Dear friends,

We’re happy to share with you our spring-summer newsletter, which provides you a good overview of the many events we hosted, and activities we implemented as part of our European & Eurasian Studies Program, and the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence.

We had a busy few months, since we were lucky to receive another EU public diplomacy grant, ‘Getting to know Europe’. As part of it, we conducted a number of cultural and resilience-oriented events aimed at ‘creating resilient transatlantic relations’.

Other highlights include our annual Jean Monnet Center conference on the EU’s foreign & security policy, with Ambassador Vicini, Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to the United States in Washington, D.C. as keynote speaker, the visit of the Polish Ambassador, a European career fair with local companies, the Euro Challenge competition, the celebration of European Day and the European Consuls General roundtable on ‘The EU and US: Building Transatlantic Communities’, the screening of European films on the WALLCAST of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, the high school teachers’ workshop on ‘Teaching the European Union in a Transatlantic Context & the EU-Russia/Eastern European Relations.’

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events in the next year, and hope you have a restful summer.

Sincerely,
Markus Thiel & Christine I. Caly-Sanchez
The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, sponsored by the Delegation of the European Union, organized a workshop as part of its grant Getting to Know Europe on "Understanding the European Union: A workshop for Journalists", held on January 25th, at FIU. Its goal was to improve the participants' knowledge on current and relevant European issues through quality information, understanding of the opportunities it enables. The participants included journalists, as well as civic leaders aiming to get a better knowledge of the current situation of the region. The three scheduled presentations were given by distinguished experts.

Dr. Markus Thiel, Director of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, and the European & Eurasian Studies Program at Florida International University, centered his presentation on "Getting to Know Europe: What is the European Union, how does it work?". He focused on the history of the European Union, its institutions, and policymaking processes, placing emphasis on the current evolution of this integration process of Europe. It all corroborated the importance of a united Europe upholding shared values “to build and share prosperity, and to exert collective influence by acting together on the world stage”.

Of great interest for the participants were the presentations on "Current Issues and Challenges" by Drs. Markus Thiel and Mihaela Pintea, Associate Professor and Graduate Director of the Department of Economics at Florida International University. They centered the discussion on the Euro and the European Union Single Market, the refugee crisis, security and Brexit-related issues. Their views allowed for a more profound knowledge of current points of interest that are affecting the European region, and were eye-opener to the new challenges, but also opportunities for the future.

The last presentation was conducted by Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associated Director/Project Manager of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence who provided the audience with the EU Resources, local links and publications. Her presentation proved to be of great interest to all participants.

► To view photo gallery, click here
► To view program, click here

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

Getting to Know Europe (GTKE) is a program funded by the European Union under objective four of the Partnership Instrument. GTKE promotes greater knowledge and understanding, within local and regional communities in the United States, of the European Union, its international role, its policies, its culture, and the value and the significance of the EU-U.S. transatlantic partnership. For more information, click here.

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at Florida International University (FIU), has been selected for its project and will implement outreach activities in South Florida’s communities which foster an awareness of the role of the EU and European culture as well as environmental and socioeconomic resilience policies in building transatlantic cohesion and relations.

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, FIU, will organize during two years—2017-2019:

- Cultural community activities celebrating Europe-Month each May (roundtable, screenings, book reading, art exhibit);
- Teacher & Media trainings on the EU and transatlantic relations;
- Euro Challenge Competition for Florida 9th & 10th grades High Schools students
- Public lecture series ‘Europe on the Road’ for South Florida communities on environmental and socio-economic resilience;
- Creation of an annual career-fair showcasing transatlantic companies & cultural institutions (residing in Florida).

► For more information, click here.
On February 9, 2018, the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs welcomed government representations from five Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) as part of the Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series, as they discussed the Nordic Green Economy: Exploring Innovative and Policy Approaches to Sustainability. Internationally, there is a consensus about the need for a new sustainable economic model with a good economy and a healthy environment. The Nordic countries are at the vanguard in this respect and are leading the international community into adopting Green Economy policies.

After the welcome remarks by Dr. John F. Stack, Jr, Inaugural Dean of the Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs at FIU, Deputy Director General, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Marius Dirdal made the opening remarks. The Panel conversation was in charge of Karin Olofsdotter, Sweden’s Ambassador to the United States, and of the Deputies Chief of Mission, Lars Bo Moller from Denmark, Antti Vanska of Finland, and Hreinn Palsson of Iceland. The moderator of the Panel was Dr. Markus Thiel, Director of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence and of the European & Eurasian Studies Program.

They all emphasized the importance of using their clean resources to reduce the negative effects in the world, like in the generation energy (e.g. Denmark is using wind and Iceland, its thermal energy). For the Nordic countries the reduction of emissions is a communal obligation, and development and welfare are considered as the basis for reducing emissions. Goals have been established to reduce emissions by 40% by 2030 and by 80%-95% by 2050. They are also working on waste reduction. Even though they are producers of oil and gas, their production has gone green, and their businesses are turning environmentally friendly. They are implementing massive education programs in their territories, promoting friendliness with the environment, respecting human rights, and valuing differences.

They also emphasized the importance of climate change in the life of the Nordic countries. Opening new roads in the Arctic will benefit them but where green shipping should be considered to protect the purity and authenticity of this region.

The closing remarks were made by Mr. Patrik Dahlgren, Senior Vice President of the Global Marine Operations at Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd., who underlined the importance of sustainability projects related to reducing levels of sulfur and emissions for 2020, and recycling operations. Royal Caribbean is committed to fulfill these projects in its 49 ships sailing to 500 destinations.

The conference was presented on the occasion of the release of the book Nordic Ways, published by the John Hopkins University and the Brookings Institution, which explores the Nordic entrepreneurship, arts, culture, innovation, education and a commitment to democratic values and environmental sustainability.

The event was also co-sponsored by the European and Eurasian Studies Program, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, and the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy.

By Rosa Maria Ortiz & Christine I. Caly-Sanchez
On February 12 and 13, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence organized a two-day conference on Transatlantic Security Coordination in a New International Order: Security & Defense, Data & Cybersecurity, and Climate & Energy Policies. Its aim was to provide a forum for a broad policy analysis about the possibility of the United States and the EU to speak with a single voice over these issues considering the increasingly unstable multipolar environment, geopolitical competition by emerging economies and authoritarian regimes, and the drastic changes in US foreign policy.

Even though the EU evidences more stable policy preferences in these topics once placed on the agenda and negotiated internally, while the United States policy is often more dependent on the administration in power and on the geopolitical environment of the time, there is space for coordination and cooperation that can provide mutual benefits for both partners.

On the afternoon of February 12, Dr. John F. Stack, Jr, Inaugural Dean of the Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs at FIU, made the welcoming opening remarks at the event, emphasizing the importance of a broad discussion on how the United States and Europe can cooperate and collaborate on topics of security and defense, data and cyber defense, climate change and energy.

Afterwards, Dr. Markus Thiel, Associate Professor in Politics & International Relations, Director of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, and European & Eurasian Studies Program at FIU, introduced Ambassador Caroline Vicini, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United States in Washington, D.C., who was the keynote presenter in the Conference.

Amb. Vicini emphasized the importance of transatlantic relations among the economies on both sides of the Atlantic, which share values, and global objectives, along with common threats and challenges. The United States and Europe face the same phenomena and fear that globalization may affect their labor markets, their immigration policies and the resurgence of nationalism that threatens the post World War II order. However, to confront them, each must stand together with allies and join forces. This has been the key to success for both continents in past years. “Make America great” does not mean America alone. The Europeans maintain their willingness to work together with the U.S. for a better world.

The world has become more complex, more connected and contested. Today, the world encounters a dramatic degradation on the security of the environment; Ukraine has been invaded, and Crimea has been annexed by Russia; the Arab Spring has set several countries in turmoil and sent refugees seeking shelter, and there is a global proliferation of nuclear regimes. The EU strategy considers it essential to ensure peace and security for its citizens and territories, to advance the prosperity of its people, to strengthen the values of its society and to champion a ruled space of order. For this, the EU will act outside its borders in an integrated approach with local, regional and global partners, emphasizing security and defense initiatives that include military, diplomatic, economic and development efforts.

