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WIIS Events Hotline December 11, 2019

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Events (National)

Book Talk: Blind Spot: America and the Palestinians, From Balfour to Trump

Date: December 11th 2019

Time: 6:00pm-7:30pm

Organization: Middle East Books and More

Location: 1902 18th Street Northwest, Washington, DC 20009

About this Event

Khaled Elgindy will talk about his most recent book, *Blind Spot*, at Middle East Books and More on Wednesday, December 11th at 6pm.

Afterwards, there will be a reception with the author. Light refreshments will be served. The book talk is free and open to the public. Donations are welcome.

About the Book:

A critical political history of U.S.-Palestinian relations

The United States has invested billions of dollars and countless diplomatic hours in the pursuit of Israeli-Palestinian peace and a two-state solution. Yet American attempts to broker an end to the conflict have repeatedly come up short. Two irreducible factors stand in the way: Israeli power and Palestinian politics.

American peacemaking efforts have been hobbled by the U.S. assumption that a credible peace settlement could be achieved without addressing Israel's vast superiority in power or internal Palestinian politics. While there is no denying the roles played by Israelis and Palestinians in perpetuating their conflict, Washington's distinctive "blind spot" to Palestinian politics and Israeli power has prevented it from serving as an effective peace broker. Shaped by the pressures American domestic politics and the special relationship with Israel, the blind spot also has deep historical roots, dating back to the 1917 Balfour Declaration and the British Mandate over Palestine.

The size of the blind spot has varied over the years and from one administration to another, but it is always present. Unless and until U.S. policymakers are prepared to act in ways that constrain Israeli power and acknowledge Palestinian politics, American peacemaking stands little chance of success.

About the Author:

Khaled Elgindy is an adjunct instructor in Arab Studies at Georgetown University and a nonresident senior fellow in the Foreign Policy program at the Brookings Institution, where he was also a resident scholar from 2010 through 2018. He is the author of the newly released book, *Blind Spot: America and the Palestinians, from Balfour to Trump*, published by Brookings Institution Press in April 2019. Elgindy previously served as an adviser to the Palestinian leadership in Ramallah on permanent status negotiations with Israel from 2004 to 2009, and was a key participant in the Annapolis negotiations of 2007-08. Khaled has held a number of political



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and policy-related positions in Washington, DC, both inside and outside of government, including as a professional staff member for the U.S. House of Representatives International Relations Committee in 2002 and the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) from 2000-2002. He has also held positions at the Arab American Institute (AAI) and the National Democratic Institute (NDI). Elgindy holds an M.A. degree in Arab Studies from Georgetown University (1994) and a B.A. in Political Science from Indiana University-Bloomington (1991).

Register [here](#).

A Speech by Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs David R. Stilwell

Date: December 12th 2019

Time: 1:30pm-2:30pm

Organization: Center for Strategic and International Studies

Location: 1616 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

The CSIS China Power Project is pleased to host Assistant Secretary of State David R. Stilwell for a speech on "U.S.-China Bilateral Relations: The Lessons of History." Keynote remarks will be followed by Q&A moderated by Bonnie S. Glaser, director of the China Power Project. We hope that you are able to join us.

David R. Stilwell is the Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Prior to his appointment as Assistant Secretary on June 20, 2019, he served in the Air Force for 35 years, beginning as an enlisted Korean linguist in 1980, and retiring in 2015 in the rank of Brigadier General as the Asia advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. He served multiple tours of duty in Japan and Korea as a linguist, a fighter pilot, and a commander. He also served as the Defense Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, People's Republic of China, 2011-2013. Most recently, Mr. Stilwell served as the Director of the China Strategic Focus Group at U.S. Indo-Pacific Command in Hawaii 2017-2019 and an Adjunct Senior Fellow at the East West Center in Honolulu from 2016-2019. He earned a B.S. in History from the U.S. Air Force Academy (1987), and a Master's Degree in Asian Studies and Chinese language from the University of Hawaii at Manoa (1988) and is a 2009 graduate of the Executive Leadership program at the Darden School, University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Register [here](#).

International Policy Summer Institute

Date: Sunday, June 7 – Thursday, June 11, 2020

Organization: School of International Service at American University

Location: 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20016

Deadline: Friday, January 10th, 2020 at 8 PM



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[The International Policy Summer Institute](#) (IPSI) is a five-day professional development program for professors (all ranks) and post-docs in the field of international affairs who want to build the tools and networks to produce and disseminate policy-relevant academic research.

