

The Euro Challenge 2015 Competition Overview

Presentation by

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Delegation of the European Union to the United States
www.euro-challenge.org



What is the Euro Challenge?



And More Specifically?

An exciting opportunity to learn about:

- The European Union (EU)
- The Euro and the “euro area”
- Economic concepts and challenges
- The global economy



And More Specifically?

►► Student teams of three to five students are asked to make presentations answering specific questions about the European economy and the single currency, the euro

- They are also asked to:
- pick one member country of the "euro area" (the 18 EU member countries that have adopted the euro so far),
 - to examine an economic problem at the country level, and
 - to identify policies for responding to that problem.





Euro Challenge Goals

- Increase students' knowledge and understanding of the European Union and the euro
- Promote an understanding of economic challenges facing European Union member states
- Support local learning standards related to global studies and economics
- Foster economic and financial literacy and understanding of economic policy issues
- Develop communication, critical thinking and cooperative skills.



Overview

- Recruiter and Organizer in Florida: MEUCE-FIU – 8th Year
- The 2014 competition has been extended to Broward, Palm Beach County, St. Lucie, Orlando, Fort Myers
- Partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch – 6th year
- Among eleven Florida High Schools,
2 won in Florida, went to NY in 2014, and won the national competition
 - ▶ Nova High School (Broward)
 - ▶ Trinity Preparatory School (Orlando)



The 2 Winners 2014 in Florida



Nova High School



Trinity Preparatory School

Participating High Schools 2014



- Archimedean Upper Conservatory
- Coral Reef Senior High School
- Felix Varela Senior High School
- Fort Pierce Westwood High School
- Gulliver Preparatory School
- International School of Broward
- International Studies Preparatory Academy
- Miami Palmetto Senior High School
- Nova High School
- Oasis High School
- Trinity Preparatory School



Overview of the Euro Challenge

- Teams of 3 to 5 students
- Ninth and tenth grade global studies, European studies, world geography, economics & world history students
- One (1) team per school
- Presentation: 15 minutes
- Q & A: 10 minutes
- Presentation format: your choice
- approx. 100 schools nationwide

Three-part Challenge Question

Euro Challenge Question: Part I

1. Describe the **current economic situation** in the “euro area” (the economic region consisting of the 18 EU member countries who have adopted the euro).





Overview of the Euro Challenge

Please Remember

The first part of the Challenge asks students to describe the **Economic Situation in the Euro Area**, not the Sovereign Debt Crisis



2. Select one **economic-related challenge confronting the euro area** as a whole (see list on next slide), and pick one of the 18 member countries of the euro area to illustrate that challenge.



Choose one of ten economic challenges

- Slow growth
- High unemployment
- Inflation
- Adapting to technological change (raising productivity)
- Globalization (including immigration)
- Aging (including health care)
- Living with a single monetary policy
- Sustaining the social system (welfare state)
- Weakness in the banking sector
- High government deficits and debt





Use one country in the euro area to illustrate your challenge

	Austria
	Belgium
	Cyprus
	Estonia
	Finland
	France
	Germany
	Greece
	Ireland
	Italy
	Latvia
	Luxembourg
	Malta
	The Netherlands
	Portugal
	Slovakia
	Slovenia
	Spain





2014 Challenges Chosen in Florida

COUNTRY	CHALLENGE
Cyprus	- Banking System Weaknesses
Estonia	- Aging Population
France	- Slow Growth
Germany	- Sustaining the Social Welfare System
Greece	- High Unemployment
Ireland	- Globalization - High Government Deficits & Debt
Italy	- High Unemployment
Malta	- Globalization
Portugal	- High Government Deficits and Debts
Spain	- High Unemployment



2013 Challenges Chosen in Florida

COUNTRY	CHALLENGE
Belgium	- High Government Deficits and Debts
France	- High Unemployment
Germany	- Living with a Single Monetary Policy
Greece	- Slow Growth - High Unemployment
Ireland	- Slow Growth
Italy	- High Unemployment - Aging Population
Spain	- Sustaining the Social System (Welfare State) - High Unemployment


Euro Challenge Question: Part III



3. Recommend a **policy** or policies for addressing the challenge you identified in the country you selected.

(Be sure to include in your recommendation a discussion of how having a single currency may or may not affect the policy choices for addressing the challenge.)

