



Center for Latin American Studies Distinguished Lecture on Human Rights
**ELUSIVE JUSTICE: GENDER AND LAND RIGHTS
IN PEACE BUILDING- THE CASE OF COLOMBIA**

Dr. Donny Meertens

with Lecture Discussant Dr. Ruken Sengul, Distinguished Research Fellow through the Promise Institute for Human Rights and the Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA



This conference addresses the critical question of gender and land rights in peacebuilding efforts. In Colombia, restoration of property rights to rural populations after fifty years of violence has become part of a larger transitional justice process that was formalized in 2011 (when the Victim's Law was issued) and 2016 (the signature of the Peace Accord between Government and FARC guerrillas). However, despite gender equality rhetoric in public policy, the pursuit of gender justice in restoring land rights and rural livelihoods requires a broader transformative impulse in which women's advocacy organizations should play a prominent role.

Donny Meertens is a Social Anthropologist. She is an associate researcher in the Institute for Human Rights and Peace Building at Javeriana University (Bogota, Colombia) and Emeritus Professor at Colombia's National University, where she co-founded the Gender Studies School. She has been Rapporteur of the Historical Memory Report on violent land dispossession in Colombia's armed conflict (*La Tierra en Disputa*, 2010) and Fellow 2013-2014 at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington DC. Her publications in English include: *Bandits, Peasants, and Politics: The Case of "La Violencia" in Colombia* (co-author, 2001); "Colombia: Gender and Land Restitution" in *Oxford Handbook of Gender and Conflict* (2018) and *Elusive Justice. Women, Land Rights and Colombia's Transition to Peace* (2019).

Thursday, April 8, 4-5:30 pm (PT)

Registration is required:

https://arizona.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rcu2vpz4qG90Ksvyp9D_FPb_dIOjSe_CX