The Institute delivers an intensive curriculum designed to teach participants how to develop and articulate their research for a policy audience, what policy-makers are looking for when they look to scholarship on international issues, whom to target when sharing research, and which tools and avenues of dissemination are appropriate. IPSI also provides a forum for scholars to develop professional networks with their colleagues and with the broader policy community. Sessions are facilitated by senior faculty and are held in various formats, including:

- Panels with academics who have served in government, government officials, think tank researchers, and other members of the policy community, focusing on policy processes and the roles that academic research can play within them, and the value of policy experience for scholars
- Discussions with editors of policy journals, newspaper op-ed pages, and major blogs about how to pitch pieces and write for different kinds of outlets
- Interactive communications and media training, including practice sessions and personalized feedback on policy writing and media interviews
- Network-building opportunities with policy-makers and fellow scholars

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply [online](#).

The Global Counterterrorism Since 2017

Date: January 14th 2020

Time: 4:00pm-5:00pm

Organization: The Institute of World Politics

Location: 1521 16th St. NW, Washington DC, DC 20036

About the lecture:

The Trump administration quietly undertook a range of counterterrorism efforts during its first year, allowing President Trump to rightfully claim at the State of the Union address in January 2018 that, under his administration, ISIS suffered substantial territorial loss to its physical caliphate. But, that alone is not enough. This presentation aims to update the terrorism challenge going forward in light of policy choices, a new National Counterterrorism Strategy, and international pressure on terrorist actors. Going forward, the United States must also consider adapting its approach to counter a broader (and sometimes underground) jihadist movement by working with the right foreign partners to institutionalize better governance and support stabilization efforts. Failure to do so will risk yet another jihadist terrorist group rising to threaten the United States and its broader interests. In addition, senior leaders and policymakers must



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attain a better understanding of the complex “Grey Zone” dynamics ongoing in the Middle East, where the United States and its partners must be willing to invest in a long-term counter-strategy to contest the competing forces — both state and non-state in that vacuous space. This dynamic is now complicated by United States military forces essentially pulling out of Syria, as well as the continuance of a strained relationship with Iran. Lastly, we can’t ignore domestic terrorism or homegrown violent extremism (HVE) — those would-be terrorists that are at risk of radicalizing and mobilizing for violence. Effective measures to counter these threats require a range of capabilities — not solely those related to law enforcement, but also with the capabilities of the private sector and civil society.

About the speaker:

Mr. Costa served as the Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Counterterrorism on the National Security Council (NSC). At the NSC, he was responsible for coordinating counterterrorism policy and strategy as well as U.S. hostage recovery activities. Mr. Costa had 34 years of progressive national security experience and well-documented success in strategy, policy, special operations, counterintelligence, and human intelligence, deploying on multiple contingencies and to combat operations in the Republic of Panama, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Mr. Costa's last assignment with the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) was as Program Director in the Operations Directorate. Preceding USSOCOM, Mr. Costa served as a Department of the Navy civilian at the Naval Special Warfare Development Group – with US Navy SEALs, and as a Senior Adjunct Instructor with Norwich University's Bachelor of Science in Strategic Studies and Defense Analysis Program; with Norwich University, he taught on topics related to national security, strategy, and counterterrorism. He holds an M.A. in Strategic Intelligence from American Military University; an M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College; and a B.A. from Norwich University. His military awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, and two Bronze Stars. In May 2013, Mr. Costa was inducted into USSOCOM’s Commando Hall of Honor for extraordinary and enduring service to Special Operations Forces. Most recently, Mr. Costa joined the International Spy Museum as the Executive Director where he will play a leading role in building on its extraordinary success as a Washington attraction and speaking responsibly on current counterterrorism and intelligence issues.

Register [here](#).

