



SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND POPULAR MOBILISATION IN THE MENA

Digest of Current Publications and Events

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CALLS FOR PAPERS & CONFERENCES

Workshop: Developments in Deliberative Democracy

28 March 2016, 1-6pm, University of Westminster, London

We are delighted to present an international workshop on new directions and developments in deliberative democratic theory and research. This half-day event brings together two high-profile academics from the world of deliberative democracy: **John Dryzek (Canberra)** and **John Gastil (Penn State)**. The first session, provocatively titled 'One Deliberative Process to Rule Them All', will be led by John Gastil who will reflect on his ongoing research on the Citizen Initiative Review process in Oregon. The second session 'Deliberative Democracy and the Agents of Global Justice' will be led by John Dryzek. The workshop will be followed by a short reception.

The workshop is a partnership between Centre for Citizenship, Globalisation and Governance (C2G2, University of Southampton), Centre for the Study of Democracy (CSD, University of Westminster) and the Participatory and Deliberative Democracy (PDD) PSA Specialist Group.

To sign up for this workshop please visit. More and registration information [here](#)

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Workshop: State-society relations and socio-economic rights in Tunisia, Morocco and Egypt five years after the Arab Springs

19 February, 9 am-2 pm, Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, el-Manar University Tunis, Campus el-Manar 1.

The workshop is organized within the framework of the research project "Democracy and Citizenship rights in North Africa after the Arab Awakening: challenges to US and EU foreign policy" (EUSPRING), which aims at understanding how concepts of democracy and citizenship rights are interpreted by different social and political forces in Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco.

The project is coordinated by University *L'Orientale of Naples* and run together with the *University of Warwick*, the *European Policy Center* in Brussels, the *German Marshall Fund* in the United States, the *Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies*, *Observatoire pour La Transition Démocratique en Tunisie* and the *Ibn Rochd Centre* in Rabat. The project is sponsored by *Compagnia di San Paolo* of Turin.

It will be dedicated to the memory of Giulio Regeni, the young Italian PhD candidate brutally killed in Cairo in February 2015 during his staying as visiting student at the American University of Cairo.

More information [here](#)

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CfP : Colloque international "Migrations et frontières au XXIe siècle. Vers la fin des cultures et des identités nationales ?"

Deadline for abstracts : 1 June 2016

Ce colloque international, qui se tiendra du 12 au 14 octobre 2016, a pour objectif de confronter la recherche en sciences sociales sur les migrations avec celle qui est conduite dans les champs disciplinaires de l'ILCEA4, à savoir les études portant sur la civilisation et la culture des nations des cinq continents.

La période de référence concerne surtout les décennies qui ont suivi la fin de la guerre froide, ce qui n'exclut pas que l'on englobe aussi des phénomènes antérieurs à cette césure. On s'interrogera sur l'impact des migrations sur les pays d'accueil, de la famille aux grandes institutions. On s'interrogera en retour sur l'évolution des mentalités et des pratiques dans les groupes de migrants et leur descendance ainsi que dans les pays de départ.

Les langues du colloque seront le français et l'anglais. Il est prévu de publier une sélection de communications.

Les propositions de communication, en français ou en anglais, en **300** mots maximum, sont à envoyer aux deux organisateurs avant le **1er juin 2016** accompagnées d'une bio courte de **100** mots maximum : susanne.berthier@u-grenoble3.fr ou francois.genton@u-grenoble3.fr

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CfP: Globalization and its Discontents: Past, Present and Future (Graduate Research Conference, Oxford)

St Antony's Graduate Common Room is pleased to invite abstract submissions for a university-wide interdisciplinary graduate research conference, which will take place at St Antony's College on Thursday May 5, in week 2 of Trinity Term. We invite graduate students of the humanities and social sciences from all colleges to submit abstracts, regardless of the stage of their research. This conference will offer presenters the opportunity to introduce and receive feedback on their work from an encouraging but critical audience of both students and established academics at the University of Oxford.

Students are invited to submit abstracts for one of the panels or to submit an individual abstract that will be assigned to a panel by the conference's organising committee. The deadline for **abstract submissions is Sunday February 21** (week 6 of Hilary Term) and successful applicants will be notified on Friday March 4. Each panel will be chaired by a fellow from St Antony's College, and presenters will be asked to share their papers with their assigned fellow by March 20. Alternatively, it is possible to propose a new panel, consisting of three papers by three different authors. We specially encourage this to research groups. For more information on panel proposals, please get in touch with Solene Van Der Wielen.

Abstract submissions, including your name, college and departmental affiliations, and preferred

panel should be sent to Solene Van Der Wielen, the GCR Director of Research Exchange:
solene.vanderwielen@sant.ox.ac.uk.

