

DEPARTMENT OF LAW SECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES JEAN MONNET CHAIR



Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in quest thereof?

SUCCESS STORY

(ASSESSMENT 2016 – 2019)



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

JEAN MONNET CHAIR IN THE DUTH DEPARTMENT OF LAW

The European Commission has awarded (Decision No. 2016 - 2402 / 001-001 EACEA) the **Jean Monnet Chair** to the Department of Law of Democritus University of Thrace, following a competitive procedure in which 737 applications from Universities from all over the world were evaluated. This honorary decision, which brought the Department of Law among 147 selected Institutions, was based, according to independent evaluators' judgment, on the tradition and quality of the European studies of the Department of Law, the completeness of the submitted proposal and on capacity of the team charged with the implementation of the project. In the above context and with the European Commission funding during the three-year program (2016 - 2019) the Jean Monnet Chair of the Department of Law was invited to implement the Program under the title: Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in quest thereof?

The implementation of the program includes:

- The maintaining, strengthening and deepening the issues related to the rule of law and other values of the European Union of undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the curriculum.
- The organization of seminars for students from other DUTH Departments, New Lawyers, Judges, Instructors of other educational levels and policy makers.
- The organization of a Conference, a Roundtable, Informational Meetings.
- > The elaboration of project related programs and research programs.
- The publication of educational tools, studies and conference proceedings.



DUTH Department of Law – General view



Photo from the offices of Jean Monnet Chair in the DUTH Department of Law



Jean Monnet Chair holder / coordinator of program "Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in quest thereof?", Professor Michalis D. Chrysomallis

"Our School has been honored with a Jean Monnet Chair in the face of Professor Michail Chrysomallis, Professor of European Law, with the scientific subject "Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in quest thereof?". The work produced as part of the Chair's activities in the field of science, teaching and research was extensive, extremely important, with a wide appeal in the legal world of the country and a high awareness of the students of our University, the jurists of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace and the citizens. The participation of prominent academic personalities of the country and the European arena in the conferences, road tables and meetings held and the publications of the research project have created a high-level acquis that opens new horizons for European Studies at our School. "

Christos Mastrokostas, Professor Dean of the DUTH Law School

"The close collaboration of the Jean Monnet Chair of the DUU Law School with the Rhodope Bar Association over the years, either through conferences and information meetings or through seminars for young lawyers, has helped to deepen and raise the awareness of lawmakers and their colleagues of the region on such an important issue as the Rule of Law, especially nowadays."

> Ioanna Xatziantoniou, Lawyer President of the Rodopi Bar Association

"My participation in the activities (conferences and teaching) organized by the Jean Monnet Chair "Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in quest thereof?" enabled me to see how necessary is the academic research and teaching of protection of Rule of Law in the EU. Congratulations to the Chair holder, Professor Michalis Chrysomallis, who, in addition to his important scientific contribution, has created the conditions for the development of sound academic contributions and fruitful reflections in the context of two conferences, the minutes of which will make it possible to further inform not only the experts in the field, but also the wider management and public information service, in order to develop a modern and sound understanding of, and application of, the requirements the rule of law, in a Europe of principles and values, worthy of its best institutional traditions. "

Asterios Pliakos, Professor of EU Law Athens University of Economics and Business.

«The Jean Monnet Chair has been a significant event for the Law School of Democritus University of Thrace, as it has solemnly confirmed its great scientific tradition in European studies. The academic research on the general theme of the "Rule of Law in the European Union's legal order" has been extremely interesting, and the most striking event in the implementation of the Chair's actions has been the active involvement and interaction of the entire legal community, namely mature scientists, students of all levels and law practitioners. From an educational point of view, it is also worth noting that the multifaceted activities (such as the courses, the seminars, and the two large conferences) have attracted a large number of students, contributing the most to their broad training in contemporary issues and problematic issues. Finally, from the research point of view, the Chair has given the opportunity to produce a remarkable authoring work, with a significant part of it being used to support the educational process and, thus, to help train students».

