



Middle East
Centre

A full-page background image showing a silhouette of a mosque minaret in the foreground, set against a dense city skyline at sunset. The sky and buildings are bathed in a warm, orange-gold light.

LSE MIDDLE EAST CENTRE ANNUAL REPORT 2018 | 19

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WELCOME

The past academic year was my first as Director of the Middle East Centre and I have been greatly impressed by the energy and commitment of Centre colleagues. At the heart of our work is the original research we conduct and facilitate on the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), which involves Centre staff, academics based elsewhere in LSE and colleagues from the region. During 2018–19 we published three papers and nine reports across a diverse range of topics. We also organised 39 public events attended by over 2500 people.

The Centre also received various research grants, including a major award from the Henry Luce Foundation for the project 'Managing Religious Diversity in the Middle East: The Muhasasa Ta'ifia in Iraq, 2003–18'. This research examines how Iraq's post-2003 ruling elite have managed sectarian constituencies in the appointment of senior political offices. Amongst other research, we have developed policy-relevant work on displacement, statelessness and changing geopolitical relations in the region. Under the Conflict Research Programme, funded by the UK Department

for International Development, we are looking at the drivers of conflict in Iraq and how these can be effectively reduced. This research has addressed sectarianism, sexual violence, media reporting, political corruption and the role of militias.

Our Academic Collaboration with Arab Universities Programme continues to thrive. We have now funded 30 projects in partnership with 19 universities in 12 countries. Ongoing projects include a study on the reception of the Ms Marvel comic character in non-Muslim and Muslim societies, an assessment of Palestinian attitudinal changes in response to conflict, and the integration of non-oil MENA countries in global value chains.

Collaboration projects commencing in 2018–19 under the Kuwait Programme are examining private R&D investment in Kuwait and policy actions to enhance the use of public space. The programme also funded new research projects on the Kuwaiti transport system and the impact of women's participation in Kuwaiti politics.

Our popular public events showcase cutting-edge research and often attract a lively exchange of views, as informed by LSE norms of inclusive and respectful debate.

LSE students are regular attendees at our events, but we have increased student engagement, introducing a dissertation prize open to LSE Master's students submitting a MENA-related thesis. The Centre also benefits greatly from interaction with PhD students across the School, including as researchers on our projects.

In the past year we were delighted to welcome as new colleagues Muna Dajani, Alexandra Gomes and Polly Withers. The Centre prides itself on its collegiality and culture of professional development, and we appreciate the contribution visiting staff continue to make to our research and events programme. 2020 marks the tenth anniversary of the creation of the Centre and we look forward to hosting a number of special events.

Michael Mason
Centre Director

ABOUT THE MIDDLE EAST CENTRE

The Middle East Centre builds on LSE's long engagement with the Middle East and provides a central hub for the wide range of research on the region carried out around the School. LSE is one of the world's leading social science institutions and comprises departments covering all branches of the social sciences. The Centre taps into this expertise to promote both public understanding and innovative interdisciplinary research on the region, with foci on history, political economy, society and international relations.

OBJECTIVES

- Promoting independent and critical research on the Middle East and North Africa;
- Fostering open and critical debate about the politics, societies and economies of the region;
- Disseminating knowledge about the Middle East through the Centre's events, digital resources and publications and through LSE's community and media activities;
- Providing a rich research environment for scholars and students;
- Establishing and cultivating ties with colleagues in Middle East and international institutions.

FUNDERS

In 2018–19, the Centre's work was generously supported by:

- Emirates Foundation
- The Aman Trust
- Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences
- UK Department for International Development
- The Leverhulme Trust
- LSE Knowledge Exchange and Impact Fund
- LSE IGA–Rockefeller Fund
- Global Religion Research Initiative, University of Notre Dame
- The Henry Luce Foundation

