



MERSHON CENTER for International Security Studies

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EVENTS & DEADLINES

- Jan 07** **Mustapha Nabli**
01/07/2014, -
Special Event
- Jan 09** **Adam Cathcart**
01/09/2014, -
Institute for Korean Studies
Event; Co-sponsored by the
Mershon Center and the
Institute for Chinese Studies
- Jan 13** **John Mueller**
01/13/2014, -
Director's Speaker Series
- Jan 16** **Richard Immerman**
01/16/2014, -
Diplomatic History Series
- Jan 24** **Student Peace Conference
and Peace Awards**
01/24/2014, -
Special Event

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Globalization Speaker Series

PAULINE JONES-LUONG

"Crude Ambitions: The Internationalization of Emerging National Oil Companies"

Thursday, October 17, 2013, 4:00PM - 5:30PM
 Mershon Center for International Security Studies
 1501 Neil Ave. Columbus, OH 43201

[Register for the event here.](#)

Pauline Jones-Luong is professor of political science and director of the Islamic studies program at University of Michigan. Her scholarly work contributes broadly to the study of institutional origin, change, and impact in a wide variety of settings: newly emergent states with multiple competing subnational identities, states transitioning from planned to market economies, states rich in natural resources, and states with predominantly Muslim populations. Her empirical work focuses primarily on the former Soviet Union.

She has published articles in several leading academic and policy journals, including the *American Political Science Review*, *Annual Review of Political Science*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Politics and Society*, *Europe-Asia Studies*, and *Resources Policy*. Her books include *Institutional Change and Political Continuity in Post-Soviet Central Asia: Power, Perceptions, and Pacts* (Cambridge, 2002); *The Transformation of Central Asia: States and Societies from Soviet Rule to Independence* (Cornell, 2003); and, most recently, *Oil is not a Curse: Ownership Structure and Institutions in the Soviet Successor States* (Cambridge, 2010).

She is currently working on three large research projects: 1) the internationalization strategies of emerging country national oil companies (NOCs); 2) the social and political impact of the "Islamic revival" in Central Asia; and 3) the institutionalization of secularism as a form of political extremism in predominantly Muslim countries.

Abstract

The burgeoning literature on the internationalization of emerging country NOCs asserts that the combination of technology transfer in the 1970s-80s and sustained high oil prices in the 1990s created an unprecedented opportunity in the 2000s for

NOCs to internationalize their operations at a rapid pace, enabling them to compete successfully with International Oil Companies (IOCs) for dominance in global oil markets. The 2000s has indeed witnessed the expansion of emerging country NOCs' investment, exploration, production, and personnel abroad. And yet, this widespread ambition to internationalize has been realized with varying levels of success.

We capture this variation by developing an original composite index that assigns NOCs a degree of internationalization score. We then provide an alternative explanation for why emerging country NOCs achieve such different levels of success. Contrary to existing explanations that emphasize structural and economic changes at the international level, we argue that an NOC's capacity to internationalize is constrained by domestic politics; more specifically, the legacy of its mode of emergence, the timing of convergence between the government and NOC management regarding the merits of internationalization, and the sequencing of sectoral reforms vis-à-vis convergence.



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