Russia as a Failed Developmental State

Date: January 14th 2020

Time: 4:00pm-5:00pm

Organization: European Security Initiative

Location: William J Perry Conference Room (2nd Floor), 616 Jane Stanford Way, Stanford, CA 94305



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For over a decade, Russian officials have championed a model of economic growth that draws inspiration from East Asian developmental states. The state's role in economic decision making has been accentuated, setting in motion ambitious industrial and stimulus policies, import substitution, and as international sanctions have mounted, fierce protectionism. This memo explains how this shift in doctrine has contributed to economic stagnation and falling consumer welfare. Weak institutions have enabled a bureaucratic system that privileges loyalty over merit and consequently unproductive, corruption-riddled spending. Politically motivated concerns about keeping wealth and power concentrated among a small group of elites threaten to generate widespread discontent over economic exclusion.

Register [here](#).

Brothers at Arms: American Independence and the Men of France and Spain

Date: January 15th 2020

Time: 4:00pm-5:00pm

Organization: The Institute of World Politics

Location: 1521 16th St. NW, Washington DC, DC 20036

Pulitzer Prize Finalist in History

Winner of the Journal of the American Revolution 2016 Book of the Year Award

The remarkable untold story of how the American Revolution's success depended on substantial military assistance provided by France and Spain, and places the Revolution in the context of the global strategic interests of those nations in their fight against England.

In this groundbreaking, revisionist history, Larrie Ferreiro shows that at the time the first shots were fired at Lexington and Concord the colonists had little chance, if any, of militarily defeating the British. The nascent American nation had no navy, little in the way of artillery, and a militia bereft even of gunpowder. In his detailed accounts Ferreiro shows that without the extensive military and financial support of the French and Spanish, the American cause would never have succeeded. France and Spain provided close to the equivalent of \$30 billion and 90 percent of all guns used by the Americans, and they sent soldiers and sailors by the thousands to fight and die alongside the Americans, as well as around the world.

Ferreiro adds to the historical records the names of French and Spanish diplomats, merchants, soldiers, and sailors whose contribution is at last given recognition. Instead of viewing the American Revolution in isolation, *Brothers at Arms* reveals the birth of the American nation as the centerpiece of an international coalition fighting against a common enemy.

About the author:



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Larrie D. Ferreiro is the 2017 Pulitzer finalist for History, for his book "Brothers at Arms: American Independence and the Men of France and Spain Who Saved It". He received his PhD in the History of Science and Technology from Imperial College London. He teaches history and engineering at George Mason University in Virginia and the Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey. He has served for over thirty-five years in the US Navy, US Coast Guard and Department of Defense, and was an exchange engineer in the French Navy. He lives with his wife and their sons in Virginia.

Register [here](#).

Book Launch: Do Morals Matter? Presidents and Foreign Policy from FDR to Trump

Date: January 16th 2020

Time: 5:00pm-6:30pm

Organization: Center for Strategic and International Studies

Location: 1616 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

Agenda:

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - *Event*

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - *Post-Event Reception & Book Singing/Selling
Bookselling and signing to follow the event.*

In *Do Morals Matter?*, Joseph S. Nye, Jr., one of the world's leading scholars of international relations, provides a concise yet penetrating analysis of the role of ethics in U.S. foreign policy during the post-1945 era.

Working through each presidency from Truman to Trump, Nye scores their foreign policy on three ethical dimensions: their intentions, the means they used, and the consequences of their decisions. Alongside this, he evaluates their leadership qualities, elaborating on which approaches work and which ones do not.

Since we so often apply moral reasoning to foreign policy, Nye suggests how to do it better. Crucially, presidents must factor in both the political context and the availability of resources when deciding how to implement an ethical policy--especially in a future international system that presents not only great power competition from

China and Russia, but transnational threats as borders become porous to everything from drugs to infectious diseases to terrorism to cyber criminals and climate change.

Register [here](#).

Diplomat Vicki Huddleston: "Our Woman in Havana"

Date: January 24th 2020



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Time: 2:00pm-3:00pm

Organization: Bookstore1Sarasota

Location: 12 South Palm Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236

In *Our Woman in Havana: A Diplomat's Chronicle of America's Long Struggle with Castro's Cuba*, Huddleston chronicles the past several decades of US-Cuba relations from the bird's-eye view of State Department veteran and longtime Cuba hand.

Vicki Huddleston was the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Africa and later held the same position at the Department of Defense. She led American diplomatic missions in Mali, Madagascar, Cuba, and Ethiopia. She was Director of Cuban policy at the Department of State and later Chief of the United States Interests Section in Havana (1999 – 2002) before it became an embassy. In Haiti, she was deputy ambassador and later Chief of Party for a USAID development project. She was a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Institution, a Fellow at the Institute of Politics at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, and as a Congressional Fellow worked on the staff of former Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM).

