



Third International Conference on Waterpipe Tobacco Smoking Research

LIST OF SPEAKERS

Atef Majdalani

- Graduated from Leningrad Soviet Union in medicine
- A specialist Dr. in the nervous system diseases from Paris 5
- Previous professor in Paris hospitals
- Deputy of Beirut since 2000
- President of the parliamentary commission for health, labor and social affairs since 2000
- Member of the European committee for the nervous system and X-ray symptoms
- Member of the French association of the nervous system diseases
- Member of the Lebanese association of the nervous system diseases.
- Member of the Lebanese- Russian friendship committee.

STUDIES:

- Has Published a book concerning Back-ache treatment, in French and has translated to many languages “Nathan publishers-Paris”
- Has participated in the world medical conferences in Europe and America
- Has had many medical lectures and articles in Arabic, French, English and Russian
- Has been worked in St George hospital in Beirut at his own clinic.

HIS PRINCIPLE:

- Medicine and politic is a humanitarian profession.

Alan Shihadeh

Dr. Alan Shihadeh is Dean of the Maroun Semaan Faculty of Engineering and Architecture and Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the American University of Beirut. Dr. Shihadeh's publications are primarily concerned with the chemistry, physics, and exposure science of particle pollutants. He has authored or co-authored more than 100 refereed journal publications, reports, and conference abstracts. His work has helped make AUB a world-leading center of waterpipe research and lab technology, and a primary data source for regulations and court cases aimed at protecting public health from first- and second-hand waterpipe smoke. Dr. Shihadeh serves as a scientific expert to the FDA and WHO, co-directs the Collaborative for the Study of Inhaled and Atmospheric Aerosols at AUB, and is a Project Director at the Center for the Study of Tobacco Products at Virginia Commonwealth University. He is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the American Chemical Society's Chemical Research in Toxicology journal.

Amit Yadav

Dr. Amit Yadav has completed his PhD on Public Health Law and Tobacco. He has completed the Leadership Program on Tobacco Control from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health in 2011 and has been selected as an Emerging Leader by the World Heart Federation in March 2016. In the last ten years, Dr. Yadav has worked with premier tobacco control organizations in India like HRIDAY and the Public Health Foundation of India. His areas of expertise include public health law, policy and advocacy, and legal and policy research and analysis. As consultant, he continues to provide policy research support at HRIDAY. He is also working as a Senior Consultant for the WHO-ICT Global Knowledge Hub on Smokeless Tobacco at the National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India and is a board member (SEAR) in the Framework Convention Alliance Board of Directors.

Aalaa Jawad

Dr. Aalaa Jawad has worked in a range of medical specialties with a focus on women's health. In addition to her clinical roles, she has worked in local government on a variety of public health projects, including health promotion, health systems, and needs analysis. In her free time, she chairs a voluntary community advocacy group called 'It's Still Tobacco', lobbying for fair and appropriate legislation of Shisha tobacco in the UK. She completed her medical degrees at the University of Cambridge and Imperial College London and is currently undertaking a Master's in Public Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Bassam Al Kantar

A seasoned Lebanese journalist and Human Rights campaigner, Bassam Al Kantar frequently writes about the environment, health, technology, and human rights. For the last nine years, he has been working as journalist and editor at al-Akhbar, a daily Lebanese newspaper. In 2015 he established upr-lebanon.org. An initiative to make the UN's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process an effective mechanism to improve human rights on the ground.

In 2016, he felt that Digital Journalism a lot exciting and evolving. He thought it was time to rise to leadership as Managing Editor and Senior Reporter for greenarea.me. Green Area is a multilingual digital Media Platform and Internet TV. He also contributes to Beyond Magazine and LBCI's weekly TV Show Hawa El 7orriyeh.

Alkantar holds a Masters degree in Political Science and a BA in Arts & Archeology, History, Social Sciences, and Arabic literature from the Lebanese University.

Fadi El-Jardali

Fadi El-Jardali (PhD, MPH) is a Professor of Health Policy and Systems, Chair of the Health Management and Policy Department, Founder & Director of the Knowledge to Policy (K2P) Center; Co-Director of the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center for Evidence-Informed Policy and Practice; Co-Director of the Center for Systematic Reviews in Health Policy and Systems Research (SPARK) at the American University of Beirut. He is also the Co-Editor-in-Chief for Health Research Policy and Systems (HARPS) Journal.

