



The Fall 2017 DCFR Dinner Speaker Schedule



All Events below are at the Denver Country Club
with reception from 6:00 – 6:45 PM, followed by dinner and speaker.

RSVP required, Non-Member Guest Fee is \$55

RSVP to: eliza.dcf@gmail.com or 720-581-2177

September 13th (Wednesday): “De-Radicalization in a US Context” with Christian Picciolini, Yoal Kidane Ghebremeskel, and Annie Miller



Christian Picciolini is an Emmy® Award-winning television producer, a prolific public speaker, a published author, and a reformed extremist. His work and life purpose are born of an ongoing and profound need to atone for a grisly past, and to make something of his time on this planet by contributing to the greater good. After leaving the violent far-right hate movement he was part of during his youth, he began the painstaking process of rebuilding his life. Christian earned a degree in International Relations from DePaul University, began his own global entertainment media firm, and was appointed a member of the Chicago Grammy Rock Music Committee and board member for the Chicago Intl. Movies and Music Festival. In 2016, Christian won an Emmy® Award for directing and producing *ExitUSA's "There is life after hate" PSA*, and has been nominated for four regional Emmy® Awards. He is an appointed United Nations-affiliated ambassador for iChangeNations and was honored with a National Statesman award. Christian is an associate for the USC Price 'Homegrown Violent Extremism' program and has worked as an adjunct professor at the college level. He contributed to Google Chairman Eric Schmidt's and Jared Cohen's New York Times bestseller, *The New Digital Age*. Most notably, in 2009 he co-founded Life After Hate, a nonprofit helping people disengage from hate and violent extremism. In 2015, he published his memoirs, *Romantic Violence: Memoirs of an American Skinhead*.



Yoal Kidane Ghebremeskel is Co-Founder & Executive Director of Street Fraternity; a place of brotherhood and personal growth for urban young men here in Denver. Yoal holds a B.A. from the Joseph Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver. He is a 2003 Daniels Scholar from South High School, and an English Second Language Student. He has actively been engaged with the refugee Community in Colorado through volunteerism, work (e.g. African Community Center, Piton Foundation, etc.), and coaching soccer to former refugee and immigrant youth and young adults. He is a graduate of Leadership Denver Class of 2015.



Dr. Annie Miller is a Research Assistant Professor at the University of Denver in the International Disaster Psychology Department and serves as Co-Director of the Colorado Resilience Collaborative. Her research and community-based efforts focus on supporting communities to reduce hate, discrimination, bias, and identity-based violence by developing protective factors locally and globally. Her research focuses on the effectiveness of networks and collaborations seeking to combat human trafficking, non-profit management, and capacity development at the community and network levels to end wicked problems. Dr. Miller formerly served as the Director of the Center for Civic Engagement at Miami University Hamilton. While leading the Center, she coauthored the Ohio Civic Health Index which identifies civic and community behaviors and policy changes that might effectively lead to enhanced civic participation. Annie holds a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado in Public Affairs - Administration, Policy, Management, and Institutions in addition to an M.S. in Higher Education Administration and a M.A. in Political Science.



September 26th(Tuesday): “Turkey: Context and Crisis in the 21st Century” with Joseph Szyliowicz

Dr. Joseph Szyliowicz recently retired from teaching at the Josef Korbel School after decades of service to the school, university and the community. Joe continues an impressive research and consulting agenda centering on the Middle East with a particular emphasis on the key state of Turkey as well as the politics, economics, and complexities of major technology and infrastructure projects both in general and in that region of the world. The author of more books, articles, chapters, reports, and monographs than can possibly be listed here, he is the founder of the University of Denver’s Intermodal Transportation Center, a former Director of the Rocky Mountain Middle East Seminar and the American Research Institute in Turkey as well as President of the Denver Council on Foreign Relations until this Fall. Joe has worked with NATO, APEC, and the China Council for International Cooperation and Environmental Development to name only a sampling of his professional associations as well as served as a fellow and lecturer all over the world. Joe will seek put the current developments in Turkey’s domestic and international politics in context in this presentation.



October 19th (Thursday): “The Realities of Cuba Today” with Juan Lindau

Dr. Juan Lindau has taught at Colorado College since 1989. He received a B.A. in Anthropology from New College in 1977, and a M.A. in Latin American Studies from Stanford University in 1980. He received, as well, an M.A. (1985) and a Ph.D. (1987,) both in Political Science, from Harvard University. He primarily teaches courses on Comparative Politics and Latin American Politics, and actively participates, outside the department, in the History/Political Science major and the International Political Economy major. Several of Professor Lindau’s courses are offered in both English and Spanish and students can elect to take the course in either language. He has taught off-campus courses, both during the summer and the regular academic year, in Mexico and in Costa Rica. His most recent publication is “The Drug War and Executive Power, Judicial Reform and Federalism in Mexico” *Political Science Quarterly* Volume 125, Number 2, Summer, 2011. This reflects a long standing scholarly interest in the drug war, the object of several of his other journal articles. His other primary scholarly interest is immigration to the United States from Latin America. He has received the Colorado College Teacher of the Year award, and the A.E. and Ethel Irene Carlton Professorship.



November 8th (Wednesday): “The Future of the EU after Brexit: Implications for Transatlantic Relations from a German Perspective” with Jana Puglierin. In conjunction with the American Council on Germany, Eric M. Warburg Chapter.

Dr. Jana Puglierin, is Head of the Alfred von Oppenheim Center for European Policy Studies at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) The Oppenheim Center seeks to provide new ideas for the continued development of European foreign, security, and defense policy and to give recommendations for Germany’s policies on Europe. Dr. Puglierin has served as an Advisor to the German Bundestag on disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation, as well as other matters relating to German and European foreign and security policy. She has lectured in the field of North American Studies at the University of Bonn and the University of Chemnitz. An alumna of the Zeit Foundation Ebelin and Gerd Bucerius Foundation and a member of the board of Women in International Security, she studied political science as well as both international and European law at the University of Bonn and at Venice International University. Dr. Puglierin’s tour is made possible by a generous ERP grant from the German Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy.

This presentation will cover the future of the European integration process after the German elections with a focus on the role of Germany, Franco-German relations, the implications of Brexit on the cohesion of the EU-27, the common security and defense policy, and the impact of this process on transatlantic relations from the German point of view.

Small group breakfasts may be available depending on speakers’ schedules; notices will be sent as dates are confirmed.