



SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND POPULAR MOBILISATION IN THE MENA

Digest of Current Publications and Events

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Conferences & Calls for Papers

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- [Call for Papers: Rising up against institutional racism in the Americas and beyond](#)
- [Call for Papers: New Global Studies Special Issue on Global Labor and Supply Chains](#)

Online Events

- [Queer Faith: Marginalization, Citizenship and Nationhood \(September 25th\)](#)
- [Economic reforms as an opportunity: A post-COVID social contract for the region?](#) (Online Debate Series, September 29th)
- [Navigating North Africa in 2020: Dominating Narratives and New Perspectives](#) (Online Conference, October 6th)

Recent & Forthcoming Books

- [Generations of Dissent: Intellectuals, Cultural Production, and the State in the Middle East and North Africa](#), edited by Alexa Firat, R. Shareah Taleghani
- [The Crisis of Citizenship in the Arab World](#), edited by Roel Meijer and Nils Butenschøn

Journal Articles & Other Academic Articles

- [Living through Thick Concepts in Revolutionary Egypt](#), by Yasmin Moll
- [Women in Northern African History](#), by Natalya Vince, Fadma Ait Mous, and Kmar Bendana
- [Global Autocracies: Strategies of Transnational Repression, Legitimation, and Co-Optation in World Politics](#), by Gerasimos Tsourapas
- [Luxemburg on Tahrir Square: Reading the Arab Revolutions with Rosa Luxemburg's The Mass Strike](#), by Sami Zemni, Brecht De Smet, Koenraad Bogaert
- [Strikes, Riots and Laughter: Al-Himamiyya Village's Experience of Egypt's 1918 Peasant Insurrection](#), by Alia Mossallam

Petitions

- [Call for signatories: Open Letter from academics for the University of Huddersfield to cut ties with Bahraini "torture hub"](#)

News Pieces & Commentary

- [UN experts call on Algerian authorities to release jailed journalist](#), Middle East Eye
- [Nas Daily: BDS movement calls for boycott of influencer's new project](#), Middle East Eye
- [Coronavirus: More than 200 cases at Lebanon's biggest prison, union leader says](#), Middle East Eye
- [Israel 'normalisation': Is Saudi Arabia softening its stance?](#), Middle East Eye
- [Heavy police presence, random searches around Tahrir ahead of Sept. 20 protest anniversary](#), Mada Masr
- [Government campaign to demolish informal buildings sparks anger](#), Mada Masr

Positions & Opportunities

- [Professor of Islamic studies](#), Lund University
- [Alwaleed Lectureship in the Globalised Muslim World](#), The University of Edinburgh
- [Humanities Research Fellowships for the Study of the Arab World](#), NYU Abu Dhabi

Call for signatories: Open Letter from academics for the University of Huddersfield to cut ties with Bahraini “torture hub”

The Bahrain Institute for Rights & Democracy (BIRD) has been conducting research into links between the University of Huddersfield (UoH) and Bahrain's Royal Academy of Policing (RAP). Since 2018, the UoH has been providing an exclusive MSc in Security Science to officers at the RAP. However, [The Times](#) and the [Yorkshire Post](#) revealed in February that at least 10 political prisoners in Bahrain have testified to being tortured at the RAP site, which is adjacent to Bahrain's largest prison. Since the revelations were published, many more individuals have come forward testifying to abuses at the RAP, including individuals on death row and UK-based asylum seekers.

BIRD is consequently circulating [this open letter](#) among potentially sympathetic academics calling on the UoH to drop the MSc and end their toxic relationship with Bahrain's Ministry of Interior.

To sign the letter, email team@birdbh.org before 25 September 2020.

Chair Needed for BRISMES Student Section Event

BRISMES student section event, ‘Securing a post-doc position after your PhD: Demystifying the application process’ taking place on Thursday 5 November, 13.00-14.30 on Zoom. Please see the event details below.