His research activities and publications are focused on health policymaking, knowledge translation, governance and performance reporting for health organizations, human resources for health, quality of care, accreditation, and patient safety.

He has worked before with policy analysis related organizations such as the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Federal department of health / Health Canada and the Health Council of Canada.

Dr. El-Jardali is a recipient of the Global Health Leadership Award and was elected twice to the Board of Directors of the Health Systems Global (HSG) Society. He is a founding member of the MENA Health Policy Forum and Vice President of the Lebanese HealthCare Management Association (LHMA).

Ghazi Zaatari

Dr. Ghazi Zaatari is the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, Professor and Chair of the Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine at the American University of Beirut, Environment Core Laboratory Director, Chair of WHO's Study Group on Tobacco Product Regulation (TobReg) and Executive Committee member of the Tobacco Laboratory Network (TobLabNet). He is a member of regional and international pathology societies and author of 115 peer reviewed articles, a pathology textbook and book chapters. Dr. Zaatari is the Vice-President for Asia for the International Academy of Pathology and President of the Arab Board of Pathology.

Iman Nuwayhid

Iman Nuwayhid is a Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) at the American University of Beirut (AUB), Lebanon. He received his MD from AUB and his MPH and DrPH in Occupational Health from The Johns Hopkins University. He is American Board Certified in Occupational Medicine. He is an elected fellow to the Collegium Ramazzini since 2004, and was inducted into the Johns Hopkins University Society of Scholars in 2012. He is a co-editor of the landmark book on "Public Health in the Arab World" published by Cambridge University Press in March 2012.

His professional career and research interests have mostly focused on the impact of work and the work environment on the health of workers, especially working children and marginalized populations. His research has informed several health policy decisions, particularly for working children (Decree 8987 on Worst Forms of Child Labor in Lebanon, September 2012). He currently co-chairs "The Lancet-AUB Commission on Syria: Health in Conflict" (<http://www.aub.edu.lb/lcs/Pages/home.aspx>). In his capacity as Dean, he oversees and is engaged in the substantial research, practice, and policy work of FHS faculty members on multiple health priorities in Lebanon and the region with a focus on conflict and health. These projects are mostly led and facilitated by FHS's Center for Public Health Practice (http://website.aub.edu.lb/fhs/fhs_home/research/Pages/cphp.aspx), Center for Research on Population and Health (<http://website.aub.edu.lb/fhs/crph/Pages/index.aspx>), and Knowledge to Policy (K2P) Center (http://website.aub.edu.lb/fhs/fhs_home/research/Pages/cphp.aspx).

Julia Critchley

Julia Critchley is a professor of Epidemiology at St. George's, University of London, with 20 years of experience working in cardiovascular disease and DM epidemiology and public health. She holds a PhD in Epidemiology (mathematical and statistical modelling - Oxford University) and Masters in Public Health (University of London). Her main expertise lies in chronic disease epidemiology, particularly explaining CHD and DM trends. She developed a CHD mortality model (IMPACT), which has been widely replicated and refined, and applied in many populations. She was principal investigator on an EC funded project MEDCHAMPS (€2.7 million, seven international partners) to evaluate the national policy situation and cost-effectiveness of different policies for CHD and DM prevention in four Middle Eastern countries, and co-investigator on a successor capacity building project for NCDs and public health in the region (RESCAP-MED). She has also developed a research program focused on the association between common chronic and infectious diseases such as DM and TB.

Kenneth Ward

Dr. Ken Ward is Professor and Director of the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Memphis School of Public Health. He was a founder and serves as Intervention Director of the Syrian Center for Tobacco Studies. Trained as a clinical health psychologist, Dr. Ward is interested in community-, healthcare system-, and population-level approaches to reducing the burden of tobacco use.

Mark Parascandola

Dr. Mark Parascandola is an epidemiologist at the Tobacco Control Research Branch (TCRB) in the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS) at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). He received his Doctorate in Philosophy of Science from Cambridge University and his Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health. Dr. Parascandola also completed an NCI Cancer Prevention Fellowship. He has authored numerous published articles on tobacco use prevention, tobacco control policy, and epidemiologic research methodology. He was an editor for the 2014 NCI/CDC report “Smokeless Tobacco and Public Health: A Global Perspective” and for the two-volume 2005 encyclopedia “Tobacco: Its History and Culture”. He also served as a member of the IARC Working Group on Methods for Evaluating Tobacco Control Policies in 2007. As a Program Director at NCI, Dr. Parascandola currently oversees a research portfolio with a focus on tobacco products, smokeless tobacco, and international tobacco control research.