George Karatzios Undergraduate student of Law School, DUTH

A. TEACHING PROGRAM OF THE JEAN MONNET CHAIR

The Thrace Law School has a long tradition in European studies and the fullest European integration related curriculum in comparison to the other Departments of Law in the country. The award of the Jean Monnet Chair in September 2016 resulted in:

- All courses, comprising the European studies program (2 undergraduate and 5 postgraduate courses) have been integrated into the Chair's curriculum, with a view to giving particular emphasis to the values of the Union and the Rule of Law in the context of the academic program.
- A new course was added to the curriculum entitled "The Rule of Law in the EU" (Jean Monnet Chair course), which was warmly welcomed by students, as evidenced by the data provided by the Department of Law Secretariat (see below).
- Four (4) seminars were organized, with the participation of students from other departments of the University, lawyers, teachers of other levels of education, with the aim of disseminating knowledge and enhancing reflection on current issues of European integration.
- A large amount of educational material was produced to support the teaching work of the Chair (books, notes, pp etc.) that were either freely available to the participants or uploaded on the University's e-class application that supports the teaching of the courses. All of the above material was labeled as produced by Jean Monnet Chair and supported by the Erasmus plus program.

The data presented below demonstrate that during the three academic years (2016 - 2019) the total number of teaching hours (undergraduate, postgraduate courses and seminars) amounted to <u>1.295 hours</u>, while the total number of those attending the Jean Monnet Chair courses and seminars were 3.925 <u>students etc</u>.

I. UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

COURSES	HOURS/YEAR	2016-17	2017-18	2018-2019
EU Law I	65	381	446	432
EU Law II	65	385	366	410
Rule of Law in the EU	50	385	365	318
TOTAL	180	1151	1177	1160



Photo of the undergraduate course $^{\prime\prime}$ EU Rule of Law I $^{\prime\prime}$

"The actions undertaken at the Jean Monnet Chair have benefited the academic community of the DUTH Law School in many ways. They facilitated access of students to knowledge and information, opened up our paths to greater European Union law through its Chair courses, expanded our research tools with the Chair publications, and brought us to conferences organized in touch with current and timeless legal-political considerations."

> Konstantinos Mourtopallas Undergraduate student of Law School, DUTH

II. POSTGRADUATE COURSES

COURSES	HOURS/	2016-17	2017-18	2018-2019
	YEAR			
EU Law	40	30	23	25
Current Issues of European	40	27	24	25
Integration				
EU External Relations	40	7	1	15
EU Energy Law	50	53	21	39
International and EU Environmental and Energy	25	10	6	9
Law				
TOTAL	195	127	75	113



Photo of the postgraduate course "EU Energy Law"

"The function of the Jean Monnet Chair at the DUTH Law School under the co-ordination of Professor M. Chrysomallis contributed decisively to the upgrading and modernization of the European studies offered to the School as a whole. I had the opportunity as a student of the Postgraduate Program in International Studies, specializing in EU law to follow closely the actions of the Jean Monnet Chair at the DUTH Law School throughout the duration of her project (2016-2019) and to see the added value that she has given to the content and teaching of the Postgraduate Program. In addition, my participation in parallel activities of the Chair such as conferences and lectures and the study of Chair-related literatures has

further highlighted its comparative advantages. The Chair was an extremely fruitful development for the academic community of the DUTH Law School."

Athanasios Glavinas Postgraduate Student *of Law School, DUTH*

III. SEMINARS

The Jean Monnet Chair organized the following seminars:

 European Economic Governance: Democracy and Rule of Law Issues, February – April 2017, Komotini, 50 hours. Students from the Department of Law, the School of Social, Political and Economic Sciences and the Department of Social Management and Political Science of the Democritus University of Thrace participated in the seminar by invitation. The students were given a teaching material (book) of approximately 150 pages. The final number of students who attended and received the relevant certificate was 35.



Photo of the seminar 'European Economic Governance: Democracy and Rule of Law Issues'

2. EU Legal Protection System and effective judicial protection of individuals, February -April 2018, Komotini, Kavala, 50 hours. Attorneys and Judges of the Courts of First Instance of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace were invited to attend the seminar, which was organized in collaboration with the Bar Associations (of Kavala, Drama, Xanthi, Rodopi, Alexandroupolis and Orestiada). To facilitate travel due to the distances the seminar was held in Kavala (Kavala and Drama Bar Associations) and in Komotini (Rodopi, Alexandroupolis and Orestiada Bar Associations). Participants were provided with educational material (pp, caselaw) edited by the Jean Monnet Chair. The final number of jurists who attended and received the relevant certificate was 77.



