How Old Is the New Europe?
Part of IERES' Faculty Forum

with

Theo Christov
Associate Professor

How old is the new Europe? This talk looks at the history of the European project by tracing ideas of European integration from the Enlightenment to the present. It opens with a genealogical consideration of the origins of European unity from eighteenth-century projects for peace to the integration plans for a united Europe today. It then addresses the question of what it means, and has meant, to be 'European' in offering a critical look at a continent widely hailed as a political and moral model for the world at large. It concludes with a prospective look at Europe's enlargement and further expansion into Asia, and the challenges of how to describe politically the newly evolved Union, which has had no precedent at any time in history.

Born and raised in Bulgaria, Theo Christov received a classical education in the Great Books curriculum at Thomas Aquinas College (California), and holds an MTS degree from Harvard and a PhD in Political Theory from UCLA. He first taught at Northwestern University for three years before joining the History Department and the Honors Program at GW. His research interests lie in the fields of early modern intellectual history, and modern political and international thought, with a particular interest in 17th and 18th century European thought; political theories of empire; the history of international law; and theories of European integration. He has written on Hobbes and international thought, Vattel and the liberal state, and the history of the early modern idea of Europe. He is currently completing a book, Before Anarchy, which examines European debates over the external relations of states in the works of Hobbes, Rousseau, Vattel, and Kant, and how these early modern debates were largely de-historicized in contemporary International Relations.

Wednesday, November 9, 2011
4:00-5:00 p.m.
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E Street NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP at http://tinyurl.com/ChristovGWU

This event is on the record