Panels:

- After Post-Colonialism
- Communication, Media and Identity
- Debating Gender and Sexuality
- **Dynamics of International Solidarity**
- Language, Knowledge and Power
- Neoliberalism and the Redistribution of Wealth
- **Social Movements and Non-Violent Resistance**
- Struggles around Natural Resources

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CfP: The Canadian Journal for Middle East Studies

The Canadian journal for Middle East Studies, *The Researcher*—a print and online academic journal published by Institute for Middle East Studies, Canada—announces a call for articles and reviews for our second No. of Volume 1. We are interested in articles that focus on the Middle East in a wide range of contexts, and encourage articles from humanities and social science perspectives. *The Researcher* engages in serious, scholarly exploration of the forms, representations, meanings, and historical influences of radical social movements.

The peer-reviewed journal “*The Researcher*” is calling for papers for its second issue, focusing on the “The Middle East after the Arab Spring” to be published in Spring 2016. Thus, we particularly welcome contributions addressing the following topics:

- Civil Society after 2011 in the Arab World;
- **Democracy and Democratization** in the Arab World;
- Women in politics in the Middle East;
- Civil society and democratic governance;
- Ethnic and religious minority issues in the Middle East;
- Good governance as key for peace and prosperity in the Middle East;
- **Social movements in the Middle East;**
- Conflict resolution;
- NGOs, non-profit organizations, and volunteerism in the Middle East;
- Political Islam, democracy and governance.

The Researcher calls for articles from a broad array of disciplines including political science, sociology, anthropology, literature studies, cultural studies, media studies, linguistics, history, and economics. We encourage articles that embed the concept of radicalism in a broader context of oppression, social inequality, thus expanding the narrow focus of class and including parallel factors such as gender or ethnicity.

All articles that fall into the general framework of the journal, but do not relate to the special topic “The Middle East after the Arab Spring,” will be taken into consideration for the “off topic” section of “The Researcher”

The **deadline for article submissions is March 30, 2016.**

Manuscripts should be sent via the following link:

<https://submissions.scholasticahq.com/sites/the-canadian-journal-for-middle-east-studies>

Other editorial correspondence should be sent to: submissions@imesc.org.

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Conference: China and the Middle East - Neoliberalism with Chinese Characteristics and Political Transformations in the Middle East

DOHA, QATAR

MARCH 23 AND 24, 2016

ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

Dr. Mohammedmoin Sadeq, Qatar University, Qatar

Dr. Guo Changgang, Center for Turkish Studies, Shanghai University

Dr. Jamsheed Choksy, Indiana University, USA

Dr. Kemal Silay, Indiana University, USA

Dr. Tuğrul Keskin, Maltepe University and Shanghai University

Description and Objectives:

The increasingly neoliberal economy that has developed since the early 1980s has led to an emergence of a vibrant middle class in China. This new demographic, roughly 350-400 million people, began to consume more. This has continued to shape Chinese Foreign Policy towards oil producing countries, particularly in the Middle East after Xi Jinping came to power in 2013. One of the first signs of these changes can be seen in the proposal of a new Silk Road initiative, introduced by Xi Jinping. Over the last two years, we have seen the increase of Chinese political and social activities in the region, fueled by the economic needs for PRC. As a result of this new political strategy, the PRC started to play a more active role within the Middle Eastern political arena. Hence, Xi Jinping visited Pakistan, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. Additionally, Chinese social and cultural activities began to appear more visibly within the universities and educational institutions in the Middle East. Hanban Institutes started to open and finance Confucius Institutes in the region that facilitate Chinese cultural and language classes and promote mutual understanding between China and the Middle East. For example, these institutes have arisen in Turkey, Israel, Iran, Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Jordan, UAE, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Morocco. China has also become one of the largest economic and trade partners with Middle Eastern states such as Iran, Turkey, Pakistan, Egypt, Israel. Therefore, we would like to make this academic initiative a permanent conference meeting, and each year, we will

organize a China and the Middle East Conference in different countries in collaboration with other universities.

We organized a very successful first academic conference on this topic in collaboration with Beijing University, on March 17-18, 2015. The conference took place in Beijing University and 24 papers were presented within six different panels. On the second day, the newly opened Indiana University Beijing office hosted two panels. The selected conference proceedings (approximately 6-8) will be published by a peer-reviewed academic journal, the *Sociology of Islam*, in the Winter of 2016. You will find the first conference program at the following homepage:

<http://chinaandthemiddleeast.blogspot.com/2015/02/international-conference-china-in.html>

As a result of this conference and academic initiative on China and the Middle East, we established a new academic mailing list on China and the Middle East, hosted by Virginia Tech University. In our second upcoming conference, we will examine social, political and economic relations between China and Middle Eastern states and societies in the context of the neoliberal economy. The conference proceedings will also be published.

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XI Congress of Historical and Social Research of CEICS - . I International Meeting of the Revolutionary Left - The Revolutionary Left and the class struggle in the world today

Buenos Aires, from September 1 to 3 of 2016

Deadline for panel discussions and book presentations: 30 April 2016.

Deadline for abstracts: 30 June 2016.