CENTRE STAFF

Dr Manmit Bhambra

Research Assistant

Dr Muna Dajani

Research Officer

Professor Toby Dodge

Kuwait Professor

Dr Courtney Freer

Research Fellow

Sundus Hamdan

Research Assistant

Dr Aula Hariri

Research Officer

Dr Zeynep Kaya

Research Fellow

Yasmine Kherfi

Projects Assistant

Robert Lowe

Deputy Director

Dr Bronwen Manby

Research Fellow

Dr Michael Mason

Director

Jack McGinn

Communications Coordinator

Dr Aitemad Muhanna-Matar

Assistant Professorial

Research Fellow

Haneen Naamneh

Research Assistant

Dr Sinéad Murphy

BRISMES Conference

Coordinator

Dr Sophie Olver-Ellis

Research Officer

Rosa Pérez

Events Coordinator

Sandra Sfeir

Projects Coordinator

Ian Sinclair

Kuwait Programme

Administrator

Ribale Sleiman Haidar

Communications Manager

Dr Jessica Watkins

Research Officer

Dr Polly Withers

ESRC Postdoctoral Fellow

VISITING APPOINTMENTS

Dr Rahaf Aldoughli

Dr Dari Alhuwail

Dr Abdullah Alibrahim

Dr Manuel Almeida

Professor Madawi Al-Rasheed

Dr Saad Alsharrah

Dr Fahed Al-Sumait

Dr Shamel Azmeh

Dr Ian Black

Dr Guy Burton

Dr Valeria Cetorelli

Dr Athanasia Kalaitzi

Dr Davide Luca

Jim Muir

Priscilla Toffano



RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Middle East Centre conducts and facilitates original research on the politics, societies and economies of the Middle East and North Africa. Research is conducted by Centre staff and by academics based in LSE departments and the region.

Gender Identity Crisis and the Link to Radicalisation: Syrian Refugees in Jordan and Turkey

This project studied the link between gender identity crises and Islamic radicalisation within the context of displacement.

Supported by the IGA Rockefeller Fund

Principal Investigator

Dr Aitemad Muhanna-Matar,
LSE Middle East Centre

Internal Displacement and the Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Iraq

This project helped develop policies on women's participation in conflict-related situations by assessing the Iraqi National

Action Plan on the Women, Peace and Security agenda and making recommendations for its revision.

Supported by the LSE KEI Fund

Principal Investigator

Dr Zeynep Kaya, LSE Middle East Centre

'Just Below the Horizon': Israeli–Gulf Relations and Changing Middle Eastern Geopolitics

This project provided a coherent, analytical account of Israel's informal relationships with GCC states using public evidence and background information.

Principal Investigator

Dr Ian Black, LSE Middle East Centre

After the Last 'Firman': Victimhood, Survival and Societal Transformation among the Yazidis

This project brought together international scholars to offer a unique social science perspective on the Yazidi religious community in the wake of genocidal violence.

Supported by the Global Religion Research Initiative

Principal Investigators

Dr Zeynep Kaya, LSE Middle East Centre
Dr Güneş Murat Tezcür,
University of Central Florida
Dr Bayar Mustafa Sevdeen,
American University of Kurdistan



Webinar Series
The webinar series is a series of online sessions that explore the themes of conflict in the Middle East. The sessions are designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the conflict and its impact on the region. The sessions are held on a regular basis and are open to all interested parties.

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CONFLICT RESEARCH PROGRAMME

IRAQ AND THE WIDER MIDDLE EAST



CONFLICT
RESEARCH
PROGRAMME

The Conflict Research Programme is funded by the UK Department for International Development to provide research and policy advice on how the risk and impact of violent conflict might be more effectively reduced through development and governance interventions. The Middle East Centre is leading the research on drivers of conflict in Iraq and the wider Middle East in partnership with the American University of Iraq, Sulaimani, and Al-Bayan Center for Planning and Studies, Baghdad.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Reforming Legal Responses to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region

This project analyses the extent to which existing domestic laws and practices surrounding conflict-related sexual violence response are being implemented and suggests how these laws should be reformed.

Principal Investigator

Güley Bor, international lawyer and researcher

'Pockets of Media Civiness' in a Conflictual Political Landscape: A Case Study of Iraqi Media

This report explores the challenges that the Iraqi media faces. It examines a number of barriers to the development of independent media in Iraq, providing some recommendations as to how these obstacles might be tackled.

Principal Investigator

Aida Al-Kaisy, SOAS

Payroll Expansion and the Political Marketplace in Iraq

This project examines the nature of corruption – shielded in large part by the *muhasasa ta'ifia* governance system – in both the institutions of the Government of Iraq and the Kurdish Regional Government by analysing the rapid expansion of government payrolls after 2003.

