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WISER Distinguished Guest Lecturer Series

Kelly M. Kadera

“Competing Predators: Protestants
and Catholics in Northern Ireland”

Friday, May 2, Noon-1:30

Forum Room: Evans School of
Public Affairs

Kelly Kadera is Professor of Political Science at the University of Iowa. Kadera's research uses dynamic models to understand conflict processes in Northern Ireland. Using Francisco's (1996) data on coercion and protest in Northern Ireland from 1982 to 1993, Kadera reports strong evidence for cycling and how coercion leads to protest. This work suggests strategies for ameliorating the longstanding hostility among Catholics, Protestants, and government forces. Recommendations include slowing down reaction times and approaches that eliminate British participation in the dispute, such as the 1998 Good Friday Accord establishing a devolved legislature. Based on the model's success, Kadera also advocates generalized application of this type of model to other protest-coercion scenarios.