

# FPA Voices

## The FPA Research Journey

Professor  
Cristina Rojas  
in Bolivia

## Exploring From Kyrgyzstan to Brazil



**Carleton**  
UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF  
**Public Affairs**

# Welcome to FPA Voices

## Message from our Dean

Pursuing an academic degree is, in many ways, a journey.

It's an experience that immerses you in a different world with new ideas, diverse people, and research that takes you in directions you never imagined.

Those are the stories we're telling in this month's *FPA Voices*, which highlights the research of Professor Cristina Rojas as well as several of our talented graduate students.

Their studies in places like Kyrgyzstan, Tunisia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Bolivia, and here in Canada are a reflection of FPA's mission to build better societies and better democracy at home and abroad.

These are students who want to make a difference in the world, and we offer many graduate degrees that help prepare them to meet that challenge, whether in the private sector, educational institutions, government, international agencies, or NGOs. These programs have earned their reputation as high-quality undertakings, to which the successful careers of our alumni testify.

In addition, many of our programs of study are structured to help students develop perspectives inspired by a number of academic disciplines and thus many offer research opportunities that cut across disciplines.

Moreover, we couldn't ask for a better location than here in Canada's Capital, where the headquarters of numerous national and international organizations are based—providing mentors, instructors, and workplace opportunities for our students. That's Carleton's Capital Advantage.



So I encourage you to sit back, make yourself a cup of coffee or tea, and take a few minutes to read about the fascinating research our students are pursuing.

It's quite a journey.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "André".

André Plourde  
Dean, Faculty of Public Affairs  
Carleton University

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## Message from our Associate Dean (Research and Graduate Affairs)

One of the most gratifying aspects of my work is that I have the opportunity to spend time with incredibly bright and inspiring graduate students.

This issue of *FPA Voices* shares their stories, and gives you a sense of the rich environment we have at FPA that supports Master's, PhD, and postdoctoral students in groundbreaking research that contributes to our ability to address societal challenges.

Our faculty members work closely with graduate scholars as they choose topics of study, conduct research, and complete their graduate project—whether that's a thesis, a dissertation, an internship, or a piece of long-form journalism.

We also support our graduate students in attending professional conferences, working with visiting international scholars, and organizing research symposia as part of FPA Research Month.

You can find contact information for our graduate supervisors on [Page 29](#). They would be happy to answer any questions you may have about pursuing an advanced degree or diploma in the Faculty of Public Affairs.

Karen Schwartz  
Associate Dean  
Research and Graduate Affairs  
Faculty of Public Affairs  
Carleton University



### Areas of Graduate Study in FPA

- African Studies
- Political Management
- Economics
- European, Russian and Eurasian Studies
- International Affairs
- Infrastructure Protection and International Security
- Journalism
- Communication
- Legal Studies
- Political Economy
- Political Science
- Public Policy and Administration
- Indigenous Policy and Administration
- Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership
- Sustainable Energy Policy
- Social Work

# FPA People

## Cristina Rojas



*Professor Cristina Rojas is a professor in the Department of Political Science, the Institute of Political Economy, and the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA). Her research began in her home country of Colombia, where she studied the relationship between indigenous people and elites. She has since begun working with indigenous people in the South American country of Bolivia.*

*You have studied the life and political power of indigenous people in both Colombia and Bolivia. How do the two countries compare?*

In Colombia I studied the elite's desire to civilize the people during the 19th century. They were white literati who believed that European civilization had to be brought to the people of Colombia. My thesis was that this regime of civilization engendered violence and silenced the perspectives of indigenous people (about 4% of the population), Afro-descendants and the poor. This violence continued in different forms over two centuries.

In Bolivia my research takes a different perspective. It is a perspective from below, from the indigenous peoples who make up most of the population (historically 60-70%). I explore how they conceive and continue defending their ways of life.

*What has been their experience in Bolivia?*

Power has historically been in the hands of the white and mixed-race minority. That imbalance has led to a tumultuous history of coups and counter-coups.

But in 2009, a new Constitution was created with the participation of indigenous groups. Bolivia elected its first indigenous president. The Constitution states that indigenous people must be consulted in government decisions, that they will have autonomy, and that their judicial and economic systems are legitimate.

*Has this happened?*

In some ways and not in others. Although indigenous people were major players in the Constitutional Assembly, they are now encountering more difficulty in translating their experience into policies and programs of reform.