The world burns: Africa is affected by the violence product of a growing social decay that deepens from the crisis of the Arab Spring to Boko Haram. In the extremely pauperized Asia new conflicts arise from the economic slowdown; Europe moves from recession to mass mobilizations and struggles against the capitalist adjustment. USA swings between post-Obama political apathy and the radicalization of the Republican right; Middle East is, today, a seething cauldron; Latin America undergoes the crisis of the Bonapartist regimes that formerly appeased the almost revolutionary crisis of the end of last century.

Everywhere are to be seen these multifaceted expressions of a general crisis of global political relations. However, nowhere are to be seen the formation and development of revolutionary parties, let alone international coordination. Why doesn't the crisis beget its own gravedigger? Furthermore, how is the class struggle today? What's the role of the revolutionary vanguard? Is it carrying out the political task of building a revolutionary party? Those are the questions that we want to pose on the eve of the anniversary of the Russian Revolution:

For this purpose, we call, in the frame of the XI Congress of Historical and Social Research, the

International Meeting of the Revolutionary Left. Its aim is to foster the scientific study of reality to further advance in the construction of the strategy and development of the organizations necessary to change that reality. As in previous editions we invite researchers and activists of all tendencies to forge the necessary unity between reason and revolution. The conference will be organized around four themes:

1. The global crisis:

- a. The economy
- b. The society
- c. The politics

2. The political alternatives

- a. The religious fundamentalism
- b. The nationalist movements
- c. The crisis of Latin American populism
- d. The emergence of alternatives in Europe
- e. The anti-systemic movements

3. The current situation of the revolutionary left

- a. What remains of Maoism and Guevarism?
- b. Trotskyism today
- c. The non-marxist left
- d. Many strategies or no strategies?
- e. Do we need a new international?

4. Marxism in the XXI century

- a. Is the crisis of Marxism gone?
- b. Marxism and modern science
- c. Balance and prospects

Timetable and format:

- 1. Deadline proposals for symposiums, Panel discussions and book presentations: 30th April 2016 proposals.
- 2. Deadline Abstracts: 30th, June 30 abstracts.
- 3. Deadline for presentations: 20th August.
- 4. Papers should not exceed 20,000 characters with spaces.

For more information please contact: [:jornadas@razonyrevolucion.org](mailto:jornadas@razonyrevolucion.org)

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TALKS & OTHER EVENTS

Lebanon and the 21st century: everyday life in times of permanent crisis

23 February 2016, 5:45 PM

Location: SOAS, Khalili Lecture Theatre

Speaker: Andrew Arsan, University of Cambridge

Lebanon has often been characterised as a country in permanent crisis, a brittle construct mined from within by sectarian strife and swaying in the winds of regional turmoil. It is not surprising, therefore, that much that is written on Lebanon tends to focus on the factional wrangling of its politicians and the implications of changing geopolitical forces on the country's delicate confessional system. This perspective, however, neglects the tactics ordinary Lebanese have devised to make do with instability and to find a way to live, for better or worse with the enervating, exhausting realities of everyday life - from electricity shortages to traffic jams and trash crises. Drawing on his current research, Arsan's talk will provide a brief overview of some of these tactics, and suggest a few ways in which looking at Lebanon might shed light on the changing contours of the political in the early twenty-first century. More information [here](#)

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Civil Resistance in North Africa since 2010

1 March 2016, 5:45 PM

Location: Russell Square: College Buildings **Room:** Khalili Lecture Theatre

Panel discussion with Professor Adam Roberts, other participants TBC.

Chair: Charles Tripp, SOAS

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Authoritarian Urban Planning and The People's Response: Understanding the Protest in Gezi Park

3 March 2016, 5 pm

Location: Zentrum Moderner Orient, Kirchweg 33, 14129 Berlin, Germany

Speaker: Prof Dr Tarik Sengul (Middle East Technical University)

Part of ZMO's colloquium "The Future of the City: Contested Urbanism in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East". *Invitation & additional information TBA*

More information [here](#)

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Revolt, rebellion and civil war in the Umayyad period

7 March 2016, 5:30 pm

Location: Appleton Tower, 11 Crichton Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9LE

IMES Seminar Series

Speaker: Andrew Marsham (University of Edinburgh)

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Why Some Contentious Movements Fail: the case of the Syrian opposition

15 March 2016, 5:15 pm

Location: [Room 9.04, Tower 2, Clement's Inn, LSE](#)

Speakers: Dr Jasmine Gani, University of St Andrews

Jasmine Gani presents her paper, drawing upon a contentious politics framework to assess the successes and failures of the Syrian external opposition, represented by the Syrian National Coalition (SNC). She argues that the Coalition has been unable to coordinate coherent collective action against the Syrian regime for four reasons: a miscalculation of the nature of political opportunity presented by the early uprisings; the lack of a common purpose and identity among the disparate groups within and outside of the SNC; the lack of a contentious repertoire to learn from; and lack of a sustainable strategy.

