The Jean Monnet Chair and the Salvador de Madariaga Institute in cooperation with the Miami European Union Center cordially invite you to the round table discussion:

50 Years of U.S. Bases in Spain: International Relations, Strategic Context, Economics and Domestic Politics

**When:** Monday, September 22, 5:00 pm

**Where:** University of Miami, Merrick 306

**Panel Participants from the University of Miami:**

Ambler Moss, Professor of International Studies, Director of the North-South Center
Pedro Gómis-Porqueras, Professor of Economics
Joaquín Roy, Director of the European Union Center

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50 Years of U.S. Military Bases in Spain

On September 26, 1953, half a century ago, Franco and Eisenhower signed the “Pacts of Madrid”. In theory, the agreements simply allowed for the building and use of military based in Spain, in exchange for economic compensation. The pacts meant the end of the international isolation of the Franco regime. Through the alliance with the United States, Spain was embedded in the “western” zone of Europe. However, from a political perspective and the opposition to the dictator, Washington guaranteed the survival of the regime.

The pacts were perfectly coherent with the global strategy of the United States, betting for containment of the Soviet threat. Franco saw his salvation when Truman endorsed the new national security doctrine that would dominate the scene until the end of the Cold War.

Before the policy of deterrence was based on the threat of launching intercontinental missiles, it was anchored in the maintenance of a fleet of superbombers permanently placed in the air, ready to go to the heart of the Soviet Union, as a response to an attack. Between the Ural mountains and Nebraska there was Spain, a gigantic aircraft carrier (or a modern day coaling station) anchored in the navel of the Western World. Spanish soil was also destined to play the role of a rearguard for the resistance in Europe in case of a Soviet onslaught.

The panel will analyze the contextual circumstances then and will compare them with the current developments of Spanish-U.S. relations, and the alliance made by the Spanish government with President Bush in the War in Iraq.

Ambassador Moss served as Vice Consul of the United States in Barcelona from 1964-1966, and cooperated in the negotiations of the renewal of the U.S.-Spanish agreements in 1969 while holding the position of Spain’s desk office at the State Department.

Dr. Pedro Gomis-Porqueras is Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Miami. A native of Barcelona, is now preparing a study on the impact of the EU structural funds on the Spanish economy.