



SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND POPULAR MOBILISATION IN THE MENA

Digest of Current Publications and Events

Editor: Jann Boeddeling (j.boeddeling@lse.ac.uk)

03.03.2017

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CALL FOR PAPERS & CONFERENCES

Fifth World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies (WOCMES-5)

Deadline: 9 December 2017

16-20 July 2018, Seville, Spain

Three Cultures Foundation of the Mediterranean,

The World Congress seeks to address questions, exchange and explore information on the Middle East in the broadest sense. The invitation is aimed at scholars, researchers, educators, students, professionals and other groups interested in studies on North Africa, Middle East, Muslim states of Central Asia as well as other regions of the world which are directly or indirectly affected by affairs in these areas.

The overall objective of the Congress is to offer the possibility to share and exchange research, experiences and ideas between more than 2000 interdisciplinary experts from all branches of the humanities, social sciences and related disciplines, from all over the world.

A large number of associations, research centers, universities, international organizations and other institutions from all over the world have already started to organize meetings, exhibitions, symposia, plenary sessions, panels, roundtables and poster presentations.

The hosting Three Cultures Foundation of the Mediterranean in Seville - heart of Andalusia and cradle of Al Andalus where Muslims, Christians and Jews lived together in a missed period of coexistence and mutual understanding - will undoubtedly be an exciting setting to meet and discuss Middle Eastern Studies.

Cultural and artistic works on different aspects of the region will also be placed under the spotlight, thanks to a variety of exhibitions; a film festival with roundtable discussions and a book fair attended by booksellers, publishers and authors; as well as a selection of artistic events.

WOCMES-5 will be a great opportunity for all participants to visit Seville with its outstanding monuments featuring in the UNESCO's World Heritage List: the Cathedral, Alcázar and Archivo de Indias. Trips to Cordoba and Granada offer the chances to visit the most important and well-kept examples of Al-Andalus' legacy and yet living parts of our heritage: Cordoba's Great Mosque-Cathedral and Granada's Alhambra.

The conference's working languages are English and French.

More information [here](#)

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Borders and Boundaries: Territories, Technologies, Transgressions

Deadline: 21 March 2017

26-27 June 2017, Goldsmiths College, London

Confirmed keynote speakers: Prof Natalie Fenton (Goldsmiths, MeCCSA chair), Prof Jeremy Gilbert (University of East London), Prof Sue Clayton (Goldsmiths), Dr Myria Georgiou (LSE)

Our world is in the grip of a series of interrelated crises, many of which involve the creation, collapse and reconstitution of borders and boundaries - territorial (the “refugee crisis”, new forms of extractive neo-colonialism), socio-spatial (urban restructuring, segregation and displacement,) political (Brexit, Trump, the rise of the far-right globally) and personal (self-tracking, automated surveillance and digital labour). Even as some borders appear weakened due to technological change and the increased fluidity of social identities, new boundaries around national identity and ethnicity are erected in their place. The fracturing of the neoliberal consensus since 2008 has challenged conceptual boundaries relating to the economy, society and the role of the state, but no coherent alternative set of ideas has yet become apparent, let alone dominant. In Gramsci’s words, “the old is dying and the new cannot be born.”

Borders and Boundaries: Territories, Technologies, Transgressions locates itself in this historical moment, seeking to explore the forces of deterritorialization and reterritorialization active in this conjuncture. This conference - organised by postgraduate students from the London School of Economics and Political Science and Goldsmiths College - seeks to disrupt and destabilise boundaries while creating productive border--zones where cultures and disciplines can interact. We invite academics, students, activists, artists and other interested people to submit proposals on a wide variety of themes related to the conference title including, but not limited to:

- Ideologies and hegemonies: techniques and practices of power (including: development and reproduction of dominant media narratives; statecraft; othering and erection of conceptual borders; participation as collusion and co-optation)
- Oppositional communicative practices: participation, protest and rebellion: (including: established and alternative forms of participation; the capacity of technologies to break boundaries and challenge hierarchies; social movement and protest politics)
- Alternative and community media practices: transgressions and challenges: (including: media and communicative practices of oppressed and marginalised groups; creation, disruption, rearticulation and reconstitution of personal and collective identities)
- Altered media landscapes: political economies and technological change (including: the impact of new media on hierarchies and modalities of media power; changing political economies of data, digital infrastructure and mass media)
- The politics of the sensory: modes and modalities of communication (including: sensory technologies and methodologies; the internet and visual communication; transgressive and oppositional practice in arts; non-linguistic communication in mass media)

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Action-Research Paper: Evolution of the Salafi Movement in Tunisia

Deadline: 3 March 2017

Within its North Africa program conducted in partnership with the Human Security Division of the Swiss FDFA, the Cordoba Foundation of Geneva invites applications for an action-research paper from scholars involved in policy research connected to conflict transformation issues in the MENA region, on the evolution of the Salafi movement in Tunisia.

Aim

The purpose of this action-research paper is to understand the phenomenon of Salafism in Tunisia, its evolution and internal dynamics, and its various preaching, social, political, and violent manifestations. The aim being to produce a collectively shared understanding of Salafism that contributes to promoting political inclusion and social cohesion in Tunisia.

The paper should study of the following topics:

- Emergence of the Salafi current in Tunisia and its development in recent history, especially since independence;
- Intellectual and religious frame of reference of the Salafi current in Tunisia;
- Differentiation of the Salafi current in Tunisia and the various categories that emerged after 2011;
- Engagement of part of the Salafi movement in political participation: its causes and justifications, and the way this was reached;
- Impact of Salafi political activism both on the internal Salafi spectrum and on Tunisian politics in general;
- Rationales that have been used to justify violence for those who chose to embrace it as a way to change society, their desired objectives and grassroots groups.
- Positions of the various categories of Tunisian Salafists toward:
 - the nation-state and its associated pillars such as citizenship, nationality and borders;
 - controversial issues such as the role of women in society and rights of minorities, etc.;
 - the National Dialogue held in Tunisia in 2012-2013;
 - international relations, and in particular Tunisian relations with Western countries;
- Relations between Salafists and other movements and parties, Islamic and non-Islamic: areas of agreement and disagreement, and possible common action;
- Impact of the current counter-terrorism discourse on Tunisian Salafists;
- Future of the various components of the Salafi current in Tunisia.

Methodology

It is not required to write a purely theoretical paper, but an action-research paper exposing the evolution of the Tunisian Salafi current based primarily on personal interviews with leaders, figures and activists from inside and with specialists who have been observing closely this current. The methodological rules used in the writing of academic research papers must be followed.

