



Challenges in monitoring and protecting human rights in the European Union and the Russian Federation

PENZA STATE UNIVERSITY



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Overview of the training course

The training course “Challenges in monitoring and protecting human rights in the European Union and the Russian Federation” is intended for non-law students and aimed at spreading knowledge about the features of monitoring and protecting human rights in the federal states.

Contacts of the teachers

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<p>Educational background: 1992 - 1997, V.G. Belinsky Penza State Pedagogical University (Russia), Faculty of Foreign Languages, study field “Teacher Training: English and German Languages”, Specialist’s degree programme. 1998 - 2000, Penza State University (Russia), Faculty of Continuing Education, study field “Law”, Lifelong learning programme. 2000 - 2003, V.G. Belinsky Penza State Pedagogical University, Faculty of Law, study field “Constitutional Law. Community Law”, Post-graduate programme. 2003, Moscow State Law Academy (Russia), defence of the Candidate of Legal Sciences thesis “Constitution and legal doctrine of referendum in the Russian Federation and constituent entities of the Russian Federation”. 2009, Russian State Trade and Economy University, defence of the Doctor of Legal Sciences thesis “Modern constitutional and legal models of referendum doctrine around the world”. 2014, N.P. Pastukhov State Academy of Industrial Management (Russia), “Project management at the university”, Professional development programme. 2020, Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia (Russia), “Modern trends in the development of university international activity”, Professional development programme.</p> <p>Work experience: 2019 - present, Penza State University (Russia), Rector’s office, Vice-Rector for International Affairs. 2009 - 2019, Penza State University (Russia), Faculty of Law, Department of Private and Public Law, Head of the Department. 2005 - 2010, Chamber of Attorneys in the Penza Region (Russia), Sintsov’s Legal Office, Attorney. 2003 - 2009, V.G. Belinsky Penza State Pedagogical University (Russia), Faculty of Law, Department of Civil Law and Civil Procedure, Senior Lecturer, Associate Professor, Professor.</p> <p>Recent publications: 1. Sintsov G.V., Stepanova D.N. Exercise of the voting right of persons with disabilities in foreign countries: Comparative legal analysis. Right to Vote for Persons with Disabilities. Conference proceedings. Penza: PSU Publ., 2020, pp. 28-39. 2. Sintsov G.V., Prokhorov A.A. Invalidation of elections in the Russian state system. Moscow: Yurlitinform Publ., 2020, 168 p. 3. Sintsov G.V., Bitiutskii E.V. Features of applying the principle of constitutional identity between the federation and its constituent entities: Case study of the Russian Federation and the Federal Republic of Germany. Multi-Component States: Practices and Development Perspectives. Conference proceedings. Penza: PSU Publ., 2019, pp. 131-136. 4. Sintsov G.V., Goshulyak V.V., Komarova V.V., Feoktistov D.E. Constitutional economics and stability of development of economic relations. Education Excellence and Innovation Management through Vision 2020. Conference proceedings. Seville: International Business Information Management Association Publ., 2018, pp. 1552-1556.</p>			

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7. Sintsov G.V., Likhter P.L. Institution of the Children’s Rights Ombudsperson in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation: Theory and practice, development trends and contradictions. Collective monograph. Moscow: Yurlitinform Publ., 2018, 216 p.
8. Sintsov G.V. Main features and types of federal states. *Law and Practice*. Moscow: History, Economics and Law Research Institute Publ., 2017, no. 2, pp. 10-13.
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18. Sintsov G.V. Concept and types of petition referenda in foreign countries. *Gaps in Russian Legislation*. Moscow: Media-VAK Publ., 2011, no. 1, pp. 6-8.
19. Sintsov G.V. Models of referendum in constitutional law of Iceland. *Theory and Practice of Russian Legal Science*. Conference proceedings. Penza: Privolzhsky Dom Znany Publ., 2011, pp. 278-279.
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21. Sintsov G.V. Differentiating the concepts of referendum and plebiscite in foreign law. *Gaps in Russian Legislation*. Moscow: Media-VAK Publ., 2010, no. 4, pp. 81-85.
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23. Sintsov G.V. Models of referendum in constitutional law of Greece. *Federalism. Civil Society. State: Political and Legal Aspects*. Conference proceedings. Penza: Privolzhsky Dom Znany Publ., 2010, pp. 48-49.
24. Sintsov G.V. Models of referendum in constitutional law of Denmark. *Theory and Practice of Russian Legal Science*. Conference proceedings. Penza: Privolzhsky Dom Znany Publ., 2010, pp. 147-153.