Principal Investigator

Ali Al-Mawlawi, Al-Bayan Center for Planning and Studies

Iraq's Popular Mobilisation Forces: The Possibility for Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration

This project examines the Iraqi government's ability to control the Popular Mobilisation Forces and integrate them into Iraq's mainstream security forces and command structures.

Principal Investigator

Hayder Al-Khafaji, Al-Bayan Center for Planning and Studies

Public Authority and Iraq's Disputed Territories

This project explores how competing public authorities – the Kurdistan Regional Government and the Government of Iraq – drive conflict through administrative policies, security forces and nationalism.

Principal Investigator

Mac Skelton, American University of Iraq, Sulaimani

Reporting the Iraqi Federal Elections

This project examines the mobilisation strategies and results of the 2018 Iraqi elections to identify change and continuity both among elites and at the popular level.

Principal Investigator

Christine van den Toorn, American University of Iraq, Sulaimani

Moral Populism and Satellite Sectarianisation: Pan-Arab Media Rhetoric

This research articulates a thorough understanding of how the largest Arab media outlets are dealing with, or indeed inciting, sectarian tension. It also provides valuable context to help inform how UK policymakers should engage with them.

Principal Investigator

Dr Jessica Watkins, LSE Middle East Centre

Conflict, Gender and Violence in Iraq

This project examines how masculinity and gender norms are contested, manipulated and influence the conflict economy in Iraq.

Principal Investigator

Dr Zeynep Kaya, LSE Middle East Centre

PROJECTS COMMENCING IN 2019–20

Donor Interventions and Water Governance in Basra

This project focuses on the extent to which water infrastructure interventions by international donors are sustainable and meet the water supply expectations of Iraqis.

Principal Investigator

Dr Michael Mason, LSE Middle East Centre

The Dynamics of Protest in Basra

It seeks to uncover the factors shaping protest dynamics in Basra province and their relationship with potentially destabilising violence between protesters, the state and non-state armed groups.

Principal Investigator

Benedict Robin-D'Cruz,
University of Edinburgh

Conflict Drivers within the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: The Role of Patronage Networks

This project interrogates the current state of patronage networks of the main two Kurdish political parties, the KDP and PUK.

Principal Investigators

Mac Skelton and Zmkan Ali,
American University of Iraq,
Sulaimani

A Locality in Crisis: A Study of the Local Governance Crisis and Public Protests in Basra

This project analyses the role of, and challenges facing, local governance in the Basra district of Iraq in light of the ongoing crisis in service provision.

Principal Investigators

Omar Al-Jaffal and Safaa Khalaf, Iraqi journalists and researchers

Decentralisation in Iraq

This project uses Iraq as a case study for the strengths and weaknesses of federal decentralisation, and aims to develop policy recommendations to enhance the process.

Principal Investigators

Ali Al-Mawlawi and Sajad Jiyad,
Al-Bayan Center for Planning
and Studies

Baghdad's Market Spaces and the Politics of Urban 'Renewal'

This project investigates the political economy of space in Baghdad's marketplaces and aims to highlight the deeply political nature of Baghdad's 'renewal'.

Principal Investigator

Omar Sirri, University of Toronto





ACADEMIC COLLABORATION WITH ARAB UNIVERSITIES PROGRAMME

Supported by the Emirates Foundation, the Academic Collaboration Programme strengthens the Centre's role as the principal hub for Middle East Studies within the School as well as a key partner to institutions in the region. The Centre has so far run 30 projects, working with 19 different partners in Arab states. Funded by the Emirates Foundation, the programme supports collaboration and knowledge exchange between LSE and Arab universities through research and academic capacity building.



ONGOING PROJECTS

Egypt and Morocco's Global Value Chains Integration in a Changing Global Economy

By studying the cases of Egypt and Morocco, this project examines the integration of non-oil MENA countries in global value chains (GVC) and explains the limited economic and social upgrading in GVC-integrated industries through focusing on three key developmental dimensions: economic upgrading, job creation and working conditions, and environmental upgrading/downgrading.

