

INVITATION TO THE SEMINAR

The Department of Political Science and International Relations and the Group of International Studies (GERI) invite you to participate in this seminar that will take place on **Thursday 14th March, from 2 to 3:30 pm**, in Seminar VIII of the Faculty of Law (4th floor).



“Decolonizing Secularism and Religious Freedom”

ELIZABETH SHAKMAN HURD

She is Professor and Chair of Religious Studies and Professor of Political Science at Northwestern University (Chicago, USA). Professor Hurd studies the politics of religion in U.S. foreign and immigration policy, the global politics of secularism and religious freedom, religion and American borders, the United States in the Middle East, and the intersections of political theory and political theology.

Almost thirty years ago the sociologist José Casanova famously described the public role of religion in Spain, Poland, Brazil and the United States. Today a new generation of scholars of religion and public life is asking not only what it entails to “out” religion as a public and political force but also what it means to decolonize and pluralize the study of religion and politics. Can we continue to use the terms religion and secularism given their intensive entanglements with European colonialism, their dizzyingly complex legal lives, and their complicity in hierarchies and histories of domination, many of which are deeply racialized? To decolonize requires more than adding diverse forms of religiosity to discussions of public life and governance. We need to think religion, politics—and the boundary between them—awnew.

Place: Seminario VIII, 4th floor, Faculty of Law. C/Marie Curie nº1, Ciudad Universitaria de Cantoblanco. UAM.