The government tends to focus on the equality of opportunity—ensuring that indigenous people have posts in government as ministers and mayors. But they are not consulted in decisions and are still expected to convert to “modernity”.

While they are recognized in the Constitution, their indigenous knowledge and ways of life are not valued.

Photos in this story by Kirsten Francescone  
PhD Student, Anthropology, Carleton University.



Two indigenous women conversing during the TIPNIS protest vigil in the Plaza Murillo, La Paz, Bolivia. On the right is indigenous activist Toribia Lero and on the left is indigenous authority Catalina Molina. Photo taken, October 2011.

*You focus specifically on the experience of Bolivian women. While there's a strong feminist tradition, it can clash with indigenous traditions.*

In the feminist movement, it's very important for there to be a system of quotas in which opportunities are split 50/50.

But the indigenous women have other priorities including the defense of territory and the respect for the environment. They want change to come from within. They prefer to deal with inequalities within their own community and

according to their own system of indigenous authority.

*As a researcher, you've made a point of consulting with indigenous women. How do you enable them to share their knowledge?*

Indigenous women have their own voice. I can't pretend to speak for them. I see my role as facilitating a space within the academic work for them to search their experience with other indigenous women and to find an audience to defend their points of view.

continued on page 5...



Indigenous Quechua community members harvesting barley by hand on indigenous communal property. Photo taken in Kirkiawi, Cochabamba, Bolivia in May, 2015.

In this regard, I have organized panels of indigenous women in both LASA (Latin American Studies Association) and CALACS (Canadian Association of Latin American Studies). I also invited indigenous women from Guatemala and they shared their practices about their participation in politics and how they organize locally but also in international fora. It is important for scholars to know that they don't have a monopoly of knowledge and that there are alternatives that do not reach the political science textbooks.

This is how I see my role, as an intermediary between two worlds.

*Last spring, you won a Faculty Graduate Mentoring Award from Carleton University. What's your approach as a graduate student supervisor?*

I advise students in many programs: international affairs, political economy, public

administration, anthropology, sociology, and more. It's a privilege because I learn so much from them. It's not a top-down relationship. There's a lot of learning and respect from both sides. I see my role as forging connections between students, between them and other professors and also to engage in international discussions and conferences. The academic world can be very lonely, so it's important that they share their experiences and that they know that there are resources and spaces beyond the classroom.

You can find out more about Professor Rojas' research at the FPA Research Excellence Award Symposium on February 24, 2016. This event will kick off 2016 FPA Research Month, an annual event series that celebrates the research being done in the Faculty of Public Affairs. Email [fpa-events@carleton.ca](mailto:fpa-events@carleton.ca) to be contacted when registration for Professor Rojas' event opens.

You are invited to attend a Carleton University Community Event

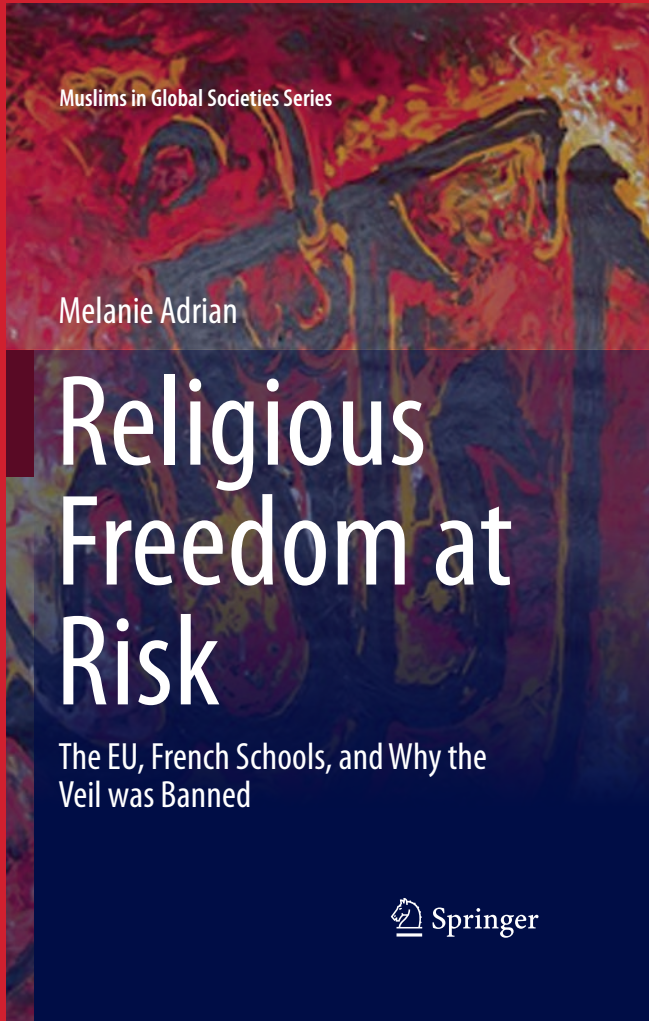
# Religious Freedom at Risk: The EU, French Schools, and Why the Veil was Banned

