

## MIDDLE EAST DIALOGUE 2014 (MED14) STRATEGIES FOR CHANGE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Whittemore House Washington D.C.  
1526 New Hampshire Ave, NW  
Thursday- February 27, 2014



### REGISTRATION BEGINS 8:00 AM

### OPENING REMARKS and ROUNDTABLE SESSION 9:00 AM- 9:50 AM

Paul J. Rich, PhD, President, Policy Studies Organization (PSO), Washington, DC

Mohammed M. Aman, PhD, Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM)

### ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION:

*The Current Situation in Syria: Problems and Prospects*

Secretary General William Morris and Ambassador Mark G. Hambley of the Next Century Foundation (NCF)

### PANEL SESSIONS BEGIN

#### \*Special Video Presentation:

#### [The Chinese Dream and China's developing role in the Middle East](#)

Dr. Yiyi Chen, Shanghai Jiao Tong University- *This year Dr. Chen will be submitting a virtual presentation, which will be played through-out the day in the Past Presidents Room. We welcome you to watch the video when your schedule permits.*

### SESSION I - LIBRARY

10:00 – 11:20 AM

### CULTURE/CIVIL SOCIETY

#### [Palestinian Sulha and the Rule of Law](#)

Professor Brian Kritz, Conflict Resolution Program at Georgetown

#### [The Role of Culture in Civil Society Promotion in the Middle East: A Case Study Approach](#)

Dr. Soumia Bardhan, Penn State University

**The Effects of Current Leadership Models in a Post-Saddam Iraq**

Dr. Brandt Smith Jr., American Military University

**Debates on Politics, Economics, and Culture as Jordan Joins the GCC**

Dr. Sarah A Tobin, Northeastern University

**Session Chair:** David Oppenheimer, Oppenheimer Information Services  
International Business and Scientific Services

**SESSION II- 1870S ROOM  
10:00 – 11:20 AM**

**EGYPT**

**The Transformative Political and Communication Landscapes in Egypt: From Mobilization to Polarization**

Dr. Sahar Khamis, University of Maryland, College Park

**The Ultras Political Role and the State in Egypt**

Mr. Mohamed A Elgohari, New York University

**Egyptian Bread Subsidy or CCT: Game Theory Application**

Dr. Hebatallah Ghoneim, German University in Cairo

**The Resilience of Egypt's Deep State: Are there any Challengers Left?**

Dr. Denis J. Sullivan, Northeastern University

**Session Chair:** Guillermo de los Reyes, University of Houston

**SESSION III- BLAIR ROOM  
10:00 – 11:20 AM**

**RELIGION**

**Religious Minorities in Egypt: The Challenge of Sectarianism and the Limits of Nationalism**

Dr. Lina Beydoun, Brookings Doha Center

**The Role of Religion in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Reflections from the Field of Religion**

Dr. Robert Eisen, George Washington University

**The Liberal Secular-Military Alliance: A Roadblock to Democracy in the Middle East**

Professor Lawrence Davidson, West Chester University

**Convergences of Politics and Religion within the Contemporary Middle East: A Medium for Reflecting on Existing Paradigms and New Possibilities**

Dr. Andrew Wender, University of Victoria

**Session Chair:** Dr. Jennifer Bremer, American University in Cairo

**SESSION IV- PUB ROOM  
11:30 – 12:50 PM**

**ACADEMIC BOYCOTTS CONSIDERED**

**The American Studies Association's View on Conflicts in the Middle East: A Review of the Issues Behind the Boycott of Israeli Academic Institutions**

**The ASA Boycott Resolution and the Work of Jewish Voice for Peace**

Carolyn Karcher of the ASA, and Temple University

**ASA, BDS, and Opportunities for Faculty/Student Campus Coalitions**

Craig Willse of the ASA, and George Mason University

**Session Chair:** Dr. Paul Rich, Policy Studies Organization

**Commentators:**

Dr. William Zartman, SAIS Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Edward Rhodes, George Mason University,

Dr. Ernst Benjamin, American Association of University Professors

*\*Because of the contentious nature of the subject, there will be a room provided at the venue in which conversation on the matters discussed, can be continued. We understand that for many this is a controversial subject, but we must insist that discussion be kept on a civil footing.*

**SESSION V - LIBRARY**  
**11:30 – 12:50 PM**

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

**Reframing and Addressing Key Issues in Intra- and Inter-state Conflicts: Morocco as a Hub for Regional Dialogue and Conflict Resolution**

