

The Euro Challenge Competition Overview

Presentation by

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Delegation of the European Union to the United States
www.euro-challenge.org



What is the Euro Challenge?





What is the Euro Challenge?

An exciting opportunity to learn about:

- The European Union (EU)
- The Euro and the “euro area”
- Economic concepts and challenges
- The global economy



And More Specifically?

▶▶ Student teams of three to five students are asked to make presentations answering specific questions about the European economy and the single currency, the euro

▶▶ They are also asked to:

- pick one member country of the "euro area" (the 17 EU member countries that have adopted the euro so far),
- to examine an economic problem at the country level, and
- to identify policies for responding to that problem.





Euro Challenge Goals

- Increase students' knowledge and understanding of the European Union and the euro
- Promote an understanding of economic challenges facing European Union member states
- Support local learning standards related to global studies and economics
- Foster economic and financial literacy and understanding of economic policy issues
- Develop communication, critical thinking and cooperative skills.



Why Study the European Economy?

- This is the most interesting time in the euro's short life
- How the euro area addresses its challenges is of acute importance for the US and the global economy.
- Together the EU and the United States represent nearly 60% of global GDP; Europe is the most important trade and investment partner of the US.
- The EU and US face many common challenges related to the global economy



Overview

- Recruiter and Organizer in Florida: MEUCE-FIU – 6th Year
- The 2013 competition has been extended to Broward, Palm Beach County, St. Lucie, Orlando, Fort Myers
- Partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch – 5th year
- Among ten Miami-Dade High Schools,
3 won in Florida and went to NY in 2012
 - ▶ Coral Gables Senior High School
 - ▶ Miami Palmetto Senior High School
 - ▶ Marine & Oceanographic Academy



The 3 Winners 2012 in Florida



Coral Gables Senior HS



Miami Palmetto Senior HS



**FPW Marine &
Oceanographic Academy**

Participating High Schools 2012



- Archimedean Upper Conservatory
- Coral Gables Senior High School
- Coral Reef Senior High School
- Felix Varela Senior High School
- FPW Marine & Oceanographic Academy
- G. Holmes Braddock Senior High School
- Gulliver Preparatory High School
- Hialeah Gardens Senior High School
- International School of Broward (ISB)
- International Studies Charter HS
- Miami Palmetto Senior High School
- Western High School



Overview of the Euro Challenge

- Teams of 3 to 5 students
- Ninth and tenth grade global studies, European studies, world geography, economics & world history students
- One (1) team per school
- Presentation: 15 minutes
- Q & A: 10 minutes
- Presentation format: your choice
- 100 schools nationwide

1. Describe the **current economic situation** in the “euro area” (the economic region consisting of the 17 EU member countries who have adopted the euro).





2. Select one **economic-related challenge confronting the euro area** as a whole (see list on next slide), and pick one of the 17 member countries of the euro area to illustrate that challenge.

