This course has been sponsored by the University of Brescia, as an essential part of the internationalization programme. It is a highly specialised training course, addressing undergraduate students, PhD Students and Practitioners (Lawyers, Notary Publics) who want to face in depth the essential aspects of European Private Law. After the five weeks scheduled, Prof. Mak shall remain in Brescia at the students’ disposal for the final exam and for supplementary seminars.

**Application deadline**
30 April 2015, subject to availability. Maximum 15 students shall be admitted. No tuition fee is required. The application form must be sent by mail at: cristina.molinari@unibs.it

**Transport and facilities**
For students coming from abroad (Europe) the most suitable option is flying to Orio al Serio Airport (Milan-Bergamo) or Valerio Catullo Airport (Verona). Low cost companies fly to both airports, 45 minutes away by car from Brescia. Buses and coaches run between the airports and the town centre (close to the University and to the accommodations). For overseas students (US or other regions) the best solution is to fly to Milano Linate Airport or to Milano Malpensa Airport.

**CREDIT FOR STUDENTS:** 3 ECTS plus **CREDIT FOR LAWYERS:** 15 ECTS

**SCIENTIFIC DIRECTION**
Prof. Saverio Regasto - Prof.ssa Cristina Amato

**SEGRETARIAT**
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**DEPARTMENT OF LAW**

**Principles of European Contract Law**

Prof.ssa Chantal Mak

Associate professor at the Centre for the Study of European Contract Law, Director of the Amsterdam Research Institute for Legal Studies

**University of Amsterdam**

**Brescia, 5 May – 5 June 2015**
This course aims at offering an in-depth exploration of principles underlying the law of contract governing transactions within the European Union. Adopting a horizontal and interdisciplinary approach, special attention shall be devoted to fundamental questions in the field of European contract law, such as:

- What is the function of contract law?
- Under what conditions is a party considered bound by a contract?
- What are the limits to freedom of contract?
- Which remedies are available in case of breach of contract?
- Should contract law be further harmonised within the EU?
- Can and should contract law contribute to the shaping of a European ‘common good’?

The discussion of these questions will draw on examples from three major legal systems in Europe (France, Germany, England) as well as consider the influence of EU law on the contract laws of these countries. It will include insights from contract law theory, as well as the economic, political and legal-philosophical analysis of law.

**PROGRAMME**

The class will meet twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays (h. 14:00-15:30 p.m.), for a duration of 5 weeks. Grades will be based on a research paper (70%) and on a class presentation (30%).

The subjects dealt with in the Summer School course are listed hereunder:

**WEEK 1**
Session A – What is European Contract Law?
Session B – Principles of European Contract Law

**WEEK 2**
Session A – Formation; pre-contractual liability
Session B – Offer and acceptance; right of withdrawal

**WEEK 3**
Session A – Defects of consent
Session B – Immoral and illegal contracts

**WEEK 4**
Session A – Interpretation and supplementation
Session B – Unfair terms

**WEEK 5**
Session A – Remedies: Specific performance and damages
Session B – Supervening events

**WEEK 6**
Final exam