The Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (IERES) is pleased to invite you to:

**Lifesaving Social Capital:**
The Case of Green Pastures in Social Housing

with

**Sverre Vatnar**
*Visiting Scholar, IERES*

Social capital, or the value of "social networks" and the inclinations that arise from these networks to do things for one another, proves to be vital to both individual and societal well-being. Social housing project Green Pastures in Britain has realized that tackling homelessness is not just about bricks and mortar, it's about people. The Green Pastures charity is not only offering its tenants a permanent home located outside of the most depressed city areas where bad role models abound; it is also offering a supportive social network of "pastoral friends" of volunteering local church members to help the tenants get back on their feet. The talk will look at how Green Pastures has employed a "social capital strategy" and how that has made a difference.

Currently Ambassador Robert D. Stuart Fellow at IERES, Sverre Vatnar is a Political Adviser for the Christian Democratic Party in the Norwegian Parliament.

**Tuesday, May 11, 2010**
12:00-1:00 p.m.
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E Street, NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP to ieresgwu@gwu.edu.

*This event is on the record.*