By Rosa Maria Ortiz & Christine I. Caly-Sanchez
Considering the European interests and the legitimate demand of its citizens, the policy of the EU is to step forward and respond to the challenges in full complementarity with NATO and, in that context, with the US. For this purpose, in 2016, the EU launched a Permanent Structure for Cooperation (PESCO) that reflects twenty-five EU member states’ commitment to strengthening the individual and collective military capabilities to allow the EU to respond to crisis. PESCO increases the capability for NATO and does not aim to replace article 5 of NATO (defense to collective EU borders) but to promote stability inside the territories of the EU. The armies will be under the control of the sovereign nation-states, and can participate in EU or NATO operations to protect allies, and under the UN for peace-keeping missions.

On the other hand, transatlantic Security Cooperation is a broad and deep issue that deals with nuclear proliferation regimes (Iran and North Korea), with Russia’s violation of rules in Ukraine, and China’s violation of economic rules, the reconstruction of Iraq, the fight against global terrorism. In all these areas, the EU and US need to work in close partnership, and mechanisms have been established for an EU-US dialogue in different levels.

► To view pictures, click here.
► To watch video, click here.


Amb. Caroline Vicini
Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United States.

Prior to joining the Delegation, Ms. Vicini served as Chief of Protocol, with the rank of Ambassador, at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Stockholm, Sweden. During her five years in this position, she was the focal point on all issues related to the Vienna Convention for Stockholm’s 109 foreign missions, and in charge of all high-level visits to the Swedish government.

From 2008 to 2009, Ms. Vicini worked in Washington, DC, as managing director for the public affairs company, Kreab Gavin Anderson serving Scandinavian corporate clients. In the second half of 2009, she replaced the Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) at the Swedish Embassy in Dublin.

From 2004-2008, Ms. Vicini was the DCM at the Embassy of Sweden in Washington, DC, a posting that coincided with the construction and inauguration of the new chancery by the Potomac River in Georgetown. During her tenure in Washington, she led the project team that developed the House of Sweden’s public diplomacy program, which will celebrate its tenth anniversary in 2016.

From 1999 to 2004, Ms. Vicini worked in security policy and military affairs at the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, first as Head of the Pol-Mil section and thereafter as Deputy Head of the Department of European Security Policy. She handled policy areas including: CBMs, defense material, the initial development of the EU’s Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP), and matters related to the intelligence agencies.

Ms. Vicini’s earlier postings include Algiers, Paris, and Rome, where she also worked at the headquarters of the World Food Program. She has a Master’s in Business Administration from the School of Economics at Gothenburg University.

Ambassador Vicini (center) with the European Consuls General, diplomats, Markus Thiel and Christine Caly-Sanchez.
On February 13, four panels were held over the course of the day.

Panel I: Security & Defense was chaired by Brian Fonseca, Director of the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy of the Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs at FIU. The panelists were: Dr. Nikoloz Esitashvili, Visiting Professor of the Department of Politics & International Relations at FIU, who spoke of “The Impact of the Military Technological Development on NATO Cooperation”; Dr. Maria Lorca-Susino, Professor of the Department of Economics at the University of Miami, who spoke of “Transatlantic Trade Policy as Geopolitical Security”; and David Kramer, Senior Fellow of the Steven J. School of International & Public Affairs at FIU, in charge of “Transatlantic Cooperation in Confronting the Putin Challenge”.

Dr. Lorca-Susino’s talk was centered in the data generated and accumulated by companies like Google and Facebook, and in the dangers presented in the sharing of personal and non-personal data through the virtual media; while David Kramer underlined the international threats posed by states through cyberattacks, virtual diffusion of fake news and election interferences in various states, and the development of cyberware linked to ransomware. He stated that even though sanctions have been imposed to several states, they have had less effect than expected. Dr. Nikoloz Esitashvili emphasized the leading role played by the technological developments for military purposes and military weapon stock capacity of states that allow for global leadership in institutions like NATO.

All panelists concluded that these threats cannot be treated lightly and that for a more efficient global security and defense, a coordination among the transatlantic power states must be emphasized. Even though the US can hold the leading position due to its capabilities, other states can cooperate in confronting the danger of the global status quo.

Panel II: Data & Cybersecurity was introduced by Prof. Thiel. The panel discussion was chaired by Dr. Joaquin Roy, Professor and Chair of the Jean Monnet Center at the University of Miami; and Director of the European Union Center in the same University and included as panelists: Professor Hannibal Travis, Professor of the School of Law at FIU, who presented on “Taming Cyber-Aggression: Lessons from the Era of Covert Warfare”; Dr. Maggid Sadowska, independent researcher, who introduced “Cyber Security in a Transatlantic Context”; and Robert Morgus, Senior Policy Analyst of New America’s Cybersecurity Initiative and International Security Program and Deputy Director of FIU-New America-C2B Partnership, who was in charge of “Geopolitics and Cyber Governance: How the Last Five Years Have Changed the Shape of the International Cybersecurity Discussion”.

All three panelists agreed on the increase of the number of cyberattacks that have hit hard the military, public and private institutions affecting different social services, political events, military capacities and businesses; and the lack of efficient national and international laws. Advances have been made by states and international institutions in trying
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Transatlantic Security Coordination in a New International Order:
Security & Defense, Data & Cybersecurity, and Climate & Energy Policies (cont’)
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to define the specificities of the crime, but there is still a need for international integrated laws in data security, deterrence of the crime, regulation in the use of the internet, and in agent’s accountability and responsibility. NATO is a powerful international institution that can challenge the cyberattacks. There is space for research and for agreement.

Panel III: Consular Roundtable on European Security accounted for the participation of the European Consuls General in Miami; Hon Candido Creis Estrada, from Spain; Hon Catalin Ghenea, from Romania; Hon Annette Klein, from the Federal Republic of Germany; Hon Clément Leclerc, from France; and Hon Gera Sneller from the Kingdom of Netherlands. The Panel discussion was chaired by Dr. Markus Thiel. All participants reiterated the importance of multilateral work in security and of their commitment to the strong frameworks of both NATO and of the new regional structure of the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO). This regional structure represents a closer European cooperation in security and defense, which they consider a milestone, and a progressive alternative solution that will strengthen the EU. PESCO is currently working in medical cooperation and crisis relief.

During Panel IV: Climate and Energy Policies, the participants heard from Melisa Balos, PhD Student in International Relations at FIU, about the “EU-NATO Strategic Partnership toward Energy Security: Critical Energy Infrastructure, Maritime Security, and Resource Scarcity”; from Melanie Goergmaier, PhD Student in International Studies at the University of Miami, about the “EU-US Energy & Climate Security Policies in view of Transatlantic Trade”; and from Dr. Annette La Rocco, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Florida Atlantic University, about the “EU Securitization of Conservation Policy in Africa”. Dr. Edward Glab, Director of FIU Global Energy Security Forum, was the chairman of the panel.

The event presented a great spectrum of international threats and challenges to the EU and US that could be dealt coordinately and in mutual cooperation for mutual benefit.

By Rosa Maria Ortiz & Christine Calyx-Sanchez

Panel III, from left to right: Consul General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Gera Sneller; Consul General of France, Clément Leclerc; Consul General of Romania, Catalin Ghenea; Consul General of Spain, Candido Creis; and Markus Thiel

Panel IV, from left to right: Annette La Rocco, Melanie Goergmaier, Melissa Balos, and Dr. Glab

► To view photo gallery: - Panel I: click here - Panel II: click here - Panel III: click here - Panel IV: click here
► To view detailed program, click here
► To view Bios Panelists, click here
The Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series on Poland, and the European and Eurasian Studies Program, in collaboration with The American Institute of Polish Culture and The Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Poland, organized a Conference on March 6 on “100 Years of Independent Poland and Centuries of Polish-American Relations”, commemorating Poland’s 100 years of independence as a European country, after 123 years of geo-political oblivion.

Dr. John F. Stack, Jr, Inaugural Dean of the Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs at Florida International University (FIU), welcomed the participants and congratulated the Polish Ambassador and the people of Poland on their Independence Centenary. Dr. Markus Thiel, Associate Professor in Politics & International Relations, Director of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at FIU, made the opening remarks event and introduced keynote speaker Ambassador Piotr Wilczek.

Amb. Wilczek stated that the mention of World War I conjures for him and the Polish people, images of doughboys and Pals battalions, trenches, gas attacks, Ypres, Somme and Verdun. It took millions of lives and set the stage for future sinister events in Poland, like widespread hunger and indiscriminate deaths.

The Russian, German and Austro-Hungarian Empires which controlled Polish territory during World War I fielded Polish soldiers. Over two million men were dispersed throughout the grand armies, half a million died. It was a seminal event in Europe’s and Poland’s history that resulted in the crumbling of the three empires, and in the reestablishment of a Polish nation-state after 123 years of inexistence.

