**Spotlight**

**IFI-published study: Human rights mechanisms gaining ground in Arab States**

Arab states and societies have recently moved on from the view that human rights are a form of Western neo-colonialism, according to Fateh Azzam, the newly-appointed director of the Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship. [READ MORE]

**News**

**BOT member Huda Zoghbi receives prestigious prize for identifying gene responsible for disease**

AUB Board of Trustee member Huda Y. Zoghbi, MD, a pediatric neurologist, has been awarded the 2014 March of Dimes Prize, for discovering the gene responsible for Rett’s Syndrome which causes intellectual disabilities in girls. Recipients of this $250,000-prize are considered leaders in their field, and their research would have profoundly advanced the science that underlies the understanding of birth defects. [READ MORE]

**'Syria elections set for June 3 amid civil war'**

*The Washington Post* interviews AUB Professor Hilal Khashan on latest updates in Syria amid civil war. [READ MORE]

**AUBMC doctors conduct first virtual surgery in the region and third outside the US**

For the first time in the Middle East, and only the third time outside the United States, AUBMC surgeons have conducted a procedure, using a new software technology developed by Vipaar that relies on Google glasses, allowing them to transmit what they see to a surgeon in New York, who would tell the surgeons exactly where they should make their incisions, in a two-hour reconstructive surgery on a two-year-old baby with a cleft lip. The surgery was covered by Reuters and [READ MORE]

**Events**

**Upcoming events**

- 'Materials Science and Energy International Symposium,' April 22, 9am-2pm, Science Lecture Hall [READ MORE]
- IFI lecture 'Setting the Agenda: The Experience of LCPS in Influencing Policymaking in Lebanon,' April 22, 3:30pm, IFI Aud. [READ MORE]
- Thirteenth FEA Student and Alumni Conference, April 23-24, Engineering Lecture Hall [READ MORE]
- IFI lecture 'Violence, Torture and Cinema: From the Middle East to Latin America and Back,' April 23, 3pm, IFI Aud. [READ MORE]
- MEMA 2014 Updates: Focus On Hematological Malignancies, April 24-26, Issam Fares Hall [READ MORE]
- Annual Job Fair Exhibition 2014, April 24-25, West Hall and Green Oval [READ MORE]
- Princeton University 'Middle East Peace Talks: Crisis or Opportunity?' by Rami Khouri, April 24, 4:30pm EDT [READ MORE]
- IFI lecture 'Post-Uprisings Economies: Alternatives and the Changing Paradigm,' April 25, 12noon, IFI Aud. [READ MORE]
- IBDAA 2014, April 25, Agriculture
picked up by a number of local and regional news outlets, including LBC, Al-Arabiya, Sky News Arabia, and Al-Qabas (Kuwait) and others.

'Public healthcare on the brink'
Executive interviews AUB Professor Fouad Fouad on the healthcare system in Lebanon with influx of Syrian refugees. READ MORE

'Lebanon Rejoins the Arab World'
AUB's IFI Director Rami Khouri writes to Middle East Online on the situation in Lebanon that is likely to remain volatile. READ MORE

'Spring Games 2014 at AUB'
Al Mustaqbal reports on AUB University Sports Spring Big Games 2014 that is taking place during April. READ MORE

Safety & Security Information - April 22, 2014
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