Islam and the Dynamics of Ethno-confessional Regimes in Russia, 1990-2012

with

Bulat Akhmetkarimov

Why would a secular state change its policies toward religion? Research on secularism and state policies toward religion suggests several models of interaction. However, these models are often better at describing static relationships than they are at explaining change. This study advances a framework for the conditions that presage the transformation of state-religion relations by examining significant differences between Russian state attitudes toward Islam in the early 1990s and the 2000s. In particular, it focuses on notable changes in the licensing of Imams, the building permissions granted for mosques, and registration requirements for religious organizations. The study largely explains the dynamics of Russian state attitudes toward the largest minority religion in the country during the first two decades after the collapse of the Soviet state and offers predictive insights on the dynamic nature of state-Islam relations in other secular states with considerable Muslim population.

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4:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E St. NW, Suite 412

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

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