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39. Sintsov G.V. Models of referendum in constitutional law of Hungary. Federalism. Civil Society. State: Political and Legal Aspects. Conference proceedings. Penza: Privolzhsky Dom Znany Publ., 2008, pp. 3-5.
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51. Sintsov G.V. On financing referenda. Finance as a Special Form of Economic Relations. Conference proceedings. Penza: Privolzhsky Dom Znany Publ., 2005, pp. 63-64.
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58. Sintsov G.V. Consolidation and spread of the referendum doctrine in Western countries: late 19th – early 20th century. Topical Issues of Legal Sciences. Conference proceedings. Penza: PGAU Publ., 2005, pp. 130-134.
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63. Sintsov G.V. Evolution of the referendum doctrine in Russia. Legal Bulletin. Penza: PSPU Publ., 2001, no. 8, pp. 56-62.

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2004 - 2009, V.G. Belinsky Penza State Pedagogical University (Russia), Faculty of Law, study field “Law”, Specialist’s degree programme.			
2009 - 2012, Penza State University (Russia), Faculty of Law, study field “Constitutional Law. Municipal Law”, Post-graduate programme.			
2012, Penza State University (Russia), defence of the Candidate of Legal Sciences thesis			

“Constitutional and legal status of the Human Rights Ombudsperson in the Russian Federation (comparative legal study)”.

Work experience:

2017 - present, Penza State University (Russia), Department of Private and Public Law, Associate Professor.

2010 - present, LLC Volga Legal Alliance, Lawyer.

Recent publications:

1. Feoktistov D.Ye. Issues of confidentiality in the activity of ombudspersons. Science. Society. State. Penza: PSU Publ., 2020, pp. 64-73.

2. Feoktistov D.Ye., Sintsov G.V. Civil liability for obstructing the activity of the Human Rights Ombudsperson. Bulletin of O.E. Kutafin Moscow State Law University. Moscow: MSAL Publ., 2019, no. 9 (61), pp. 162-168.

3. Feoktistov D.Ye., Sintsov G.V. Activity of the Human Rights Ombudsperson in the Russian Federation: theoretical and practical aspects. Human Rights Ombudsperson in the System of Constitutional Guarantees. Forum proceedings. Moscow: RG-Press Publ., 2019, pp. 43-49.

4. Feoktistov D.Ye. Constitutional and legal development of the Human Rights Ombudsperson in the Russian Federation and the European Union. Constitution and Constitutional Reforms. Conference proceedings. Penza: PSU Publ., 2019, pp. 157-161.

5. Feoktistov D.Ye. Legal institution of the Ombudsperson: theoretical aspects. Regional Features of Market Social and Economic Systems (Structures) and Their Legal Support. Conference proceedings. Penza: MUIV Publ., 2014, pp. 43-47.

6. Feoktistov D.Ye. Subsidiarity in the activity of the Human Rights Ombudsperson in the Russian Federation. Legal, Social and Economic Problems in Modern Russia: theory and practice. Conference proceedings. Penza: PGAU Publ., 2013, pp.63-66.

7. Feoktistov D.Ye. Ombudsperson as a means of dialogue between the state and civil society (Section 3 in the monograph). Constitutional and legal frameworks of interaction between public authorities and civil society institutions in the Russian Federation. Penza: Privolzhsky Dom Znany Publ., 2013, pp. 38-50.

8. Feoktistov D.Ye. Constitutional and legal status of the Civil Rights Ombudsperson in the Republic of Poland. Legal Bulletin. Penza: Penza State Pedagogical University Publ., 2012, no. 33, pp. 111-117.

9. Feoktistov D.Ye. Immunity of the Human Rights Ombudsperson in the Russian Federation: issues of legal regulation. Proceedings of Higher Educational Institutions. Volga Region. Penza: PSU Publ., 2012, no. 1, pp. 20-24.

10. Feoktistov D.Ye. Restrictions related to the replaced position of the Human Rights Ombudsperson in the Russian Federation and the European Union. Education and Law. Moscow: Yurcompany, 2011, no. 10 (26), pp. 132-140.

11. Feoktistov D.Ye., Sintsov G.V. Requirements for the Human Rights Ombudsperson in the Russian Federation. Business in Law. Moscow: Yur-VAK Publ., 2011, no. 3, pp. 15-19.

