nationally, including non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and in the military, defence and policing sectors. Its primary appeal is to relatively recent graduates who have already commenced working in the relevant area. However, those who have had longer experience in the field wishing to develop, deepen or update their theoretical knowledge or acquire additional skills will benefit from the program. In addition, those pursuing and academic career (for example, prospective or current doctoral students or aspiring university teachers) will find the program equally useful.

Students are selected for the program competitively based on their university grades, previous experience and motivation. Sufficient ability in the English language is required. At least basic knowledge of public international law is also necessary for enrolment (in certain circumstances this requirement may be satisfied by taking a bridging course in public international law at the Viadrina European University before the commencement of the formal course program).

Perspectives

Mögliche Berufsfelder

The Master's program International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law prepares graduates for taking up career opportunities in policy making, international, public and governmental service, public and private legal practice, work for non-governmental organisations, and academic teaching and research.

[Webseite des Studiengangs >](#)

Application

Requirements for admission are:

- a university degree in law or an equivalent qualification
 - a certified copy of the degree(s) in German, English or French must be submitted with the application form
- adequate aptitude in English, both spoken and written, to be able to read academic literature, write academic papers and engage competently in academic discourse; this can be satisfied be
 - a test result of at least 20 points in the TOEFL computer-based test, at least grade B in the Cambridge Advanced Certificate or a IELTS grade of at least 6; or
 - school education in English of at least four years' duration; or
 - equivalent proof, e.g. residence in an English-speaking foreign country for a sufficient period; or clear evidence of being a native speaker of English
- a high level of motivation to participate in the programme
 - a statement of motivation must be provided within the application form
- at least one year's practical professional experience
 - this must be demonstrated by submission of an appropriate certificate or other confirmation of a relevant employer or organisation
 - exemptions from this requirement may be granted by the Examinations Committee
- the support of two independent referees from two different institutions or organisations
 - confidential references must be provided on the form available from the website (see under Applications)
- payment of the tuition fees in accordance with the Fees Regulations of the Viadrina European University.

Application documentation

The following documents should be uploaded on [online application](#).

- a curriculum vitae (CV) (in English; maximum 4 A4 pages)
- a certified copy of the university degree
- proof of competence in the English language (see Admission Requirements for details)
- a brief statement of your reasons for attending the program
- written evidence of relevant practical professional experience (one year minimum, or a letter requesting and justifying an exemption)
- two confidential references from different institutions, on the confidential reference form, each signed personally by a professor or employer, in English, German, French, Spanish or Russian

Rechtswissenschaft