



FORTHEM Collective Short-Term Mobility

Model European Union in Mainz 2020

Organising university: Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz

Location of the event: Mainz, Alte Mensa location at the Johannes Gutenberg University

Organisers: The organising team consists of members of BETA Deutschland e.V., and is advised by Professor Niemann and his team (especially Friedrich Plank). BETA Deutschland e.V., formerly known as BETA e.V., is a student association whose aim is “[...] to foster mutual understanding and cooperation between young Europeans”.

Project description: Model European Union is a simulation of the legislative process in the European Union. Participants take roles as Ministers of the Council of the European Union or as Members of the European Parliament. Furthermore, two experienced participants become European Commissioners and each presents a directive proposal to the chambers, which will be discussed and amended during the simulation. The directive proposals are chosen by the organisation team and are usually proposals, which have been discussed in the European Institutions in Brussels and Strasbourg. We have not yet made the final decision on the proposals.

Day by day programme: The 2020 edition of our MEU will take place from the 22nd till 25th of July in Mainz. It is planned to start the first day with arrival of the participants and role workshops at the Alte Mensa of the Johannes Gutenberg-University where the simulation will be held. As social program for this night, a wine tasting is planned as we did in the recent years. Thursday is the first day of the actual simulation. The already mentioned commissioners will present their topics to the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament respectively. After a full day of debate only paused for lunch and coffee breaks, Thursday will end with a social program at a pub garden in the city. Friday will start with more debate but after lunch, the commissioners will present their topic to the second chamber now. The participants will then debate on the other proposal including the amendments by the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament respectively. The social program on Friday used to be a barbeque at our hostel. On Saturday, the debate continues till lunch. After this break, the chambers have to defend their amendments at the other institution where those amendments are debated afterwards. The day and the simulation ends with a vote on the final proposals amended by both chambers. The final social program is called European Night. An event where the participants get a chance to present customs of their home country. Sunday is departure day. From our experience, we know that participants use to utilize the socials at the evenings to continue negotiation in an informal setup which is why there is an event planned for each day. The 2020 edition of MEUM will be extended to involve approximately 35 students from all of the FORTHEM partner universities.

Eligibility criteria and selection criteria specific to this project: We require our potential participants to apply for our simulation by writing a short motivation letter, which will be the main criteria for choosing participants and also for distributing the roles in the institutions. However, we try to avoid having a too narrow set of participants’ backgrounds by only choosing political scientist for example. Experience in simulations like Model European Union and knowledge of the institutions and decision-making processes of the European Union may also be taken into consideration but the primary criteria for selection someone will be their motivation to take part in our simulation.