

Friday, 14-12-2007

2.30 p.m. The Challenges of Dependency and Autonomy in the Middle East

Chair: *Henner Fürtig, GIGA Hamburg*

Volker Perthes, SWP Berlin

Geopolitics and Structural Developments in the Middle East - What Europe Should be Concerned About

Mustafa Elwi Saif, Cairo University

The Challenges of Dependency and Autonomy - An Arab-Egyptian Perspective

4-15 p.m. Coffee break

4-45 p.m. Transformations of International and Regional Orders

Chair: *Udo Steinbach, GIGA Hamburg*

Ulrich Wurzel, FHTW Berlin

The Political Economy of Authoritarianism in Egypt

Louise Fawcett, Oxford University

Europe and the Middle East

Pinar Bilgin, Bilkent University Ankara

Turkey's Experience with Secularism - An Opportunity for or Challenge to Dialogue between "Europe" and the "Middle East"?

*to be confirmed

Location Public Event (Wednesday)

Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften

Markgrafenstr. 38 (Am Gendarmenmarkt)

10117 Berlin-Mitte

Public Transportation: U2 Hausvogteiplatz, U6 Französische Straße, Bus 147 Gendarmenmarkt

Location Conference (Thursday & Friday)

Seminar Center, Room 113, 116

Freie Universität Berlin

Habelschwerdter Allee 45

14195 Berlin

Entrance: Otto-von-Simson Straße

Public Transportation: U3 Dahlem Dorf, U3 Thielplatz

Registration

We kindly ask you to register for the conference on Thursday and Friday sending an e-mail to:

Shelley Harten: s.harten@fu-berlin.de

Organizers

Arbeitsstelle Politik des Vorderen Orients (Center for Middle Eastern and North African Politics)

Director: Prof. Cilja Harders

Team: André Bank, Sarah Clasen, Matthias Geisthardt, Jannis Hagman, Shelley Harten, Karin Kutter, Laura Masah, Christine Rollin, Hoda Salah, Isabel Schäfer

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The Challenges of Transformation

Visions and Revisions of the Middle East and North Africa

International Conference
December 12-14, 2007



The Challenges of Transformation

Visions and Revisions of the Middle East and North Africa

The states and societies of the Middle East and North Africa are confronted with many challenges emanating from local, regional and global dynamics. The effects of demographic change, the spread of the internet and satellite TV, controversial gender issues, public debates about the role of Islam in a modernizing world, the effects of migration and life in the American or European diaspora are high on the agenda. Economically, the challenges of sustainable development of rentier states are unmet as are the challenges of transforming the authoritarian states of the region.

At the same time the international relations of the Middle East underwent heavy militarization and securitization since the “war against terror” started in 2001. Thus, peaceful conflict transformation under conditions of escalating violence, occupation and external intervention remains a major challenge. In an increasingly interdependent world, these developments have their reverberations in Europe and the US where questions of Islam, migration and integration provoke heated debates.

This conference contributes to critical visions and re-visions of the Middle East and Middle Eastern Studies and innovative answers to some of the most urgent challenges in these fields:

- The Future of the State in the Middle East
- The Challenge of Social Transformation in the Middle East
- Transformations of Peace and Conflict in the Middle East
- The Challenges of Dependency and Autonomy in the Middle East
- The Challenges of Dialogue between Europe and the Middle East

Wednesday, 12-12-2007

8-10 p.m. The Challenges of Transformation - A Constructive Role for Europe in the Middle East? (Round Table)

Chair: *Layla Al-Zubaidi, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Beirut*

Rami G. Khouri, American University of Beirut
*Kerstin Müller, BÜNDNIS 90/GRÜNE**
Andreas Michaelis, Ambassador, German Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Public Event at Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften

Thursday, 13-12-2007

8.45 a.m. Opening

Cilja Harders, Freie Universität Berlin

9 a.m. The Future of the State in the Middle East

Chair: *Cilja Harders, Freie Universität Berlin*

Nader Fergany, Al-Mishkat Research Centre Cairo
 Towards Freedom and Good Governance in the Arab Region
Rami G. Khouri, American University of Beirut
 Transformation and Globalization

10.45 a.m. Coffee break

11 a.m. Contesting the State – Visions and Revisions

Chair: *Friedemann Büttner, Freie Universität Berlin*

Oliver Schlumberger, German Development Institute Bonn
 Challenging Authoritarianism – Who and How?
Salwa Zerhouni, Mohammed V University Rabat
 The Challenge of Institutions and Procedures - Lessons from Morocco's Parliamentary Elections 2007
Nahed Ezzeldeen, Cairo University
 Business Groups in Egypt - Political or Economic Actors?
Sherif Younis, Helwan University Cairo
 Transformations in the Ideological Field in Egypt
 After 9/11

1 p.m. Lunch break

2.30 p.m. Transformations of Societies in the Middle East

Chair: *Gudrun Krämer, Freie Universität Berlin*

Asef Bayat, ISIM/Leiden University
 Transformation through ‘Non-Movements’ - Collective Agency under Authoritarian Rules
Raoufa Hassan Alsharki, Sana'a University
 Gender, Islam, Transformation

4.15 p.m. Coffee break

4.45 p.m. Visions and Re-Visions of Arab Societies

Chair: *Ute Luig, Freie Universität Berlin*

Albrecht Hofheinz, University of Oslo
 The Internet, the Quest for Democracy, and the Role of the Individual in the Arab World

Anita Fábos, University of East London
 Islamic Morality, Arab Family Values and Diaspora

Ala al-Harmaneh, J. Gutenberg-Universität Mainz
 “Remigrantal Occidentalism”? Stereotyping the “West” and Reviving Non-Liberal Values by Arab Re-Migrants

Sonja Hegasy, Zentrum Moderner Orient Berlin
 Youth and Authority in Morocco

Friday, 14-12-2007

9 a.m. The Challenges of Iraq - Conflict, Democracy, Gender

Chair: *Tanja Börzel, Freie Universität Berlin*

Nadje al-Ali, SOAS London
 Challenging Violence and Conflict
Reinoud Leenders, University of Amsterdam
 When Do Refugees Bring Trouble? - The Political Implications and Dimensions of the Iraqi Exodus Following the Samara Bombing

10.45 a.m. Coffee break

11 a.m. The Transformations of Conflict in the Middle East

Chair: *Ulrike Freitag, Zentrum Moderner Orient Berlin*

Muriel Asseburg, SWP Berlin
 European Approaches to Conflict Transformation in the Arab-Israeli Conflict
Mouin Rabbani, International Crisis Group Amman
 The Challenge of Escalation and De-escalation - Conflict about Territories and Resources
Sabine Hofmann, Freie Universität Berlin
 Managing the Transformation of Conflict through Producing Security - Israeli Approaches

1 p.m. Lunch break

*to be confirmed