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JEAN MONNET CHAIR “EUROPEAN UNION LAW OF THE SEA”

(REFERENCE: 101047678 — SEALAW)

REPORT OF THE 2ND YEAR

INTRODUCTION

The Jean Monnet Chair “European Union law of the sea” (reference: 101047678 — SEALAW) aims to promote the teaching, research, information, and dissemination of European Unions’ (EU’s) values on the law of the sea and its impact on Galicia. It seeks to deal with the EU’s role as a maritime actor in a globalized world, enhancing awareness of the EU and facilitating people-to-people dialogue.

It is currently the only one Chair on law of the sea in Spain. This branch of law is especially relevant for this EU’s Member State in general and Galicia in particular. As is well-known, Spain's maritime coastline is the second largest of the EU Member States and Galicia, is a peripheral region of the EU that is highly dependent on the sea and fishing.

This Jean Monnet Chair has counted on the logistical support of “Salvador de Madariaga” University Institute of European Studies (IUEE) within the University of A Coruña. The holder of the Chair (prof. Gabriela A. Oanta) is the IUEE’s Director and all the members of the Chair are also IUEE’s members. Therefore, the Chair has benefited from the institutional and human framework of high scientific and professional quality in order to promote active European citizenship and values, and deal with the role of the EU in a globalized world, enhancing awareness of the EU and facilitating future engagement as well as people-to-people dialogue.

IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

During its second year of activity (December 2022-November 2023), this Chair has acted as a reference point for the promotion of innovative courses on EU law of the sea for bachelor’s and master’s students of EU studies or who have not come automatically into contact with EU studies. Furthermore, the number of people, benefiting from this Chair, has been extremely large and diverse: authorities and public administration competent in matters related to the sea, private entities with interests in the field of fishing and navigation (foundations, ship-owners associations), lawyers, professionals in the sector, students (Bachelor, Master, PhD) and society in general. It has succeeded in giving the EU law of the sea greater visibility, raising its profile in society as a whole and expand the channels

of information, training and dissemination of specific issues related to the EU's activities at sea. It is considered that these positive effects will also be visible after this Chair will be finished.

All the activities carried out during the second year of implementation of the Chair have been published on the website (www.udc.es/catedrajeanmonnet_derechouemar) and the YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXbWsvzGohcAFH_riVf_d8w) created for this purpose as well as on the website of the IUEE (www.udc.es/iuee) and other forms of dissemination managed by this university center.

The activities conducted during this period have been as follows:

- A. Teaching activities (for pupils and students of bachelor's and master's degrees):** The classes have taken place at different Schools and Faculties in different campuses of the University of A Coruña. The classes have been taught in Spanish or in English, according to the Working Plan.
- B. E-course on maritime studies:** This academic offer has known again an excellent reception from the civil society of various countries in Latin America and Europe. The classes have been carried out through the MS TEAMS platform from 26 April to 8 June 2023.
- C. Summer Course on “European Union’s action on the ecological and digital transition at sea”:** The classes have taken place onsite at the Port Authority of A Coruña during the first week of July 2023. It has been attended by students at the University of A Coruña, who wanted to get a deep training on topics related to the ecological and digital transition at sea and the European Union’s action in these fields.
- D. Seminars on relevant topics for the EU law of the sea:** See the website and YouTube channel that have been specifically created for this Jean Monnet Chair.
- E. Study visits to maritime institutions in A Coruña:** Students, who have been enrolled in various of the above-mentioned activities, have had the opportunity to visit three maritime institutions linked to the maritime professional environment that are settled in A Coruña.
- F. Annual international conference on a sea-related issue of great topicality for the EU:** The international conference “Human rights at sea and the challenges of the ecological and digital transition” took place on 24 March 2023. The speakers and chairs were fifteen professors from eleven universities within three different European countries. The Conference had three working-languages and its Scientific Committee was made up by seven professors from five different European countries. The scientific results of this event have been published in the book:

OANTA, G.A. (dir.), *Los derechos humanos en el mar ante los desafíos de la transición ecológica y digital* [translation: *Human Rights at Sea and the challenges of the ecological and digital transition*], Bosch Editor, Barcelona, 2023, 526 pg. ISBN: 978-84-10044-04-3

Furthermore, another international conference on the topic “The presence of international organizations in the evolution of the international law of the sea: Thirty years since the entry into force of UNCLOS” has been organized and will take place in February 2024.

- G. Publication of several books, book chapters and articles on different topics related to the EU law of the sea:** The reference to this Chair has been included in several books, book chapters and articles written by the holder and other members of this Jean Monnet action.