Principal Investigators

Dr Shamel Azmeh, LSE Middle East Centre

Dr Abeer Elshennawy, American University in Cairo

(Re)imagining Young Muslim Women? Comparing Public Responses to Ms Marvel in non-Muslim and Muslim Societies

This project compares the reception of the Ms Marvel comic figure in non-Muslim majority and Muslim majority societies. It examines the effect Ms Marvel has had on prevailing attitudes towards the socially accepted

role and status of young Muslim women.

Principal Investigators

Dr Jennifer Jackson-Preece, LSE European Institute
Dr Badreya Al-Jenaibi, United Arab Emirates University

Mapping Memories of Resistance: The Untold Story of the Occupation of the Golan Heights

This project documents and narrates the untold political, socio-economic and cultural story of the occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights, pertaining

to the lived experience of the Syrians who remained. It will develop a teaching curriculum for Birzeit University students, as well as an interactive digital database and documentation portal on the history of Arab resistance to the occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights.

Principal Investigators

Dr Michael Mason, LSE Middle East Centre
Dr Munir Fakher Eldin, Birzeit University

Re-Conceptualising Health in Wars and Conflicts: A New Focus on Deprivation and Suffering

This project aims to understand the traumas and impacts of conflict and military occupation, and how people give meaning to, make sense of, and cope with various forms of deprivation. It will develop and test new metrics to assess deprivation and its links to health outcomes. By integrating evidence from existing secondary data and primary qualitative data, the

project seeks to reconceptualise deprivation and its multiple dimensions.

Principal Investigators

Dr Tiziana Leone, LSE Department of International Development
Dr Ernestina Coast, LSE Department of International Development
Professor Rita Giacaman, Birzeit University

Complexity of Humanitarian Response to Internal Displacement in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq

This project focuses on how the special status of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq influences the humanitarian response to displacement in the region. It examines national and international responses to the displacement crisis and the socio-political structure of the region.

Principal Investigators

Dr Zeynep Kaya, LSE Middle East Centre

Dr Deniz Gokalp, American University in Dubai

Preventing Statelessness among Migrants in North Africa and their Children

This project investigates the identification needs of Sub-Saharan African and other migrants living in North Africa, particularly focusing on children born outside their parents' country of nationality. The project aims to give guidance on providing birth registration and other forms of identification that can prevent and reduce current and future statelessness.

Principal Investigators

Dr Bronwen Manby, LSE Middle East Centre
Dr Usha Natarajan, American University in Cairo
Dr Mohamed Kachani & Dr Malika Benradi, Association Marocaine d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Migrations

Palestinian Attitude Change in Response to Conflict in the Palestinian Territories

This project looks at the impact of exposure to violence on individual expectations about the future and the inclination to cooperate with others. It combines quantitative survey evidence and state-of-the-art experimental games with Palestinians to study how early life experiences of conflict shape expectations and attitudes towards cooperation across age cohorts and over time.

Principal Investigators

Dr Ben Groom, LSE Department of Geography and Environment
Dr Guy Burton, MBRSG, Dubai

Bridging the Micro–Macro Divide in Approaches to the Middle East

This project seeks to develop a multidisciplinary relational methodology to studying the Middle East, which bridges the divide between macro and micro approaches. Its relational methodology will be applied to two in-depth case studies: the first on state–society relations in revolutionary Iraq (1958–63) and the second on the trans-national migratory routes of Chinese Muslims into the Arabian Gulf.

Principal Investigators

Dr Aula Hariri, LSE Middle East Centre
Dr Yuting Wang, American University of Sharjah

PROJECTS COMMENCING IN 2019–20

Neoliberal Visions: Exploring Gendered Adverts and Identities in the Palestinian West Bank

This project studies the production and consumption of gendered advertisements in Ramallah, as a way of exploring how neoliberal culture constructs gendered subjectivity.

Principal Investigators

Dr Polly Withers, LSE Middle East Centre
Dr Rema Hammami, Birzeit University

Export Composition and Economic Growth in the UAE

This project will investigate whether a further increase in the



degree of export diversification will foster further economic growth in the UAE.

Principal Investigators

Dr Athanasia Kalaitzi, LSE
Middle East Centre
Dr Samer Kherfi, American
University in Sharjah

Can Social Protection Empower Women? Patriarchy, Economic Agency and Redistribution Policies in Egypt

This project explores the impacts of Egypt's poverty alleviation programmes and cash transfers on gendered identities, as well as on the relationships that shape citizenship for women and families.

