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**The State of the Union (s):
The Eurozone crisis, comparative regional integration
and the EU model**

A seminar sponsored and organized by the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence, a consortium of Florida International University and the University of Miami, and the Jean Monnet Chair

Friday, February 24, 2012
Room: UM School of Business, AGB 431
Time: 9.00 am - 6.00 pm

Co-Sponsors:

- Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies
- Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS)
- American Jewish Committee (AJC)
- Center of International Business Education & Research (CIBER)

The dramatic events of 2011 in the context of the European Union have forced analysts and scholars to reflect about what kind of entity will be in the next decade. Simultaneously, regional political integration and cooperation have been developing at a fast pace around the globe, creating great expectations and much confusion. The latest decisions of the EU Council have opened the door to an unknown chapter of European history. Consequently, the EU model or reference has suffered the impact of these factors and presents today a different face than decades ago and offers somewhat different challenges to be met. A set of questions dominate the news scene:

- What is the state of the Union(s)?
- Which direction the EU is going to take?
- How the rest of the world understands regional integration?
- What are the consequences and impact of the current EU crisis on international business?
- Is the EU model, along normative and “soft” power, still valid?
- What standard or new theories can best be applied to explain new realities?

Program

8:30 Registration.

8:45 Welcome:

- **Leonidas Bachas**, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and **Manuel Santos**, Chair, Department of Economics, School of Business, University of Miami

9:00am: Opening Remarks: **Joao Vale de Almeida**, Ambassador of the European Union to the United States

9:15- 11.00am: Session I: What is the EU and what does it do?

Chair: **Rebecca Friedman**, Florida International University

Markus Thiel, Florida International University, “‘European Identity’ in the 21st century – moving from external marker to internalized practice”

John McCormick,* Indiana University, Purdue, “What has the EU ever done for us?”

Alfred Tovias,* University of Jerusalem, Israel, “La unión no hace la fuerza” (Unity does not make strength)”

11.00am-1.00pm Session II: The Eurozone: a problem or a solution?

Chair: **Ambler H. Moss, Jr.**, University of Miami

Manuel Porto,* University of Coimbra, Portugal, “The new strategy of the UE facing the challenges of globalization”

George Zestos,* Christopher Newport University, Virginia, “US Subprime Mortgage crisis and the European Sovereign Debt”

María Lorca, University of Miami, “The Eurozone and the Economic Crisis: An Innovative SWOT analysis”

Vivien Schmidt,* Boston University, “The Eurozone and democracy”

1.00-2.00: Lunch

2.00-4.00: Session III: The External Dimension

Chair: **Haim Shaked**, University of Miami

Joachim Koops, Free University of Brussels, Belgium, “The European Union and International Organizations: The Track-Record So Far’

Astrid Boening, University of Miami, “EU Region-Building in the Mediterranean: A Missed Opportunity?”

Jolyon Howorth,* Yale University, “The European Union as a Model for Regional Regimes Worldwide”

4.00-6.00. Session IV: The Americas.

Chair: **Ariel Armony**, University of Miami

Finn Laursen,* Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada. “Comparative regional integration and the EU model: How to achieve ‘credible commitments’ (NAFTA and MERCOSUR cases)?

Andrés Malamud, University of Lisbon, Portugal, "Sovereignty is back, integration out: Latin American travails with regionalism".

Joaquín Roy,* University of Miami, “Does the EU model work in Latin America?”

*: Jean Monnet Chairs

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