12. Feoktistov D.Ye. Legal guarantees of personal independence of the Human Rights Ombudsperson in the Russian Federation and the European Union. Business in Law. Moscow: Yur-VAK Publ., 2010, no. 5, pp. 14-17.

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Educational background:

2003 - 2008, Penza State University (Russia), Faculty of Law, study field “Law”, Specialist’s degree programme.

2007, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (Germany), training within the DAAD

programme (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst).
2008 - 2012, Penza State University (Russia), Faculty of Law, study field “Constitutional Law”, Post-graduate programme.
2017, Penza State University (Russia), defence of the Candidate of Legal Sciences thesis “Constitutional model of modern Russian federalism”.

Work experience:

2016 - present, Penza State University (Russia), Department of Law Enforcement, Associate Professor.

2016 - present, Penza Region Bar Chamber (Russia), Branch of the Inter-Republican Bar Council (Moscow), Legal Office No. 11, Lawyer.

Recent publications:

1. Bitiutskii E.V., Sintsov G.V. Features of applying the principle of constitutional identity between the federation and its constituent entities: Case study of the Russian Federation and the Federal Republic of Germany. Multi-Component States: Practices and Development Perspectives. Conference proceedings. Penza: PSU Publ., 2019, pp. 131-136.
2. Bitiutskii E.V., Sintsov G.V. Role and consequences of the “parade of sovereignties” in 1990 – 1991 in forming and developing the Russian state. Proceedings of Higher Educational Institutions. Volga Region. Social Sciences. Penza: PSU Publ., 2019, no. 1 (49), pp. 59-66.
3. Bitiutskii E.V., Sintsov G.V. Constitutional model of modern Russian federalism. Ser. Constitutional Law of the Russian Federation. Moscow: Yurlitinform Publ., 2018, 336 p.
4. Bitiutskii E.V., Sintsov G.V. Attempts at building a federal state during the formation of the USSR in 1922-1924. Topical Issues of Russian Law at the Present Stage. Conference proceedings. Penza: Privolzhsky Dom Znany Publ., 2017, pp. 3-8.
5. Bitiutskii E.V. Constitutional model of modern Russian federalism. Candidate of Legal Sciences thesis. Penza: 2017, 286 p.
6. Bitiutskii E.V., Sintsov G.V. Issues of centralisation and decentralisation of state power in the Russian Federation and the Federal Republic of Germany. Representative Power – 21st Century. Moscow, 2017, no. 2-3 (153-154), pp. 1-5.
7. Bitiutskii E.V. Organising and operating principles of power in a federal state (case study of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Austria). Proceedings of Higher Educational Institutions. Volga Region. Social Sciences. Penza: PSU Publ., 2016, no. 2 (38), pp. 44-52.
8. Bitiutskii E.V., Sintsov G.V. Issues of sovereignty in a federal state. Crimean Scientific Bulletin. Yalta: Interregional Institute for Territorial Development Publ., 2016, no. 3 (9), pp. 164-184.
9. Bitiutskii E.V. Improving the territorial structure of the state by combining the entities of the Russian Federation. Black Holes in Russian Law. Moscow: Media-VAK Publ., 2012, no. 1, pp. 26-30.
10. Bitiutskii E.V., Sintsov G.V. Interrelation of concepts: equality, equal rights and equal legal status of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation. Black Holes in Russian Law. Moscow: Media-VAK Publ., 2011, no. 3, pp. 14-17.
11. Bitiutskii E.V. Bundesrat: Substitution of concepts. Business within the Law. Moscow: Yur-VAK Publ., 2010, no. 5, pp. 18-21.

Aims and objectives of the training course

The aim of training course “Challenges in monitoring and protecting human rights in the European Union and the Russian Federation” is to enhance skills of non-law students in applying the best European and international practices of monitoring and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

To achieve the above-mentioned aim, the following objectives are set:

- promoting the trainees’ recognition of the mechanisms for protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms in the European Union and the Russian Federation;
- familiarising the trainees with the major institutions, initiatives and policies of the European Union and the Russian Federation to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- initiating the trainees’ understanding of the European and Russian recognition about federalism in terms of monitoring and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Learning outcomes of the training course

