Thursday, March 28th,  
4:00pm, 101 International Studies Building  
910 S. Fifth St., Champaign, IL 61820

Lenin's Revenge: Regional Fracture and Security (Dis)Order in Post-Communist Eurasia

Anna Ohanyan  
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Professor Ohanyan introduces the theory of regional fracture to explain Russia's foreign policy in its conflict-ridden periphery spanning the Donbas to Damascus. Drawing from cases of conflict regions in Russia's near-abroad, the theory of regional fracture seeks to explain how and why regions come apart, prolong dysfunctional ties within the region and foster weak states. It demonstrates regional fracture by default as a post-imperial legacy in Russia's peripheries. It further explores 'regional fracture by design', a deliberate foreign policy strategy employed by the Kremlin which aims to keep states in post-Communist Eurasia weak and in Russia's orbit. Her presentation draws upon a recently published volume edited by Professor Ohanyan, Russia Abroad: Driving Regional Fracture in Post-Communist Eurasia and Beyond (Georgetown University Press, 2018).

Anna Ohanyan is the Richard B. Finnegan Distinguished Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Stonehill College. Her latest two books are Russia Abroad: Driving Regional Fracture in Post-Communist Eurasia and Beyond (Georgetown University Press, 2018), and Networked Regionalism as Conflict Management (Stanford University Press, 2015). Professor Ohanyan is a Fulbright Scholar and previously served as a doctoral fellow at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

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