EMA Director

**Name:** Prof. dr. Koen Lemmens

**Fields of competence:** International and European Human Rights Law

Other Academics Involved in EMA 2017/2018

Prof. dr. Marie-Claire Foblets, Prof. dr. Paul Lemmens, Prof. dr. Stephan Parmentier, Prof. dr. Jan Wouters

The University and the City

**Leuven**

Leuven is a modern city of just over 100,000 inhabitants that has managed to maintain its traditional style. It is a vibrant student city that hosts a wonderful collection of historic buildings, from the early Romanesque period to the last century. Brewing beer became an art and presently Leuven possesses the largest brewery in Belgium. Leuven is located about 25 kilometers from Brussels, and is thus truly in the heart of Europe.

**University of Leuven**

Established by Pope Martinus V on 9 December 1425, the University of Leuven is the oldest and largest catholic university in the world. From the very beginning, the university attracted students from all countries of Western Europe. World-famous scholars such as Pope Adrian of Utrecht, Erasmus of Rotterdam, Vesalius and Justus Lipsius established themselves here.

From 1932 the University gradually became bilingual, with courses not only in French, but also in Dutch. In 1970 it was officially split into two independent universities. The French-speaking Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL) moved to a new campus, southeast of Brussels (Louvain-la-Neuve). The Dutch-speaking KU Leuven (KUL) remained in the city of Leuven.

The KU Leuven has about 55,000 students, of which about 5,000 are at the Faculty of Law. The latter offers undergraduate (bachelor), graduate (master) and postgraduate (master) courses. The Faculty has a strong international focus, and attracts many international students through its exchange and LL.M. programmes. The Leuven Centre for Public Law is one of the Faculty’s research departments, and includes the Human Rights Law research team.

Second Semester Courses

**Courses available for EMA students (including ECTS):**

Students can choose courses from the Master of Laws (LL.M.) programme. Possible courses are:

- Substantive Law of the European Union (Prof. W. Devroe) – 6 ECTS points.
- Judicial Protection in the European Union (Prof. E. Muir) – 6 ECTS points.
- The Law of External Relations of the European Union (Prof. G. De Baere) – 4 ECTS points.
- European Legal Theory (Prof. L. Wintgens) – 4 ECTS points.
- Public International Law (Prof. J. Wouters) – 6 ECTS points.
- Comparative Constitutional Law (Prof. C. Behrendt) – 3 ECTS points.
- Humanitarian and Security Law from a European Perspective (Prof. J. Wouters) – 4 ECTS points.
- International Criminal Law (Prof. F. Verbruggen) – 4 ECTS points.
- Political Crimes and Transitional Justice (Prof. S. Parmentier) – 6 ECTS points.

Upon a reasoned request, the programme director can authorise students to choose a course offered outside of the LL.M. programme. E.MA students are moreover welcome to attend the LL.M. masterclasses on the EU and Human Rights Law, which offer students the opportunity to meet and discuss with leading experts in the field.

**Deadline for enrolment in the courses:** The second semester starts on 12 February 2018. Students are expected to arrive in the week of 5 February in order to enroll and to find housing. (Please also take into account that 2 February is a university holiday and the university services will be closed; non-university services in the city will function normally).

**Thesis**

**Research areas:** The KU Leuven welcomes applications in any research area, in particular in the fields of law, philosophy or political science.

**Thesis supervision:** Thesis supervision can be provided by various professors at the university, depending on the specific topic of the paper.

**Recommended research topics:** Human Rights Protection in the ECHR System, Human Rights Protection in the EU System, Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Religion, Refugee and Asylum Law, Minority Rights, Linguistic Rights

**Library**

The law school possesses an excellent collection of books and journals at its library. There is electronic access to a wide range of periodicals. Other university libraries are also accessible.

**Contacts with NGOs, IGOs, and Civil Society**

The department maintains privileged contacts with several NGO’s, national organisations and IGO’s, and EMA students are welcome to participate in the Faculty’s (competitive) internship program, which offers placements both during the course of the semester and over the summer.

**Administration and Logistics**

**Information concerning visa arrangements:** Assistance is provided through the International Office of the Faculty of Law, which will contact students selected for Leuven. More information can be found here: [https://www.kuleuven.be/english/admissions/Leuven](https://www.kuleuven.be/english/admissions/Leuven).

**IT and logistics:** There is no IT room reserved for EMA students. However, IT equipment is available in the library, as is wireless access to internet. Moreover, practically all student rooms are linked to the university network.