

**MELANIE H. RAM, PH.D.**

Department of Political Science  
California State University, Fresno  
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EDUCATION

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**Doctor of Philosophy**, Political Science, 1999, George Washington University

Specialization: International Relations, Comparative Politics, Central and Eastern Europe

Dissertation: *Transformation through European Integration: A Comparative Study of the Czech Republic and Romania* (Committee: Nathan Brown, Peter Reddaway, Sharon Wolchik)

**Master of Philosophy**, Political Science, 1995, George Washington University

**Master of Arts**, International Affairs, 1992, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University

Specialization: International Law; International Politics; Science, Technology, and Public Policy

**Bachelor of Arts**, International Relations, 1990, University of Southern California, graduated *cum laude* in 3 years  
Russian Area Studies Minor

TEACHING AREAS

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International Relations, Democracy and Human Rights, International Organization and Law, International Development

RESEARCH INTERESTS

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European integration, post-communist politics of Central and Eastern Europe, democratization, minority rights, Roma, non-governmental organizations and transnational advocacy networks, foreign aid policy

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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**California State University, Fresno**

*Assistant Professor of Political Science*, Aug. 2006-present

*Director/Coordinator and Advisor of Master of Arts in International Relations program*, June 2009-present

**Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University**, Washington, DC, Sept. 2001-Aug. 2008

*Research Associate*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**, Government of Japan (overseas foreign aid office), Washington, DC, April 2000-July 2006

*Senior Program Officer & Advisor on U.S. Affairs*

PUBLICATIONS

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**Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters**

- “Roma Advocacy and EU Conditionality: Not One without the Other?” *Comparative European Politics* 9, no. 2 (March 2011): 217-241.
- “Interests, Norms, and Advocacy: Explaining the Emergence of the Roma onto the EU’s Agenda,” *Ethnopolitics* 9, no. 2 (June 2010): 197-217.
- “Romania: From Laggard to Leader?” In *Minority Rights in Central and Eastern Europe*, ed. Bernd Rechel, 180-194 (N.Y.: Routledge 2009).
- “The Roma” (with Peter Vermeersch). In *Minority Rights in Central and Eastern Europe*, ed. Bernd Rechel, 61-73 (N.Y.: Routledge 2009).

- “Anti-Discrimination Policy and the Roma: Assessing the Impact of EU Enlargement,” *Croatian Yearbook of European Law and Policy* 3 (Nov. 2007): 491-514.
- “On Setting and Reaching Development Goals: The MDGs, Policy Coherence, and Partnership,” with Takao Toda. *Journal of International Development Studies* 14, no. 2 (Nov. 2005).
- “Democratization through European Integration: The Case of Minority Rights in the Czech Republic and Romania.” *Studies in Comparative International Development* 38, no. 2 (summer 2003): 28-56.
- “Built by Association: Legislating for the West in EU Candidate States.” In *South-Eastern Europe, the Stability Pact and EU Enlargement*, eds. David Phinnemore and Peter Siani-Davies, 130-155. Cluj, Romania: European Studies Foundation Publishing House, 2002.
- “Harmonizing Laws with the European Union: The Case of Intellectual Property Rights in the Czech Republic.” In *Norms and Nannies: The Impact of European Organizations on Central and East European States*, ed. Ronald H. Linden. Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2002.
- “Minority Relations in Multiethnic Societies: Assessing the European Union Factor in Romania,” *Romanian Journal of Society and Politics* 1, no. 2, special issue, “Romania and the European Union” (Nov. 2001): 63-90.
- “Transformation through European Integration: The Domestic Effects of European Union Law in Romania. In *The Transformations of 1989-1999: Triumph or Tragedy?* ed. John S. Micgiel. New York: East Central European Center, Columbia University, 2000.

#### **Other Publications**

- “The Trafficking of Women in the NIS and CEE.” Policy Paper, International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX), September 2000.
- “The Roma in Central and Eastern Europe.” Policy Paper, International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX), March 2000.

#### MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION AND UNDER REVIEW

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- “Legacies of EU Conditionality: Explaining Post-Accession Adherence to Pre-Accession Rules on Roma,” under final review at *Europe – Asia Studies*
- “In Defense of ‘Roma Migrants’: Roma NGOs in France in the Aftermath of EU Enlargement”

#### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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- California State University, Fresno, Provost’s Most Promising New Faculty Award, 2011
- California State University, Fresno, University Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Award, spring 2012
- California State University, Fresno, College of Social Sciences Research & Creative Activity Award, summer 2011
- California State University, Fresno, Division of Graduate Studies Recruitment Mini-Grant, spring 2011
- California State University, Fresno, Provost Faculty Scholarship Support Award, spring 2011
- California State University, Fresno, Graduate Faculty Enhancement Award, summer 2009
- California State University, Fresno, Digital Campus eScholars Program Award, spring 2008
- California State University, Fresno, Graduate Faculty Enhancement Award, summer 2008
- California State University, Fresno, College of Social Sciences Research/Creative Activities Award, fall 2007
- California State University, Fresno, University Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Award, summer 2007

