

**DECLARACIÓN DE ASISTENCIA DE LOS DIPUTADOS POR  
INVITACIÓN Y EN EL EJERCICIO DE SUS FUNCIONES A ACTOS  
ORGANIZADOS POR TERCEROS**

DE CONFORMIDAD CON EL ARTÍCULO 5, APARTADO 3, DEL ANEXO I AL REGLAMENTO DEL PARLAMENTO EUROPEO RELATIVO AL  
CÓDIGO DE CONDUCTA DE LOS DIPUTADOS AL PARLAMENTO EUROPEO EN MATERIA DE INTERESES ECONÓMICOS Y CONFLICTOS DE  
INTERESES

**Apellidos:** ZALBA BIDEGAIN

**Nombre:** PABLO

<b>PARLEMENT EUROPEEN REÇU LE</b>
20 JUIN 2016
Unité Administration des Députés

*El abajo firmante declara por su honor y con pleno conocimiento del Reglamento del Parlamento Europeo y, en particular, de su anexo I que contiene el Código de conducta de los diputados al Parlamento Europeo en materia de intereses económicos y conflictos de intereses, de conformidad con el artículo 5, apartado 3, del Código de Conducta y con la Decisión de la mesa de 15 de abril de 2013, que ha asistido, por invitación y en el ejercicio de sus funciones de diputado al Parlamento Europeo, al siguiente acto organizado por un tercero y que los correspondientes gastos de viaje, alojamiento y estancia han sido pagados o reembolsados por un tercero:*

Fecha: 15/6/16

**LAS INDICACIONES CONTENIDAS EN LA PRESENTE DECLARACIÓN SE HARÁN BAJO  
LA RESPONSABILIDAD PERSONAL DEL DIPUTADO Y DEBERÁN PRESENTARSE A  
MÁS TARDAR EL ÚLTIMO DÍA DEL MES SIGUIENTE A LA FECHA FINAL DE LA  
ASISTENCIA DEL DIPUTADO AL ACTO DE QUE SE TRATE, DE CONFORMIDAD CON  
LA DECISIÓN DE LA MESA DE 15 DE ABRIL DE 2013.**

La presente declaración se publicará en la página web del Parlamento Europeo.

**ENVÍESE A:** [Administration-Deputes@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:Administration-Deputes@europarl.europa.eu)

**EL ORIGINAL FIRMADO SE ENVIARÁ A:**

**EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

**Members' Administration Unit<sup>1</sup>**

**rue Wiertz, 60**

**PHS 07B019**

**B - 1047 BRUXELLES-BRUSSELS**

<sup>1</sup> Aviso jurídico: La Unidad de Administración de los Diputados está encargada del tratamiento de los datos en el sentido del Reglamento (CE) n° 45/2001 del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo, de 18 de diciembre de 2000, relativo a la protección de las personas físicas en lo que respecta al tratamiento de datos personales por las instituciones y los organismos comunitarios y a la libre circulación de estos datos (DO L 8 de 12.1.2001, p. 1), y de la Decisión de la Mesa, de 22 de junio de 2005, relativa a las Normas de desarrollo de dicho Reglamento (DO C 308 de 6.12.2005, p. 1).

**INFORMACIÓN OBLIGATORIA**

	INFORMACIÓN QUE DEBE PROPORCIONARSE	COMPLÉTESE SEGÚN CORRESPONDA
<b>TERCERO</b>	Nombre, cargo y dirección del tercero que reembolsó o pagó los gastos del diputado <sup>2</sup>	United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Office of International Visitors
<b>TIPO DE GASTOS CUBIERTOS</b>	Viaje:  Alojamiento:  Dietas:	Sí Tipo (p.ej, avión, tren): AVIÓN Vuelos internos en EEUU Clase (p.ej., <i>economy, business</i> ):  Sí Nombre del hotel: Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfont The Donovan Hotel Número de noches <sup>3</sup> : 7  No /
<b>DATOS SOBRE EL ACTO</b>	Fechas (y duración) de la asistencia del diputado al acto:  Tipo de acto (si no se dispone del programa del acto para adjuntarlo a la declaración, debe facilitarse una explicación en la sección «Comentarios»):  Lugar (país, ciudad):	06/02/16-13/06/16  IVLP on Demand Program "US elections and Political System  EEUU Washington y Jacksonville

<sup>2</sup> Si el tercero figura en el Registro de Transparencia, puede hacerse referencia a ello.

<sup>3</sup> No es necesaria una declaración aparte para desayunos.

