

Executive Education and Degree Students

EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

In partnership with the Executive Education department and the King Abdullah II Fund for Development, MEI hosted an executive education program in May entitled “Leading for the Future: The Arab Region in a Changing World” at the Dead Sea in Jordan. The program trained 44 executives in the public, private, and civil society sectors from Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, the occupied Palestinian territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, and the United Arab Emirates.

FELLOWSHIPS

MEI awarded six Executive Education fellowships to participants from the region to attend the following programs: Expanding Impact: Non-Governmental Organization Legitimacy, Advocacy and Partnerships taught by MEI affiliate, Professor Marshall Ganz; Creating Collaborative Solutions; Strategic Management for Leaders of Non-Governmental Organizations; and Senior Executives in National and International Security.

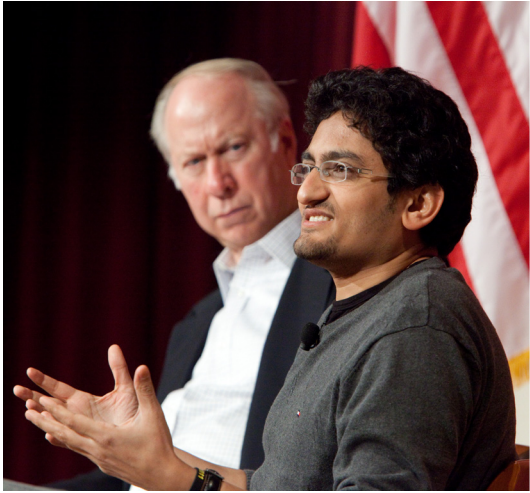
MEI also awarded HKS PhD student Nils Hägerdal a fellowship to attend a summer program at the Arabic School at Middlebury College.

STUDENT RESEARCH

The Policy Analysis Exercise (PAE) is the capstone of the Harvard Kennedy School Masters in Public Policy curriculum. The Second Year Policy Analysis (SYPA) is an integral part of the Masters in Public Policy and International Development program. Designed to serve as the students’ final “thesis,” these second-year papers offer students the opportunity to deploy the skills acquired during the program, integrate their coursework, and provide specific policy recommendations in the context of a concrete developmental problem or policy challenge.

MEI granted the following six students funding for winter travel related to their PAEs and SYPAs:

1. Stephen Elliott, *Natural Gas Development in Northern Iraq*
2. Daniel Tavana, *Party Proliferation and Electoral Transition in Post-Mubarak Egypt*
3. Zhen Liu, *Rural Poor and High Value Crops in Morocco*
4. Maurice Obeid, *Solving the Significant Transportation Problem Around Beirut*
5. Ayah Mahgoub, *Catalyzing a Revolution Dividend for Egypt Through its Investment Environment*
6. Sherry Hakimi, *Negotiating with Iran*



HKS Professor David Gergen listens to Egyptian activist and author of “Revolution 2.0” in the John F. Kennedy, Jr. Forum on February 3.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Two new scholarships were created this year to help students from the Middle East attend degree programs at the Kennedy School. The Lamont Graduate Fellowship was established to support students from the Middle East, India and South Asia. The Kuwait Foundation Fellowship for Outstanding Emerging Leaders will support two students annually, with a preference for students from Kuwait, students from other Arab countries living in Kuwait, and students from the Gulf and other Arab countries.

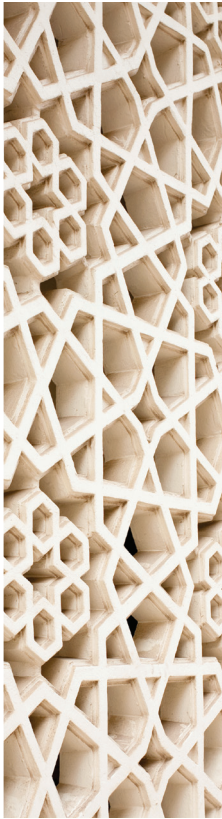


HARVARD Kennedy School
BELFER CENTER
 for Science and International Affairs
 Middle East Initiative

For more information about this publication please contact the Middle East Initiative at 617.496.4190.

For Academic Citation: Janka, Noelle. Middle East Mosaic 2012. Harvard University, August, 1 2012.





hks.harvard.edu/middleeast



2011 - 2012

“Deepening Harvard Kennedy School’s relationship with the governments, universities, and peoples of the Middle East.”

