

Negotiating the Treaties – Lesson Plan

1. Introduction (10 minutes)

A short overview about how EU treaties are negotiated, who are the most important parties and the theoretical approaches.

2. Mock-Debate (30-35 minutes)

The mock-debate will include two issues from the Treaty of Lisbon: The Qualified Majority Voting and the Common Defense and Security Policy. The students will take on the roles of different actors, either governments, members of the European Commission or Members of the European Parliament.

2.1 Preparation Time (5 minutes)

The students will have 5min to read their actors' profiles, discuss their strategy within the groups and draft an opening statement.

2.2 Opening Statements (1-2min per actor, overall about 15 minutes)

Each actor will give an opening statement outlining their opinion on the issues. The EC will first, then the EP and followed by the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ireland, and Sweden.

2.3 Formal Debate (10-15 minutes)

The Commission will lead the formal discussion; in this part of the mock-debate the groups will be asked to discuss the issues.

2.4 Vote

The Commission will ask all members of the governments to vote.

3. Final talk (5 minutes)

The class will discuss the outcome of the mock-debate, their experience, and what they felt is important for the member states in this kind of conference.