LL.M. IN “FOOD LAW”
The legal profiles of the complex world of food

Directors:
G. Ghidini, E. Moavero Milanesi, M.P. Ragionieri
WHY A FOCUSED LL.M. IN FOOD LAW

Over the last years the international attention to food related issues has sensibly grown and has provided a boost in identifying those general and individual interests – from citizens’ health and nutrition, to environmental sustainability – that require urgent attention and intervention by institutions, enterprises, science, media, and individuals alike.

A specific attention and a more systemic focus on the great variety of statutes and rules governing the so vastly articulated ‘food world’ are needed. Agricultural and industrial production, distribution and international trade, quality and safety controls, consumer information and health safeguard, scientific research and technological developments, environmental protection and bio-productions: these are just a few main facets of the complex prism of different, frequently interlinked activities concerning food. They are all of significant interest for lawyers, magistrates, business people, advisors and consumer movements, as well as for anyone dealing with food related, profit or non-profit, activities.

Moreover, in-depth and focused study, in an interdisciplinary and international perspective, is the basis for a concrete contribution to the search for updated and more efficient legal settings.

The LL.M. in Food Law of the LUISS School of Law precisely addresses such need of a comprehensive ‘analysis-cum-proposals’ of the various profiles and main issues involved in the overall regulation concerning food, in the widest sense.

WHY STUDYING FOOD LAW IN ITALY

Italy undoubtedly enjoys worldwide reputation for its food; most of the people in the world have tasted Italian food or, at least, have heard about it. Thanks to its long standing tradition, well preserved and trained local expertise, as well as to its territorial specialized skills, Italy has the highest number of internationally recognized ‘denominations of origin’ and several Italian food trademarks are frequently known globally as synonyms of the highest quality in food productions.

Italy is one of the six founding Members of the European Community, now European Union. Thus, it has been a key player in the setting up of the EU common agricultural policy and of all the relevant EU rules concerning food and the related activities. Therefore, in Italy there is a peculiar expertise in this field, strengthened by the primary position that agriculture and the food industry have always had and still have in the country, notably with regards to its trade and export perspectives.
Furthermore, Italian public institutions and authorities, companies and their associations, as well as Italian consumer movements and NGOs, are constantly in the forefront of national, EU and international regulatory initiatives and decisions, rounds of negotiations and multilateral deals and treaties.

It is also worth stressing that some and perhaps most important European and international organizations dealing with food issues have their seats and headquarters in Italy. In particular, are based in Rome: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Food Program (WFP), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Moreover, the European Food and Safety Authority (EFSA) is located in Parma.

All these elements make Italy a privileged place for advanced study in Food Law and an ideal paramount observatory, in international and European perspective, on the manifold legal issues concerning the entire chain of food production and commerce. Studying in Italy may also enhance the possibilities of working in one of the abovementioned organizations and/or in one of its industries.

THE LL.M. IN FOOD LAW OF THE LUISS SCHOOL OF LAW

The LUISS School of Law has drawn specific attention to the LL.M. in Food Law. It is one of its core programs, conceived and structured to attract an international audience and offer a unique experience.

English is the language of the courses and of the other activities. The basic legal references are to European Union and international rules and practice. Moreover, the studies go beyond the legal field; where needed, the program also provides the indispensable economic and technical notions.

Widely reputed scholars, high officials of regulatory bodies and institutions, as well as prominent agricultural, industrial, commercial operators and experts, contribute to the LL.M. program.

The LL.M. presents a very wide training offer. Here, suffice it to highlight its unique multidisciplinary approach. The subject matter ranging: from the institutional grounds of food legislation, to the regulatory tenets of safety, security and environmental protection, to the instruments and bodies of quality and traceability monitoring, to the correct safeguard of consumers, to the requirements for certifications of origin, including ‘made in(s)’, to the legal profiles of distribution and agro-food contractual policies, to the rules of free competition, to the responsibility of business operators along the production-distribution-consumption
chain. Special attention is devoted to the regulation of technological innovation in the food sector, as well as to the bio-agriculture technologies. Laboratories and practice-oriented seminars duly integrate the front lessons. There, experts, actually operating in the various fields related to food regulation and industry, illustrate and discuss with the students their concrete working life experience. A specific care is dedicated to the opening of concrete working perspectives after the attainment of the LL.M. certificate. Several contacts with the ‘world’ of food related activities, organizations and institutions are proposed already during the courses and connected initiatives.

WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THE LL.M. IN FOOD LAW

All persons wishing to acquire or to improve their studies and their knowledge of the relevant legal aspects of Food Law in a genuine international perspective. All persons wishing to strengthen their education in this field in order to become more effective in their present or future activity, within a wide range of career opportunities in the food sector worldwide: national and international regulatory bodies, specialized law and consulting firms, food industries, governmental and non-governmental organizations, etc. The LL.M. in Food Law will upgrade not only their professional background and capabilities, but above all their chances to enter or progress in their personal careers, owing to the above mentioned programs, labs and seminars, traineeships, etc., involving person-to-person contact with professors, experts and leading operators.
1. INTERNATIONAL FOOD LAW

The first Module aims at providing students with the legal foundations of the multilevel-system governing the food sector at international level. The lectures will cover the role of the international bodies, like the FAO, the WHO and WTO and, in particular, how this latter and the international law shape and constrain EU Food Law.

2. EUROPEAN FOOD LAW

The second Module will focus on the analysis of the different EU rules applicable to the production of food. Nowadays, it is of the utmost importance for students to understand the legal framework governing the modern food technologies, their impact on the food supply chain and the rules adopted in order to guarantee their coexistence with traditional farming.

3. FOOD SECURITY and ENVIRONMENT

The third Module will provide a comprehensive overview of the strict relationship between food and environment and, at the same time, of the major problems related to food security, namely the availability, the access and the use of food products.

4. FOOD SAFETY

The fourth Module will deal with the rules governing the safety of the food chain, namely its hygiene and health security, nutritional, hygienic and toxicological characteristics. Students will also learn about the mechanisms set up at EU level to guarantee the safety of food and the management of emergency situations.
5. FOOD LABELLING

This Module addresses the regulation of information that consumers may find on food products and of advertising regimes set up at EU and national level.

6. FOOD QUALITY

The sixth Module will provide students with a comprehensive overview of the rules governing the protected geographical indications of origin, brands, private collective marks and signs of quality. The particular discipline of the trade of wine and spirits, the sensorial analysis of food and the important issue of the so-called “Made in” will complete this section.

7. AGRIFOODSTUFF MARKET

This Module will deal with the rules governing the agri-foodstuffs market. In particular, students will be engaged in the analysis of the regulations on competition and State aids, the European system for food market and the role of the relevant Authority on fair competition. Also, particular attention will be given to food trade in the international market and to the role of specific financial institutions and instruments for the agri-food market.

8. CONTRACTS

In this Module students will look at the role of international and national trade associations, the discipline of network contracts and transaction contracts in the agri-food system, as well as the regime governing the protection of consumers in the contractual process and the various organizational systems in the food supply chain.

9. RESPONSIBILITY and FRAUD

The ninth Module will explain the regimes of legal responsibility of the actors involved in the food chain, namely producers, distributors and importers. In particular, it will deal with unfair trade practices, frauds, the role of consumers’ associations, the regulation of civil and criminal responsibility, and the law of class action.
10. FOOD COMPANIES on a GLOBAL SCALE

The last Module will deal with the challenges a food company faces to expand its market, and the necessary legal assistance in support of it. In particular, students will be taught about the applicable fiscal and tax legislative regimes, the customs arrangements, the rules governing e-commerce and distance selling.
FACULTY

Prof. A. F. Abou Hadid (AinShams University)

Ayman Farid Abou Hadid is Professor Emeritus at the Faculty of Agriculture of the AinShams University in Cairo, Egypt and he is considered one of the principal experts in agricultural law in his country. In 2013, he was appointed Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation and, in this capacity, he started the implementation of the food law in Egypt, also through scientific researches with Italian Universities aiming at reproducing the EU food law system in the national context. He is a member of the Board of the Research and Training Consortium on Food Safety (Rifosal) and author of many scientific publications.