The SNC's actions will be situated within the context of the Syrian regime's repressive tactics and the influx of foreign fighters- factors beyond the SNC's control which have played a significant part in its failings. Applying a contentious politics framework to this case will, it is hoped, contribute to a more rigorous analytical discourse of the Opposition's strategy, one that might foster a more robust repertoire for Syria's contentious social movements in the future. *More information & registration [here](#)*

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING BOOKS

Women in Revolutionary Egypt: Gender and the New Geographics of Identity

Shereen Abouelnaga
2016 (May) - I.B.Tauris

The 25 January 2011 uprising and the unprecedented dissent and discord to which it gave rise shattered the notion of homogeneity that had characterized state representations of Egypt and Egyptians since 1952. It allowed for the eruption of identities along multiple lines, including class, ideology, culture, and religion, long suppressed by state control. Concomitantly a profusion of women's voices arose to further challenge the state-managed feminism that had sought to define and carefully circumscribe women's social and civic roles in Egypt. *Women in Revolutionary Egypt* takes the uprising as the point of departure for an exploration of how gender in post-Mubarak Egypt came to be rethought, reimagined, and contested. It examines key areas of tension between national and gender identities, including gender empowerment through art and literature, particularly graffiti and poetry, the disciplining of the body, and the politics of history and memory. Shereen Abouelnaga argues that this new cartography of women's struggle has to be read in a context that takes into consideration the micropolitics of everyday life as well as the larger processes that work to separate the personal from the political. She shows how a new generation of women is resisting, both discursively and visually, the notion of a fixed or 'authentic' notion of Egyptian womanhood in spite of prevailing social structures and in face of all gendered politics of imagined nation.

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Bullets and Bulletins: Media and Politics in the Wake of the Arab Uprisings Paperback – 21 Apr 2016

Mohamed Zayani and Suzi Mirgani (Eds)
2016 (April) - Hurst & Co

Bullets and Bulletins: Media and Politics in the Wake of the Arab Uprisings takes a sobering and holistic look at the intersections between media and politics before, during, and in the reverberations of the Arab uprisings. The strength of this volume lies in its multi-disciplinary approach to the topic, with the research backed up by in-depth and rigorous case studies of the key countries of the Arab Spring. The uprisings were accompanied by profound changes in the roles of traditional and new media across the Middle East. What added significantly to the amplification of demands and grievances in the public spheres, streets, and squares, was the dovetailing of an increasingly indignant population--ignited by the prospects of economic and political marginalisation--with high rates of media literacy, digital connectivity, and social media prowess. This combination of political activism and mediated communication turned popular street protests into battles over information,

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where authorities and activists wrestled with each other over media messages. Information and communication technologies were used by both government authorities and protestors as simultaneous tools for silencing or amplifying dissent. *Bullets and Bulletins* offers original insights and analysis into the role of traditional and new media in what is undoubtedly a most critical period in contemporary Middle Eastern history.

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The Gulen Movement in Turkey: The Politics of Islam, Science and Modernity

Caroline Tee
2016 (April) - I.B.Tauris

The Gulen, or Hizmet, movement in Turkey is the country's most powerful and affluent religious organisation. Its central tenet, advanced by its founder, the charismatic Sunni preacher Fethullah Gulen (b. 1941), is that Muslims should engage positively with modernity. A prime means of advancing this philosophy has been education: at hundreds of Gulen-run schools and universities, not only in Turkey but also worldwide, instructors aim to cultivate the next generation of Muslim bankers, biologists, software engineers and politicians. But how does the Gulen movement resolve the sometimes conflicting positions of Sunni Islam and contemporary science for example, on evolutionary theory? Drawing on sustained ethnographic research conducted among Gulen communities in Turkey, Caroline Tee analyses their complex attitudes towards secular modernity. She focuses on education, science research and industry to explore how pious Muslim practitioners engage in science at high levels, arguing that the Gulen movement's success in this critical area of modernity has facilitated its rise to prominence in recent decades. Considered against the backdrop of Turkish politics, and particularly the acrimonious power-struggle between the Gulen movement and its erstwhile ally, Turkey's ruling AK Party, Gulenist engagement with modern science is revealed as a key source of its influence and success.

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The Struggle for the State in Jordan: The Social Origins of Alliances in the Middle East

Jamie Allinson
2016 (March) - I.B.Tauris

Why do the states of the Arab world seem so unstable? Why do alliances between them and with outside powers change? In *The Struggle for the State in Jordan*, Jamie Allinson argues that the answer lies in the expansion of global capitalism in the Middle East. Drawing out the unexpected way

in which Jordan's Bedouin tribes became allied to the British Empire in the twentieth century, and the legacy of this for the international politics of the Middle East, he challenges the existing views of the region. Using the example of Jordan, this book traces the social bases of the struggles that produced the country's foreign relations in the latter half of the twentieth century to the reforms carried out under the Ottoman Empire and the processes of land settlement and state formation experience under the British Mandate. By examining the attempts of Jordan to create foreign alliances during a time of upheaval and instability in the region, Allinson offers wider conclusions concerning the nature of the interaction between state and society in the wider Middle East.

