



## The Center for Iberian & Latin American Studies, UCSD

### US Official and Public Reactions to Mexico's Oil Nationalization: New Insights

**Thursday, February 7, 2013 • 3-4:30 pm**

Deutz Room in the Copley International Conference Center,  
Institute of the Americas Complex, UCSD

Oil has been an important factor in world history and politics since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Soviet Union was the first country to nationalize private oil companies (1918), Bolivia second in 1937 and Mexico third in 1938. The oil controversy in US-Mexican relations in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century generated a great deal of interest in the Soviet Union and continues to attract attention in Russia. The experience that the US and Mexico shared during and after expropriation of American oil companies in Mexico were unique because they were neighboring states, with many ties. Russian archives provided me with one angle on the action-reaction dynamic and access to resources in the US provides another. My goal is to synthesize these resources to generate new insights into the nationalization process and discuss their relevance to oil and politics today.



**Olga Kornilova** is a Fulbright fellow from Russia. She had the honor to obtain a Fulbright grant and in October 2012 came to UCSD as a Fulbright Visiting Researcher to gather material for her dissertation. Olga graduated from Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) as a specialist in History and Political Science in 2010. She majored in Political Science and American Studies at the Department of Modern and Contemporary History of European and American Countries. In her last year, she worked at the State Duma as a Deputy Assistant Volunteer. During that experience, she realized the significance of working as a scholar and researcher, and moved into a PhD program. After completing her dissertation, she would like to develop special courses, such as US-Mexico Relations and Oil Issues, and How America Deals with Global Oil Issues, for students majoring in American Studies at Lomonosov MSU.

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