

**1<sup>st</sup> Round of the Local Miami-Dade Euro Challenge Competition 2010**  
**Judges: Biographical Notes**  
**Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010**

**JUDGES PANEL I**

**Alexander Behrens**

*Chief Operating Officer  
Eurochannel Inc.*

Alexander Behrens is currently Chief Operating Officer for Eurochannel Inc. He has been in the company for about 7 Years. Mr. Behrens has been in the Television industry for about 28 years.

**Hon. Gael de Maisonneuve**

*Consul General  
Consulate General of France in Miami*

Gaël de Maisonneuve is a graduate of the prestigious Paris's Institute of Political Studies known as Sciences Po Paris, an elite French school focusing on the full range of social sciences. He is also a graduate of the ESSEC Business School (Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Economiques et Commerciales), an academic institution of excellence that has been training leaders since 1907.

G. de Maisonneuve began his professional life abroad carrying out his national service in the Republic of Singapore, at the French Embassy, Cultural affairs bureau. After three years in Paris, working at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Asian desk, he was appointed Second Secretary to the French Embassy in Tokyo.

In 2002, he served as Deputy Ambassador of France in Sri Lanka.

In 2005, he returned to Paris where he first worked on budget and administrative reform in the general division for political and security affairs at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs; he later joined the private office of Mr. Bernard Kouchner, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, as Advisor on Asia, reform and consular matters. Meanwhile, he carried out numerous duties in different associations in Paris.

Gaël de Maisonneuve was appointed to his current post as Consul general on August 14, 2009.

**Maeve O'Beirne**

*Senior Advisor to the Ambassador  
European Union's Delegation to the United States in Washington D.C.*

Maeve O'Beirne is Senior Advisor to the Ambassador at the European Union's Delegation to the United States in Washington DC. Before taking this post in 2005, Ms. O'Beirne was the Delegation's main Press Officer from 2000-2005, a period of considerable challenge in the EU-US relationship. In that position, Ms. O'Beirne explained the EU point of view to US and European correspondents covering trade, climate change, Iraq, and EU enlargement, and handled press arrangements for several high level EU-US meetings, including the Presidential and G-8 Summits. Ms. O'Beirne has also served as a speech-writer for several EU Ambassadors and for a number of years oversaw the production of the Delegation's publication ('A Guide for Americans'). She has a Bachelor in Arts (German and Italian) from Trinity College Dublin, and a Masters Degree in Public Policy from Georgetown University. She is a native of Ireland, which has been an EU member state since 1973.

## **JUDGES PANEL II**

### **Juan José Cogolludo Díaz**

*Education Advisor*

*Consulate General of Spain in Miami*

Juan José COGOLLUDO DÍAZ was born in Madrid (Spain) on May 7 1960. His wife is Irish and they have two children aged 16 and 19.

He moved to Canada in 1973 with his family and continued his formal education in Glashan Public School, Glebe Collegiate Institute and finally in Ottawa Technical High. On return to Spain he obtained his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in English language and literature at the Complutense University in Madrid.

Between 1984 and 1987, while living in Ireland, where he taught Spanish language and History, he did his doctorate on the poetry of the Irish Nobel Laureate, Seamus Heaney, at the UNED (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia).

From 1987 until 1990 he lived in Miami, where he held the post of principal in a Spanish school which belonged to a privately owned educational organization with other centres in several European countries.

Prior to taking up his current position at the Consulate General of Spain in Miami, he was vice-principal of the Official School of Languages in Pamplona (Spain). He also taught English for nine years at the Pamplona campus of the UNED.

### **Maria Luisa Gomez de Pablos**

*Deputy Trade Commissioner*

*Embassy of Spain in Miami*

Since September 2007, Mrs. Gomez de Pablos is the Deputy Trade Commissioner of the Embassy in Miami, Florida. The Trade Commission of Spain in Miami is responsible for commercial promotion of Spanish goods into the US market, and strengthening business relations and Spanish investments in this area.

Between 1987 and 2007, she was Editor in Chief for "Información Comercial Española", publications of the Ministry of Trade and Tourism on economic and commercial topics. Prior to this, she was in charge of the Department of Economic Studies at the Spanish bank, Banco de Vizcaya.

She holds a double Major in Economics and Political Sciences. She is a member of the Commercial Technical Personnel Organization of the Spanish Government; an entity specializing in international commerce and economy.