Paper requirements

Working language: The paper will be written in Arabic, French or English and translated into at least one other language.

Length of the paper: The paper should be 8'000-10'000 words in length, including references and notes.

Peer Review: The paper will be peer-reviewed. The comments of the referees will be sent to the author(s) in order to amend the paper and produce a final version to be published.

Application Requirements

To be considered, applicants are required to submit the following documents in Arabic, French or English:

- A letter of interest;
- A copy of their CV;
- A short concept note or proposal of not more than two pages on the subject they wish to study;
- Copies of the degree certificates/diplomas;
- Two letters of references; and
- An example of relevant previous research work.

Compensation

A sum of CHF 6000 will be granted for this action-research paper. This amount does not cover translation costs.

A first installment of CHF 3000 of the research budget is transferred to the researchers' bank account within a week of signing the Terms of Reference.

A second installment of a CHF 2000 of the research budget is transferred to the researchers' bank account after the delivery of the second draft.

A third installment with the remaining CHF 1000 is transferred after the delivery of the final research paper.

Interested applicants are requested to send the requested documents by e-mail, marked "Tunisian Salafi Movement Research Paper", by no later than 3 March 2017 to:
recruitment@cordoue.ch

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Religion in Social Movements, Rebellions and Revolutions

Deadline for Proposals: March 15, 2017

for a panel proposal to the Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada, August 13-14, 2017

Karl Marx's quotation that religion is the "opium of the people" is frequently taken out of context and misunderstood. In the same passage, he also wrote religion is "an expression of real suffering and a protest against" it. Historically, religion has not only been a source of domination but also an instrument of social change.

A classic example of this is the English Revolution, which was the first political revolution and otherwise known as the Puritan Revolution. However, successful revolutions, as Charles Tilly has pointed out, have only taken place under monarchies and dictatorships. In modern democratic societies, protest against the dominant power structure has often taken the form of social movements.

For this panel, we invite papers that explore the relationship between religion, social movements, rebellions and revolutions. We are interested in both the progressive and reactionary roles that religions have played in: peasant, slave, and plebeian rebellions; successful modern revolutions such as the French, Russian, Chinese, Iranian and Nicaraguan as well as failed ones; and social movements. We are particularly interested in prophetic and messianic movements, heretical sects, religious communism, secular religions, and liberation theology. Priority will be given to papers that aim to make sense of the institutional, organizational, ritualistic, discursive, ideological, and/or framing mechanisms that give religious discourse its contentious structure. The intent of this panel is for papers to be turned into manuscripts to ultimately be published in an edited volume.

Proposals should include name, affiliation, email address, title, and a 300-word abstract describing the paper's research question, methodology, and preliminary results.

Please send them in MS Word by e-mail to: Jean-Pierre Reed, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, reedjp@siu.edu and Warren S. Goldstein, Center for Critical Research on Religion, goldstein@criticaltheoryofreligion.org

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TALKS & OTHER EVENTS

Putting Gender at the Centre: The Feminist Turn in the Kurdish Political Movement

7 March 2017, 17:15-19:15

Venue: Room 9.04, Tower 2, LSE, London

Speakers: Nadjé Al-Ali, SOAS; Latif Tas, SOAS

Horizontal organising within social movements is not necessarily sensitive to gender-based and other intersectional forms of inequalities and hierarchies. Nadjé Al-Ali and Latif Tas present their paper on 'the Feminist Turn in the Kurdish Political Movement', in which they critically explore the attempts by political activists and elected representatives of the Kurdish political movement in south-eastern Turkey (northern Kurdistan) to challenge patriarchal and masculinist ideology and practises. Based on 2 years of multi-sited fieldwork in Diyarbakir, Istanbul, Berlin and London, their paper sheds lights on the dialectic processes through which the Kurdish political movement is engaging in the translation

of its political principles of democratic confederalism and gender equality. Many of their respondents, especially many female and male Kurdish political leaders, have been victims of the recent government's crack down on both the leftist and Kurdish opposition, a context in which a pursuit of gender-based equality might be particularly challenging. *More information* [here](#)

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Starting the Revolution from a Different Place: Art, Protest and Diplomacy in the Arab World

8 March 2017, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Venue: McKinney Conference Room, Brown University, 111 Thayer Street, Providence, RI USA

Speaker: Hanan Toukan

This talk is about the relationship between contemporary art, dissent, cultural diplomacy and cultural politics in the Arab Middle East. Since the start of the Arab revolutionary process and the violence that has accompanied it, the culture and arts domain has come to play an ever more crucial role as mobilizer, witness and archivist of historical events. As a result the domain has enjoyed an exponential growth in the technical and financial support it receives from US and EU funding bodies. This growth has provoked intense debates within policy circles and a plethora of academic literature on what the role of visual and cultural practices are and should be in violent warfare, political change and the study of politics and culture in the region. The talk will historicize and contextualize this phenomenon as its focus predates 2011 and grapples with it from its first appearance in the 1990s and until its consolidation in the aftermath of 9/11. Specifically the talk examines the ways in which transnational circuits of visual cultural production are related to how society makes, sees and experiences the political in art and its relevance to the wider publics in Jordan, Lebanon and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. The talk addresses prevalent debates about the nature of the political in art as well as the role of art and the intellectual in political change. *More information* [here](#)

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Does Israel fear peace? Reflections on the failures of international law and human rights, and on sources of hope

9 March 2017, 7.00pm

Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, SOAS University of London, Russell Square WC1H 0XG

Speaker: Raja Shehadeh

It is almost 50 years since the Six-Day War. The end of those hostilities witnessed the Israeli occupation of former Palestinian territories in the West Bank and Gaza, and the displacement of 300,000 Palestinian citizens. After half a century of devastating regional conflicts a resolution to the situation appears no closer. Pioneering human rights lawyer Raja Shehadeh asks: What does Israel have to fear from a lasting peace? Join Raja to discover sources of hope for both Israel and

Palestine's futures. Raja Shehadeh is a writer and a lawyer who founded the pioneering Palestinian human rights organisation Al-Haq. Shehadeh is the author of several acclaimed books including *Strangers in the House*, *Occupation Diaries*, *Language of War*, *Language of Peace* and *Palestinian Walks* which won the 2008 Orwell Prize. He lives in Ramallah, Palestine. His latest book, *Where the Line is Drawn, Crossing Boundaries in Occupied Palestine* will be published in Spring 2017. *More information & registration* [here](#)

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Academic Freedom, Authoritarianism and Turkey BAK-UK

A half-day conference in memory of Mehmet Fatih Traş

17 March 2017, Birkbeck, University of London

Venue: Room B34, Birkbeck Main Building, Malet Street, Bloomsbury, London WC1E 7HX

In the face of rising authoritarianism and right-wing populism, academic freedom is under severe threat in contemporary Turkey. Governmental repression on academics became all too apparent when the Turkish President, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, instigated a campaign of persecution against academics – Academics for Peace (BAK) – who signed a peace petition in January 2016. The petition, which called on the Turkish government to bring a halt to the destruction and civilian killings being carried out in Kurdish cities and towns, was signed by more than 2000 academics. As of 2017, more than 700 BAK academics have been subject to dismissal, disciplinary actions, criminal prosecution, or even detention. The repression has escalated beyond BAK academics in the aftermath of the failed military coup in July 2016, with thousands of academics being fired, or forced to resign, and hundreds being legally detained. More than 20 universities have been closed, and their students forced to find alternative places. In addition, since January 2016, hundreds of academics and scholars have been displaced, either forced to leave Turkey or choosing it as the only viable option.

This half-day conference will address the current threats to academic freedom in Turkey, in the context of the current global political climate. We aim to start an urgent conversation about academic freedom and freedom of speech, increasingly stifled due to neoliberalism, authoritarianism, and the so-called “war on terror” in many parts of the world, from the US to India, Latin America to Egypt. We invite the university community, journalists, activists, politicians, and all concerned individuals to join us in this effort to defend academic freedom and freedom of speech and think about ways to organise solidarity to support scholars and journalists at risk. *More information* [here](#)

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Legal Ordering, Citizenship and Human Rights: The Case of the Palestinian Citizens of Israel

24 March 2017, 12.00 p.m. - 1.30 p.m

Venue: LSE, TW2 9.04, (Tower 2, 9th Floor, Room.04), London

Speaker: Dr Mazen Masri

Discussant: Professor [Yoav Peled](#)

Given Israel's constitutional definition as a 'Jewish and democratic state', the citizenship of the Palestinian citizens in Israel has always been a challenge to liberal paradigms of citizenship. The historical and political foundations of the state, and the current realities raise a number of questions about the meaning of this definition. This lecture will address how this definition affects constitutional rights and human rights, and how it plays out in the daily life of the Palestinians living in Israel. Building upon his newly released book *The Dynamics of Exclusionary Constitutionalism: Israel as a Jewish and Democratic State*, Dr. Mazen Masri will present some of the consequences of the 'Jewish and democratic' definition for the Palestinian citizens in Israel. It explores how the definition affects the legal ordering of the state and the operation of the law, creating a complex model of exclusionary citizenry in a continuous state of crisis. Prof. Yoav Peled, a political scientist and a legal scholar who wrote extensively on Israeli citizenship and its implications for Palestinians, will offer his insights on the topic. *More information* [here](#)

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The Edward W Said London Lecture 2017: Justice Not Revenge

31 March 2017, 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Venue: BP Lecture Theatre at The British Museum, London

Speaker: Mahmood Mamdani

British Museum with the support of AM Qattan Foundation and London Review of Books

Internationally renowned academic and author Mahmood Mamdani presents this year's Edward W. Said London Lecture, examining the concept of revolutionary justice. will look at how South Africa's transition from apartheid presents a critique of the lessons that have been drawn from the Nuremberg trials – the post-war judgment of Nazi war criminals – which have been incorporated into the contemporary human rights movement and International Criminal Court. *More information* [here](#)

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING BOOKS

Normalizing Occupation - The Politics of Everyday Life in the West Bank Settlements

Ariel Handel, Marco Allegra, Erez Maggor (Eds)
September 2017 - Indiana University Press

Controversy surrounds Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank, and the radical national and religious agendas at play there have come to define the area in the minds of many. This study, however, provides an alternative framework for understanding the process of "normalization" in the life of Jewish residents. Considering a wider range of historical and structural factors in which the colonization of the West Bank developed it allows placing its origins and everyday reality into a wider perspective. The works collected consider the transformation of the landscape, the patterns of relationships shared by the region's residents, Palestinian and Jewish alike, and the lasting effects of Israel's settlement policy. Stressed in particular are such factors as urban planning, rising inequality and the retreat of the welfare state, and the changing political economy of industry and employment. In doing so, the authors collected here provide new insight into the integration and segregation processes that are an integral part of the broader historical trends shaping Israel/Palestine.

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Arab Patriotism: The Ideology and Culture of Power in Late Ottoman Egypt

Adam Mestyan
May 2017 - Princeton University Press

Arab Patriotism presents the essential backstory to the formation of the modern nation-state and mass nationalism in the Middle East. While standard histories claim that the roots of Arab nationalism emerged in opposition to the Ottoman milieu, Adam Mestyan points to the patriotic sentiment that grew in the Egyptian province of the Ottoman Empire during the nineteenth century, arguing that it served as a pivotal way station on the path to the birth of Arab nationhood. Through extensive archival research, Mestyan examines the collusion of various Ottoman elites in creating this nascent sense of national belonging and finds that learned culture played a central role in this development. Mestyan investigates the experience of community during this period, engendered through participation in public rituals and being part of a theater audience. He describes the embodied and textual ways these experiences were produced through urban spaces, poetry, performances, and journals. From the Khedivial Opera House's staging of Verdi's *Aida* and the first Arabic magazine to the 'Urabi revolution and the restoration of the authority of Ottoman viceroys

under British occupation, Mestyan illuminates the cultural dynamics of a regime that served as the precondition for nation-building in the Middle East.

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Islamism: A New Totalitarianism

Mehdi Mozaffari

March 2017 – Lynne Rienner

What exactly is Islamism? And what explains its violent expansion in recent decades? Why are Islamists so determined to change the world order? Are there similarities between Islamism and classical totalitarian regimes and ideologies? Will it fail, as those regimes did in Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union—or can it adapt effectively to changing realities? What are the fundamental strengths and weaknesses of the Islamic project? Addressing these questions within a context both historical and global, Mehdi Mozaffari provides an important new framework for understanding the full impact of Islamism in the Middle East and beyond.