Our Woman in Havana: A Diplomat's Chronicle of America's Long Struggle with Castro's Cuba, illustrates why it is important to engage with Cuba if we want to promote positive change on the island. Huddleston was our top diplomat in Havana under Presidents Clinton and George W. Bush. In her compelling memoir of a diplomat at work, she tells gripping stories of face-to-face encounters with Fidel Castro and the initiatives she undertook. With inside accounts of many dramatic episodes, like the tumultuous Elián González custody battle, Huddleston also evokes the charm of the island country, and her warm affection for the Cuban people. Huddleston recounts missed opportunities for détente, and the myths, misconceptions, and lies that have long pervaded US-Cuba relations. With Raúl Castro scheduled to step down in 2018, she also peers into the future, when for the first time in more than six decades no one named Castro will be Cuba's leader. *Our Woman in Havana* is essential reading for everyone interested in Cuba, including the thousands of Americans visiting the island every year, observers who study the stormy relationship with our near neighbor, and policymakers navigating the nuances and challenges of the US-Cuba relationship.

Register [here](#).

To Catch a Spy: The Art of Counterintelligence

Date: February 28th 2020

Time: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Organization: The Institute of World Politics

Location: 1521 16th St. NW, Washington DC, DC 20036

About the book:



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When the Soviet Union dissolved in December of 1991, many academics, media commentators, and even senior government officials declared that the Cold War was over and that we were in a new era of Pax Americana. Jim Olson was not one of those who was deluded by the changing currents of international affairs. From his post as Chief of Counterintelligence for the CIA to his professorship at the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University, Jim has studied, analyzed, and tracked the intelligence activities of hostile intelligence services as the international community evolved. He has warned of the continuing focus of the intelligence services of Russia, China, Iran, North Korea, and Cuba on the United States. These hostile services are not only penetrating our government and its military and intelligence services, but are also focusing on economic and cyber attacks.

Professor Olson in his new book, “To Catch a Spy: The Art of Counterintelligence,” demonstrates the devastating success of hostile Intelligence services against all elements of the U.S. government. He has also shown the evolution of U.S. counterintelligence activities and the positive nature of these changes while acknowledging the difficulties of effective counterintelligence in democratic societies.

About the speaker: Professor Jim Olson received a B.A. in mathematics and economics from the University of Iowa and his J.D. in international law from University of Iowa. He served in the U.S. Navy, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Professor Olson was a Career officer in the Directorate of Operations of the Central Intelligence Agency, serving mostly overseas in clandestine operations. He served as Chief of Counterintelligence at CIA Headquarters in Langley, Virginia. He was the recipient of the Intelligence Medal of Merit, the Distinguished Career Intelligence Medal, the Counterintelligence Excellence Medal, the Donovan Award, and several distinguished achievement awards. In addition to, he was awarded the Silver Star Award at the Bush School for excellence in teaching.

This event is strictly off the record. We ask that you do not record or take photographs during this event.

Register [here](#).

Russian Media: 30 Years After the Fall of the Berlin Wall

Date: March 3rd 2020

Time: 12:00pm-1:30pm

Organization: CISAC

Location: William J Perry Conference Room (2nd Floor), 616 Jane Stanford Way, Stanford, CA 94305

Abstract:



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Yevgenia Albats, a renowned independent journalist with 44 years of experience in Soviet, Russian, and international media, will tell the story of the Russia media through the frame of her own experience and analysis. The current media landscape emerged out of Soviet censorship and tight communist party control, lived through the 10 years of freedom in 1990s, and has ended up facing a new-old style of censorship under Putin's autocracy. This is a story of courage and complicity, honest journalism, and big money used to subvert the former. It is a story that should serve as a warning to others.

Register [here](#).

