

#AUB4Refugees



4th Conference of the Alliance of Lead Universities on Migration (ALUM)

Universities Responding to the Refugee Crisis

Two-Day Conference

November 6th-7th, 2017

8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Olayan School of Business, Maamari Auditorium

American University of Beirut



Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs
معهد عصام فارس للسياسات العامة والشؤون الدولية

ALUM

Alliance of
Leading
Universities on
Migration

LSE

**Institute of
Global Affairs**

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

With this conference, members of the **Alliance of Lead Universities on Migration (ALUM)** aim to present and deliberate the critical role that universities can play in the current refugee crisis in Lebanon, and how they can ameliorate the situation of refugees by providing realistic ideas and policy proposals to the multiple challenges refugees face in their current predicament. We will be focusing on the implications of the ongoing challenging political context related to the current migration/displacement of so many people, and how the current public perception has been evolving over the years. We will also focus on the various health challenges facing refugees, including nutrition and basic healthcare provision. A crucial point that will be discussed is education, and the challenges refugees face in accessing primary, secondary, and tertiary education. Lastly, we will explore the role the private sector can play in job creation for those that are displaced.

ALUM is a unique collaboration among lead universities in Europe and frontier countries in the Middle East and North Africa, forging an alliance to help bridge the gap between research and policy in the management of the current migrant and refugee crisis. ALUM's network identifies the key units and researchers ready and willing to contribute their expertise to work across national and disciplinary boundaries towards evidence-based policy solutions.

The **Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs** at the American University of Beirut is an independent, research-based, policy-oriented institute. Inaugurated in 2006, the Institute aims to harness, develop, and initiate policy-relevant research in the Arab region. We are committed to expanding and deepening policy-relevant knowledge production in and about the Arab region, and to creating a space for the interdisciplinary exchange of ideas among researchers, civil society and policy-makers.

The **LSE Institute of Global Affairs (IGA)** is part of the renowned **London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)**. IGA aims to maximize the impact of LSE's leading expertise across the social sciences by shaping inclusive and locally-rooted responses to global challenges in areas such as finance, migration, global governance/political economy, and the quest for sustainable growth models and society transformation. IGA joins up emerging and advanced economies in designing and testing innovative, research-based solutions that inform policy-makers at the local, regional and global levels.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

DAY 1

Monday 6th of November, 2017

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Registration

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM Introductory Remarks

Dr. Nasser Yassin, Director of Research, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, AUB, Lebanon & **Dr. Erik Berglof**, Director of the Institute of Global Affairs, LSE, UK

Opening Remarks

- **Dr. Mohamed Harajli**, Provost, American University of Beirut, Lebanon
- **Ms. Mireille Girard**, UNHCR Representative, Lebanon
- **H.E. Mr. Marwan Hamadeh**, Minister of Education and Higher Education, Lebanon

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Keynote Speech by **Professor Marek Belka**, Former Prime Minister and Finance Minister of Poland and Chairman of the World Bank/International Monetary Fund Development Committee

10:15 AM - 10:30 AM Coffee Break

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Session 1 - Migration, Displacement and the Public Perception

Chair:

Dr. Tamirace Fakhoury, Department of Social Sciences, Associate Director of the Institute of Social Justice and Conflict Resolution (ISJCR), Lebanese American University, Lebanon

Presentations:

- **Dr. Sari Hanafi**, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Media Studies, AUB, Lebanon
- **Dr. Valerio Dotti**, Department of Economics, Washington University, St Louis, USA
- **Dr. Ayşen Üstübcü**, Departments of International Relations and Sociology, Koc University, Turkey

Policy-makers & Expert Opinion:

- **Dr. Khalil Gebara**, Policy and International Affairs Advisor to the Minister of Interior and Municipalities, Lebanon
- **Mr. Thaer Ghandour**, Journalist & Media Policy Advisor, Lebanon

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Session 2 - Political and Institutional Constraints to Migration and Displacement

Chair:

Professor Gibril Faal, Founding director of Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform

Presentations:

- **Dr. Carmen Geha**, Department of Political Studies and Public Administration, AUB, Lebanon
- **Dr. Dominik Hangartner**, Department of Government, LSE and Faculty co-director of the Immigration Policy Lab, UK
- **Dr. Carlo Devillanova**, Department of Policy Analysis and Public Management, Bocconi University, Italy
- **Dr. Nate Breznau**, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES), University of Mannheim, Germany

Policy-makers & Expert Opinion:

- **Dr. Carole Sharabati**, Director of the Political Science Institute, Saint-Joseph University, Lebanon

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM Lunch Break

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM Session 3 - Return Migration and Vulnerable Groups

Chair:

Professor Eleonore Kofman, Co-Director of the Social Policy Research Centre, Middlesex University and LSE, UK

Presentations:

- **Ms. Nourhan Abdel Aziz**, Center for Migration and Refugee Studies, American University in Cairo, Egypt
- **Dr. Rebecca Bryant**, Department of Cultural Anthropology, Utrecht University, Netherlands
- **Professor Brad Blitz**, International Politics, Law Department, Middlesex University and LSE, UK

Policy-makers & Expert Opinion:

- **Dr. Ziad El Sayegh**, Expert on Public Policies and Refugees and Senior National Policy Advisor to the Ministry of State for Displaced Affairs, Lebanon
- **Dr. Muslih Irwani**, Chair of the Center for Peace and Human Security, American University of Kurdistan
- **Dr. Marco Borraccetti**, Department of Political and Social Sciences, University of Bologna, Italy

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Coffee Break

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Roundtable 1 - Advocacy, Policy and Research Impact on Issues of Migration and Displacement

Chair:

Ms. Sobhiya Najjar, Journalist and News Reporter, LBCI, Lebanon

- How can universities maximize their policy impact on issues of displacement, including influencing international fora such as G7, G20, UNGA?
- How can research-based activism be reinforced to support policy interventions?
- What is the role of academic activism in times of conflict?
- How to increase student engagement in areas of migration & refugee crises?
- Showcase some examples of impactful activist research.

