Giving human rights a central role within the EU legal order would transform its original economic nature. In some ways this process has already started. We will examine the importance of human rights in the EU legal order of today, including in secondary legislation and the case law of the Court of Justice, and the influence that human rights have on the interaction between the EU and national law.

Reading:

- C-399/11, *Melloni*, judgement of 26 February 2013

The financial and economic crisis has pushed some Member States to pursue a highly controversial austerity policy in order to meet the conditionality conditions of the bailout funds or of the ECB. We will discuss the fundamental rights obligations of the involved EU institutions and the consequences of the measures agreed between the Member States and the Troika (Commission, ECB and IMF) for fundamental rights and for EU governance.

Reading:


The EU’s accession to the European Convention on Human Rights remains a complex legal challenge. The Court of Justice’s Opinion 2/13 in December 2014 confirmed this. We will discuss the many legal problems that remain unsolved, the potential consequences for the
compound structure of human rights protection in Europe and for the position of the EU within that structure. This session builds on the discussion in the first session.

Reading: