



SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND POPULAR MOBILISATION IN THE MENA

Digest of Current Publications and Events

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Conferences & Calls for Papers

- [Call for Papers: Gramsci in the Middle East and North Africa](#), LSE, 9-10 May 2022

Online Events

- [New Political Generation in the Arab World \(trilingual conference\)](#), York University (May 16th)
- [Food Politics in the MENA Region: Resistance, Heritage, and Ecology](#) (May 27th)
- [“Claims for Humanitarian Sovereignty, Forms of Political Participation and the Question of Democracy in 20th Century Egypt”](#) by Prof. Esther Möller (May 27th)
- [“The Impact of COVID-19 on Middle Eastern and North African Labor Markets” during the “ERF 27th Annual Conference”](#) (May 27th)
- [Book Presentation: “Spaces of Participation: Dynamics of Social and Political Change in the Arab World”](#) (May 27th)

Recent & Forthcoming Books

- [Freedom is a place : the struggle for sovereignty in Palestine](#), by Ron J. Smith
- [Diaspora Entrepreneurs and Contested States](#), by Maria Koinova

Journal Articles & Other Academic Articles

- [The Impact of the Arab Spring on Palestine](#), by Yaser Alashqar
- [Political thinking performed: popular cultures as arenas of consent and resistance](#), by Charles Tripp
- [The power of nonsense: humour in Egypt’s counter/revolution](#), by Jessica Winegar
- [Ramallah ravers and Haifa hipsters: gender, class, and nation in Palestinian popular culture](#), by Polly Withers

Petitions and Calls for Action

- [International Statement Opposing Use of Counter-Terrorism Powers to Target Islamophobia Expert](#)

News Pieces & Commentary

- [Unrest intensifies across Palestinian towns in Israel](#), Middle East Eye
- [Al-Aqsa under attack: How Israel turned holy site into a battleground](#), Middle East Eye

- [Israel's occupation and expulsion of Palestinians in Jerusalem violate International Law](#), by Jasmine Gani
- ['It reveals the failure of the occupation:' Q&A with writer Majd Kayyal on Palestine's mobilization](#), Mada Masr
- [Two people killed in Sudan rally over 2019 protest killings](#), Al Jazeera

Positions & Opportunities

- [Graduate and Post-Doctoral Fellowships](#) in the ERC-funded project Staging National Abjection: Theatre and Politics in Turkey and Its Diasporas
- [Lecturer](#), University of York - Department of Politics

CALL FOR BOOK CHAPTERS (TO BE PUBLISHED WITH EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY PRESS)

ISLAM AND POLITICS IN THE 21ST CENTURY: COMPETITIVE DISCOURSES AND FUTURE UNCERTAINTIES

Political Islam has been the focus of academic debates on Middle East politics for several decades especially during and following the Arab uprisings. Islamists emerged as the most organized and main alternative to the traditional ruling elite. Yet, their short-lived ruling experience in Egypt and contested authority in Tunisia and Libya gave rise to debates on the future of political Islam in the Middle East.

Following the wide public unrests spreading across the region, debates over Islamists' ruling experience revealed contested visions and uncertain perspectives about political Islam as a power of change. While unrests toppled four dictators and witnessed the consolidation of the Islamic opposition, the unsettled Islamic post-revolutionary rule and the authoritarian revival brought the failure of political Islam to the fore. Political analysts, notably Olivier Roy, predicted "the failure of political Islam" in 1993, a notion that has been challenged by local Islamic resistance across Arab and Muslim countries. However, the Islamists' inability to sustain their rule raises questions about the possibility of developing an alternative to the nation-state's modern development discourse and reconsidering Islamists' political discourse.

To this end, this book will encompass distinguished scholarly articles addressing different perspectives on the future of political Islam in light of its failure to develop a genuine political ideology that reflect their criticism of nation-state and its secular foundations. Articles would focus on conceptual debates and/or country-specific studies presenting single or comparative analyses of different experiences across the MENA region.

Recommended topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Nation State and Religion in the Middle East
 - o Neocolonialism and local/national resistance
 - o Political culture: repression and contested modernity
 - o Mobilization and the reemergence of new imagined communities challenging the status quo and the traditional order
 - o National boundaries vs. Identity boundaries
 - o Alternatives for a nation-state?
- The Arab Spring: A Turning point in the struggle between Nation State-Islamists
 - o Competing Intellectual/ideological visions
 - o Marginalized communities and Public Sphere
 - o Power Relations and Religious/Islamic actors
 - o The Global Order and national politics
 - o Arab Spring: a public unrest or conspiracy?
 - o Sectarianism as a state policy
- Case studies on leading political Islamist movements in the MENA region (i.e. the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt and Jordan, Ennahda in Tunisia, the Justice and Development Party/ National Vision movement in Turkey, Hamas in Palestine, Hizbullah in Lebanon, Justice and Benevolence Party and the Justice and Development Party in Morocco and the Sunni Insurgency in Iraq in addition to radical Islamist groups like the Islamic State and Al-Qaeda.

Submission Procedure

Researchers and practitioners are invited to submit an abstract by June 30, 2021 clearly explaining the research question and the core methodology of their proposed chapter. Authors of accepted proposals will be notified by July 15, 2021 about the status of their proposals. Full chapters are expected to be submitted by November 30, 2021. For editorial correspondence, please contact Dr. Ayfer Erdogan at aerdogan@yildiz.edu.tr and Dr. Shaimaa Magued at shaimaamagued@feps.edu.eg