



European and Eurasian Studies Program

NEWSLETTER

Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence

Volume 1, Issue 2 — Fall 2017

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Germany Making Choices: Refugee Integration in Germany & Beyond.....1-4
- FIU Student experience in France: What they learned.....5-6
- Estonia's Presidency of the EU: Priorities & Challenges.....7-8
- Tamara L9-10
- Social Movements, Civil Society, and Social Justice in Europe.....11
- One Day Seminar Euro Challenge Competition HS Student Orientation.....12-13
- BILAT USA 4.0 mid-term consortium meeting..... 14
- European Film Series15
- Contact Info and Announcements.....16

miamieuc.fiu.edu
&
europe.fiu.edu



Germany Making Choice Panel on "Refugee Integration in Germany & Beyond"



Throughout the Fall semester, the European and Eurasian Studies Program at FIU hosted a series of roundtables, panels and exhibitions. Of particular remark, we obtained a grant from the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Washington D.C., and in collaboration with the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Miami, we were pleased to organize four events during Campus Weeks: "Germany Making Choice."

October 5, 2017: Panel "Refugee Integration in Germany & Beyond"

We were joined by Hon. Annette Klein, Consul General of Germany; Associate Professor Markus Thiel, and Dr. Jeff

Maslanik to discuss the ongoing refugee crisis and the challenge of integration in European host societies. For the last few years, Europe has been experiencing a monumental influx of refugees. The Dublin Regulation fell short of its goals, and the so-called Common European Asylum System remains in flux. Hence, there is no unified approach in place. Nevertheless, two countries have been considerably more open than oth-

er Member States. Germany received the overall largest number of asylum seekers (just over 800,000), and Sweden received the most per population (163,000 or 1,600 per 100,000 people). Hon. Annette Klein provided nuance to the German case. She began by noting the most recent crisis displayed shortcomings in the EU's ability to integrate refugees. At the height of the crisis,

"there was a lot of pressure on the system, and we all felt that they really deserve protection...

somebody had to do something." But, "we didn't have any mechanisms in place. We didn't have our own border controls...and

we didn't have any arrangements for registration." Following the initial arrival of asylum seekers, Germany had to ask, "What are we to do with our refugees and how are we to integrate them?" Today, there are integration classes, which provide refugees with up to 1200 hours of training and other services such as skills and education verification; although, this can be a lengthy and difficult process. Hon. Annette Klein



Hon. Annette Klein
Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Miami



Germany Making Choices

Panel on "Refugee Integration in Germany & Beyond"



Dr. Jeff Maslanik



Dr. Markus Thiel

concluded on an optimistic tone, albeit noted that challenges still persist, e.g., refugee relocation, which is based on the number of inhabitants in each municipality and their respective tax revenues. Following Hon. Klein's presentation, Dr. Maslanik provided data on Sweden. After providing a brief overview of Sweden's integration platform (the Establishment Plan), Dr. Maslanik highlighted challenges facing labor market integration in the Swedish context. Noting a

recent study conducted by Pew Research, he explained, "Only 5 percent of jobs in Sweden are considered low-skilled. Thus, jobs traditionally accessed by refugees are scarce in Sweden." Dr. Maslanik concluded, that while the reception period of the refugee crisis went smooth, "integration, especially economic integration, is a much longer and more difficult step in the process of achieving autonomy and stability in the refugee communities." Subsequently, Dr. Thiel

summarized key points raised by Hon. Klein and Dr. Maslanik. He provided a general overview of the crisis as well as outlined a very concise and clear overview of the aims and challenges of structuring a common European asylum policy. Namely, Dr. Thiel underlined historical, economic, and sociopolitical differences (particularly the Visegrad Members), challenging core EU fundamentals that have halted a unified EU initiative from moving forward.