Code	Learning outcome
LO1	Ability to assess international, European and Russian law in terms of human rights and fundamental freedoms
LO2	Ability to apply available tools to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms
LO3	Ability to interpret the state policy on monitoring and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms
LO4	Ability to assess the human rights system in the European Union and the Russian Federation with view to the effectiveness of its institutions and initiatives
LO5	Ability to review European and Russian federalism in terms of promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms
LO6	Ability to monitor and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms while living in a federal state

Learning outcomes within the training course topics

Code	Name of the topic	Aim of the topic
		Learning outcomes of the topic
1	Core European and Russian human rights instruments (2 hours)	<p>The aim is to study the concepts of human rights and fundamental freedoms, to discuss international, European and Russian mechanisms for their protection and to explore the milestone documents on protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.</p> <p>On successful completion of the topic 1, the trainees should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – define the concepts of human rights and fundamental freedoms and describe their historical background; – classify the major international, European and Russian human rights instruments; – interpret the milestone international, European and Russian documents on human rights and fundamental freedoms;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – apply the provisions of declarations, conventions and other related documents to protect, monitor and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms.
2	Human rights in the European Union and the Russian Federation: institutions, policies, initiatives (2 hours)	<p>The aim is to study the activities of human rights institutions at the international, European and Russian levels, to assess the state policy on protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and to identify the best practices aimed at protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.</p> <p>On successful completion of the topic 2, the trainees should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – illustrate the activities of human rights institutions and characterise their features; – evaluate the policy and law enforcement practice with view to protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms; – recognize the initiatives in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms; – review the changes in the European Union and the Russian Federation in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the present stage.
3	Differences between European and Russian insight into human rights (4 hours)	<p>The aim is to study the federalism doctrines, to examine the interdependence of federal relations and human rights, to analyse the governance practices of protecting human rights in the federal states and to consider the legal practices of establishing direct democracy in the federal states.</p> <p>On successful completion of the topic 3, the trainees should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – identify the features of the federalism doctrines in the Kingdom of Belgium, the Republic of Austria, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Russian Federation; – differentiate the principles of constitutional law in the federal states; – explain the legal, political and institutional advantages of federalism for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms; – transform the principles of good governance into initiatives and policies for monitoring and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Mapping of the training course learning outcomes

Code of the topic	Code of the training course learning outcome					
	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	LO6
1	X	X				
2			X	X		
3					X	X

Assessment and feedback strategy

The training course involves the following interactive assignments:

- Within the topic 1, the trainees should undertake the Think Aloud activity **“Up-to-date materials in the mass media through the prism of human rights”**.
- Within the topic 2, the trainees should undertake the Respond, React, Reply activity **“Assessment of the human rights protection system in the European Union and the Russian Federation with view to the effectiveness of its institutions and initiatives”**.
- Within the topic 3, the trainees should undertake the Think-Pair-Share activity **“What are the features of human rights monitoring in the context of European and Russian federalism?”**.

Assessment matrix

Code of the topic	Think Aloud activity	Respond, React, Reply activity	Think-Pair-Share activity	Code of the training course learning outcome
1	“Up-to-date materials in the mass media through the prism of human rights”			LO1, LO2
2		“Assessment of the human rights protection system in the European Union and the Russian Federation with view to the effectiveness of its institutions and initiatives”		LO3, LO4
3			“What are the features of human rights	LO5, LO6

			monitoring in the context of European and Russian federalism?"	
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Delivery of the training course

Code of the topic	Name of the topic	Number of hours	Contact hours	
			Lectures	Seminars
1	Core European and Russian human rights instruments	2		2
2	Human rights in the European Union and the Russian Federation: institutions, policies, initiatives	2		2
3	Differences between European and Russian insight into human rights	4		4
TOTAL		8		8

Opportunities for the trainees

Building 3, ground floor, Monday – Friday: 9am – 6pm; Saturday: 9am – 1:30pm; Sunday: closed, tel. +7 (8412) 64-36-49

Building 9, room 104, Monday – Friday: 9am – 6pm, Saturday: 9am – 1:30pm; Sunday: closed, tel. +7 (8412) 66-64-01

Building 11, ground floor, Monday – Friday: 9am – 6pm, Saturday: 9am – 1:30pm; Sunday: closed, tel. +7 (8412) 64-39-29

Electronic Resources Hall – building 1, office 308, Monday – Friday: 9am – 5pm, Saturday: 9am – 1:30pm; Sunday: closed, tel. +7 (8412) 66-62-55

Electronic Reading Room – building 9, office 110, Monday – Friday: 9am – 5pm, Saturday: 9am – 1:30pm; Sunday: closed, tel. +7 (8412) 66-64-01

The training course is delivered for non-law students at Penza State University, funded within the Erasmus+ Programme (Jean Monnet Actions in the field of Higher Education: Modules) and supported by the International Centre for Teaching and Learning Erasmus+.

