

## 2019 MUNICH-BERLIN MIDDLE EAST SUMMER SCHOOL

organized by the Middle East and International Affairs Research Group (MEIA Research)  
and the Munich International Summer University (MISU) in cooperation with  
the Center for Applied Policy Research (C.A.P.) and  
the Institute for Near and Middle East Studies at LMU Munich

Academic Patronage: [Prof. Dr. Andeas Kaplony](#), Institute for Near and Middle East Studies  
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### AGENDA

Sat, 8/3	Arrival of Participants		
	Morning Session (I) 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m..	Morning Session (II) 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Afternoon / Evening
Mon, 8/5	<p><b><u>Welcome Session and Introduction:</u></b> <b>Current Affairs in Politics, Economics, and Societies of the Middle East</b> After a first get-to-know, this welcome session will introduce the agenda of the three-week program, and give an overview of the Middle Eastern sub-regions, North Africa, the Levant, and the Gulf, as well as key issues.</p>	<p><b>The Historical Making of a Region (Kaplony)</b> The diversity of today's MENA region is due to a relatively small number of internal and external impacts. In this introductory lecture, we will provide a hands-on survey.</p>	<p><b>MISU Welcome Summer Event</b> 5:30 p.m. Schellingstr. 3, on the terrace</p>
Tue, 8/6	<p><b>Arab Spring Reconsidered – Tunisia</b> The Arab uprisings represented a watershed in the Middle East with popular protests ousting long-standing political regimes across the region. This session analyzes the causes of this dynamic with a focus on Tunisia and the latter's attempts to transform from authoritarianism to democracy.</p>	<p><b>Egypt from Mubarak to Sisi</b> This session analyzes the significant political developments that Egypt, a key Arab state, underwent before and after the fall of long-term ruler Hosni Mubarak in February 2011.</p>	<p><b>Sightseeing Tour by Bus</b> 5:00 p.m. Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1 Subway stop "Universität"</p>
Wed, 8/7	<p><b>The Gulf Monarchies</b> Under the impression of the uprisings in 2011, the Gulf Arab monarchies have implemented economic modernization programs to overcome the dependence on fossil resources and to preserve domestic stability. This session will evaluate current political strategies of the countries on a domestic and foreign policy level and future perspectives.</p>	<p><b>Continuity and Change in Iranian Politics</b> While Iran considers itself a regional power, the Western state community and many of its regional neighbors regard it rather as a pariah than as a partner. In this session, we will assess continuity and change in Iranian politics since the election of President Hassan Rohani.</p>	

Thu, 8/8	<b>Syria and the Civil War</b> Syria's eternal history is overshadowed by the civil war that erupted in 2011. This session traces the developments of the war that started with largely peaceful popular protests, and it will end in discussing the current situation.	<b>Iraq – From Saddam's Fall to DAESH</b> This session focuses on the political developments in Iraq following the 2003 U.S.-led military invasion and overthrow of Saddam Hussein's regime. In this context, we will analyze the root causes for the success of the so-called "Islamic State" (IS or DAESH), and discuss the consequences of the militia's decline.	
Fri, 8/9	<b>Migration Policy in the Arab Gulf States</b> This session discusses the current status of foreign labor migrants in the Arab Gulf states, analyze the existing labor systems, the ongoing reforms and the political initiatives in order to "Nationalize" labor markets dominated by mostly South Asian migrants. We also shed light on the socio-economic, political and cultural implications of labor migration on the sending countries with a focus on Pakistan.	<b>Islam, Christianity, and Judaism – Religion and Identity</b> In a conflict-laden sense, religion has become an ever more important source of identity in many Middle Eastern societies. We will discuss the factors that contribute to this trend and possible strategies to halt and reverse it.	
Sat, 8/10	<b>Excursion to Nürnberg</b> <b>Meeting Place: Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1, at the fountain</b>		
Sun, 8/11	<b>Day trip by bus to Neuschwanstein Castle</b> <b>Meeting Place: Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1, at the fountain</b>		
Mon, 8/12	<b>The Role of External Actors (I): USA and Russia</b> In this session we will first discuss change and continuity in the US Middle East policy. To what degree has US regional influence diminished? We will then turn to Russia: Does Moscow move into the power vacuum the US has been leaving behind?	<b>Role of External Actors (II): EU and China</b> Due to their geographic proximity, EU countries are directly affected by developments in the MENA region. We will discuss whether or not the EU has found appropriate answers to current and future challenges. We will also take a look at China and its interests in the region.	<b>Special Session: Academic Writing (Schulz)</b> (time tba; outside curriculum)
Tue, 8/13	<b>Arab Knowledge Society': Genealogies and Trajectories</b> The Arab Human Development Reports by the UNDP have identified knowledge as a central means and end of democracy and development. The lecture presents an overview on the histories of knowledge in the MENA region and re-locates the establishment of an Arab knowledge society in its political contexts.	<b>Media Industries in the Arab World</b> We will deal with the history, politics, and economy of the Arab television industries since the late 1980s, and discuss the strength of different formats like news, documentaries, and talkshows, and genres and notions like entertainment, politainment and militainment. We will look at cross media practices, from the press to social media.	
Wed, 8/14	<b>Politics from below: Practices of Protest among Workers, Islamists, and Youth</b> When thinking about Arab revolutions, three powerful slogans of protesters come to mind, 'ish (bread), karama (dignity), and hurriya (freedom). With the help of the concept of "politics from below", we will investigate the different forms of protest connected to different types of protesters that we have been witnessing in Iran and Egypt since the 1970s.	<b>Displaying the Self – Reflecting the Other</b> This session will deal with the (re)presentation of Arab Youth Cultures. We will discuss various formats, such as graffiti, underground music and video performances.	