Principal Investigators

Dr Naila Kabeer, LSE
Department of Gender Studies
Dr Hania Mohamed Sholkamy,
American University in Cairo

Global Identity in an Uncertain World: A Study of Social Attitudes at an International UAE University

This project considers how social psychological processes are developing in the next generation of young leaders worldwide, and what kinds of environments might foster a liberal, globalist outlook, just as it shows signs of being in retreat. It focuses on high achievers from several countries studying at New York University Abu Dhabi.

Principal Investigators

Dr Jennifer Sheehy-
Skeffington, LSE Department of
Psychological and Behavioural
Science
Dr Christian Haerpfer, UAE
University
Dr PJ Henry, NYU Abu Dhabi





KUWAIT PROGRAMME

Established in 2007, the Kuwait Programme is a world-leading hub for research and expertise on Kuwait. The Programme is funded by the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences and directed by Toby Dodge, Kuwait Professor. Kuwait Programme Research Grants support LSE colleagues to conduct policy-relevant research on contemporary Kuwait. LSE–Kuwait Academic Collaboration projects enable Kuwait and LSE academics to run collaborative research.



Understanding the Changing Water–Energy–Food Nexus in Kuwait and the Gulf Region

This project investigates existing approaches to assessing the Water–Energy–Food (WEF) nexus and their relevance for understanding the nexus in the GCC states. It also quantifies and maps the trends in WEF resource use, their interdependencies, trade-offs and co-benefits for Kuwait and other GCC states.

Principal Investigator

Dr Christian Siderius, LSE
Grantham Research Institute

The Impact of Women's Political Participation on Kuwaiti Politics

This research project seeks to understand the structural, political and gender-related obstacles facing: (1) female candidates seeking election to the Kuwaiti National Assembly, and (2) those female politicians who do get elected when trying to influence the legislative process and governmental oversight.

Principal Investigator

Dr Zeynep Kaya, LSE Middle
East Centre

Estimating the Burden of Diabetes in Kuwait

This project seeks to analyse the link between diabetes and healthcare utilisation in order to determine the total (direct and indirect) cost of diabetes in Kuwait by providing a static measure of the cost of diabetes. It also critically evaluates existing preventive measures aiming at reducing the overall economic burden of diabetes in Kuwait.

Principal Investigators

Dr Zlatko Nikoloski, LSE Health
Professor Fahd Al-Mulla,
Dasman Diabetes Institute

Examining and Informing Public Policy to Meet the Challenge of Global Warming in Kuwait

The importance of metrics in assessing the sustainability of the development path in a national economy is now well established. This research seeks to contribute to the debate by deepening the evidence base in Kuwait through: constructing a wealth (and natural capital) account for Kuwait and developing an economy-wide model which can be used to simulate interactions between economy, environment and society.

Principal Investigators

Professor Giles Atkinson, LSE
Department of Geography and Environment
Dr Ayele Gelan, Kuwait Institute
for Scientific Research

Building the 'New Kuwait': The Role of the Private Sector in the Post-Oil Economy

This research analyses the emerging 'New Kuwait', with particular focus on the role of the private sector in the post-oil dependent Kuwaiti political economy. It seeks to examine how the government is attempting to encourage the private sector to spearhead the country's economic diversification efforts.

Principal Investigator

Dr Sophie Olver-Ellis, LSE Middle
East Centre

The Social Safety Net in Kuwait

The project will evaluate and assess the existing social safety net eco-system in Kuwait in terms of existing legal, fiscal and institutional setup, policies, programmes and their implementation arrangements and the degree of their effectiveness and impact of the current social contract.

Principal Investigator

Professor Steffen Hertog, LSE
Department of Government



PUBLICATIONS

The Centre's research is published in two formats. Our flagship, peer-reviewed Paper Series disseminates substantive, original research generated by Centre activities. Reports deliver policy recommendations and timely analysis based on research projects and workshops supported by the Centre.



