

PROGRAM

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

9:00–9:30 am / **Opening session**

Chair: Nadia Al-Bagdadi, Striking from the Margins Founding Director

Opening remarks:

Fadlo R. Khuri, AUB President

Tarek Mitri, AUB-IFI, Director

Seteney Shami, ACSS Director

Nehal Amer, Program Assistant for Transnational Movements and the Arab Region, Carnegie Corporation of New York

9:30–10:00 am / **Introduction**

Chair: Nadia Al-Bagdadi, Striking from the Margins Founding Director

Speaker: Aziz Al-Azmeh, Striking from the Margins Founding Director

10:00–10:30 am / **Coffee break**

10:30 am–12:30 pm / **Panel I: States, political economies, and systemic collapse**

Chair: Carmen Geha, Assistant Professor, Political Studies and Public Administration Department, AUB, Beirut, Lebanon

Discussant: Rami Khouri, Senior Public Policy Fellow, Professor of Journalism, AUB, Beirut, Lebanon

Speakers:

Mudhir Muhammed Salih, Financial Policy Advisor, Office of the Iraqi Prime Minister
Iraqi market and ethnic-sectarian bioregionalism (in Arabic)

Isam Al-Khafaji, Adjunct Scholar at the Middle East Institute Washington DC, Contributing Editor of Middle East Report

Reconfiguring the state, restructuring communities

Virginie Collombier, Professor and Scientific Coordinator of the Middle East Directions Programme at the European University Institute of Florence, Italy (EUI)

Post-Qaddafi Libya: Political agreements or a new social contract?

Adam Hanieh, Professor Department of Development Studies at SOAS, University of London
State formation in the Middle East: The GCC and the political economy of the regional scale

12:30–1:30 pm / **Lunch**

1:30–3:30 pm / **Panel II: The devolution of violence:
Militias, security organisms and war economies**

Chair: Aziz Al-Azmeh, Striking from the Margins, Founding Director

Discussant: Harout Akdedian, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Central European University

Speakers:

Omar Ashour, Founding Director of the Critical Security Studies Program
at the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies

The (military) rise of armed non-state actors: The case of ISIS

Hosham Dawood, Anthropologist at the French National Center for Scientific Research
(CNRS - IIAC)

Tribes and violence in armed conflict: An anthropologist's view (in Arabic)

Stathis Kalyvas, Gladstone Professor of Government and Fellow
of All Souls College at Oxford University

Arab civil wars: An assessment

Frederic Wehrey, Senior Fellow Middle East Program, Carnegie Endowment
for International Peace, Washington, D.C.

Hybridized security governance: The case of Libya and beyond

3:30–4:00 pm / **Coffee break**

4:00–6:00 pm / **Keynote address**

Chair: Nadia Al-Bagdadi, Striking from the Margins Founding Director

Speaker: Deniz Kandiyoti, Emeritus Professor of Development Studies
at SOAS University of London

From the margins to the center? How gender politics became a litmus test of governance

Discussant: Seteney Shami, ACSS Director

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

9:00–11:00 am / **Panel III: Sectarianism, tribes and localities:
From the margins to the center**

Chair: Tarek Mitri, AUB-IFI, Director

Discussant: Harith Hasan, Striking from the Margins, Acting Co-Director and Senior Fellow

Speakers:

Fabrice Balanche, Associate Professor and Research Director at the University of Lyon, France

Demographics trends in Syria since 2011: Depopulation and sectarian homogenization

Asya El-Meehy, Visiting Researcher at Lund University, Sweden

Governance from below: Comparing local experiments in Egypt and Syria after the uprisings

Rima Majed, Assistant Professor of Sociology at the Sociology,
Anthropology and Media Studies Department, AUB, Beirut, Lebanon

**How not to study sectarianism: Challenging the mainstream understanding
of sectarianism in the Middle East**

Haider Saeed, Researcher at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies (ACRPS), Doha

The sect and the nation: A theoretical attempt, with references to Iraq

11:00–11:30 am / **Coffee break**

11:30 am–1:30 pm / **Panel IV: Reconfigurations of religion**

Chair: Seteney Shami, Founding Director of the Arab Council for the Social Sciences,
Beirut, Lebanon

Discussant: Said Arjomand, Director of the Stony Brook Institute for Global Studies, USA

Speakers:

Harout Akkedian, Striking from the Margins Post-doctoral Fellow

The reconfiguration of the religious field in Syria: From neoliberalism to state atrophy

Sari Hanafi, Professor of Sociology, AUB, Beirut, Lebanon

**Sharia studies without social science in Damascus University - A model of classical
Sharia studies**

Harith Hasan, Striking from the Margins Acting Co-Director and Senior Fellow

**Religious actors, political (dis)order and the reconfiguration of margin-center relations
in Iraq: The case of Shi'i clerical authority**

Faris Nadhmi, President of the Iraqi Association for Political Psychology, Baghdad, Iraq

**Conversions of the cultural hegemony in Iraq: The decline of islamism and emergence
of national identity (in Arabic)**

1:30–2:30 pm / Lunch

2:30–4:30 pm / **Panel V: Transnationalism and margins: Jihadism and local networks**

Chair: Rayan El-Amine, Assistant Director, AUB-IFI

Discussant: Sari Hanafi, Professor of Sociology, AUB, Beirut, Lebanon

Speakers:

Hamzeh Al-Mustafa, Researcher, Arab Center for Policy Studies, Doha

Virtual networks during the Syrian revolution (in Arabic)

Patrick Haenni, Middle East special advisor for the Humanitarian Dialogue Centre, Geneva

Jihadi militancy: The fall of clerical Islam and the conservative revolution by a new urban bourgeoisie

Loulouwa Al Rachid, Co-director of the Program on Civil-Military Relations in Arab States, Carnegie Middle East Center, Beirut, Lebanon

ISIS and tribes in Northern and Northeastern Iraq

Asmaa Jameel Rasheed, Professor at the Center for Women's Studies, University of Baghdad, Iraq

Managing the past in Iraq: The position of local communities and governmental authorities from the families of ISIS militants (in Arabic)

4:30–5:00 pm / Coffee break

5:00–7:00 pm / Conversation

Chair: Seteney Shami, ACSS Beirut

Aziz Al-Azmeh, CEU- SFM, Budapest

Tarek Mitri, AUB-IFI, Director

Bassma Kodmani, Co-founder and Executive Director of the Arab Reform Initiative, Paris, France

How has the Machreq changed since 2011, and is there an end in sight to disaggregation?

Thursday, January 17, 2019

9:00–11:00 am / **Panel VI: State disaggregation and geopolitics**

Chair: Musa Shteivi, Director of the Center for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan

Speakers:

Florence Gaub, Deputy Director of the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS), Brussels, Belgium

Recent military developments and future perspectives in and for the Syrian war

Bassma Kodmani, Co-founder and Executive Director of the Arab Reform Initiative, Paris, France

The future of the Syrian state: What would a safe transition entail?

Robert A. Saunders, Professor in the Department of History, Politics, and Geography at Farmingdale State College, State University of New York (SUNY)

Extending the Katechon: Religio-civilizational vectors in Russia's intervention in the Levant

11:00–11:15 am / **Coffee break**

11:15 am–12:00 pm / **Closing remarks**

12:00 pm / **Light lunch**