- University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) Faculty International Development Award for language study in Lüneburg, Germany, summer 2007
- California State University, Fresno, Graduate Faculty Enhancement Award, summer 2007
- International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX)/Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars 2006 Regional Policy Symposium Grant, April 2006
- IREX Short-Term Travel Grant to Romania, June 2004
- Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, George Washington University, travel grant to Czech Republic, 2002
- Black Sea Regional Policy Symposium Grant, Woodrow Wilson Center and IREX, 2001
- Junior Scholars' Training Seminar Scholarship, Woodrow Wilson Center (East European Studies) & American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), August 2000
- Hoffman Dissertation Prize, Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, George Washington University, 1999
- IREX Southeastern Europe Area Studies Seminar grant, Romania, summer 1999
- Cosmos Club Foundation Junior Scholar's Award for dissertation field research, March 1999
- Woodrow Wilson Center fellow, short-term grant, East European Studies, May 1998
- Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship for intensive Czech language study, Czech Republic, summer 1997
- Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic, study fellowship, summer and fall 1996
- FLAS Fellowship for intensive Czech language study, U.S., summer 1996
- Hoffman Dissertation Award, Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, George Washington University, 1996
- University Fellow, George Washington University, 1993 – 1994
- FLAS Fellowship for intensive Russian language study, Russia, summer 1993
- Dean's Scholarship and Honors Program (Thematic Option), University of Southern California
- American Association of University Women Scholarship, 1987

*CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS*

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- “Roma Rights in an Expanded EU: Legacies of EU Conditionality.” Presented at the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) 2011 World Convention, Columbia University, 14-16 April 2011, New York, NY.
- “The EU and the Roma: A Path to Social and Economic Inclusion?” Presented at conference on “The Maturing of the Multicultural Experiment: European Challenges Coming to Canada?” hosted by the European Union Centre of Excellence, York University, Toronto, 7 March 2011. (invited speaker)
- “Legacies of EU Conditionality: Explaining Post-Accession Adherence to Pre-Accession Rules on the Roma.” Presented at the International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, 17-20 Feb. 2010, New Orleans, LA.
- “The NGO Role in the Diffusion of EU Ideas and Policies.” Presented at the KFG conference on “The Transformative Power of Europe,” Free University Berlin, 10-11 Dec. 2009, Berlin, Germany.
- “Roma Advocacy and EU Conditionality: Not One without the Other?” Presented at the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) 2009 World Convention, Columbia University, 23-25 April 2009, New York, NY.
- “Bringing NGOs Back In: EU Conditionality and NGO Advocacy.” Presented at the Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 19-23 March 2008, San Diego, CA.

- “Anti-Discrimination Policy and the Roma: Assessing the Impact of EU Enlargement.” Presented at Jean Monnet Seminar on Advanced Issues of European Law, “European Law After the Big Bang Enlargement: Assessment and Perspectives,” 5th session, 29 April – 6 May 2007, Dubrovnik, Croatia.
- “Transnational Networks for Minority Rights in Europe: The Case of the Roma.” Presented at the IREX/ Woodrow Wilson Center Regional Policy Symposium on “EU and NATO Member States and their Eastern Borderlands,” 30 March – 2 April 2006, Chesapeake Beach, Maryland.
- “Lobbying the European Union from Afar: NGO Advocacy on Minority Rights in Candidate States.” Presented at conference on “Organized Civil Society and European Governance: Training, Recruitment and Practices of Interest Group Representatives in the European Union,” Institut d’Etudes Politiques, 21-23 June 2004, Strasbourg, France.
- “From the Sidelines to the Headlines: How the Roma Gained a ‘Voice’ in European Politics,” with Thomas T. Holyoke. Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 28-31 August 2003, Philadelphia, PA.
- “Bridging the EU Divide: From Subregional Cooperation to European Integration.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 29 August-1 September 2002, Boston, MA.
- “Built by Association: Transplanting Democracy through European Integration.” Presented at conference on “The European Union’s Eastern Enlargement: Surveying the Social and Economic Divides,” University of Toronto, 7-10 February 2002, Toronto, Canada.
- “Foreign Aid Policy in the New International Environment.” Presented at JICA USA seminar on “Post-September 11: Triggering a New Approach to Foreign Aid?” 14 November 2001, Washington, DC.
- “Built by Association: Legislating for the West in EU Candidate States.” Prepared for presentation at conference on “South-Eastern Europe and EU Enlargement,” Babes-Bolyai University, 16-18 September 2001, Cluj, Romania.
- “Democratization through European Integration: The Case of Minority Rights in the Czech Republic and Romania.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 30 August-2 September 2001, San Francisco, CA.
- “European Union Aspirations and Obligations: The EU Influence on Minority Rights in Candidate States.” Presented at conference, “Voice or Exit: Comparative Perspectives on Ethnic Minorities in Twentieth Century Europe,” Humboldt University, 14-16 June 2001, Berlin, Germany.
- “European Union Policymaking in Candidate States: Legislating Minority Rights in the Czech Republic and Romania.” Presented at the European Community Studies Association International Conference, 31 May-2 June 2001, Madison, WI.
- “Black Sea Cooperation towards European Integration.” Presented at IREX and Woodrow Wilson Center Black Sea Regional Policy Symposium, 29 March-1 April 2001, Leesburg, VA.
- “Sub-regional Cooperation and European Integration: Romania’s Delicate Balance.” Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, 20-24 February 2001, Chicago, IL.
- *Woodrow Wilson Center* Junior Scholars’ Training Seminar, Wye River, presentation and discussion of doctoral dissertation research, August 2000.
- *Columbia University*, paper presentation at 1999 Harriman Institute/East Central European Center conference on “1989 - 1999 Transformations: Triumph or Tragedy?”
- *Harvard University*, paper presentation at 1999 Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies conference on “New Approaches to Southeast Europe.”