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Arab Nationalism in the Twentieth Century: From Triumph to Despair

Adeed Dawisha

2016 - Princeton University Press

Like a great dynasty that falls to ruin and is eventually remembered more for its faults than its feats, Arab nationalism is remembered mostly for its humiliating rout in the 1967 Six Day War, for inter-Arab divisions, and for words and actions distinguished by their meagerness. But people tend to forget the majesty that Arab nationalism once was. In this elegantly narrated and richly documented book, Adeed Dawisha brings this majesty to life through a sweeping historical account of its dramatic rise and fall. Dawisha argues that Arab nationalism--which, he says, was inspired by nineteenth-century German Romantic nationalism--really took root after World War I and not in the nineteenth century, as many believe, and that it blossomed only in the 1950s and 1960s under the charismatic leadership of Egypt's Gamal 'Abd al-Nasir. He traces the ideology's passage from the collapse of the Ottoman Empire through its triumphant ascendancy in the late 1950s with the unity of Egypt and Syria and with the nationalist revolution of Iraq, to the mortal blow it received in the 1967 Arab defeat by Israel, and its eventual eclipse. Dawisha criticizes the common failure to distinguish between the broader, cultural phenomenon of "Arabism" and the political, secular desire for a united Arab state that defined Arab nationalism. In recent decades competitive ideologies--not least, Islamic militancy--have inexorably supplanted the latter, he contends.

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Righteous Transgressions: Women's Activism on the Israeli and Palestinian Religious Right

Lihi Ben Shitrit

2015 - Princeton University Press

How do women in conservative religious movements expand spaces for political activism in ways that go beyond their movements' strict ideas about male and female roles? How and why does this activism happen in some movements but not in others? *Righteous Transgressions* examines these questions by comparatively studying four groups: the Jewish settlers in the West Bank, the ultra-Orthodox Shas, the Islamic Movement in Israel, and the Palestinian Hamas. Lihi Ben Shitrit demonstrates that women's prioritization of a nationalist agenda over a proselytizing one shapes their activist involvement. Ben Shitrit shows how women construct "frames of exception" that temporarily suspend, rather than challenge, some of the limiting aspects of their movements' gender ideology. Viewing women as agents in such movements, she analyzes the ways in which activists use nationalism to astutely reframe gender role transgressions from inappropriate to righteous. The author engages the literature on women's agency in Muslim and Jewish religious contexts, and sheds light on the centrality of women's activism to the promotion of the spiritual, social, cultural, and political agendas of both the Israeli and Palestinian religious right.

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Young Islam: The New Politics of Religion in Morocco and the Arab World

Avi Max Spiegel

2015 - Princeton University Press

Today, two-thirds of all Arab Muslims are under the age of thirty. *Young Islam* takes readers inside the evolving competition for their support--a competition not simply between Islamism and the secular world, but between different and often conflicting visions of Islam itself. Drawing on extensive ethnographic research among rank-and-file activists in Morocco, Avi Spiegel shows how Islamist movements are encountering opposition from an unexpected source--each other. In vivid and compelling detail, he describes the conflicts that arise as Islamist groups vie with one another for new recruits, and the unprecedented fragmentation that occurs as members wrangle over a shared urbanized base. Looking carefully at how political Islam is lived, expressed, and understood by young people, Spiegel moves beyond the top-down focus of current research. Instead, he makes the compelling case that Islamist actors are shaped more by their relationships to each other than by their relationships to the state or even to religious ideology. By focusing not only on the texts of aging elites but also on the voices of diverse and sophisticated Muslim youths, Spiegel exposes the shifting and contested nature of Islamist movements today--movements that are being reimagined from the bottom up by young Islam.

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JOURNAL ARTICLES & OTHER ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Shattered worlds: political trauma amongst young activists in post-revolutionary Egypt

Vivienne Matthies-Boon

The Journal of North African Studies, Published online: 28 Feb 2017

Based on qualitative testimonial research with Egyptian youth activists, this article argues that Egypt's post-revolutionary aftermath has been profoundly traumatic. Trauma shatters one's assumptive world as it confronts one with the fragility of existence and the possibility of immediate death. Activists experienced automatic psychological coping mechanisms of intrusion (e.g. dreams and nightmares) and numbing, but Egypt's post-revolutionary social and political context inhibited the operationalisation of non-automatic, socially embedded, coping mechanisms of reintegration and reinterpretation. The former entails the reintegration of one's experiences into an adjusted assumptive world through a shared holding space and the latter the reinterpretation of the suffered traumas through a positive outcome. In the absence of socially embedded coping mechanisms, due to political polarisation and a lack of positive revolutionary outcomes, Egypt's social trauma deepened as is illustrated by the depoliticisation of activists as they tried to mend their shattered assumptive worlds.

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Ambiguities of student activism, authoritarianism and democratic attitudes: the cases of Egypt and Morocco

Nadine Sika

The Journal of North African Studies, Volume 22, 2017 - Issue 1, Pages 35-59

This article is concerned with exploring the political attitudes of a microcosm of university students, in Egypt and Morocco, which present two different case studies in the Arab world. The first, a republic which faced mass demonstrations and regime breakdown during the Arab Uprisings, and the second, a monarchy which faced mass demonstrations that were quickly contained through various authoritarian upgrading measures by the monarch. The research is based on analysing two survey studies conducted in various universities during the period from December 2012 until February 2013. The study found that young activists are most likely to be young men who are members of political parties. They believe in some procedural aspects of democracy, such as voting. Egyptian activists believe that democracy is more important than security, unlike the rest of the sample in Egypt and Morocco. However, Egyptian and Moroccan activists' attitudes towards equality, freedoms and tolerance are more traditional and conforming with conservative social attitudes in their polities at large. This presents an ambiguous relationship between activists and democracy in authoritarian regimes, which needs further analysis.

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Will the Spring Come Again?

Bamyeh, M. A.

R/evolutions: Global Trends & Regional Issues, Vol 4, No. 1, 2016, (ISSN: 2449-6413), pp. 74-86.

Every revolution triggers a counterrevolution. Professor M. A. Bamyeh deconstructs what revolutions are, and how we can look at them from another point of view. If one considers the political pushback of the ruling elites, the militarization and geopolitics as separate frameworks, one can distinguish the tremendous mental and social shifts the Arab Spring has initiated in many countries in the region. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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The Democratic ‘Transition’ in Post-revolution Tunisia: Conditions for successful ‘Consolidation’ and Future Prospects

Mansouri, F., Armillei, R.

R/evolutions: Global Trends & Regional Issues, Vol 4, No. 1, 2016, (ISSN: 2449-6413), pp. 156-181.

Tunisia is arguably the most successful case of all the Arab uprisings. How is it possible that Tunisian protests succeeded where all others failed or were dispersed? Professors F. Mansouri and R. Armillei argue that the Islamist Ennahda played a crucial role in finding and maintaining consensus within an authentically original Tunisian setting. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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The Sectarian Revolution in the Middle East

Hinnebusch, R.