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Islamist Politics in Egypt and Lebanon: The Struggle for Power of Hizbullah and the Muslim Brotherhood

Eva Dingel

2016 (March) - I.B.Tauris

The Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt and Hizbullah in Lebanon had or have as part of their *raison d'être* the idea of pan-Islamist activism. But in addition to this, both are in reality serious players in the political system of the state in which they operate. Whilst their ideological discourses are often used to present the differences between Sunni and Shi'i movements, the tactics of both in their attempts to secure power reveal similarities between the two. Eva Dingel focuses on their behaviour as players within the political process and beyond, considering the question of why, at certain points, both movements choose to 'play by the rules', while during other periods, they apply different methods of political protest. By looking at the history of these two groups, Dingel examines the numerous influences on political movements, ranging from ideological change via generational conflict to transnational influences, and how state capacity is a key factor in influencing the strategy choices of these groups."

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The History of the Late Revolutions in Persia: An Eyewitness Account of the Fall of the Safavid Dynasty

J Krusinski

2016 (February) - I.B.Tauris

The fall of the powerful Safavid Dynasty (1501-1722) to invading Afghan tribesmen in 1722 marked a crucial turning point in the country's history. Father Krusinski, Procurator-General of the Jesuit Mission and intermediary between the Papacy and the Safavid court, resided in Isfahan and was thus an eyewitness to the siege of the city. His account of the conditions and events preceding and during the siege and the subsequent demise of the Safavids is unique. It also offers key insights into the workings of the late Safavid state and government as well as the functions of the royal harem. This

set includes the translation of the Clodius edition undertaken at the behest of the Ottoman Grand Vizier Damat Ibrahim. Together, these scarce volumes provide a unique source of information on late Safavid Persia. With an introduction by leading contemporary scholar, Rudi Matthee, the set will be welcomed by academics, collectors and libraries.

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Contentious Politics in the Middle East: Popular Resistance and Marginalized Activism beyond the Arab Uprisings

Fawaz A. Gerges (Editor)

2015 - Palgrave Macmillan

While the Arab people took center stage in the 'Arab Spring' protests, academic studies focus on state structure, regime nature, militaries, and external powers to understand popular uprisings in the Middle East. *Contentious Politics in the Middle East* redresses a gap in focus as it analyzes the complexities of popular agency through the framework of contentious politics theory, without neglecting the negotiations between the people and structural factors. The book's chapters apply familiar questions raised by theorists to the under-researched case study of the Middle East after the uprisings. Edited by Fawaz A. Gerges and featuring insights from top scholars, this collection seeks to answer these important questions as it advances contentious politics theory.

List of Content: Contextualizing the Arab uprisings : different regimes, different revolutions and different trajectories / Fawaz A Gerges -- Contention and constitutionalisation in the global realm : assessing the uprisings in West Asia and North Africa for international politics / Jan Wilkens -- Reconceptualizing resistance and reform in the Middle East / Mishana Hosseinioun -- Kuwaiti Arab Spring? : the role of transnational factors in Kuwait's contentious politics / Anastasia Nosova -- The Iraqi independence movement : a case of transgressive contention / Aula Hariri -- Contentious politics and the Syrian crisis : internationalisation and militarisation of conflict / Jasmine Gani -- Foreign engagement in contentious politics : Europe and the 2011 uprisings in Libya / Inez von Weitershausen -- Foreign actors : a double-edged sword over contentious politics in the Middle East / Eugenio Lilli-- Transnationalized domestic contention : explaining the varying level of Western solidarity given to Kurds and Palestinians / David Zarnett -- The emergence of the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement / Suzanne Morrison -- Contentious Copts : the emergence, success and decline of Maspero Youth Movement in Egypt / Magdalena C. Delgado -- From progress to order : the 'Kurdish openings' and limits to contentious politics in Turkey / Oguzhan Göksel -- Contentious politics and bottom-up mobilisation in revolutionary Egypt : the case of Egyptian football supporters in Cairo / Suzan Gibril -- A Berber Spring : the breakthrough of Amazigh minorities in the uprisings' aftermath / Cleo Jay -- New modes of collective actions : the reemergence of anarchism in Egypt / Laura Galián -- Muslim groups in the Gezi Park protests : Identity politics and contentious politics under authoritarian neoliberalism / Ayse Dursun-- Claiming 'marginal space' : the contentious politics of "citizenship" among Palestinian feminists in Israel / Kim Jezabel Zinngrebe -- Characteristics of prolonged social movements : the case of Gezi Park protests / Birce Altiok-Karsiyaka and Kerem Yildirim -- Reassembling the political : placing contentious politics in Jordan / Christopher Parker & Pascal Debruyne -- Contentious economics in Occupied Palestine / Alaa Tartir -- The bottom-up

mobilization of Lebanese society against neoliberal institutions : the case of opposition against Solidere's reconstruction of downtown Beirut / Hadi Makarem -- Iftar in McDonald's : the everyday encroachment of Cairo's subaltern cosmopolitans / Harry Pettit -- Conclusions / John Chalcraft.

