

Ruth K. & Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series

School of International and Public Affairs



Security Challenges to US Foreign Policy

Lecture by the Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs

October 28, 2011 | 1 PM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | College of Law, Room 1000

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen represents Florida's 18th Congressional District in the US House of Representatives and is Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. She is an alumna of Florida International University, having earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in education in 1975 and 1985 respectively. In 2004, she earned a Doctorate in Education from the University of Miami. A refugee from Cuba, she began her career as a Florida certified teacher. She was inspired to enter public service by many of the parents and students; to fight on their behalf for a stronger educational system, lower taxes, and a brighter economic future. In 1982 she was elected to the Florida State House of Representatives and the Florida Senate in 1986, becoming the first Hispanic woman to serve in either body. In the state legislature she authored the Florida Prepaid College Plan, which is now the largest prepaid college tuition program in the nation. She was elected to the US House of Representatives in 1989—the first Hispanic woman to serve in Congress—following a special election to fill the seat held by the late Claude Pepper. She has been strongly returned to Congress since, winning 69% of the vote in 2010. Serving on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Rep. Ros-Lehtinen has become a leader in crafting US foreign policy. Prior to becoming the Committee's Chairman, she served as Chair of the Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia, the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade, the Subcommittee on Africa, and Vice-Chair of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere.

Event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 305-348-7266.

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