**ES**

<b>INFORMACIÓN OPCIONAL</b>	
<b>COMENTARIOS</b>	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**INTERNATIONAL VISITOR  
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

**U.S. Elections & Political System**

**A Project for the European Union**

**February 8 - 12, 2016**

*Arranged by:*

**Graduate School USA**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

*Program Sponsor:*

**United States Department of State**  
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs  
Office of International Visitors  
ECA/PE/V  
SA-5, Floor-3  
Washington, DC 20522-0503  
Telephone: (202) 632-3283  
Operations Center: (202) 647-1512  
Website: [exchanges.state.gov/ivlp](http://exchanges.state.gov/ivlp)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/StateIVLP](https://www.facebook.com/StateIVLP)  
Twitter: @StateIVLP, #IVLP

**Susan Shultz**  
Acting Director, Office of International Visitors

**Ms. Alison Moylan**  
Chief, IVLP On Demand Division

**Ms. Robin E. Neilson**  
Chief, Africa & Europe Branch

**Ms. Angela O. Oatis-Ashby**  
Program Officer, Africa & Europe Branch  
Telephone: (202) 632-6089  
Email: [oatisao@state.gov](mailto:oatisao@state.gov)

*Program Administrator:*

**Graduate School USA**  
600 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Suite 301  
Washington, DC 20024  
Telephone: (202) 314-3500  
Toll-Free: (800) 331-4229  
Fax: (202) 479-6806  
Website: [www.graduateschool.edu](http://www.graduateschool.edu)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Graduate School USA](https://www.facebook.com/GraduateSchoolUSA)  
International Institute  
Twitter: @IVLPGradSchool

**Mr. Damon Woods**  
Acting Program Director

**Mr. Nicolas Cervantes**  
Program Officer  
Telephone: (202) 314-3504  
Email: [nicolas.cervantes@graduateschool.edu](mailto:nicolas.cervantes@graduateschool.edu)

**Mr. Andrew Barbagallo**  
Program Specialist  
Telephone: (202) 314-3562  
Email: Andrew.Barbagallo@graduateschool.edu

*Accompanied By:*

**Mr. Colin Moore**  
International Visitor Liaison  
Cell phone: 310-740-7193

**Ms. Renee Yates**  
International Visitor Liaison  
Cell phone: 202-365-9343

All participants will be met on arrival outside of customs and escorted to their DC hotel.

There will be no home hospitality in DC so the group will have their evenings free and can make their own appointments with their embassies at the conclusion of the day's meetings.

## **INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION**

### **Program Sponsor: United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs International Visitor Leadership Program**

The U.S. Department of State helps to shape a freer, more secure and more prosperous world through formulating, representing and implementing the President's foreign policy. The Secretary of State is the President's principal adviser on foreign policy and the person chiefly responsible for U.S. representation abroad.

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs fosters mutual understanding between the United States and other countries through international educational, professional and cultural exchanges. The Bureau promotes personal, professional and institutional ties between private citizens and organizations in the United States and abroad, and presents U.S. history, society, art and culture in all of its diversity to overseas audiences.

The Office of International Visitors manages and funds the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). Launched in 1940, the IVLP seeks to build mutual understanding between the United States and other nations through carefully designed professional visits to the United States for current and emerging foreign leaders. These visits reflect the visitors' professional interests and support the foreign policy goals of the U.S. government. Each year over 4,500 IVLP participants from all over the world are selected by U.S. embassies to travel to the United States to meet and confer with their professional counterparts. Through these encounters, they gain a greater understanding of the cultural and political influences in U.S. society and enjoy a firsthand experience of the United States, its people and its culture. Visitors represent government, politics, the media, education, nongovernmental organizations, the arts, public health, international security, business and trade, and other fields. Over 320 current and former heads of government and state and many other distinguished world leaders in the public and private sectors have participated in the International Visitor Leadership Program.

### **Program Administrator: Graduate School USA**

The International Institute was established within the Graduate School USA in order to provide professional training and educational services to government agencies, U.S. government employees with international responsibilities, international organizations and non-governmental organizations throughout the world. International Institute programs facilitate the exchange of knowledge and skills through a wide range of observational study and learning support services, including the administration of regional training projects in Africa, Asia, South America and Europe. The Institute administers a broad array of exchange, training and observational study programs. The Institute has provided services to more than 40,000 participants from over 120 countries since its inception in 1961, successfully working to promote professional development, cooperation, and understanding in the global classroom.

**Local Program Sponsors: Members of Global Ties U.S.**

In most U.S. cities outside of Washington, DC and New York City, Graduate School USA works closely with members of Global Ties U.S., a network of over 100 nonprofit organizations dedicated to building international understanding by connecting their communities with the world. Private citizens involved in these organizations volunteer to open their homes, schools, businesses, local government and nongovernmental agencies to leaders from abroad. Community-based members of Global Ties act as “local sponsors” of the International Visitor Leadership Program by arranging professional and social activities for participants who visit their communities.