Ambassadors & Spies: How U. S. Ambassadors Deal with Intelligence Agencies

Date: March 29th 2020

Time: 2:00pm-5:00pm

Organization: The Cold War Museum

Location: 1616 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

The Cold War Museum, in cooperation with Old Bust Head Brewing Company, invites you to attend a presentation by Charles Ray, former U.S. Ambassador to two countries, on Ambassadors and Spies: How American Ambassadors Deal with Intelligence Agencies

Outside the United States, and in some places even within the country, American diplomats are viewed by many as spies, and our embassies are considered nests of spies. As with many myths, there is a tiny kernel of truth here, but not what one might think. Diplomats do gather information about the countries to which they're assigned, and there are intelligence officials assigned to our diplomatic missions.

The truth, however, is less dramatic, as a career diplomat with a military intelligence background will relate. Ambassadors, as representatives of the President, accredited to the host country head of state, are the senior American government officials in a country, responsible for and presiding over all US Government programs and personnel—with the exception of military personnel under the command of a Geographic military command. With a few exceptions, all intelligence operations in the country must receive the ambassador's concurrence, and some really sensitive operations are shared only on a need-to-know basis.

A savvy ambassador finds ways to mitigate the negative impact of operations if they're exposed, and will establish working relationships with intelligence agencies and personnel—as he or she must with the military—to ensure that everything that's done supports U.S. national interests, and contributes to U.S. national security.

A series of anecdotes from more than 30 years serving as a diplomat, including two assignments as ambassador, will show how diplomacy and intelligence can coexist.



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Charles Ray joined the U.S. Foreign Service, America's diplomatic corps, in 1982, after retiring from a 20-year career in the U.S. Army. He served overseas as a diplomat in China, Thailand, Vietnam, Sierra Leone, Cambodia, and Zimbabwe, and from 2006 to 2009 was deputy assistant secretary of defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs. Hailing from a small town in East Texas, Ray was born with the travel bug, and joined the army right out of high school, and was assigned to overseas to Germany, Panama, Vietnam, and Korea, and served at military bases in Oklahoma, Louisiana, Georgia, Maryland, Virginia, and California. Three years after enlisting, Ray received a commission as a second lieutenant in 1965, and continued his education, eventually receiving a B.S. in business administration from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, and an M.S. in systems management from the University of Southern California. His military assignments included Psychological Operations, Unconventional Warfare Operations, Public Affairs, Counterintelligence, and Intelligence Collection.

In addition to the education received during his military service, which included the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the Defense Intelligence University, as a diplomat he attended the National War College and the Joint Ground Force Commanders Course. Since retiring from government service in 2012, after 50 years of total service, he began writing full-time, and has published over 150 works of fiction and nonfiction. He also works with a number of organizations on foreign affairs, including the American Academy of Diplomacy, the Association of Black American Ambassadors, the American College of National Security Leaders, the Potomac Institute for Public Policy, and the Una Chapman Cos Foundation. Each summer, he conducts a workshop on professional writing for scholars of the Rangel International Affairs Program at Howard University, and does lecturing and public speaking at many educational and community institutions around the country.

This is the 35th in a series of presentations sponsored by the Museum, in cooperation with Old Bust Head Brewing Company, featuring eyewitnesses to, and other experts on, significant Cold War events and activities. Presentations occur at the Brewery, followed by special access to the Museum (next door) with a tour for event participants.

Date and Time:

Sunday, March 29th 2020, 2:00 PM. (Arrival at the brewery: 1:30-2:00 PM)

(NOTE: FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS PRESENTATION BUT CANNOT ATTEND BECAUSE THEY ARE AT A DISTANCE, HAVE A CONFLICT, ETC., THEY MAY BUY A TICKET VIA EVENTBRITE LIKE ATTENDEES, THEN ACCESS THE EVENT VIDEO ONLINE AFTER THE EVENT VIA A LINK THAT CWM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JASON HALL WILL SEND THEM. TO ARRANGE, EMAIL JASON AT JASON@COLDWAR.ORG.)

Cost: \$35, including the presentation; a \$7 coupon toward a craft beer draft, Kombucha, or other drink; a \$20 contribution to the Cold War Museum; and special access to the Museum (next door)



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for event participants following the presentation. TICKETS AT THE DOOR, IF AVAILABLE, WILL COST \$45.

Location: Old Bust Head Brewing Company, 7134 Farm Station Road, Vint Hill, VA 20187, <https://www.oldbusthead.com/>, and the Cold War Museum, 7142 Lineweaver Road, Vint Hill, VA 20187, www.coldwar.org (VINT HILL IS IN THE METROPOLITAN DC AREA).

