

# Illegal: How America's Lawless Immigration Regime Threatens Us All

Friday, May 7, 2021 | 12:00PM - 1:30PM PDT

Will be held via Zoom (This Event May Be Recorded)



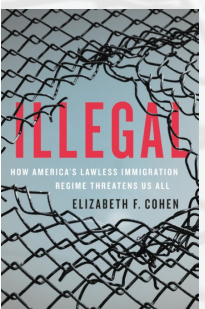
**Author: Elizabeth F. Cohen**

Elizabeth F. Cohen is Professor of Political Science at Syracuse University and Associate Editor of the American Journal of Political Science. In addition to her scholarly writing, Elizabeth has also published op-eds in newspapers such as the Atlantic, the Washington Post and Politico. Elizabeth's research interests focus on immigration, contemporary political theory, justice, citizenship, and rights.



**Discussant: Margaret Peters**

Margaret Peters is Associate Professor of Political Science at UCLA. Her research focuses broadly on international political economy with a special focus on the politics of migration. Her book, Trading Barriers: Immigration and the Remaking of Globalization (2017, Princeton University Press) received the Lowi award for the best first book from APSA and IPSA, and the Best Book Award from the IPE and Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Migration Sections of the International Studies Associations and the Migration and Citizenship section of APSA.



US immigration enforcement agencies routinely stalk the undocumented, terrorize legal immigrants and mixed status families, and even trespass on the constitutional rights of citizens. While the Trump administration flaunted its brutality toward immigrants, the roots of its practices lie with early twentieth century white nationalism and nativism. Elizabeth F. Cohen will narrate the country's descent into anti-immigrant panic, tracing the origins of our obsession with illegality to the country's first comprehensive immigration restriction law. That nativist legislation paved the way for today's sprawling enforcement apparatus, whose budget and power now dwarf that of any other federal law enforcement agency. She will also speak about how past legislation can help us confront this crisis of corruption and abuse and which kinds of changes the Biden administration is advancing.

**[Register Here](#)**

***For more information please email [w2tam@ucsd.edu](mailto:w2tam@ucsd.edu)***