

Friday, 14-12-2007 (Continuance)

4:30 p.m.

Coffee break

5 p.m.

Transformations of International and Regional Orders

Chair: *Ulrich Wurzel, FHTW Berlin**

*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"?

*Gamal Soltan, American University in Cairo**

Emerging States

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Arab-American Relations*

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*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

Location Conference (Thursday & Friday)

Bus 147 Gendarmenmarkt
Seminar Center
Freie Universität Berlin
Habelschwerdter Allee 45
14195 Berlin

- Entrance Otto-von-Simon Street -

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

Prof. Dr. Cilja Harders

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

Freie Universität Berlin

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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 from within and through globalization. The effects of demographic change, the spread of 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, some states witness a new oil boom, others are in a developmental stalemate. Still, the challenges of sustainable development after and without oil are unmet as are the challenges of transforming the authoritarian states of the region. At the same time, the international and regional environment changes sharply after September 11th. The international relations of the Middle East underwent heavy militarization and securitization since the “war against terror” started in 2001. Ever escalating violence in Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel and the Palestinian territories shape the daily lives of people. The possibilities of peaceful conflict transformation under conditions of occupation and foreign intervention represent one of the most urgent and difficult challenges of today’s Middle East. In an increasingly interdependent world, these developments also have their reverberations in Europe and the US where questions of Islam, migration and integration are hotly debated. Stereotypes prevail on both sides. Thus, keeping public space open for dialogue and the peaceful management of social and cultural conflicts represents another important challenge. Some of these questions have been addressed by Middle Eastern Studies, others not. Thus, this conference aims to produce critical visions and re-visions of the state of the art and innovative answers to some of the most urgent challenges.

Wednesday, 12-12-2007 (Public Event)

8-10 p.m.

The Challenges of Transformation - A constructive role for Europe in the Middle East?

Chair: *Layla al-Zubeidi, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Beirut*

Ramy Khoury, American University of Beirut

*Kerstin Müller, BÜNDNIS 90/GRÜNE**

Andreas Michaelis, German Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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*

Ferhad Ibrahim, University of Jordan

*Val Moghaddam, Illinois State University**

11 a.m.

Coffee break

11.15 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 -
Elections in Morocco

Albrecht Hofheinz, University of Oslo

The Internet, the Quest for Democracy, and the
role of the individual in the Arab World

Nahed Ezzeldeen, Cairo University

Business groups in Egypt - political or economic
actors?

1 p.m.

Lunch break

2.30 p.m.

Transformations of Societies in the Middle East

Chair: *Gudrun Krämer, Freie Universität Berlin*

Asef Bayat, Leiden University

Transformation through ‘Non-Movements’ -
Collective Agency under Authoritarian Rules

Raoufa Hassan Alsharki, Sanna’a University

Gender, Islam, Transformation

4.30 p.m.

Coffe break

5 p.m.

Visions and Re-Visions of Arab Societies

Chair: *Ute Luig, Freie Universität Berlin*

Sonja Hegazi, Zentrum Moderner Orient Berlin

Youth and Authority in Morocco

Nader Fergany, AHDR Cairo

Towards Freedom and Good Governance in the
Arab Region

(see next column)

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

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Friday, 14-12-2007

9 a.m.

The Challenges of Iraq - Conflict, Democracy, Gender

Chair: NN

Nadje al-Ali, SOAS London

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Reinoud Leenders, University of Amsterdam

When Do Refugees Bring Trouble? - The
Political Implications and Dimensions of the
Iraqi Exodus Following the Samara Bombing

11 a.m.

Coffee break

11.15 a.m.

The Transformations of Conflict in the Middle East

Chair: *Ulrike Freitag, Zentrum Moderner Orient Berlin*

Muriel Asseburg, SWP Berlin

Europa als Mediator im Nahostkonflikt?

Mouin Rabbani, International Crisis Group Amman

The challenge of escalation and de-escalation.
Territories and Ressources

NN

Conflict Transformation through NGOs/
Lebanon and Morocco

1 p.m.

Lunch break

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

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