Agenda:

- 1:30-2:00. Participants arrive; they may get their beer or other drink at this time.
- 2:00-2:10. Jason Hall, Executive Director of the Cold War Museum, introduces the Museum and Ambassador Ray.
- 2:10-3:15. Charlie presents on Ambassadors and spies.
- 3:15-3:45. Q&A opportunity for the audience.
- 3:45-4:45. The Museum (next door) will be open for event participants, with staff providing a tour for those interested. (Film shot from an SR-71 is on exhibit; there are very few rolls of such film that are not still classified.)

Event seating at the brewery is limited, and prior presentations have sold out, so we suggest that you secure your tickets promptly at Eventbrite. Questions? Call or email Jason Hall, 703-283-4124 (cell), jason@coldwar.org

Register [here](#).



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Events (International)

Óscar Lara-Estación Espacial Internacional: un logro único de la humanidad

Date: December 11th 2019

Time: 6:45pm-8:15pm

Location: IMMUNE Coding Institute, 89 Paseo de la Castellana, 28046 Madrid, Spain

En esta conferencia trataremos de entender el porqué de tanto esfuerzo en construir y mantener una estación espacial internacional.

Acerca de este evento

La Estación Espacial Internacional acaba de cumplir 20 años entre nosotros. El diseño y la operación continuada de esta estación durante tantos años es, probablemente, uno de los mayores hitos en la historia de la humanidad y no por una, sino por múltiples razones. Óscar Lara es Doctor Ingeniero Aeroespacial y jefe de proyectos en Iberespacio. Ha trabajado 9 años en proyectos en la Estación Espacial Internacional junto a ESA y NASA como líder de operaciones y fue miembro fundador de un proyecto de nano-satélites.

Cómo encontrarnos

Ve a Paseo de la Castellana 89. Baja las escaleras hacia la Plaza de Pablo Ruiz Picasso.

Verás un cartel grande de IMMUNE Coding Institute, a mano derecha de las escaleras.

¡Ahí estamos! Llámanos si tienes cualquier problema 911 011 640.

Register [here](#).

Arabic for Gender: Practical Views on Gendered Language in Human Rights

Date: December 13th 2019

Time: 5:30pm-7:00pm

Organization: AKU-ISMC's Governance Programme

Location: Aga Khan Centre (Atrium Conference Room, 1st floor) 10 Handyside Street
London N1C 4DN United Kingdom

Gender and its representation in language are of paramount current importance. This is also true for Arabic at a time of globally changing norms on violence against women and against LGBTQ people. The language that communicates the realities of gender for Arabic-speaking stakeholders, including translations from and to Arabic, are central to policy responses and to the development of educational materials. However, the language



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itself, and how to understand it, is often taken for granted. Arabic is a gendered language, and some of the debates regarding gender-free formulations, like those discussions surrounding French, German, Spanish, Persian, and Turkish, have started in Arab practitioner, but not academic, circles. The problem of gendered formulations which prefer masculine forms poses a challenge for translation into English in particular, because English does not present grammatical gender in the same way as Arabic. English is the language of global governance and the language of human rights campaigning, and so the place of translation between Arabic and English needs to be considered in the policy context. Human rights stakeholders in the Middle East and North Africa, and women and LGBTQ people in particular, to some extent rely for political recognition on the mediation of their voices and narratives through non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and on gradual social change through education. The terminology and the sociology of this mediation will be examined in this workshop, in presentations and applied exercises looking at gender both in texts and in translators' experiences.

Invited Speakers: Prof Hilary Footitt , University of Reading.

Prof Hilary Footitt recently co-edited *The Palgrave Handbook of Languages and Conflict* (2019). She combines four areas of research: women in politics, war and liberation in France, UK language policy, and languages in zones of war, conflict and development. She has led projects on the militarised use of languages for surveillance, propaganda and exclusion, and on the use of languages in non-governmental organisations. She has also advised the UK government on its language policy for education. Hilary Footitt's previous publications include "Translation and War" in *The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Politics* (with Michael Kelly, 2018), "International Aid and Development: Hearing Multilingualism, Learning from Intercultural Encounters in the History of OxfamGB" in *Language and Intercultural Communication* (2017), and *Women, Europe and the New Languages of Politics* (2016).

