The Euro Challenge
Competition Overview

2015 Euro Challenge
What is the Euro Challenge?
And More Specifically?

An exciting opportunity to learn about:

• The European Union (EU)

• The Euro and the “euro area”

• Economic concepts and challenges

• The global economy
Overview of the Euro Challenge

• Teams of 3 to 5 students
• Ninth and tenth grade global studies, European studies, world geography, economics & world history students
• One (1) team per school
• 15 minute presentation (plus 10 minutes of Q&A during Semifinal & Final Rounds)
• Presentation format: Preliminary Round, in-person or via video; Semifinal & Final Rounds in-person.
What’s New in 2015

• Virtual presentations in Preliminary Round

• Regions to determine the Preliminary Round format (Virtual competition only or combination of virtual and on-site {“Hybrid”})

• No Q&A during Preliminary Rounds

• New Country – Lithuania

• National student webinars
## Preliminary Round Format by Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Competition Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut, New Jersey &amp; New York</td>
<td>Hybrid Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>Hybrid Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland, Virginia &amp; Washington, DC</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Hybrid Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>Hybrid Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New England</td>
<td>Virtual Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Hybrid Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>Virtual Competition</td>
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Virtual Presentations

- For hybrid regions, any school can submit a video or present on-site (no minimum or maximum distance)
- Technology platform: Vimeo (Password protected; dedicated Euro Challenge account)
- Video: Any camera or video editing software
- Videos cannot be prepared by a paid or unpaid external agency
- Detailed rules and procedures to follow
Three-part Challenge Question
1. Describe the **current economic situation** in the “euro area” (the economic region consisting of the 19* EU member countries who have adopted the euro).

*19 countries as of January 2015*
2. Select one economic-related challenge confronting the euro area as a whole (see list on next slide), and pick one of the 19 member countries of the euro area to illustrate that challenge.
Choose one of ten economic challenges

- Slow growth
- High unemployment
- Inflation
- Adapting to technological change (raising productivity)
- Globalization (including immigration)
- Aging (including health care)
- Living with a single monetary policy
- Sustaining the social system (welfare state)
- Banking sector weakness
- High government deficits and debt
Use one country in the euro area to illustrate your challenge

- Austria
- Belgium
- Cyprus
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- The Netherlands
- Portugal
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
3. Recommend a **policy** or policies for addressing the challenge you identified in the country you selected.

(Be sure to include in your recommendation a discussion of how having a single currency may or may not affect the policy choices for addressing the challenge.)
How will the teams be scored?

• Knowledge about the EU, the euro, and related economic concepts
• Quality of presentation
  • Depth of research and analysis
• Teamwork and cooperation
• For semifinal & final rounds only: Responses to judges’ questions
Feedback from Judges

• Keep the current social and political context in mind

• State the chosen issue clearly

• Select a country in which the chosen issue is relevant

• Make sure you address and answer ALL the Challenge Tasks

• Be Innovative, but recommend a solution that is feasible
What can you win in the Euro Challenge?

• Cash prizes for winning teams (from $250 to $1,250 per student)

• Trip to Washington, DC, for the top two winning teams.

• Recognition and awards reception for all semi-final teams
## Tentative Timeline for All Teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>When</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Economic Situation in the Euro Area</td>
<td>Webinar</td>
<td>Monday, December 15 3:30PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Economic Concepts</td>
<td>Webinar</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Europe to the Euro</td>
<td>Webinar</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Round Competition</td>
<td>Varies by Region</td>
<td>March 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finals and Semi-Finals</td>
<td>New York Fed</td>
<td>Thursday, April 30, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recognition and Award Reception</td>
<td>Moody’s</td>
<td>Thursday, April 30, 2015</td>
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What Level of Economic Knowledge is Required?

Basic economics, and don’t forget social and political aspects
Knowledge about the EU, the euro area, and the role of the ECB – basic economic concepts: growth, inflation, unemployment.

Strive for the level of a good economic press article
Learning Resources and Support

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euro-challenge.org
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