

# Prüfercheck: Univ.-Prof. Mag. Dr. Thomas Jaeger, LL.M.

Oral module examination in European law

1. What does the process of exams look like for you?

Examination usually individually, usually 3 questions per candidate. The audit interview is based on a short real case (CJEU press release), which is discussed with regard to its formal and substantive aspects. The press release is usually drawn from a pool by the student himself/herself. Only the head of the press release (case no. and header) is relevant, the text is not taken into account. The examination questions are mainly fed by the areas of the case presented. In addition, questions detached from the case can be asked.

Exam situation: Expect a sober, professional exam atmosphere. Expect to be interrupted if you answer off topic or too generally. The module examination is a state-recognised assessment of performance. Rely on the fact that the examiner is basically well-disposed towards you and does not follow the plan to let you fail. If you tend to be nervous, practice the exam situation (e.g. in my exercise).

2. How long do your exams take?

The target duration is 4 minutes per question, i.e. usually 15 minutes with preparation and follow-up.

3. Is testing carried out individually or in groups?

see at 1.

4. How many questions do you ask examinees?

see at 1.

5. Do you have any questions?

In principle, yes.

6. Are there any subject-specific topics that you prefer?

see my current substance definition. I actually check the full scope of the substance demarcation. The questions and thus also topics

are usually drawn from a concrete exam (see 1.) and are therefore dependent on chance.

7. Which skills do you attach particular importance to?

Content: Understanding before memorization, excellent orientation in the legal bases, recognizing and understanding connections, being able to take different perspectives on problems / questions and be able to argue, critical thinking on a well-informed basis, following current media reporting on questions of EU policy and EU law.

Appearance - Do's: Listen to me carefully when asking the question. Answer accurately and only to the question posed to you. Make sure you use precise language. Show that you can quickly and completely orient yourself in the legal bases. Do not let yourself be led on the wrong tracks, which I sometimes lay with knowledge that I consider to be the basis.

Don'ts: Don't recite memorized knowledge that only fits generally or vaguely with what you were actually asked. Don't digress. Expect to be interrupted whenever you give redundant or off-topic lectures.

8. What mistakes do you consider to be serious? Which no-gos should you avoid?

Missing, vague or misunderstood basics are always serious. Each area of substance delimitation has aspects that are basic knowledge of the area in question. You can find out exactly what is part of the basics in each area in the courses and/or textbooks.

9. What tips would you give students for preparing for the exam?

Plan the European law exam in advance (at least 1 semester before the planned date) and not last minute, so that you have the opportunity to select and attend relevant courses and listen to exams in preparation.

Be sure to take advantage of the courses offered: Attend the courses, especially my exercise. Do not go to other examiners than the one assigned to you in the exercise, as content and requirements diverge greatly. If you don't have time for the exercise, make sure that you at least regularly attend other courses I offer. This includes in particular lectures as exam preparation, because

there is always the opportunity to ask questions (also of a general nature) and to familiarize myself with the subject matter and my requirements.

Take a code of conduct with you to the exam. Use the European Law Code, as it is the only one that contains all relevant legal acts.

Pay attention to the topicality of the literature used, do not learn with old editions: Especially in European law, secondary law changes dynamically.

Do not learn with summaries of the literature: These are always incomplete, often even incorrect and, by the way, copyright infringing.

Don't just learn with a list of questions: I check for understanding. Memorized Q&A is not enough to provide precise answers to precise questions.

Practice the review questions in my textbooks. Practice with real press releases (e.g. in my exercise, otherwise independently).

Listen to my exams in advance throughout the semester.