

€URO CHALLENGE 2026

Local Florida Euro Challenge Competition 2026

Friday, March 13th, 2026 | 8:00 a.m.—5:30 p.m. | FIU



Markus Thiel, Gloria Guzman, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, and Lukas Danner

Florida High School Students Compete in Prestigious Euro Challenge at FIU

On March 13, 2026, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence proudly hosted the Florida Preliminary Round of the Euro Challenge Competition—one of the European Union Delegation's most impactful youth outreach programs in the United States. Held at Florida International University (FIU), this marks the 20th year of the competition at FIU and the 19th year of partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Miami Branch.

This year, twelve high schools from across Florida participated. Seven schools from Miami-Dade counties competed in person at FIU, while five schools from Alachua, Broward and Palm Beach counties joined via video conference.

The Euro Challenge invites 9th and 10th grade students with interests in law, international relations, economics, and the humanities to form teams of three to five members. These teams research economic challenges faced by Eurozone countries, propose policy solutions, and present their findings to a panel of judges.



This year's topics included:

- Climate Change and Going Green
- Demographics and an Aging Population
- Inequality, Social Mobility and the Gender Gap
- Boosting Growth, Competitiveness, and Prosperity
- AI and the Labor Market

Students focused on ten EU countries: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Slovakia, and Spain.

"We've been preparing for the competition for about a year, and are thrilled to present our project on *France and Climate Change and Going Green*," said one enthusiastic student.

The competition also welcomed distinguished judges from the community, including Gloria Guzman, Senior Economic & Financial Education Specialist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Miami Branch. Judges evaluated not only the students' grasp of economic concepts and indicators but also their teamwork, presentation flow, and public speaking skills.

- ▶ More Information on the Euro Challenge, [click here](#)
- ▶ To view pictures, [click here](#)

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Gulliver Preparatory School—1st place in Florida

“Each year, the presentations improve. We look for students’ understanding of their country’s economic challenges and their ability to communicate effectively as a team,” said Guzman.

Three Florida schools advanced to the national competition in New York City on April 27, 2026:

1. **Gulliver Preparatory School** – 1st Place
2. **Florida Atlantic University High School**– 2nd Place
3. **Archimedean Upper Conservatory** – 3rd Place

Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director of the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, has been a driving force behind the Florida competition since its inception. She is the recruiter and organizer of the preliminary competition in Florida.

“Since 2008, we’ve recruited 142 high schools from across Florida (Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, St. Lucie, Lee, Alachua, Orange and Leon counties), and sent 35 teams to compete nationally in New York.

A total of 176 students have represented Florida schools at the national level,” she shared.

“This competition has become a showcase for Florida schools and a transformative experience for students, contributing significantly to their academic and personal growth. We are extremely proud of our schools.”



Launched in the US in 2006, the Euro Challenge competition on European economic and monetary policy provides high school students the opportunity to learn about the euro, the single market, and other concepts central to the European Union and economics.

► **More Information on the Euro Challenge, [click here](#)**



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Gulliver Preparatory School



Archimedean Upper Conservatory

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The members of the teams shared with us their experiences during the competition and the significance of their participation in the Euro Challenge Competition for their personal and professional life.

ARCHIMEDEAN UPPER CONSERVATORY



Olivia Solorzano

Archimedean Upper Conservator
10th grade

"The Euro Challenge was one of the most rewarding experiences I've done in school. It has taught me to be a leader, become more confident in speaking, and taught me how to analyze real world European Issues as an underclassman. Me and my team have developed a closer bond and learned how to effectively work together as a team even during stressful moments. I would definitely recommend it to anyone interested and would not give up the last 2 years for anything! Forever Grateful for this opportunity and looking forward to growing further as a person. Thank you Christine and Mr. Palos for making this experience unforgettable."



Maria Luisa Froio

Archimedean Upper Conservator
9th grade

"I've always had a keen interest in economics, and Euro Challenge amplified my understanding of how the economy functions and its various impacts. Beyond learning the fundamentals, I also got to experience how economics and politics work hand in hand while crafting extensive solutions to uniquely diverse and complex challenges. Moreover, participating in Euro Challenge has improved my research as well as my teamwork skills. Qualifying for nationals was truly an amazing experience and I hope to be there again next year!"