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

CONTACT INFORMATION..... 1

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION.....3

PROJECT SUMMARY.....6

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS.....7

PROGRAM CALENDAR.....8

USA MAP.....9

WASHINGTON, DC.....*February 6 - 10, 2016*.....10

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.....*February 10 - 13, 2016*.....20

INTERNATIONAL DEPARTURE.....24

HOTEL SUMMARY.....25

DOMESTIC TRAVEL SUMMARY.....26

DEPARTING FLIGHTS .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

CONTACT LIST .....31

## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

The U.S. Department of State (DOS) is sponsoring an International Visitor Leadership Program project entitled “U.S. Elections & Political System,” for Belgium, to be administered by Graduate School USA and conducted from February 8 to 12, 2016.

The Office of International Visitors seeks to provide a broad and balanced range of perspectives in the International Visitor Leadership Program. To this end, programs include a variety of appointments with individuals and representatives of organizations whose opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government.

*The Department of State has outlined the following specific objectives for the project:*

- Strengthen the visitor’s understanding of the U.S. political system;
- Reinforce and establish new relations between U.S. and European elected;
- Explore U.S. practices in elections; and
- Assess methods for engaging citizens in the process.

*The project will address the following themes in each city:*

### **Washington, DC**

*February 6 - 10, 2016*

US Elections and the Federal Government  
The Politics of American Elections  
Demographics and the American Electorate

### **Jacksonville & Tallahassee, Florida**

*February 10 - 13, 2016*

States and the National Elections  
Laws and Voting  
Presidential Political Campaigns

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

<b>Portugal</b>	<b>Ms. Claudia GOMES MONTEIRO DE AGUIAR</b> Member of the European Parliament
<b>Romania</b>	<b>Dr. Victor NEGRESCU</b> Member of the European Parliament
	<b>Ms. Camelia VASILE</b> Project Manager, EU40
<b>Spain</b>	<b>Mr. Pablo ZALBA BIDEGAIN</b> Member of the European Parliament

## PROGRAM CALENDAR

*February 8 - 12, 2016*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 January	1 February	2	3	4	5	6 Arrive Washington, DC
7	8 Project Opening	9	10 Travel to Jacksonville, Florida	11 Day Trip to Tallahassee, Florida	12	13 International Departure

**USA MAP**

**Insert MAP Here**

**USA MAP**

**Insert MAP Here**

## WASHINGTON, DC

*February 6 - 10, 2016*

*City Population: 632,323*

Washington, DC is located at the confluence of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers, between the states of Maryland and Virginia. Named for George Washington and Christopher Columbus, the city was created as the seat of the federal government by an act of Congress in 1790. Pierre L'Enfant, a French soldier and engineer, laid out the plans for the federal city. Despite L'Enfant's grand plans, the city did not grow rapidly. It suffered a major setback during the War of 1812 when British troops entered Washington and burned the public buildings (when the President's house was rebuilt, the fire-blackened surfaces were painted white, thus inspiring the name "White House"). The District of Columbia grew slowly but steadily. By the time the Civil War erupted in 1861, it was a busy city of 75,000 residents. While the population of the city today is only approximately 600,000, the greater Washington area – including the suburbs in Maryland and Virginia – has a population of 5.5 million people, making it the seventh-largest urban area in the U.S.

Washington serves as the capital of the United States, but it is not part of any state. The city was administered by Congress until 1974, when "home rule," or government by an elected mayor and city council, was granted. The residents of the District are represented in Congress by a non-voting delegate who may take part in hearings, floor debate, and other functions of Congress and, under the 23rd Amendment to the Constitution, has voting representation in the presidential Electoral College. However, because it is not a state, the District does not have a vote in either the Senate or the House of Representatives.

Washington's major business is national and international politics. The leading private industry is tourism, with fourteen to fifteen million visitors coming to the city every year. Recently many research and development companies in electronics, physics, and other sciences have located themselves in the Washington, DC area. The city has also experienced tremendous growth in the financial and Internet sectors. Nearly all of the top 500 corporations in the U.S. have offices here. Washington is also a major educational and research center. Within its city limits are American University, The Catholic University of America, Georgetown University, the George Washington University, Howard University, The University of the District of Columbia and Gallaudet University, a renowned university for the deaf. In addition, many political, economic and medical research institutes are located in Washington.

