



WORKSHOP

THE MIDDLE EAST DIRECTIONS PROGRAMME

A POLITICAL ECONOMY OF RECONCILIATION AND RECONSTRUCTION IN THE MENA REGION?

Scientific Organisers:

Amr Adly | European University Institute

Virginie Collombier | European University Institute

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13 APRIL 2018

■ INTRODUCTION

Despite being far from final political settlements, the scale and intensity of violence in war-torn countries seem to be somehow ebbing. With the repossession of Sirte and the reclamation of Mosul, Aleppo and Raqqa, the biggest of the battles are over. In the last two years, the Iraqi and Syrian central governments have come to hold the upper hand and Islamic State, as a territorialised terrorist organisation, has been almost completely wiped out in all three countries. Libya appears to be at a stalemate as a result of a balance in weakness.

Is it hence time to raise questions over the economic reconstruction of war-torn countries in the Middle East and North Africa? Who will pay for it, especially in a time of a global slump and low oil prices? And how will it be organised in the light of facts on the ground and the prevalent local, national and international dynamics of cooperation and competition?

The aim of this small workshop is to bring together on the one hand experts and researchers working on the three cases of Iraq, Syria and Libya, and on the other, those working on topics of reconstruction and post-conflict reconciliation. The meeting aims to stir debate, set a research agenda and augment networking efforts in preparation for the Middle East Directions annual conference in the autumn.

■ PROGRAMME

13 APRIL

09.00 - 09.30

Introduction

Amr Adly | Middle East Directions Programme, EUI

Virginie Collombier | Middle East Directions Programme, EUI

09.30 - 11.00

Oil revenues: Wealth sharing or a bone of contention?

Kawa Hassan | East-West Institute

11.00 - 11.30

Coffee break

Mansarda

11.30 - 13.00

Can oil wealth entice Multinationals and foreign governments into supporting reconciliation and state-building in the MENA?

Ebtissam El Kailani | Al Kilani Consulting

13.00 - 14.00

Lunch

Villa Schifanoia canteen

14.00 - 15.30

What awaits MENA: Post-conflict reconstruction or civil-war economy?

Joseph Daher | University of Lausanne

Agnès Favier | Middle East Directions Programme, EUI

15.30 - 16.00

Coffee break

Mansarda

16.00 - 16.30

Wrap-up session

■ SPEAKERS

Amr Adly

MEDirections | Robert Schuman Centre | European University
Institute

Virginie Collombier

MEDirections | Robert Schuman Centre | European University
Institute

Joseph Daher

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