Photo of the seminar EU 'Legal Protection System and effective judicial protection of individuals' in Kavala

2. European Citizenship as a Fundamental Status of European Citizens, February – April 2019, Komotini, 50 hours. Students from the Department of Law, the School of Social, Political and Economic Sciences and the Department of Social Management and Political Science of the Democritus University of Thrace participated in the seminar by invitation. Students were given educational material (notes) of approximately 100 pages. The final number of students who attended and received the relevant certificate was 43.



Photo of the seminar 'European Citizenship as a Fundamental Status of European Citizens'

3. Training of Trainers on European Integration on "Current Issues of European Integration", December 2019, Komotini, 20 hours. The seminar, organized in cooperation with the Europe Direct of Xanthi Information Center, was attended by secondary education teachers of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace. Despite the efforts made, there was little response from the teachers. The final number of teachers who attended and received the relevant certificate was 15.



The poster of the seminar on 'Training of Trainers on European Integration on "Current Issues of European Integration'



Photo of the seminar on "Training of Trainers on "Current Issues of European Integration"

SEMINARS	HOURS	PARTICIPANTS
European Economic Governance:	50	35
Democracy and Rule of Law, 2016-17		
EU legal system and individual's rights	50	77
protection, 2017-18		
European Citizenship as a Fundamental	50	43
Status of European citizens, 2018-2019		
Training of Trainers: Current Issues of	20	15
European Integration		
ΣΥΝΟΛΑ	170	170

"I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Professor and holder of Jean Monnet Chair Michael Chrysomallis for organizing the excellent seminar 'European Union Legal Protection System and effective judicial protection of individuals'." The members of the Orestiada Bar Association were given the unique opportunity to be informed and thus familiarize themselves with a valuable tool such as European Union law and how it differs with specific procedural techniques in the smallest private dispute that seeks its solution to the most important issues that ugly more people. Those lawyers who have been fortunate enough to attend the seminar now know that we have yet another arrow in our quiver during the endless and painful search for effective judicial protection on behalf of our clients."

Anna Memetzi, Lawyer President of the Orestiada Bar Association

"The seminar held at the offices of the Kavala Bar Association 23 & 24-2-2018 and 9 & 10-3-2018, was successfully crowned. It was structured to the participants' needs in terms of time and place and this resulted in great participation. The thoroughness of the program with regard to the legal protection of the European Union and the effective judicial protection of individuals, whilst comparing the rules of the national legal system, has made the architecture of the European Union's judicial system fully clear. In a comprehensible way and with reference to the case-law of the European Courts, the way in which both the parties and their legal representatives and the judiciary have acted and understood is fully understood. The academic level of the seminar reached a postgraduate level. "

Athanasia Klitsiotou, Lawyer General Secretary of the Kavala Bar Association

"The two-day seminar organized by the Jean Monnet Chair of the Democritus University of Thrace with the support of the Europe Direct Xanthi European Information Center, gave an important opportunity for secondary education teachers of the Eastern Macedonia and Thrace to enhance their European field of knowledge completion. Encouraging, advising and guiding the new generation of educators and researchers in European integration-related disciplines has been largely achieved through your own contribution and guidance.

Enabling them to analyze and comment on issues such as: EU value identity and the Rule of Law in Member States, Brexit and its impacts (legal / political / economic), the refugee crisis and the Common European Asylum System, the Eurozone debt crisis and its management have at the same time strengthened teachers' knowledge, but important issues have been clarified and questions and gaps have been addressed. "

Zoi Vamvaka Information and Communication Officer European Information Centre Europe Direct Xanthi,

"I had the opportunity to attend the seminar 'Training of Trainers: Current Issues of European Integration' organized by Jean Monnet Chair in cooperation with Europe Direct Xanthi on December 6 and 7 in Komotini. Leaving the seminar I felt much more informed and developed a number of new concerns about the European Union and European identity. I believe that specific initiatives towards the teachers' corps should in future be expanded to curb the distortion that unfortunately dominates the information we receive and which we must then pass on to our students. I hope in the future we have the opportunity to hear them again soon. "

Panagiotis Koutakis, Teacher of English Language, Xanthi Secondary School

B. OPEN EVENTS

I. CONFERENCES

During the three-year program, the following conferences were organized as open-ended scientific events of the Jean Monnet Chair:

1. International Conference (Round Table) on "*The European Constitutionalism and its Crisis*", Komotini 23 May 2018

The conference was organized in collaboration with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation with the participation of speakers from Germany.

