Islam as a Power Resource: Instrumentalization of Religion

with

Maria Omelicheva

How can Islam play multiple and contradictory roles as a source of violence and peace, and a marker of identity differences and national unity? This presentation will explore an argument that religion, as a system of beliefs, manifests itself through discourses, which serve to convey religious meanings but also project interests and identities of governments, Muslim communities, and religious organizations. The study offers an empirical analysis of instrumentalisation of Islam by governments of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan and uses this evidence for developing a framework linking various discursive representations of religion to their political uses.

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Tuesday, May 5, 2015
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Conference Room 505
1957 E St. NW, 5th Floor

Please RSVP at http://go.gwu.edu/omelicheva

This event is on the record.