Thursday, 26 November 2015

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Pressed **New location!**

750 Gladstone Ave. Ottawa



Melanie Adrian is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Law and Legal Studies at Carleton University and winner of the 2012-2013 FPA Teaching Excellence Award. Her research focuses on the intersections of multiculturalism, nationalism, religion and the law.

#### Author Meets Readers

An informal discussion on the latest research and books emerging from Carleton's Faculty of Public Affairs.

Everyone is invited to join the discussion on today's most pressing issues and challenges.

[carleton.ca/fpa/amr](http://carleton.ca/fpa/amr)

This book examines matters of religious freedom in Europe, considers the work of the European Court of Human Rights in this area, explores issues of multiculturalism and secularism in France, of women in Islam, and of Muslims in the West.



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**Author  
meets  
Readers**



**New location!**

**Pressed - 750 Gladstone Ave.  
Ottawa**



***Priscilla Hwang***



## ***School of Journalism and Communication: Master of Journalism***

I was inspired to write my Masters Research Project about the Christian minority in Tunisia after I spent a year learning Arabic in that country. Tunisia has a population that's 99 per cent Muslim, so the existing Christian minority is a new phenomenon and they come from a Muslim background.

While Tunisia is seen as a model democratic society in the Arab world, many of the Christians are in hiding. I met a Christian man who was stoned on several occasions and stabbed in his torso. An extremist group had posted his photo on a website. There was also a woman who was beaten by her father and brother when she was seen walking into a Catholic church to get more information. But surprisingly, they told me not to call this persecution.

My Tunisian friends warned me against doing this research because they knew people who had made inquiries into sensitive subjects were often deported or muzzled. But in the end, they gave me advice on how to approach people and how to deal with the government officials.

This research, and the in-depth article that will result from it, wouldn't have been possible without the support I received from faculty members like Paul Adams and Susan Harada. The faculty helped every step of the way, sending information about scholarships and opportunities. It was through the Diane Stuemmer Scholarship, created in honour of Stuemmer, the journalist and author, that I was able to travel to Tunisia to pursue this story.





***Sasha Hanson Pastran***

***School of Public Policy and Administration:  
Master of Arts, Public Administration***

Many Canadian university students have computers and cell phones. These are examples of how we use minerals that are mined internationally on a daily basis.

More than 50 per cent of global mining companies are headquartered here in Canada and the increasing number of conflicts involving Canadian mining companies overseas is quite alarming. So the question arises: what are the Canadian government and Canadian companies doing to resolve and to prevent these conflicts?

With the help of a Canada Graduate Scholarship from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, I have been investigating the impact of government policies and regulations on conflict, responsible mining, and setting the norms of the sector. In January 2016, I plan to broaden my research on mining policy by examining the resolution of mining conflicts in Brazil, another country that has a significant impact on the global mining industry.

My research will become part of a global research project on mining and forestry policies that the School of Public Policy and Administration is leading. My graduate research supervisor, Dr. Alex Mallett, assisted me in arranging an exchange at Pontifical Catholic University in Rio de Janeiro to do this research, with support from Carleton's International Student Services Office (ISSO).

I'm in active talks with officials from the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade & Development. I hope to eventually offer my research as policy advice to the Canadian and Brazilian governments to strengthen the conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms in their mining policies.



At the Faculty of Public Affairs, we're known for groundbreaking and innovative research that influences public policy and practice at home and abroad. FPA Research Month is a celebration of that research and an opportunity for us to bring together Carleton scholars with academic researchers from across Canada to discuss the significant achievements of the past year.

