University of Salzburg
PoSIG Teacher Academy 2026: Higher Education: Internationalization matters!
Salzburg, Rudolfskai 42, 14-19 September 2026
Planningstatus DRAFT 2025-12-24

Call and Invitation: PoSIG Teacher Academy 2026 & Annual Meeting of www.erasmus-network.eu

Internationalisation of Higher Education matters(?)

The PoSIG Teacher Academy 2026 aims to answer this question for teaching Political Science and International Relations. After decades of European initiatives for the international mobilisation of students and professors, with a heavy toolbox including Erasmus, ECTS, Bologna, ESG, and EQF, we will explore how the actual standards for teaching Political Science and International Relations in Europe have developed in this environment.

A number of critical points have been raised about these reforms and their implementation at universities in the EU member countries (Corbett and Henkel in EPS of ECPR 2013 Volume 12). However, the changing educational needs and ambitions of new generations of students towards student-centred teaching and internationalisation and the global outreach of Bologna can be seen as proof of these changes and a story of success for the European *soft power* (Hannah Moscovitz & Hila Zahavi (Ed.): The Bologna Process and its Global Strategy. Routledge 2020). The 2026 PoSIG Teacher Academy will be a place to strike a balance on these developments.

While the internationalisation of research in these fields defines benchmarks in publication systems and international research funding policies, awareness of changes in academic teaching practices has not received the same visibility and transparency. At the same time, a fast-growing diversity of specialised study programs and differentiated HE systems emerged, with the Bologna Process as a structural schema for academic standards becoming dominant in Europe and beyond.

The aim of the PoSIG Teacher Academy 2026 is to provide an inventory of fields, methodology, content, and teaching models in teaching Political Science and International Relations in Europe and its neighbouring regions. In preparation for this meeting, a survey on structures and teaching approaches at European universities will be conducted to identify changes in this landscape that have occurred in recent years and to compare them with the results of a similar survey conducted in 2013 on www.erasmus-network.eu.

We will also look at the European environment, instruments, and lighthouse projects for this development, as well as the internationalisation of teaching and learning standards.

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The *PoSIG Teacher Academy* is a constant annual infrastructure for the development of quality and academic interests in research and teaching within the consortium for the *Joint MA Political Science – Integration & Governance* (www.posig.info) with participants from this consortium but also other countries in the Eastern Neighbourhood, Southern Caucasus, Central Asia and the Middle East & Northern Africa (MENA) region.

The PoSIG Teacher Academy 2026 will be held alongside the annual meeting of www.erasmus-network.eu, a loose platform of about 50 Erasmus- and internationalisation-active Political Science departments, founded by the University of Konstanz and the University of Salzburg in the 1990s.

Targeted groups are **Teachers/Lecturers** and **Program/Mobility managers in Political Science and International Relations from www.erasmus-network.eu, as well as from HEs in cooperation within the PoSIG network**.

Although the annual network meeting traditionally runs from Wednesday to Saturday, the PoSIG Teaching Academy usually spans five working days. Therefore, this year's combined program is scheduled for 14–19 September 2026. Members of both groups are warmly invited to participate in the entire event.

Call: Contributions in the form of reports or presentations on teaching models for single courses, modules, or curricula in Political Science and International Relations are welcome.

Mobility grants and costs for stay and travel:

Erasmus KA 131 Partner countries (EU, Serbia, Turkey, North Macedonia): Ask your home university for the Erasmus+ Staff Mobility grant. Contact erasmus-agreements@plus.ac.at to establish an exchange agreement with the University of Salzburg if one does not already exist.

Erasmus KA 171 Partner countries: University of Salzburg has Erasmus+ Grants available for presenters in the TA from the following cooperation regions: Western Balkans, Eastern Neighbourhood, Southern Mediterranean and Latin America. Your paper must be accepted for the TA to qualify for a Grant Agreement.

To register for the event, please click here.

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Concept notes about inputs are welcome to be submitted until 30 April 2026 to: teacheracademy@posig.info

Program 14-19 September 2026

14 September 2026
Monday morning - Opening

09:00 - 10:00	Warmup with **Peter Mayr** and **Angelika Kronreif & Team**: *Internationalisation and Mobility at PLUS: About KA 171 grant management, IT*
10:00 -11:00	**Franz Kok** *Welcome to the PoSIG world!*
11:00 -12:00	**Günter Wageneder** *Curriculum standards and teaching principles in EQF and ESG*.

14-17 September 2026

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Monday – Thursday: Workshops about the best teaching models (teaching standards) in teaching Political Science:

BA/MA module descriptions and course syllabi are presented by teachers in the following fields.

14 Sept	*14:00 - 16:00*	Comparative Politics / Public Administration & Policy
15 Sept	*10:00 -12:00*	International Relations / European Integration
	14:00 – 16:00	Political Theory & History of Political Ideas / Internships & Workfield experiences
	16:30	Citywalk & Beergarden
16 Sept	*10:00 - 12:00*	Methods + Thesis Requirements / Models for Curricula BA/MA
	14:00 - 16:00	**Projectlab**: Curriculum development and Research (*Erasmus CBHE JoPScip, TeachUP, REgovern… others welcome!*)
17 Sept	10:00 – 12:00	Monica Network welcome! Introduction of the network and the represented University partner

The call is addressed to all teachers and curriculum managers in the PoSIG/Monica-Network. The workshop results will provide an overview of the Political Science curriculum and teaching standards.
The following questions will be answered with this workshop on different fields of Political Science research:

- Which fields of Political Science are covered by curricula measured in ECTS workload, and in which methods of teaching?
- Knowledge transfer and competence development: How are the learning from the teacher (ex cathedra) and student-centred teaching and development of skills and competences mixed?
- BA level + MA level: Are there consistent and consecutive learning outcomes between levels?

