**July OLLI Short Syllabus**

**“The Trump Administration’s Revolutionary Changes in American National Security Policy”**

**Draft: April 1, 2025**

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Over the course of the last decade, the global security environment previously dominated by the post-Cold War era of a global trading and growth renaissance has been challenged by rise of a number of authoritarian Eurasian great powers. This renewed global military competition has been best captured by the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine; the transformation of the Greater Middle East through major military violence; and the rise of China as both an economic and military superpower. Washington responded to these challenges by reenergizing its traditional alliances along the Eurasian rimland that included NATO, robust and controversial support for Israel, and a major upgrade of military relations with its Asian allies along littoral of China in the Western Pacific that included Australia and India.

In response to these renewed international challenges, the second Trump Administration is transforming the national security policy of the United States after a seventy-five years period of a relatively stable bipartisan status-quo. Simultaneously, the Trump administration has rejected the previous economic consensus that encourage global economic development through the expansion of free trade, and now is using the threat and actual use of tariffs to further what can best be described as a nationalist neo-Gaullist national security and economic agenda. Simultaneously, the Trump administration has embarked upon a revolutionary domestic agenda that will radically reduce the power of the Federal government to regulate much less promote private enterprise during this period of radical commercial and financial innovation that can be best described as a new Gilded Aged. Further, this agenda includes the massive transfer of wealth from the formerly entrenched federal entitlement programs to implement further tax reductions for the very wealthy and the technologically enabled corporations. Not surprisingly this revolutionary agenda is generating substantial push back both internationally and domestically.

Peter A. Wilson will explore the national security implications of these ongoing radical changes authored by the Trump administration. Topics will include the rise of a U.S. Western Hemispheric imperial national security policy; the possible endgame for the Russo-Ukrainian war and its implications for the fate of the Atlantic Alliance; the prospects for renewed regional stability or war following the defeat of the Russo-Iranian “axis of resistance” after the fall of the Assad regime in Syria; and the near-term prospect of peace or war with China. In conclusion, the implications of the future of warfare in light of these events will be examined.