



European Union Center  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## EU Day 2021

**Friday, February 26, 2021**  
**12 P.M. CST**

### Keynote Address

*by*

Her Excellency Karin Olofsdotter  
Ambassador of Sweden to the United States

Welcoming Remarks

**Emanuel Rota**

Director of the European Union Center, University of Illinois

Opening Remarks

**Colleen Murphy**

Women & Gender in Global Perspectives Program, University of Illinois

Keynote Address

"Rights, Representation, and Resources: Gender Equality in Sweden and the EU"

**Her Excellency Karin Olofsdotter**

Ambassador of Sweden to the United States

[www.europe.illinois.edu](http://www.europe.illinois.edu)

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## Her Excellency Karin Olofsdotter

### Ambassador of Sweden to the United States



H.E. Karin Olofsdotter's keynote address, "Rights, Representation, and Resources: Gender Equality in Sweden and the EU," will outline Sweden's approach to gender equality; how generous childcare and gender-neutral parental leave have benefitted the GDP of Nordic countries; and why women's equal access to rights, resources, and representation should be hard foreign policy concerns. In addition to exploring differences between gender equality policies in the European Union and the United States and lessons that we can draw from each other, Ambassador Olofsdotter's presentation will ask: what constitutes a feminist foreign policy?

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.



## European Union Center University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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 (Italiani) - 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 Wheelles  
Nicholas Zalewski

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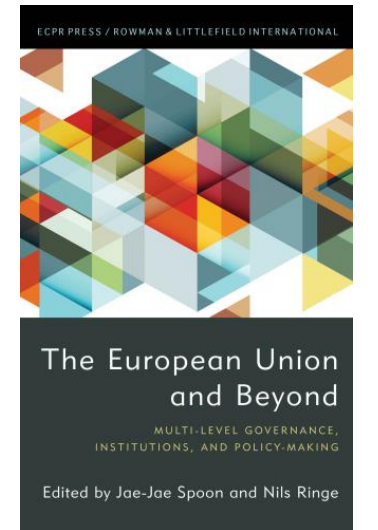
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## Announcing the 2020 Winner of the Larry Neal Prize in EU Scholarship

### ***The European Union and Beyond: Multi-Level Governance, Institutions, and Policy-Making***

Rowman & Littlefield Publishers / ECPR Press, March 2020  
Edited by Jae-Jae Spoon and Nils Ringe



### 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 issue 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.

### 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 Olofsdotter, Ambassador of Sweden to the United States  
February 26, 2021, 12:00 pm CST  
Performance of Aeschylus's "The Suppliants" by Out of Chaos Theatre and  
Post-Performance Panel  
March 5, 2021, 2:00 pm CST