Prof. J. Bourgeois (College of Europe)

Jacques Bourgeois is Senior Adviser in the law firm Sidley Austin LLP where he advises on all aspects of European Union law, specifically in relation to EU competition matters and international trade law. He served for over 25 years as a senior official with the European Commission working, inter alia, in the fields of foreign trade policy, antitrust policy, antidumping and subsidies, as well as for safeguard measures and protection against illicit commercial practices. He is also Professor at the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium) and guest professor at the University of Gent (Belgium).

Dr. Khaled El-Taweel (Chair of the FAO Committe on Commodity Problems)

Dr. Khaled Eltaweel is the chair of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Committe on Commodity Problems. He also serves as the Chairman of the Committee on Food Security’s (CFS) Open Ended Working Group on Nutrition. He earned his doctorate in International Law (LLD) from the University of Pretoria where he also obtained his Master of International Law (LLM) in 2010. He has a Master of International Business Administration (MIBA) from the Ecole Supérieure Libre des Sciences Commerciales Appliquées, (ESLSCA), Paris, France.
Prof. C. Galli (University of Parma, IP Law Galli)

Head and founder of IP_Law_Galli and full professor of IP law at the University of Parma Faculty of Law since 1998, Cesare Galli handles litigation involving all branches of IP law. Since 2005 he has been a member of the Governmental Boards of Counsel in the IP field, including the boards which drafted the 2010 reform of the Code of Industrial Property and the rules to implement the Unified Patent Court and now the 2015 EU Trademarks Directive in Italy. Professor Galli is the author/editor of an impressive number of publications, including “The Italian IP Code: the 2010 Reform” (2010) and “The Commented Code of Industrial and Intellectual Property” (2011, edited with A Gambino), the largest ever produced.

Prof. M. Grossman (Illinois University)

Margaret Rosso Grossman is Bock Chair and Professor of Agricultural Law, Emerita at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is an internationally recognized expert on issues related to agricultural law and the environment. Professor Grossman is a past president of the American Agricultural Law Association (AALA) and winner of the 1993 AALA Distinguished Service Award, as well as of the 1999 Silver Medal of the European Council for Agricultural Law.

Dr. H. Kuiper (European Food Safety Authority, EFSA)

Harry A. Kuiper, a former scientist, was until November 2006, Programme Leader and International Account Manager at the State Institute for Quality controls of Agriculture Products (RIKILT) at the Wageningen University & Research centre (The Netherlands). From 1997-2003 he served as member of the EU Scientific Committee on Plants and since 2003 he chairs the Scientific Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), where he is also member of the Scientific Committee. He chaired numerous national and international expert committees, inter alia, on the safety of food produced by modern biotechnology.
Prof. C. Mestre (University of Strasbourg)

Christian Mestre is Professor at the Law and Political Science faculty of the University of Strasbourg (France) since 1992, and Rector of Robert Schuman University of Strasbourg since 1998. He was Associate professor at the University of Louvainla-Neuve (Belgium) in 1992/1996, and he is visiting professor at the University of Warsaw (Poland), Bucharest (Romania), Rome (Italy), Barcelona (Spain), and at the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium). His research interests include the European building, institutional problems, agricultural policy, and social and economic cohesion policy.

Prof. M. Tamponi (LUISS University)

Michele Tamponi is Professor of Private Law at the LUISS University (Rome) where he also serves as Director of the LUISS Postgraduate Legal Training School. His research interests include private law as well as agricultural and food law. He is a member of the Board of Editors and the scientific committees of several scientific journals in agricultural law, and he is author of monographs and over 350 articles related also to Agricultural Law.

Prof. G.L. Tosato (LUISS University)

Gian Luigi Tosato is Professor Emeritus of International and European Union Law at the University La Sapienza (Rome); he is Professor of EU law at the LUISS University in Rome. Founder of Studio Legale Tosato law firm (Rome), he is a member of American Society of International Law, of the International Law Association, and of the Executive Committee of the Institute of International Affairs. He is also former President of the Commission on Computing, Telecommunications and Information Policies of the ICC in Paris and Honorary President of Ericsson Italy.

