

## Teaching the European Union in a Transatlantic Context

A Workshop of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence for Senior High School Educators

**Florida International University – Modesto A. Maidique Campus**  
11200 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street – Miami, FL 33199 – Green Library – GL 220

### Workshop Participants: Biographical Notes

*Friday, January 19, 2024*



**Lukas K. Danner, Ph.D.**

*Research Associate, Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, FIU & Honorary Research Fellow, East-Asia Security Centre, Bond University, Australia*

Dr. Lukas K. Danner is Fulbright-NSF Arctic Research Scholar at the Centre for Arctic Studies, Institute of International Affairs, University of Iceland (Reykjavik, Iceland). He is also Research Associate at the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence (Miami, FL, USA) and Honorary Research Fellow at the East Asia Security Centre, Bond University (Gold Coast, QLD, Australia).

Lukas holds a Ph.D. in International Relations and M.A. in International Studies from Florida International University, as well as an M.A. in Sinology, American Cultural History, and International Law from the University of Munich. He is the author of *China's Grand Strategy* (2018) and co-editor of *New Challenges and Opportunities in European-Asian Relations* (2021; with Bibek Chand). He works on matters within security studies, environmental politics, small states, foreign policy, and geopolitics of Europe, Asia, and the Arctic.

His research project on Iceland's Second Chairmanship of the Arctic Council (2019-2021) examines the West Nordic small state's leadership exerted as chair ranging from agenda-setting, over assessing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Arctic, to implementation of its four chairmanship priorities. In addition, Lukas currently teaches a graduate course on International Political Economy for the Faculty of Political Science at University of Iceland, and regularly facilitates a range of undergraduate courses for the Department of Politics and International Relations at Florida International University, including International Relations of Scandinavia and the Arctic. His research can be found at <http://danner.is>.



**Markus Thiel, Ph.D.**

*Professor, Politics & International Relations  
Director Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence  
Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs  
Florida International University*

Markus Thiel is a professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations at Florida International University, and director of FIU's Jean Monnet Center of Excellence. Dr. Thiel's research interests are the political sociology of the EU and European (Union) Politics more generally, as well as Human Rights and Identity Politics. He graduated with a Ph.D. from the University of Miami in 2005 and has published several EU-related articles and book chapters in peer-reviewed journals including the Journal of European Integration, the Journal of Common Market Studies and others. In addition, his research on the political sociology of the EU produced the monographs 'The Limits of Transnationalism' (Palgrave, 2011) and 'EU Civil Society and Human Rights Advocacy' (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017), as well as 5 co-edited volumes on: 'Diversity and the European Union' (with Lisa Pruegl, Palgrave, 2009), 'Identity Politics in the Age of Globalization' (with Roger Coate, Lynne Rienner/First Forum Press, 2010), 'European Identity & Culture: Narratives of Transnational Belonging' (with Rebecca Friedman, Ashgate, 2012), 'Sexualities in World Politics: How LGBTQ Claims Shape International Relations' (with Manuela Picq, Routledge, 2015) and 'EU Development Policies between Norms and Geopolitics' (with Sarah Beringer & Sylvia Maier, Palgrave, 2019). Most recently, he published 'The EU's international LGBTI rights promotion promises & pitfalls' (Routledge, 2021), and co-authored 'The Politics of Social In/Exclusion in Europe' (Palgrave/Springer, 2023, with Ernesto Fiocchetto & Jeffrey Maslanik).

He teaches CPO 3103 Comparative (Western) European Politics, CPO 3104 EU Politics, INR 3214 International Relations of Europe, INR 3502 International Organizations, as well as graduate courses on European/EU Politics, International Organization and Research Design in IR.

He supervises doctoral students in the areas of EU Politics, International Organizations and Political Sociology.



**Tatiana Kostadinova, Ph.D.**

*Director, European & Eurasian Studies Program*

*Professor, Politics & International Relations*

*Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs*

*Florida International University*

Professor Kostadinova received her Ph.D. from the Florida State University in 2000. Her research and teaching interests include political institutions with a special emphasis on electoral systems and reform, East European democratic transition, and comparative public policy. She has been the recipient of several grants, among which the American Political Science Small Research Grant (2002) and a Fellowship Program Award from the German Marshall Fund of the United States (2003-2004). Professor Kostadinova's first book, *Bulgaria 1879-1946: The Challenge of Choice* (Columbia University Press), explores Bulgarian parliamentary elections, party strategies, and voter behavior. Her 2012 book, *Political Corruption in Eastern Europe: Politics After Communism* (Lynne Rienner) analyzes the emergence of corruption as a major obstacle to successful democratic transition. Other publications include book chapters and journal articles in *American Journal of Political Science*, *Electoral Studies*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Party Politics*, and *Europe-Asia Studies*.

Professor Kostadinova's primary teaching area is comparative politics. At the undergraduate level, she teaches courses in Russian and Eastern European politics, electoral behavior, and research methods. Her graduate level courses include seminars on institutional choice, democratic transitions, political parties, and advanced research.

Areas of Expertise: Elections, Institutions, Democratization, Eastern Europe.



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