The Politics of Nation-Building:
Making Co-Nationals, Refugees and Minorities
Part of IERES's Book Launch Series

with

Harris Mylonas, Assistant Professor of Political Science, GWU

Discussant: Georgi Derluguian, Fellow, The Wilson Center

What drives a state's choice to assimilate, accommodate, or exclude ethnic groups within its territory? In this groundbreaking work, Harris Mylonas argues that a state's nation-building policies toward non-core groups—any aggregation of individuals perceived as unassimilated ethnic groups by the ruling elite of a state—are influenced by both its foreign policy goals and its relations with the external patrons of these groups. Mylonas makes three innovative conceptual moves: from the misused term 'minority' to 'non-core group'; from focusing on 'homelands' as the external actor to the more inclusive concept 'external power'; and, from the dichotomous - and narrow - conceptualization of policies 'inclusion/exclusion' or 'violent/non-violent' to 'assimilation, accommodation, and exclusion'. The Politics of Nation-Building injects international politics into the study of nation-building, building a bridge between international relations and the comparative politics of ethnicity and nationalism.

Harris Mylonas is Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at the George Washington University. He is also an Academy Scholar at the Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies where he conducted research in 2008-2009 and 2011-2012 academic years.

Georgi Derluguian is a Wilson Center fellow and an associate professor of social research and public policy at New York University in Abu Dhabi. He is the author of the award-winning monograph Bourdieu’s Secret Admirer in the Caucasus (University of Chicago Press, 2005).

Thursday, April 25, 2013
12:00 – 2:00 pm
Alumni House
1918 F Street, NW

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

Lunch will be provided and a book signing will follow. Limited copies of the book will be available for purchase.

This event is on the record.