The outbreak of World War I, which saw Poland’s occupiers on different sides of the conflict, immediately presented an opportunity in the minds of Polish leaders for Poland’s independence. Ignacy Jan Paderewski, a Polish patriot and piano virtuoso united the Polish-American community in support of Poland’s independence and gained the confidence of key American figures including most notably president Woodrow Wilson.

Paderewski rallied Polish-Americans to contribute to the Allied War effort even before the United States entered the war. Over 40,000 Poles in America volunteered for the Polish Blue Army. This year is the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of this army. Raised among the Polish ethnic communities in America, it was trained in Canada and deployed as a Polish army when there was still no Polish state. It was a manifestation of Polish determination to fight for independence and statehood, even on lands far from Poland.

Along with Paderewski’s leadership, it ensured that the Polish cause was near to American leaders. In January 22, 1917, Wilson delivered his “Peace Without History” speech, in which he specified Poland’s independence as a justified war aim.
In January 1919, the United States became the first major power to recognize Polish statehood.

This victory of Western values against Bolshevism was possible thanks to the help of a small but committed group of American volunteer airmen who formed the Kosciuszko Squadron and who greatly aided the Polish war effort. As a testament to their bravery, heroism and sacrifice, many of the American pilots were decorated with Poland’s highest military order, the Virtuti Militari. With Warsaw saved, Poland’s independence was safe, unfortunately, we all know that the peace and freedom won by World War I lasted much too short.

In the immediate aftermath of World War I, Poland, in addition to defending her sovereignty, was also striving to establish a functioning country. Thanks to the efforts of Herbert Hoover and the American Relief Administrations, over one and a half million Polish children and nursing mothers were being fed daily in the months after the war. Additionally, every single day, vital supplies including over two million pairs of shoes and coats for the harsh Polish winter, as well as medical supplies to combat diseases, were delivered from America. This aid helped rebuild free Poland, and the Polish people would not quickly forget this generosity.

In fact, the Polish people repaid America for her generosity, not in fold or currency, but in friendship. In 1926 when the United States of America was celebrating its 150th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the Polish people joined in, not with opulent gifts but with a genuine outpouring of appreciation. They created a grand collection of well wishes from the Polish people to the people of America. In a matter of a few short months, 5.5 million Polish citizens (one sixth of the population of Poland) signed their names to the Polish Declaration of Admiration and Friendship for the United States, as the collection would be officially known. This collection of 111 volumes containing over 30,000 pages was presented to President Calvin Coolidge at the White House. The 4th of July was declared a national holiday in Poland and the 150th anniversary of the American Declaration of Independence was a celebration held all over Poland too.

This unique document has been digitalized with the support of the Polish Library in Washington, D.C. and is now available online on the Library of Congress website.

The Academic Panel held afterward included Prof. Mieczyslaw B. Biskupski, Professor of History, Stanislaus A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies, and Coordinator of the Polish Studies Program of Central Connecticut State University, who presented on “Could Poland Have Saved the West?”; and Prof. Thaddeus C. Radzilowski, president and co-founder of the Piast Institute, who presented on “The Birth of the Second Republic: The Struggle for Poland and the Creation of Polonia”,

By Rosa Maria Ortiz & Christine I. Caly-Sanchez
Prof. Biskupski emphasized the important geopolitical position of Poland as buffer zone between Germany and Russia, and the role played by the Polish Army and the people of Poland in the contention of the advance of the Soviet Union to the West.

Prof. Radzilowski presented on the role played by the Polish immigrants to the United States in the formation of the Polish and the Polish-American identities. The important role played by the immigrants’ constant movement between Poland and the United States was underlined, since it helped in the maintenance of the communities’ relations, in the improvement of the Polish economy, in the raising of the living standards of the Polish people, and in significant aid programs in Poland during and after World War I and World War II.

This Conference has helped understand the importance of the mutual cooperation between the Polish people and the United States.

By Rosa Maria Ortiz & Christine I. Caly-Sanchez
A highly awaited event, the European Career Fair titled “Your European Career Starts Here” organized by the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence and FIU Career and Talent Development on March 29th was a smashing success with over 152 participants in attendance. This fair allowed FIU students to connect and network with European Consulates, Chambers of Commerce, and companies. Part of the EU diplomacy grant “Getting to Know Europe”, this event was designed to match potential employers with employees. The European entities were interested in meeting undergraduate and graduate students, as well as alumni professional talent to learn more about their qualifications and career interests, while the students were eager to know about job opportunities in European private & public sectors, to learn about requirements, and to conduct interviews if possible.

After a warm welcome by Dr. Markus Thiel, Director of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence and the European & Eurasian Studies Program, and Mrs. Nelly Leon, Assistant Director of the Career Development of the Steven J. Green School of International of Public Affairs at FIU, three panels were held before the networking phase of the event. The European Consuls or their representatives participated in the presentation of the “International Careers in Diplomacy” panel. Its participants were the General Consul Gera Sneller of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Vice-Consul Axel Zeissig of the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany; Ms. Stéphanie Menaud-Gougain, Head of Public Affairs of the Consulate General of France; and Ms. Monique Quesada, Diplomat in Residence for South Florida and Puerto Rico of the US Department of State. The moderator of the panel was Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director and Project Manager of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, FIU.

The presentation of their experiences as diplomats, since their beginnings as young professionals, illustrated the path that students of International Relations and Public Affairs may expect when entering the international diplomatic service. The experience to do internships in the different entities was well perceived as a good entry point. Afterwards, a panel of professionals that work in European institutions presented their experiences too: Michael Bartelt, Senior Product Sales Manager of Lufthansa Technik Component Services; Ms. Arantxa Jordan, Deputy Director of Spain-US Chamber of Commerce; Ms. Sonnett Malan, VP of Sales of...
YOUR EUROPEAN CAREER STARTS HERE
Career Fair | March 29, 2018

Tomson Hospitality Boutique; and Pascale Villet, Executive-Director of the French-American Chamber of Commerce of the Florida Chapter. Each of their stories was an eye opener for junior in International Relations and Business Administration. When asked what they looked for in potential employees, the European company representatives mentioned desire an eagerness to learn, creative management of challenges, learning spirit, teamwork capabilities, and ideally, the knowledge of relevant languages. Dr. Thiel moderated the panel.

The third panel was formed by FIU alumni and current employees in European companies who shared their experience of working in Europe and how it transformed their lives and careers. The panelists were: Ian Schreiber, Bachelor in International Relations with experience in France; Deniss Kaskurs, PhD Student in Political Science; and Vanja Hajdukovic, Manager of Research and Strategic Planning from the Beacon Council. Nelly Leon acted as moderator.

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

European Institutions
1.– Consulate General of France
2.– Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany
3.– Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
4.– Consulate General of Spain
5.– Honorary Consulate of Poland
6.– French American Chamber of Commerce, Florida
7.– German American Business Chamber of South Florida
8.– Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Southeast
9.– Spain-United States Chamber of Commerce
10.– Ackerman International
11.– A Customs Brokerage
12.– Bolidt Cruise Control Corp.
13.– Extenda Trade
14.– Embassy of Spain/Education Office
15.– Gagel Law Firm
16.– ImpactOUT International
17.– Lufthansa Technik Component Services
18.– Miami-Dade Beacon Council
19.– Tomson Hospitality Boutique

North American Language and Culture Assistants in Spain

Mr. Felipe Neri Pieras Guasp, Educational Advisor of the Embassy of Spain-Education Office in Miami presented the opportunity to work in Spain under the North American Language and Culture Assistants program.

It corresponds to an international agreement between US and Spain to promote English language instruction in Spain, with the collaboration of American students.

► For more information, click here.
During the networking phase, the 152 students that attended the workshop met with the representatives of the nineteen European entities present, asking them questions about their entry level positions and introducing themselves to potential employers.

This first experience has laid the foundations for future events (including the next one in March 2019) creating new possibilities of encounters between students and FIU alumni and potential European employers.
Thank you FIU Career & Talent Development Service and Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence Teams!
As part of the EU grant “Getting to know Europe”, Mr. Alberto Terenzi, an Italian expert on climate adaptation and resilience, visited South Florida during four days, meeting with members of the communities of the Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, Orange and Hillsborough counties. He shared his experience on the work done supporting the local governments of European cities like Rome, Barcelona, Corfu, and Amsterdam among others, while they face the challenge of building resilience in the face of climate change.