The total number of those attending the conference was 134.

The proceedings of the conference were published by the publishing house Nomiki Vivliothiki in November 2018 with the funding from the University Property Valuation and Development Company (see below Publications of the Chair).



Invitation to the conference "The European constitutionalism and its crisis"



The program of the conference "The European constitutionalism and its crisis"



The holder of the Jean Monnet Chair Professor Michalis Chrysomallis in his introductory speech at the conference "The European constitutionalism and its crisis"



Photo from the conference "The European constitutionalism and its crisis"



Photo from the conference "The European constitutionalism and its crisis"



Photo from the conference "The European constitutionalism and its crisis"

2. Two-day Scientific Conference: "*Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in quest thereof?*", Komotini 3-4 December 2019.

The conference was organized in collaboration with the Rodopi Bar Association. The conference proceedings will be published in the summer of 2020.



The invitation in the Conference "Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in quest thereof?"



The Jean Monnet Chair holder Professor Michalis Chrysomallis in his introductory speech at the conference "Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in quest thereof?"



Photo of the Conference "Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in quest thereof?"



The former President of the European Court of Justice Emeritus Professor V. Skouris during his intervention in the conference "Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in quest thereof?"

"I have been following with admiration for years the Jean Monnet Chair's high-level and wide-ranging research work at the DUTH Law School, highlighting the excellent organization of conferences with current legal issues of European integration and top-level presentations, as well as the publication of specific papers . I have personally had the opportunity to attend two of these conferences held in Komotini, and to discuss with important colleagues from Greece and abroad the European constitutionalism and the rule of law in the European Union. High-level presentations, the large audience attending conference proceedings, impeccable organization, and the rapid publication of a well-edited volume of Minutes contributed to a remarkable scientific result with legal interest and duration extending well beyond the completion of the conference. I was also honored to participate in the publication of the collective volume "The Rule of Law in the Rule of Law of the European Union" together with notable legal writers and under the exemplary curatorship of Professor M. Chrysomallis, where rich, timely exhibits and grounded in jurisprudence and bibliography legal considerations are exposed, taking academic dialogue a step forward."

> Manolis Perrakis, Assistant Professor Athens University Law School

II. Information Meetings

During the period 2016 - 2019, **eleven (11)** Information Meetings (2016-17, 4 - 2017-18, 4 - 2018-19, 3) were held with an open audience (students, lawyers, civil society, officials), with the aim of presenting developments (legal, political, jurisprudential) in the context of European integration. The purpose of the Information Meetings was to create a stable stakeholder on European integration issues and to set up a think tank. During the Informative Meetings, which did not assume the official character of the conferences, an attempt was made to have 2-3 short presentations (approximately 20') and the total duration of each meeting should not exceed 2 hours. The discussed topics included, among others, BREXIT, the refugee crisis and the response to it, the rule of law backsliding to EU Member States and the efforts to address it, the developments in the AFSJ.

A regular number of 35 - 40 persons attended the Information Meetings organized by the Chair.

Jean Monnet Chair





JEAN MONNET CHAIR, DUTH DEPARTMENT OF LAW

INFORMATION MEETING 3/2017

TUESDAY 5/12/2017, 19.00, Department of Law

(Postgraduate studies Hall of International Studies Unit)

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EU

Contributions

- The establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO): presentation of the new Regulations (EU) 1939/2017, Dr. V. Tzortzi, Adjunct Lecturer
- Relocation of refugees before the Court of Justice: cases C-643/15 & C-647/15, Slovakia and Hungary v Council of the European Union, Dr. P. Argalias, Special Associate
- > Is Brexit reversible?; M. D. Chrysomallis, Assoc. Professor

