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## EMPLOYMENT

2013-present Associate Professor, Department of Economics, American University of Beirut  
2018-present Faculty advisor: Princeton-AUB Bobst Initiative, Faculty of Arts and Sciences  
2017-2018 Faculty advisor: program on Social Justice in the Arab World, Issam Fares  
Institute of Public Policy and International Affairs  
2017 Acting Chair (*Winter*)  
2012-2015 Chair  
2011 Acting Chair (*Spring*)  
2006-2013 Assistant Professor  
2003-2004 Assistant in instruction, research assistant, Department of Economics,  
Princeton University  
2000-2001 Lecturer, research assistant, Woodrow Wilson School of International and  
Public Affairs, Princeton University

## EDUCATION

2006 PhD in Economics, Princeton University  
2003 Masters of Arts in Economics, Princeton University  
1999 Masters in Public Affairs (concentration: Economics and public policy),  
Woodrow Wilson School of International and Public Affairs, Princeton  
University  
1997 Bachelor of Arts in Economics, American University of Beirut

## HONORS AND AWARDS

2016 Certificate of appreciation, Accessible Education Office, American University  
of Beirut  
2007 Finalist (unable to compete in the finals because of illness): Annual Global  
Development Awards Competition, Global Development Fund, Brisbane,  
Australia  
2007 Award for Best Research Paper in Institutions and Economic Development,  
Economic Research Forum, Cairo, Egypt  
2004-2006 Fellowship of Woodrow Wilson Scholars, Princeton University  
2004 Towbes Prize for Outstanding Teaching, Princeton University  
2001-2004 Harold Willis Dodds Merit Fellowship, Princeton University  
1997 BA with High Distinction, American University of Beirut  
1997 Philip Hitti Prize for Academic Excellence (highest average of any graduating  
student in Arts and Sciences), American University of Beirut  
1997 Nadim Khalaf Award in Economics, Department of Economics, American  
University of Beirut

## PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed publications

- 2018 “Recent changes in welfare indicators among Palestinian refugees in Lebanon: a comparative study of two cross-sectional datasets,” (abstract) *The Lancet* online, forthcoming (with Jad Chaaban, Hala Ghattas, Alexandra Irani, Karen Seyfert, Tala Ismail, Salam Khedr)
- “Popular grievances and perceptions of socio-economic conditions in the Arab region prior to the uprisings,” *Middle East Development Journal*, Vol. 10, Issue 1: June 2018, 64-96 (with Melani Cammett)
- “Equity impacts of price policies to promote healthy behaviours,” *The Lancet*, May 19, 2018, Vol. 391, No. 10134, 2059-2070 (with Franco Sassi, Annalisa Belloni, Andrew Mirelman, Mark Suhckre, Rachel Nugent, Sukumar Vellakkal, Barry Popkin)
- “Poverty, food insecurity and health of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and recently displaced Palestinians from Syria to Lebanon: findings from 2015 socioeconomic household survey,” (abstract) *The Lancet* online, Volume 391, Supplement 1, 21 February 2018, S-11 (with Hala Ghattas, Jad Chaaban, Alexandra Irani, Tala Ismail, Lara Batlouni)
- 2016 “The health, financial and distributional consequences of an increase in the tobacco excise tax on smokers in Lebanon: an extended cost effectiveness analysis,” *Social Science and Medicine*, 170 (December 2016), 161-169 (with Stephane Verguet and Elizabeth Brouwer)
- “The relationship between camp-level relative deprivation and self-rated health among Palestinian refugee women in Lebanon,” *Social Science and Medicine-Population Health*, Vol 2. December 2016, 317-326 (with Sawsan Abdulrahim)
- “Food insufficiency and food insecurity as risk factors for physical disability among Palestinian refugees in Lebanon: evidence from an observational study,” *Disability and Health Journal*, Vol. 9, Issue 4, 655-662 (with Hala Ghattas)
- “Who’s been left behind? Why Sustainable Development Goals fail in the Arab world,” viewpoint article, *The Lancet*, online January 2016, (with Abbas El-Zein, Jocelyn DeJong, Philippe Fargues, Adam Hanieh and Helen Lackner)
- 2015 “Income inequality and the composition of public debt,” *Journal of Economic Studies*, 42:5, 821-837, October 2015
- “The effect of taxation on tobacco consumption and government revenue in Lebanon,” 2015, *Tobacco Control*, 24:77-81 (with Jad Chaaban, Rima Nakkash and Hala Alaouie)
- 2014 “The economics of tobacco in Lebanon: an estimation of the social costs of tobacco consumption,” *Substance Use and Misuse*, 1-8, 2014 (with Jad Chaaban and Nadia Naamani)
- 2013 “Disability and food insufficiency in the Palestinian refugee population in Lebanon: a household survey,” (abstract) *The Lancet* online, Volume 382, Page S31, December 2013, (with Nuha Nuwayri-Salti and Hala Ghattas)
- “Poverty and the livelihoods of UNHCR refugees in Lebanon,” *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, vol. 32 No. 1, 2013 (with Jad Chaaban, Karin Seyfert, Gheed el Mekkawi)

