On Monday, September 29, at 4:30PM in Lewis Auditorium, Stephen Van Evera, Ford International Professor, Political Science Department, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will present a lecture entitled “American Grand Strategy and Current Crises: Ukraine and the Middle East” as part of the Foreign Policy Distinguished Speaker Series.

Stephen Van Evera teaches international relations at MIT, where he is Ford international professor of political science. He received his Ph.D. in political science from U.C. Berkeley. His publications include books on the causes of war and on social science methods, and articles on American grand strategy, American defense policy, nationalism and the causes of war, the origins of national identity, the origins of World War I, American intervention in the developing world, Europe's future international relations, the Israel-Arab conflict, and U.S. strategy in the War on Terror.

His most recent publications are: "Using U.S. Leverage to Abate Conflicts That Harm U.S. Security," in Stephen Van Evera and Sidharth Shah, eds., The Prudent Use of Power in American
Stephen Van Evera's research interests include the causes and prevention of war, with focus on the role of national misperception as a cause of war, and on organized religions as causes of war or peace; U.S. foreign policy; U.S. security policy; international relations theory; and social science methods, with focus on qualitative methods.

Stephen first began working with international relations in mid-1980’s when he served as a managing editor for the MIT Press Journals International Security, becoming in 2006 the Acting Director of the MIT Security Studies Program and later on the MIT Security Studies Program Acting Director.

He teaches courses on U.S. foreign policy and on the causes and prevention of war. He is a member of the MIT Security Studies Program, and chair of the Tobin Project working group on national security. He lives in Lexington, Mass., with wife Beth Rogers and daughters Lydia, Eleanor and Alice. He has numerous media appearances among which in MIT Alumni Association’s Faculty Forum, the Minnesota Public Radio, WBUR (Boston).

The Foreign policy Distinguished Speaker Series features prominent leaders in international affairs who can address topical issues from a variety of perspectives. The Speaker Series is part of the Foreign Policy Forum at Cornell University led by the Einaudi Center to maximize the intellectual impact of Cornell’s outstanding resources in this area.