Speakers:

- **Dr. Elie Al Hindy**, Department of Political Science, Notre Dame University, Lebanon
- **Dr. Unni Karunakara**, Jackson Institute for Global Affairs, Yale University, USA
- **Mr. Rabih Shibli**, Director of the Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service, AUB, Lebanon
- **Dr. Lilli Banholzer**, Department of Political Science, Mannheim University, Germany
- **Ms. Shaden Khallaf**, Senior Policy Advisor, UNHCR, MENA
- **Dr. Maria Gabriella Trovato**, Department of Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management, AUB, Lebanon
- **Dr. Angelo Martelli**, LSE & Rapporteur from INET Young Scholars meeting, UK

6:30 PM

Reception

Location: Common Room - West Hall, AUB

Speech by **Dr. Iman Nuwayhid**, Dean of AUB's Faculty of Health Sciences, Co-chair on the *Lancet*-AUB Commission on Syria

CONFERENCE AGENDA

DAY 2

Tuesday 7th of November, 2017

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Welcome Coffee

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM Keynote Speech by **Dr. Francisco Marmolejo**, Tertiary Education Global Coordinator and Lead Tertiary Education Specialist of the World Bank

9:45 AM - 11:15 AM Session 4 - Health and Nutrition of Migrants and Refugees

Chair:

Dr. Francesco Aureli, WHO Senior Advisor and former G7 Italian Sherpa on Migration

Presentations:

- **Dr. Fouad Fouad**, Director of the Refugee Health Program, Global Health Institute, AUB, Lebanon
- **Dr. Kaveh Koshnood**, Director of Undergraduate Studies, School of Public Health, Yale, USA
- **Dr. Lamis Jomaa**, Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, and Co-director of the Refugee Health Program, Global Health Institute, AUB, Lebanon

Policy-makers & Expert Opinion:

- **Dr. Shadi Saleh**, Department of Health Management and Policy, Associate Vice President for Health Affairs at AUB and the Founding Director of the Global Health Institute, AUB, Lebanon

11:15 AM - 11:30 AM Coffee Break

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Session 5 - Refugee Education

Chair:

Dr. Sonia Languille, Higher Education Support Program, Open Society Foundation

Presentations:

- **Dr. Maha Shuayb**, Director of the Centre for Lebanese Studies, Lebanon
- **Professor Keith David Watenpaugh**, Co-Director of UC Human Rights Collaboration, University of California, Davis, USA
- **Dr. Hana Addam El-Ghali**, Education and Youth Policy in the Arab World Program, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, AUB, Lebanon

- **Dr. Sahar Almakhamreh**, Head of Social Work Department, School of Applied Humanities and Languages, German Jordanian University, Jordan

Policy-makers & Expert Opinion:

- **Ms. Massa Mufti**, Co-founder and Chair of Sonbola Group for Education and Development, Lebanon
- **Ms. Agatha Abi-Aad**, Associate Education Officer, UNHCR, Lebanon
- **Professor Pam DeLargy**, Advisor to the President, Arizona State University, USA

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Lunch Break

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Roundtable 2 - The Constructive Role of Business Initiatives and Scholarship in the Refugee Crisis

Chair:

Dr. Charlotte Karam, Associate Dean of Programs, Olayan School of Business (OSB), AUB, Lebanon

- How can businesses better mobilize and organize capacity to build momentum toward more efficient and effective solution-oriented initiatives?
- What are the potential mechanisms to facilitate business's ability to foster innovation and find sustainable solutions to refugee problems?
- Do business and management scholars have a public role in advocating the interests of non-shareholder stakeholders through advocacy, teaching and scholarship?

Speakers:

- **Dr. Nadim Munla**, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Lebanon
- **Ms. Hoda Younen**, Country Manager, Lebanon and NEPA New Markets, Microsoft
- **Professor Harry Van Buren**, Jack and Donna Rust Professor of Business Ethics, University of New Mexico, USA
- **Dr. Randa Salamoun**, Business Information Decision Systems, OSB, AUB, Lebanon
- **Mr. Yasser Akkaoui**, Chairman, Lebanese Center for Policy Studies, Lebanon
- **Dr. Bijan Azad**, Business Information & Decision Systems, OSB, AUB, Lebanon

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Announcing the Beirut Declaration on the Role of Universities in the Refugee Crisis

Dr. Nasser Yassin, Director of Research, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, AUB, Lebanon & **Dr. Piroska Nagy-Mohacsi**, Programme Director in the Institute of Global Affairs, LSE, UK

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Closing Remarks

Dr. Nasser Yassin, Director of Research, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, AUB, Lebanon & **Dr. Erik Berglof**, Director of the Institute of Global Affairs, LSE, UK