The National Mall, located between Constitution and Independence Avenues, forms the axis of the city, with the United States Capitol Building to the east and the Lincoln Memorial to the west. The Smithsonian Institution – including the famous Air and Space Museum, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, the Sackler Gallery of Near East and Asian Art and the Museum of African Art, the Freer Gallery, the Museum of American History, and the Museum of Natural History – borders the Mall to the north and south. The White House, the Washington Monument, the National Gallery of Art, the Vietnam Memorial, the National Archives (which exhibits the original U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence), the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and the Thomas Jefferson Memorial are also located on or near the National Mall.

**WASHINGTON, DC**

*February 6 - 10, 2016*

*Your program in Washington has been arranged by:*

**Graduate School USA**  
600 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Suite 301  
Washington, DC 20024  
Telephone: (202) 314-3500  
Fax: (202) 479-6806  
Website: [www.graduateschool.edu](http://www.graduateschool.edu)

*Accommodations have been reserved for you at:*

**The Donovan Hotel**  
1155 14th St. NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
Telephone: (202) 737-1200  
Confirmation Numbers:

Zalba Bidegain:	2531018
Vasile:	2531023
Moore:	2531019
Gomes:	2531024
Negrescu:	2531017
Yates:	2531021

*Using funds provided by the Department of State, Graduate School USA will pay your hotel room rate and tax. Prior to departing the hotel you are personally responsible for paying all incidental expenses charged to your room. This will include any telephone calls, room service, movies, expenses related to restocking the mini-bar, or other charges billed to the room.*

*Your ground transportation information is as follows:*

**Awards Limousine Service, Inc.**  
Telephone: (301) 656-9644



**WASHINGTON, DC**

*February 6 - 10, 2016*

**Themes:** US Elections and the Federal Government  
The Politics of American Elections  
Demographics and the American Electorate

**Sunday, February 7**

**9:45 am** Please meet in the hotel lobby to board the bus for a tour of Washington, DC.

**10:00 am –  
1:00 pm** Tour of Washington, DC, led by:

**Mr. Matthew Schubert**  
Tour Director  
Telephone: (978) 979-4027

*For your information, the mailing address for this resource is:*

**Capital Communications Group, Inc.**  
1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20006  
Telephone: (202) 349-1444  
Website: [www.capcomgroup.com](http://www.capcomgroup.com)

**Capital Communications Group, Inc. (CCG)** is an international consulting company based in Washington, DC that specializes in custom designed consulting services to government and private clients in the areas of international business and cultural/political networking. CCG's principals have received acclaim from government and business leaders for their work with international dignitaries visiting the United States on trade missions and cultural exchange programs. Their extensive experience in international business, diplomacy and cross-cultural relations ensures consistent, high-quality services for the success of your program.

**Monday, February 8**

**8:15 am** Please gather in your hotel lobby for transportation to your program's opening session. **You will need to bring your passport, international airline ticket and welcome packet with you to this meeting.** The meeting will be held at:

**Graduate School USA**  
600 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Room 214  
Washington, DC 20024  
Telephone: (202) 314-3500  
Fax: (202) 479-6806  
Website: [www.graduateschool.edu](http://www.graduateschool.edu)

**9:00 am –  
11:00 am** Welcome and introduction to the program with:

**Ms. Angela O. Oatis-Ashby**  
Program Officer, IVLP On Demand Division, Africa & Europe Branch  
Office of International Visitors  
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs  
U.S. Department of State

**Mr. Nicolas Cervantes**  
Program Officer  
Graduate School USA

**Mr. Andrew Barbagallo**  
Program Specialist  
Graduate School USA

**11:00 am –  
12:30 pm** You will remain in classroom 214 for a federalism briefing conducted by:

**Catherine E. Rudder, Ph.D.**  
Professor Emerita  
George Mason University  
School of Policy, Government, and International Affairs

*For your information, the mailing address for this resource is:*

**Capital Communications Group, Inc.**  
1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20006  
Telephone: (202) 349-1444  
Website: [www.capcomgroup.com](http://www.capcomgroup.com)

*Topic:* U.S. federal system of government.

**Dr. Catherine Rudder** joined the faculty of the School of Policy, Government, and International Affairs at George Mason University in 2001 after having held the position as the Executive Director of the American Political Science Association (APSA). After serving as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs from 2004 to 2008 she is now the Director of the Master's of Public Policy program. Professor Rudder served the APSA, the world's largest professional organization for the study of politics, for 20 years where she strengthened both the organization and the political science discipline. She has published a number of articles on congressional reform and specifically on tax policy making in the U.S. She was one of the two scholars in the country commissioned to write and present a paper for the Bicentennial Symposium of the Committee on Ways and Means.