Wassim Wagdy, UN interpreter and rights activist. Rothna Begum, Women's rights researcher for the Middle East and North Africa region, Human Rights Watch.

Dina El Mamoun, Head of Policy and Advocacy, Oxfam-Yemen. Policy-makers (TBC).

Organiser: This workshop is organised by AKU-ISMC's Governance Programme. The Governance Programme's research activities and events explore how Muslim-majority societies and minority communities develop political systems that promote public welfare, achieve legitimacy and recognise individual and collective rights. *Refreshments will be served after the discussion.

Register [here](#).



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Emerging Technologies, Evolving Nuclear Postures, and Deteriorating Norms: Is the Global Nuclear Order Eroding?

Date: January 8-15, 2020

Time: TBA

Organization: International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts

Location: Andalo (Trento)-Italy

The global nuclear order is undergoing major transformations. Policy makers around the world are facing complex decisions and – more importantly - costly trade-offs if strategic stability is to exist and be sustainable among nuclear-armed states. A combination of dramatic and wide-ranging technological change, vigorous nuclear modernization, and the substantial waning of arms control is producing a more challenging and worrisome nuclear order. What nuclear order will arise as emerging technologies are folded into comprehensive modernization programs in an environment largely or wholly unregulated by arms control? What constitutes stable nuclear deterrence under such circumstances?

What emerging technologies are most destabilizing for nuclear strategic stability? Which ones might lead to escalation across the nuclear threshold? The 59th ISODARCO course will explore the technological, military, and arms control developments that are changing and challenging the global nuclear order.

Additional information [here](#).

A Cultural Turn in the Study of Populism: Legacies and Mobilizing Discourses

Date: January 16th, 2020

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Organization: DSMNTL

Location: The Devereux, 20 Devereux Court, London, WC2R 3JJ

Most explanations of the populist “explosion” and the right-wing turn in politics of many countries concentrate on the role of economic insecurity, changes in the political party system, and patterns of mobilization in civil society. We propose an explanation of the rise of populism (particularly its right-wing variety) that considers complex interactions between specific cultural legacies and deliberate actions of cultural and political entrepreneurs.

Jan Kubik (M.A. - Jagiellonian University, Kraków; Ph.D. - Columbia University) is Professor in the Department of Political Science at Rutgers University and Professor of Slavonic and East European Studies at University College London (UCL). Works on the



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rise of right-wing populism in Europe (<https://populism-europe.com/poprebel/>), protest politics, and the relationship between politics and culture. The incoming President of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES).

Marta Kotwas is a doctoral student at UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies (Philosophy MA - University of Lodz) and a pro-choice activist. She works on socio-cultural interpretations of the rise of right-wing populism and nationalism in CEE, and on the relationship between popular culture and politics in Poland.

Register [here](#).

Nationalism: Dismantled

Date: January 29th, 2020

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Organization: DSMNTL

Location: The Devereux, 20 Devereux Court, London, WC2R 3JJ

Dismantling Nationalism: What do the 'new right' want from the world? What is the underlying vision from those in charge? Is leadership or class a birth right? With 31st January looming large - Join Dr Pablo De Orellana for a no holds barred look at Nationalism in the 21st Century and it's key players; Dismantling what we already know and reconstructing ideas.

As we roll into yet another defining week in the soap opera we call Brexit, it is common to simplify some of the figureheads as “fascists” and “isolationists” when it comes to issues such as this. However, this appeal to old right-wing extremist labels hides their history, underlying ideas and the extent to which they too are internationalists.

The so-called *New Right* (which is how many new nationalists self-define) seeks to reframe international politics by energetically promoting inequality. Why? As one of their founding manifestos explains: ‘humanity as such does not exist’.

This talk discusses what the likes of Steve Bannon, Rees-Mogg & Matteo Salvini want from international relations, why they talk about it so much –particularly evident in the case of Brexit– and how they are currently working to entirely reframe international relations. It will explore policies that seek to redefine identity, citizenship, international relations norms, gender, migration, asylum, war, poverty and development on the basis of what they claim are “natural” or “birth-right” differences and rights.



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Dr Pablo de Orellana is a Lecturer in International Relations at King's College London. His research examines the theories animating contemporary nationalist movements and how they inspire nationalist diplomacy, domestic policy and terrorism.

