



## Jean Monnet: Experience sharing

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# TALTECH LAW SCHOOL & JEAN MONNET: 15+ YEARS OF ENGAGEMENT

- Active in Jean Monnet since 2009 — Modules, Projects, Chairs, Centre of Excellence both as coordinator and partner
- Core thematic focus: EU Law (Competition Law, Digital Law, AI regulation) and EU Studies / International Relations
- Interdisciplinarity: Law meets Technology, Policy, and European Integration

## WHY JEAN MONNET?

- The scheme aligns naturally with TalTech Law School's two strategic pillars: EU Law and Law & Technology as EU is the global leader in tech regulation and AI ethics frameworks
- Jean Monnet's international outreach enables network expansion across continents — our partnership with the EU Studies Centre in New Zealand (20+ funded activities) is a strong example

# BUILDING EU COMPETENCE ACROSS DISCIPLINES

- Each project addressed specific gaps in EU knowledge — from competition law to AI governance
- Expected outcomes combined academic excellence with practical relevance: new courses, research output, and stronger international collaboration
- Projects were designed from the outset to serve both the academic community and broader public understanding of the EU

# ACTIVITIES

- Core outputs: new courses, journal articles and special issues, book chapters, seminars, online learning materials
- Students and staff engaged directly with EU institutions through study trips and guest speakers from policy and practice
- Strongly interdisciplinary by design — integrating Law, International Relations, Technology, and History within single project frameworks

# STUDENT IMPACT

- Students gained access to purpose-built EU-focused courses, curated materials, and high-profile guest lecturers from EU institutions and academia
- Study trips to Brussels and exposure to real policy environments deepened understanding beyond the classroom
- Jean Monnet activities consistently raised student interest in European affairs, integration challenges, and the EU's global regulatory role

# ACADEMIC STAFF: MOTIVATION AND TEACHING INNOVATION

- Participation in Jean Monnet projects gave academic staff access to new international networks and cutting-edge research communities
- Collaboration with leading EU studies scholars directly enriched teaching content and course design
- The projects functioned as a professional development mechanism — keeping staff at the frontier of EU Law and policy debate

## WIDER ENGAGEMENT

- Projects systematically included activities targeting the general public, civil society, and NGOs — not just the academic community
- External stakeholders brought real-world policy perspectives into the academic environment, enriching dialogue on European issues
- This outreach dimension strengthened TalTech Law School's visibility as a public-facing centre of EU expertise in Estonia

# CHALLENGES

- COVID-19 was the most severe operational challenge as events were postponed or cancelled, and uneven digital readiness across partner countries created significant coordination delays
- Currently, the key challenge is high competition combined with inconsistent evaluator feedback, making strategic reapplication difficult
- Key lesson: build redundancy into activity planning and invest early in digital delivery capacity

# RESULTS

- Projects generated sustained research output — publications, special journal issues, and new knowledge assets that outlive the funding period
- Strong new international partnerships emerged, expanding the school's global footprint in EU studies and Law & Technology
- Students and staff benefited from richer, more internationally oriented courses and events as a direct legacy of each project

# SUSTAINABILITY

- Publications and network relationships are the primary sustainability mechanisms — they continue generating value long after project closure
- Jean Monnet consortia and ideas have directly seeded successful proposals under Erasmus+ CBHE, Horizon Europe, and CERV programmes
- Jean Monnet is not an endpoint but a strategic entry point into a more complex global research ecosystems

# KEY MESSAGE: THINK WIDE, WORK TOGETHER, INVOLVE EVERYONE

- Expand your network deliberately — look beyond your own discipline and your own region; the most valuable partnerships are often unexpected
- Be interdisciplinary and involve non-academic partners: policy experts, NGOs, and practitioners make projects more more competitive
- Involve students as active participants — their engagement is both the purpose and the proof of impact



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