

Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series on Poland
European and Eurasian Studies Program



Eastern Europe

Between the Past and the Future

Presentation by Former President of Poland and Solidarność Leader

LECH WAŁĘSA

Wednesday, February 24 | 6:30 PM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | Broad Auditorium (SIPA 125)



Lech Wałęsa, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and former President of Poland, is a leading symbol of the fall of Communism in Central and Eastern Europe. He organized strikes in Gdańsk, which led to the establishment of the first independent trade union in the Soviet bloc.

Lech Wałęsa's dissident activities go back to 1968, when he encouraged workers at the Gdańsk Shipyard to boycott official rallies condemning student strikes. His tenacious negotiations led to the establishment of the Solidarity Free Independent Trade Union, the first bloodless victory in Polish history. Two years later in 1983, Wałęsa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Wałęsa's determination and courage later led to a compromise with the Communist regime, resulting in the establishment of the first non-Communist government on the eastern side of the Iron Curtain. In December 1990, Lech Wałęsa became the first democratically elected President of Poland.

Today, Wałęsa continues to be a spokesperson for solidarity. He travels the world, retelling the story of the non-violent struggle for peace and democracy. Through his work, he calls for the building of a modern world founded on universal values.

Sponsored by the **American Institute of Polish Culture**
and the **Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs**

Co-sponsored by the **Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Poland**, **Václav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy**, **Department of Politics and International Relations**, **Department of History**, **International Affairs Society**, **European Student Association**, **Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence** and the **Office of Global Learning Initiatives**

This event is free and open to the public. To RSVP, please [click here](#)
For more information, call 305-348-7266



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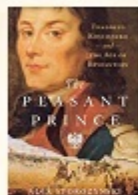
Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series on Poland

Polish Film Series

“Kosciuszko: A Man Before His Time”

Film Screening and Discussion with Alex Storozynski

Friday, November 6, 2015 | 10 AM - 12 PM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | GC 150



Based on the book, *The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Age of Revolution* by Alex Storozynski, the film portrays Kosciuszko's quest for liberty with his allies George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and the French Revolutionaries against the tyranny of Britain's King George, Russia's Catherine the Great and Napoleon Bonaparte.



Alex Storozynski is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, award-winning author, director, and President Emeritus & Vice Chairman of the Board of the Kosciuszko Foundation. He is a recipient of the Lech Walesa Media Award from the American Institute of Polish Culture, and was decorated with Poland's "Gold Cross of Merit" by former President Lech Kaczynski and the "Officer's Cross of Merit" of the Republic of Poland by former President Bronislaw Komorowski. He is the former Chairman of the Board of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, and a board member of several organizations including the American Polish Advisory Council (APAC), Quinnipiac University's Central European Institute, and Friends of the American Revolution at West Point. Storozynski's book *The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Era of Revolution*, won the Fraunces Tavern Book Award, The Templar Military History Award – "Military Order of Saint Louis," and other awards. He wrote and directed the recently released movie, *Kosciuszko: A Man Before His Time*, which is based upon his book.

Co-Sponsored by the **European Student Association**, **CSO**, the **Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence**, the **American Institute of Polish Culture**, and the **Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Miami**.

This event is free and open to all FIU students. To RSVP please e-mail calyc@fiu.edu by Nov. 2.



Steven J. Green
School of International
& Public Affairs