Choose one of ten economic challenges

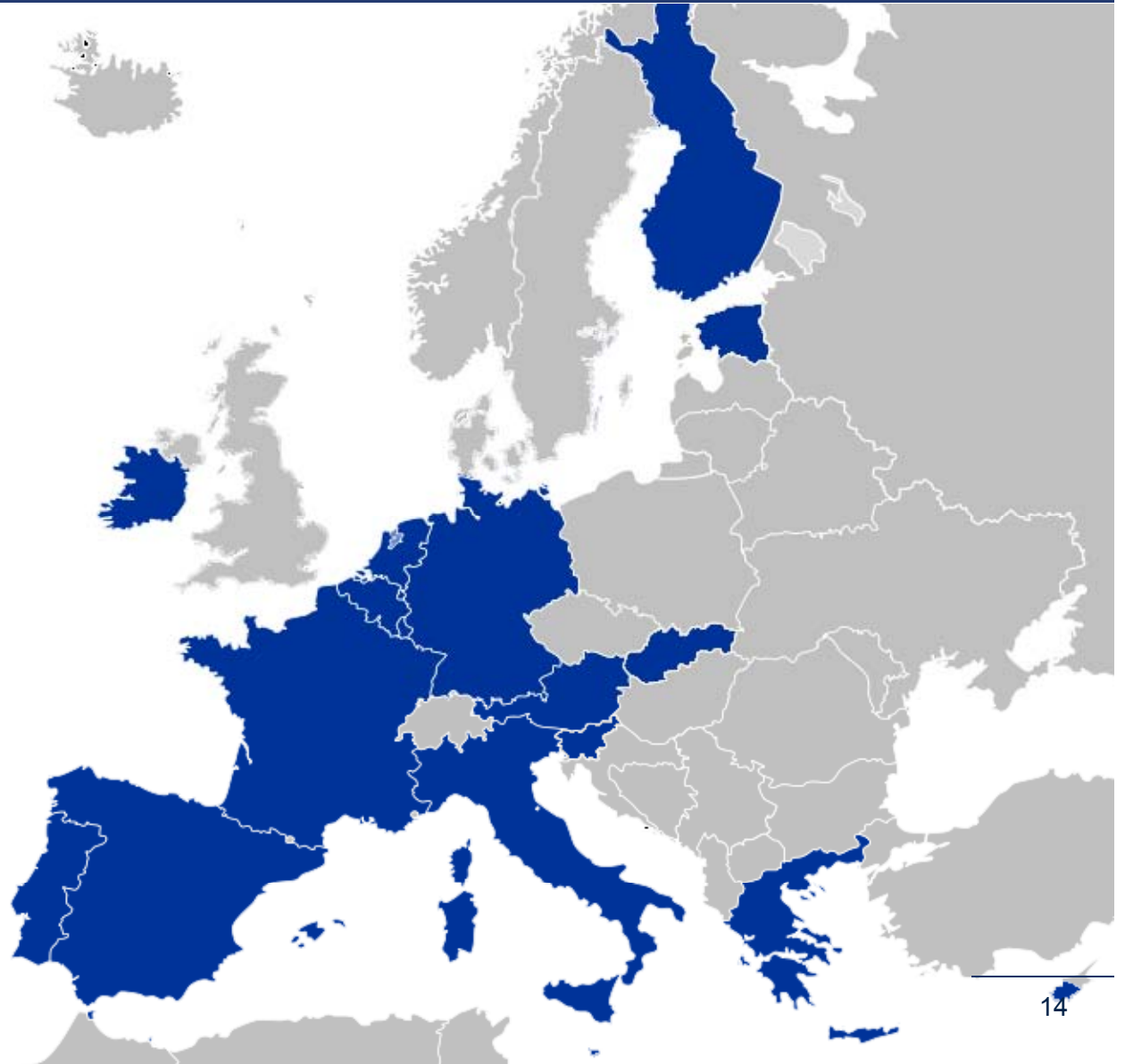
- **Banking System Weaknesses**
- Slow growth
- High unemployment
- Inflation
- Adapting to technological change (raising productivity)
- Globalization (including immigration)
- Aging (including health care)
- Living with a single monetary policy
- Sustaining the social system (welfare state)
- High government deficits and debt





Use one country in the euro area to illustrate your challenge

-  Austria
-  Belgium
-  Cyprus
-  Estonia
-  Finland
-  France
-  Germany
-  Greece
-  Ireland
-  Italy
-  Luxembourg
-  Malta
-  The Netherlands
-  Portugal
-  Slovakia
-  Slovenia
-  Spain



Euro Challenge Question: Part III



Recommend a policy or policies for addressing the challenge you identified in the country you selected.


(Be sure to include in your recommendation a discussion of how having a single currency may or may not affect the policy choices for addressing the challenge.)



2012 Challenges Chosen in Florida

COUNTRY	CHALLENGE
France	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sustaining the Social System (Welfare State)- High Government Deficits and Debts
Germany	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Aging (including healthcare)- Sustaining the Social System (Welfare State)
Greece	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- High Government Deficit & Debts
Portugal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- High Government Deficit & Debts
Slovenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Adapting to Technological Change (Raising Productivity)
Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- High Unemployment- High Government Deficits and Debts

How will the teams be scored?

- 
- A black and white soccer ball is shown in the process of hitting a white goal net. The ball is partially obscured by the net's mesh.
- Knowledge about the EU, euro, and related economic concepts (50% of total score)
 - Responses to judges' questions
 - Quality of presentation
 - Depth of research and analysis
 - Teamwork and cooperation



