



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

AU Newsmakers

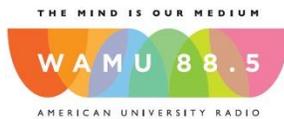
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Prepared by University Communications

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Top Story

As the debate continued in Washington about the Obama administration’s interest in launching a military strike in Syria, **School of International Service, School of Public Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences and Washington College of Law** professors influenced the discussion. Highlights include:



School of International Service dean **James Goldgeier** spoke to [WAMU's Diane Rehm Show](#)— syndicated nationally on **NPR**—comparing the situation in Syria to the 1991 situation in Kuwait and 1999 NATO actions in Serbia. He also wrote an op-ed for [Politico](#). (8/30, 9/4)



International service professor **Gordon Adams** appeared on [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#), and spoke to [USA Today](#), [Virginia Pilot](#), and [Examiner.com](#) about Obama’s decision to ask for Congressional support, and how much it may cost to launch an operation against Syria. More than **40** outlets republished the **USA Today** article. (8/31, 9/1, 9/2)



Following an appearance on [MSNBC's Up with Steve Kornacki](#), [Huffington Post](#) wrote that if you want to talk about the situation in Syria, turn to international service professor **Hillary Mann Leverett**. She wrote an [op-ed](#) about Obama’s desire to strike Syria in a gambit to preserve U.S. credibility, and spoke with [Public Radio International's To the Point](#) about Syria stealing the spotlight at the G20. (8/30, 9/5)



Government professor **Chris Edelson's** op-ed last week about Congressional authorization served as the catalyst for a [Los Angeles Times](#) editorial outlining the debate surrounding Syria. He also spoke to [Sinclair Broadcasting](#) about presidential war powers. The segment aired nationally on more than 50 local news affiliate stations. (9/3, 9/4)



For the [Christian Science Monitor](#), international service professor **Michael Schroeder** wrote an op-ed arguing why Obama should wait for the UN Secretary General’s Report on Syria rather than dismiss the UN because of a Russian veto threat on the Security Council. (9/5)



For [WAMU's Kojo Nnamdi Show](#) and **WAMU News**, **Abdul Aziz Said**, Mohammed Said Farsi Chair of Islamic Peace, explained why diplomacy should trump military attacks against Syria. (9/3, 9/4)



Law professor **Stephen Vladeck** provided insight to [The Hill](#) about Obama’s rationale behind asking for Congressional authorization before striking Syria. (9/1)



For [The Atlantic online](#), international service professor **Robert Pastor** wrote an op-ed about items that Congress should address before making a decision to approve Obama's military retaliation plans instead of a diplomatic course of punishment. (9/4)



Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies **Akbar Ahmed** appeared in studio on [WUSA-CBS9](#) to discuss Obama's choice to pursue military actions in Syria. (8/31)



Executive Director of Initiative for Russian Culture **Anton Fedyashin** appeared on [Al Jazeera America](#) to discuss Syria in terms of U.S.–Russian bilateral relations and the G20 meeting. (9/4)

Additional Features

Social Scientists Seek New Ways to Influence Public Policy

THE CHRONICLE
of Higher Education

In a trend story about connecting academics with public policy makers in order to influence debate, [Chronicle of Higher Ed](#) talked to **James Goldgeier**, dean of the School of

International Service, about how the school's International Policy Summer Institute and New Era Foreign Policy Conference teaches professors how to target the right audiences. (9/2)

Moscow Piques Student Interest As Geopolitical Relevance Rises

The Washington
Diplomat

In a [Washington Diplomat](#) trend story about the growing appeal of Russian studies programs in the United States, Initiative for Russian Culture executive director **Anton Fedyashin** and director **Eric Lohr** explained the resurgence in student interest. (8/30)

D.C. Residents Have Biggest Tax Headaches in the Region

WASHINGTON
BUSINESS JOURNAL

David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, spoke to [Washington Business Journal](#) online about the center's regional tax practitioner survey that showed that Virginia and

Maryland's tax forms, guidance and regulatory assistance rate higher than in the District of Columbia. (9/5)

Op-Eds/AU Authors

Politics Counts: How Military Communities View Conflict

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

In his weekly [Wall Street Journal online](#) column, government professor **Dante Chinni** discussed his American Communities Project research which

reveals areas of the United States with large concentrations of military families that are significantly impacted when the United States enters into an extended military conflict. (8/30)

Deadly Devices Are Futile Way to Battle Terrorism

Orlando Sentinel

In a point-counter point op-ed with the [Orlando Sentinel](#), **Akbar Ahmed**, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, argued why the U.S. should curtail its drone strikes in the fight against terrorism. (8/30)