Event Description

What does it take to secure a post-doc after your PhD? This event brings together three academics who have successfully secured post-doctoral positions (with Leverhulme; British Academy and Cambridge JRF) and an academic mentor who has supported a successful application. The panellists work in a range of disciplines spanning the humanities, languages, history, and political science. The event offers an opportunity for students and ECRs interested in pursuing an academic career to find out about the various post-doc tracks that are available and to learn from the experiences of our panellists. The event intends to highlight what post-doc options are available to recent PhD graduates; demystify the application process; and offer useful tips and advice in the process. We invite students and ECRs to come prepared with questions to ask our panellists.

Format

Each panelist will speak for 7-10 minutes on their respective post-doc experiences/mentoring, touching on a range of themes, including: (1) preparation and thinking ahead for post-doc positions; (2) the post-doc application process; (3) learning from hiring panel feedback and/or previous rejection; and (4) interview or other advice.

This will allow 45 minutes for the panelists, followed by approximately 45 minutes for discussion, questions and answers. The event should take no longer than 90 minutes.

Panel

Sarah Arens (British Academy)

Mezna Qato (JRF)

Lorenzo Feltrin (Leverhulme)

Charles Tripp (Mentor)

Call for Presenters: Contentious Politics (Online) Workshop, at LSE

Dear fellow researcher and anyone else interested in the field of contentious politics,

The **LSE Contentious Politics Workshop** invites you to **present your ongoing work** during the 2020-2021 academic year.

The workshop functions as a reading group for research students and faculty to discuss a relevant, pre-agreed text, as well as providing a seminar space to present ongoing research. **We will be meeting on Zoom, Wednesdays from 1:00 to 2:00 pm** during LSE term times. The brevity of the sessions is chosen on purpose to enable more people to join over their lunch break. However, we often tend to continue our discussions informally after the officially allotted time. A schedule with meeting dates will be uploaded onto the workshop's [website](#) closer to the start of term.

While the two of us act as coordinators, there is no hierarchy in the workshop. This is thus not meant to be another "ready-for-consumption" format but a forum that reflects the interests of those who get involved and that develops together with them. So please always feel free make suggestions for readings or guest speakers!

About the Workshop

The Contentious Politics Workshop is a **forum for dialogue between research students and faculty**, currently from anthropology, history, politics, and sociology, with a shared interest in phenomena of political mobilisation outside and against the corridors of power. In our conceptualisation, contentious politics is a broad field ranging from traditional forms of collective action and labour mobilisation to popular resistance, armed struggle, social movements, uprisings and revolutions. We believe that this necessitates a mode of enquiry that is interdisciplinary, historicising, and spatially encompassing.

The workshop especially seeks to enable a discussion of contentious politics beyond the focus of classical "Social Movement Theory" research on well organised forms of mobilisation that "rationally" navigate a political field that is understood as liberal and democratic. We believe that, by broadening our purview theoretically as well as through empirical foci outside of Europe and North America, the field can move towards greater attention to issues that have thus far received less systematic treatment. These include, but are not limited to, (global) subaltern social groups, power in its hegemonic and discursive articulations, the role of intellectual labour, normative commitments and ideology, the formation and coherence of autonomous spaces, both materially and ideationally, as well as of the actors that populate them, and questions of creative agency. Additional information including a description of last year's programme can be found on the workshop's [website](#).

Members of all social science disciplines and constituent colleges of the University of London and further afield are welcome to join the workshop. We are an open forum and keen for you to **get in touch with us if you are interested in attending or in presenting your work**. Of course, you can also

simply drop in and join one of our sessions to have a look. To be put on the mailing list and receive information about events and readings (zoom links for online meetings), please email Iman Dawood (i.s.dawood@lse.ac.uk) or Özgün Aksakal (O.Aksakal@lse.ac.uk).

Best wishes,

Co Convenors

Iman Dawood and Özgün Aksakal