The materials of the training course are available in the digital learning environment of the university <http://moodle.pnzgu.ru/>. The trainees have access to all reading rooms and libraries at the university.

The trainees have the right to an individual learning trajectory.

Responsibilities of the trainees

Within the training course, the trainees are to:

- Respect the rights of others;
- Respect the property of others, as well as the property, equipment and facilities of the university;
- Abide by the normative standards, rules and regulations of the university, as well as by local, regional and state laws;
- Attend classes as scheduled.

Essential readings

1. Charter of the United Nations (San Francisco, 26 June 1945).
2. Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN General Assembly resolution 217 D (III), 10 December 1948).
3. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (New York, 19 December 1966).
4. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (New York, 19 December 1966).
5. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. General Assembly resolution 34/180 (New York, 18 December 1979).
6. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. General Assembly resolution 39/46 (New York, 10 December 1984).
7. Convention on the Rights of the Child. General Assembly resolution 44/25 (New York, 20 November 1989).
8. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. General Assembly resolution 61/177 (New York, December 20, 2006).
9. Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (Rome, 4 November 1950) (as amended 21 September 1970, 20 December 1971, 1 January 1990, 6 November 1990, 11 May 1994).
10. European Social Charter ETS no. 163 (revised) (Strasbourg, 3 May 1996).
11. European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment ETS no. 126 (Strasbourg, 26 November 1987)
12. Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities ETS No. 157 (Strasbourg, 1 February 1995).
13. Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (Strasbourg, 12 December 2007).
14. Constitution of the Russian Federation (adopted by popular vote on 12 December 1993 with amendments approved during all-Russian vote on 1 July 2020).
15. Human rights: A Basic Handbook for UN Staff. The United Nations. New York, 2000.
16. McKenzie M., McMahon P., O'cinneide C., Clarke L. Review of the working methods of the ECHR. 2005.
17. Human rights indicators. Guide to Measurement and Implementation. The United Nations. New York, 2012.
18. Human Rights Guide for Civil and Public Service. Irish Human Rights Commission. Dublin, 2010.

19. Langtry D., Lyer K.R. National Human Rights Institutions: Rules, Requirements, and Practice. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021.
20. Weissbrodt D.S., Aolain F.N., Fitzpatrick J., Newman F. International Human Rights: Law, Policy, and Process. New York: LexisNexis, 2009.
21. National human rights institutions: History, principles, roles and responsibilities. New York, Geneva, 2010.
22. Freeman M. Human Rights. New Jersey: Wiley, 2017.
23. Haas M. International Human Rights: A Comprehensive Introduction. London: Routledge, 2014.
24. Ramcharan B.G. The Law, Policy and Politics of the UN Human Rights Council (International Studies in Human Rights. Vol. 112. Boston: Martinus Nijhoff, 2015.
25. Laursen F. The EU and Federalism: Politics and Policies Compared. London: Routledge, 2016, 304 p.
26. Kovacevic B. Europe's Hidden Federalism: Federal Experiences of European Integration. London: Routledge, 2017, 242 p.
27. Fadeeva T.M. The European Union and the Russian Federation: two models of federalism. The European Union and the Russian Federation: Two Models of Federalism. 2007, no. 2007.
28. Gagnon A.-G., Keil S. Understanding Federalism and Federation. London: Routledge Publ., 2015, 318 p.
29. Bogatyreva O.N. European models of regionalism. Study guide. Yekaterinburg: Ural University Publ., 2018.
30. Longo M. Constitutionalising Europe: Processes and Practices. London: Routledge Publ., 2016, 250 p.
31. Vogiatzis N. The European Ombudsman and Good Administration in the European Union. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.
32. Guliakov A.D., Malko A.V., Salomatin A.Yu. Genesis of federalism in the European states. Modern Europe. 2018, no. 1 (80).