Muhammad Darawad

Dr. Muhammad Darawad is a professor at the University of Jordan School of Nursing. He was recognized twice for early academic promotion for his research achievements at his university. Dr. Darawad is specialized in critical care with a specific interest in working conditions of healthcare workers. He served as a visiting professor at Prince Hussein bin Abdullah II Academy of Civil Protection, Department of Paramedics, and as the head of Scientific Research Committee at his school. He has many publications and participated in many international conferences and workshops. Dr. Darawad is an associate editor in Biomedical Central-Nursing, a reviewer in many international peer-reviewed journals and a founding member of the Psi Kappa Chapter-Sigma Theta Tau International.

Martin McKee

Martin McKee is a professor of European Public Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He is also the research director of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies and former president of the European Public Health Association. He trained in medicine and public health and has written extensively on health and health policy, including the epidemiology of tobacco use and tactics of the tobacco industry, with a particular focus on countries undergoing political and social transition.

Marielle C. Brinkman

Marielle C. Brinkman is a Senior Research Scientist at the Battelle Public Health Center for Tobacco Research with 28 years of experience designing and leading field and clinical research studies. Her research focuses on using novel, non-invasive monitoring techniques to measure human exposures to harmful constituents resulting from tobacco product use. She is currently leading two federally funded projects specific to waterpipe use, including quantifying the effect of waterpipe tobacco ingredients on human puffing topography, exposures, and appeal, and understanding the harmful and potentially harmful constituent content of waste products resulting from waterpipe tobacco use. As a Principal Investigator for the University of Maryland/Battelle Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science, she is also using human crossover trials to determine how physical and chemical variations in tobacco products and brands affect use behavior, toxin exposure and addiction potential.

Nelly Layoun

Dr. Nelly Layoun has a doctorate in Pharmacy, a doctorate in Epidemiology and Public Health, and a master’s in Public Health. She is a part-time faculty member in the Lebanese University and has published nine international peer-reviewed papers on the evaluation of the devastating health effects of waterpipe tobacco smoking (WTS) and the strategies that help in reducing the widespread of WTS.

Nhung Vu

Nhung Vu has a bachelor's in Geography from the London School of Economics and a master's in Social and Public Policy from the University of Leeds. She has special interest in public health, particularly mental health and drug use. She is currently working on a mental health research charity in London.

Palitha Abeykoon

Dr. Palitha Abeykoon is currently the chairman of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol in Sri Lanka and a senior research fellow of the National Science Foundation in Sri Lanka. He serves on many expert committees of the Ministry of Health and is the vice chair of the Country Coordinating Mechanism of the Global Fund for Aids, TB, and Malaria. He served in the WHO in many countries in the South East Asia Region and was the director of Health Systems Development, and director of Non-Communicable Diseases in the WHO Regional Office in New Delhi. He is a member of the Global Coordinating Mechanism for NCDs of the WHO. He is also a former chairman of the Sri Lanka Medical Association and a member of the Sri Lanka Medical Council. Dr. Abeykoon is a medical graduate from Sri Lanka and had his post graduate training at the University of Southern California, School of Public Health of Harvard University in Boston, and London School of Tropical Medicine.

Rania Baroud

TV Producer and Presenter

Head of Communication and Journalism Department – Antonine University

Communication Expert

Founding Partner and Consultant – BRD/I Group

Vice President and Communication Manager – Tobacco Free Initiative Rania is a renowned journalist and television presenter and producer with a drive for social and political issues across the Arab World. With over a decade of experience in media and public affairs, Rania's name and face are synonymous with commitment and dedication to using television a tool for raising awareness, positive change and overcoming complex challenges. Rania is a founding partner at Beyond Reform and Development / Irada Platform for political entrepreneurs where she serves Arab public and private sector institutions and individuals who seek to impact the public sphere. She is a personal coach and trainer on media relations, political campaigning, and public speaking. Rania has successfully assisted a number of individuals and organizations in strengthening their ability to engage meaningfully with media outlets, to expand their outreach and influence across public and private life.