Women, Peace and Security and Displacement in the Middle East
Zeynep Kaya & Hannah Bond, July 2019

Preventing Statelessness among Migrants and Refugees: Birth Registration and Consular Assistance in Egypt and Morocco
Bronwen Manby, June 2019

Iraq Synthesis Paper: Understanding the Drivers of Conflict in Iraq
Toby Dodge, Zeynep Kaya, Kyra Luchtenberg, Sarah Mathieu-Comtois, Bahra Saleh, Christine van den Toorn, Andrea Turpin-King & Jessica Watkins, October 2018

E-Shekels Across Borders: A Distributed Ledger System to Settle Payments Between Israel and the West Bank
Priscilla Toffano & Kathy Yuan, April 2019

A Demographic Documentation of ISIS's Attack on the Yazidi Village of Kocho
Valeria Cetorelli & Sareta Ashraph, June 2019

A Fragmented Landscape: Barriers to Independent Media in Iraq
Aida Al-Kaisy, June 2019

Iraq's Disputed Internal Boundaries after ISIS: Heterogeneous Actors Vying for Influence
Mac Skelton & Zmkan Ali Saleem, February 2019

Iraq's 2018 Government Formation: Unpacking the Friction Between Reform and the Status Quo

Renad Mansour, February 2019

The Impact of the War in Yemen on Artisanal Fishing of the Red Sea

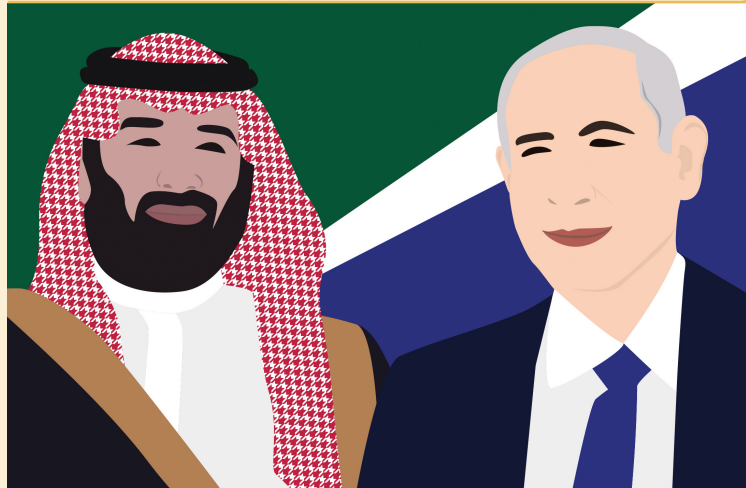
Ammar Mohammed Al-Fareh, December 2018

The Calculus of Dissidence: How the Front des Forces Socialistes Became What It Is

Hugh Roberts, October 2018

Just Below the Surface: Israel, the Arab Gulf States and the Limits of Cooperation

Ian Black, March 2019



Satellite Sectarianisation or Plain Old Partisanship? Inciting Violence in the Arab Mainstream Media

Jessica Watkins, April 2019

BLOG

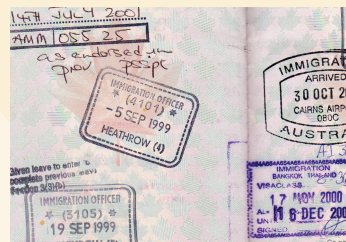
The MEC Blog delivers accessible analysis of the Middle East and North Africa to a wide readership, drawing primarily on the community of academics and researchers at LSE, but also including outside contributors. In the past year we have published 120 pieces, attracting over 138,000 views. Below are some highlights.



Yemen's Stockholm Agreement: One Step Forward, One Step Back?
Omar Munassar, Apr 2019



Murder and the Vilification of a Community: Bangladeshi Migrant Workers in Bahrain
Mohamed Aldaaysi, Jul 2019



The Impact of Visa Denial in Academia
Sukaina Ehdeed, Aug 2019



Challenging Concepts of 'Authenticity': Dubai and Urban Spaces in the Gulf
Rana AlMutawa, Dec 2018



Khashoggi and Ben Barka: Victims of Rogue Leaders or Rogue Systems?
Nael Shama, Feb 2019



The Bishop and the Prime Minister: Mediating Conflict in the Nineveh Plains
Mac Skelton and Karam Bahnama, Jan 2019



EVENTS

In the academic year 2018–19, the MEC hosted 39 public events, attracting over 2,500 participants. The Centre also organised workshops and research seminars bringing together academics, practitioners and experts. All Centre events reach wide audiences through publications, podcasts, videos and social media.