Climate change is affecting the world due to sea-level rise, increase of surface temperatures, migration of resources, increase or decrease of precipitation, risk of desertification, increase of water-demand, heat waves, decrease of ice coverage and of permafrost areas, risk of biodiversity loss, decrease of snow, lake and river ice cover and soil erosion, among others. Cities in particular are vulnerable hotspots due to high population concentration, production and services. For Terenzi, it is not just a function of ecological hazard but also of socio-economic vulnerability.

The concept of resilience is a strong concept signifying the ability of a city or region to resist, absorb, adapt to or transform, and recover from acute shocks and chronic stresses to keep critical services functioning and to monitor and learn from on-going processes through collaboration, to

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Alberto Terenzi
Expert on climate adaptation and resilience

Mr. Alberto Terenzi is an expert on climate adaptation and resilience and has an extensive track record of supporting the development of urban resilience and sustainability strategies in Europe.

From 2011 to 2017, he worked for ICLEI, Local Governments for Sustainability, the leading global network of more than 1,500 cities, towns and regions committed to building a sustainable future. At ICLEI, he managed several European projects focused on supporting climate resilient decision-making, on creating peer-to-peer exchange and knowledge management platforms and on fostering knowledge brokerage between science and policy.

Throughout 2015, Alberto acted as a consultant to the City of Rome in the framework of the 100 Resilient Cities Project. Specifically, he was the city’s strategic partner and advised them on the development of their preliminary resilience assessment. Alberto participated in the EU-funded projects RAMSES and RES- IN, which both created scientific evidence and tools to support resilient and climate adaptive policy-making in cities. Currently, Alberto lives in Berlin, Germany, where he works as a freelance consultant.

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To view pictures, click here
To watch video, click here
To view PPT, click here
To view pictures at FIU, click here

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Miami community audience
increase adaptive capacity and strengthen preparedness by anticipating and appropriately responding to present and future challenges.

Currently, more than 7500 cities worldwide, representing 10% approximately of the total global population, participate in the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy, the world largest coalition of cities fighting climate change, an effort that includes a great mix of stakeholders from government, local business, and civic associations to community groups. Their work deal with urban planning, social affairs, quality of life, productive activities and Metropolitan areas. Mitigation climate change requires a healthy relation between environment, society, ecology and economy.

Mr. Alberto Terenzi has had an extensive track record supporting the development of urban resilience and sustainability strategies in Europe before working as a freelance consultant. He has worked at ICLEI, leading global network of local governments for more than 1500 cities, towns and regions committed to building sustainable futures; has been consultant to the city of Rome in the framework of the 100 Resilient Cities Project; and has participated in the Ramses and Resin (Smart Mature Resilience) projects that created scientific evidence and tools to support resilient and climate adaptive policy-making in cities.

Mr. Terenzi also made his presentation at our university partners’ campus: Florida Atlantic University, University of Central Florida, and University of South Florida.

The experience of the European cities and their efforts recounted by Mr. Terenzi have left a path of hope for the audiences in the four counties included in this visit, especially considering the hurricane experience of 2017, which affected all principal cities in Florida.
As part of the EU Grant “Getting to Know Europe”, on March 14th and 15th, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence held the first round of the Euro Challenge Competition. This is the 12th year in which the Preliminary Round-Competition has taken place at Florida International University and the 10th year that the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence partners with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch.

Two schools from Orange county presented via video conference at FIU on March 14th, and five schools from Miami-Dade county participated on site at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch in this year's competition. The competition draws 9th and 10th grades high school students who have a variety of academic interests, including law, international relations, psychology, and the humanities. In addition to their normal course work, students must find time to form teams (three to five students), research their respective economic problem topics at the country level (among the 19 EU member countries that have adopted the Euro so far), identify policies for responding to that problem, and practice their presentations.

“We’ve been preparing for the competition for about a year,” said one of the students. In addition to students from local schools, the competition also draws leading figures in the community and diplomats to serve as judges, many of whom will go on to serve at multiple competitions, among them, Volker Anding, from the German Embassy; and Gloria Guzman, and Marycela Diaz-Unzalu from the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch.

Aside from the students knowledge of the facts and figures pertaining to EU member states, the euro, economies and politics, the judges also take into account the teams’ ability to clearly communicate with one another.

“Each year, the presentations get better and better. As judges, we’re looking for their understanding and management of the concepts and economic indicators of their countries, as well as their presentations, the flow of the overall presentation, and their ability to work as a team,” said Gloria Guzman, a repeat competition-judge and Senior Education Program Manager at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch.

The 2018 winner of the preliminary round was Gulliver Preparatory School, followed by PK Yonge DRS, and South Dade Senior High School (3rd place). Gulliver Preparatory School was proud to advance to and represent Florida at the national final held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta in New York on April 26, 2018.

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence has been participating in this wonderful project since the beginning. Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director at the MFJMCE, is the recruiter and organizer of the competition in Florida. She has very proudly stated, “Since 2008, MFJMCE has selected one hundred seven Florida high schools from Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, St. Lucie, Lee, Orange, and Alachua counties, and sent twenty-three to New York to compete nationally. One hundred twenty four students have gone to New York representing their Florida schools. This competition has become a showcase for our Florida schools, and it will continue to grow due to the tremendous response we have received from our local schools. We are extremely proud of our schools in Florida.”

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez
1st round: Florida Euro Challenge Competition Winners 2018

Gulliver Preparatory School—1st Place
Advanced to NY on April 26, 2018
• Lucas Cavalieri
• Ruben Krys
• Lucas Puttre
• Sofia Restrepo
• Sabrina Sharma
• Garcia-Stille Lauren (alternate)
  (Kamal James, Teacher)
⇒ Country Chosen: Portugal
⇒ Economic Challenge: Demographics and an Aging Workforce

PK Yonge DRS—2nd Place
• Ebrahim Ghaidaa
• Jackson Fugate
• Naoh Hardman
• Adrian Perez
• Aleksander Wade
• Altenhof Destin (alternate)
  (Grisell Santiago, Teacher)
⇒ Country Chosen: Ireland
⇒ Economic Challenge: Living with a Single Monetary Policy

South Dade Senior HS—3rd Place
• Grace Lopez
• Skylar McDermott
• Marianela Mejias
• Christopher Napoles
  (Collin Bartley, Teacher)
⇒ Country Chosen: Greece
⇒ Economic Challenge: Tackling High Unemployment

► To view pictures-March 14, click here
► To view pictures-March 15, click here
► For more information on the Euro Challenge, click here
On March 22nd, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence organized a Recognition Award Ceremony luncheon for the two Miami-Dade high school winning teams from the Local Euro Challenge Competition 2018: Gulliver Preparatory School and South Dade Senior High School. The event took place at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Miami Branch, where students, teachers, judges and organizers were acknowledged and congratulated for their tremendous work.

Gloria Guzman, Senior Education Program Manager; Marycela Diaz-Unzalu, Director, Miami-Branch Research Team and Senior REIN Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Miami Branch, and hosts of the event, and Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director and Project Manager, Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, organizer and Florida recruiter of the Florida Euro Challenge Competition, welcomed the audience and congratulated the two Miami-Dade winning high schools, and PK Yonge Development Research School from Orange County which obtained the 2nd place at the competition, for their outstanding work. They mentioned that they were very happy to host the event at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Miami Branch and proud to have partnered with the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence for the last 10 years.

After presenting their project to the audience once again, students were awarded certificates of participation and achievement in the Euro Challenge Competition 2018, and congratulated by Gloria Guzman, Marycela Diaz-Unzalu, Lukas Danner, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, and Master of Ceremony and Ambassador (ret.) Dr. Volker Anding.

Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director-Project Manager, Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, and organizer of the Euro Challenge Competition in Florida, awarded certificates of appreciation to the teachers and thanked them for their leadership, guidance, and dedication to increasing understanding of the European Union and the Euro, and developing communication, critical thinking and team skills among their students. She also awarded certificates of appreciation to the judges and thanked them for their continuing support and for making the competition fair and transparent.

After the recognition award ceremony, students, teachers, and judges, were privileged to have a private tour of the FED conducted by Gloria Guzman, Senior Education Program Manager.

This event was part of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence diplomatic EU grant “Getting to Know Europe.”

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez
Euro Challenge
Recognition Award Ceremony at the FED
03/22/2018

Marycela Diaz-Unzalu welcoming the students, teachers, judges.

Amb. Volker Anding congratulating the students.

Christine I. Caly-Sanchez congratulating students, teachers, judges, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch for their partnership.

