

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Faculty of Law

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.)

Course Syllabus

1. Course Information

- **Title:** Energy Law
- **Code:** LLB35
- **ECTS:** 5
- **Hours per week:** 3
- **Academic Year:** 4th
- **Teaching Period:** Spring Semester
- **Mode of Delivery:** Face-to-Face
- **Language of Instruction/Assessment:** English
- **Course Type:** Mandatory

2. Course Description

This course examines the legal frameworks governing activities in the energy sector, including the production, generation, transmission, distribution, supply, and consumption of energy. It introduces students to the core legal rules, institutions, and regulatory techniques that structure the energy market at the national, regional, and international levels. While energy law remains subject to domestic regulation, national legal orders have progressively converged due to the growing interdependence of energy markets. The course analyses key legal instruments developed within the European Union, particularly in the context of the Energy Union, as well as international legal standards applicable to specific sectors such as oil and gas. Special attention is given to the role of independent regulatory authorities and the legal obligations placed on

corporations operating in energy markets. Greek energy law is used as a point of reference throughout, but the course adopts a broader comparative and transnational approach. By the end of the course, students will have developed a comprehensive understanding of the legal principles, institutional structures, and policy dynamics that shape the global energy sector.

3. Keywords

Energy Regulation, Energy Markets, EU Energy Law, International Energy Law, Independent Regulatory Authorities

4. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. **Describe** the institutional framework and legal foundations governing the energy sector at national, European, and international levels. (*Remembering*)
2. **Explain** the regulatory approaches applied to different energy sources and activities, including electricity, gas, and renewables. (*Understanding*)
3. **Analyse** legal instruments and market structures in the energy sector across selected jurisdictions, with attention to harmonisation and divergence. (*Analysing*)
4. **Evaluate** the policy implications of legal rules concerning energy security, liberalisation, decarbonisation, and environmental sustainability. (*Evaluating*)
5. **Apply** relevant legal principles to case-based problems involving energy regulation, licensing, infrastructure, or market participation. (*Applying*)

5. General Skills to Be Acquired

- Apply knowledge in practice
- Retrieve, analyse, and synthesise data and information
- Adapt to new situations
- Make decisions
- Work in an international context
- Work in an interdisciplinary team

- Generate new research ideas
- Appreciate diversity and multiculturalism
- Respect the natural environment
- Be critical and self-critical
- Advance free, creative, and causative thinking

6. Course Content (Topics)

1. **Introduction: Sources and Products, Markets and Actors, Principles and Practices, Rules, Authorities and Institutions** – An overview of the legal and economic foundations of energy law, including types of energy, market structures, regulatory frameworks, and the roles of public and private actors.
2. **The Energy Union** – Examining the EU's strategy for energy integration, security, and sustainability, including the legal foundations, policy pillars, and institutional mechanisms of the Energy Union.
3. **Hydrocarbons Upstream Sector: Exploration and Production** – Analysing the legal regimes governing access to resources, licensing, concession agreements, and environmental obligations in the oil and gas exploration phase.
4. **Hydrocarbons Midstream Sector: Pipeline Transportation** – Exploring legal issues relating to cross-border pipeline infrastructure, access regulation, and third-party rights in oil and gas transportation.
5. **Hydrocarbons Downstream Sector: Refining and Distribution** – Understanding the regulatory environment for refining facilities and the distribution of oil products, including health, safety, and consumer protection standards.
6. **Market Regulation and Regulatory Authorities** – Studying the competences, independence, and procedures of national regulatory authorities, with comparative reference to the EU Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER).
7. **Electricity: Generation and Supply Activities – Transmission and Distribution Networks** – Examining legal rules governing electricity generation, liberalised supply markets, and the operation of transmission and distribution system operators.
8. **Natural Gas: Transportation Systems and Trade in Natural Gas** – Assessing the legal framework for the operation of gas transmission networks, LNG terminals, and wholesale trading, including unbundling and capacity allocation.

9. **Energy Markets** – Exploring how legal systems regulate wholesale and retail energy markets, focusing on competition rules, transparency obligations, and market coupling initiatives.
10. **Decarbonisation and Energy Transition – Carbon Emission Trading Systems** – Analysing the legal instruments supporting energy transition, including the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), and their role in shaping climate and energy policy.
11. **Renewable Energy Sources: Solar Energy, Wind Power, Hydropower, Biomass, Geothermal Power** – Reviewing the legal incentives, permitting procedures, and support schemes that govern the development and integration of renewables.
12. **Energy Storage and Electric Vehicles** – Investigating the emerging legal and regulatory issues concerning battery storage, grid balancing, and the deployment of electric vehicle infrastructure.

