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E-Mail  
  
Title: Imported Conflicts: Policy and Program Responses  
Format: Presentation  
Theme: Citizenship and Social Cultural and Civic Integration

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Chair: Justine Akman, Director  
Email:  
Organization: Policy, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Branch, CIC

Presenter 1: Daphne Windland, Professor  
Email:  
Organization: Department of Anthropology, University of York  
Title of presentation: *"True Patriot Love"? The Challenge of Homeland Conflicts for Framing the Goals of Social Cohesion"*

Presenter 2: Marie-Joëlle Zahar, Professor  
Email:  
Organization: Department of Political Science, University of Montreal  
Title of presentation: *"Entre terroristes et victimes: Communautés arabes, conflits moyen-orientaux et politiques canadiennes"*

Presenter 3: Adrienne Gibson, Civil Rights Advocate  
Email:  
Organization: Centre for Research-Action on Race Relations (CRARR)  
Title of presentation: *"Imported Conflicts: Old Song, New Tune?"*

Presenter 4: Anna Maria Fiore, Advisor in intercultural affairs  
Email:  
Organization: City of Montreal, Office of intercultural relations  
Title of presentation: *"Gérer la diversité à l'échelle locale : vision et actions montréalaises"*

Presenter 5: Mehroona Ghani, Director  
Email:  
Organization: Multiculturalism and Inclusive Communities Office, Ministry of Inclusive Communities Office, Government of British Columbia  
Title of presentation: *"Working towards the prevention of anti-immigrant sentiments in the context of "imported conflicts"*

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## Abstract

This workshop will explore the challenges that imported conflicts pose for Canadian society and public policy makers. Its goal is to determine the role of governments and to help devise appropriate public policy responses and strategies that support peaceful civic integration, engagement and intercultural dialogue.

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## Summary

In the context of globalization and increased migrations around the world, the topic of imported conflicts – or tensions among ethnic minority immigrant groups in immigrant-receiving countries – is gaining increased attention. Imported conflicts often involve demands posed to the country's government by ethnic minority immigrant groups where the origins of the conflict are outside of the state's borders, often in the country or region of origin of the groups that are involved.

Since its very existence, Canada has been the site of many such conflicts ranging from those brought over by English and French settlers to recent protests by Tamil Canadians in the spring of 2009. As migration is currently characterized by the retention of multiple identities and loyalties, as well as transnational realities, we are likely to witness repeated occurrences of imported conflicts in the future. Within democracies, imported conflicts present both risks and opportunities in the challenges that they present to host societies and governments.

The goal of this workshop is to help inform our dialogue related to imported conflicts and to answer the following questions: How should they be perceived? Are they unique to recent times? Are they a natural and normal part of the democratic process? How can governments and civil society respond in order to ensure that they do not lead to a rise in anti-immigrant sentiments?