Dr. Peggy Wittke
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Faculty of Law

The United Nations and the

At Midpoint

For all Faculties

Summer Semester 2024
Class Code: 09 6924

In 2015, Member States of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The 2030 Agenda contains 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with specific targets to be met until the year 2030. The SDGs aim to reduce poverty and hunger while at the same time taking into account health, education and accelerated economic growth as well as fighting climate change and preserving nature. In 2023, the UN reports that only 15% of the SDGs are on track. The Political Declaration adopted at the SDG Summit in September 2023 states that "[t]he achievement of the SDGs is in peril. At the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, we are alarmed that the progress on most of the SDGs is either moving much too slowly or has regressed below the 2015 baseline."

In this class, we will look at each of the SDGs and try to answer the following questions:

1. Content: What is the SDG about?
2. Facts and Figures
3. International Conventions and Monitoring Regimes
4. SDG Actions and Good Practices
5. Proposals for Local Action – Develop a Campaign for #ACT4SDGS

The class will start with introductory classes on the United Nations, Human Rights and Development Issues. Participants are expected to choose from one of the Sustainable Development Goals, prepare an 8-10 page summary (plus bibliography) on the subject and present it to the class with a one-minute speech as well as via Powerpoint (or other) Presentation. In addition, participants are asked to form teams of three-four SDGs and develop a campaign for local action to possibly be registered with #ACT4SDGS by the UN SDG Action Campaign established by the UN Secretary-General.

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The class will be held in **English** on Tuesdays, 16.00 – 18.00 h (c.t.) and is open to **all Faculties.** Successful participants will receive **5 ECTS-credits** and a "Proof of Legal Language Skills in English" pursuant to § 8 para. 2 of the study regulations for the study of law with the first legal examination of 25 March 2015 – *Fremdsprachenfachkompetenz*. The final grade will be determined according to the summary paper, the presentation, and the SDG Campaign, as well as through an active participation in the discussions.

Applications are to be sent **until 7 April 2024** to **Peggy Wittke** (via email only, peg@zedat.fu-berlin.de).

Your application should include:

•	Personal Details (Name, Phone, Email, Studies, Student ID Number)

•	Short letter of motivation in English (max. 250 words)

•	3 preferences chosen from the 17 Sustainable Development Goals

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Preliminary Schedule

Class takes place on Tuesdays, 16 – 18 h (c.t.), Room 4405 (Boltzmannstr. 3)

	Date	Session
1	**16 April 2024**	Introduction to the Seminar Introduction to the United Nations System I *Peggy Wittke*
2	**23 April 2024** **16.00-18.00 h (s.t.)**	Introduction to the United Nations System II The United Nations and Human Rights I *Peggy Wittke*
3	**30 April 2024**	*No class due to May 1 Holiday*
4	**7 May 2024** **16.00-18.00 h (s.t.)**	The United Nations and Human Rights II The United Nations and Development *Peggy Wittke* *Announcement of SDG-Teams*
5	**14 May 2024** **16.15-18.15 h**	SDG 1: No Poverty SDG 2: Zero Hunger SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
6	**21 May 2024**	SDG 4: Quality Education SDG 5: Gender Equality
7	**28 May 2024**	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
8	**4 June 2024**	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

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	Date	Session
9	11 June 2024	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
10	18 June 2024	SDG 13: Climate Action SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
11	25 June 2024	SDG 14: Life Below Water SDG 15: Life on Land
12	2 July 2024	SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals
13	9 July 2024	Presentations of SDG Campaigns
14	16 July 2024	Presentations of SDG Campaigns Final Discussion