Euro Challenge 2012 Score Sheet



Euro Challenge 2012 Score Sheet: PRELIMINARY ROUND

Judge Names: _____

Date: ___/___/___ Team Number: ___ Presentation Time: _____

Headings (Weighting)	Judging Category	Judging Criteria	Performance Rating				
			Excellent (9 or 10)	Good (6, 7 or 8)	Moderate (3, 4 or 5)	Poor (1 or 2)	Score Subtotal
KNOWLEDGE (50%)	Current Economic Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding of economic concepts (especially GDP, inflation, unemployment) Analysis of economic conditions in the euro area (not in the country selected) Grasp of how economic conditions relate to political and social situation in the euro area 					
	Economic Challenge and Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description/understanding of selected challenge issue How and why the issue is relevant in the country selected; examples cited. Analysis of the effect of challenge on chosen country's economic situation 					
	Recommended Policy Prescription (s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creativity and feasibility of policy response Justification of how policy effectively addresses challenge in chosen country Understanding of how having the euro affects policy choices (if relevant) 					
			Excellent (10, 11, 12)	Good (7, 8 or 9)	Moderate (4, 5 or 6)	Poor (1, 2 or 3)	Score Subtotal
Q & A (20%)	Response to Judges Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality and accuracy of answers Poise under pressure Ability and persuasiveness in defending positions 					
			Excellent (6)	Good (4 or 5)	Moderate (2 or 3)	Poor (1)	Score Subtotal
PRESENTATION (10%)	Quality of Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery and flow (e.g. use of script; synchronization between oral delivery and Power Point/other media) Consistency, logic, coherence and persuasiveness Professional demeanour and attire 					
RESEARCH & ANALYSIS (10%)	Quality of Research and Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depth and quality of research Use and interpretation of data Citation and quality of sources 					
TEAMWORK (10%)	Teamwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantial participation by all team members Coordination among team members 					
			TOTAL SCORE (Maximum of 60 points)				



What can you win in the Euro Challenge?



In Miami

- Certificates for all participating students
- Trophies for regional winners
- Recognition and awards lunch at the Miami FED for the 3 Florida winning teams
- Recognition and awards at FIU for all Florida participating teams

In New-York

- **Two-day trip to NY for the Florida HS Winners**
 - ▶ Lodging costs (hotel: 2 nights) and travel costs (plane tickets) for the traveling teams are covered by the EU Delegation
- Cash prizes for the top five winning teams (from \$250 to \$1,250 per student)
- Recognition and awards reception for all semi-final teams

In Washington D.C.

- **One-day trip to Washington D.C. for the top two teams**

Visit to the Delegation of the EU, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Bank, and the International Monetary Fund.



Timeline for All Teams

What	Where	When
3 Teacher Orientations	FIU FED FED	1/ Oct. 19 2012 2/ Jan. 24, 2013 3/ Feb. 28, 2013
Student Orientation	FIU	Friday, Dec. 7, 2012
First Round Competition	FIU MARC Building	Thursday March 14, 2013
Finals and Semi-Finals	New York Fed	Friday, April 12, 2013
Recognition and Award Reception	Moody's	Friday, April 12, 2013



Timeline for All Teams

What	To be sent to:	When
School Registration Deadline: (School Registration + Media Release forms)	FIU (by fax or e-mail) & WISE (NY) (on line)	December 17th , 2012
Submission of Economic Challenge and Country	FIU	January 11, 2013
Submission of Student Names	FIU	End of January 2013
Submission of Media Release Forms for students	FIU	End of January 2013

What Level of Economic Knowledge is Required?



Basic economics, and don't forget social and political aspects

Knowledge about the EU, the euro area, and the role of the ECB – basic economic concepts: growth, inflation, unemployment.

Strive for the level of a good economic press article

(New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, The Economist)



Learning Resources and Support

facebook

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facebook.com/eurochallengecompetition



Follow us on Twitter!

twitter.com/eurochallenge



Find interesting articles on Delicious!

delicious.com/eurochallenge



Watch helpful videos on Vimeo!

vimeo.com/channels/eurochallenge



Ask away on the Euro Challenge Forum!

euro-challenge.org/forum



How to register?



<http://casgroup.fiu.edu/miamieuc/pages.php?id=549>

In order to register you need to fill out the Application/Registration and Media Release forms and send it back to Christine I. Caly-Sanchez. See links and contact information below:

* **Application/Registration:**

http://casgroup.fiu.edu/pages/docs/549/1339602558_Form_2013.doc

* **Media Release Form:**

http://casgroup.fiu.edu/pages/docs/549/1326807476_Media_Release_Form.pdf

► You also need to register on-line at: <http://www.euro-challenge.org/registration.html>

For more information and to register contact:

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Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence
FIU- Modesto A. Maidique Campus – SIPA 508
11200 SW 8th Street –Miami, FL 33199
E-mail: calyc@fiu.edu – Tel: 305-348-5949 – Fax: 305-348-6562



Registration form Euro Challenge 2013



REGISTRATION FORM EURO CHALLENGE 2013

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 31st, 2012

Please fill out the Euro Challenge 2013 registration form and email it back to Christine I. Caly-Sanchez at calyc@fiu.edu or fax it to 305-348-6562. Thank you also to register on-line at <http://www.euro-challenge.org/registration.html>. For questions about registration, please contact Christine I. Caly-Sanchez at 305-348-5949 or David Anderson at 212-421-2700 - danderson@wise-ny.org

ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS MUST complete the following:

Yes, please register _____ (school name) to participate in the Euro Challenge 2013. I, _____ (name), will be the designated contact person from my school.