Between 2002 and 2010, Rania was the writer, producer and presenter of a number of pan-Arab television programs including "Al Hadath", "Al Hal bi Idak", "Wajhan li Wajeh", and "Jalset Niswan". Her shows have reached millions of audiences and homes, where she succeeded to use complex psycho-social and socio-political case studies to overcome taboos and encourage citizens' dialogue with openness, compassion and empathy. Rania was formerly the Editor in Chief for Asda' magazine with a focus on social issues in Lebanon. Rania is a chairperson of the media department at the faculty of journalism and advertising at Antonine University. She supervises and provides academic guidance to 40 members of faculty, in the graduate and undergraduate programs. Since 2006, Rania has taught journalism and advertising. Her students describe Rania as a highly stimulating professor with a drive for truly making a difference in her students' life. She combines theory with innovative teaching methods.

Rania is the Vice President and the communication manager of the Tobacco Free Initiative, which is the recipient of the 1st Middle East Award by the World Health Organization. She is the key person in lobbying and advocating for legal reforms for smoke-free public spaces in Lebanon and the region. She is a member of a number of Lebanese NGOs working on women empowerment, youth, and prison rehabilitation. Rania holds a Masters in Journalism from Sorbonne University - Paris, as well as Masters in Journalism for Radio and Television from C.F.P.J. - Paris.

Ramzi Salloum

Dr. Ramzi Salloum is an assistant professor in the Department of Health Outcomes and Policy at the University of Florida, College of Medicine, and a member of the UF Health Cancer Center. He received his PhD in Economics in 2011, followed by a National Cancer Institute-sponsored postdoc in cancer care quality in 2013. Dr. Salloum is the recipient of two National Cancer Institute-funded fellowships from the Health Care Systems Research Network's Cancer Research Network Scholars Program (2015–17); and the Mentored Training for Dissemination and Implementation Research in Cancer Program (2016-18). As a health economist, his research focuses on decision making across the cancer continuum, including prevention, screening, and treatment. He currently serves on the Tobacco Consortium of the American Academy of Pediatrics and on the advisory committee of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Global Health Network.

Rima Nakkash

Rima Nakkash is Associate Professor at the Health Promotion and Community Health Department, Faculty of Health Sciences at the American University of Beirut (AUB) and associate director of the K2P center at the faculty. She holds a doctorate in Public Health Policy from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. She has been working in tobacco control research since 1998 including projects in tobacco control prevention and policy. She is the coordinator of the AUB Tobacco Control research group, a multidisciplinary group of researchers from different faculties. She is also involved in tobacco control advocacy at national and international level, bringing civil society together to advocate for tobacco control policy. In 2013, in recognition of her contribution to tobacco control she was selected for the Annual World No Tobacco Day award.

Simon Chapman

Dr. Simon Chapman is an emeritus professor in Public Health at the University of Sydney. He has published over 500 articles in peer reviewed journals and 20 books and major reports. In 1997, he won the World Health Organization's World No Tobacco Day Medal and in 2003 he was voted by his international peers to be awarded the American Cancer Society's Luther Terry Award for outstanding individual leadership in tobacco control. In 2008, he won the NSW Premier's Cancer Researcher of the Year medal and the Public Health Association of Australia's Sidney Sax medal. He was a deputy editor (1992–97) then an editor (1998–2008) of the British Medical Journal's Tobacco Control. In 2013, he was appointed officer in the Order of Australia for his contributions to public health and was named the 2013 Australian Skeptic of the Year.

Souheil Hallit

Dr. Souheil Hallit has a doctorate in Pharmacy, a master's in Pharmacology and Therapeutics, and a master's in research in Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacoepidemiology. He is currently a PhD candidate in Public Health and Epidemiology in Bordeaux Segalen University, France. He is American Board certified in Florida and New Jersey and is a part-time faculty member and lecturer in the Holy Spirit University Kaslik (USEK), Saint Joseph University (USJ) and the Lebanese University. He teaches didactic and experiential courses. He has 35 published articles and his main research interests focus on asthma, and allergic and atopic diseases in children, along with medical epidemiology, clinical pharmacy, and public health research.

