



# ATHENS INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (ATINER)

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Athens, 18 January 2017

## PRESS RELEASE

RE: The Appointment of Dr. Ilja A. Luciak as Head of ATINER's Anthropology Research Unit

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The [Athens Institute for Education and Research](http://www.atiner.gr) is pleased to announce that Dr. Ilja A. Luciak, Professor, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, USA has been appointed the new Head of ATINER's [Anthropology Research Unit](http://www.atiner.gr/anthropology). He will hold the position until 31 December 2019.

As part of his new role, Professor Luciak will organize the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Conference on Anthropology (<http://www.atiner.gr/anthropology>) sponsored by the [Athens Journal of Social Sciences](http://www.atiner.gr/athens-journal) on 12-15 June 2017 in Athens, Greece. In addition, Professor Luciak will organize research groups, review article submissions, and edit books relevant to the discipline.

Professor Luciak's research interests include gender equality, democratization, and political anthropology. For the past thirty years, he has conducted fieldwork in Mexico, Cuba, Colombia, and Central America. Recent publications include a multi-year study on "Gender Equality and Democratization in Central America and Cuba" for the European Commission. Based on this study he published *After the Revolution: Gender and Democracy in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001). He is currently completing a book manuscript entitled *The Electrolux King: Reality and Myth in the Life of Axel Wenner-Gren*. His latest article on this research project was published in the October 2016 of *Current Anthropology*.

Professor Luciak holds a J.D. from Universitat Wien in Austria and a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in the United States. In addition to his appointment with ATINER, he has been a fellow at the Universidad Centroamericana in Nicaragua, Stockholm University in Sweden, Universitat Innsbruck in Austria, and the Society for the Humanities at Cornell University in the United States. For the last 15 years, Professor Luciak has served as Professor of Political Science at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. His recent appointment with ATINER is an honorary position.

ATINER was established in 1995 as an independent world member-based association of academics and researchers. Its mission is to act as a forum where academics and researchers from all over the world can meet to exchange ideas on their research and discuss future developments within their disciplines. Athens was chosen as the meeting place because of its long history and vibrant culture. Currently the Association has 2245 members from 115 different countries (<http://www.atiner.gr/all-members>).

For further information about ATINER and its Research Divisions and Unites, please contact the institute at [atiner@atiner.gr](mailto:atiner@atiner.gr).