Topic 1

Core European and Russian human rights instruments

Penza State University

Teacher:

Dr. Danil Feoktistov



**Funded by
the European Union**

Teacher			
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Aims and objectives

The aim is to study the concepts of human rights and fundamental freedoms, to discuss international, European and Russian mechanisms for their protection and to explore the milestone documents on protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

To achieve the above-mentioned aim, the following objectives are set:

- initiating the trainees’ understanding of the concepts of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- familiarising the trainees with the major international, European and Russian instruments for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- giving the trainees an appreciation of the milestone international, European and Russian documents governing human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the topic 1, the trainees should be able to:

- define the concepts of human rights and fundamental freedoms and describe their historical background;
- classify the major international, European and Russian human rights instruments;
- interpret the milestone international, European and Russian documents on human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- apply the provisions of declarations, conventions and other related documents to protect, monitor and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Outline of the topic (brief description of content)

Within the topic, the trainees study the following aspects: Scope and nature of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the present stage. Classification of international, European and Russian instruments for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Content of the milestone international, European and Russian human rights.

Teaching and learning methods

Problem-solving, critical thinking, brainstorming.

Teaching plan

No.	Focus	Number of hours	Contact hours	
			Lectures	Seminars
	Scope and nature of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the present stage. Classification of international, European and Russian instruments for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Content of the milestone international, European and Russian human rights	2		2
TOTAL		2		2

Content

The teacher briefly presents the following aspects:

Scope and nature of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the present stage. Classification of international, European and Russian instruments for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Content of the milestone international, European and Russian human rights:

1. International legal principles, norms and acts on human rights as a legal basis for constructing, operating and improving the international mechanism of human rights protection.
2. Rights and freedoms as an integral part of the person's legal status. International standards for human rights protection. International mechanism of human rights guarantees as an integral part of the general universal system.
3. International instruments for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination 1965. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1966. Other international law acts. UN Charter.
4. European instruments for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms 1950. European Social Charter 1965. Other law acts.
5. National legal standards on human rights and fundamental freedoms. Constitution of the Russian Federation. Criminal Code of the Russian Federation. Administrative Code of the Russian Federation. Other law acts. National legal standards in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

After the presentation of the main aspects, the trainees complete an interactive assignment:

Think Aloud activity **“Up-to-date materials in the mass media through the prism of human rights”**.

1. The teacher divides the trainees into small groups (5-7 persons) who will have to find materials on the Internet (articles, photos, videos, etc.) illustrating: 1) respect for human rights; 2) improvement of human rights context; 3) violation of human rights.
2. The groups should highlight examples related to all three categories. The trainees can refer to the reviewed international, European and Russian documents governing human rights and fundamental freedoms.
3. The trainees should present the results of their activity to other groups.

Learning outcomes	<p>On successful completion of the assignment, the trainees should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – interpret the milestone international, European and Russian documents on human rights and fundamental freedoms; – apply the provisions of declarations, conventions and other related documents to protect, monitor and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms.
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Reading list

1. Charter of the United Nations (San Francisco, 26 June 1945).
2. Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN General Assembly resolution 217 D (III), 10 December 1948).
3. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (New York, 19 December 1966).
4. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (New York, 19 December 1966).
5. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. General Assembly resolution 34/180 (New York, 18 December 1979).
6. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. General Assembly resolution 39/46 (New York, 10 December 1984).
7. Convention on the Rights of the Child. General Assembly resolution 44/25 (New York, 20 November 1989).
8. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. General Assembly resolution 61/177 (New York, December 20, 2006).
9. Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (Rome, 4 November 1950) (as amended 21 September 1970, 20 December 1971, 1 January 1990, 6 November 1990, 11 May 1994).
10. European Social Charter ETS no. 163 (revised) (Strasbourg, 3 May 1996).
11. European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment ETS no. 126 (Strasbourg, 26 November 1987)
12. Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities ETS No. 157 (Strasbourg, 1 February 1995).
13. Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (Strasbourg, 12 December 2007).
14. Constitution of the Russian Federation (adopted by popular vote on 12 December 1993 with amendments approved during all-Russian vote on 1 July 2020).
15. Human rights: A Basic Handbook for UN Staff. The United Nations. New York, 2000.