Poster – invitation to the Information Meeting 3/2017



Photo of the Information Meeting 3/2019, 20/3/2019 Komotini



Panel in the Information Meeting 2/2018, 12/12/2018 Komotini

C. PUBLICATIONS OF THE JEAN MONNET CHAIR

1. The principle of solidarity in the European Union's legal order: concept, scope and legal nature, Sakkoula Publications, Athens - Thessaloniki 2017, pp 154



2. European Economic Governance: Building, Deepening, Issues of Democracy and Respect for Fundamental Rights, Nomiki Vibliothiki Publications, Athens -Thessaloniki 2018, pp 325



3. The principle of the Rule of Law in the EU legal order: Studies, Nomiki Vivliothiki Publications, Athens - Thessaloniki 2019, pp 261

Επιμέλεια: **Μιχάλης Δ. Χρυσομάλλης** Αναπλ. Καθηγητής Νομικής Σχολής ΔΠΘ Έδρα Jean Monnet

Η αρχή του Κράτους Δικαίου στην έννομη τάξη της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης

Μελέτες

Συγγραφείς τόμου:

Π. Αργαλιάς Δικηγόρος, Δ.Ν., Ειδικός Συνεργάτης, Νομική Σχολή ΔΠΘ Δ. Βουγιούκας

Δικηγόρος, Δ.Ν., Ειδικός Επιστήμονας, Νομική Σχολή ΔΠΘ Ι. Κυριτσάκη

Δικηγόρος, Δ.Ν., Ειδικός Συνεργάτης, Νομική Σχολή ΔΠΘ Μ. Περάκης

Δικηγόρος, Επίκ. Καθηγητής, Νομική Σχολή ΕΚΠΑ Ελ. Σιδηροπούλου

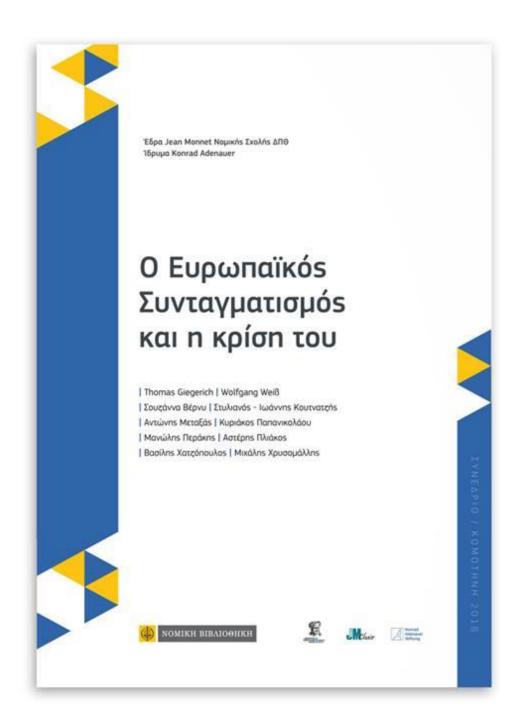
Δ.Ν., Ειδικός Συνεργάτης, Νομική Σχολή ΔΠΘ **Β. Τζώρτζη**

Δικηγόρος, Δ.Ν., Ειδικός Επιστήμονας, Νομική Σχολή ΔΠΘ Μ. Χρυσομάλλης

Αναπλ. Καθηγητής, Νομική Σχολή ΔΠΘ



4. The European Constitutionalism and its Crisis: Conference Proceedings, Nomiki Vivliothiki Publications, Athens - Thessaloniki 2019, pp 189



The following editions of the Chair are expected to be published:

5. The Rule of Law in the European Union: Acquis or in Quest thereof ? Conference Proceedings, Nomiki Vivliothiki Publications, under publication, 2020

6. 70 Exercises of European Union Law (Institutional and Substantive Law), under publication, estimated Time May 2020

D. VISIBILITY AND DISSEMINATION OF ACTIVITIES

The Chair's activities have been consistently highlighted throughout the three years in a number of ways:

(a) Participation of Jean Monnet Chair holder Professor Michalis Chrysomallis and presentation of the Chair's program at the joint meeting of the Special Standing Committee on European Affairs and the Standing Committee on Educational Affairs on "The Work of Jean Monnet Chairs" in Greek Parliament, Athens, 24 November 2016



