

Intellectual Property and Sustainable Innovation

(Jean Monnet Module SINPL-EU)

AY 2024/25

Coordination: Giulia Priora

Thursdays 13h30–16h30 (Sala 7) & Fridays 10h30–13h30 (Sala 7)



Course overview

This course is the key teaching component of the Jean Monnet Module SINPL-EU (Sustainability through Intellectual Property Law in the EU), funded by the EU Commission for the period 2024-2027.

At NOVA School of Law, the focus on Intellectual Property (IP) law has been growing, by way of teaching and research activities, exploring its interplay with the notions of Sustainability and Sustainable Innovation. This coupling stands on a conceptual and logical compatibility: IP law regulates, rewards, and incentivizes industrial, technological, and cultural innovation. Innovation is the very essence of the transition towards a more sustainable development.

Against these premises, the course takes up the challenge of **using Sustainability as an entry point to advance the students' legal knowledge on EU IP law**. It delves into the ongoing evolution of IP law **at EU level** in a time of meaningful advancement in the harmonization and modernization of this legal discipline.

The IP law areas covered by the courses will be: **EU copyright law, EU design law, Unitary patent law, EU trademark law, EU geographical indications law, and EU trade secrets law**. The course consists of 12 class sessions, for a total of 36 taught hours, and, in addition, of an optional 10-hour-long **Online Writing School** aimed at enhancing legal research, analytical, and writing skills.

The ideal target of the course are **master's degree students with prior basic knowledge in IP law**.

Regular in-classroom attendance is strongly encouraged.

Learning objectives

The purpose of the course is twofold:

- To advance the students' knowledge on EU IP law, with specific regards to the regulatory frameworks impacting Sustainable innovation and practices, such as re-cultures and circular economy, green technologies, green supply chain and green branding, inclusive cultural development; and
- To build quality legal analyses and policy proposals on EU IP law and Sustainability

Teaching method: Lectures, moderated class discussions, Online Writing School

Reading list

All mandatory readings will be made available on the Moodle page of the course.

Optional handbooks of reference, from which most of the mandatory readings are taken from, are:

- Amani/Ncube/Rimmer, The Elgar Companion of IP and SDGs (2024)
- Rognstad/Orstavik, IP and Sustainable Markets (2021)
- deWerra, IP and Sustainable Development (2024)
- Calboli/Ragavan, Diversity and Intellectual Property (2015)
- Jamar/Mtima, The Cambridge Handbook of IP and Social Justice (2024)

Assessment method

• CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT (100%)

The continuous assessment involves two mandatory components:

1. Full and proactive participation to the SINPL-EU Online Writing School

From 7 until 11 April, every day from 17:30 to 19:30 Lisbon time

2. Academic review

Submission via Moodle of one individual academic review of one selected mandatory reading of the course, applying the legal research, analysis, and writing methods learned in the Online Writing School – max. length: 2,500 words (everything included)

The best evaluated submissions will be invited for publication on SINPL-EU website.

• FINAL EXAM (100%)

In-class, 3-hour-long, open-book (no electronic devices, only print-out materials)

Students with impairments or any special needs are warmly encouraged to reach out to Professor Giulia for clarifications on learning and assessment support rules at our University.

Sessions plan

Date	Class sessions
Thu 20 February 13:30-16:30	Session1 Introduction to EU IP Law and Sustainability <i>Giulia Priora and Amanda Costa Novaes, NOVA School of Law</i>
Thu 27 February 13:30-16:30	Session2 EU Copyright Law and Sustainability <i>Peter Mézei, University of Szeged</i>
Fri 28 February 10:30-13:30	Session3 EU Copyright Law and Sustainability <i>Peter Mézei, University of Szeged</i>
Thu 6 March 13:30-16:30	Session4 EU Design Law and Sustainability <i>Giulia Priora, NOVA School of Law</i>
Fri 7 March 10:30-13:30	Session5 EU Design Law and Sustainability <i>Giulia Priora, NOVA School of Law</i>
Thu 13 March 13:30-16:30	Session6 Unitary Patent Law and Sustainability <i>Pedro Batista, MPI for Innovation and Competition Munich</i>
Fri 14 March 10:30-13:30	Session7 Unitary Patent Law and Sustainability <i>Pedro Batista, MPI for Innovation and Competition Munich</i>
Thu 20 March 13:30-16:30	Session8 EU Trademark Law and Sustainability <i>Pilar Montero, University of Alicante</i>
Fri 21 March 10:30-13:30	Session9 EU Geographical Indications Law and Sustainability <i>Pilar Montero, University of Alicante</i>
Thu 27 March 13:30-16:30	Session10 EU Trade Secrets Law and Sustainability <i>Luc Desaunettes-Barbero, UC Louvain</i>
Fri 28 March 10:30-13:30	Session11 EU Trade Secrets Law and Sustainability <i>Luc Desaunettes-Barbero, UC Louvain</i>
Thu 3 April 13:30-16:30	Session12 EU IP Law and Sustainability mapping <i>Giulia Priora, NOVA School of Law</i>
Mon 7 – Fri 11 April every day 17:30 - 19:30	Online Writing School (Continuous assessment)
11 May (end of the day): Academic review submission deadline (Continuous assessment)	
Final exam	