



Università
Ca' Foscari
Venezia

With the support of the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: WHALE, Working on non-Human Animal Law and rights in the Eu

FUNDING PROGRAMME: Erasmus+

Action: Jean Monnet Module

CALL: 2023

HOST DEPARTMENT/CENTRE: Department of Economics

COORDINATOR: Professor Sara De Vido

GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER: 101127161 ERASMUS-JMO-2023-HEI-TCH-RSCH

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs:

€ 30 000,00

PROJECT SUMMARY:

The purpose of this module is to propose an innovative legal and interdisciplinary course at university level on non-human animal law and rights in the EU. There is nothing similar in Europe and more specifically in Italy in terms both of methodology - combining lectures and practical workshops, and including a rewriting of judgments following the example of the Australian “Wild law project” - and in the perspective - ecocentrism, considering the environment as a whole, composed of human, non-human animals and natural objects.

The module, which will be taught in Italian (with final conference and the open virtual seminars in English) is composed of one WP for a total amount of 60 hours of lectures and workshops. A final conference will be organised to sum up the main ideas of the module, and to prepare one major deliverable: a “manual” of non-human animal law and rights. The module falls under one of the priorities of the EU (biodiversity) and develops the important ideas raised in the report “Towards an EU Charter of the fundamental Rights of Nature” (RoN) of 2019. The module explores anthropocentrism vs ecocentrism, the evolution of EU law with regard to the protection of animals, the criminal law and civil law protection of non-human animals (with examples from Italy and Spain), and two thematic issues: non-human animals, culture and industry; moving beyond anthropocentrism to face the challenge of climate change. It alternates classes of 3 hours (held by one or two experts), workshops, one open virtual lecture per year, an “ecocentric” rewriting, a final conference in the third year.

The ultimate purpose of the module is to open a debate in Europe, among different stakeholders and policy-makers, in order to challenge the concept of “animal wellbeing” and endorse a more ecocentric approach to be potentially included in secondary EU legislation. The module is aimed at being permanently incorporated in the offer of the university after the end of the project.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
1/11/2023	31/10/2026

PARTNERSHIP:

	Organisation name	Country	Role
1	Universita Ca' Foscari Venezia	Italy	Applicant

WEBSITE: <https://www.unive.it/pag/49071/>