Prof. P. Van den Bossche (World Trade Organization, WTO)

Peter van den Bossche is Member of the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization in Geneva (Switzerland) and Professor of International Economic Law at Maastricht University (The Netherlands). He is a member of the Board of Editors of the Journal of International Economic Law and visiting professor at the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium) and in
several other Universities, among alia, the China-EU School of Law at the China University of Political Science and Law in Beijing and the World Trade Institute in Berne (Switzerland).

COORDINATORS OF THE LL.M.

**Academic Coordinator:** D. Corona, *LUISS University, Rome (Italy)*

**Executive Activities Coordinator:** E. de Vito, *LUISS University, Rome (Italy)*
1. The L.L.M. in Food Law of the LUISS School of Law accepts students of all nationalities, selected according to the following criteria:

- Academic merit: the quality and coherence of the university career, as shown by the academic documents, the CV and 1 reference letter;

- International experience: the evidence of an orientation towards an international career as shown either by university studies or possible work experience or statements by referees;

- Motivation: each applicant has to send a motivation letter explaining why and how the participation in the L.L.M. program will help him/her to achieve his/her personal, educational and professional ambitions.

2. Applicants need to send the following documents:

- detailed CV with the list of academic courses followed and possible professional experiences;

- motivation letter explaining the applicant’s personal motivation for attending the LL.M. in Food Law;

- academic transcripts (degree certificates, list of examinations taken and results achieved) in the original language and translation into English. Applicants, who have not yet completed the current degree or do not have access to a transcript of the final results, need to submit an official interim transcript;

- three reference letters (or the e-mail and phone contacts of three potential referees);

- where applicable, a certificate of English proficiency (TOEFL, IELTS or by another recognised language institute);

- a copy of the applicant’s national identity card or passport.
Online form is available at
http://lsl.luiss.it/academic-programs/llm-food-law/online-applications

More information:
L.L.M. in Food Law, LUISS School of Law
Viale Pola 12 - 00198 Rome Italy
foodlaw@luiss.it - +39 06 85225579/5546

3. Should you need any administrative information, please contact the LUISS School of Law at lsl@luiss.it or +39 06 85225579/5546.

4. Tuition fees for the LL.M. in Food Law of the LUISS School of Law are set at EUR 8,500.

5. Campus Life

LUISS School of Law is part of LUISS Guido Carli and is located in the heart of Rome, Italy. LLM’s students can have access to all five campuses of the university, all located nearby. University administration, academic offices and services are located throughout the five campuses:

- University Headquarters and LUISS School of Law Viale Pola 12 - 00198 Rome
- Social Science Campus Viale Romania, 32 - 00197 Rome
- Law Campus Via Parenzo 11 - 00198 Rome
- Library Via di Santa Costanza 53 - 00198 Rome
- University Union Viale Gorizia 17 - 00198 Rome

A free shuttle bus connects the five campuses.

Library
It is specialised in social sciences, particularly in Law, Economics and Political Sciences. It holds about 120,000 books, over 2,000 paper journals, 75 databases, and it provides access to over 30,000 e-journals. It is located in Via di Santa Costanza 53.

Housing
In order to satisfy the student demand for accommodation, the Real Estate University
Services office (Casa LUISS) helps and supports students in looking for a place to stay. The service is free for LUISS students.

Health Care

On-campus care
At the University Union, free health care service is provided to students.

Prevention Service
LUISS offers a free of charge preventive medicine service through qualified offcampus local health units. In order to reduce risks and encourage a healthy campus, every year all LUISS students can benefit from a number of specialized examinations free of charge.

Emergency Medical Service
There is an emergency medical service for all LUISS students, which is available both on-campus and at the student’s home.
For Medical Emergencies dial: 800 94 94 89

Cafeteria
Cafeteria is only open during working days in the following hours:

Cafeteria of Viale Romania
• Lunch: from Monday to Friday 12:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.
• Saturday 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
• Dinner: from Monday to Friday 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Cafeteria of Viale Pola
• Lunch: from Monday to Friday 12 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.