***Doors at 6.30pm - with the talk starting at 7.00pm sharp.**

****There will be time to network & meet the speaker at a reserved space in the downstairs bar after the talk finishes.**

Register [here](#).

International Offensive Security Conference

Date: February 6th, 2020

Time: 12:30am-2:00pm

Organization: Brussels School of International Studies, University of Kent

Location: 2A Boulevard Louis Schmidt, 1040 Etterbeek, Belgium

We see increasing polarisation in various parts of the world. The climate emergency is escalating. Political discourse seems to become increasingly uncivilised. What role can mediation, mediators and what we call interest-based negotiation play in political negotiations and policy-making? Can mediators offer a different way of doing things?

John Sturrock QC, founder and senior mediator at Core Solutions, and mediator with Brick Court Chambers, is a pioneer of mediation throughout the UK, with an international reputation. He mediates and trains in the commercial, professional, sports, public sector, policy and political fields. A Distinguished Fellow of the IAM and Visiting Professor at Edinburgh University, he has facilitated talks on climate change and constitutional relations in the UK and is founder of Collaborative Scotland.

Register [here](#).

International Offensive Security Conference

Date: February 14th – 15th, 2020

Time: 9:00am- 6:00pm

Organization: OffensiveCon Berlin

Location: Hilton Hotel, Berlin, Germany

Offensive Con Berlin is a highly technical international security conference focused on offensive security only. The aim of the offensivecon is to bring the community of hackers together for high quality and deep technical talks, engaging and renowned technical



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training. The talks at offensivecon are focused on offensive IT security topics such as vulnerability discovery, advanced exploitation techniques, and reverse engineering.

Register [here](#).

UN 75th Anniversary talk with Tatiana Valovaya, UNOG Director-General

Date: February 26th, 2020

Time: 6:00pm-9:00pm

Organization: SOAS University of London

Location: Brunei Gallery Theatre SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, London, WC1H 0XG, United Kingdom

The talk will highlight achievements made by the UN towards Sustainable Development Goals, and the important Climate work undertaken by the UN. The Director-General will also reflect on the role of multilateralism on the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, and the 100th anniversary of the League of Nations.

Tatiana Valovaya is Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva. She began her career with the Government of the Russian Federation in 1989 and served in various capacities, including as the Third and Second Secretary at her country's Permanent Mission to the European Union in Brussels (1989-1994) and Deputy Director and subsequently Director of the Department of International Cooperation (1999-2012). Before joining her country's Government, she worked as a reporter for The Economic Gazette in Moscow (1983-1989).

Register [here](#).

Women In Development Conference

Date: March 5th, 2020

Time: 9:00 am – 8:00 pm

Organization: Global Series

Location: County Hall, London

Women in Dev is a women-led, women-focused international development conference which will be held at etc. venues County Hall, London, on March 5th, 2020. In the run up to International Women's Day, we will bring together women from across the development arena and provide a platform for women-led conversations around some of the most significant challenges of our time, fostering an inclusive atmosphere in which to learn, grow, inspire and be inspired.



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Early Registration – SPECIAL for WIIS MEMBERS WID-WIISMINUS20 (Good until November 30th).

Register Here: <https://womenindex.com/>

Counter Terror Expo (CTX) 2020

Date: May 19th – 21st, 2020

Time: TBA

Organization: Counter Terror Expo (CTX)

Location: ExCeL London, Royal Victoria Dock, 1 Western Gateway, London, E16 1XL, UK

The Counter Terror Expo (CTX) is the UK's leading networking event for security professionals from industry, infrastructure, government and policing. It's where they come to discover new ideas and technology to improve security and aid in the fight against terrorism. In partnership with its sister events the World Counter Terror Congress, Forensics Europe Expo and Ambition, CTX brings together the world of security, preparedness, resilience and response under one roof.

The key themes of CTX are:

- Protecting People
- Protecting Infrastructure
- Policing and Specialist Operations

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- Hear from top tier international speakers and earn CPD accreditation for your conference attendance
- Benefit from free-to-attend educational sessions and interactive demo zones
- Join the largest gathering of senior security professionals from Law Enforcement, Government to the Private Sector
- Gain insight into the latest technologies and product

Register [here](#).