7. Teaching Methods

- Lectures.
- Case law workshops.
- Student presentations and structured debate.
- Guided reading and legal reasoning exercises.

8. Assessment Methods

Method	Weight	Description
Final Written Exam	70%	Essay-type and case-based questions
Mid-Term Assignment/Presentation	20%	Individual or group-based
Participation and Engagement	10%	Constructive attendance, preparedness, contribution

Note: A minimum final exam score of 50% is required to pass.

9. A. Ethics

Students are reminded that all submitted work must comply with the University's academic [integrity policy](#). Plagiarism or unauthorised collaboration will result in disciplinary measures.

B. Course Policies

- Attendance is strongly encouraged.
- All assignments must be submitted on time via the designated platform.
- Special accommodations will be made for students with documented learning or health needs in accordance with university policy.

10. Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

- **Use in Teaching:** (e.g. digital slides, audiovisual aids, interactive tools like Mentimeter)
- **Use in Communication:** (e.g. E-learning platform, Zoom/Google Meet for office hours)
- **Digital Resources:** (e.g. online legal databases, podcasts, video lectures)

11. Bibliography

- Books/E-Books
Bungenberg, M., Griebel, J., & Hindelang, S. (Eds.). (2023). *Commentary on the Energy Charter Treaty*. Oxford University Press.
Heffron, R. J. (2015). *Energy Law: An Introduction (e-book)*. Springer International Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-14191-6>
Iliopoulos, T. G. (2024). *Renewable energy support schemes in the EU: State aid law and the free movement of goods (e-book)*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003383550>
Jones, C. (2016). *EU energy law: Volume I, The internal energy market*. Claeys & Casteels Publishing.

Jones, C., Douma, W., & Bellantuono, G. (2011). EU energy law: Volume II, EU competition law and energy markets. Claeys & Casteels Publishing.

Leal-Arcas, R. (Ed.). (2024). Research handbook on EU energy law and policy (2nd ed., Research Handbooks in Energy Law series) (e-book). Edward Elgar Publishing.

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/auth-ebooks/detail.action?docID=31692855>

Peeters, M., & Schomerus, T. (2014). Energy law in Europe: National, EU and international regulation. Oxford University Press.

Roggenkamp, M. M., Redgwell, C., Rønne, A., & del Guayo, I. (2016). Energy law in Europe: National, EU and international regulation (3rd ed.). Oxford University Press.

Talus, K. (Ed.). (2024). A research agenda for international energy law (ebook). Edward Elgar Publishing.

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/auth-ebooks/detail.action?docID=31233730>

Tosun, J., Biesenbender, S., & Schulze, K. (2015). Energy Policy Making in the EU Building the Agenda. In *Lecture Notes in Energy* (Vol. 28) (e-book). Springer Verlag. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4471-6645-0>

- Databases

Westlaw UK Academic	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
HeinOnline Academic Core and Kluwer Law International Journal Library	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Beck-online PREMIUM	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
O.U.P Oxford Public International Law	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
O.U.P Max Planck Encyclopedia of Comparative Constitutional Law	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/

Dalloz.fr	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
JURIS Zusatzmodul Hochschulen, BGB Staudinger Online	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Kluwer Law Online (30 journals)	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
IAReporter. Investment Arbitration Report	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Cambridge Core (Law)	https://www.cambridge.org/core/browse-subjects/law
EBSCO	https://research.ebsco.com/c/quc7ji/search/advanced/filters?autocorrect=y&isDashboardExpanded=true
ProQuest Central	https://www.proquest.com/central/topicpaths/AbiGlobal_business/0?accountid=8359#0
Springer link	https://link.springer.com/
Taylor & Francis e-books	<a href="https://www.taylorfrancis.com/search?subject=SC
LW">https://www.taylorfrancis.com/search?subject=SC LW
Taylor & Francis e-journals	https://www.tandfonline.com/subjects/law
The Making of Modern Law: Legal Treatises 1800-1926 (Gale)	<a href="https://go.gale.com/ps/start.do?p=MOML&u=arist
&cookieConsent=true&analyticsOptout=false&at
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Wiley online Library	<a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/action/showPublic
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