Dr. Adina Friedman, School for Conflict Analysis & Resolution

**An Analysis of Makovsky's Border Proposals in Light of Palestinian Needs**

Dr. Andrew Wilson, Barrytown College of UTS

**Post-conflict Transition in Syria: Paths to Democracy**

Dr. Radwan Ziadeh, Syrian Center for Political and Strategic Studies

**War Prevention Through Dialogue: An Intervention in the Middle East**

Ms. Sahar Namazikhah, George Mason University

**Session Chair:** Russell Kitchner, VP, Office of Regulatory and Governmental Relations

**SESSION VI- 1870S ROOM**  
**11:30 – 12:50 PM**

**DEMOCRACY**

**Iranian Constitutional Reform: The Role of Democracy in Drafting a New Constitution**

Mr. Amir Fakhravar, Institute of World Politics

**The Status of Democratic Reforms in Turkey: Obstacles and Opportunities**

Dr. Leila Piran George Washington University

**Clarifying a Contested Concept: Regime Change from Within**

Dr. Ivan Sascha Sheehan, University of Baltimore

**My Tribe is My Country: Violence in Jordanian Universities and What it Means for Jordan's Reform Movement**

Ms. Dima M. Toukan, Integrated Services Indigenous Solutions (ISIS)

**Session Chair:** Dr. Richard Pera, American Public University System

**PLENARY SESSION- AUDITORIUM**  
**1:00- 1:50 PM**

**A talk given by Dr. John Limbert:**

*Iran and America: Endless Enemies?*

Dr. John Limbert is the Distinguished Professor of International Affairs at the U.S. Naval Academy. He was Dean of the State Department's School of Language Studies and Chief of Mission in Khartoum, Sudan. Ambassador Limbert was president of the American Foreign Service Association and Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. He was one of the first civilian officials to enter Baghdad after the war and was responsible for cultural affairs, including restoring the looted Iraqi Museum.

His overseas experience also included tours in Algeria, Djibouti, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. He holds three Harvard degrees and has been Senior Fellow at Harvard University's Center for International Affairs. His books include *Iran: At War with History* and *Shiraz in the Age of Hafez*.

Ambassador Limbert holds the Department of State's highest award - the Distinguished Service Award - and the rarely given Award for Valor, which he received after fourteen months as a hostage in Iran when the embassy there was seized. His foreign languages include Persian, Arabic, and French.

**SESSION VII- BLAIR ROOM**  
**2:00 -3:20 PM**

**THE ARAB SPRING**

**Ripeness. The Unanswered Question for a Middle East Dialogue**

Dr. William Zartman, SAIS-Johns Hopkins

**A Sectarian Spring: The Continuing Struggles in Bahrain**

Dr. Martin Catino, American Military University

**Session Chair:** Jill Kurtz, American Public University System

**SESSION VIII- 1870S ROOM**

**2:00 – 3:20 PM**

**SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

**Harshness in the Middle Eastern Criminal Justice Systems: Contemporary Practice of Capital Punishment in the Middle East**

Dr. Sanaz Alasti, Lamar University: Texas State University System

**Gendered Bodies in Public Space: Arab Women, Violence, and Change**

Dr. Maria Holt, University of Westminster

**Nationalism and Universal Human Rights: The Case of Egypt**

Mr. Justin Hoyle, Central Michigan University

**Session Chair:** Matthew Brewer, Policy Studies Organization

**SESSION IX- LIBRARY**

**2:00 – 3:20 PM**

**SECURITY**

**Searching for the Man of Peace: Traditional, Cultural, Islamic Mediation**

Dr. Jonathan Zartman, Air Command & Staff College

**The Elusive Quest for Regional Security after the Arab Spring: external intrusion and internal imbalances in the Middle East**

Dr. Keith Grant and Dr. Bernd Kaussler, James Madison University- *Co-Presenters*

**Chair:** TBA

**SESSION X- LIBRARY**

**3:30 – 4:50 PM**

**EDUCATION WORKSHOP**

**Forgiveness in Arab Schools**

Mr. Tarek Maassarani, Salam Institute for Peace and Justice

Dr. Iham Nasser, George Mason University

**Infusing Student-Centered Pedagogy and Civic Values in Religious Education Workshop**

Mr. Tarek Maassarani, Salam Institute for Peace and Justice

Dr. Mohammed Abu-Nimer, Salam Institute for Peace and Justice

**Chair:** TBA

**SESSION XI- BLAIR ROOM**

**3:30 – 4:50 PM**

**DIALOGUE AND POLITICS IN MIDDLE EAST**

**Why has the opportunity of Diplomacy through 'Dialogue among Civilizations' lost? A critical analysis of internal reasons regarding to Iran**

Ms. Fatemeh Chirani, Duisburg-Essen University- Germany- *Presenting via Skype*

**Universalism and Mutual Recognition: The Holocaust in Contemporary Palestinian Discourse**

Ms. Ibtisam Abujad, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**Kuwaiti Mother of Child with a Disability Sense of Support and Burden**

Ms. Tahani Alsabah, Texas Woman's University

**Applying the Deterrence Theory on The Libyan Context**

Mr. Abir El Shaban, Washington State University

**Chair:** Whitney Shepard, Policy Studies Organization

**END OF PROGRAM**

**SPONSORS OF THE MIDDLE EAST DIALOGUE 2014**