She has written several articles on business and economic globalization; financial, commercial and European Union interests.

### **Dr. Markus Thiel**

*Assistant Professor, Political Science and International Relations*

*Florida International University*

Markus Thiel graduated in 2005 with a Ph.D. from the University of Miami. His dissertation on transnational European identities is currently being developed into a book manuscript. His research interests are European Union Politics, Nationalism & Identity (politics), Political Sociology and European Security. He has published several EU-related articles and book chapters at the EU Center, University of Miami, as well as in *Transatlantic Monthly*, *Tamkang Journal of International Affairs* and *Perspectives on European Politics & Society*. Most recently, he co-edited (with Lisa Pruegl) 'Diversity in the European Union' (forthcoming with Palgrave, 2009) and he is currently working on an edited volume (with Roger Coate) on identity politics.

## **JUDGES PANEL III**

### **Dr. Volker R. Anding, PhD**

#### ***Ambassador (ret.) - Miami/Florida***

2001 - July 2007 Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, Montevideo/Uruguay  
2001 - 2004 German Consul General, Miami/Florida  
1998 - 2001 Head of Section for Constitutional and Administrative Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bonn and Berlin/Germany  
1997 Member of the Royal College of Defense Studies, London/United Kingdom  
1993 - 1996 German Ambassador to the Republic of Panama  
1990 - 1993 Deputy Consul General, German Consulate General, San Francisco/California  
1986 - 1990 Deputy Director for European Affairs, Federal Chancellor's Office, Bonn/Germany  
1984 - 1985 Resident Fellow, Institute for East-West Security Studies, New York/N.Y.  
1982 - 1984 Deputy Ambassador, German Embassy, Dakar/Senegal  
1979 - 1982 Legal Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bonn/Germany  
1976 - 1979 German Permanent Mission to NATO, Brussels/Belgium  
1973 - 1976 Consul, German Consulate General, Detroit/Michigan  
1971 - 1973 Diplomatic Academy, Bonn/Germany  
1969 - 1970 Scientific Assistant, University of Marburg/Germany; Doctoral thesis on constitutional law (Ph.D.)  
1964 - 1969 Studies of Law, Universities of Marburg and Freiburg/Germany  
1962 - 1964 Military service in the Bundeswehr (Lieutenant of the Reserve, German Air Force)

### **Beata Paszyc**

#### ***Honorary Vice Consul of the Republic of Poland***

Beata M. Paszyc holds an MA in Literature and Linguistics from the A. Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland. She has also completed graduate courses in Sociolinguistics at Georgetown University in Washington DC.

Mrs. Paszyc has been an Honorary Vice Consul of the Republic of Poland in Miami since 2003. She is responsible for building and maintaining relationships with diplomats, government officials, educators and media. She provides information on various consular matters and helps Polish citizens in distress. She arranges visits and coordinates meetings of foreign dignitaries.

Since 1999 Beata Paszyc has been working as an Executive Director at the American Institute of Polish Culture in Miami. She is responsible for overall leadership and management of the organization. She develops and implements multicultural programs, seminars, conferences, festivals, large scale VIP galas and fundraising events often working in partnership with: Florida International University, University of Miami, Miami International Film Festival, Miami International Cultural Alliance, Consular Corps and Embassy of the Republic of Poland. Mrs. Paszyc produces magazines and promotional materials for the Institute. She also supervises the Scholarship program and special events. She is an avid promoter of Polish culture, traditions and business.

In years 1993 -1999 Mrs. Paszyc has worked as a translator and interpreter for government agencies and various companies in the US.

### **Dr. Mihaela Pinte, PhD**

#### ***Assistant Professor, Department of Economy***

#### ***Florida International University***

Ph.D., Economics, University of Washington, (December 2003)

Fields of specialization: Macroeconomics and Econometrics.

Thesis: Essays in Economic Growth and Economies in Transition

Areas of interest: Macroeconomics, Economic Growth, Growth and Technology, Computational Economics

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Development Economics: Theory (Ph.D. level at Florida International University)

Fundamentals of Graduate Macroeconomics (Ph.D. level at Florida International University)

International Macroeconomics (at Florida International University)

Intermediate Macroeconomics (at Florida International University)

Introductory Macroeconomics (at University of Washington and FIU)

Introductory Microeconomics (at University of Washington)

Teaching Assistant at University of Washington

Econometrics (Ph.D. level)

Introductory Microeconomics