**12:30 pm** Please board the bus for transportation to your opening luncheon.

**The Palm Restaurant**

1225 19th Street NW

Washington, DC 20036

Telephone: (202) 293-9091

Website: <http://www.thepalm.com/Washington-DC>

**1:00 pm –**

**2:30 pm** Luncheon hosted by the U.S. Department of State.

**2:30 pm** Please board the bus for transportation to your next meeting. (confirmed; waiting for final details)

**Blue State Digital**

406 7th Street NW

3rd Floor

Washington, DC 20004

Telephone: (202) 449-5600

Contact: Aisha Satterwhite

Direct Telephone: (202) 449-5562

Website: <https://www.bluestatedigital.com>

**3:00 pm** You have an appointment with:

TBD

*Topic:* Political engagement using social media.

**Tuesday, February 9**

**9:00 am** Please depart for your first appointment. (confirmed; waiting for final details)

**United States Capitol Building**  
Committee on Rules & Administration  
Russell 305  
East Capitol St NE & First St SE  
Washington, DC 20004  
Contact: Mr. Ben Hovland  
Direct Telephone: (202) 224-0279  
Website: <http://www.rules.senate.gov/public>

*Special Instructions:*

**10:00 am –**

**11:00 am** You have an appointment with:

TBD

*Topic:* Proposed legislation, messages, and petitions regarding Federal elections.

**11:00 am –**

**12:15 pm** Free time and lunch on your own.

**12:15 pm** Please board the bus for transportation to your next meeting.

**Federal Election Commission**  
999 E St NW  
Washington, DC 20463  
Telephone: (800) 424-9530  
Contact: Lauren Lambert  
Direct Telephone: (202) 694-1073  
Website: <http://www.fec.gov/>

*Special Instructions:* The group should arrive **15 minutes prior** to the scheduled meeting time. All FEC visitors are asked to walk through a **metal detector**. Metal jewelry, belts with metal buckles, metal hair accessories, keys and any other metal objects will set off the machine and will require multiple trips through the detector. In the past, this has significantly slowed down the security process. Visitors are cautioned either to limit the amount of metal they bring in to the Commission or to be prepared to remove it immediately upon arrival. This will expedite the security process and will maximize the group's time with the speaker. Everyone **must present valid photo identification (passport, driver's license, etc.)** in order to be admitted to the building. Security personnel will compare photo identification with the list of participants you provided me. **Individuals will not be allowed to enter if they do not have photo ID.**

**1:00 pm –  
2:30 pm**

You have an appointment with:

**Ms. Ellen Weintraub**  
Commissioner, Federal Election Commission

*Topic:* Overview of the main functions of the Federal Election Committee.

**Ellen L. Weintraub** took office as a Member of the United States Federal Election Commission (FEC) on December 9, 2002. Commissioner Weintraub has twice served as Chair of the Commission, for calendar years 2003 and 2013. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Weintraub was Of Counsel to Perkins Coie LLP and a member of its Political Law Group. There, she counseled clients on federal and state campaign finance and election laws, political ethics, nonprofit law, recounts, and lobbying regulation. During the election contest arising out of the 1996 election of Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA), Ms. Weintraub served on the legal team that advised the Senate Rules Committee. Her tenure with Perkins Coie represented Ms. Weintraub's second stint in private practice, having previously practiced as a litigator with the New York law firm of Cahill Gordon & Reindel. Before joining Perkins Coie, Ms. Weintraub was Counsel to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct for the U.S. House of Representatives (the House Ethics Committee). Like the Commission, the Committee on Standards is a bipartisan body, evenly divided between Democratic and Republican members. Ms. Weintraub's work focused on implementing the Ethics Reform Act of 1989 and subsequent changes to the House Code of Official Conduct. She also served as editor in chief of the House Ethics Manual and as a principal contributor to the Senate Ethics Manual. While at the Committee, Ms. Weintraub counseled Members on investigations and often had lead responsibility for the Committee's public education and compliance initiatives.

Ms. Weintraub received her B.A., cum laude, from Yale College and her J.D. from Harvard Law School. A native New Yorker, she is a member of the New York and District of Columbia bars and the Supreme Court bar.

**2:30 pm** Please board the bus for transportation to your next meeting.

**Teamsters**  
25 Louisiana Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Telephone: (202) 624-6800  
Contact: Mike Dolan  
Direct Telephone: (202) 624-6891  
Website: <https://teamster.org>

**3:30 pm –  
4:30 pm**

You have an appointment with:

**Mike Dolan**

Teamsters Legislative Representative

*Topic:* Discussion of labor in politics and community outreach.