Topic 2

Human rights in the European Union and the Russian Federation: institutions, policies, initiatives

Penza State University

**Teacher:
Prof. Dr. Gleb Sintsov**



**Funded by
the European Union**

Teacher			
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Aims and objectives

The aim is to study the activities of human rights institutions at the international, European and Russian levels, to assess the state policy on protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and to identify the best practices aimed at protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

To achieve the above-mentioned aim, the following objectives are set:

- familiarising the trainees with the key international, European and Russian human rights institutions;
- improving the trainees’ understanding of the policy in the European Union and the Russian Federation on human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- giving the trainees an appreciation of the modern initiatives aimed at protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the topic 2, the trainees should be able to:

- illustrate the activities of human rights institutions and characterise their features;
- evaluate the policy and law enforcement practice with view to protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- recognize the initiatives in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- review the changes in the European Union and the Russian Federation in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the present stage.

Outline of the topic (brief description of content)

Within the topic, the trainees study the following aspects: Human rights institutions around the world, in the European Union and in the Russian Federation. Human rights policy and law enforcement practice in the European Union and the Russian Federation. Current initiatives in the field of human rights.

Teaching and learning methods

Problem-solving, critical thinking, brainstorming.

Teaching plan

No.	Focus	Number of hours	Contact hours	
			Lectures	Seminars
	Human rights institutions around the world, in the European Union and in the Russian Federation. Human rights policy and law enforcement practice in the European Union and the Russian Federation. Current initiatives in the field of human rights	2		2
TOTAL		2		2

Content

The teacher briefly presents the following aspects:

Human rights institutions around the world, in the European Union and in the Russian Federation. Human rights policy and law enforcement practice in the European Union and the Russian Federation. Current initiatives in the field of human rights:

1. International human rights institutions. UN Commission on Human Rights. UN Human Rights Council. Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions. International Ombudsman Institute. International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions.
2. European Network of National Human Rights Institutions. European Court of Human Rights. European Committee of Social Rights. Commissioner for Human Rights. Jurisdiction, competences, decisions.
3. Federal bodies for monitoring human rights. Commissioner for Human Rights of the Russian Federation. Public Chamber of the Russian Federation. Council under the President of the Russian Federation for the Development of Civil Society and Human Rights.
4. Obligation of the state represented by various authorities and bodies to monitor and protect rights and freedoms provided by the relevant acts of international law. Increased obligations of the state. Expanded list of rights and freedoms guaranteed to every person in the territory under jurisdiction.
5. List of relevant initiatives on human rights and fundamental freedoms. “Human Rights First”. Human Rights Trust Fund of the Council of Europe. “Good Human Rights Stories”. “Human Rights Due Diligence”.

After the presentation of the main aspects, the trainees complete an interactive assignment:

Respond, React, Reply activity “**Assessment of the human rights protection system in the European Union and the Russian Federation with view to the effectiveness of its institutions and initiatives**”.

1. The teacher divides the trainees into small groups (5-7 people). The trainees should analyze the activities of human rights institutions and the effectiveness of human rights initiatives in the selected state.
2. Based on a rating scale from 1 to 5, where 5 is the highest score (5: All members of society enjoy this right; 4: Most members of society enjoy this right; 3: About half of society enjoy this right; 2: Only a small number of people enjoy this right; 1: Only those in power and no one else enjoy this right), the trainees should assess the situation in the state in relation to various human rights.
3. The groups present their analysis.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the assignment, the trainees should be able to:

- evaluate the policy and law enforcement practice with view to protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- recognize the initiatives in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Reading list

1. McKenzie M., McMahon P., O'cinneide C., Clarke L. Review of the working methods of the ECHR. 2005.
2. Human rights indicators. Guide to Measurement and Implementation. The United Nations. New York, 2012.
3. Human Rights Guide for Civil and Public Service. Irish Human Rights Commission. Dublin, 2010.
4. Langtry D., Lyer K.R. National Human Rights Institutions: Rules, Requirements, and Practice. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021.
5. Weissbrodt D.S., Aolain F.N., Fitzpatrick J., Newman F. International Human Rights: Law, Policy, and Process. New York: LexisNexis, 2009.
6. National human rights institutions: History, principles, roles and responsibilities. New York, Geneva, 2010.
7. Freeman M. Human Rights. New Jersey: Wiley, 2017.
8. Haas M. International Human Rights: A Comprehensive Introduction. London: Routledge, 2014.
9. Ramcharan B.G. The Law, Policy and Politics of the UN Human Rights Council (International Studies in Human Rights. Vol. 112. Boston: Martinus Nijhoff, 2015.



