**Cordially invite you to a KNOMAD Seminar**

**Stereotyping Immigrants: Inequality & Conflict – or Peace**

**Speaker:** Susan T. Fiske, Professor, Psychology and Public Affairs, Princeton University

**Opening Remarks:** Dilip Ratha, Lead Economist, DEC Migration and Remittances, and Head of KNOMAD, World Bank

**Chair:** Katharine Donato, Director, Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM), Georgetown University.

**Discussant:** Varun Gauri, Senior Economist, DECDP, and Head of Global Insights Initiative (GINI), World Bank.

Stereotypes reflect a society’s inequality and conflict, providing a diagnostic map of intergroup relations. This stereotype map’s fundamental dimensions depict each group’s warmth (friendly, sincere) and competence (capable, skilled). All over the world (49 samples in 38 countries), when immigrants appear, they are stereotyped as low on both dimensions, among the worst outgroups. Undocumented, asylum-seekers and refugees all occupy this space. US samples do subtype immigrants, showing European and Asian immigrant stereotypes that differ from this negative default, but Latino and African immigrant stereotypes do fit the worst case.

Looking across all groups, some societies cluster groups as high on both (positive “us”) versus low on both (negative “them”). Other societies, including the US, have us-them clusters but add ambivalent ones (high on one dimension, low on the other). The recent cross-national study shows peace-conflict predicts ambivalence. Extremely peaceful and conflictual nations both display unambivalent us-them patterns, whereas intermediate peace-conflict predicts high ambivalence. The Americas, North and South, with long histories of receiving immigrants, illustrate the intermediate case.

Replicating previous work, higher inequality also predicts more ambivalent stereotype clusters, as if there is more to explain (e.g., deserving and undeserving poor). Thus, nations with high inequality and intermediate
peace-conflict each use ambivalent stereotypes, explaining complicated intergroup relations and maintaining social system stability.

Speaker:

Susan T. Fiske is Eugene Higgins Professor, Psychology and Public Affairs at Princeton University. Fiske has for 40 years studied cognitive stereotypes and emotional prejudices, investigating their cultural, interpersonal, and neuro-scientific levels. Author of over 350 publications, she was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Sponsored by a Guggenheim, her 2011 Russell-Sage-Foundation book is Envy Up, Scorn Down: How Status Divides Us. Her work has had impact: She testified in President Bill Clinton’s Race Initiative and was cited by the Supreme Court in a landmark gender discrimination case. Fiske was recently thrilled when Lydia Diamond’s play, Smart People, referenced her work. Her research team appears at www.fiskelab.org

Chair:

Katharine Donato holds the Donald G. Herzberg Chair in International Migration and is Director of the Institute for the Study of International Migration in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. Prior to joining the Georgetown faculty, she was on the faculty of Vanderbilt and Rice Universities. She has examined many research questions related to migration, including the economic consequences of U.S. immigration policy; health effects of Mexico-U.S. migration; immigrant parent involvement in schools in New York, Chicago, and Nashville; deportation and its effects for immigrants; the great recession and its consequences for Mexican workers; and gender and migration.

Discussant:

Varun Gauri is Head of the Global Insights Initiative (GINI) and Senior Economist in the Development Economics Vice Presidency of the World Bank. His current research addresses three themes: how to use behavioral insights to enhance development policy, when public agencies comply with human rights orders, and why individuals support public goods. Dr. Gauri was Co-Director of the World Development Report 2015: Mind, Society, and Behavior. He serves on the editorial boards of the journals Behavioral Public Policy and Health and Human Rights, the World Economic Forum Council on Behavior, the Advisory Board of Academics Stand Against Poverty, and is a member of the RSA (London).

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External Participants

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Forthcoming events:

- *Refugees Right to Work and Access to Labor Markets* – February 28, 2017; 12:30-2:00pm, Room MC C2-131

- *Us & Them* - a story of the Iranian diaspora – April 24, 2017; 12:30-2:00pm – MC C2-131