Dr. Markus Thiel, Hon. Annette Klein, and Dr. Jeff Maslanik

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez & Jeff Maslanik



- ▶ To view photo gallery, [click here](#)
- ▶ To watch video, [click here](#)
- ▶ To watch video on refugee integration, from Germany Embassy, [click here](#)
- ▶ For more information on "Germany Making Choices" program at FIU, [click here](#)



Germany Making Choice Exhibition: Germany Integrating Immigrants



November 1-7, 2017: Exhibition "Germany Integrating Immigrants"

In conjunction with this panel, from November 1st to 17th, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence also hosted an exhibition titled "Germany Integrating Immigrants" composed of 11 panels at FIU Green Library

► To view pictures, [click here](#)

► [Click to download a PDF of "Germany: Integrating Immigrants"](#)

"Germany is a country shaped by immigration. Between 1950 and 2014, 44 million migrants came to Germany. During the same period, 32 million people emigrated from Germany. Migrants make up a slightly bigger share of the population in Germany than in the United States. The recent increase in immigration is a result of both the EU's freedom of movement and the ongoing refugee crisis in Europe. As a result, integration is now an important topic in Germany." (Source: German Embassy in Washington DC)



Visit of Dr. Peter Funke

"It is very important that we perceive integration as an opportunity for people who chose to migrate to Germany, but also as an expectation that they will learn German and abide by our laws."

- Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor of Germany



Installation of the Exhibition on Oct. 31st 2017



Dr. Thiel & Christine I. Caly-Sanchez with FIU Students at the grand opening of the exhibition on Nov. 1st, 2017



Germany Making Choice: Contest Essay "Refugee Integration Compared: Germany, Europe and the USA"

December 7, 2017

Recognition Award Ceremony for the contest essay "Refugee Integration Compared: Germany, Europe and the USA"

The European & Eurasian Studies Program also organized an essay competition on "Refugee Integration Compared: Germany, Europe, and the USA" opened to all FIU students. With the help of an academic jury (made up of Prof. Thiel, Politics & International Relations, and Prof. Krol, German), the first two winners were determined. "All essay entries focused on Germany's immigrant integration policies in a comparative European Perspective, but the first two were found to be the most differentiated ones in terms of the challenges and opportunities of German Policy," said Dr. Thiel.

On December 7, Claudia Cardenas, winner of the contest essay competition received a certificate and a gift bag at the recognition Award Ceremony from the hands of the Vice Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany Axel Zeissig; and Dr. Markus Thiel, Director, European & Eurasian Studies Program at FIU. Further promotional prizes supplied by the Embassy of Germany were distributed to all who participated with their essays. Students had also the opportunity to discuss with Axel Zeissig, Vice Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany in Miami.



Claudia Cardenas, Politics & European Studies major, receiving her award certificate from Axel Zeissig and Dr. Markus Thiel



These events were co-sponsored by the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Middle East Studies Program, the Muslim World Studies Program, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, the European Student Association, and was funded by the Council for Student Organizations

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

► To view pictures, [click here](#)



► For more information on the Contest Essay, [click here](#)

Panel Discussion: "FIU Student Experiences In France: What They Learned"

French Weeks 2017

FrenchWeeks
where French business & culture meet
Miami



Hon. Clément Leclerc, Consul General of France

Starting on October 26 2017, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence inaugurated its 10th annual French Weeks, from October 26 to November 9, 2017. As part of the initiative to celebrate French culture and to foster a deeper connection with France, the Center sponsored in a series of events that focused on France. The first of these events was a discussion pan-

el with FIU students on what they learned through their experiences studying in France.

The panel, held in the Green Library on October 31, had as its guest of honor, the Honorary Clément Leclerc, Consul General of France in Miami. The Consul General began the discussion by providing his opening remarks, which focused on the politics, culture, and economy of France as well as the opportunities and benefits of educational exchanges between French and American students.

Members of the panel included eight students who all participated in different study abroad programs in France, Dann, Education Assistant at the Consulate General of France in Miami, and FIU professors who direct the programs. The faculty present at the event included:

- John Bailly, Director of the Honors College France, Italy, and Spain Study Abroad Programs
- Maria Antonieta Garcia, Senior French Instructor
- Laura Boudon, Director, Office of Study Abroad
- Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director, MFJMCE

Professors were given time to talk about their program and after, each student talked about their program, their experience in France, and what they learned. Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director / Project Manager of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, was the moderator of the panel.

