

## PEPP (Programme in European Private Law for Postgraduates)

### Informations for applicants and participants

#### I. Contents and aims of the programme

**PEPP is an innovative scholarship programme that is designed for excellent doctoral students who are working in any field of private law which has a European context and are heading for an ambitious career.**

The PEPP concept is totally new: a group of 24 doctoral students, selected at the beginning of each academic year, gather at four renowned universities in different European countries throughout the year. This programme not only offers its participants the opportunity to meet an impressive number of noted, and even a few famous, lawyers from different legal backgrounds but it also provides a profound insight into the atmosphere, traditions, teaching styles, and legal thinking at the different institutions.

PEPP is dedicated to imparting knowledge in a highly concentrated form. Each year's programme delivers four weeks of intense and demanding training in four different environments. All courses are taught by academics and practitioners of high standing, who specialise in EU private law and lead sessions which focus on the core of their expertise.

PEPP aims to boost competences, motivation and enthusiasm and, thereby, enhance the ability of its participants to reflect, think creatively, and work in a more targeted way. Through broadening participants' knowledge beyond the core of the topic on which they are working, participants are enabled to work in more collaborative and contextual ways. Participants are encouraged to look beyond mere application of the rules and seek an understanding of the concepts and principles that underpin lawmaking in the EU. It is this very complexity of adapting EU rules and EU aims in each different Member State which is at the heart of PEPP. Grasping just how diverse national approaches and solutions for one single issue often are, is a basic understanding that, though difficult to achieve, is vitally important.

PEPP is strongly practice-related. One of its main aims is to enable students to place their theses in a practical context through a better understanding of the needs and problems of legal practice. To this end, a high number of the classes are conducted by noted practitioners with outstanding careers.

However, PEPP also focuses upon improving the practical skills of its own participants. In particular, it demands various oratorical performances from the participants, including ad hoc presentations, a seminar speech, and the ECJ moot.

Finally, PEPP offers an ideal opportunity to begin transnational networking amongst the legal elite in the EU. This is supported in many ways: the rhythm of the programme, with its series of meetings in different countries; the social programmes organised by the local participants; personal contact with the teaching staff; and ongoing projects which demand communication during the intervals between meetings.

The programme is not exam-related and ends with a certificate of participation. Participants continue their studies at their home faculty and with their own doctoral advisers.

#### II. Dates and places of meetings, round 2015/2016

Muenster: 26.10. - 30.10.2015

Wroclaw: 11.1. – 16.1.2016

Leuven: 14.3. – 19.3.2016

Genua: 23.5. - 28.5.2016

### III. Costs, fundings, and organisation

As participant of PEPP, you do not only get the chance to take part in a wonderful programme, but you also are awarded a scholarship for the travelling and accommodation costs.

As the organisers of PEPP, we are aiming at supporting you as much as possible and basically provide cost free participation. However, as all public programmes, PEPP is notoriously short of money.

In order to avoid disappointments, and to give you the chance to plan well ahead, we would like to inform you about your estimated costs and about some other administrative necessities.

1. PEPP does not charge any admission fees or any other programme fees.

2. PEPP provides you with free accommodation on the weeks abroad.

a) However, we can only pay for a fixed number of nights, according to the length of the programme. If you wish to stay longer, you must cover the costs for the extra nights.

b) PEPP books budget hotels or student halls. While in the student hall, we can usually get single rooms with bathrooms, you must be prepared to share twin rooms (with bathrooms) in hotels (e.g. Münster and Wrocław). We are trying to find places with comfortable rooms. If you wish to stay in a single room or in a different place, you need to cover the extra costs yourself.

3. PEPP has no uniform system for covering your travelling costs. Please ask your local coordinator for options of reimbursement or support. → *German participants get a travel allowance of 600 Euros in total, which is paid in a lump sum at the end of the programme (!).*

4. Remaining costs and Visa

In any case, PEPP does not cover meals (exceptions occur) or trips at the spot. Both can be expensive at times (e.g. formal dinner at Cambridge; transfers during the weekly courses).

If you need a Visa, please plan long enough in advance and be prepared for the costs. Any extra costs incurred for the visa or extra costs incurred for the failure to obtain a visa in good time (including costs for cancellation of accommodation or flights) will have to be borne by you.

5. Contact dates etc.

After you have been selected for the programme, you will receive an official letter of acceptance by the central PEPP coordination. We need the following information:

Your name (exactly as in your passport), nationality, date of birth;

Address, telephone, e-mail

PhD topic

Please note that your email addresses will be passed on to all members of PEPP. Your personal data will be passed on to all local coordinators.

**6. It is mandatory to attend to all four PEPP weeks.**

Barring exceptional circumstances, failure to attend a PEPP week will mean that you will have to cover any costs incurred for cancellation of flights/accommodation etc.

### IV. Applications

For details please see [pepp-home.eu](http://pepp-home.eu). **The deadline has been shifted to June 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 (PEPP round 2015/2016).**