

Political Survival through Elite Networks in Africa

Clionadh Raleigh
University of Sussex

March 29, 2019

Sahel Seminar at 11:45 in 109 Rolfs
Sahel Research Group, University of Florida

Baraza Talk at 3:30 in 404 Grinter Hall
Center for African Studies, University of Florida

This series of talks will explore how dictatorships across African states are constructed on networks of national and subnational elites. In particular, Dr. Raleigh will explore how the political survival of regimes is determined by factional co-optation within political networks. However, political survival in each country surveyed here is based on distinct patterns of co-optation, largely depending on where leaders are vulnerable and what they have available as means to encourage loyalty. The consequences of political manipulation across elites is that regimes are volatile, inconsistent and not engaged in governance, but political competition.



Dr. **Clionadh Raleigh** is Professor of Political Violence and Geography at the University of Sussex (UK). She previously served as a Lecturer in the Department of Political Science at Trinity College and an external researcher at the Peace Research Institute Oslo. She is a political geographer, and her work is focused mainly on conflict and governance in sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Raleigh directs the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED) project, which tracks local conflict events in the world. Dr. Raleigh earned her Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Colorado at Boulder.