**The Teamsters Union** is North America's strongest and most diverse labor union. In 1903, the Teamsters started as a merger of the two leading team driver associations. These drivers were the backbone of America's robust economic growth, but they needed to organize to wrest their fair share from greedy corporations. Today, the Union's task is exactly the same. The Teamsters are known as the champion of freight drivers and warehouse workers, but have organized workers in virtually every occupation imaginable, both professional and non-professional, private sector and public sector. The Teamsters Union also performs vital tasks in such areas as pension management, safety & health, community outreach, governmental affairs and communications. For more than a century, the Teamsters have been a public voice for the rights and aspirations of working men and women and a key player in securing them.

**Wednesday, February 10**

**8:15 am** Please check out of the hotel and leave your baggage with the concierge at the hotel. You will return to the hotel after your last appointment of the day.

**9:00 am** Please depart for your first appointment.

**Cato Institute**

1000 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20001

Telephone: (202) 842-0200

Contact Name: Ms. Emily McClintock Ekins

Direct Telephone: (202) 789-5250

Website: <http://www.cato.org>

**9:30 am –**

**11:30 am**

You have an appointment with:

**Emily McClintock Ekins, Ph.D.**

Research Fellow, Cato Institute

*Topic:* Demographics of the American electorate in relation to public opinion towards government.

**The Cato Institute** was founded in 1977 by Edward H. Crane. It is a non-profit public policy research foundation headquartered in Washington, D.C. The Institute is named for Cato's Letters, a series of libertarian pamphlets that helped lay the philosophical foundation for the American Revolution. The Cato Institute seeks to allow advance the causes of limited government, individual liberty, free markets and peace. Toward that goal, the Institute strives to achieve greater involvement of the intelligent, concerned lay public in questions of policy and the proper role of government.

**11:30 am** Please board the bus for transportation to the hotel.

**12:00 pm –**

**2:00 pm**

Free time and lunch on your own.

**2:00 pm**

Please board the bus with your baggage for transportation to Washington Dulles International Airport.

# **National Program**



**JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA**

*February 10 - 13, 2016*

*City Population: 836,507*

Established as a seaport in 1832, Jacksonville is a city with more land area than New York City and Los Angeles combined – 874 square miles – with a population of just under a million, but growing. The St. Johns River flows through the heart of the city. While the state of Florida is known for its retiree population, Jacksonville has the youngest median age in the state at 35 years, compared to a state average of 41. It is young and family-oriented, and its diversity grows through refugee resettlement as well as corporate global growth.

Jacksonville is the leading transportation and distribution hub in the state with the fastest growing port on the East Coast. The area's economy is balanced among distribution, financial services, biomedical technology, consumer goods, information services, manufacturing, and other industries. Multiple military facilities give Jacksonville the third largest naval presence in the country.

Situated along the St. Johns River, Jacksonville operates the largest urban park system in the United States, including the historical Timucuan Ecological and Historical Preserve and Big and Little Talbot Island State Parks offering miles of undeveloped beaches and trails. Public beaches span 20 miles along the Atlantic coast. To create a more effective government, and better management of its growing parks and land systems, the city of Jacksonville and Duval County consolidated its government structures in 1968. This type of consolidated government is unique and helpful in keeping with Florida's progressive Sunshine State laws regarding ethics and transparency in government.

In the early 20th century Jacksonville was known as the "Hollywood of the South" for its film industry and the "Harlem of the South" for its rich African American culture. Northeast Florida continues to hold on to its roots with a vibrant cultural atmosphere, including annual music festivals and World of Nations, and is quickly becoming a hub to professional sports including the NFL's Jacksonville Jaguars and the headquarters of the PGA Tour and world-famous golf tournament The Players Championship.

With a growing population, a strong economy, diverse cultural and recreational opportunities and abundant natural resources, Jacksonville continues to distinguish itself as a very dynamic and progressive city.

**TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA**

*February 11, 2016*

*City Population: 155,171*

Tallahassee is the capitol of Florida. In a region of rolling hills, live oak forests and rivers, Tallahassee is noted for its beautiful gardens, nearby lakes, and the Gulf of Mexico coast, with some of the best fishing in the area.

While state government and education, namely Florida State University and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, have long been the major employers in Tallahassee, other industries have developed as well. Tallahassee is rapidly becoming the market center for the surrounding counties. It is also one of the fastest-growing cities in the country.

Tallahassee is governed by an elected mayor and four city commissioners. Tallahassee is served by the newspaper *The Tallahassee Democrat*. Florida State University and Florida A&M are both located in the area. Points of interest include the Florida State Capitol Building, built in 1845; Wakulla Springs, a wildlife sanctuary with glass-bottomed boat tours and a cypress forest; and Maclay State Gardens, with beautiful azaleas, camellias, and oriental magnolias surrounding a beautifully-restored house. Tallahassee has a large African-American minority community and smaller Hispanic and Asian communities.