Ivana Tachim

Archimedean Upper Conservator
10th grade

"My experience with the Euro Challenge this year was absolutely fantastic. It brought economics to life in a way a textbook never could, challenging my team to find real solutions to complex global issues. Beyond learning about the Eurozone, I walked away with stronger research, collaboration, and presentation skills. It was an incredibly rewarding journey from start to finish!"



Arielle Fernandez, Olivia Solorzano, Ivana Tachim

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National Euro Challenge Competition in New York | April 27, 2026



Florida High School Teams Shine at National Euro Challenge in New York City

Following a series of regional competitions, 24 high school teams from 12 states traveled to New York City to compete in the national semi-finals of the Euro Challenge, hosted at TD Bank, with the final round held on April 27. Among them were three outstanding teams from Florida, proudly representing the state after earning their spots at the Florida Euro Challenge Competition on March 13 in Miami.

In total, 15 students and 3 dedicated teachers from Florida made the journey. For many students, it was their first time in New York City—an unforgettable experience they described as “a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

Florida Teams and Their Presentations:

- **Gulliver Preparatory School** presented *Boosting Growth, Competitiveness, & Prosperity in Slovakia*. Their proposal focused on strengthening the economy of Slovakia through improvements in education, business, and government. The team showcased their ability to apply complex economic theories to real-world challenges—demonstrating critical thinking, collaboration, and strategic insight, all core to their International Business and Entrepreneurship program.
- **Archimedean Upper Conservatory** tackled *AI and the Labor Market*, focusing on Greece.
- **Florida Atlantic University High School** addressed *Demographics and an aging population*, with a focus on Italy.

Students were inspired by the high level of competition and the opportunity to present their economic analyses to a distinguished panel of judges, including ambassadors, consuls, EU Delegation officials, and financial experts. Notable judges included Ben Carliner, Senior Economist at the Delegation of the European Union to the U.S.; Bruce Kasman, Chief Economist and Global Head of Economic Research at JP Morgan Chase, and Eva Radtke, Senior Communications Officer, Santander U.S. Ambassador of the European Union to the United Nations Stavros Lambrinidis provided opening remarks and emphasized the strong trade and investment relationship

between EU countries and U.S. states. After a full day of presentations, participants attended the Recognition and Award Ceremony at TD Bank, where Christiana Riley, President and CEO of Santander U.S., congratulated all teams and announced the finalists. She also commended the teachers for their dedication and mentorship during extracurricular hours.

“One of the fun things about this program is that it lets students put themselves in the shoes of policymakers,” said Ben Carliner, final round judge and Senior Economist at the EU Delegation to the U.S.

The Euro Challenge offers students a unique opportunity to grow, learn, and deepen their understanding of global economics. Florida is already looking forward to next year’s competition!

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

SEMI-FINALIST SCHOOLS 2026 NEW-YORK CITY—April 27

BASIS Ahwatukee (AZ)
Farmington High School (CT)
Greenwich High School (CT)
Archimedean Upper Conservatory (FL)
Florida Atlantic University High School (FL)
Gulliver Preparatory School (FL)
Saint Joseph High School (IN)
Louisville Collegiate School KY
Mount Hebron High School (MD)
International Academy OKMA (MI)
Troy High School (MI)
Bergen County Academies (NJ)
George W. Hewlett High School (NJ)
Delbarton School (NJ)
High Technology High School (NJ)
Marlboro High School (NJ)
Princeton High School (NJ)
Saint Peter’s Preparatory (NJ)
West Windsor-Plainsboro North High School (NJ)
Herricks High School (NY)
Carolina Friends School (NC)
Westmont Hilltop High School (PA)
British International School Houston (TX)
Cedarburg High School (IN)

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Gulliver Preparatory School Team at the Competition at TD Bank in NY

