The Middle East in 1958: Reimagining a Revolutionary Year

March 22 and 23, 2019
Issam Fares Institute
American University of Beirut (Facing the Green Oval)

Friday, March 22, 2019

8:00-9:00 Registration and Coffee

9:00-9:30 Opening Remarks
*Auditorium (IFI Level B)

Dr. Fadlo Khuri, President, American University of Beirut
Dr. Samer Frangie, Director of Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies (CAMES), AUB
Mr. Rayan El Amine, Assistant-Director of Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs (IFI), AUB
Dr. Jeffrey G. Karam, Lebanese American University (LAU)

9:30-10:45 Panel 1: The 'Old' Western Order in the Middle East: The Demise of Anglo-French Power
*Auditorium (IFI Level B)

Chair: Dr. Bassel Salloukh, LAU

Dr. Robert McNamara, Ulster University • The Point of Departure: Britain and the Revolutionary Year of 1958 in the Middle East
Dr. Sofia Papastamkou, CNRS/University of Lille Sciences Humaines et Sociales • France and the Near East in 1958: Continuity and Change Through Crisis

10:45-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-12:30 Panel 2: The Arab Cold War and the Regional Context of 1958
*Conference Room (IFI 4th floor)

Chair: Dr. Carmen Geha, AUB

Dr. Nathan J. Citino, Rice University • Saudi Arabia in the Crucible of 1958
Dr. Dina Rezk, University of Reading • Egypt’s role in the Arab revolutions: Reconceptualizing Nasser from ‘nationalist ideologue’ to ‘reluctant pragmatist’

12:30-1:45 Lunch

3:00-4:15 Panel 3: The Cold War in the Middle East and the International Context of 1958
*Conference Room (IFI 4th floor)

Chair: Mr. Rayan El-Amine, AUB

Dr. Jeffrey G. Karam, LAU • Pax Americana in 1958: A Revolutionary Year for the United States in the Middle East
Dr. Elizabeth Bishop, Texas State University • The ‘Partisans of Peace’ Between Baku and Moscow: The Soviet Experience of 1958

4:15-5:00 Coffee Break
5:00-7:00  **Keynote Speech**  
*In collaboration with the Center for American Studies and Research at AUB (CASAR)*  
*Auditorium (IFI Level B)*  

*“Arabs, Americans, and Global ‘58”*  
Dr. Salim Yaqub, University of California, Santa Barbara  
Introductions by: Dr. Jeffrey G. Karam, LAU

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**Saturday, March 23, 2019**

9:30-10:40  **Panel 4: Beyond the Arab Cold War: Regional Competition and Revolutionary Struggles**  
*Conference Room (IFI 4th floor)*  
Chair: Dr. Selim Deringil, LAU

- **Dr. Murat Kasapsaraçoğlu**, Antalya Bilim University • *Turkey and the Domino Effect of Arab Nationalism in 1958*
- **Dr. John Ghazvinian**, University of Pennsylvania • *Creating the ‘Island of Stability’: Iran, the Cold War and American Cultural Diplomacy at the End of the 1950s*
- **Dr. Sylvie Thenault**, CNRS/Centre d'Histoire Sociale du XXe Siècle • *How about Algeria in 1958? A Transnational Event in the Context of the War of Independence*

10:40-11:00  **Coffee Break**

11:00-12:15  **Panel 5: Wars and Crises in the Levant: The Cases of Syria and Lebanon**  
*Auditorium (IFI Level B)*  
Chair: Dr. Nadya Sbaiti, AUB

- **Dr. Caroline Attie**, Dar Al-Hekma University • *The Crisis of 1958 in Lebanon: Political Rivalries*
- **Mr. Fadi Esber**, Damascus History Foundation and London School of Economics (LSE) • *No Turning Back: Syria and the 1958 Watershed*

12:15-2:00  **Lunch**

2:00-3:15  **Panel 6: The Cold War in the Middle East and the International Context of 1958**  
*Auditorium (IFI Level B)*  
Chair: Dr. Tariq Tell, AUB

- **Dr. Juan Romero**, Western Kentucky University • *The Iraqi Revolution of 1958: Its Historic Significance and Relevance for the Present*
- **Dr. Clea Hupp**, Syracuse University • *Evolution and Revolution: The Survival of the Jordanian Hashemite Regime in 1958*

3:15-3:45  **Coffee Break**

4:00-6:00  **Roundtable**  
*Auditorium (IFI Level B)*  

*“Rethinking Lebanon in 1958: Domestic Crises and Foreign Intervention in a Revolutionary Year”*  
Speakers: Dr. Caroline Attie, Dar Al-Hekma University, Dr. Sami Baroudi, LAU, Mr. Karim Mroue, Mr. Hazem Saghieh  
Moderated by: Dr. Samer Frangie, AUB

6:00-7:00  **Reception**