RETURNING PARTICIPANTS: If your school participated in Euro Challenge 2012 and your contact information has not changed, you **ONLY** need to complete the section above. Simply submit this form via the email address or fax number above. If you **DO** need to update any contact information, please indicate changes in the section below.

ALL OTHER PARTICIPANTS: Please complete the following section. Please **PRINT CLEARLY** and provide email addresses and cell phone numbers where requested to enable wise to effectively communicate with your school throughout the year. Principals **MUST** sign the agreement at the bottom of the page.

School Name			Principal's Name
Address			Principal's Phone Number
City	State	Zip Code	Principal's Email
School Telephone Number & Extension		Fax Number	Department Chair/AP's Name
Faculty Advisor's Name <small>(this is the person to whom all programmatic information will be sent)</small>			Department Chair/AP's Phone
Faculty Advisor's Cell phone Number	Faculty Advisor's Email		Department Chair/AP's Email
Additional Teacher's Name	Teacher's Phone Number	Teacher's Email	

The Faculty Advisor and School Principal agree to all the following:


1. Enter one (1) team of three (3) to five (5) students in the Euro Challenge 2013.
2. Participate in the competition events (student teams must be accompanied by faculty Advisor).
3. Submit administrative forms including Media Release Forms and trip consent forms.

Principal's Signature: _____

Date: _____



Media Release Form

 **MEDIA RELEASE FORM**

Instructions
Please complete this release form giving permission to photograph, film or videotape your participation in the Euro Challenge.
Please send the original copy of this Release Form to Working in Support of Education, 227 East 56th Street, Suite 201, New York, NY 10022
For information call David Anderson at 212-421-2700 or email danderson@wise-ny.org
You also need to send a copy to Christine I. Caly Sanchez by fax at 305-348-6862 or by e-mail at caly@fiu.edu.

Name of Faculty Advisor (please type or print legibly)

School _____ City/County _____ State _____

I, _____, hereby consent and agree to the taking of
Print your name

photographs, movies or videotapes by Working in Support of Education (wise), The Delegation of the European Commission, their partner organizations, and the above parties' agents and employees as it relates to the Euro Challenge.

I also grant to wise, the right to edit, use and reuse said products for public relations to create awareness of the Euro Challenge. I further consent and agree that my name may be revealed therein or by descriptive text or commentary.

I also hereby release wise, The Delegation of the European Commission, their partner organizations, and the above parties' agents and employees, from all claims, demands, liabilities whatsoever in connection with the above.

Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home area code and telephone number _____ Cell area code and telephone number _____

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Contact Information

► www.euro-challenge.org

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<http://casgroup.fiu.edu/miamieuc/pages.php?id=548>
-

- Working in Support of Education
- Delegation of the European Commission
delegation-usa-eurochallenge@ec.europa.eu



Enjoy Your Euro Challenge Experience!



What do students say about the Euro Challenge?

“I can follow economic news and read about what is happening in the euro area and actually understand what is going on! All in all, participating in the Euro Challenge was an amazing experience.”



Kathryn Grace Hulseman

Mount St. Mary Academy (Watchung, NJ)

2nd place in the 2010 Euro Challenge competition



...and what do teachers say?



“The single most beneficial competition to offer kids a venue through which to learn and gain practical experience beyond our borders.”

Steven Eschrich

International Academy Central (Bloomfield Hills, MI)

1st place in the 2011 Euro Challenge competition



Testimonial 2011



GraceDeWitt

Coral Reef Senior High School
Grade 10

Choosing to participate in Euro Challenge will definitely be one of the highlights of my high school education. When I decided to join the team during this past winter, I knew very little about what I was getting into. Truthfully, I just wanted the chance to visit New York City and spruce up my college application. Before I knew it, however, I was emotionally involved in the project: communicating on a daily basis with my group members and frequenting European newspapers online. I am an open-minded student, interested in learning new things, who guessed that being a part of Euro Challenge would be a good excuse for me to learn about economics and the European Union, two subjects of which I had no familiarity with. Boy, was I right! The Euro Challenge competition turned out to be the perfect method for learning about such topics, in addition to so much more. Moreover, the knowledge I've gained since "Day 1" will serve as a solid foundation of information on global affairs that I will proudly take into adulthood. The seriousness with which the program is taken is both motivating and inspiring, as is hearing from others how much the program has grown since its beginning. Brushing shoulders with important diplomats and business people in New York City (at the semi-final and final rounds) has brought me a new-found sense of self-efficacy and esteem, and I couldn't be thankful enough for the dedicated people who worked to make Euro Challenge 2011 a success, including all the teachers and students who participated alongside me. Anyone looking for a unique and memorable educational experience should not hesitate to compete in Euro Challenge; take it from someone who knows, you won't regret it.



