

Thomas W. O'Donnell, Ph.D. – Biographical Sketch

Dr. Thomas W. O'Donnell is an expert in the political economy and geopolitics of the global energy sector, especially petroleum. He writes and speaks widely on OPEC and other energy-producing states of Latin America and of the Middle East, and on the energy geopolitics of the U.S., China, and EU.

Dr. O'Donnell is part-time Faculty at The New School University in New York City, in Graduate International Affairs, teaching seminars on geopolitics and energy, Latin America, the Middle East, and Environmental Economics. In 2011-12 he is also commuting to U. Michigan and The Ohio State University to give special seminars on the geopolitics of oil.

Dr. O'Donnell is a PhD, nuclear physicist (U Michigan, Ann Arbor). He was US Fulbright Scholar in Venezuela for 2008, and visiting professor at the *Centro de Estudios del Desarrollo* of the *Universidad Central de Venezuela* (CENDES-UCV) in Caracas, from January 2008 January 2010, where he conducted research on the Venezuelan oil sector and related policies of the Bolivarian state.

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For several years till 2007, he taught and did research at The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in Energy and the Environment; in Science Technology and Society (STS); and in Middle East and North African Studies.

Before earning his Ph.D., he left academia for a decade, organizing in impoverished and working-class communities of Detroit and Chicago, and wrote on political and economic affairs. He has consulted on geopolitics, energy, the environment and on nuclear issues. In physics, he is author or co-author of some 38 peer-reviewed papers from work conducted at several US and overseas universities and national laboratories.

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