Topic 3

Differences between European and Russian insight into human rights

Penza State University

Teacher:

Dr. Evgenii Bitiutskii



**Funded by
the European Union**

Teacher			
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Aims and objectives

The aim is to study the federalism doctrines, to examine the interdependence of federal relations and human rights, to analyse the governance practices of protecting human rights in the federal states and to consider the legal practices of establishing direct democracy in the federal states.

To achieve the above-mentioned aim, the following objectives are set:

- familiarising the trainees with the features of the federalism doctrines in the federal states;
- improving the trainees’ understanding of the legal, political and institutional advantages of federalism for human rights protection;
- giving the trainees an appreciation of the principles of good governance aimed at monitoring and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the topic 3, the trainees should be able to:

- identify the features of the federalism doctrines in the Kingdom of Belgium, the Republic of Austria, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Russian Federation;
- differentiate the principles of constitutional law in the federal states;
- explain the legal, political and institutional advantages of federalism for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- transform the principles of good governance into initiatives and policies for monitoring and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Outline of the topic (brief description of content)

Within the topic, the trainees study the following aspects: Focus of the federalism doctrines in the European Union and the Russian Federation. Insight into federalism in terms of human rights protection. Role of the constitutional courts and general courts in the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the federal states. Practices for protecting human rights in the federal states.

Teaching and learning methods

Problem-solving, critical thinking, brainstorming.

Teaching plan

No.	Focus	Number of hours	Contact hours	
			Lectures	Seminars
	Focus of the federalism doctrines in the European Union and the Russian Federation. Insight into federalism in terms of human rights protection. Role of the constitutional courts and general courts in the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the federal states. Practices for protecting human rights in the federal states	4		4
TOTAL		4		4

Content

The teacher briefly presents the following aspects:

Focus of the federalism doctrines in the European Union and the Russian Federation. Insight into federalism in terms of human rights protection. Role of the constitutional courts and general courts in the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the federal states. Practices for protecting human rights in the federal states:

1. Interpretation of the concept “federation”. Fundamentals of the classical federal state. List of the main (common) features of the federal states.
2. Gradual unification of European states and development of European communities. Concept of federalism among the theories of European integration. Combination of supranationality with the intergovernmental method in the European Union. Transfer of competence to the European Union. Concept of multi-level governance.
3. Relevance of building a constitutional model of federalism in the Russian Federation. Four stages of federal construction in the Russian Federation. Similarity of features in the development of Russian federalism and federalism in the EU member states.
4. Differences between the Russian and European understanding of the value of federalism. Personality in the system of federal legal relations. Opportunities for the participation in ensuring integrated and comprehensive regulation of human rights and fundamental freedoms protection.
5. Relationship of the model of competence division in the federal state with the features of monitoring and protecting human rights. Division of competences between the federal state and its constituent entities. Resolution of conflicts between the federal state and its constituent entities on the issues of human rights protection.

After the presentation of the main aspects, the trainees complete an interactive assignment:

Think-Pair-Share activity “**What are the features of human rights monitoring in the context of European and Russian federalism?**”.

1. The trainees individually consider the answer to the question about the features of human rights monitoring in the federal states (the Kingdom of Belgium, the Republic of Austria, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Russian Federation).
2. The teacher divides the trainees into pairs and gives them time to discuss ideas and check the way of thinking.
3. The trainees unite and share their ideas on the features of monitoring human rights in the context of European and Russian federalism.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the assignment, the trainees should be able to:

- identify the features of the federalism doctrines in the Kingdom of Belgium, the Republic of Austria, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Russian Federation;
- transform the principles of good governance into initiatives and policies for monitoring and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Reading list

1. Laursen F. The EU and Federalism: Politics and Policies Compared. London: Routledge, 2016, 304 p.
2. Kovacevic B. Europe’s Hidden Federalism: Federal Experiences of European Integration. London: Routledge, 2017, 242 p.
3. Fadeeva T.M. The European Union and the Russian Federation: two models of federalism. The European Union and the Russian Federation: Two Models of Federalism. 2007, no. 2007.
4. Gagnon A.-G., Keil S. Understanding Federalism and Federation. London: Routledge Publ., 2015, 318 p.
5. Bogatyreva O.N. European models of regionalism. Study guide. Yekaterinburg: Ural University Publ., 2018.
6. Longo M. Constitutionalising Europe: Processes and Practices. London: Routledge Publ., 2016, 250 p.
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