A big thanks to the judges: Amb. Volker Anding, Gloria Guzman, Marycela Diaz-Unzalu, Lukas Danner, and Teachers Kamal James and Collin Bartley.

► To view pictures, click here
► To view program, click here
► For more information on the Euro Challenge, click here
On April 26th, 2018, Gulliver Preparatory School, the Florida High School selected in Miami at the local Florida Euro Challenge Competition on March 15, traveled to New York to represent Florida at the national Euro Challenge Competition, a program created and run by the Delegation of the European Union to the United States, with assistance of W!se, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and support from the Moody’s Foundation, Credit Suisse and Deloitte & Touch.

The team consisting of 9th grade students was accompanied by its teachers: Kamal James, and Daniela Brenha. The students were really thrilled and proud to compete nationally and present their economic challenge and European country (Portugal: Demographics and an Aging Workforce) before a panel of prestigious judges from the European community: ambassadors, consuls, EU Delegation officials, and financial experts.

After a long day of competition for the 25 teams selected from around the country at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (semi-finals in the morning, and finals in the afternoon), all the students were invited to the Recognition and Award Reception on the 20th Floor of the Moody’s Foundation (7 World Trade Center). Ambassador David O’Sullivan, of the European Union Delegation to the United States, congratulated the winning teams.

He said: “It was very impressive to watch today’s competition and see how engaged and knowledgeable and literate on economic and financial matters these students are. As the impressive European economic recovery continues, these students confidently presented creative solutions to tackle future challenges and ideas for creating jobs and growth. The Euro Challenge has been a fantastic learning experience for thousands of American students as they go beyond the headlines of economic news to fully understand key economic concepts and the complex realities faced by policymakers. It also helps them to have a better understanding of how deeply Europe and America are connected.” Our students had the privilege to meet and talk to Ambassador O’Sullivan, who enjoyed spending time with them.

2018 will mark the 13th iteration of the Euro Challenge, which continues to expand nationally. Over 100 teams have participated in this year’s competition, collectively representing high schools from 16 U.S. States (Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia).

The Euro Challenge is supported by BNP Paribas, Florida International University, the University of Washington, the University of Pittsburgh, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the University of Texas at Austin, Rutgers University, the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh, the World Affairs Council of Charlotte, the World Affairs Council of Seattle, the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Detroit Branch).
National Euro Challenge Competition
Gulliver Preparatory School in New York
April 26, 2018

Gulliver Preparatory School students in New York
On May 2nd and 3rd, 2018, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence Associate Director Christine I. Caly-Sanchez participated in the EU Centers of Excellence Two-day Symposium entitled 'Taking Europe Beyond the Ivory Tower: How Universities can Best Promote EU Visibility, Knowledge, and Outreach.' This event was part of the ‘Getting to Know Europe’ Grant. During two days EU Centers of Excellence directors and associate directors met in Washington, D.C. to discuss the best practices to promote the European Union.

This event was co-organized and co-sponsored by the European Studies Center at the University of Pittsburgh, and the Center for European Studies at the University of North Carolina. It was a memorable event.

On the first day of the Symposium, Allyson Delnore, Associate Director, European Studies Center, University of Pittsburgh; Katie Shanahan Lindner, Executive Director, Center of European Studies, UNC Chapel Hill; and Timothy Rivera, Programs Officer, EU Delegation to the US, welcomed a full audience at the Delegation of the European Union to the United States.

James Barbour, Spokesperson and Head of Press and Public Diplomacy; and Yasmina Sioud, Deputy Head of Press and Public Diplomacy, presented the 1st session on ‘EU Approaches to Public Diplomacy.’ The second session entitled ‘Digital Diplomacy’ was conducted by Rose Kouwenhoven, Digital Communications Officer at the EU Delegation to the US, who gave advise and tips to use for a better digital communication strategy and digital campaigns, website development, and social media channels.

After the 3rd session on the ‘Programmatic Overview of EU Delegation Initiatives’ conducted by Timothy Rivera, Programs Officer at the EU Delegation, the audience listened with interest to the keynote speaker Mohamed Abdel-Kader, Executive Director, Stevens Initiative at the Aspen Institute, and formerly head of IFLE, US. Department of Education.

The 2nd day was composed of 6 practical sessions where directors, associate directors, and educators discussed the best practices they use to promote Europe not only to universities but also high schools, and communities at large.

Felicia Martinez, Executive Director at the Colorado European Center of Excellence, University of Denver; and Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director/Project Manager Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, were the panelists of the ‘Outreach to Business Professionals’ session. Christine Caly-Sanchez presented the best practices used at the EU Center of Excellence in Miami to promote outreach to the business community, the strategy and, the partnerships the Center has developed and the outcomes it has realized.

Mrs. Caly-Sanchez stated: "It’s a give and take relationship. You need to be attentive to your partners needs and wants. You need to create a tailored program for your partners. You need to build a reputation and deliver excellence. You also need to be a matchmaker."
Co-organizers of the Symposium: Kathie Lindner and Allyson Delnore

Yasmina Sioud, EU Delegation to the US

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at FIU was proud to participate, meet its partners, and contribute to a successful symposium.

To view pictures, click here

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

Keynote Speaker Mohamed Abdel-Kader

Christine Caly-Sanchez, Yasmina Sioud, Timothy Rivera, Felicia Naranjo Martinez
MFJMCE Celebrates Europe Day

2018 Recognition Award For European & Eurasian Studies Certificate Earners

Students receiving their certificates in European & Eurasian Studies—From left to right: Dr. Markus Thiel, Alessandra Arias, Julie Bradshaw, Marian Quintero, Jennifer Osejo, Francesca Davila, and Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

May 9th is Europe Day, a holiday that each year marks the pivotal Schuman declaration of 1950, in which Robert Schuman (French foreign minister) proposed the creation of a supranational European community, an idea that laid the foundation for the EU.

On May 8th, one day before, a group of aspiring scholars and professionals gathered at Florida International University’s (FIU) Modesto A. Maidique campus to be honored for their incredible accomplishments. These young men and women, all recent graduates, were presented with their European & Eurasian Studies Certificate in a recognition ceremony. These students, by applying their academic energies to understanding more about European history, politics, and culture, earned this prestigious honor that designates their familiarity with European civilization. The European & Eurasian Studies program at FIU was designed to enhance a student’s understanding of European politics, society, and culture, drawing on a broad range of courses in the arts and sciences and thereby to complementing the student’s major course of study. These certificates, which are available to any undergraduate or graduate student who has an interest in European civilization and culture, requires additional work by students in courses focused on European languages and cultures. Some of these graduates even augmented their experience by participating in study abroad programs, and were able to experience Europe intimately. Whether in honors college courses in Normandy, or European Art history classes at FIU’s Wolfsonian, these students have exerted maximum effort to learn about the many nations and peoples of the European community.

On May 8th, the hard work paid off, and these students were prepared to be recognized for their achievement. The ceremony began with the European Union Anthem “Ode to Joy”-Beethoven-9th Symphony. Afterwards, Dr. Markus Thiel, MFJMCE director, European & Eurasian Studies Program director and FIU associate professor of Politics & International Relations; and Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director/Project Manager, Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence and European & Eurasian Studies, congratulated the students and gave them their Certificates in European Studies.

Dr. Markus Thiel addressed the students, faculty, and families, and indicated that these graduates had been his students, and expresses his pride at having been part of their educational experience. Since FIU also offers a graduate certificate in European Studies, we hope that many of these students return to increase their familiarity and expertise with the nations of Europe. Once more, a hearty congratulation to these recent graduates.

After the Award Ceremony, students, friends and family gathered for refreshments graciously offered by the European & Eurasian Studies Program.

To view pictures of the event, click here

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez
MFJMCE Celebrates Europe Day

2018 Recognition Award For European & Eurasian Studies Certificate Earners

The European & Eurasian Studies Certificate program is open to all who have an interest in any aspect of European civilization, past or present.

- It is an interdisciplinary program that draws on a broad range of courses from throughout FIU to complement a student’s own interests.
- Approved study-abroad courses, including those offered by the Honors College, may be accepted for certificate credit.
- The program also offers a senior colloquium, “European Identities”, that allows students the opportunity to engage in research on topics of their own choosing in close conjunction with a member of the Program Faculty.
- The certificate program is open to all students enrolled at FIU and to interested individuals in the community.
- Since Spring 2001, 204 Students obtained their Certificates in European & Eurasian Studies.