How will the teams be scored?

- 
- A black and white soccer ball is shown hitting a white goal net, with the net's ropes visible.
- Knowledge about the EU, euro, and related economic concepts (50% of total score)
 - Responses to judges' questions
 - Quality of presentation
 - Depth of research and analysis
 - Teamwork and cooperation

See the scoring rubric on the website for details



Euro Challenge 2013 Score Sheet



Euro Challenge 2013 Score Sheet: PRELIMINARY ROUND

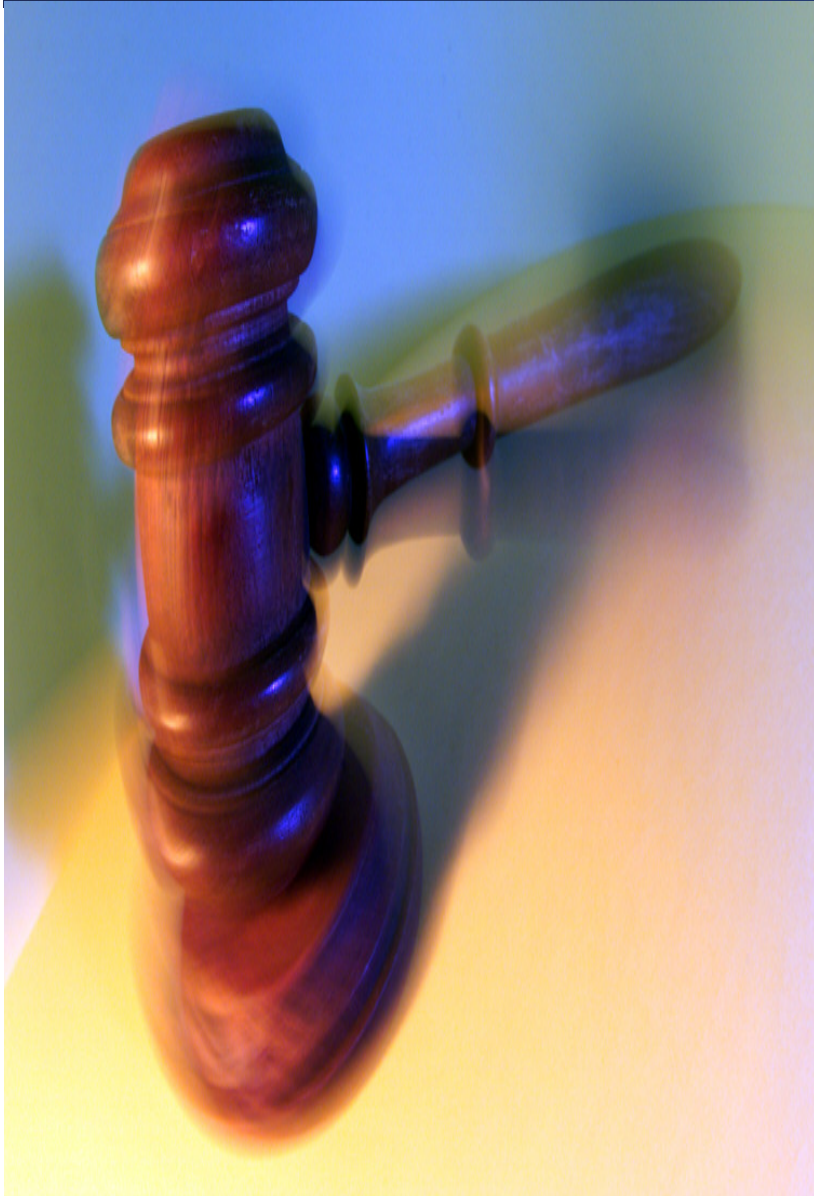
Judge Name: _____

Date: ____/____/____ Team Number: ____ Presentation Time: _____

Headings (Weighting)	Judging Category	Judging Criteria	Performance Rating				
			Excellent (9 or 10)	Good (6, 7 or 8)	Moderate (3, 4 or 5)	Poor (1 or 2)	Score Subtotal
KNOWLEDGE (50%)	Current Economic Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding of economic concepts (especially GDP, inflation, unemployment) Analysis of economic conditions in the euro area (not in the country selected) Grasp of how economic conditions relate to political and social situation in the euro area 					
	Economic Challenge and Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description/understanding of selected challenge issue How and why the issue is relevant in the country selected; examples cited. Analysis of the effect of challenge on chosen country's economic situation 					
	Recommended Policy Prescription (s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creativity and feasibility of policy response Justification of how policy effectively addresses challenge in chosen country Understanding of how having the euro affects policy choices (if relevant) 					
			Excellent (10, 11, 12)	Good (7, 8 or 9)	Moderate (4, 5 or 6)	Poor (1, 2 or 3)	Score Subtotal
Q & A (20%)	Response to Judges Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality and accuracy of answers Poise under pressure Ability and persuasiveness in defending positions 					
			Excellent (6)	Good (4 or 5)	Moderate (2 or 3)	Poor (1)	Score Subtotal
PRESENTATION (10%)	Quality of Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery and flow (e.g. use of script; synchronization between oral delivery and Power Point/other media) Consistency, logic, coherence and persuasiveness Professional demeanour and attire 					