Florida was a frontier state in the early 19th century, with only two cities of note, St. Augustine and Pensacola. In 1823, the legislature founded Tallahassee as a more accessible and permanent seat of government midway between the two cities. Tallahassee was one of the only two cities in the Confederacy that did not fall to Union forces during the Civil War. From the Capitol's modest beginning as a rough wooden structure, the state government has grown to become Tallahassee's largest industry.

**JACKSONVILLE & TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA**      *February 10 - 13, 2016*

**Wednesday, February 10**

**5:05 pm** Depart Washington, DC (IAD): *United Airlines 3728*

**7:13 pm** Arrive Jacksonville, FL (JAX)

*Your program in Jacksonville/Tallahassee has been arranged by:*

**GlobalJax**  
**Rebecca Eppler**  
100 Festival Park Ave  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
Telephone: (904) 346-3941  
Website: [www.GlobalJax.org](http://www.GlobalJax.org)  
Email: [rebecca.eppler@globaljax.org](mailto:rebecca.eppler@globaljax.org)  
Emergency Telephone: (904) 553-0209

*Accommodations have been reserved for you at:*

**Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront**  
225 East Coastline Drive, East  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
Telephone: (904) 588-1234  
Confirmation Numbers:

Zalba Bidegain:	10826760
Vasile:	10826760
Moore:	10826760
Gomes:	10826760
Negrescu:	10826760
Yates:	10826760

*Using funds provided by the Department of State, Graduate School USA will pay your hotel room rate and tax. Prior to departing the hotel you are personally responsible for paying all incidental expenses charged to your room. This will include any telephone calls, room service, movies, expenses related to restocking the mini-bar, or other charges billed to the room.*

*Your ground transportation information is as follows:*

**East Coast Transportation**  
Telephone: (904) 525-8600

**JACKSONVILLE & TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA**      *February 10 - 13, 2016*

**Themes:**      States and the National Elections  
                      Laws and Voting  
                      Presidential Political Campaigns

The Jacksonville program may include the following appointments:

*Thursday, February 18, 2016 – Tallahassee, Florida*

Regional Campaign Office of Presidential Candidate Bernie Sanders to discuss events that are held to engage constituents and address relevant issues in the campaign that appeal to various voting demographics. Ms. Kistellys Zolodek will be invited to this meeting. Ms. Zolodeck is leading the Bernie Sanders volunteer group in the greater Jacksonville area, is a board member for the Florida Young Democrats, and is running for President of the Jacksonville Young Democrats.

League of Women Voters – Florida Chapter will discuss how the organization engages voters locally and informs them about which candidates are on the ballot. The League of Women Voters is a citizens' organization that has fought since 1920 to improve our government and engage all citizens in the decisions that impact their lives. Formed from the movement that secured the right to vote for women, the centerpiece of the League's efforts remain to expand participation and give a voice to all Americans.

Chelsi Henry, Esq. is an attorney, entrepreneur, columnist, political strategist, motivational speaker, and business consultant. She had the privilege and honor to serve as an elected official in Jacksonville for three years where she petitioned and advocated on behalf of her community. Chelsi was the youngest elected female in Jacksonville's history.

*Friday, February 19, 2016 – Jacksonville, Florida*

Hilary Clinton Florida campaign team, "Florida Leadership Team". The Leadership Council includes more than 150 Floridians and serves as the in-state leadership for the campaign, amplifying the campaign's national voice to Florida families aiding the campaign with rapid response, organization building, grassroots organizing events, recruiting volunteer leaders, and identifying leaders for Get Out the Vote activities.

Representatives from Senator Rubio's Presidential Campaign to discuss aspects of the Florida campaign. Hampton Ray, who is serving as a Duval County co-chair for the Marco Rubio campaign and former Policy Aid to the Senator, will be invited to the meeting.

Representative of the Duval County Supervisor of Elections to discuss education and technology in Duval County needed for fair elections and for the public to become effective and empowered voters. In the past, visitors have enjoyed a hands on experience with voting equipment during a simulation.

## **INTERNATIONAL DEPARTURE**

**Please confirm your international reservation three days prior to your scheduled departure.** Due to airport security measures, please arrive at the airport at least three hours before your flight.

The U.S. Department of State is interested in speaking with you about your experiences and your reactions to your United States visit. Prior to leaving the country, please call your Department of State Program Officer, Angela Oatis-Ashby. Please feel at liberty to comment freely on all aspects of the program.

