

## Call for Contributions

### Thematic Issue of the *Journal of Liberties and International Affairs* on "The digitalization of the field of EU Studies"

**Thematic issue editor: Natalia Cugleşan, Babeş-Bolyai University**

The Jean Monnet Module Digital teaching and learning in the field of EU Integration Studies in the new member states (D-Skills) launches a call for contributions for the publication of a thematic issue in late 2022 or early 2023 of the *Journal of Liberties and International Affairs*. Although there is a rich literature on integrating Web 2.0 instruments in the research process, there is limited evidence on the digitalization of the teaching process in the field of EU Studies. This thematic issue aims to respond to this gap and addresses the contribution of the field of European Union Integration Studies.

#### **About the Journal:**

*The Journal of Liberty and International Affairs* is a triannual (3 regular issues per year), international, open-access, and peer-reviewed journal published by the *Institute for Research and European Studies*. The journal aims to provide an active international forum for analysis, research, and debate in a broad range of fields. **It welcomes submissions from political sciences, international relations, international law, and related fields.** The journal is indexed in Scopus, Erih+, CEEOL, and Index Copernicus databases.

#### **Overview of the thematic issue**

The 2015 Yerevan Ministerial conference has placed teaching as the core objective of the European Higher Education Area, 'stressing that enhancing the quality and relevance of learning and teaching is the main mission of the EHEA' (Yerevan Communiqué, p.2). Using digital technologies is one of the methods that can boost the quality of the teaching process. In the last years, the EU has adopted several key documents to support and guide the member states in building digital learning environments. The Digital Education Action Plan or the Communication from the Commission on a renewed higher education agenda are representative of this direction. New impetus for a digital skills-based educational dimension was also reinforced through the VDL EU Commission agenda, which aims to make the European Educational Area a reality by 2025 (A Union that strives for more. Topic 3. A Union fit for the digital age, p.14).

But, the use of digital technologies in the teaching and learning process varies across member states due to differences in digital infrastructure. In addition, Digital tools are relatively costly and create additional burdens on public universities that lack the financial sources to acquire

the software. Also, the teaching staff's lack of training to efficiently use digital technologies is another factor that explains this variation among EU member states.

In this context, having in mind the critical role universities play and the limited evidence on the way universities use digital technologies and the policies and strategies they employ to enhance the quality of teaching, this **thematic issue welcomes empirical and conceptual/theoretical papers that explore the following questions:**

*What digital technology policies and strategies have the universities developed to respond to the strategic policies adopted by the European Union?*

*What policies do universities have to train and professionalize the teaching staff to use digital technologies in the teaching and learning process?*

*How are the EU Integration curricula designed to implement the Digital Competence Framework 2.0?*

*How are EU Integration courses taught across disciplines? How are digital technologies embedded to cultivate critical thinking and digital instruments for civic participation in an era of fake news?*

*What innovative pedagogies are used in the teaching process? What tools provide students with the skills necessary for the labour market?*

#### **Deadline and submission details:**

- Abstract until **July 17** or earlier. Interested researchers are invited to submit a proposal of 300-500 words outlining the manuscript proposal. The authors of selected papers will be notified by **July 20**, 2022.
- The submission deadline for full papers is September 30 **2022**
- The publication date for the thematic issue is **late 2022 or early 2023(January)**
- The editors accept original contributions. By submitting a manuscript, an author certifies that the work is original and not being considered simultaneously by another publisher.
- Manuscripts should range between 6000-8000 words(including references). All manuscripts will be peer-reviewed.
- References: please follow Chicago Manual Style, 17th edition, author-date system: [Author-Date Style \(chicagomanualofstyle.org\)](http://chicagomanualofstyle.org)
- Papers will follow the Author Guidelines submissions of the JILA: [Submissions | Journal of Liberty and International Affairs \(e-jlia.com\)](http://e-jlia.com)

E-mail for submissions is [natalia.cuglesan@ubbcluj.ro](mailto:natalia.cuglesan@ubbcluj.ro).