RESEARCH & ANALYSIS (10%)	Quality of Research and Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depth and quality of research Use and interpretation of data Citation and quality of sources 					
TEAMWORK (10%)	Teamwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantial participation by all team members Coordination among team members 					
			TOTAL SCORE (Maximum of 60 points)				

Feedback from Judges

- State the chosen issue clearly
- Answer the Challenge Tasks
- Be Innovative, but Feasible
- Reflect on the Q before you A
- Don't rely on 1-2 team members for the Q&A





What can you win in the Euro Challenge?

In Miami

- Certificates for all participating students
- Trophies for regional winners
- Recognition and awards lunch at the Miami FED for the 2 Florida winning teams
- Recognition and awards at FIU for all Florida participating teams

In New-York

- Cash prizes for the top five winning teams (from \$250 to \$1,250 per student)
- Recognition and awards reception for all semi-final teams

In Washington D.C.

▪ **One-day trip to Washington D.C. for the top two teams**

Visit to the Delegation of the EU, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Bank, and the International Monetary Fund.





Tentative Timeline for All Teams

What	Where	When
Teacher Orientations	FIU FED	Oct. 17, 2014 Jan. 29, 2015
Webinar with FED Economist Expert	FED	Feb. 26, 2015 (TBC)
Student Orientation	FIU	Monday, Dec. 8, 2014
First Round Competition	FIU MARC Building	Thursday, March 12, 2015
Finals and Semi-Finals	New York Fed	April 30, 2015
Recognition and Award Reception	Moody's	April 30, 2015



Timeline for All Teams

What	To be sent to:	When
School Registration Deadline: (School Registration + Media Release forms)	FIU (by fax or e-mail) & WISE (NY) (on line)	December 19th , 2014
Submission of Economic Challenge and Country	FIU	January 9, 2015
Submission of Student Names	FIU	End of January 2015
Submission of Media Release Forms for students	FIU	End of January 2015

What Level of Economic Knowledge is Required?

Basic economics, and don't forget social and political aspects

Knowledge about the EU, the euro area, and the role of the ECB – basic economic concepts: growth, inflation, unemployment.

