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From the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge

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US-Russian Relations: Looking beyond the Partisan Rhetoric topic at Lunch with the League



Dr. Michael Fitzgerald, Professor of Political Science at the University of Tennessee will speak on US-Russian Relations at Lunch with the League on Tuesday, April 18 at noon in the Social Hall of the Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church. The church is located at 809 Oak Ridge Turnpike.

Dr. Fitzgerald served on the faculty of the University of Missouri prior to joining UTK in 1978. He received his Master's and Ph.D. degrees in Political Science at the University of Oklahoma. Upon graduation from the Honors College at Western Michigan University in 1969, he served in the U.S. Army, including a tour of duty in Vietnam with the 25th Infantry Division during which he received two Bronze Star Medals for meritorious service.

“Relations between the United States and the Russian Federation steadily have declined over the past two decades. Tensions between the world’s most prominent nuclear powers have risen to levels unseen since the worst days of the Cold War. A survey of the causes and contours of the deteriorating current impasse in US-Russian relations leads to the conclusion that we are well into a second Cold War fraught with all the uncertainty and danger that defined the first. Effectively dealing with Putin’s geopolitical strategy to, once again, make Russia internationally relevant requires realistic thinking about Russian history, culture, and politics,” said Dr. Fitzgerald.

His latest book, *Out of the Cold: The Cold War and Its Legacy* was published in 2014. Dr. Fitzgerald has taught and contributed to numerous courses related to US relations with Russia, among them *War and Peace in the Nuclear Age*, *Post-Communist Governments in Eastern Europe*, and *Authoritarianism in the Post-Soviet Era*. He currently is studying world public opinion about US leadership in global affairs—focusing on the implications of rising anti-Americanism, especially in Russia.

Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge, Lunch with the League is open to the public. There is no cost to attend and reservations are not needed. Box lunches will be available starting at 11:30 a.m. on a first-come basis for \$8, or you may bring your own. Coffee and tea are provided.