- 2012 “The political economy of attracting public funds: the case of Lebanon,” *International Journal of Development and Conflict*, Vol 2, No. 1, 2012 (with Jad Chaaban)
- 2011 “Natural-Resource Wealth: Elbow Grease or Fuel for Poverty,” *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* (JITE), 2011, 167(3), 536–556
- 2010 “Who Pays? Out-of-pocket health spending and equity implications in the Middle East and North Africa,” HNP Discussion Paper, November 2010, The World Bank, Washington DC (with H. El Gazzar, F. Raad, C. Arfa, A. Mataria, J. Chaaban, D. Salehi-Isfahani, S. Fesharaki, M. Majbouri)
- “The Role of Sectarianism in the Allocation of Public Expenditure in Post-War Lebanon,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, volume 42 (2010), issue 04, pp. 637-655 (with Jad Chaaban)
- “The impact of a rise in VAT on equity and welfare in Lebanon: a microeconomic assessment,” Volume: 2, Issue: 1 (June 2010), *Middle East Development Journal*, 2010, 121-138 (with Jad Chaaban)
- “Health equity in Lebanon: a microeconomic analysis,” *International Journal for Equity in Health*, 2010, 9:11 (with Jad Chaaban and Firas Raad)
- “Relative deprivation and mortality in South Africa,” *Social Science & Medicine*, 70 (2010), pp. 720-728

#### Other publications

- 2018 *The profile of a neighborhood: health and well-being in Ras Beirut*, with Afamia Kaddour, Huda Zurayk, Cynthia Myntti, Livia Wick, Sawsan Abdulrahim, monograph, September 2018, American University of Beirut Press, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2017 “Socio-economic impact assessment of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs),” in National Assessment of POPs Impact and Management: Pesticides, Industrial and Unintentionally Released, United Nations Environment Programme, Ministry of the Environment, Republic of Lebanon (with Lama Bashour and Marwan Solh)
- 2016 “The Arab human development report 2016: Youth and the prospects for human development in a changing reality,” with Jad Chaaban, Rima Afifi, Nadjé el Ali, Brahim Boudarbat, Melani Cammett, Francoise de Bel-Air, Ishac Diwan, Daniel Egel, Philippe Fargues, Alexandra Irani, Nader Kabbani, Noura Kamel, Georgina Manok, UNDP Regional Bureau of Arab States, New York, USA
- “Survey on the socio-economic status of Palestine refugees in Lebanon 2015,” with Jad Chaaban, Hala Ghattas, Alexandra Irani, Tala Ismail and Lara Batlouni, report published by the American University of Beirut and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
- 2014 “Shifting political economies of grievances: the generation of state cutbacks comes of age,” Economic Research Forum Blog posting, October (with Melani Cammett)
- 2012 “The economic cost of political instability,” Lebanese Center for Policy Studies policy paper, November
- 2012 “Political instability costs Lebanon 5% of its GDP,” Lebanese Center for Policy Studies policy brief, November

- 2010 “Socio-economic survey of Palestine refugees in Lebanon,” with Jad Chaaban, Hala Ghattas, Nadine Sahyoun, Rima Habib, Sari Hanafi, Karin Seyfert, American University of Beirut-United Nations Relief and Works Agency report
- 2009 “How Lebanon has weathered the storm,” with Ashi Bâli, *Middle East Report*, Fall 2009, 252: 30-33
- 2008 Book review for “The Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures: Economics, Education, Mobility and Space” for Al-Raida, No. 120-121, fall 2008