The Graduate School USA would also welcome the opportunity to speak informally with you about your visit. At your convenience, please telephone Nicolas Cervantes.

Upon your return home, please be in touch with your contact at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate. In order to help us assess the value of international visitor exchanges, you are also invited to share your comments about your U.S. experience by joining International Exchange Alumni, the alumni global exchange community at [alumni.state.gov](http://alumni.state.gov).

**HOTEL SUMMARY**

**WASHINGTON, DC**

*February 6 - 10, 2016*

**The Donovan Hotel**  
1155 14th St. NW  
Washington, DC  
Telephone: (202) 737-1200

**JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA**

*February 10 - 13, 2016*

**Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront**  
225 East Coastline Drive, East  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
Telephone: (904) 588-1234

**DOMESTIC TRAVEL SUMMARY**

**Wednesday, February 10**

**5:05 pm** Depart Washington, DC (IAD): *United Airlines 3728*

**7:13 pm** Arrive Jacksonville, FL (JAX)

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

**Portugal**

*Name:* **Ms. Claudia GOMES MONTEIRO DE AGUIAR**

*Present Position:* Member of the European Parliament

*Concurrent Positions:* President, Casa da Madeira Association

*Previous Positions:* Member, Portuguese Assembly of the Republic, 2011 - 2014

*Education/Training:* Master's in Marketing and Communication, Minho University  
Bachelor's in Sociology, Minho University

*Memberships:* Group of the European People's Party

*Address:* Rue Wiertz 60  
Brussels, 1047  
Belgium  
Email: [claudia.monteirodeaguiar@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:claudia.monteirodeaguiar@europarl.europa.eu)

*Languages:* Portuguese (primary), English

*U. S. Travel:* No previous U.S. travel

*Other Travel:* Frequent travel within Europe

*Other Travel:* Frequent travel within Europe, occasionally beyond.



**Romania**

*Name:* **Dr. Victor NEGRESCU**

*Present Position:* Member of the European Parliament

*Concurrent Positions:* Professor, National School of Political Science and Public Administration

*Previous Positions:* Adviser, Vice-President of the Legal Affairs Committee, European Parliament, 2008-2009  
Journalist, Radio France Internationale and Le Monde Diplomatique, 2008-2009

*Education/Training:* Doctorate in Political Science, National School of Political and Administrative Studies, 2011  
MBA in Academy of Economic Studies and Health - Paris, 2012  
Bachelor's Degree in Political Science, University of Bucharest, 2008

*Memberships:* S&D Group (European)  
Social Democratic Party, 2004 to present

*Address:* Rue Wiertz 60  
Brussels, 1047  
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Email: victor.negrescu@europarl.europa.eu

*Languages:* Romanian (primary), English, French

*U. S. Travel:* Washington, DC 2015

*Other Travel:* Frequent travel within Europe

**Romania**

*Name:* **Ms. Camelia VASILE**

*Present Position:* Project Manager, EU40

*Previous Positions:* Trainee, European Investment Bank, 2012 - 2012  
Trainee, European Parliament, 2011 - 2012

*Education/Training:* Master's in International Communication and Marketing,  
University of Rome – La Sapienza, 2010  
Bachelor's in Communications and Public Relations, University of  
Bucharest, 2007

*Address:* Rue Wiertz 60  
Brussels, 1047  
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Email: [camelia@eu40.eu](mailto:camelia@eu40.eu)

*Languages:* Romani (primary), English, Italian, French

*U. S. Travel:* No previous U.S. travel

*Other Travel:* Frequent travel within Europe

**Spain**

*Name:* **Mr. Pablo ZALBA BIDEGAIN**

*Present Position:* Member of the European Parliament

*Concurrent Positions:* Vice-President, SME Europe  
Member, Advisory Board of the European Young Innovators Forum  
Coordinator, Young Member Network, European Young Innovators Forum

*Previous Positions:* Vice-President, Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee, 2009-2011  
Commercial Director at SIC Lazaro, 2005-2009

*Education/Training:* Executive Master's in Business Administration, London Business School, 2007  
Graduate Degree in Business Administration, Universidad de Navarra, 1997

*Memberships:* Partido Popular (PP)  
European People's Party (EPP)

*Publications:* More than 75 articles in various publications and periodicals

*Address:* Rue Wiertz 60  
Brussels, 1047  
Belgium

*Languages:* Spanish (primary), English

*U. S. Travel:* Washington, DC 2015

*Other Travel:* Frequent travel within Europe

**CONTACT LIST**

**Portugal**

**Embassy of Portugal**  
2012 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
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Fax: (202) 462-3726

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**Spain**

**Embassy of Spain**  
2375 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
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