Requirements

The program requires 15 credits hours (5 courses) from at least 3 departments, distributed as follows:

► Language Requirements (3 credits)
  One course in a European language at the intermediate (2000) level or above.

► Breadth Requirement (9 credits)
  - Three courses at 3000-level or above, not all of which can be in either Social Science or in Humanities.
  - Courses must be from an approved list published in the class schedule each term, or else contain substantial European content and approved by the Director.
  - Such courses are offered by the Departments of:
    - Art and Art History,
    - Economics,
    - English, Environmental Studies,
    - History,
    - Humanities,
    - International Relations,
    - Modern Languages,
    - Philosophy,
    - Political Science,
    - and Religion, among others.

► Exit Requirement (3 credits)
  Interdisciplinary Colloquium, focused on a broad European topic

For more information on the program, visit the following page: http://europe.fiu.edu/certificate-programs/undergraduate-advising/
On Wednesday, May 9th, 2018, The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence celebrated Europe-Day at the Coral Gables Country Club, where four European Consuls General and two government representatives presented and reported on their (national) view of Europe, and the meaning of the EU for Europe and transatlantic relations in a commemorative panel. This high-level event, with over 50 civic leaders from local government, businesses present, was followed by a networking reception.

MFJMCE would like to sincerely thank the following panelists for their important contribution to our event:

- Catalin Ghenea
  Consul General of Romania
- Annette Klein
  Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Clément Leclerc
  Consul General of France
- Gera Sneller
  Consul General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Lucio Taglione,
  Vice Consul, Consulate General of Italy
- María Jesús de Gonzalo Gámir,
  Commercial Attaché, Trade Commission in Miami, Embassy of Spain in the United States

This event was part of the EU diplomacy grant “Getting to Know Europe”.

May 9th is Europe Day, a holiday that each year marks the pivotal Schuman declaration of 1950, in which Robert Schuman (French foreign minister) proposed the creation of a supranational European community, an idea that laid the foundation for the EU.

More information on Europe day, click here
To view The Schuman Declaration, click here

To view pictures, click here
To watch video, click here
To view flyer, click here
MFJMCE Celebrates Europe Day—May 9th
European Consul General Roundtable
Coral Gables Country Club

From left to right: Dr. Volker Anding, Tomas Abreu, Hon. Gera Sneller, Lucio Taglione, Hon. Annette Klein, Hon. Clément Leclerc, María Jesús de Gonzalo Gámir, Hon. Susan Harper, and Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

Full audience at the roundtable

Marianne Winfield, Hon. Susan Harper, Hon. Gera Sneller

From left to right: Dr. Markus Thiel, Hon. Annette Klein, Hon. Clément Leclerc, Hon. Gera Sneller

María Jesús de Gonzalo Gámir and Hon. Catalin Ghenea
May 10th-31st, 2018, ‘Europe on the Big Screen’

As part of its EU diplomacy grant “Getting to Know Europe”, every Thursday evening, from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., and from May 10th to May 31st, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at FIU presented free outdoor European movies on the New World Symphony WALLCAST at the New Center Soundscape Park Miami Beach. This program was done in collaboration with the Honorary Consulates of the Republic of Poland, the Consulates General of France, Italy and Spain, and the support of Miami Beach Department of Tourism, Culture and Economic Development, Cultural Affairs Program, Cultural Arts Councils and The Miami Beach Mayor and Commissioners, and the New World Symphony, America’s Orchestral Academy.

Each screening brought more than 50 people from the Miami-Dade community at large. The audience enjoyed European comedy and drama while sitting on the lawn on a blanket or sitting in a beach chair in front of the New World Symphony’s WALLCAST, a soaring, 7,000-square-foot projection wall that uses striking visual and audio technology.

All the films presented were screened in English subtitled in their native language.

On May 10th, 2018, we kicked off the program with a Polish drama “The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler” which let us appreciate the full extent of the consequences and implications of the efforts developed by the Polish people who participated in the underground movement in their attempts to save Jews.

It is a fact-filled story about a Catholic Polish clandestine organization organized in 1941, and which saved the lives of almost 2500 Jewish babies and young children by smuggling them from the Warsaw ghetto and handing them to convents or adoptive Polish families who raised them as their own and kept them from being deported to death camps during World War II.

The main character is Irena Sendler, a social worker who pretended to be a nurse created the organization, even risking her life and that of the other participants. Her commitment and determination were the main determinants of the operation outcomes. She was later publicly recognized and was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 2006.

The screening of “The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler” brought the Polish community to the screening, and we were honored to have the presence of the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland, Lady Blanka Rosenstiel.

On May 17th, 2018, the fresh French comedy of “Lost in Paris” representing the first trip of Fiona (Fiona Gordon), a Canadian librarian, to Paris to visit an old forgotten aunt, and her involvement with a homeless Dom (Dominque Abel) was screened. The mistaken identity at a funeral, Dom’s stubbornness has made this comedy a favorite with audiences. The film was written and directed by the same Fiona Gordon and Dominque Abel.

On May 31st, 2018, from the book of Emilio Estevez, the Spanish drama of “The Way” (2010) could be appreciated. It told the story of a father (Martin Sheen) when he discovered that his son(Emilio Estevez) died in Saint Jean de Pied (France) while he was in a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela (Spain). The father’s doubts and finally his decision to leave his life to continue his son’s project, taking his ashes with him, makes a heartfelt, self-discovery adventure where trust and bondage will be important elements for giving meaning to life. It is in the rescuing of moral values that lives find a meaning for self-realization.

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez
MFJMCE Celebrates Europe
Europe on The Big Screen
New World Symphony’s Wallcast

Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Honorary Consul of Poland at the premiere of *The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler* on May 10th

May 10th: Screening of *The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler*

Tonight’s presentation is brought to you by the European Union’s ‘Getting to Know Europe’ program and the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Poland

May 17th: Screening of the French comedy *Lost in Paris*
A series of conversations were held between January and March, 2018, connecting top experts from the US and the EU to discuss contemporary issues confronted by Europe and the Transatlantic relationship. These meetings were possible due to the use of personal and institutional video conference technology. Panelists took questions and interacted with audiences from the Universities of Pittsburgh, Illinois and FIU. The events were hosted by the European Studies Center, a Jean Monnet European Union Center of Excellence at the University of Pittsburgh, and co-sponsored by U CIS, European Union Center at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, the Center for European Studies at North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at FIU.

• January 25th: Wind, Water, Sun: Clean Energy in Europe

emphasized the European Union’s Renewable Energy Directive that has set rules for the EU to achieve a target of 20% renewables for final energy consumption by 2020 and at least 27% by 2030. This represents a major step towards the creation of a European Energy Union and to get the Member Countries of the EU even closer. At the same time, it can hurt Europe’s competitiveness.

The experts emphasized the complexity of actors, institutions and policies involved, as the alternative types of clean energy available due to new technology. It is creating new trade opportunities, like transmission of energy, and infrastructure (solar panels and wind mills). Another point of interest was the need for global leadership in environmental issues. As Europe, China has declared its interest in assuming the leadership in the global environmental issues.

The panelists were Dr. Shanti Gamper-Rabindran from the Graduate School of Public & International Affairs from the University of Pittsburgh; Dr. Espen Moe from the Department of Sociology and Political Science from the NTN University of Norway and Jonas Meckling from the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management of the University of Berkeley. The moderator was Dr. Michaël Aklin from the Department of Political Science of the University of Pittsburgh.

• February 21st: European Cities in the 21st Century

The discussion was centered on issues that city developers, city leaders and residents of European Cities in the 21st Century have to face. The basic questions were centered in the strategies for resiliency employed by the cities to face climate change, the considerations in governance of education and housing to promote social justice, the technology employed to create smart cities with better transportation networks and energy grids, and how cities share best practices while building networks within the EU and funding urban redevelopment.

The acting moderator was Dr. Jae-Jae Spoon from the Department of Political Science, European Studies Center of the University of Pittsburgh with panelists Katrina Kelly from the Center of Energy of the University of Pittsburgh; Alistair Cole from the Department of Sciences Po Lyon; Marco Bontje from the University of Amsterdam; and Ali Madanipour from the University of Newcastle.
• **March 14th: May 1968: Legacies of Protest in France**

May 1968 was a synonym of the unrest that unfolded in Paris and beyond between students, trade unions, the police, and government institutions for over four weeks. The events culminated in parliamentary elections later that summer in which the Gaullists won an even bigger majority than previously, with the resignation of President De Gaulle the following year and his replacement by another Gaullist leader. Even though it seemed that nothing had changed, politics, policy and the society in France were never the same. It affected diverse issues such as participation and protest, left wing movements and parties, human rights and imperialism, immigration in France and throughout Europe.

