



THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF FRANCE IN MIAMI: Its goals, mission, and priorities for 2025

A Conversation with the Honorable Raphaël Trapp Consul General of France in Miami



Hon. Raphaël Trapp, Consul General of France in Miami;
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The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at FIU has the privilege of working with all the European consulates general in Miami and has the great honor of bringing diplomats to the University to better inform our students about the EU. In this article, the MFJMCE would like to focus on France and the achievement of the Consulate General of France in Miami.

Earlier this year, Raphaël Trapp, Consul General of France in Miami, sat down for an interview with Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director, Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at FIU, and reflected on the goals, mission, and priorities for 2025 for the Consulate General of France in Miami.

MFJMCE: What does your job as the Consul General of France entail and what are the goals of the Consulate?

All consuls general have two main missions and some of them may have other tasks, depending on the size of their teams.

First of all, a consul general has a representative role: she or he represents France to the local authorities in her or his constituency, which in my case is mainly Florida and Puerto Rico.

This means that I'm responsible for promoting what France does internationally and for keeping political relations between France and Florida and Puerto Rico alive.

For instance, we take part in many events, such as the ones set up by FIU, to explain French and EU's agendas on major global issues such as the protection of the environment, the promotion of Human Rights and our stance on Tech issues.

Secondly, a consul general's mission is to provide support to members of the French community in her or his constituency, as well as to French people passing through such as French tourists.

The consulate is a public service for French people, issuing passports and identity cards, paying school grants and social assistance under certain conditions, helping French people in difficulty, manning polling stations when they are called to the polls, providing consular protection for those who are arrested, and preparing and alerting them to the risks of natural disasters.

MFJMCE: How many French citizens are in Florida?

As of December 2024, there are 12 300 French nationals on the consulate registered, which is an 8.5% increase over a year ago. Since the registration is not mandatory, we estimate that the local French community is much larger and is surely at around 30 000 people. They are mainly established in the South-Est of Florida, from Miami-Dade to Palm Beach counties; however, they are also big French footprints in the region of Tampa Bay and Orlando.



► For more information on the Consulate General of France in Miami, [click here](#)

The Consulate General of France in Miami and its Priorities



Picture: Consulate General of France

Roundtable on “Heading for the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice” - Nov. 18, 2024

MFJMCE: What else is the consulate in Miami involved in?

In addition to political and consular affairs, our mission is to foster economic, cultural, and educational partnerships between France and local communities. In a nutshell, our role is to animate the large network that France has deployed abroad to fulfill those missions and to implement the public policies decided by the French government.

In the economic field, our goal is twofold. On one hand, we work to ease the internationalization of French companies and help French entrepreneurs who found American businesses in our region. On the other hand, we encourage American investments in France. For that purpose, our consulate works closely with the local French American chambers of commerce, the French Trade Advisors, the French Tech Miami, our embassy, and the agency Business France.



Picture: Consulate General of France

Hon. Raphaël Trapp, Consul General of France with Mireille Guyader, Counselor for the Scientific and Technological Mission of the French Embassy to the US; professors and researchers

Florida is very attractive for entrepreneurs and France has many common assets with the region. It provides a perfect ecosystem for thriving trade relations, especially in aerospace, logistics, finance, and hospitality.

As far as culture is concerned, our cultural department, which is called the Villa Albertine, is responsible for creating links between Floridian and French cultural institutions. It also organizes residencies for French and French-speaking artists in all fields (visual arts, music, dance, design, architecture, etc.), who come to Florida to meet with local players on themes of importance to their communities.

Promoting teaching in French is also an important activity for the Villa Albertine, which enters into partnerships with American state schools to include courses taught in French in their curricula. At the university level, we’re in the process of revitalizing our cooperation with FIU’s department for French and Francophone studies.

MFJMCE: What are your priorities for 2025?

Following a very active year in 2024 encompassing the promotion of the Paris Olympics and Paralympic Games, that were a great organizational and sporting success, we are in good shape to make the most of 2025.

We started early with a round table entitled “[Heading for the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice](#)” held last November at the Miami Dade Beacon Council. Our aim was to promote an international conference to be organized by France in June 2025 on the protection of the Ocean. With local oceanographers, including Jeremy Kiszka, Associate professor at the [FIU Institute of Environment](#), we discussed possible cooperation

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Raphaël Trapp Consul General of France in Miami

Raphaël Trapp took over as Consul general of France in Miami on September 2nd, 2022.

An alumnus of the Faculty of Law at the University of Paris XII and the Institute of Administration, Mr. Trapp joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2003.

In 2004, he was assigned to the Budgetary Office at the General Administration Department before joining the Human Rights office of the Ministry (2006-2009). Starting from 2009, Mr. Trapp was appointed as Legal Advisor at the Human Rights unit of the Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in Geneva (Switzerland).

In 2012, he took over the unit as Head of the Human Rights department of the Mission. He participated in the establishment of the Commission of inquiry on Human Rights violations in Syria, worked more broadly on the universal protection of freedom of speech, and the fight against arbitrary detentions and death penalty.

In 2013, Mr. Trapp joined the French Embassy in Rabat (Morocco) as First secretary at the Political Affairs unit, a period during which he worked in close relationship with the Moroccan civil society.

Back in Paris, at the Secretary General department of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, he served as a Policy officer to follow up management and general Consular affairs; the last year of his posting, he managed the policy officers' team of the Secretary General.

In 2019, he was appointed Deputy permanent Representative of France to the United Nations and the International Organizations in Vienna (Austria) and worked on the nuclear Iranian file, on space affairs and on combatting cybercrime.

between universities and research centers, and opportunities related to Blue economy.

In 2025, we plan to work with FIU's Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom on an event dedicated to GovTech and with FIU's Jean Monnet Center to celebrate Europe Day among other events.

In the coming weeks, the [French Tech Miami](#) and the [French American Chamber of Commerce in Miami](#) organize the 4th edition of the [French Tech Capital Days](#) whose goal is to welcome in South Florida, French startups willing to scale up in the United-States. Startups and investors have still time to join this important moment on the Tech scene of Miami. It will take place on April 7-8, 2025 at Mana Tech. We count on FIU's Assistant Professor of Finance Florent Rouxelin to take part in this event as he's an expert on crypto assets and blockchain technologies.

In regards to culture, Villa Albertine's residents will lead a discussion with FIU's students from the College of Communication, architecture + the Arts on architecture in the context of sea rising levels. Furthermore, we plan to organize the Night of Ideas, an event that offers free-for-all conferences and performances, in partnership with the Wolfsonian Museum.

MFJMCE: Do you have any last thoughts you would like to share with us?

I look forward to meeting again with FIU's students and faculty members to pursue our collaboration. On a more general level, I am here to help, connect, and keep the French spirit alive in Florida!

MFJMCE: "MERCİ" Mr. Consul!

We are looking forward to continuing working with you.

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

Associate Director, Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence & EESP, FIU