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Occupied Lives: Maintaining Integrity in a Palestinian Refugee Camp in the West Bank

Nina Gren

2015 - American University in Cairo Press

Intense media coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict does not necessarily enhance one's knowledge or understanding of the Palestinians; on the contrary they are more often than not reduced to either victims or perpetrators. Similarly, while many academic studies devote considerable effort to analyzing the political situation in the occupied territories, there have been few sophisticated case studies of Palestinian refugees living under Israeli rule. An ethnographic study of Palestinian refugees in Dheisheh refugee camp, just south of Bethlehem, *Occupied Lives* looks closely at the attempts of the camp inhabitants to survive and bounce back from the profound effects of political violence and Israeli military occupation on their daily lives.

Based on the author's extensive fieldwork conducted inside the camp, including a year during 2003-2004 when she lived in Dheisheh, this study examines the daily efforts of camp inhabitants to secure survival and meaning during the period of the al-Aqsa Intifada. It argues that the political developments and experiences of extensive violence at the time, which left most refugees outside of direct activism, caused many camp inhabitants to disengage from traditional forms of politics. Instead, they became involved in alternative practices aimed at maintaining their sense of social worth and integrity, by focusing on processes to establish a 'normal' order, social continuity, and morality. Nina Gren explores these processes and the ambiguities and dilemmas that necessarily arose from them and the ways in which the political and the existential are often intertwined in Dheisheh. Combining theoretical readings with field-based case study, this book will be invaluable to scholars and students of social anthropology, sociology, international relations, refugee studies, religious studies, and Middle East studies, as well as to anyone with an interest in the Israeli-Palestinian issue.

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Building Blocs - How Parties Organize Society

Cedric de Leon, Manali Desai, and Cihan Tuğal (Eds)

2015 – Stanford University Press

Do political parties merely represent divisions in society? Until now, scholars and other observers have generally agreed that they do. But *Building Blocs* argues the reverse: that some political parties

in fact shape divisions as they struggle to remake the social order. Drawing on the contributors' expertise in Indonesia, India, the United States, Canada, Egypt, and Turkey, this volume demonstrates further that the success and failure of parties to politicize social differences has dramatic consequences for democratic change, economic development, and other large-scale transformations. This politicization of divisions, or "political articulation," is neither the product of a single charismatic leader nor the machinations of state power, but is instead a constant call and response between parties and would-be constituents. When articulation becomes inconsistent, as it has in Indonesia, partisan calls grow faint and the resulting vacuum creates the possibility for other forms of political expression. However, when political parties exercise their power of interpellation efficiently, they are able to silence certain interests such as those of secular constituents in Turkey. *Building Blocs* exposes political parties as the most influential agencies that structure social cleavages and invites further critical investigation of the related consequences.

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Popular Protest in the New Middle East: Islamism and post-Islamist Politics

Are Knudsen, Basem Ezbidi (Eds)

2014 - I.B.Tauris

In the wake of the protests that spread throughout the Middle East and North Africa in late 2010 and early 2011, Islamist movements of varying political persuasions have risen to prominence. This is especially the case in post-Mubarak Egypt and post-Ben Ali Tunisia. *Popular Protest in the New Middle East* examines Islamist approaches to political participation and integration in the Arab world and asks whether regional trends can be discerned with respect to either the strategy of disparate movements or the challenges they confront in the various states in which they operate. It offers analysis of the ideologies and actions of these movements, ranging from countries where Islamism is in control of the state as an Islamic theocracy (Iran), the ruling party (for example, Turkey), part of the ruling coalition (Lebanon), or a parliamentary minority (such as in Jordan or Yemen). The question of political participation, and by implication integration into existing political systems, has been a significant issue for Islamist movements. Some, opting for the role of a revolutionary vanguard, have rejected the concept of participation outright.

Others, particularly those that have developed a broad popular base and operate in states where local or national elections are conducted, have invested heavily in participation, either as a method of achieving political power, or as a means of influencing public policy. This book offers a systematic examination of a variety of examples of the actions of Islamist movements, from those that employ more militant tactics to those that have a more quietist approach. Are Knudsen and Basem Ezbidi bring together an examination of the effects that various experiences of participation and integration have had on the individual movements concerned and the broader Islamist trend throughout the Middle East, making this book vital for researchers of the impact of religion on politics (and, indeed vice versa).

