

POLITICAL SCIENCE SPEAKER SERIES

Transnational Corporate Regulation and the (Hidden) Role of the State

Wednesday, October 29th @ 11am

Plaza 600F

Internet firms with large, global operations, such as Google, PayPal, eBay and Yahoo, have a considerable capacity to make and enforce rules for their services that can affect hundreds of millions of people worldwide. Given their sophisticated surveillance programs, Internet firms are important regulators for states and, increasingly, for corporations, particularly in relation to the protection of intellectual property. In this presentation I consider the ways in which non-state actors rely upon the state to facilitate or legitimize their regulatory efforts, and explore the state's interests in furthering certain types of non-state regulation. In particular, I examine a series of enforcement agreements that Internet firms adopted at the behest of the U.S. and U.K. governments. These agreements, which were secretly negotiated, are fundamentally re-shaping regulatory efforts against the online distribution of counterfeit goods.



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Natasha Tusikov is a research fellow at the Baldy Centre for Law and Social Policy at University of Buffalo at the State University of New York. In 2014, she received her Ph.D. in sociology from the Australian National University. Prior to her work in academia, she was a researcher and intelligence analyst for federal law enforcement agencies in Canada.

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