

The OSCE Academy in Bishkek invites you to attend a public lecture on:

Managing Labour Emigration: The Mexican Experience

by Dr David FitzGerald

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Language: English

Date: 26 June 2014

Time: 10.45-12.15

Venue: OSCE Academy, Bishkek

Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek, pereulok Botanichesky 1 A

2nd floor, Room 14

Tel.: +996 (312) 54-32-00. 54-12-00

Registration (by 23 June): <http://goo.gl/vPwfci>

What do governments do when much of the population simply gets up and walks away? Mass emigration creates challenges and opportunities that prompt Mexico and other migrant-sending countries to negotiate a new social contract with their citizens abroad. After decades of failed efforts to control exit, the Mexican state now emphasizes voluntary ties, rights over obligations, and dual nationality. Emigrant citizenship does not signal the decline of the nation-state, as some scholars of globalization and transnationalism have argued, nor is it business-as-usual. Mass emigration within a robust system of sovereign countries shapes the emergence of a new form of citizenship à la carte. This presentation explains that process on the ground in a region of Mexico whose people have migrated to the United States for more than a century. Drawing on archival, survey, and ethnographic research, it shows how politicians, teachers, bureaucrats, and other stakeholders have followed the membership model of the Catholic Church in trying to manage emigration and its effects.