Scott Sherman

Dr. Sherman, Professor of Population Health, Medicine and Psychiatry at NYU School of Medicine, is an international expert in tobacco control. For over 20 years, he has been leading federally-funded grants studying ways to improve the delivery of effective tobacco use cessation treatment. He is Principal Investigator of the NYU Abu Dhabi Public Health Research Center, which is conducting a large cohort study of Emiratis, including assessing tobacco use.

Dr. Sherman has conducted a wide range of quantitative and qualitative studies on who uses waterpipe, how they obtain and share information about waterpipe and what the consequences of waterpipe use are. To better understand the economics of waterpipe use, he studied the structure of businesses that serve waterpipe. He recently completed an FDA-funded survey of students at City University of New York, assessing use of hookah, cigarettes and drugs.

Tibor Szilagyi

Dr. Tibor Szilagyi is a medical doctor with a postgraduate diploma in internal medicine. He holds an MPhilPH degree from the University of Sydney (Australia). He began to work in tobacco control in 1998 and joined the Convention Secretariat in 2007. Since then, he has focused on a variety of areas related to the implementation of the treaty by the Parties, including reporting, needs assessments, and provision of assistance to Parties in their implementation efforts.

Taghrid Asfar

Dr. Taghrid Asfar is an assistant professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences and a member at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami. She has more than a decade of experience in tobacco-control research nationally and internationally, including epidemiological studies of tobacco use, qualitative methodology, and randomized clinical trials of cessation interventions. She published more than 40 peer-reviewed papers about different aspects of tobacco control. She was a member of the founding team of the Syrian Center for Tobacco Studies, leading to the first trial of smoking cessation intervention for waterpipe smokers and the publication of the first Cochrane review of smoking cessation interventions for waterpipe. Of particular relevance to waterpipe regulations, Dr. Asfar recently participated in a publication suggesting a waterpipe-specific regulatory framework.

Thomas Eissenberg

Dr. Thomas Eissenberg is a professor in the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Department of Psychology and is the director of the Center for the Study of Tobacco Products. Dr. Eissenberg obtained his doctorate in experimental psychology in 1994 from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. He then spent two years as a post-doctoral fellow at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and joined the VCU faculty in 1997. Dr. Eissenberg's primary area of research involves developing and demonstrating methods to evaluate modified risk and other novel tobacco/nicotine products. He has authored over 180 peer-review publications and served as principal investigator on numerous National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants; across his career, these grants total more than \$30 million. He has also served as the sponsor of six NIH-funded National Research Service Award applications (F31 mechanism) and is an active mentor for students and faculty interested in careers in regulatory science.

Wasim Maziak

Wasim Maziak is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Epidemiology at Florida International University. His research focuses is on tobacco control, especially the study of waterpipe smoking. His work with colleagues on the waterpipe provided some of the first evidence about addiction in waterpipe smokers, toxicants exposures associated with waterpipe use, and interventions to limit waterpipe related morbidity and mortality. In 2002, he and colleagues founded the Syrian Center for Tobacco Studies (SCTC), with funding from NIH. He has more than 100 peer-reviewed papers about different aspects of the waterpipe epidemic and currently holds 3 R01 grants from NIH to study the waterpipe in the US and Middle East, 2 of them with AUB.

Yussuf Saloojee

Dr. Yussuf Saloojee is the former executive director of the National Council against Smoking in South Africa. He received his PhD from St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School in London, England. He is a researcher and public health advocate who has worked for the enactment of national tobacco control legislation, monitored its implementation, and run smoking cessation programs. He is committed to building capacity and promoting tobacco control policies, programs and research in Sub-Saharan Africa. He has served on the boards of a number of international NGOs, including the International Union against Cancer and the African Tobacco Control Alliance, and has been an expert advisor to the World Health Organization. He is the Africa Regional editor for the journal Tobacco Control. He participated from the onset in the international negotiations for the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. In 2012, the American Cancer Society presented him with the Luther L. Terry Outstanding Leadership award.

Zainab Hussain

Zainab Hussain is currently working in primary healthcare management in London. She has an MPH from King's College London and a BSc in Biomedical Sciences from Queen Mary University of London. As a postgraduate student, she worked as an intern for the Global Hepatitis Program at the World Health Organization. She has experience in tobacco control, having conducted research into tobacco in conflict areas, and presently carries out smoking cessation work in the UK. She is a member of It's Still Tobacco, an advocacy group working to advocate for fair and proportional policy action on Shisha tobacco.