R/evolutions: Global Trends & Regional Issues, Vol 4, No. 1, 2016, (ISSN: 2449-6413), pp. 120-152.

Since 2001, identity politics in the Middle East have shared similarities with Syrian cluster bombs – larger settings have fractured into little bits and all of them are highly explosive. Professor R. Hinnebusch goes to the bottom of this issue by meticulously explaining how the Middle Eastern uprisings have factionalized identities and how violence and international intervention keep fueling this sectarianization. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Creativity and Resilience in the Syrian Revolution

cooke, m.

R/evolutions: Global Trends & Regional Issues, Vol 4, No. 1, 2016, (ISSN: 2449-6413), pp. 90-108.

Professor m. cooke presents another – forgotten – dimension of the Syrian civil war. The original and continued protests of its artists and activists at home and in exile, which show their decade-long struggle for freedom under the Asad regime. The Arab Spring brought forth a revolution in the digital and plastic arts as much as on the streets. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Untangling the Leviathans of the Arab Spring, interview with Amal Ghazal

Lasha Markozashvili

R/evolutions: Global Trends & Regional Issues, Vol 4, No. 1, 2016, (ISSN: 2449-6413), pp. 62-71.

This interview with Professor A. Ghazal ‘untangles’ the different roles the drivers of the revolutions (the people in the streets), elites, political regimes and external actors have played in these rapidly unfolding events after 2001. Too soon the people lost their agency or their voices were muffled by the sound of guns. Still, in order to understand the ‘real’ Arab Spring, one has to acknowledge their original role, and the wide support base the uprisings had in many countries across the Middle East. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Folk poetry, local knowledge, and resistance in Tunisia

Laura Rice & Karim Hamdy

The Journal of North African Studies, Volume 21, 2016 - Issue 2, Pages 283-300

In pre-Islamic times, Arabic poetry was a potent propaganda weapon among the nomadic Arabian tribes. More than 15 centuries later, not much has changed. In the twenty-first century, Arabic poetry is still used ritualistically to celebrate harvests, weddings, and other happy events, but also to put up a defensive shield against encroachments by outsiders, or to lament the loss of a loved one, the devastation by natural disasters, or the generation gap and loss of a traditional Bedouin lifestyle. The verbal prowess of Arabic nomadic groups led to a flourishing of poetry in both *fuṣṣḥā*/classical and *dārija*/dialectal Arabic. This essay looks at Tunisian folk poetry – what might be called ‘literature from below’ – as a potent force sustaining political resistance and cultural identity. We focus on two features of folk poetry (*malḥūn* in *dārija*) in southern Tunisia: poetry as resistance to authoritarian regimes, both before and after the January 14, 2011 revolution; and poetry as resistance to the consumerist onslaught, be it *Beldi* (urban) or neo-liberal, on traditional *Bedouin*

lifestyles. In the context of the revolution in Tunisia, we also explore the reasons some poets composing in *fuṣṣḥā* share a poetics most often associated with folk poets.

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***Ihbat*: disillusionment and the Arab Spring in Morocco**

Taieb Belghazi & Abdelhay Moudden

The Journal of North African Studies, Volume 21, 2016 - Issue 1, Pages 37-49

This paper provides a reading of Morocco's February 20th movement as an entry into the understanding of political failure experienced by a social movement. While there is an abundance of literature on successful movements, there seems to be little interest in unsuccessful ones. This may be explained by the fact that, unlike publically celebrated political victories, failure remains to a large extent contained within the private sphere. Accordingly, access to the inner dynamics of social movement failure is problematic for the researcher relying on conventional research methods and requires imaginative approaches. In this vein, fiction seems to enable a better engagement with this important facet of collective action. This paper proposes that the key in grasping the politics of failure is the discovery by activists that their belief in the idea of the 'people always united until victory', which was a central mobilising force celebrated and performed on the streets during the short-lived euphoric phase, is flawed. Likewise, the consideration of the state as a paper tiger vulnerable in the face of an undefeatable peoples' will is equally erroneous.

Disillusionment, translated in the Arabic *ihbat*, captures the general mood of the post February 20th context. Far from the idealist expectations of radical change, the unfolding of the events produced disappointing results, revealed the disunity within the people, and unveiled the cunning side of state apparatuses and their ability to survive setbacks. Rather than considering *ihbat* as a static condition, the paper highlights the dynamics of alternative possibility generated by this emotion.

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NEWS PIECES & COMMENTARY

What can academics and activists learn from each other?

John Chalcraft
LSE Blog

The LSE Department of Government's Collective Action Forum (CAF) started work in the 2016-17 academic year. It is a small-scale, innovative public engagement initiative, designed to bring academics and activists together for mutual benefit. The CAF is based on the idea that academics can benefit from interaction with activists in developing, disseminating and achieving impact for their

research. Activists, in turn, can benefit from links with academics in enhancing their collective capacities to bring about or resist change. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Hosni Mubarak acquitted over 2011 protester killings

Aljazeera English, 2 March 2017

Six years after the uprising that ended his rule, former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has been acquitted over his alleged involvement in the killings of hundreds of protesters in 2011. The Court of Cassation's final ruling on Thursday could see Mubarak walk free. After an all-day hearing, Judge Ahmed Abdel Qawi announced: "The court has found the defendant innocent." The Cairo-based court rejected demands by lawyers of the victims to reopen civil suits, leaving no remaining option for appeal or retrial. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Reflections on Western Sahara's struggle for self-determination

Hamza Hamouchene

OpenDemocracy, 27 February 2017

In these few lines, inspired by my thwarted attempt to go to the occupied territories of Western Sahara in November 2016 as well as my recent visit to the Saharawi refugee camps in southern Algeria in December 2016, I would like to give a brief account of the Saharawi struggle for self-determination and also offer some reflections on my visit. The plight of Western Sahara and the military occupation by the Moroccan monarchy cannot be dissociated from the history of western colonialism and from the fact that Saharawis continue to pay the price for this legacy. During the Berlin Conference in 1884-1885, Spain was recognised as the colonial power ruling over present-day Western Sahara, and by 1936, Generalissimo Franco instituted full colonial rule and split the region into two territories, Rio de Oro and Saguia el Hamra. When high-quality phosphate was discovered in the late 1930s, the Spanish built the city of Laayoune near the Atlantic and linked the Bou Craa mine to the port with a conveyor belt around a hundred kilometres long. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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The search for truth over what happened to Giulio Regeni