Strive for the level of a good economic press article

(New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, The Economist)





Learning Resources and Support

facebook

Find us on Facebook!

facebook.com/eurochallengecompetition



Follow us on Google+!

<http://tinyurl.com/ecgoogleplus>



Find interesting articles on Delicious!

delicious.com/eurochallenge



Watch helpful videos on Vimeo!

vimeo.com/channels/eurochallenge



Ask away on the Euro Challenge Forum!

euro-challenge.org



How to register?



<http://casgroup.fiu.edu/miamieuc/pages.php?id=549>

In order to register you need to fill out the Application/Registration and Media Release forms and send it back to Christine I. Caly-Sanchez. See links and contact information below:

*** Application/Registration:**

http://casgroup.fiu.edu/pages/docs/549/1339602558_Form_2013.doc

*** Media Release Form:**

http://casgroup.fiu.edu/pages/docs/549/1326807476_Media_Release_Form.pdf

► You also need to register on-line at: <http://www.euro-challenge.org/registration.html>

For more information and to register contact:

Christine I. Caly-Sanchez,
Associate Director
Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence
FIU- Modesto A. Maidique Campus – SIPA 508
11200 SW 8th Street –Miami, FL 33199
E-mail: calyc@fiu.edu – Tel: 305-348-5949 – Fax: 305-348-6562



Registration form Euro Challenge 2013



REGISTRATION FORM EURO CHALLENGE 2013

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 31st, 2012

Please fill out the Euro Challenge 2013 registration form and email it back to Christine I. Caly-Sanchez at calyc@fiu.edu or fax it to 305-348-6562. Thank you also to register on-line at <http://www.euro-challenge.org/registration.html>. For questions about registration, please contact Christine I. Caly-Sanchez at 305-348-5949 or David Anderson at 212-421-2700 - danderson@wise-nv.org

ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS MUST complete the following:

Yes, please register _____ (school name) to participate in the Euro Challenge 2013. I, _____ (name), will be the designated contact person from my school.

RETURNING PARTICIPANTS: If your school participated in Euro Challenge 2012 and your contact information has not changed, you **ONLY** need to complete the section above. Simply submit this form via the email address or fax number above. If you DO need to update any contact information, please indicate changes in the section below.

ALL OTHER PARTICIPANTS: Please complete the following section. Please **PRINT CLEARLY** and provide email addresses and cell phone numbers where requested to enable w/se to effectively communicate with your school throughout the year. Principals **MUST** sign the agreement at the bottom of the page.

School Name			Principal's Name
Address			Principal's Phone Number
City	State	Zip Code	Principal's Email
School Telephone Number & Extension		Fax Number	Department Chair/AP's Name
Faculty Advisor's Name <small>(this is the person to whom all programmatic information will be emailed)</small>			Department Chair/AP's Phone
Faculty Advisor's Cell phone Number	Faculty Advisor's Email		Department Chair/AP's Email
Additional Teacher's Name	Teacher's Phone Number		Teacher's Email

The Faculty Advisor and School Principal agree to all the following:

1. Enter one (1) team of three (3) to five (5) students in the Euro Challenge 2013.
2. Participate in the competition events (student teams must be accompanied by faculty Advisor).
3. Submit administrative forms including Media Release Forms and trip consent forms.

Principal's Signature: _____

Date: _____



Media Release Form

 **MEDIA RELEASE FORM**

Instructions
Please complete this release form giving permission to photograph, film or videotape your participation in the Euro Challenge.
Please send the original copy of this Release Form to Working in Support of Education, 227 East 56th Street, Suite 201, New York, NY 10022
For information call David Anderson at 212-421-2700 or email danderson@wise-nyc.org
You also need to send a copy to Christine I. Caly-Sanchez by fax at 305-348-6562 or by e-mail at calyc@fiu.edu.