► To view pictures, [click here](#)



Hon. Clément Leclerc, Consul General of France, with FIU faculty and students

Panel Discussion: "FIU Student Experiences In France: What They Learned"



From left to right: Maria-Antonieta Garcia, Stéphanie Menaud-Gougain, Hon. Clément Leclerc, and Dann Strauss



Nathalie Brunelle



Leonardo Carbajo



Ian Schreiber

Nathalie Brunelle, Leonardo Carbajo, and Christopher Estrella spoke about their unforgettable experience in the Summer of 2017 with the Honors College Study Abroad Program, titled "Art, War, and Human Rights." They spoke of their month-long journey in France, which included memorable experiences in the meeting Holocaust Survivors and a French Resistance Fighter.

Alice Teodoro and Eliott Burgess had the opportunity to discuss their experience with the MICEFA program, which allowed them to spend a year in Paris, as teaching assistants. A program that allowed them to gain more confidence with their French, as well as to experience different cities in France.

Audrey Caar spoke of her semester in Science Po Aix en Provence in Spring 2017, and her first experience in France in Angers in Summer 2017.

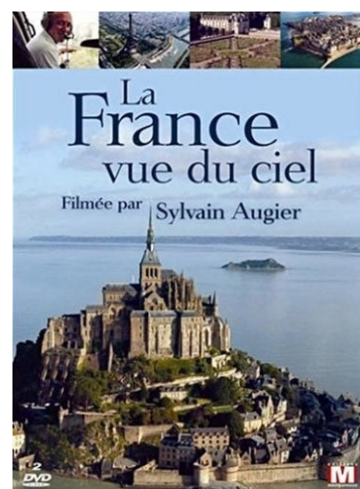
Ian Schreiber spoke of his year in La Sorbonne in Paris. A series of picture of his time in Paris guided his remarks, where he discussed his experience at a university in Paris, his successes learning the French language, and Paris's innate Instagram-friendly land-

scapes.

The event was sponsored by the Council for Student Organization, and co-sponsored by the Miami -Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, the Department of Modern Languages, the Honors College, the European Student Association, and the Consulate General of France in Miami.

► Other events held during the FIU French Weeks include a series of French films screening: "Marie Curie the Courage of Knowledge" on Oct. 30th, "La France vue du Ciel" on Nov. 7th.

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez





Estonian Presidency of the Council of the EU: Priorities and Challenges —Nov. 9, 2017



H.E. Lauri Lepik

Lauri Lepik is Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia to the USA. Before assuming his post in Washington D.C., Amb. Lepik was among other postings the Estonian Ambassador to Ukraine & Moldova and Deputy Permanent Representative to NATO in Brussels. Previously, he also was head of the Common Foreign & Security Bureau in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tallinn. Amb. Lepik holds a MA in Political Science from Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, and a BA in Library and Information Science from Tallinn Pedagogical University.



For more information on the Estonian Presidency of the Council of the EU, [click here](#)

On November 9th, H.E. Lauri Lepik, the Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia to the USA, presented insight and reflection, on the goals and challenges for Estonia's Presidential term of the Council of the EU. Hon. H.E. Lauri Lepik highlighted key challenges facing the European Union. Chief among them was the need to fund, interpret, and govern technology. As he noted, "people often say that we live in a digital society," but how are we, as government officials, to provide enough trust, while at the same time eliminate apprehension that our information is being misused "Big Brother." Regardless of the organic potential of technological advancement, we much ask ourselves, "How much dependence on complex technological systems that in the future will be based on artificial intelligence, with potential machine learning capabilities, are we willing to accept to achieve more safety and more mobility?" For policy and technological advancement, we must candidly address the risks of such potentialities and work diligently to model and construct feasible and transparent policies to



Dr. Markus Thiel, H.E. Lauri Lepik, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

ensure we harness the potential benefits of paradigm shifting technologies. "The internet of things is inevitable. And we, as the government, need to think creatively how new technology and artificial intelligence will interact with the people." The event was co-sponsored by the European and Eurasian Studies Program, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, and the Embassy of the Republic of Estonia.