According to the experts, the events of May 1968 have not been totally recognized since it is thought to have been only a student protest when in reality it had included trade unions and immigrants who highlighted different perspectives of French society in 1968. The effects of those events are still felt in France and abroad, not only in the changes brought about through government policies and protocols, but also in the permanent reference to May 1968 by society when changes are needed and non-conventional networking is required.

The acting moderator was Dr. Jae-Jae Spoon from the Department of Political Science, European Studies Center of the University of Pittsburgh with panelists Chris Reynolds from the Nottingham Trent University; Salar Mohandes from Bowdoin College, Daniel Gordon from Edge Hill University and Giuseppina Mecchia from the Department of French and Italian of the University of Pittsburgh.

• **March 27th: Elections in Italy: a Next Wave of Populism (Una Nuova Ondata di Populismo?)**

This conversation focused on the results of the recent elections in Italy and of its consequences, where no party won a majority. The centre-right alliance emerged as the winner followed by the anti-establishment movement. In the analysis presented by the experts, an important element considered was the broadening of the territories favoring the new government that included areas usually considered conservative (or right oriented) due to its origins and activities, the coalitions formed, and the issues that were prioritized by the citizens in the elections (e.g. immigration and employment).

The acting moderator was Dr. Francesca Savola from the Department of French and Italian at the University of Pittsburgh with panelists Aide Esu from the University of Cagliari; Francesca Ragno, an Italian Fullbright Distinguished Lecturer from the University of Pittsburgh; Marco Cucculelli from the Universita Politecnica delle Marche; and Raffaella Patimo, from the Universita di Bari. The Conversation was held in Italian.

By Rosa Maria Ortiz & Christine Caly-Sanchez
To promote the European culture in the Miami area, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet European Center of Excellence, the European & Eurasian Studies program, and the European Student Association have hosted the screening of European films in their original languages, on February 14th and 22nd, and March 20th and 29th, in the Graham Center at FIU. The following films were selected to be presented:

- **Un Long Dimanche de Fiançailles** – A French romantic war film, co-written and directed by Jean Pierre Jeunet, and based on the novel of Sebastian Japrisol (1991). It is the story of a young woman’s search for her fiancé who was supposedly killed during World War II. The film was nominated for the Academy Award Best Art Direction and the Academy Award for Best Cinematography at the Oscars. The performance of Marion Cotillard won her the Cesar Award for Best Supporting Actress.

- **Umberto D.** - An Italian classic produced, directed and co-scripted by Vittorio de Sica presented an alarming complicated social issue in a simple way: the insolvency of a retired civil servant. Bereft of friends and family, except for his pet dog, he is evicted from his shabby room. He will discover that no one really wants him around. Upon contemplating suicide, he decides to live out of concern for his dog’s well-being. The camera does not comment but observes. The film was the recipient of numerous industry and festival awards.

- **Federico Fellini’s 8 ½** - A classical Italian film by Fellini tells the story of an exhausted and stressed filmmaker who heads to a mountain resort to recharge and comes up with a new idea. His search for inspiration leads him to strange and twisted paths that will provide him with the basis for 8 ½ - one of the best loved Italian films. Both Italian films of the Fellini series (Umberto D and 8 ½) were co-hosted by the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies, and the European and Eurasian Studies Program, in collaboration with the Consulate General of Italy, Cinema Italy, FIU Wolfsonian, and the FIU Italian Club.
Les Bleus, une autre Histoire de France—1996-2016. This French film follows its national soccer team for twenty years (1996-2016) from successes to setbacks as it mirrors the French society. Football is part of the French culture, history and politics. The film is a metaphor about the society while analyzing how socio-economic issues beyond politics are solved through the victories and defeats of the national soccer team.

The film was co-hosted by the European Student Association, the Cercle Français, Pi Delta Phi, the Department of Modern Languages at FIU, and the European and Eurasian Studies Program.

Documentary: Russia’s Democratic Opposition: This Russian film chronicled the political life of the late leader of the Russian opposition, Boris Nemtsov. It is not about his death but his life. From being a young scientist to a politician, he was considered Boris Yeltsin’s political heir in opposition to Vladimir Putin. This is the story of the life of a man who could have changed history. The documentary is related to current Russian President Vladimir Putin triumphs in the elections, and the restrictions imposed on the rights of the citizens association and expression. It contains archival footage, including footage from the Nemtsov family.

Following the screening, FIU Senior Fellow David J. Kramer led a discussion with film director Vladimir Kara-Murza, a journalist with a M.A. in history form the University of Cambridge and noted Russian activist and opposition leader who has survived two poisonings in Russia in the past three years. He is current chairman of the Boris Nemtsov Foundation for Freedom and vice-chairman of Open Russia, a platform for civil society and pro-democracy activists launched in 2014. They discussed the pressing issues contained in the documentary and the future of Russia after the widely criticized March 18th presidential election.

The presentation of the documentary was co-sponsored by Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series and the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, the Vaclav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy, and the European and Eurasian Studies Program.
February 9, 2018

The book is composed of short insightful essays written by distinguished Nordic authors from five Nordic countries (Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iceland) representing a broad spectrum of Nordic life. The goal is to provide a long-term platform for what it means to be Nordic and to share with the global community Nordic solutions such as cutting edge innovations in technology and designs, arts, culture, liberal democratic values including gender equality and free press, as well as environmental responsibility and economic success achieved on a global level in partnership with employees.

March 4, 2018
Beverly Barret, visiting faculty in international business at the University de las Americas, Puebla, and Markus Thiel, director of FIU’s European and Eurasian Studies Program and the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence presented their books:


Xavier Prats-Monne, Director-General for Health and Food Safety at the European Commission, delivered the remarks at the event.

*Globalization and Change in Higher Education:* sets out political economy explanations for higher education policy reform in Europe in the initial decades of the 21st century. It focuses on the national level policy implementation, and institutional change is considered in relation to broader trends in economic development and globalization;

*European Civil Society and Human Rights Advocacy:* examines the interaction between the Fundamental Rights Agency and hundreds of transnational civil society organizations working with and on behalf of vulnerable populations in EU member states. It offers a timely analysis in the context of Europe’s proliferating human rights challenges, such as the current refugee crises and the nationalist responses that geopolitical changes have provoked.
The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence engages in a broad range of outreach activities designed to teach about the European Union in a transatlantic context and to communicate its policies. As part of its outreach and its EU grant “Getting to Know Europe”, MFJMCE conducts an annual workshop for Florida secondary school teachers. This workshop presents an overview of the European Union and addresses issues affecting Europe and EU-US relations. This year’s workshop “Teaching the European Union in a Transatlantic Context & EU-Russia/Eastern European Relations”, was held on June 11, 2018, at Florida International University. It served as an opportunity to engage with local educators. According to FIU-MEUCE Associate Director Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, the FIU MFJMCE has been hosting this seminar for 10 years. “This year we hosted 28 high school teachers who participated. We would like to sincerely thank Robert Brazofsky, Supervisor, Executive Director, Social Sciences, Miami-Dade Public Schools, and Alayne Zeto, for helping us in recruiting Miami-Dade teachers for the workshop.”

The workshop was as lively and engaging as ever, as educators were given a broad range of information on topics related to the European Union. The session included a lively discussion led by Dr. Markus Thiel, FIU’s Associate Professor in Politics & International Relations on “The EU: How does the European Union Work?, The Institutions & Major Policies of the EU. He also updated the teachers on BREXIT.

Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director/Project Manager, MFJMCE, made a presentation on the EU Resources on the Web, as well as the Euro Challenge Competition.

In the afternoon, teachers were able to receive an update on the EU-Russia/ Eastern European Relations by two Russian experts, Dr. Dina Moulioukova, Dept of International Studies, University of Miami, and David Kramer, FIU SIPA Senior Fellow, and Dr. Thiel an EU expert. While Dr. Moulioukova focused her presentation on the history and culture of Russia, David Kramer presented the geopolitics of Russia. Then the two experts were joined by Dr. Thiel for a panel on EU-Russia/Eastern relations, and answered many questions from the audience.