Starting on Monday with general issues of Learning Outcomes and Curriculum design, Tue/Wed/Thu workshops will deliver an overview and allow conclusions about the development of the academic profile in teaching Political Science. Curriculum/module models or excellent course syllabus examples are welcome to be presented. A later publication of findings is intended.
>Workshop moderation: One expert in each teaching field to collect contributions after the call and team coordination by Aneta Cekikj.
17-18 September Foyer:

Project Corner - Poster presentations constantly

PoSIG network partner and partner from www.erasmus-network.eu present successful projects on the quality of teaching, connecting research with teaching, Erasmus+ CBHE and Mobility activities

- **Contact and project marketplace for further cooperation**

17 September 2026 - afternoon

14:00 - 16:30	**The European toolbar for Internationalisation of HE: Erasmus & Bologna instruments** Moderation: **Günter Wageneder** (PLUS)
	Hila Zahavi (BGU Israel) *Bologna as a global model – European soft power in HE?*
	Antonita Irikova (DG Education EC TBC) and **Laura Tudor** (EACEA TBC) *Erasmus+ mobility and capacity building in higher education: changing the opportunities for students, lecturers and institutions.*
	Mark Frederiks (NVAO Den Hague) and **Maria Weber** (AQ-Austria)

	The European Accreditation Approach as a door-opener for joint programs in the Bologna world.
	Panel: **Aneta Cekikj** (UKIM North Macedonia), **Hila Zahavi** (BGU Israel), **Anano Gorgodze** (GIPA Georgia), **Franz Kok** (PLUS), **Suad Muhibic** (NEO Bosnia and Herzegovina), **Ruben Topchyan** (NAQA Armenia)
16:00 – 17:00	**Break**
17:00 - 19:00	**Open window event – in cooperation with the city of Salzburg** *What the hell is politics?* Comedian **Hugo** gives answers. Moderator: **Franz Kok**
19:00	**Reception – Land Salzburg / city of Salzburg (TBC)**

18 September 2026

10:00 - 12:00	**Internationalisation matters?** Moderator: **Peter Mayr** (PLUS)
	Aneta Cekikj (UKIM/PoSIG) *What are the benchmarks in teaching Political Science? Learnings from teacher workshops 14-17 September. Feedback from participants.*
	Robert Huber (PLUS) and **Aneta Cekikj** (UKIM/PoSIG) *Results of the curriculum surveys in political science 2013-2025.*
	Franz Kok (PLUS/PoSIG) and **Ria Laenen** (KU Leuven) *Joint programs in political science – experiences from BA and MA cooperation perspectives.*
	Panel **Franz Fallend** (PLUS), **Werner Palz** (UConstance), N.N. (UStockholm/CIVIS), **Ria Laenen** (KU Leuven), **Mathieu St-Laurent** (TBC, IPSA)
12:00 – 14:00	**Break**
14:00 – 16:00	**HE perspectives beyond Europe: NextEurope! is calling.** Moderator: **Franz Kok** (PLUS)
	Eugene Sensenig (USEK Lebanon)

	Learning to develop regional strategies – the MENA example.
	Panel N.N. (CIVIS partner NA), N.N. (BMEIA), **Martin Knoll** (PLUS/CIVIS), **Hanan Badr** (PLUS). Oliver Schlumberger (MENA research group UTübingen).
	The alumni perspective **Soso Makaradze** (PLUS/PoSIG), **Markus Pausch** (PLUS/FH Salzburg) & **Francisco Sanmartin Baldwin** (PLUS/Peru) *Internationalisation matters!*

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13.9.2026 Sunday	14.9.2026 Monday	15.9.2026 Tuesday	16.9.2026 Wednesday	17.9.2026 Thursday	18.9.20256 Friday	19.9.2026 Saturday
Participants arrive in Salzburg throughout the day	9:00 – 10:00 Welcome, IO PLUS staff, to the KA 171 grant management, IT 10-11 Franz Kok: Welcome to the PoSIG world! 11-12 Günter Wageneder: Curriculum standards and Teaching Models in EQF and ESG.	10:00-12:00 Teaching Standards in International Relations / European Integration	10:00-12:00 Methods + Thesis Requirements / Models for Curricula BA/MA	10:00-12.30 Monica Network welcome! Introduction of the network and the represented University partner	10:00-12:30 Internationalisation matters(?) Learnings from Teacher Workshops Curriculum Survey Joint Program experiences	Conclusions and plan for joint Publication an Projects.
LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK
	14:00-16.30 Teaching Standards in Comparative Politics / Public Administration & Policy	14:00-16.30 Teaching Standards in Political Theory & History of Political Ideas / Internships & Workfield experiences	14:00-16:00 Projectlab: Curriculum development and Research (Erasmus CBHE JoPScip, TeachUP, REgovern…	15.00 -19.00 The European toolbox: Erasmus & EU Research Environments, European Accreditation Approach	14.00 - 16:00 Bologna as a global model Learnings for regional strategies – the **MENA** example Internationalisation matters! The **Alumni** perspective.	

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