

World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (www.wacmb.org)

November 2017

TODAY'S CRISIS in the EUROPEAN UNION: Challenge and Opportunity?

Professor Michel Gueldry

Middlebury Institute of International Studies (MIIS)
Wednesday, November 29, 2017

11:30 am: registration ~ noon: luncheon ~ 1:00-2:00 pm: program

Rancho Canada Carmel Valley Road

Today Europe is in the pangs of a deep, multi-layered crisis. In various ways European Union (EU) members are challenged by immigration, economic and political uncertainties, and terrorism.

Professor Michel Gueldry, Head of the French and Francophone Studies Program at the Middlebury Institute, recently spent three months on sabbatical in six Euro-

pean countries. He will share his observations and analysis of the state of the EU today including the significance of recent elections and major events in France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain and Poland. Professor Gueldry will also discuss the historical dynamics and trends that explain the current crisis as well as the opportunities it presents.

Michel Gueldry is Professor of International Relations and Sustainability Studies at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey. Concurrently he serves as Head of the French and Francophone Studies Program. He is author or editor of five books, including *France and European Integration: Toward a Transnational Policy?* (Westport, Praeger,

2001). Currently he is editing a new book on the emerging forms of insecurity in a globalized world. Professor Gueldry earned his PhD in political science from the University of Toulouse in 1991 and has been teaching at MIIS since 1994.

(Please see page 3 for reservation details.)

Calendar of Events	
Thursday, November 2 Board meets in Conference Room, McCone building, MIIS. Open to member	ers. 4:30 pm
Monday, November 6 Discussion of Egypt: What Happened and What's Ahead? Meets in room 101, Social Science building, MPC.	4-5:30 pm
Wednesday, November 8 Book Club meets at Monterey Public Library to review <i>The Great Game</i> .	5-6:30 pm
Mondays, November 13 & 27 Great Decisions Discussion Groups meets with OLLI program at Ryan Ranch, 8 Upper Ragsdale Dr.	4-5:30 pm
Wednesday, November 29 Luncheon and presentation by Professor Michel Gueldry at Rancho Canada, Carmel Valley Road.	11:30-2 pm

September program report.....

Climate Change and Conflict: Assessing the Risks

Professor Emily Meierding, NPS

For our September luncheon, the World Affairs Council was honored to have Dr. Emily Meierding from the Naval Postgraduate School speak on Climate Change and Conflict: Assessing the Risks. In general, Dr. Meierding was optimistic that climate change would not likely lead to high levels of armed conflict. She noted that the warming globe is causing a number of problems, from more intense weather events to drought to increased migration from impacted areas. Still, she argued that significant armed conflict as a direct result of climate change would likely remain low, for two primary reasons. First, the general human response to such change has been adaptation, not fighting. Adaptation could mean building in less flood-prone areas, building on stilts or migration to less impacted areas, as some examples. Second, engaging in significant conflict is both hard and dangerous, which is why most people avoid doing so and default to adaptation instead.

Where Dr. Meierding does see climate change impacting conflict is as a "force multiplier." In other words, where there are already seeds of conflict in place, climate change can exacerbate those cleavages. She pointed to Syria as an example. She argued that the extended drought in Syria did not cause the civil war, but it exacerbated the existing problems and lines of conflict. That was her parting message: that climate change will not likely be the cause of serious armed conflict, but it can act to exacerbate existing conflicts.

Glenn E. Robinson

PLEASE!

Note the cut-off date for luncheon reservations and remember that even local mail sometimes takes a week to be delivered. Send checks if possible. Or write (legibly) credit card numbers. Or fax to 831-643-1846. Limit phone reservations!

LOOKING BACK

The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB) was founded as an affiliate of the World Affairs Council of Northern California in 1951. On December 3, 1950, a group of 21 interested local residents met in the Asilomar coffee shop to discuss the possibility of a local chapter. By the following month officers of the new organization had been elected and committees formed. Dues were \$5, a bank account was opened with \$155 and Admiral Raymond Spruance—who served until he was appointed Ambassador to the Philippines by President Dwight Eisenhower—became President.

Our founding fathers didn't stop there. After months of planning and consultations, on May 1, 1992, the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area got a friendly "divorce" from the big Northern California chapter. We became incorporated as a non-profit, public benefit corporation with Myron McFarland as our first "independent" president. Today the WACMB is a totally volunteer organization, directed by a Board of Trustees who function through committees to foster grassroots understanding and engagement in international affairs. We reach out to interested citizens through discussion groups; a monthly book club designed to promote the discussion and study of international affairs; a monthly luncheon and lecture featuring outstanding local and nationally known speakers; special events and the awarding of scholarships to qualified local college students.

WACMB is associated with the World Affairs Councils of America (WACA), 86 non-profit, non-partisan, locally autonomous councils who meet from coast to coast. This system is the largest in the international affairs non-profit field in the U.S., with 484,000 members and participants nationwide and 28 national and international affiliate organizations. Together, the WACA programs reach over 20 million people a year. Our chapter has 480 members, including 12 officers and board members, four active committee chairmen, and six liaisons from the various colleges.

IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO GET INVOLVED!

RESERVATION FORM

Reservations due November 24 for November 29, 2017 presentation

Registration 11:30 am Luncheon at noon —Program 1 pm

Mail form & check or credit information to: WACMB-P.O. Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942 or fax reservation form to (831) 643-1846. Members @ \$25 ea. ——
Guests @ \$35 ea. ——
Credit card charge \$2 ea.

Total

Today's Crisis in the European Union

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Questions? Call the

BOOK CLUB

Below is the list of books selected for the next two months for the WACMB book discussion group. The next meeting will be held November 8, 5-6:30 pm at the Monterey Public Library. The public is invited, free of charge. Please note that this program is not sponsored or endorsed by the Monterey Public Library or the City of Monterey.

November: The Great Game: The Struggle for Empire in Central Asia (1994) by Peter Hopkirk. The Great Game between Victorian Britain and Tsarist Russia was fought across desolate terrain from the Caucasus to China and through the caravan towns of the old Silk Road—both powers scrambling to control access to the riches of India and the East.

December: Black Wind, White Snow: The Rise of Russia's New Nationalism by Charles Clover. The notion that the peoples spread across what was once the Russian empire constitute a separate civilization, not only distinct from the West but also superior to it, is back in vogue. Clover traces this belief, called "Eurasianism," back to its roots among fractious White Russian intellectual émigrés in the 1920s all the way to the present, where its warped echo resounds in the nationalist themes lately brandished by allies of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

LUNCHEON MENU

House Salad with Ranch Dressing

Classic Roast

Turkey with

House Made Stuffing,

Whipped Potatoes

& Green Beans

Chef's Choice Dessert

(Vegetarian) Fasta Primavera with Pesto Olive Oil

The Passport November 2017

This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB). Founded in 1951, the Council is a non-profit, non-partisan organization established to promote the presentation, discussion and study of international affairs. WACMB is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization, EIN-770301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups and student scholarships.

Corporate and institutional support for the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area is provided by:

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Benefactor	\$1000
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Sustaining	\$75
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Student	\$15

Make checks payable to WACMB and mail to: WACMB, P.O. Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942

Name/s —
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Phone ——e-mail——-Student memberships are limited to full-time students matriculating at an accredited college or graduate school. This includes special military membership for enlisted personnel, grades E-1 to E-4 only.

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