## GRANTS

- 2018 Norwegian Refugee Council, Department of International Development, “Cash Monitoring Evaluation Accountability and Learning Organizational Network” co-PI (PI: Jad Chaaban, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences)
- 2017 United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees grant “Analysis and Refinement of the Targeting Mechanisms for Food and Multipurpose Cash Assistance to Central African Republic (CAR) Refugees in the East, Adamaoua and North Regions of Cameroon”
- Short-term faculty development grant to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> annual International Conference on Sustainable Development, Columbia University, New York, September 18-20
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC), “The economics of NCDs in low- and middle-income countries,” co-PI (PI: Jad Chaaban)
- Economic Research Forum, “A multi-dimensional measure of vulnerability among Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian youth in Lebanon,” co-PI (PI: Jad Chaaban)
- United Nations Relief and Welfare Agency grant, “Development of a vulnerability assessment for cash assistance to Palestine refugees from Syria living in Lebanon,” March
- United Nations International Children’s Fund, “UNICEF household survey peer review and data analysis,” co-PI (PI: Hala Ghattas, Faculty of Health Sciences)
- 2016 International Development Research Centre (IDRC), “The economic case for non-communicable disease prevention in low- and middle-income countries”
- 2014 SanteMed A\*MIDEX grant, “Measurement and explanation of inequalities in health and access to healthcare in the MENA region,” co-PI (PI: Mohammad Abu-Zaineh, Aix Marseille School of Economics)
- United Nations Relief and Welfare Agency grant, “Socio-economic survey of Palestine refugees in Lebanon”
- Short-term faculty development grant to attend the 7<sup>th</sup> annual European Public Health Conference, Glasgow, Scotland, November
- 2013 Short-term faculty development grant to attend the 9<sup>th</sup> Eurasia Business and Economics Society in Rome, Italy in January

- 2012 IDRC, Non-Communicable Disease Prevention (NCDP), travel grant to attend the World Conference on Tobacco or Health (WCTOH) in Singapore, March
- 2011 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees grant “Assessment of living conditions of Iraqi refugees in Lebanon,” co-principal investigator (PI: Jad Chaaban), October
- American University of Beirut Research Board grant “Income inequality and the composition of public debt”
- International Development and Research Center (IDRC) grant “Generating evidence to support policies for raising taxes on tobacco products in Lebanon,” co-principal investigator (PI: Rima Nakkash)
- 2010 American University of Beirut/United Nations Relief and Welfare Agency grant “Poverty of Palestine Refugees in Lebanon: Analysis and Targeting,” co-principal investigator (PI: Jad Chaaban)
- The Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs “The Economics of Tobacco in Lebanon: An Estimation of the Social Costs of Tobacco Consumption,” joint with Professor Jad Chaaban
- 2009 Lebanon National Center for Scientific Research “The poverty and equity implications of a rise in the VAT tax in Lebanon,” joint with Professor Jad Chaaban, January 2009
- 2008 Economic Research Forum-Global Development Network research grant “Cash Transfers in Polarized Societies: The Case of Lebanon,” joint with Professor Jad Chaaban, December
- Junior Faculty Research Grant, American University of Beirut
- 2007 University Research Board Seed Grant, American University of Beirut, “Relative Deprivation, Inequality and Mortality: Evidence from South African Micro Data,” January

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### Conference presentations

- 2018 “The evolution in the determinants of inequalities in health among Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon,” with Sawsan Abdulrahim, Lancet Palestine Health Alliance Conference, American University of Beirut, March
- “Recent evolution in welfare indicators among Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon (PRL),” Lancet Palestine Health Alliance Conference, American University of Beirut, March
- “The macroeconomics of non-communicable diseases in the Middle East and North Africa,” with Jad Chaaban and Marie-Anne Boujaoude, the Economics of NCDs in Lower and Middle-Income Countries, American University of Beirut, February
- 2017 “SDGs and the Arab world: questions about citizenship, gender and conflict,” Empowering Sustainability in a Fragile World, Conference by the Moscow State

University, the University of California Irvine, and the Institute for Oriental Studies (Russian Academy of Science), December, Moscow Russia

“What do we know about inequality in the Arab world?” Inequalities within and among countries, Strengthening Public Policy for the 2030 Agenda, American University of Beirut Policy Institute and Arab NGO Network for Development, Issam Fares Institute, November, Beirut, Lebanon

“SDGs and the Arab world: questions about citizenship, gender and conflict,” the 5<sup>th</sup> annual International Conference on Sustainable Development, Columbia University, New York, September

“The political economy of Sustainable Development Goals,” in No One Left Behind: a Feasible Goal for the Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab World? Center for Research on Population and Health, American University of Beirut, June