- ▶ To watch video, [click here](#)
- ▶ To view pictures, [click here](#)





H.E. Lauri Lepik's visit to FIU — Nov. 9th, 2017



Christine I. Cally-Sanchez, H.E. Lauri Lepik,
and David Kramer



H.E. Lauri Lepik
Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia to the USA



H.E. Lauri Lepik with FIU students and Faculty



Lady Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series on Poland

Play: Tamara L.

The extraordinary Life of Polish painter Tamara de Lempicka

FIU—BBC—Mary Ann Wolfe Theater—Nov. 9, 2017



Lady Blanka Rosenstiel (center) with actresses Agata Pilitowska, Maria Nowotarska, Dr. Thiel, Christine Caly-Sanchez, and students

November 9 Tamara L. by Maria Nowotarska and Agata Pilitowska from the Polish-Canadian Theater in Toronto Canada

Performed by mother and daughter, Maria Nowotarska and Agata Pilitowska, the play is an expose of the life and work of Tamara de Lempicka (1898-1980). Tamara L. was an artist whose magnificent work defined the glamour and sophistication of the Art Deco movement. Originally from Poland, Tamara later married Tadeusz Lempicki and lived for a time in St. Petersburg, Russia. Due to increasing instability during the Russian Revolution, however, she fled to Paris. As an expatriate in Paris,

she immersed herself and dedicated herself to art.

Her work became the epitome of French Art Deco. While the Art Deco movement waned in the postwar Europe, she later regained prominence in the United States. Posthumously, she regained popularity and attracted new patrons. Notable among them are, Madonna, Barbara Streisand, and Jack Nicholson.

The event which took place at FIU-BBC—Mary Ann Wolfe Theater, marked a wonderful evening of art, theater, and historical significance. The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence is grateful to the American Institute of Polish Culture, The Honorary

Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Miami, the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, the Chopin Foundation of the US, and The Blanka Rosenstiel lecture Series on Poland at FIU, the European Student Association, the Council for Student Organizations (CSO) for making this possible.



► To view photo gallery, [click here](#)

► To view program, [click here](#)

► To view flyer, [click here](#)



**Lady Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series on Poland—Play
 “Tamara L.: The extraordinary Life of Polish painter Tamara de Lempicka”
 FIU—BBC—Mary Ann Wolfe Theater — Nov. 9, 2017**



Agata Pilitowska and Maria Nowotarska



Agata Pilitowska



Dr. Thiel congratulating Actress Maria Nowotarska

Agata Pilitowska, Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Beata Paszyc, and Maria Nowotarska

Social Movements, Civil Society and Social Justice in Europe— Nov. 16, 2017



Dr. Peter Funke and Dr. Markus Thiel

November 16: roundtable on Social Movements, Civil Society and Social Justice in Europe

We were joined by two experts, Dr. Peter Funke, Associate Professor of Politics at the School of Interdisciplinary Global Studies at the University of South Florida, and Dr. Markus Thiel, Associate Professor of Politics and International Relations at FIU, to explore the role of social movements in the pursuit of social justice in the EU. The lectures emphasized how social movements have aimed to press for more social rights. Central to their respective lectures, each scholar addressed the question, “to what extent social movements differ from

the past and to what extent can social society contribute?”.

Dr. Thiel presented an overview of his latest book *European Civil Society and Human Rights Advocacy* where he offers valuable insights into the functioning of the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) and the interactions between civil society organizations and the FRA as well as a critical analysis of some of the major human rights problem within the European Union.

The presentations were followed by lively Q & A.

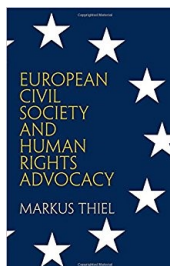
The event was co-sponsored by the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, the European and Eurasian Studies Program, and the European Student Association.