The material presented in this workshop provided educators with an extensive overview of political, economic, and historical background on the European Union. When these educators return to their classrooms, this background knowledge should be instrumental in allowing the successful transmission of up to date educational material to their pupils. Each educator was also provided with a packet of materials to bring back to their classrooms as a means of facilitating student learning.
April 23-24, 2018 eMerge Americas: The Premiere Technology Event of the Americas

Thanks to BILAT USA 4.0 and FIU, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence was proud to participate in the year’s most awaited tech conference on innovation and research, and smart cities in Miami: eMerge Americas on April 23 and 24.

More than 15,000 people representing more than 40 countries, over 400 companies, 110 startups, local universities and 125 speakers attended the event at the Miami Beach Convention Center. On April 23-24, eMerge Americas’ fifth year brought together the Miami tech community, public, private and business leaders to a conference featuring keynote speakers showcasing the latest technologies, country pavilions, a start-up showcase, a Texpert, a Government Innovation Summit, an Hackathon, a visa challenge, and a Women Innovation and Technology (WIT) Summit.

On the first day of the conference, Manuel Medina, CEO of Cyxtera Technologies and founder eMerge Americas welcomed a full audience at the Miami Beach Convention Center’s auditorium and introduced the morning keynote speaker former: Mexican President Vicente Fox, who talked about “leveraging technology to provide innovative solutions.”

There also were top executives from the Latin American operations of Facebook and Microsoft.

• Diego Dzodan, vice president for Facebook and Instagram Latin America, talked about “why the next great global innovation will come from Latin America.”

• Cesar Cernuda, president of Microsoft Latin America, presented “how artificial intelligence and the cloud are disrupting business models in Latin America”; and

• Ronnie Moas, founder and director of Standpoint Research, presented “cryptocurrency and inequality”.

On the second day, speakers included Alberto Perlman, co-founder of Zumba Fitness; Sandra Lopez, vice president of Intel Sports Group; and Marcos Galperin, CEO and co-founder of MercadoLibre, an e-commerce company founded in Argentina.

The Audience was also thrilled and amazed to listen to keynote speaker Sophia the robot, a human-like droid created by Hong Kong-based Hanson Robotics.

Among many keynote speakers, South Florida entrepreneurs
scheduled to speak at the conference included: Scott Adams, co-founder of public safety company EagleEye Intelligence; Susan Amat, CEO of startup accelerator Venture Hive; Albert Santalo, founder of health-care software company CareCloud and new software company 8Base; Antonio Mugica, CEO and founder of electronic voting system company Smartmatic; and Johanna Mikkola, co-founder and CEO of coding school Wyncode Academy.

This year, there were two conferences going on concurrently: eMerge Americas and Cyxtera Technologies.

Manuel Medina, Founder of eMerge Americas, and who currently serves as the CEO of Cyxtera Technologies and chairman of Cyxtera’s board of directors, was the keynote speaker on Tuesday.

With a 900-square-foot pavilion at the international conference, FIU offered its faculty and students an opportunity to exhibit how they use technology for innovation and transformation in the fields of research and entrepreneurship.

Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director/Project Manager, Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence and FIU’s BILAT USA 4.0 partner, was at the expo floor and was able to present EU funding possibilities for US researchers and company decision makers and answer questions on Horizon 2020, EURAXESS, ERC and Marie Skłodowska Curie Programs, as well as PICASSO-EU-US ICT Collaboration: ICT Policy, Research and Innovation for a Smart Society: towards new avenues in EU-US ICT collaboration. She met the European general consuls from France, Germany, Netherlands, Italy, and Spain. She was also able to attend all the networking events, where she met Miami-Dade decision makers, mayors, government officials, consuls, scientists, and high-tech companies’ CEOs from the US, Europe, and Latin America.

Christine I. Caly-Sanchez said: “One of the main successes of this conference is the great platform to bring people together and connect them to the Americas, Europe and the rest of the world.”

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence would like to thank Manuel Medina, founder of eMerge Americas; Xavier González, CEO; Melissa Medina, President; and Frances Hassun, Director of International Development & Content at eMerge Americas for giving the MFJMCE the opportunity to participate in this wonderful and outstanding conference.

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence is looking forward to participating in next year’s conference, which will take place in Miami on April 29 and 30, 2019.
During the Capitol Hill Ocean Week in Washington, DC, on June 6th, 2018, a celebratory event entitled “Transatlantic Research Cooperation to Treasure and Protect the Atlantic Ocean” was held in the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars to celebrate 20 years of the EU-US Science and Technology Agreement and 5 years of EU-US marine research cooperation. This event brought together European and US representatives of industry, science and policy to identify the best ways for science to help us treasure and protect the Atlantic Ocean, to keep it healthy and productive and, to understand and tackle the issue of plastics in the ocean. More than 100 people attended the event to listen to distinguished and prestigious panelists committed to this cause, and to know about the vision and achievements of the Galway Statement and the future of EU-US cooperation.

The program was organized by the Science and Technology Innovation Program at the Wilson Center along with the European Commission (EC), the Delegation of the European Union to the United States, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the German Marine Research Consortium and the BILAT USA 4.0 project.

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, FIU, one of 6 American and 10 European partners of BILAT USA 4.0, was proud to be part of this journey and have contributed to this project.

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

► For more information on the conference, click here
► To watch live stream of the 1st panel, click here
► To watch livestream of the 2nd panel, click here
► To view pictures, click here
► To read the summary of the event, click here
The 2nd Annual Transatlantic Symposium on ICT and Policy “Leveraging People, Technology, and Information for a Smart and Connected Society” was held on June 18-19, 2018 at the Wilson Center in Washington, DC, USA. Hosts for the event were the Wilson Center’s Science and Technology Innovation Program and the PICASSO project. The event was sponsored by the European Commission, US National Science Foundation, and Mississippi State University. The Symposium attracted 90 participants on site and 380 online viewers. It was also the final event of the PICASSO project.

The Wilson Center’s Science and Technology Innovation Program and the PICASSO project held the 2nd Annual Transatlantic Symposium on ICT Technology and Policy, convening leaders in government, academia, and industry around the theme of leveraging people, technology, and information for a smart and connected society. This two-day event included keynotes, panel discussions, and interactive workshops to facilitate knowledge exchange with leading EU-US experts. The event built on the success of the first Transatlantic Symposium on ICT Technology and Policy, held in Minneapolis, MN, USA on June 19th and 20th, 2017.

This 2nd Symposium explored several key ICT topics for EU-US cooperation, including current and future mutual strategic research priorities and orientations as well as cross-cutting policy issues. Speakers addressed key topic areas critical to global ICT innovation and collaboration: Cybersecurity, Big Data, Cyber-physical Systems and Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence, 5G and Beyond, Autonomous Systems, along with Policy issues of global concern, such as privacy, security, standardization, and spectrum. In addition, cross-cutting topics, such as expanding support for citizen science initiatives, the future of ICT development and its impact on society were explored.

Keynote talks were delivered by Peter Fatelnig, Minister-Counsellor for Digital Economy Policy, Delegation of the European Union to the United States of America, and Dawn Tilbury, the head of the Engineering Directorate of the National Science Foundation. The 20+ speakers and panelists included program directors from NSF, industry representatives such as the General Manager for Global Security Strategy at Microsoft, the Director of Strategic Partnership at Uber Technologies and many others; researchers from the University of Minnesota, MIT, Berkeley, and leading European Universities; the leaders of European initiatives such as Big Data Value Association, FIWARE, Cyberwatching.eu, AE-GIS, and members of ICANN board of directors; and the leaders of PICASSO Expert Groups in 5G, IoT/CPS, Big Data and Policy.

By Tariq Samad, Anne Bowser, Svetlana Klessova, and Christine I. Caly-Sanchez
Closing remarks, which included suggestions for the 3rd Annual Transatlantic Symposium, were offered by the conference chair, Anne Bowser, Director of Innovation, the Wilson Center; and co-chairs Svetlana Klessova, PICASSO project coordinator and Director of Inno TSD, France, and Tariq Samad, Senior Fellow, Technological Leadership Institute, Univ. of Minnesota; as well as Jean-Yves Roger of the European Commission. Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director/Project Manager of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, and BILAT USA 4.0 and PICASSO Project partner, participated in the event.

► Video of the Symposium and its sessions are available on the Wilson Center website and YouTube.
All of us at the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence want to thank all of our faculty, students and friends for participating in our events this year.

The activities of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence will continue in fall 2018.

In the meantime, all of the MFJMCE team members wish you a great summer and look forward to seeing you all next fall!

For details please visit: miamieuc.fiu.edu - Events or contact Christine I. Caly-Sanchez at calyc@fiu.edu