

A Kosovo Precedent?:

Sovereignty, Alliances, and Conflict in Eurasia

A PONARS Eurasia Seminar

Date: Thursday, February 21, 2008 Time: 1:30pm-3:00pm

Location: 205 Old North, Georgetown University ([Click here for a map](#))

Panel Participants:

Pavel Baev, International Peace Research Institute, Oslo

Alexander Cooley, Barnard College, Columbia University

Nikolai Sokov, Monterey Institute of International Studies

Cory Welt, Eurasian Strategy Project, Georgetown University

Discussant:

Georgi Derluguian, Northwestern University

Chair:

Celeste Wallander, Georgetown University

Description:

Uncertainty persists regarding the impact of a declaration of independence by Kosovo on Russian relations with the European Union and the United States. One potential spillover is the worsening of the already poor Russian-Georgian relationship, as the "Kosovo precedent" could prompt Russia to recognize the independence of Georgia's own breakaway territories. While Europe and the United States seek to reassure the pro-Western Georgia that no such precedent will be recognized, they have shied away from granting Georgia what it considers the main guarantee against Russian interference – acceptance onto NATO 's membership track. How will developments in Kosovo affect relations between Russia and Georgia, NATO and Georgia, and the alliance's expansion deeper into Eurasia? Are there alternatives for resolving post-Soviet sovereignty disputes that could have a more beneficial effect on regional security?

Please RSVP to Christina Watts at cmw58@georgetown.edu or call 202-687-1450.