Thu, 8/15	<b>Transfer to Berlin</b> Meeting time: tba at Munich Central Station (Hauptbahnhof) Information Desk Check-in at Hotel Meininger  <b>Visits of and Talks at Federal German Public and Private Institutions and Organizations</b>		
Fri, 8/16	<b>Visits of and Talks at Federal German Public and Private Institutions and Organizations (cont.)</b>		
Sat, 8/17	<b>Visits at German Public and Private Institutions and Organizations (cont.)</b>		
Sun, 8/18	<b>Check-out from Hotel Meininger until 10:00 a.m.</b> <b>Transfer from Berlin to Munich: tba</b>		
Mon, 8/19	<b>Gender and Biopolitics in the MENA Region (1)</b> Gender equality in the MENA remains one of the lowest world-wide and keeps being understood in usual binary frameworks of Islam vs. human rights and tradition vs. modernity. This session examines these framings and addresses key aspects in shaping gender inequalities and biopolitics in the region, looking into both socio-political and economic structures as well as historically shaped cultural-religious factors.	<b>Gender and Biopolitics in the MENA Region (2)</b> Gender equality in the MENA remains one of the lowest world-wide and keeps being understood in usual binary frameworks of Islam vs. human rights and tradition vs. modernity. This session examines these framings and addresses key aspects in shaping gender inequalities and biopolitics in the region, looking into both socio-political and economic structures as well as historically shaped cultural-religious factors.	
Tue, 8/20	<b>Quo vadis Turkey?</b> After decades of distancing itself from the region to consolidate Kemalist Westernization, Turkey under the AKP of Recep Tayyip Erdogan has got more and more involved into Middle East politics since 2002. We will trace back Turkey's role in the region and rethink current and future domestic and foreign problems of the country.	<b>Irregular Migration from Africa to Europe</b> Since the beginning of the Arab uprisings, irregular migration from Northern and sub-Saharan Africa to Europe has significantly increased. This session will address the root causes for this intensified dynamic, analyze the development over the past seven years, and discuss the political ramifications for individual European states and the EU as a whole.	
Wed, 8/21	<b>The Arab-Israeli Conflict: An Update I</b> This session gives an overview of the historical development of the Arab-Israeli conflict, assesses the current status of the conflict, and analyzes possible scenarios for its resolution.	<b>The Arab-Israeli Conflict: An Update II</b> Continuation of the previous session	
Thu, 8/22	<b>Identity Diversity in Israel</b> Beside the master narrative of Jewish-Israeli identity based on victimization, existential insecurity, and exceptionalism, it is important to note little is "static" in Israeli society. There are several approaches to map the complexity of contemporary Israeli politics and society by identifying distinct dynamics. These mappings are key for understanding the Israeli political landscape and current Israeli political decisions.	<b>Current Issues in Israeli Politics</b> Politics in Israel are highly complex, made up by different sections of the pluralist society, shaped by the Arab-Israeli conflict and by the conflicts and tensions the Israeli society itself has.	

Fri, 8/23	<b>Essay Session</b> In this session, we will discuss the essay topics the course participants are going to work on over the ensuing weeks.	
Sat, 8/24	<b>Final Wrap-up: The Middle East between Crises and Opportunities</b>	
Sun, 8/25	<b>Departure of Participants</b>	

Note that the agenda is preliminary and may be subject to change.

For the readings and further literature to the sessions see the reading list.

tba/tbc = to be announced/ confirmed