



**Coffee & Politics Series**



*Tony Lockett*

# Political Polarization in Europe



The 27 countries of the European Union jointly received the Nobel Prize for peace in 2012. However, in addition to the recent debt crisis, there has also been a rise in extreme political parties in many parts of the continent. What is the role of the EU in maintaining political unity in Europe?

**Tony Lockett** is a communication specialist who works for the European Commission in Brussels and is currently a European Union Fellow at the University of Washington. He has been involved in European Union policy-making for over 15 years, most recently in the area of regional economic development (which accounts for one third of the EU's budget, and represents a key element of its strategy to recover from the financial crisis).

Join us for pizza, pop, and stimulating discussion. RSVP to [relgar@wsu.edu](mailto:relgar@wsu.edu)

**Thursday, February 28**  
**12 noon – 1:15pm**  
**Foley Speaker's Room**  
**Bryan Hall 308**