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OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Egypt's doctors vow to escalate against police abuse

AlJazeera, 14 Feb 2016

AJE Staff

For many Egyptian activists, February 12 has been hailed as the day 'the anti-protest law' has been 'killed publicly' in downtown Cairo as hundreds of Egyptian doctors defied the infamous law and gathered in front of the doctors syndicate to hold an urgent general assembly session. The gathering discussed recent abuses by police officers against a number of Matariya Hospital doctors. Hundreds of protesting doctors chanted slogans calling for prosecuting the police officers who had attacked the doctors. About 60 public figures and syndicates' representatives expressed solidarity with the doctors. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Arab Spring anniversary: Protesters defy crackdown

AlJazeera, 25 Jan 2016

AJE Staff

Anti-government protesters defied a security crackdown and took to the streets as Egypt marked the fifth anniversary on Monday of the 2011 uprising that toppled long-time ruler Hosni Mubarak.

Egyptians demonstrated against the military-led government in Alexandria's Al-Qaed Ibrahim Square, which was the site of 2011 protests, as well as in Nasr City and Shubra district in the capital, Cairo. Two Egyptians were shot dead by police in an alleged "exchange of gunfire" in Cairo's October 6 district. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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In Egypt, 340 forced disappearance cases in two months

Middle East Monitor, 24 December 2015

The Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms (ECRF) has said that it registered 340 cases of enforced disappearance in Egypt in the space of just two months, with a daily average of three cases, *Almesryoon.com* reported. In a report issued on Tuesday, the ECRF said that the Egyptian security services, including the National Security Service run by the Ministry of Interior, are involved in the kidnapping of citizens, holding them in secret places in different Egyptian governorates. According to testimonies collected by the ECRF, victims have been subjected to different forms of torture and abuse such as electric shocks, hanging by the hands and threats of sexual assault during their disappearance. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Champions for Justice: Bahrain's Pro-Democracy Movement

Jadaliyya, 14 February 2016

Jadaliyya Reports

Five years ago this week, hundreds of thousands of people rose up in support of democracy and human rights in Bahrain. After enduring decades of structural inequalities, corruption, and repression, nearly half the country's population gathered to demand reform. The government responded swiftly, and severely. Riot police flooded the streets, employing excessive and indiscriminate force to disperse the demonstrations and suppress the movement. Assisted by a Saudi and Emirati contingent of the Gulf Cooperation Council's (GCC) Peninsula Shield Force, Bahraini authorities violently put down the peaceful uprising, leading to thousands of arrests, hundreds of injuries, and dozens of deaths. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Protests in Tunisia: An Interview with Nadia Marzouki

Jadaliyya, 1 February 2016

Malihe Razazan

Five years after the inspirational uprising in Tunisia that toppled the long dictatorship of Ben Ali, people are back on the streets demanding the fulfilment of the 2011 revolutionary slogan “ jobs, freedom, and national dignity.” Last week, at the onset of the 2011 mass uprising, people took to the streets in cities and towns across the country. One protester captured his fellow Tunisians' predicament succinctly: “We have the freedom, but you cannot eat freedom.” There is deja vu between 2011 and now. The same people are in the streets for the same reasons. Official unemployment is at fifteen percent. According to Tunisia’s Higher Education Ministry, university graduates make up thirty percent of the unemployed, but other government statistics have reported that as many as forty percent of Tunisia’s 605,000 jobless hold degrees, with women graduates suffering an even higher rate of employment. Khalil Bendib spoke with Tunisian political scientist Nadia Marzouki about the recent protests and the government’s failure to provide a viable economy for the majority of the Tunisian people. *Listen [here](#)*

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Empty Tahrir

Jadaliyya, 1 February 2016

Jonathan Rashad

Five years ago, thousands of Egyptians called for protests on the 25th of January to demand "bread, freedom and social justice" and challenge the security apparatus' vast human rights violations. The protesters managed to topple thirty-year autocrat Hosni Mubarak after eighteen days of protests and clashes with the police. Before that day in 2011, January 25 was the national commemorative day of the police. What does that day mean to Egyptians today? Ahead of the anniversary of January 25, authorities arrested activists, shut down cultural spaces, and conducted mass searches of flats in downtown. I decided to cover the situation in the spot where more than 800 protesters were killed--Cairo's Tahrir square. Contrary to the previous four years--where I would see thousands in the square for the anniversary, whether to protest or 'celebrate'--this year was shockingly different. As it started to rain, I arrived to Tahrir late in the afternoon to find it 'occupied' by security forces. To show their support for the government, only a few dozen people were walking near police patrols to hand out flowers, praise them, take selfies, or chant for the police. Then they were asked to promptly leave. I was asked by police several times to stop taking pictures so I would not "mobilize people in front of the camera." I kept walking around until I came across a woman who was, by herself, shouting and chanting against the uprising with a few people behind her. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Winter of the Arab Spring

Le Monde Diplomatique, January 2016

Thierry Brésillon

Tunisia's coalition government was already struggling before 2015's ISIS terrorist attacks: if the country is called upon to help intervene in Libya, it could face reprisals. The mood in Tunis is gloomy, and the joy at the fall of the Ben Ali regime in 2011 has evaporated. Tunisia suffered three terrorist attacks in 2015 for which so-called Islamic State (ISIS) claimed responsibility. Tourist arrivals for January-November were down 26% on 2014, tourism revenue was (...)