**Chair, Discussant, and Guest Lecturer:**

- “Civil Societies and the Challenges to Diversities in East-Central Europe and the Balkans.” Panel Chair. Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) World Convention, 14-16 April 2011, Columbia University, New York.
- “The European Union and the Nationality Factor.” Panel Discussant. Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) World Convention, 15-17 April 2010, Columbia University, New York.
- “New Paradigms in the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism.” Panel Chair. Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) World Convention, 15-17 April 2010, Columbia University, New York.
- “European Identities and Diversity.” Panel Chair. Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) World Convention, 23-25 April 2009, Columbia University, New York.
- “Designing A Hybrid Course,” presented at 2009 Regional Conference on Excellence in Teaching & Learning, Teaching for Engaged Learning, 13 March 2009, California State University, Fresno.
- “International Systems and Models.” Panel Chair. Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 19-23 March 2008, San Diego, CA.
- “Terrorism and Security.” Panel Chair (with introductory remarks), Nov. 2007, Newman Center, Fresno, CA.
- “Post-Ceausescu Romania.” Panel discussant. Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) 11<sup>th</sup> Annual World Convention, 23-25 March 2006, Columbia University, New York.
- “The Politics of International Development.” Guest lecture, International Political Economy course, Department of Political Science, 12 November 2003, George Washington University.
- “Japan's Current Plans for Reconstruction in Afghanistan.” Guest lecture, course on "Preparing for the Rehabilitation Effort in Afghanistan" (training course supported by Embassy of Afghanistan), Program on Peacekeeping Policy, 4 June 2002 and 12 February 2003, George Mason University.
- “European Union Enlargement.” Guest lecture, Comparative Politics and Government of Western Europe course, Department of Political Science, March 200, George Washington University.

#### FOREIGN STUDY, RESEARCH, & TEACHING

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**Post-doctoral field research** in *Romania* (June 2004), *Czech Republic* (Dec. 2002, July 2007), *Germany* (July 2007) *Brussels* (July 2007), and *France* (July 2011) on civil society organizations, advocacy approaches, international influences, and the Romani minority.

**Doctoral dissertation research** in *Romania* and *Czech Republic*, fall 1996 and 1997

#### Teaching Abroad

**Visiting Professor**, University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC), Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, Madrid, Spain, fall 2008

#### Study Abroad

**University of Lüneburg** (*Germany*), intensive German language course, summer 2007

**Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi** (*Romania*), intensive Romanian course, summer 1999

**Charles University** (*Prague, Czech Republic*), intensive Czech courses, summer & fall 1996, summer 1997

**Moscow Institute for Social and Political Studies** (*Moscow*), Russian language and area studies, summer 1993

**USC International Communication Studies Graduate Program** (*London, Paris, Geneva*), summer 1990

*LANGUAGE SKILLS*

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- Advanced knowledge of **French, Italian, and Romanian**
- Intermediate knowledge of **Czech**
- Basic knowledge of **Russian, German, and Spanish**

*PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & SERVICE*

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Member of Association for the Study of Nationalities, European Union Studies Association, International Studies Association, Western Political Science Association, Phi Beta Delta International Education Honor Society, Romanis in Europe collaborative research network

Manuscript reviewer for *Journal of Politics*, *Problems of Post-Communism*, *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*, *Journal of Contemporary European Research*