**‘Comparative EU politics today: from fiscal to military integration”**

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**ABOUT THIS SEMINAR.**  The ‘Comparative Politics” course aims to investigate the transformation of modern democracies in the context of the process of Europeanization and internationalization of domestic politics. The comparison will be conducted in the context of the new global disorder created by the Russian aggression of Ukraine. It is divided in three parts:
(1) the first part consists of the comparative analysis of the political institutions of contemporary democracies, focusing on the established nation states. The aim of this part is to show the functional and institutional differences between nation states and unions of states;
(2) the second part consists of a specific institutional analysis of the European Union (EU) and the United States (US) as the most significant examples of democratic unions of states. A special focus will be on their fiscal and foreign policies. The aim of this part is to investigate the US and EU role in the global order;
(3) the third part will dedicate to the role of the US and the EU in the new global disorder created by the Russian aggression of Ukraine.

On completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Understand the basic institutions of the political systems of the EU and the US in a comparative perspective

- Explain the difference between two instruments of economic integration: regulation and

capacity building, and the concepts such as nation states, democracy

- Criticize the existing academic literature

- Analyze the empirical cases, esp. fiscal and foreign policy, in light of theories of integration

- Apply acquired knowledge to the debate on the future of the EU.

Each student is expected to:

- Attend the sessions and engage in the discussions

- Read the assigned texts, which will serve only as a starting point for discussion

- Do background reading, if required

- Provide empirical examples of a given topic (newspapers articles, such as the Financial

Times, the Economist or Politico.eu are good sources)

- Deliver a 15 min presentation based on a chosen research paper from second group (II) of readings

- Write a critical essay

**HOW WILL I LEARN?** Activities will take place every teaching week.

**HOW WILL I BE ASSESED?** Short essay of ca. 5 pages (60%), 15-min presentation (20%) and participation in discussions (10%).

**FURTHER INFORMATION**. If you wish to enquire about the seminar before the semester begins, feel free to dr Tomasz P. Wozniakowski (Tomasz.wozniakowski@uwr.edu.pl )