Testimonial 2012



Rhyan Grant

FPW Marine & Oceanographic Academy

Grade 9

The Euro Challenge was a phenomenal experience reflecting on economics and finances in the euro area. Being able to meet students from all across the United States made it interesting. Over the past years as a student participating in Scripps and Florida competitions I am able to develop an understanding in various academic areas. As a ninth grader hearing about the competition in the beginning of the year made me feel enthusiastic. As soon as possible I started studying and researching newspaper articles right away. Public speaking is my passion so to have the opportunity to compete at regional/state is wonderful. We were able to get a tour at the Federal Reserve Bank in Miami and explore the money transactions. That same afternoon we didn't get any results from the Florida International University about our presentation. When our coach finally reached the city of Port St. Lucie everyone was picked up by a parent or guardian then during the evening that same day my phone rang. The news came in saying that I and my team members are going to the National Euro Challenge in New York City sponsored by the Moody's Foundation. That was truly amazing because the next day, my coach was optimistic. The week of the nationals was intense; only 5 schools could make it to the national finals. The questions that were asked by the judges stunned most of my teammates, some were actually nervous. As a competitor it was important to maintain composure alongside with sportsmanship towards other students and officials. The best part in New York was meeting the Houston, Texas champions. They were really nice, intelligent, and humorous throughout the day. Talking to this tenth grader from Miami Palmetto High School was even better. The Euro Challenge competition will definitely look impressive on my college applications in the future. This is certainly not going to be my last time competing in local/national competitions. Most of all I thank god and my parents for supporting me in everything that is positive and sensible. Economics is very important in our daily life; it will be even more magnificent if students in all areas of the United States can get involved depending on their interest.



Testimonial 2012



Yujia Zhou

Miami Palmetto Senior High School

Grade 10

Before Euro Challenge, neither I nor my peers who accompanied me in this competition were deeply involved in economics. Most of us had little to no background in the Eurozone and European Union, and were ignorant of the important events in Europe. Euro Challenge was very well organized and has provided us with a background and interest in economics, as well as a valuable experience in the New York semi-finals.

Entering the competition requires dedication, teamwork, in-depth research, and clever problem-solving that exceeds typical presentations in school. It needed us to analyze databases provided by the European Union, organize a coherent presentation, and speak confidently to knowledgeable judges. I had none of these before entering Euro Challenge, but with the help and support of Mr. Corradino and my team, I was able to become a contributive teammate and even to some extent, a leader.

The effort involved in Euro Challenge rewarded our team with victory in the regional competitions, and allowed us to enter the Semi-finals and travel to New York. Even though we were unable to make it into the Finals, our experience there was amazing and allowed us to bond with both our teammates and competitors in the economic center of the world. Once Euro Challenge ended, it remained as one of the best parts of my life, and has certainly shown me a new international view on the world we live in.



Testimonial 2012



Dennis Dawson

FPW Marine & Oceanographic
Coach and Teacher

The Euro Challenge has become an extremely valuable tool in my AP Human Geography classroom. Students are applying geographic concepts as they are learning economic principles to understand a present day, real-world situation. Our school team was selected from volunteers following our classwork assignments. The team devoted 45+ hours to researching, developing, and practicing their presentations. The challenge this year was that the Euro issues were changing on a daily basis, with our chosen country Greece right in the middle of the confusion. We learned about macroeconomic economics along with the differences and applications of monetary and fiscal policies. My students also gained greater sophistication in decoding and understanding how the political process drives most economic decisions. As we continued to research, I could see their confidence and ability to articulate questions raise.

The Miami-Florida European Union Center for Excellence, AKA Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, and the Euro Challenge/WISE group did a fantastic job of taking care of the details so that our team could focus on the challenge. All of my team members felt appreciated for their scholarly skills. Bringing the team of 9th graders to New York is always an interesting experience. Fortunately through our team building preparations, we were all able to enjoy Manhattan and Brooklyn. The accommodations were very nice and the entire staff was very attentive to any questions or need for assistance. We all were made to feel that our work is important, even to the European Union Ambassador to the United States. I will continue providing this exciting educational opportunity to my students.