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Who can stop the Ultras?

Al-Ahram Weekly, Issue No.1282, 11 February, 2016

Inas Mazhar

The Ultras football fans did not reciprocate in kind after President Al-Sisi reached out to the often-violent group. If anything, they apparently have become even more emboldened, reports Last week's invitation by President Abdel-Fattah Al-Sisi to the Ultras football fans to take part in a new investigation into what caused the 2012 soccer riot that killed 72 spectators has not been received well — not by the Ultras, nor by many observers. Al-Sisi had called on the Ultras of Ahly, the most famous football club in Egypt, to participate in a new probe of the tragedy in which mostly Ahly Ultras were killed during a league game in Port Said. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

School of Oriental and African Studies, History Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in the History of the Modern Middle East

SOAS, University of London is the world's leading institution for the study of Asia, Africa and the Middle East, offering programmes in arts, humanities, languages, law and social sciences.

Inaugurated in June 1916, SOAS has had an international reach since the arrival of its first students in February 1917 and is celebrating its Centenary in 2016.

The Department of History would like to welcome applications for Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in the History of the Modern Middle East. Our first preference is for an appointment in the History of the late Ottoman Empire and/or the Turkish Republic. However the ideal candidate will also have

specialist knowledge of the Turkic world, be able to offer courses on the history of the twentieth-century Middle East more broadly, and be able to participate in the Department's endeavour to expand its range of trans-regional courses. The successful candidate will deliver excellent teaching at both BA and MA levels with strong potential for student recruitment, and research to the highest standard required for the next REF in 2021.

The History Department is vibrant, highly motivated, and outward-looking, and boasts unparalleled expertise on the histories of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. The person appointed will contribute to one of the most dynamic and successful strands of specialization in the Department, namely that concerned with the history of the Near and Middle East, which has long been fundamental to our teaching and research profile. Interest in the Middle East attracts the largest number of students to History, at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Applicants should have a PhD in a relevant subject area and have a demonstrated record of research excellence in the field of modern Middle Eastern history.

Salary: £41,576 - £58,069 per annum inclusive of London allowance

The post commences on 1 September 2016.

Prospective candidates seeking further information on the Department and the School may contact the Head of Department, Professor Richard Reid at r.j.reid@soas.ac.uk.

To apply for the vacancy or download a job description, please visit www.soas.ac.uk/jobs (search using reference number 001016).

Closing date: 09 March 2016

Completed applications must be received by 23:59 on the closing date to be considered.

Interviews will be held in early May 2016.

Equality Challenge Unit, Gender Equality Charter Mark: Bronze award holder. Addressing gender inequalities and imbalance in the arts, humanities and social sciences.

SOAS values diversity and aims to be an equal opportunities employer.

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2016 ABTA Doctoral Researcher Awards

To promote and reward academic and scientific excellence among young researchers pursuing doctoral degrees in the UK, Association of British Turkish Academics (ABTA) announces 2016 ABTA Doctoral Researcher Awards.

The awards will be given in three categories:

1. Natural & Life Sciences
2. Engineering Sciences
3. Management & Social Sciences

Awards: 1st (x3) : £400, 2nd (x3) : £300, 3rd (x3) : £200

Honourable Mentions : Amazon Voucher

Applications will be accepted from PhD candidates or recent graduates of UK universities in all academic fields of study. **Please submit your application via dra.abtanet.org.uk by 5 pm, Tuesday, 15 March, 2016.**

The applications will be assessed by prominent British and Turkish academics working at the UK universities.

The award ceremony will take place at University College London (UCL) on Saturday, 14 May, 2016. For any enquiries, please contact us: dra@abt.net.org.uk.

More information [here](#)

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PhD scholarships

Kingston University London is advertising ten PhD scholarship across the entire university, these are likely to be highly competitive. The scholarships covers a living allowance and UK/EU fees. **Deadline is 18th March 2016.** More information of the scholarship and the application can be found here. <http://www.kingston.ac.uk/research/research-degrees/funding/phd-studentships-2016/>

Kingston University is centre for non-mainstream economics and Political Economy research and has an active Political Economy Research Group (PERG <http://fass.kingston.ac.uk/research/perg/>). PERG is encouraging applications in all fields of heterodox economics and Political Economy, with particular interest in Post Keynesian and Marxist approaches, and on issues like financialisation, financial instability, stock flow consistent modelling, distribution and growth, development. Interested applicants are welcome to send draft proposal to potential supervisors for comments.

The Economics' department guidance of PhD applications (that's general information, not specific to these scholarships) can be found at <http://fass.kingston.ac.uk/downloads/research-guidelines-economics.pdf>

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