Peter N. Funke is Associate Professor of Politics at the School of Interdisciplinary Global Studies at the University of South Florida, Tampa.

He received his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania and his “Vordiplom” from the Freie Universität Berlin.

His research focuses on social movements & contentions politics, capitalism & class, media & technology.

Peter is the co-editor of *The Great Refusal: Herbert Marcuse and Contemporary Social Movements* (Temple University Press 2017), *The New Global Politics: Global Social Movements in the 21st Century* (Routledge 2017) and has published in various journals, including *Globalization*, *New Media & Society*, *Rethinking Marxism*, *Social Movement Studies*, or *Studies in Social Justice*



- To view pictures, [click here](#)
- To view Dr. Funke's presentation, [click here](#)
- To view Dr. Thiel's presentation, [click here](#)



Euro Challenge High School Student Orientation 12/08/2017



At the Student Orientation: Students, Teachers, and Presenters—FIU—12/08/2017

"We are not only palm trees and beautiful faces, we are also smart," said Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, and organizer of the Euro Challenge Competition in Florida, during her opening remarks. So began the Euro Challenge 2017 Orientation where students and teachers from six different high schools attended the Euro Challenge Competition Orientation on Friday, December 8th at Florida International University. The students are preparing to participate in the 2018 Euro Challenge, and will create and present a series of presentations with hopes to win in New York this upcoming April.

The Euro Challenge is a program launched by the Delegation of the European Union to the United States in partnership with many organizations across the country, including FIU that aims to foster knowledge

about the European and the Euro. 9th and 10th grade students will work in teams to create a presentation answering questions about the European Union, the euro, and a specific Euro-Area country of their choosing. The first round of the competition will take place on March 15, 2018 at The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch. The finalists will travel to New York on April 26 for the semi-final and final rounds, where they will compete to win one of the top five spots.

Friday's orientation was an opportunity for students and teachers to gain more in-depth knowledge about the logistics of the competition, as well as to receive some background knowledge about Europe from FIU professors who are experts in the Area.

The all-day event began with an introduction and overview of the Euro Challenge rules, requirements, and

timeline given by Christine Caly-Sanchez and was followed by a presentation given by Dr. Lukas Danner, FIU Political Science Professor, on Europe, the EU, its history, its institutions, and policies. After this, Dr. Maria Lorca-Susino, Lecturer, Department of Economy and International Studies, University of Miami was on hand to talk to students about the Euro, and finally, Gloria Guzman, Senior Education Program Manager, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch, talked about the key economic concept and an update of the Euro-Area, information that will be very valuable when the students plan their presentations for next year's competition. After a lunch break, and a presentation on the Euro Challenge website resources by Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, students got the chance to put some of their practical skills to the test, with a hands-on activity and brief presentations.



Euro Challenge High School Student Orientation 12/08/2017



Student Orientation's presenters, from left to right: Lukas Danner, Gloria Guzman, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, and Maria Lorca-Susino

Students and teachers alike were excited about the competition, many groups having participated in previous years. The team from International Studies Preparatory Academy high school, winners in 2016, was happy to talk about their experience and to give some advice to the other groups, talking about the importance of playing off each other's strengths and teamwork.

Students were excited about the Competition, "It's good for gaining experience and to work on speaking in public," they said. Other students also showed their eagerness to learn new things through the project. "I really like history, so this challenge has given me an opportunity to see how the European Union has been impacted through history,"



Students

Overall, the atmosphere was of excitement and eagerness to learn. After this orientation, students are ready to go back to school and to work with their teams and teachers to choose an economic topic and to research it before presenting it to the judges in the first round next year.

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez



- For more information on the workshop, [click here](#)
- To view Pictures, [click here](#)
- For more information on the Euro Challenge, [click here](#)



Students Presenting



Student and Teacher



BILAT USA 4.0 Midterm Consortium Meeting Washington D.C. | Oct. 22-23, 2017



BILAT USA 4.0 Mid-Term Consortium Meeting—Washington D.C.