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 2  **EVENTS AT A GLANCE**
A summary of events by type, topic, and country
- 2  **HIGHLIGHTS**
The best of our film series, speaker series, forums, and conversation series
- 3  **NEW THIS YEAR**
Internships, fellows, student journal, and more students from MENA
- 4  **ONGOING PROGRAMS**
Executive Education, research, scholarships, and fellowships



Students speak to journalist Mona Eltahawi in the John F. Kennedy, Jr. Forum during our February 2 event “Egypt: From Tahrir Square to Today.”

We are excited to report on our work in the 2011–2012 academic year. Building on the momentum of last year’s political changes in parts of the Arab Middle East, we harnessed the research and teaching strengths of the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) community to greatly expand our program offerings.

We held an unprecedented 69 events on campus, many of them related to the Arab transformation. With partners across campus, we brought to Harvard emerging leaders including Egyptian activist Wael Ghonim, Yemeni Nobel Peace Prize winner Tawakkol Karman, and member of the Tunisian Constituent Assembly Moncef Cheikh-Rouhou. In addition, we hosted a panel that explored the role of civil-society groups in transitioning countries and examined the opportunities and obstacles faced by global philanthropies working with those groups. Together, these activities and others formed part of a broader multi-year project of research that continues to focus on the role of civil society in the region.

To meet growing student interest in the Middle East this year, we worked with employers in Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the occupied Palestinian territories to offer new internship opportunities; granted travel funding to six students to conduct research in the region; and supported the launch of the Kennedy School’s first student-run journal on the Middle East, the *Harvard Journal of Middle East Politics and Policy* (JMEPP). These efforts and others will continue in the year to come.

We give special thanks to our faculty director, Professor Nicholas Burns, our supporters, and students for another exciting year. We look forward to many more together!

— HILARY RANTISI, DIRECTOR, MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE

MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE

Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs
 Harvard Kennedy School
 Harvard University
 79 John F. Kennedy Street
 Cambridge, MA 02138
 617.496.4190

hks.harvard.edu/middleeast

Events at a Glance

The Middle East Initiative (MEI) hosts events on the Harvard campus with the dual objective of familiarizing the community with topics concerning the Middle East and creating the space for conversations about those topics. This year MEI held 69 events, 58 of which were open to the public. Many events focused on two major themes: the Arab transformation and the future of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The map below highlights some of our events this year. A full list can be found at

www.hks.harvard.edu/middleeast



3/26 - CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN TUNISIA'S DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION

Moncef Cheikh-Rouhou, Member of the Tunisian Progressive Democratic Party and the constituent assembly

9/22 - STATEHOOD FOR PALESTINE?

Diana Buttu, Joint Fellow with the Middle East Initiative and Harvard Law School's Human Rights Program

9/27 - ISRAEL AND THE ARAB TRANSFORMATION: ASSESSING DYNAMICS AND NEW RELATIONS

Yoram Meital, Chairman of the Chaim Herzog Center for Middle East Studies & Diplomacy, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

12/5 - THE SYRIAN UPRISING AND THE LONG ROAD TO DEMOCRACY: A VIEW FROM THE OPPOSITION

Radwan Ziadeh, Associate, Dubai Initiative; Director, Syrian National Council's Foreign Relations Office

11/28- FIGHTING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND PRESS FREEDOM IN BAHRAIN: POSSIBILITIES AND LIMITATIONS

Dr. Mansoor al Jamri, Editor-in-chief of *Al Wasat*, the only independent newspaper in Bahrain

3/4 - FILM SCREENING: BACK HOME (ALGERIA, 2006)

10/5 - MOROCCO: THE PATH TO DEMOCRACY?

Aboubakr Jamaï, Publisher of *Le Journal Hebdomadaire* and *Assahifa al-Ousbouiya* in Morocco

3/8 - IMPRESSIONS OF POST-QADDAFI LIBYA

Thomas Dallal, Libya Team Leader, Center for Humanitarian Dialogue

3/28 - THE ARITHMETIC OF REVOLUTION: MAKING SENSE OF EGYPT'S TUMULTUOUS TRANSITION

Dalia Mogahed, Director and Senior Analyst, Abu Dhabi Gallup Center and Executive Director and Senior Analyst, Gallup Center for Muslim Studies

2/3 - SAUDI ARABIA AND THE GULF STATES IN THE ARAB SPRING

Dr. Gregory Gause, Professor of Political Science, University of Vermont

HIGHLIGHTS

6/7 - A PUBLIC ADDRESS BY TAWAKKOL KARMAN

Co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011 and first Arab and Yemeni woman to receive this award

New this year

STUDENT RUN MIDDLE EAST JOURNAL LAUNCHES

This year MEI assisted in the launch of the *Harvard Journal of Middle East Politics and Policy* (JMEPP), a nonpartisan scholarly review that will be published annually at HKS. *JMEPP* presents a compilation of student and faculty scholarship on issues of policy relevance in the contemporary Middle East and North Africa region. The inaugural issue was released in May 2012 and featured articles by students as well as Middle East experts Ishac Diwan and David Mednicoff. Copies can be ordered by contacting our office.

