Her Excellency Karin Olofsdotter took up her post as Ambassador of Sweden to the United States on September 1, 2017. Ambassador Olofsdotter has long been a strong advocate for Swedish trade and diplomatic relations with the United States. Trade and economic growth remain top priorities for the Ambassador, along with defense cooperation, public diplomacy, and strong collaboration with the international community.

H.E. Olofsdotter brings extensive experience in trade promotion to her current post. Prior to assuming the role as Ambassador, she served as Director-General for Trade at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Ambassador Olofsdotter has also held the position of Deputy Director-General and Head of the Department for Promotion of Sweden, Trade and CSR.

Ambassador Olofsdotter is also an accomplished diplomat. Her career in the Foreign Service started in 1994 with her first posting to the Embassy of Sweden in Moscow. In the years following, she worked in security policy and defense issues as well as in numerous leadership posts within the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, including serving as Chief of Staff for several of its Ministers.

H.E. Olofsdotter has served as part of the Swedish delegation to NATO as well as at the Swedish EU Representation in Brussels, working with European security policy and defense issues. Ambassador Olofsdotter was appointed Director of the Ministers’ Office in Stockholm before being asked to serve as Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Sweden in Washington, DC in 2008, a post she held for three years. In 2011, she entered her first ambassadorial position as Ambassador of Sweden to Hungary.

Ambassador Olofsdotter has a B.A. in psychology, economics and Russian. She studied at UCLA Anderson School of Management and speaks Russian, French and English. She is married and has a son and a daughter.
The European Union Center would like to take this opportunity to recognize students in our Master of Arts in European Union Studies (MAEUS) program, our 2020-21 Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship recipients, and our graduate and research assistants.

MAEUS Students:
Lauren Clemens
Jordan Evans-Kaplan
Kiana Marr
Alicja Szczepkowska
Nicholas Zalewski

2020-21 Graduate FLAS Fellows:
Rhiannon Hein (German) - Department of History
Eva Kuras (Italian) - Department of Comparative & World Literature
Marisa Natale (Arabic) - Department of History
Quinn O'Dowd (Czech) - Department of Sociology
Amelia Reggi (Italian) - Department of French & Italian
Robin Turner (Catalan) - Department of Linguistics
Damir Vucicevic (Arabic) - Department of History

2020-21 Undergraduate FLAS Fellows:
Esraa Ahmed (Turkish) - Global Studies
Lucas Haney (Italian) - Spanish and Italian
Lara Morgan (Italian) - Global Studies
Erinn Thomas (Arabic) - Global Studies

2020-21 Graduate and Research Assistants
Angelique Evans
Walther Glodstaf
Irati Hurtado Ruiz
Cassie Pontone
Emily Swisher
Libby Wheeles
Nicholas Zalewski

About the book:
The European Union and Beyond: Multi-Level Governance, Institutions, and Policy-Making seeks to examine current debates and issues in the study of regional integration, multilevel governance and European Union studies. Contributions focus on a diverse set of topics related to these areas, including monetary union, trade, public administration, legislative representation, free movement and comparisons of the European Union to other federal systems, and supranational organizations. The chapters are diverse in approach with contributors coming from the fields of public administration, political economy, law, international relations and comparative politics. The goal of the volume is to provide an up-to-date assessment of the current debates and issues in these fields of study.

About the Larry Neal Prize:
With support from our Jean Monnet Center of Excellence and U.S. Department of Education Title VI grants, we would like to recognize the winner of 2020 Larry Neal Prize, named in honor of the first director of the EU Center at Illinois. This award recognizes excellence in EU studies scholarship within the North American network of Jean Monnet Centers of Excellence. The Neal Prize can be awarded for a book or an article in any field for its work addressing current issues faced by the European Union or in transatlantic relations.

Announcing the 2020 Winner of the Larry Neal Prize in EU Scholarship

The European Union and Beyond: Multi-Level Governance, Institutions, and Policy-Making
Edited by Jae-Jae Spoon and Nils Ringe

EU Day 2021 Schedule of Events

A Conversation with Swedish Hip Hop Artist Jason “Timbuktu” Diakité
February 25, 2021, 3:00 pm CST
Keynote by Karin Olofsson, Ambassador of Sweden to the United States
February 26, 2021, 12:00 pm CST
Performance of Aeschylus’s “The Suppliant” by Out of Chaos Theatre and Post-Performance Panel
March 5, 2021, 2:00 pm CST