Case Study on Global Privacy and Data Protection

Content:
This Case Study will provide a hands-on opportunity to actively obtain skills on the practice of privacy and data protection law, in particular taking into account their global dimension. The course will immerse students in the role of privacy professionals by bringing them close to the work and perspectives of both Data Protection Authorities (DPAs) and Data Protection Officers (DPOs). The students’ activities are framed by European Union (EU) law, but operating in a global reality. The course thus invites the students to work on how to approach key data protection law notions (‘personal data’, ‘adequate protection’, ‘legitimate grounds’, etc.) and mechanisms (‘data protection by design’ and ‘by default’, ‘data protection impact assessments’, ‘data portability’, etc.). Substantially, the case study will illustrate the challenges of operating with data flows that systematically cross borders and jurisdictions. Throughout the case study, students will be faced with the challenge of interpreting and applying norms in a legally sound and effective manner in a constantly evolving global environment in which different actors might have different priorities, and each actor might have diverse objectives.

Additional information regarding evaluation:
The students will be evaluated on the basis of their individual performances while participating in the class.

Additional information:
In relation to teaching methods:

- Classes will be primarily interactive, based on role-playing scenarios combining team work and individual performances.
- Classes will be based on a single general scenario providing a consistent narrative throughout the case study, but will incorporate different sub-tasks or exercises.
- The practical exercises in the class will be supported by suggested reading materials, in which students shall find elements to use actively.

Learning outcomes:
The course improves students’ knowledge, skills and attitude in European and international Data law. It will stimulate their learning by raising specific challenges, and consolidate such learning by making the students operationalize what would otherwise be highly theoretical notions. In this sense, it will be especially useful to familiarize the students with what can be perceived as highly elusive legal distinctions (for instance in relation to the boundaries between the responsibilities of data controllers and processors) and technical procedures (including decision-making procedures of the European Data Protection Board (EDPB). It will strengthen their capacity to apply data protection law, and encourage the development of their analytical and persuasive skills. It will promote a rigorous and constructive attitude towards the study and practice of privacy and data protection law.