The BILAT USA 4.0 Midterm Consortium Meeting took place in Washington DC on Oct.22-23, 2017

Over two days the ten European (IB-PT-DLR, APRE, EM, ETH Zurich, FFG, FORTH, Inno TSD, INTRA, SPI, ZSI), and 6 American (Broad Institute, FIU, Georgia Tech, NCURA, SRI, WWICS) consortium partners gathered together to discuss past successes, share advice, and plan future collaborative events. Dr. Olaf Heilmayer, Head of Unit, German Aerospace Center, Multilateral Cooperation, Monitoring, European and International cooperation, Bonn, Germany, thanked each partner of the consortium for their outstanding job, and looked forward to continuing working with them to develop and enhance the S&T partnerships between the European Union and the United States.—[For more information on BILAT USA 4.0, click here](#)

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at FIU was proud to participate and meet its partners

By C. Caly-Sanchez



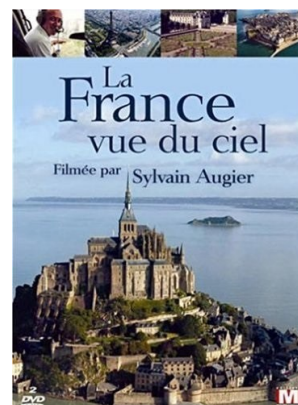
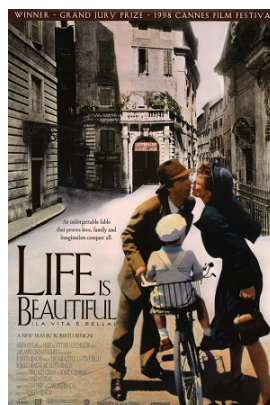
BILAT USA 4.0 Mid-Term Consortium Meeting—Washington D.C.

European Film Series



In addition to these thought provoking and engaging roundtables, panels, exhibitions, and wonderful night of theater, throughout the semester, the Miami-Florida Jean-Monnet European Center of Excellence also hosted a series of European film screenings:

- l'Auberge Espagnole,
- Eight Eurochannel Short Films tour: Happiness Program 1: Stuck in Love
- Life is Beautiful
La Vita E Bella,
- Marie Curie the Courage of Knowledge,
- La France Vue du Ciel.



Here at the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of European Center of Excellence, we would like to offer our profound thanks to all of our sponsors, participants, and attendees. May this holiday season be filled with joy, relaxation, and a profound moment reflection. Have a wonderful holiday season. We look forward to seeing you all in the new year, Happy Holidays.

Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence

European and Eurasian Studies Program

Contact the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence



Florida International University

Modesto A. Maidique Campus
11200 SW 8th Street, SIPA 508
Miami, FL 33199

Dr. Markus Thiel

Director

E-mail: thielm@fiu.edu

Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

Associate Director

Phone: (305) 348-5949

Fax: (305) 348-6562

E-mail: calyc@fiu.edu

Web: miamieuc.fiu.edu

SOME OF OUR UPCOMING 2018 EVENTS



- | | |
|------------|---|
| Jan. 24 | Conversations on Europe: Wind, Water. Sun, Clean Energy in Europe |
| Jan. 25 | Understanding the European Union - A workshop for Journalists |
| Jan. 25 | Lecture & Exhibition: Women in STEM
Guest of Honor: Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany |
| Jan. 31 | European Joint Programming Initiatives
Opportunities for U.S.- EU Research Collaboration on Societal Challenges |
| Feb. 9 | The Nordic Green Economy, and Nordic Ways |
| Feb. 12 | Amb. Caroline Vicini, Delegation of the European Union to the US
"EU Security Policy in a Transatlantic Context and Beyond" |
| Feb. 12-13 | Two-Day EU Conference: "Transatlantic Security Coordination in a New International Order: Security & Defense, Data & Cyber Security and Climate Change & Energy Policies" |
| Feb. 22-23 | Italian Classic Film Series: Vittorio de Sica |

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