October 2018

Prospects for Islamist Politics after the Arab Uprising

Hendrik Kraetzschmar, Leeds University; Paola Rivetti, Dublin City University; Craig Larkin, KCL; Courtney Freer, LSE

For the Love of Humanity: The World Tribunal on Iraq

Ayça Çubukçu & David Graeber, LSE; Lori Allen, SOAS; Kimberly Hutchings, QMUL; Tor Krever, Warwick University; Haifa Zangana, Iraqi novelist

The Qatar Crisis in the Maghreb: Fake News, Political Pressures and Real Weapons

Youssef Cherif, Columbia Global Centers, Tunis

Hard Truths: Global Extremism

Steffen Hertog, LSE; Elisabeth Kendall, Oxford University; Azadeh Moaveni, International

Crisis Group; Peter Neumann, KCL

Rentier Islamism: The Influence of the Muslim Brotherhood in the Gulf Monarchies

Courtney Freer, LSE; Stéphane Lacroix, Sciences Po Paris; John Jenkins, Policy Exchange

Updating A Modern History of the Kurds

David McDowall, Author

Understanding the Drivers of Conflict in Iraq

Renad Mansour, Chatham House; Jessica Watkins & Zeynep Kaya, LSE

November 2018

Mission Impossible? The Case for a Syrian-Led Political Process

Salman Shaikh, The Shaikh Group

Citizenship in Africa: The Law of Belonging

Bronwen Manby & Chaloka Beyani, LSE; Nic Cheeseman, Birmingham University

Saudi Post-Khashoggi: What Next for the Kingdom?

Madawi Al-Rasheed, Ian Black & Steffen Hertog, LSE

Syria: Beyond the Endgame

Martin Chulov, *The Guardian*

December 2018

Why has Diplomacy Failed in Yemen so far?

Farea Al-Muslimi, Sana'a Center for Strategic Studies

Islam and Ethnicity in the Kurdish Political Sphere in Turkey

Mehmet Kurt, LSE/Yale

January 2019

Four Decades of Reporting Change in the Middle East

Jim Muir, BBC News/LSE

Israeli-Gulf Relations and Changing Middle Eastern Geopolitics

Ian Black, LSE

Israel's Basic Law: Motivations and Ramifications

Amal Jamal, Tel Aviv University

February 2019

Intellectuals, *Fellahin* and Emancipatory Politics in Rural Egypt

Francesco De Lellis, University of Naples L'Orientale

The Transboundary Politics of the Yarmouk River

Mark Zeitoun, University of East Anglia

Documenting Syria: Filmmaking, Video Activism and Revolution

Joshka Wessels, Lund University

The Return of the Military: Hybridity, Duality and Political Activism

Yezid Sayigh, Carnegie Middle East Center, Beirut

Sexualities and LGBT Activism in the Middle East and North Africa

Mehammed Mack, Smith College; Cenk Özbay, Sabanci University; Roula Seghaier, *Kohl Journal*; Silvia Quattrini, Association Chouf

Transitional Justice in Israel-Palestine: Lessons from Colombia

Yoav Kapshuk, Kinneret College

March 2019

Preventing Statelessness among Migrants in North Africa

Bronwen Manby, LSE

Middle East Careers Panel

Omar Al-Ghazzi & Priscilla Toffano, LSE; Sophie Rudland, IB Tauris; Angeline Turner, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Between Institutional Resilience to the Syrian Refugee Crisis and the Resilience of Syrian Refugees

Aitemad Muhanna-Matar, LSE

Contradictions in Contemporary Urbanisation: Cities of the Arabian Peninsula

Harvey Molotch, New York University; Davide Ponzini, Politecnico di Milano; Fran Tonkiss & Steffen Hertog, LSE

The Prince and the Minotaur: Egypt in the Labyrinth of Counter-Revolution

Brecht De Smet, Ghent University

Civil Society in Algeria: Activism, Identity and the Democratic Process

Jessica Northey, Coventry University

Mediterranean Production Networks and the Economies of North Africa

Shamel Azmeh, LSE; Abeer Elshennawy, American University in Cairo

Displaceability: A New Foundation of Urban Citizenship?