# Bringing Research to Life

2016

Faculty of  
Public Affairs  
Carleton University

FPA  
RESEARCH  
MONTH

FEBRUARY 24 -  
MARCH 24



**Carleton**  
UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF  
**Public Affairs**



# Vladimir Díaz

***Institute of Political Economy: Master of Arts, Political Economy***

I have been doing research about mining in Bolivia for a few years. In that time, my country has experienced conflicts related to mining exploitation. Several people have died and there have been important political struggles at the national level.

My research is on the economics of mining; the relationships between foreign direct capital investments, taxes, state-owned companies, small-scale operations, and the politics behind them.

I have also researched the policies put in place by governments in Latin America in the context of the global commodity boom.

When I was in my country, I was a part of the Center for Research and Documentation. We produced materials to press the government to take action or to change its policy on certain issues. Research was a part of political engagement. I think research should have that aim, to influence policy.

This has been an amazing experience for me in several aspects. In Bolivia, it's very difficult to study full-time at the university. People from middle class families have the support of their parents for the undergraduate level. At the master's level, that doesn't usually happen. Here, the experience of being able to study full-time and do research has been very valuable.



# ***Catherine Malezis***

***Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (EURUS)***  
***Master of Arts, European, Russian and Eurasian Studies***

People buy everything at the open-air markets (bazaars) in Southern Kyrgyzstan: clothing, food, jewelry, even car parts.

I travelled to the region in search of information. I wanted to find out how Kyrgyz and Uzbek people were interacting in the bazaars since the violent clashes between them in 2012. A large section of the main bazaar in the city of Osh had been burned down, and I was curious to see how it had been rebuilt, and how the interactions between sellers and buyers had changed.

With the help of a wonderful research assistant—a local Kyrgyz student who spoke Russian, Kyrgyz, and Uzbek—I visited nine bazaars, started purchasing items and asking questions of the sellers.

We barely knew what we were doing or how we would be received, but we had fun because we were both curious. Thankfully, we completed the research with 54 respondents.

While I am still working through my data, I am comfortable to say with certainty that Kyrgyz and Uzbek people are interacting in the marketplace, but much less so outside of the bazaar. Still, there seems to be hope that the bazaar could be an avenue for greater pluralism in the region.

This is precisely why I applied to the Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (EURUS).

I knew I wanted to pursue a graduate program that would afford me real-world opportunities. I didn't want to write a research paper about someone else's fieldwork: I wanted to do my own.

The first person I talked to was Professor Jeff Sahadeo, then Director, who became my graduate supervisor. He told me that EURUS students have many opportunities in the way of internships, co-ops, and funding for research and language training abroad.

I'm so thankful because I now have this experience that sets me apart from others with MAs as I enter the job market. I can say that I have studied and conducted fieldwork in Central Asia, and that I have something new to contribute to the conversation.





***Melissa Rumble***



***Clayton H. Riddell Graduate Program in Political Management,  
Arthur Kroeger College:  
Master of Political Management***

In September 2014, I became the social media coordinator for the Liberal Party of Canada, after serving on the 2013 Trudeau leadership campaign. I also served as the social media coordinator for the Liberal Party of Canada during the most recent election campaign.

It was really exciting to be working for the Liberal Party, but I wasn't sure how I would finish my master's degree and work full-time simultaneously. I quickly found that the skills I was learning in the MPM program were immediately transferable to the work I was doing in politics, and helped me master both. These were skills it would have taken me years to learn on the job.

The professors at MPM are the best part of the program. They are experts in each of their respective fields and I found I was coming away with incredible insider knowledge of the political world. It was amazing to learn from them.





***Heather Norris***

***School of Public Policy and Administration:  
Master of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership***

It was really exciting to be part of the first cohort of the MPNL program. It included people from diverse professional backgrounds: the arts, international development, health care and social services. Some had recently completed undergraduate studies; others had over twenty years of professional experience.

I had been working in the nonprofit sector in Northumberland County when the MPNL program sparked my interest. It's designed to prepare graduates to be innovators and leaders in diverse sectors, and I saw it as an opportunity to help escalate me to that next level of leadership, as opposed to making another lateral move.