Antonio Marchesi

OpenDemocracy, 24 February 2017

Probably seven or eight Italians out of every ten now know that there are human rights violations in Egypt. That Egypt isn't only a place you visit to see the Pyramids or to go scuba-diving in the Red Sea. Why is that? It's because people across Italy have been alerted to the terrible case of the 28-year-old Italian PhD student at Cambridge who was abducted, horribly tortured and killed in Cairo just over a year ago. His name, of course, was Giulio Regeni and we at Amnesty Italy have been running a Truth for Giulio ("Verita per Giulio") campaign ever since. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Participatory Democracy and Micropolitics in Manbij - An Unthinkable Revolution

Yasser Munif

The Century Foundation, 21 February 2017

Manbij, a city in northern Syria, hosted a compelling example of successful grassroots governance during the two-year period between the Syrian regime's withdrawal from the city in 2012 and the Islamic State's takeover in 2014. Drawing on hundreds of interviews conducted in Manbij in 2013, the author shows that the city established an innovative local political system during this interregnum. The new local government faced significant challenges, and made many mistakes, which the author discusses in detail. But those mistakes were not the undoing of Manbij's revolutionaries. Instead, as in many other places in Syria, external forces derailed their efforts, buoyed by a Western narrative that seemed unable to even conceive of the kind of peaceful revolution under construction in Manbij. Still, Manbij's experience holds important lessons—and could yet be the foundation for more participatory governance in Syria over the long term. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Sisi's war on Egyptian NGOs

Amr Khalifa

Middle East Eye, 20 February 2017

When the body of Giulio Regeni, a Cambridge researcher who was studying Egyptian labour unions, surfaced by the side of a desert road on Cairo's periphery in February 2016, it bore the hallmarks of security apparatus torture techniques. One year later, Khaled Shalaby - whose role into Regeni's torture and killing was reportedly investigated and who has remained a controversial figure associated with the researcher's death - has been promoted to director of security for Faiyum

Governorate. Welcome to Egypt where the police state is rewarded at every turn while the organisations tasked with monitoring their systematic abuses are punished. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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New Neighborhood Power - Informal Popular Committees and Changing Local Governance in Egypt

Cilja Harders, Dina Wahba

The Century Foundation, 14 February 2017

After the uprising of 2011, new forms of political participation emerged, among them the popular committees (Iijan sha'abiyah). Initially convened mainly to ensure security at the neighborhood level, the committees came to life after the withdrawal of police forces from the public in Cairo, Alexandria, Suez, Port Said, and many towns of the Nile Delta. After the initial eighteen days of the Egyptian revolution, the popular committees expanded their activities and, in different ways in different places, became vehicles to advocate for local needs through informal and formal channels. To a limited degree, the committees gave voice to groups and individuals that had been marginalized. Drawing on original fieldwork in several neighborhoods of Cairo and Giza, the authors argue that the committees embody a new form of political participation in Egypt, which has endured despite the country's sharp return to authoritarianism. Although the committees are varied and imperfectly democratic, they are a dividend of the revolution that will continue to be relevant in Egypt's political future. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Governance from Below - Comparing Local Experiments in Egypt and Syria after the Uprisings

Asya El-Meehy

The Century Foundation, 7 February 2017

In the wake of the uprisings in Egypt and Syria, new modes of grassroots governing emerged. In both countries, new bodies arose to perform a range of services that were formally fulfilled by central governments, or by local institutions that were organized in a top-down fashion. In Egypt, it was the Local Popular Committees (LPCs), and in Syria, the Local Administrative Councils (LACs). The LPCs and LACs both held promise as examples of bottom-up governance with democratic ambitions, in countries where such efforts had been in extremely short supply. With original empirical research, the author investigates the success of the LPCs and LACs in fulfilling their aims of building inclusive, democratic, locally led governance. She finds that by several metrics, and for different reasons that depend much on the contrasting contexts of Egypt and Syria, the bodies have so far fallen short of empowered participatory governance principles. Still, they represent a watershed moment for

governance practices in the two countries, and indicate that locally driven organizing will be enduringly relevant in the years ahead. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Part-time Lecturer (non-tenure-track) in Middle Eastern History - Tufts University

The Department of History at Tufts University is searching for a part-time lecturer in Middle Eastern History for the academic year 2017-8 to teach three courses. Two of these courses are surveys: The Middle East to World War I in the fall semester, and Middle East and North Africa since WWI in the spring semester. The third course will be determined on consultation. This is a benefits-eligible position.

Ph.D. and strong teaching experience preferred. To apply, please submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, sample syllabi of the proposed courses, and three letters of recommendation, and teaching evaluations if these are available. All application materials must be submitted via Interfolio at: <https://apply.interfolio.com/406777> Please contact Annette Lazzara at annette.lazzara@tufts.edu with any questions.

Review of applications begins immediately and continues until the position is filled.

Tufts University, founded in 1852, prioritizes quality teaching, highly competitive basic and applied research and a commitment to active citizenship locally, regionally and globally. Tufts University also prides itself on creating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community. Current and prospective employees of the university are expected to have and continuously develop skill in, and disposition for, positively engaging with a diverse population of faculty, staff, and students.

More information and application [here](#)

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Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Middle Eastern or North African History - Bowdoin College

Applications from 10 March 2017

The History Department at Bowdoin College invites applications for a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in Middle Eastern or North African History to begin July 1, 2017. Sub-field open, but preference is given for candidates who can offer curricular coverage of the twentieth century. Fellows are expected to teach three courses per year and participate in the life of the department. Applicants for this fellowship must have completed their Ph.D. no earlier than January 1, 2014. Candidates who expect to receive their Ph.D. by June 30, 2017 should provide documentation from their home institution confirming this schedule. Applicants must possess a demonstrated commitment to excellence in teaching and research, and a commitment to the liberal arts.

The fellowship carries an annual stipend of \$50,000 plus benefits. In addition, the position carries a \$4,000 research and travel fund plus support to attend professional conferences.

Bowdoin College accepts only electronic submissions. Please visit <https://careers.bowdoin.edu> to submit a c.v., a letter of application, and the names and contact information for three references who will provide letters of recommendation.

Review of applications will begin on March 10, 2017 and continue until the position is filled. A highly selective liberal arts college on the Maine coast with a diverse student body made up of 31% students of color, 5% international students and approximately 15% first generation college students, Bowdoin College is committed to equality and is an equal opportunity employer. We encourage inquiries from candidates who will enrich and contribute to the cultural and ethnic diversity of our college. Bowdoin College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, religion, marital status, gender identity and/or expression, sexual orientation, veteran status, national origin, or disability status in employment, or in our education programs.

