



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

AU Newsmakers

February 21 – February 28, 2014

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

Top Story

Analysis of Ukraine Turmoil



Executive director of the Initiative for Russian Culture, **Anton Fedyashin**, international service professor **Keith Darden**, chair of Russian History and Culture **Eric Lohr**, and School of International Service assistant dean **Anya Schmemmann** provided analysis and discussion surrounding Ukraine's unfolding political crisis.

Fedyashin appeared twice on **CNN International** and on [CNN News Source](#).

Fedyashin also spoke to [McClatchy Newspapers](#), [PolitiFact](#) and [Global News online](#) (CA). **Darden** spoke to [New York Times](#) and appeared on [WAMU's Kojo](#)

[Nnamdi Show](#), while **Schmemmann** and **Lohr** wrote an op-ed for [National Interest](#). (2/21, 2/23, 2/24, 2/26)

Additional Features

AU's 'Rent' Community Focused



[DCMetroTheaterArts.com](#) reviewed the **Department of Performing Arts'** production of 'Rent,' directed by performing arts professor **Carl Menninger**. The review highlighted the production's strong sense of community throughout the show, and **Menninger's** decision to use actors' natural voices over mics. (2/23)

Op-Eds/AU Authors

The West Needs to Get Over the Cold War



In an op-ed for [The Guardian's Comment is Free](#) (US), **Anton**

Fedyashin, executive director of the Initiative for Russian Culture, wrote about how the Sochi Olympics boosted Russians' self-confidence

but received Cold War style treatment from the majority of western media and governments. (2/24)

Expertise

Proposed Pentagon Budget Cuts Would Shrink Army, Retire Aircraft



International service professor **Gordon Adams** provided comment and analysis to [Los Angeles Times](#), [Washington Post](#), [PBS Newshour](#), and [Public Radio International's To The Point](#) about the effects of the newly proposed five year defense budget. (2/24, 2/26)

G.O.P. Leaders Draw Re-election Challenges From the Right



History professor **Allan Lichtman** spoke to [New York Times](#) about Tea Party leader Katrina Pierson's effort to become the first black Republican female in Congress,

as she mounts a primary challenge against Texas Rep. Pete Sessions. (2/24)

After First-Term Caution, Obama Dives Deeper on Race



[USA Today](#) spoke to government professor **Julian Bond** about President Obama's cautiousness in elevating race and civil rights issues until his second term. More than **30** outlets republished this article. (2/26)

Supreme Court Hears States' Objections to Greenhouse Gas Rules



With [McClatchy Newspapers](#), law professor **William Snape** discussed the Supreme Court case challenging the Obama administration's greenhouse gas regulations. More than **25** outlets, including the *Fresno Bee* and *Charlotte Observer* republished this article. (2/24)

America in 25 years: Here's What to Expect



American Communities Project director **Dante Chinni** spoke to [CNBC](#) about how immigrant communities after a few generations assimilate to U.S. culture. (2/27)

Obama's Icy Relationship with Congress: Can it Ever Thaw?



James Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, talked to the [Christian Science Monitor](#) about the deep, partisan polarization in Congress and messaging targeting President Obama which leaves little prospect for resolving the immigration issue. (2/24)

Republicans Struggle to GROW Women in Recruitment Drive



Women and Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless** spoke to [Time](#) about Republican efforts to support more female congressional candidates. **Lawless** points out that Republicans still have work to do since they are supporting just over a dozen female candidates. (2/27)

House Ways and Means Chairman Camp Releases Tax Reform Proposal



Don Williamson, executive director of the Kogod Tax Center spoke to [Accounting Today](#) about whether the Tax Reform Act of 2014 is really a simplification of the tax code, and how it reduces overall rates. (2/26)

"What We've Lost is Nothing"



Literature professor **Rachel Louise Snyder** spoke to [WAMU's Kojo Nnamdi Show](#) about her latest book and first novel, "What We've Lost is Nothing," and how her life experiences influenced the story. (2/24)

'El Chapo' Arrest Success



International Service professor **Daniel Schneider** appeared on [Al Jazeera America Television's Inside Story](#) in a discussion about drug lord "El Chapo" Guzman's arrest. (2/24)

Nigeria's Central Bank Governor Suspended



[Al Jazeera Television](#) spoke to international service professor **Carl LeVan** about Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan's suspension of Nigeria's Central Bank Governor Sanusi Lamido for mishandling the bank's budget. (2/24)