INTERNSHIP INITIATIVE

To address increasing interest in the MENA region this year, MEI expanded the number of in-country and Middle East-related summer internships available to students. We worked with the HKS Office of Career Advancement to populate their database with more internship opportunities and began building relationships with companies, universities, and NGOs interested in hiring HKS students. We hope to grow this program and offer increasing opportunities to connect HKS students with the Middle East.

INCREASED STUDENT ENROLLMENT FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

We are pleased to report that 39 students from the Middle East will start degree programs at Harvard Kennedy School in the 2012-2013 academic year. Specifically, new students are coming from Bahrain, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, the occupied Palestinian territories, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates. With returning students, we will have 53 students from the Middle East on campus, up from 42 last year.

RENEWED PARTNERSHIP WITH KUWAIT

In May, the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) granted \$8.1 million to HKS to continue the Kuwait Program at MEI. The gift extends a relationship between HKS and KFAS that began in 2001 when KFAS funded visiting specialists on the Gulf region, faculty research on Kuwait and the Gulf, customized executive education programs and executive education fellowships. The current grant will support, over a period of five years, a visiting scholars program; fellowships for students from the Gulf and wider Mideast region pursuing degrees at HKS; faculty research; customized executive education programs; and executive education fellowships for participants from Kuwait and other Arab countries to train at HKS, Harvard Business School, Harvard School of Public Health, and Harvard



MEI Senior Fellow Rami Khouri speaks to audience members after the September 19 event "Inside the Arab Awakening."

FELLOWS

Diana Buttu – This year we were fortunate to host Diana Buttu as a joint fellow with MEI and the Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School. A Palestinian-Canadian attorney with Israeli citizenship, Diana is a frequent commentator on Middle East politics. She served as a legal advisor to the Palestinian negotiating team in its negotiations with Israel and as an advisor to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. This fall she helped the HKS community navigate the Palestinian bid for statehood in the United Nations by speaking to classes and at several public events. In the spring semester, she curated the five-part "HKS Conversation Series: Can the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Be Resolved?" which asked Israel-Palestine experts to examine possible solutions to the conflict in a post-negotiations, post-two state solution reality. Diana also published two research papers: "The End of the Peace Process?" and "Jerusalem's Lost Palestinians," which examines the the policy of revocation of residency by Israel of Palestinians in Jerusalem.

Rami Khouri – We also welcomed Rami Khouri as a Senior Fellow at MEI this past year. Rami is a Palestinian-Jordanian and U.S. citizen. He is director of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut (AUB). His journalistic work includes writing books and an internationally syndicated column, and he also serves as editor at large of the Beirut-based *Daily Star*. We worked with Rami to deliver a two day conference in April entitled "Exploring the Transition to Democracy in the Arab Region." The conference was co-organized by Harvard and AUB and included panelists from both institutions and Boston University.

ARABIC COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOPS

MEI hosted four workshops for native Arabic speaking students across the University to improve their skills in public speaking. The sessions were led by Harvard Arabic Preceptors Khaled Al-Masri and Nevenka Korica.

TYPE: SPEAKER SERIES: 28 BOOK TALKS: 3 FILM SERIES: 5 FORUM EVENTS: 7 SUMMER SERIES: 4

CROWN-BELFER MIDDLE EAST PROJECT SEMINAR SERIES: 12 CONVERSATION SERIES: 5 SPECIAL EVENTS AND CONFERENCES: 4

TOPIC: ARAB TRANSFORMATION: 14 ISRAELI PALESTINIAN CONFLICT: 6 GULF: 3 COUNTRIES: ALGERIA: 1 BAHRAIN: 1 EGYPT: 5 IRAN: 3 IRAQ: 1 ISRAEL: 6

JORDAN: 1 LEBANON: 2 LIBYA: 2 MOROCCO: 1 OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES: 5 SYRIA: 3 TUNISIA: 3 TURKEY: 1 YEMEN: 3