More information and application [here](#)

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Visiting Position in Comparative Politics (focus on Middle East) - Bates College

Applications from 10 March 2017

The Department of Politics at Bates College invites applications for a one-year visiting position focusing on Comparative Politics with a specialty in politics of the Middle East starting in the fall of 2017. Candidates should have a Ph.D. completed or nearly complete. The Politics Department has implemented an innovative curriculum that uses concentrations on broad sets of ideas in political science rather than the traditional subfields. Those applying should show a strong commitment to excellence in undergraduate teaching and scholarly research. Responsibilities include teaching four

courses and advisement of individual senior theses. Candidates with teaching and research interest in mixed-methods approaches are encouraged to apply. The college and the Politics Department are committed to enhancing the diversity and inclusivity of the campus community and the curriculum. Candidates who can contribute to this goal are encouraged to apply and to identify their strengths and experiences in this area in their teaching statement and/or research statement. Consideration of applications will begin March 10, 2017 and continue until the position is filled.

ABD will be considered, Ph.D., preferred.

Review of applications begins March 10, 2017 and will continue until the position is filled. Applicants should submit the following: a letter of application, curriculum vita, teaching statement, research statement, writing sample, graduate transcripts, and three letters of recommendation.

More information and application [here](#)

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One-Year Visiting Position, Modern Middle East - Franklin & Marshall College

Deadline: 20 March 2017

The Department of History at Franklin & Marshall College invites applications for a one-year visiting position in the history of the modern Middle East, beginning Fall 2017. The rank will be Visiting Assistant Professor or Visiting Instructor depending on qualifications; candidates should have or be close to completing the Ph.D. Teaching experience is required. Teaching load is 3/2 and the successful candidate will teach two surveys (Islamic World to 18th Century and Modern Middle East) as well as topics courses in his or her area of expertise or contributing to the College's general education curriculum, "Connections." Those with experience teaching courses in the history of gender and women are especially urged to apply. Candidates should submit the following materials electronically via Interfolio (apply.interfolio.com/40797): letter of application, curriculum vitae, graduate transcript, three letters of recommendation, teaching statement, and teaching evaluation forms. Deadline for applications is March 20, 2017, or until the position is filled.

Pursuant to cultivating an inclusive college community, the search committee will holistically assess the qualifications of each applicant. We will consider an individual's record working with students and colleagues with diverse perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds. We will also consider experience overcoming or helping others overcome barriers to academic success.

Franklin & Marshall College is committed to having an inclusive campus community where all members are treated with dignity and respect. As an Equal Opportunity Employer, the College does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices on the basis of gender, sex, race, ethnicity, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, family or marital status, sexual orientation, or any

protected characteristic. Individuals who need an accommodation due to a disability in order to submit an application or attend an employment interview should call (717) 358-3995.

More information and application [here](#)

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Assistant professor society & culture of the modern & contemporary Middle East - Ghent University

Deadline: 24 March 2017

The Faculty of Arts and Philosophy invites applications for a full-time tenure track position of assistant professor in Arabic and Islamic/Middle East Studies. The postholder will be expected to contribute to academic teaching, research, service and outreach in the field of social and cultural history and/or anthropology of the modern and contemporary Middle East (from ca. 1800 to the present day). The successful candidate will be expected to take up the position on 1 October 2017.

Academic teaching

The postholder will be required to teach several courses, at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, in the area of Middle East Studies. The postholder will also be expected to take an active role in Arabic language teaching.

Academic Research

The postholder will be expected to pursue research in the field of the social and cultural history and/or anthropology of the modern and contemporary Middle East (from ca. 1800 to the present day).

Academic services and outreach

The postholder will be expected to contribute actively to the administrative duties of the section, the department, and the teaching program, and to extra-curricular activities aimed at wider academic and non-academic communities.

Expertise/Experience

You have a proven track record of research and publications in the afore-mentioned academic field, which is clearly reflected in the PhD dissertation, in articles published in high-quality academic journals, and, possibly, in peer-reviewed books;

You have a proven ability to develop and supervise research and research projects in the afore-mentioned academic field, and to apply for research funding;

You have didactic skills required to enable university students to develop and acquire academic learning outcomes;

You have a proven advanced level (equivalent EFR C1) of proficiency Modern Standard Arabic (reading, writing, listening)

Apart from the above essentials, desirable expertise and experiences include: Academic expertise that clearly fits in with the research interests of at least one of the following UGent research groups: Middle East and North Africa Research Group, Ghent Centre for Global Studies, Economies/Comparisons/Connections, Social History Since 1750, Centre for Research on Culture and Gender / A proven fluency in Egyptian Arabic (speaking, listening) / The application of a global-historical perspective in teaching and research / International mobility, including stays at research institutions different from where you acquired your highest academic degree / Positively assessed experience in individual and/or collaborative academic teaching in the afore-mentioned academic field / Positively assessed experience in individual and/or collaborative Arabic language teaching at intermediate or advanced levels of academic proficiency / Professionalisation of education / Experience with external funding applications.

APPOINTMENT INFORMATION

We offer you a temporary appointment in a tenure track system for a term of five years. If positively evaluated by the University Board, the term of office will be transferred into a permanent appointment as an associate professor, with opportunities for further career development and promotion to the ranks of full professor and of senior full professor.

Should you already be a member of the professorial staff or hold an equal post at another university or research institution, you can immediately be appointed as an assistant professor, without prejudice to the possibility of a temporary appointment offered in article V.28 of the Codex of Higher Education.

The successful candidate will be expected to take up the position on 1 October 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter.

APPLYING

Applications have to be sent by e-mail to recruitmentzap@ugent.be and should be received at the latest on 24 March 2017 at 11h59 PM (CET).

The following documents should be attached:

cover letter;

the professorial staff application

form <http://www.ugent.be/nl/vacatures/zap/sollicitatieformulieren-zap/sollzapambt.docx/view>

copies of your doctoral degree;

statement on academic teaching-research-service.

Please merge all documents into one PDF attachment and mention the reference number 20170217 Middle East in the subject line of your email.

Attention: Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

MORE INFORMATION

For further information regarding this position, please contact Professor Andreas Niehaus, chair of the Department of Languages and Cultures (tel. +32(0)9 264 4157 or email andreas.niehaus@ugent.be) or the section coordinator, Professor Jo Van Steenberghe (tel. +32(0)9 264 3805 or email jo.vansteenbergen@ugent.be).