Oren Yiftachel, Ben-Gurion University

May 2019

Satellite Sectarianisation or Plain Old Partisanship? Inciting Violence in the Arab Mainstream Media

Jessica Watkins, LSE

Travelling with Gramsci: Capital and the Afterlives of Empire in Egypt and the Middle East

Sara Salem, LSE

'L'après-Bouteflika': The Army, the People and the Prospects for Reform in Algeria

Hugh Roberts, Tufts University

Gendering Settler-Colonialism and Cultural Production in Palestine/Israel through Palestinian Music Videos

Polly Withers, LSE

Paving the Way: The Politics of Turkey's Central Government Spending under AKP rule

Davide Luca, LSE; Çağatay
Bircan, European Bank
for Reconstruction and
Development

The 1953 Coup in Iran: About Oil or Communism?

Ervand Abrahamian, Baruch
College/CUNY Graduate Center

June 2019

The Kurdish Women's Movement: On Revolution, Militarism and Body Politics

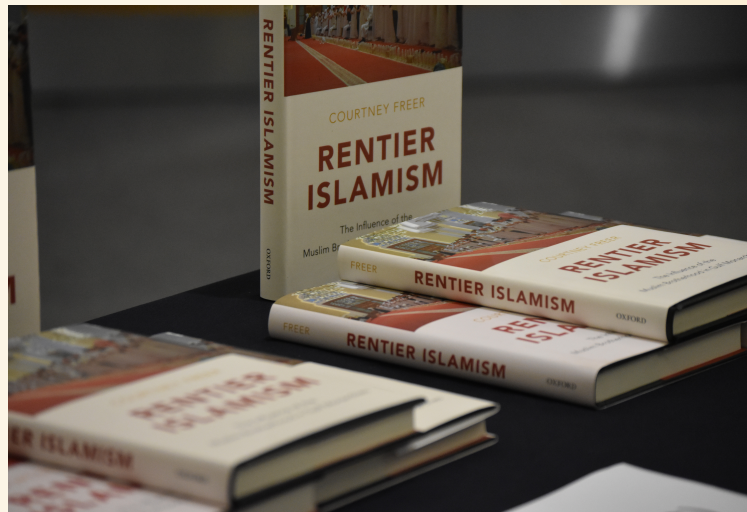
Isabel Käser, SOAS

A Feminist Perspective on the Syrian Political Process

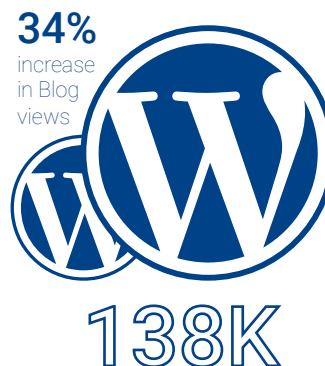
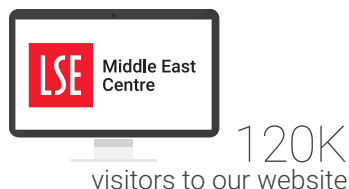
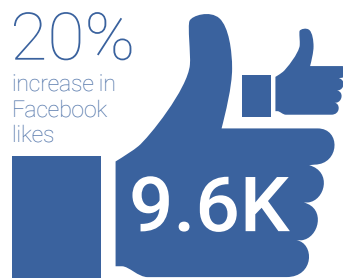
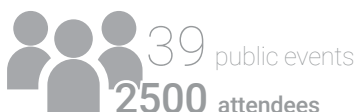
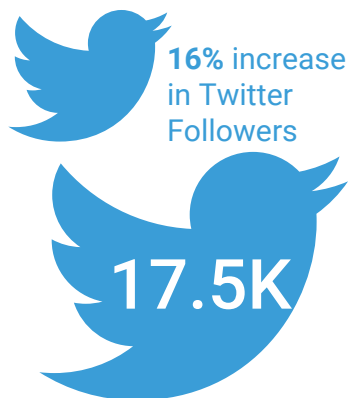
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Women's Political Movement

A Fragmented Landscape: Barriers to Independent Media in Iraq

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