“Popular grievances in the Arab region: evaluating explanations for discontent in the lead-up to the uprisings,” with Melani Cammett, Bobst Center (Princeton University)-Issam Fares Institute (American University of Beirut) conference on Social Justice in the Arab World Since 2010: Changing Conditions, Mobilizations and Policies, Beirut, Lebanon, February

2015 “The consequences of tobacco taxation on household health and finances among poorer and richer households in Lebanon: an extended cost effectiveness analysis,” International Health Economics Association Annual Conference, Milan, Italy, July

“Memories of redistribution: perceptions of public welfare and patterns of discontent,” 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Economic Research Forum, Carthage, Tunisia, March

2014 “La santé des jeunes en Méditerranée,” la semaine méditerranée de la santé, Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur, Marseille, December

“Beyond the gradient: exploring the relationship between camp-level relative deprivation and self-rated health among Palestinian refugee women in Lebanon,” European Public Health Association Annual Conference, Glasgow, UK, Nov

“Memories of redistribution: welfare legacies and political attitudes and behavior,” with Melani Cammett, presentation at the workshop on “The Pulse of the Arab Street,” Economic Research Forum, Université Paris-Dauphine, October

“Perceptions of public welfare and political mobilization in the Middle East: preliminary evidence from Egypt and Tunisia,” with Melani Cammett, presentation at the workshop on “The Pulse of the Arab Street,” Economic Research Forum, Harvard University, April

“On the progressivity of increasing taxes on tobacco: an extended cost effectiveness analysis for Lebanon,” Aix-Marseille School of Economics, AMSE-SESSTIM 2<sup>nd</sup> annual symposium, on health economics, Marseille, France, April

“Beyond the gradient: relative deprivation and self-rated health,” with Sawzan Abdulrahim, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Lancet Palestinian Health Alliance Conference, Amman, Jordan, March

- 2013 “Tobacco taxation in Lebanon: untapped revenue,” with Rima Nakkash, Jad Chaaban and Hala Alaouie, 46<sup>th</sup> Middle East Medical Assembly, Beirut, Lebanon, May
- “Disability and nutrition among Palestinians in Lebanon,” with Nuha Salti and Hala Ghattas, 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lancet Palestinian Health Alliance Conference, Cairo, Egypt, March
- “Income inequality and the composition of public debt,” Economic Research Forum 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Antalya, Turkey, March 2011, and 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Eurasia Business and Economics Society, La Sapienza University, Rome, Italy
- 2012 “One pack for one dollar: raising tobacco taxes in Lebanon,” with Jad Chaaban and Rima Nakkash, World Conference on Tobacco or Health, March, Singapore
- 2010 “Health equity in Lebanon: a microeconomic approach,” Middle East and North Africa Health Policy Forum’s 2<sup>nd</sup> annual conference, June, in Amman, Jordan.
- “Natural resources and economic diversification: an emerging research agenda,” Pre-conference workshop on Natural Resources and Economic Diversification at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Economic Research Forum. Cairo, Egypt
- 2009 “The poverty and equity implications of a rise in the Value Added Tax: a microeconomic simulation for Lebanon,” 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: Equity and Economic Development, Economic Research Forum. Cairo, Egypt
- 2008 “Natural Resources, Institutions and Growth,” 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: Institutions and Economic Development, Economic Research Forum. Cairo, Egypt

#### Workshop trainer

- 2017 “Methodology of cash transfers: the case of Central African Republic refugees in Cameroon,” November 29, (via video conference), Yaounde, Cameroon
- 2014 “The Political Economy of Development,” a workshop of the American Political Science Association-MENA, June 3-9, Tunis, Tunisia
- 2013 “Linking public health and sustainable development: success stories in non-communicable disease,” Workshop of the Emerging Leaders Conference, World Youth Alliance and the Outreach and Practice Unit of Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, December 7
- 2012 “Analyses of the effect of tobacco taxation on consumption and government revenue in Lebanon,” workshop organized by the Tobacco Control Research Group at the American University of Beirut and the Ministry of Finance of Lebanon, Basil Fuleihan Institute of Finance, Beirut, Lebanon, February
- 2012 “Lebanon’s economic challenges: political instability and job creation,” workshop organized by the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies, Beirut, Lebanon, February
- 2009 “Cost of Environmental Degradation Methodology,” World Bank workshop, Beirut, Lebanon, June