More information and application [here](#)

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POMEPS Summer 2017 TRE Grants

Deadline: 10 March 2017

The Project on Middle East Political Science is delighted to announce a call for proposals for Summer 2017 POMEPS Travel – Research – Engagement grants. The competition is open to academic political scientists at career stages from PhD students to senior faculty from any institution, and is not restricted to U.S. citizens or residents. Awards of up to \$3,000 will be offered to support research travel to the broader Middle East. The research should be in support of an ongoing academic research project. Grant recipients are required to submit at least one article based on their research to POMEPS for possible publication on *Washington Post's* Monkey Cage blog. Opportunities for POMEPS workshops and conferences are often extended to applicants. The proposed travel should take place between March 1, 2017 and September 1, 2017.

POMEPS especially encourages proposals as part of the Islam in a Changing Middle East initiative. The Arab uprisings have created dramatically new opportunities and challenges not only for Islamist movements but also for the academic and policy communities that study them. Islam in a Changing Middle East seeks to support scholars in adapting to the deluge of new information and evidence. Applications should include:

- Current CV
- Research proposal* including:
 - Location of travel
 - Travel schedule
 - Description of project/research plan
 - Budget estimate

* *there is no specific page requirement*

- Proposed *Monkey Cage* article topics

Interested candidates should submit proposals in one PDF file to Ms. Stephanie Dahle at pomepsgw@gmail.com by 5:00 pm EST, March 10, 2017.

Past recipients of TRE grants are eligible to apply, but please be advised that priority will be given to those who have not previously received funding.

More information and application [here](#)

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Syria Facilitator, Middle East Forum

Deadline: 15 March 2017

openDemocracy is looking to hire a facilitator for the Middle East Forum for Syria. The Middle East Forum is a project that encourages emerging young voices to express themselves, exchange views and be heard. The project provides participants with a series of workshops to develop writing skills, media presence, and digital security as well as a free discussion space where they have the capacity

to debate constructively. Participants in the forum host speakers, acquire skills, share knowledge, and give feedback to one another. We are currently looking for a facilitator to coordinate a group of 7 participants from Syria. openDemocracy has a standard of expectation from our participants as well as from each individual facilitator.

This is a freelance role, 35 days of work spread over 11 months with a salary of \$109 per day.

In general, facilitators will be expected to:

- Ensure a safe space for all the participants to express themselves freely;
- Host debates but allow for the creative process to take its due course;
- Cultivate a good working relationship with the participants, and serve as their mentor;
- Maintain a good line of communication with the participants, and be available for any questions;
- Be responsible for training the participants, providing them with the tools necessary to complete the program successfully, and the ability to organise other professional trainers where needed;
- Outline learning objectives for the group;
- Oversee and support the participants' work, and assist where necessary;
- Provide constructive feedback and suggestions to enhance the participant's learning experience.

Requirements

We are looking for people who are passionate about journalism and its potential to change the world, and have:

- Expertise in the specific region of the program;
- Experience in debate moderation;
- Prior experience of digital publishing and social media;
- A background in journalism and journalistic writing;
- Fluency in both Arabic and English - able to write and edit;
- Knowledge of online security, computer systems and office-related software;
- Possess strong interpersonal and communication skills.

Who can apply?

You can apply for the position if you fall under any of the following:

- Previous experience as a journalist or editor
- Currently completing or recently completed post-graduate studies in related field
- Possess expertise in the specific region of the program

How to apply?

Send in a sample piece of 1000 words in Arabic or English of why you believe you are suitable for this role and your resume. Please send your application documents to arabawakeningteam@opendemocracy.net by the 15th of March.

More information and application [here](#)

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Open Call for Non-Resident Fellows, Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy

Applications from: 14 April 2017

The Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy (TIMEP) is publishing an open call for applications to our non-resident fellowship program. TIMEP non-resident fellows contribute to TIMEP's mission to inform international policymakers and influence global policy discussions on developments happening in the Middle East and North Africa.

The call seeks applicant proposals for non-resident fellows, who will contribute to TIMEP's mission through development of research, analysis, and policy advisement in coordination with the TIMEP team. Potential fellows should be mid-career professionals with demonstrated expertise and commitment to TIMEP's mission and principles.

TIMEP's mission places great importance on the value of bringing local perspectives to policy discussions; thus, preference will be given to those living or working in the region.

Applications will be considered for proposed work in Libya, Syria, Iraq, and Egypt, as well as regional, transnational, and comparative studies. TIMEP is particularly interested in applicants with expertise in the fields of:

- Economy and Development
- Security Sector Reform
- Digital Security
- **Social and Labor Movements**
- Gender and Sexuality
- Development and Good Governance

Scope of Fellowship

The fellowship term will consist of a period of six months, with review of the terms of agreement at the conclusion of the six-month period. The position is a non-resident position, with preference for a fellow with local presence in the region; TIMEP will facilitate a one-week site visit to TIMEP's Washington, DC, offices (outlined below). The fellow will receive a stipend commensurate with experience.

Potential Duties and Obligations

- Contribute analysis articles (around 1,000 words), on mutually agreed topics, for publication on the TIMEP website over the course of the term of the agreement.
- Be available to consult with TIMEP team on developments regarding area of focus, to keep them apprised and to offer assessment of the developments.
- Participate in monthly phone conferences with relevant TIMEP staff.
- Advise on the strategic direction of TIMEP's research and advocacy initiatives, in coordination with TIMEP's Research and Executive Directors and Advocacy and External Relations Manager.
- Provide written and oral review of TIMEP-drafted documents (no more than ten pages per month, including analysis pieces, primers, profiles, briefs, etc.).

- Facilitate meetings and site visits for TIMEP staff during research and advocacy trips.
- Conduct one visit to TIMEP's Washington, DC, office over the course of the term of the agreement, to include events, advocacy meetings, and site visits, to be determined in coordination with the Advocacy and External Relations Manager.
- Indicate affiliation with TIMEP when doing interviews, speaking on panels, or publishing pieces in other news outlets.

Qualifications

At least five years of relevant work or academic experience in a field related to the proposed area of study.

A bachelor's degree in a relevant field, with preference given to those who have graduate research experience.

Proficiency in written and spoken English, with working proficiency in Arabic.

Demonstrated commitment to TIMEP's mission and principles.

To apply, candidates should submit the following to fellowships@timep.org:

- Résumé or Curriculum Vitae
- Cover Letter: The cover letter should indicate the candidate's desired area of focus and relevance to TIMEP's mission.
- Plan of work: The plan of work should consist of *no more than two pages*, indicating a general description of research, advocacy, or action initiatives with specific outputs to be developed over a six-month period. These may include desired meetings to be held, field research, reports, analysis pieces, events or workshops to be organized or attended, or other relevant proposals.
- Writing Sample

All application materials should be submitted in English. References may be requested upon review of materials.

More information and application [here](#)

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