



## **The rising importance of EU-Asia relations**

A Conference of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence

**February 11-12, 2019**

Florida International University –Modesto A. Maidique Campus  
11200 SW 8th Street –Miami, FL 33199 –MARC 290

### **PROGRAM**

This conference, open to the public, will bring together leading experts on the EU and Asia to discuss different aspects of the EU's relations with Asia—the historical connections, economic development, political considerations, and diplomacy. Such an examination is timely, given that Asia has gained rising importance on the world stage, while the EU is facing mounting internal and external challenges. We center our workshop on the historical-cultural relations, and economic and political cooperation with nations in Central, South, Southeast and East Asia. The latter is particularly important due to the recently signed EU-Japan FTA, the existing EU-South Korea FTA, the important role China played in the aftermath of the 2008 Global Recession and 2010 Eurozone Crisis, and the emergence of China as a global leader amid the retreat of the U.S. on some key issues. This conference will enable us to analyze the EU's Asia policies, and the opportunities and challenges it entails, especially amid the shift of global order toward a more multipolar world.

### **Monday, February 11, 2019**

- 5:00 –5:10 p.m. **Welcome Opening Remarks**  
**Dr. John F. Stack, Jr.**  
Inaugural Dean, Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs
- 5.10 –6.30 p.m. **Keynote Address:**  
**Mr. Michal Safianik**  
Counselor at the Political, Security and Development Section  
Delegation of the European Union to the United States  
*'The Rising Importance of EU-Asia Relations'*
- 6:30. -8:00 p.m. Reception (*by invitation only*)

## Tuesday, February 12, 2019

8.30 – 9.00 a.m. Coffee, light Breakfast and Registration

### 9:00 am – 10:30 a.m. Panel I: The Long Arc of European Asian Relations

Chair: Dr. Rebecca Friedman, Faculty Fellow & Associate Professor, Florida International University

- **Dr. Thomas A. Breslin**  
Professor of Politics & International Relations  
Florida International University  
*'Will Europe Ever Change China as Much as China has Changed Europe?'*
- **Dr. Amy Bliss Marshall**  
Assistant Professor of History and Asian Studies  
Florida International University  
*'Japan's Cultural Relations to Europe in Historical Perspective'*
- **Dr. Katja Weber**  
Professor and Director of Graduate Studies  
Sam Nunn School of International Affairs  
Director Southeast Asia Study Abroad Program  
Georgia Tech  
*'EU-ASEAN Relations: What Lies Ahead?'*

### 10:45 am – 12:15 p.m. Panel II: EU-Asian Economic and Political Relations

Chair: Dr. Thomas A. Breslin, Professor, Florida International University

- **Ms. Siremorn Asvapromtada**  
Ph.D. Candidate in International Relations  
Department of Politics & International Relations  
Florida International University  
*'The EU and ASEAN: a Relationship beyond Trade and Investment'*
- **Dr. Bibek Chand**  
Visiting Instructor, Department. of Politics & International  
Florida International University  
*'Nepal's Interactions with the EU, India, and China'*
- **Dr. Wei Liang**  
Professor & Program Co-Chair, International Trade and Economic Diplomacy  
Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, CA  
*'EU-China Economic Relations in the Context of US-China Trade War'*

LUNCH (by invitation only)

**2:00 pm – 2:30 p.m. The Romanian-EU Presidency and its perspectives on Asia**

- **Hon. Catalin Ghenea**  
Consul General of Romania in Miami

**2:30 pm – 4:00 p.m. Panel III: EU-Asian Relations in a Global Context**

Chair: Dr. Markus Thiel, Associate Professor & Director, Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence; and European & Eurasian Studies Program

- **Ms. Tamanna Ashraf**  
Ph.D. Candidate in International Relations  
Florida International University  
*'The European Union's Environmental and Climate Initiatives in South Asia'*
- **Dr. Lukas K. Danner**  
Research Associate, Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, FIU &  
Honorary Research Fellow, East Asia Security Centre, Bond University  
*'Polarizing EU/European-Asian Relations: Common and Conflicting Interests in the Arctic'*
- **Dr. Giovanni Finizio**  
Professor of EU Foreign Policy and History, and Politics of the United Nations  
University of Turin, Italy  
*'Normative Power Europe Meets South-East Asia: The EU and the promotion of democracy through EU-ASEAN relations'*

**4:00 pm – 4:30 p.m. FIU Exhibition Tour: Asian Crossroads - (by invitation only)**

**5:30 pm – 7:00 p.m. CONCLUDING RECEPTION - (by invitation only)**