Name of Faculty Advisor (please type or print legibly)

School City/County State

I _____, hereby consent and agree to the taking of
Print your name
photographs, movies or videotapes by Working in Support of Education (wise), The Delegation of the European Commission,
their partner organizations, and the above parties' agents and employees as it relates to the Euro Challenge.

I also grant to wise, the right to edit, use and reuse said products for public relations to create awareness of the Euro Challenge.
I further consent and agree that my name may be revealed therein or by descriptive text or commentary.

I also hereby release wise, The Delegation of the European Commission, their partner organizations, and the above parties' agents
and employees, from all claims, demands, liabilities whatsoever in connection with the above.

Signature Date

Address

City State Zip Code

Home area code and telephone number Cell area code and telephone number

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Contact Information

► <http://www.euro-challenge.org/wordpress/>

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European Union Center of Excellence
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Tel: 305-348-5949
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E-mail: calyc@fiu.edu
<http://casgroup.fiu.edu/miamieuc/pages.php?id=548>
-

- Working in Support of Education (WISE)
- Delegation of the European Commission
delegation-usa-eurochallenge@ec.europa.eu



**Enjoy Your Euro Challenge
Experience!**

What's New in 2015



- New Country – Latvia
- New Resource: Google+
- New Rule: Teams may update / change their presentations between Prelim. and Semifinal Rounds
- New Registration process



Testimonial 2014



Juan Bedoya

Nova High School
Grade 10

It's very hard to describe the wonderful experience I've had with words. Throughout this journey that I embarked on with my fellow teammates, we were not only able to meet actual people from the European Union, the Delegation, and professional economists, but we were able to learn economic terms that worldwide economists and analysts use every day. Because of the Euro Challenge I was able to expand my knowledge about the European Union, the Eurozone, and most importantly Estonia. It's very surprising how the EU does things differently when compared to the United States, and the fact that I am one of the few students that are able to explain the political, economic, and social difference between the U.S. and the EU makes me feel extraordinary. Without this challenge I wouldn't have been able to expand my overall economic concept, learn about a small country that has a huge impact on the people around it, and just step outside my comfort zone and learn about a whole new world located in Europe. The fact that my team was able to place 1st in Regionals and make it to the top 5 in New York, assures me that all the learning that took place and the night and day sweat put into practice paid off in the short and the long run. Yeah sure, this experience only lasted for a year, but in the long run I know that this is a one in life time opportunity that only a few are lucky enough to obtain and that the Euro Challenge has made me a well rounded individual, both educationally and socially. Finally I would like to thank three people that helped us reach NY, that would be my teacher, who without we would have not gotten anywhere without her, my team members, who I now consider my second family, and finally Christine Caly, who was there to guide us through our first year of competing in the challenge.



Testimonial 2014



Amber Yang

Trinity Preparatory School
Grade 9

The Euro Challenge is a wonderful learning experience from the research to the actual competition day. Understanding the economics and history of the Euro Union is a difficult task that not many students are able to take on, and I am very grateful to have learned so much. The Euro Challenge has sparked a great amount of interest in me towards learning more about the economic policies of our world. The Euro Challenge provided a different educational experience rather than rote reading and memorization. Instead of preparing a presentation about the policies that currently exist in the Euro Union, my teammates and I were presented with the challenge of how to change the current problems in today's world. The presentation and speaking facet of the competition allowed me to truly gain a comprehensive view of the Euro Union. The preparation of the presentation also improved my research skills. I was able to link the knowledge that I gained to the current situations of the world. The Euro Challenge provided a very professional atmosphere, and I especially enjoyed the question and answer session with the judges. It was an honor to present the history and solutions to problems in the Euro Union. My teammates and I worked very hard throughout the year to prepare for our presentation, and we were overjoyed to learn that we qualified for the National competition in New York City. It was a great opportunity to present the Welfare System of Germany in the Federal Reserve Bank, and qualifying to the final round of the national competition was a "dream come true." Being a Freshman this year, I am most definitely looking forward to learning more about the Euro Union next year.