There's a real focus in the nonprofit sector on long-term social change and the ability to measure and communicate impact. I conducted research on the United Way's impact journey, something they've been engaged in for close to twenty years. This led to a research practicum and eventually a professional opportunity as the Director, Community Impact at the Northumberland United Way in Cobourg, Ontario.

This is an exciting role that aligns with key learnings from the MPNL program: evaluation in terms of impact measurement, governance and leadership, organizational development, and finance.

I aspire to utilize my education and professional expertise to become a strong leader and change-maker in the nonprofit sector.





# *Decky Kipuka Kabongi*

## ***Norman Paterson School of International Affairs: PhD in International Affairs***

I grew up in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) where I faced difficulties caused by poverty. My dream is to give access to education to impoverished children in the Great Lakes Region of Africa because I believe that is the way out of poverty. Education is a bridge to better opportunities. That is how I myself escaped it. So I am passionate about development and the reduction of poverty.

I have an excellent background in both economics and public and international affairs. I chose to pursue my PhD at NPSIA because I wanted to gain a greater understanding of the connections between international development, security and politics. The professors I have had here have outstanding knowledge in these areas.

I'm focusing on the Great Lakes Region because that region has experienced recurrent armed conflicts, which have devastating consequences on people and societies: increased poverty, destruction of schools and villages, population displacement, and severe disruption of economic activities. Research has shown that wars are development in reverse. They are ugly, especially in countries already poor.

My dissertation research is focused on the determinants of variations in military expenditures in Africa across time, countries, and sub-regions. From a development perspective, it is important to examine the drivers of such spending because, apart from investment in the production of security and order, they are considered a resource diversion away from other forms of more productive investments.

I have also started a small charitable organization called the [Emmanuel Centre for Development Initiatives](#), which is paying school tuition for children living in poverty in Congo and Uganda, as well as giving micro-loans to their mothers. It's a small organization, a start-up, but I think every organization we see bigger today started small.

My long-term goal is to return to the DRC and go into public policy where I can influence the socio-economic development process in such areas as investment in access to quality education, adequate health services for all, clean water, and employment opportunities for the youth.





***James Liles***

***Department of Law and Legal Studies:  
Master of Arts, Legal Studies***

Front-line officers are considered de facto mental health providers given that police are regularly the first to respond to people with mental illness. But it doesn't always seem like the police are responding effectively to this population. Research suggests they don't receive enough training on mental illness and de-escalation techniques.

With valuable guidance from Professor Dale Spencer, I'm studying a Canadian police organization to understand the impact of mental health response units on the broader policing culture. Policing culture is understood as a very masculinized occupation with a significant focus on enforcement-based initiatives such as "fighting" crime, making arrests and laying charges.

Yet mental health response units don't embody that focus. They represent service-based policing, with partnerships between the police and counsellors at hospitals or community organizations. Understanding their impact on the broader policing culture can identify ways in which police organizations could better respond to people with mental illness in the community.

My hypothesis is that these mental health units are giving rise to a new culture of policing that is challenging the dominant ideology.





***Nadia Hai***





## ***School of Journalism and Communication: PhD in Communication***

My research has to do with how insurgent groups like ISIS, al Shabaab, and al Qaeda recruit Western audiences through their online texts. So I'm looking at how they format or rebrand those messages for English-speaking audiences.

I studied *Inspire* magazine, an online English language publication, to look at the different rhetorical strategies such groups used to make their movement appealing. It would often involve things like making themselves more of a social justice type movement or branding themselves as having an anti-globalization countercultural purpose. I wanted to expand more on that for my PhD.

My supervisor, Communication Studies Professor Karim Karim, is an expert in media and Islam, which has been invaluable. I've also had guidance from Communication Studies Professor Merlyna Lim, who studies social movements and how they communicate with different audiences, and Professor Jez Littlewood from Carleton's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, who focuses on issues of counter-terrorism and foreign fighting.

Also, there's a great advantage to being in Canada's Capital. I've had access to a lot of different events and talks regarding counter-terrorism. That's really helped to enrich my research.





***Sasha Séguin***

## ***School of Social Work: Master of Social Work***

One of the requirements for the MSW degree is to conduct a research project with a community organization. In our case, a health centre submitted a research proposal asking the School to explore whether or not the agency used a strength-based approach when working with clients.

The strength-based approach is used in social services to work with people based on their own strengths and resources, rather than solely focusing on what's going wrong. We found that the standardized intake forms used by the health centre followed a more medical model approach and focused on deficits, but the centre's culture was fairly strength-based.

