

The Center for Study of Democracy Presents:

“US Democracy Promotion in the Arab World: From Obama to Trump”

**Professor Mietek Boduszynski
Pomona College**



Date: February 10, 2020

Time: 12-1:30pm

Location: Social Science Plaza B 5206

Abstract:

Whether democracy promotion should play a role in US foreign policy continues to be a subject of considerable debate, perhaps nowhere more than with regard to the Arab World. But looking beyond the "whether," what explains why, where, and how the United States promotes democracy? What caused the shift from the Obama administration's support of the Arab Spring protests in 2011 to its retreat from democracy promotion only two years later? What explains the Trump administration's focus on relationships with autocrats? Mietek Boduszynski will discuss his new book, which explore the tensions between interests and ideals in US foreign policy and the possibilities and limits of US democracy promotion in a region where Washington has often supported autocracy over freedom. The book is based on original field research and Mietek's experience as a U.S. diplomat in the Middle East.

Link to book's website:

https://www.rienner.com/title/US_Democracy_Promotion_in_the_Arab_World_Interests_vs_Ideals