The holder of the Jean Monnet Chair Professor Michalis Chrysomallis during the presentation of the Chair's program at the joint meeting of the Special Standing Committee on European Affairs and the Standing Committee on Educational Affairs on "The work of the Jean Monnet Chairs".

https://wetransfer.com/downloads/68d6dcb73527f465df2524117190aacd201612020 74434/658e1f0ead8aeb8086b0823107841d8f20161202074434/da5585

(b) Creating a website dedicated to the Chair https://law.duth.gr/monnet/

(c) Press conferences, television and radio interviews with local and regional media

Indicatively:

ACTIVITIES ASSESSMENT FOR THE PERIOD 2016-2018

Wednesday, May 23, 2018 - 10:00 am XRONOS.GR

Department of Law Jean Monnet Chair: Promotes research and knowledge



https://www.xronos.gr/reportaz/edra-jean-monnet-nomikis-sholis-proagei-tin-ereyna-kai-ti-

<u>gnosi</u>

http://dasta.duth.gr/?q=node/1134#.XhwkhP4zaUl https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1JrWUs9KZU&authuser=0

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgxwGBwTpRcdQNGlhpZpvvXcqpXWP?projec
<u>tor=1</u>
https://www.paratiritis-news.gr/article/202977/Kefalaio-i-edra-Jean-Monnet-gia-ti-Nomiki-
Komotinis
https://www.paratiritis-news.gr/article/189099/Edra-Jean-Monnet-apokta-i-Nomiki-Sxoli-
tou-DPTh
https://www.xronos.gr/ekdiloseis/tria-hronia-epityhoys-leitoyrgias-gia-tin-edra-jean-
monnet-nomikis-dpth

The scientific result of the Chair was disseminated in the following ways:

- Through the Chair's website, which acts as an open source of information, the multitude of educational tools that were developed were made available to the general public and not only to the academic community of the Democritus University of Thrace. Our choice to have the Jean Monnet courses "open" has worked multiplied, as one can find this material on a search engine without having to look at the Chair's website, which has maintained high traffic rates, however.
- The significant number of open events contributed to the dissemination of the Chair's activities, which became known beyond the Law School's to a wider social circle. In all cases there has been explicit reference to the contribution of the European Union and the Erasmus plus Program to the implementation of an ambitious project.
- The Chair's publications (research and conference proceedings) in wellknown publishing houses of the country widely disseminated the Chair's scientific product. These publications were placed in a large number of libraries to be sources by researchers on issues of European integration, while receiving high publicity from publishers.

E. IMPACT OF JEAN MONNET CHAIR

The activities carried out by the Jean Monnet Chair during the implementation of its program had several effects:

- The School of Law European studies curriculum was strengthened by the introduction of new courses, while new educational tools were provided to support the teaching of the courses. Today the Law School of the Democritus University of Thrace has the most extensive European studies program compared to the other Law Schools of Greece. In addition, the dynamics developed by the Chair have provided fertile ground for the creation of a new Postgraduate program in 2018 entitled: *Contemporary European Studies: Law, Economics, Politics.*
- The research on the values of the Union and the Rule of Law was given impetus and produced a remarkable research result. It is noteworthy that the Chair in the framework of its research program has given young scientists the opportunity to research, to write papers and to see their research output published.
- Through its open events it has been the framework for the development of a fruitful scientific dialogue involving scientists from Greece and abroad. Students and the public became involved in this dialogue directly or indirectly through the publication of conference proceedings that were organized.
- Through its seminars and Jean Monnet (Information) meetings, the Chair has been a constant source of information and awareness on current issues of European integration, which has not only been extended to Law School students but also extended to students from other Departments of the University, to a big number of jurists of the region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, to teachers of other levels of education and to civil servants.

As the Dean of our Law School Professor Christos Mastrokostas points out in a related statement:

"The work produced as part of the Chair's activities in the field of science, teaching and research was extensive, extremely important, with a wide appeal in the legal world of the country and a high awareness of the students of our University, the jurists of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace and the citizens. The participation of prominent academic personalities of the country and the European arena in the conferences, road tables and meetings held and the publications of the research project have created a high-level acquis that opens new horizons for European Studies at our School. "