We were then invited to present our work at this year's C2U Expo at Carleton University, which brings together researchers and community organizations. This was a great way to share our findings and learn about the work done in other community groups, as well. There's no point in conducting research that benefits society if the community doesn't hear about it.

Throughout this time, faculty members in the School of Social Work offered amazing support and advice. I was grateful to have been supported by an Ontario Graduate Scholarship and a teaching assistant position, so I was fortunate to finish my degree debt-free in August. I've now begun my career as a social worker on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.





# *Anand Acharya*

**Department of Economics:  
PhD in Economics**

Clinical health researchers often try to answer questions that compare specific treatments or therapies. As part of this, there are important qualitative outcomes that go along with these primary questions, and that's where economists can come in.

My colleagues and I are collaborating with researchers at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) to help the clinical team understand how a change in a child's length of stay in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (ICU) affects other factors beyond direct costs. For example, we are trying to determine if "one day less" in the ICU will result in improved patient flow and decreased wait times for elective surgeries. In addition, are there qualitative measures that can capture the reduction in stress on a patient's family when their child's ICU stay is shortened?

In economics it is unusual to be able to collect prospective data for analysis. However, with this study, we have been fortunate to collect real time data that we plan to use in building a general framework or template for the evaluation of economic outcomes in clinical trials. The potential for this framework to be used in other clinical settings is very exciting.

My interest in this project began with a graduate course in research methods. With the subsequent guidance provided by my supervisor, Professor Lynda Khalaf, I have been able to develop the mathematical and statistical skills needed to answer more involved questions that are relevant in the field of health and have also allowed me to develop exciting collaborations for the future.



# Interested in Graduate Studies?

If you'd like to learn more about one of our graduate programs, feel free to visit our [admissions](#) pages or contact the graduate supervisors in each unit:

## **Clayton H. Riddell Graduate Program in Political Management, Arthur Kroeger College**

Master's

André Turcotte (andre.turcotte@carleton.ca)

## **Department of Economics**

Master's

Nick Rowe (nick.rowe@carleton.ca)

PhD

Pat Coe (patrick.coe@carleton.ca)

## **Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (EURUS)**

Master's

Achim Hurrelmann

(achim.hurrelmann@carleton.ca)

## **School of Journalism and Communication**

Journalism Master's

Chris Dornan (chris.dornan@carleton.ca)

Communication Master's

Communication PhD

Chris Russill (chris.russill@carleton.ca)

## **Department of Law and Legal Studies**

Master's

PhD

Christiane Wilke (christiane.wilke@carleton.ca)

## **Norman Paterson School of International Affairs**

Master's

Yiagadeesen Samy

(yiagadeesen.samy@carleton.ca)

PhD

David Long

(david.long@carleton.ca)

## **Institute of Political Economy**

Master's

PhD

Laura Macdonald

(laura.macdonald@carleton.ca)

## **Department of Political Science**

Master's

PhD

Hans-Martin Jaeger

(hansmartin.jaeger@carleton.ca)

## **School of Public Policy and Administration**

Master of Public Administration

Master of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership

Phil Ryan (phil.ryan@carleton.ca)

PhD Public Policy

Saul Schwartz (saul.schwartz@carleton.ca)

## **School of Social Work**

Master's

PhD

Hugh Shewell (hugh.shewell@carleton.ca)

# Events

**Economics:** Departmental Seminar Series.  
**Several dates in November/December**  
[More information here](#)

**Political Economy:** Launch of *The Least Developed Countries Report 2015: Transforming Rural Economies in Canada*.  
**November 26** | [More information here](#)

**Faculty of Public Affairs:** “Religious Freedom at Risk: The EU, French Schools, and Why the Veil was Banned”: Author Meets Readers featuring Melanie Adrian, Department of Law and Legal Studies.  
**November 26** | [More information here](#)

**African Studies:** “Democracy in Danger in Democratic Republic of the Congo”.  
**December 1** | [More information here](#)

**Norman Paterson School of International Affairs/  
NPSIA:** “The Year Ahead: An International Security and Intelligence Outlook for 2016”.  
**December 4** | [More information here](#)



[Faculty units can submit upcoming events here](#)

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[carleton.ca/fpa/voices](http://carleton.ca/fpa/voices)



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