#### Academic talks and public lectures

- 2018 Commentator at the book colloquium “The devil is in the caveats: a critical analysis of Basic Income experiments for researchers, policy makers and citizens,” Karl Widerquist, Center for International and Regional Studies, Georgetown University, Doha, Qatar, March
- 2017 “Arab human development report 2016: main messages,” Casa Arabe, December 12, Madrid, Spain
- 2016 “From miner riffs to major drills: notes on energy, labor and governance,” Hunger Incorporated, RAW Academy, Dakar, Senegal, November
- “The wealth of others: income distribution and health,” Arts and Sciences Faculty Research Lunch, American University of Beirut, September
- “Lebanon in the research of economists,” Doctoral Dissertation Summer Workshop: Researching Lebanon, the Arab Studies Institute, the Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies, American University of Beirut, June
- 2014 “Tobacco taxation in Lebanon: an extended cost effectiveness analysis,” WHO-EMRO/DCP regional workshop on cost-effectiveness analysis: tools for decision-making in health, Cairo, Egypt, December
- 2013 “The impact of taxation on tobacco consumption.” Sub-regional meeting on regional strategy for tobacco control, World Health Organization, Beirut, Lebanon, November 26-27
- “Extended cost effectiveness analysis of tobacco taxation in Lebanon,” presentation at the Disease Control Priorities 3 Extended Cost Effectiveness Analysis Meeting, June 20-22, University of Washington in Seattle
- 2012 “One pack for one dollar: using taxes to curb the smoking epidemic in Lebanon,” joint seminar of the Center for Research on Population and Health and the Department of Economics, AUB, May
- “Generating evidence for raising taxes on tobacco,” a lecture delivered at the Grand Serail with Jad Chaaban and Rima Nakkash, AUB Tobacco Control Research Group, April
- “Lebanon’s economic challenges: political instability and job creation,” workshop organized by the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies, February
- 2011 “Health equity in Lebanon: what can we learn from a household survey?” Middle East Studies Program, Brown University, April
- 2010 “Health equity in Lebanon: a microeconomic approach,” Center for Research on Population and Health, AUB, April
- 2009 “Oil greasing the wheels: when do natural resources become a blessing?” Oxford Centre for the Analysis of Resource Rich Economies, Department of Economics, Oxford University, Fall
- “A microeconomic analysis of the poverty and equity implications of a rise in the VAT tax in Lebanon,” Capacity Building for Poverty Reduction Project, Basil Fuleihan Institute of Finance, Beirut Lebanon, spring



2007 “Oil, Institutions & Growth in the Middle East,” Institute for the Transregional Study of the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia, Center for International Studies, Princeton University, spring

“Lebanon: the Current Deadlock,” Institute for the Transregional Study of the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia, Center for International Studies, Princeton University, spring

“Income, Inequality and Health: The Case of South Africa,” Center for Research on Population and Health, AUB, spring

#### Referee:

Water International, Journal of Global Health, Tobacco Induced Diseases, BMJ Open, Journal of Microsimulation, Social Science and Medicine, Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics, Oxford Economics Papers, Middle East Development Journal, World Politics, Journal of the European Economics Association, Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research, Journal of Development and Economic Policies, Economic Research Forum Working Paper Series, Research Foundation Flounders, National Council for Scientific Research, National Commission for Lebanese Women, Collaborative Research Stimulus (AUB), Issam Fares Institute (AUB), University Research Board (AUB).

#### Professional affiliations

2017-present	Economic research forum: member of the advisory board
2017-present	Applied Economics and Development Research Group (AUB)
2017-present	Member: committee on culture and science, Taawon Advisory Board
2010-present	Tobacco Research Working Group (AUB)
2008-present	Economic research forum: research associate
2007-2015	Princeton Alumni Schools Committee: Chair for Lebanon and Syria
2006-2009	Founding member, secretary, Lebanese Economic Association

#### **WORK IN PROGRESS**

“Decomposing inequality in the self-rated health of Palestinian women refugees in Lebanon,” with Sawsan Abdulrahim and Shogher Ohannessian

“The economic costs of non-communicable diseases in the Middle East,” with Jad Chaaban and Marie-Anne Boujaoude

“Recent evolution in indicators of wellbeing of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon,” with Jad Chaaban, Hala Ghattas, Alexandra Irani, Tala Ismail and Salma Khedr

“A multi-dimensional measure of wellbeing among youth,” with Jad Chaaban, Alexandra Irani and Rima Mokdad

“The cost effectiveness of pembrolizumab versus docetaxel for the treatment of lung cancer,” with Arafat Tfayli, Ghina Fakhri, Majd Assaad