



# Permanence and Change in the Middle East and North Africa

Workshop, 3<sup>rd</sup> term 2014-2015

Organised by Olivier Roy, Nagwan Soliman and Hugo Leal

Please register with Mariana Spratley ([mariana.spratley@eui.eu](mailto:mariana.spratley@eui.eu))

## Abstract

The Tunisian revolution marked the beginning of a series of uprisings that would sweep the entire Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. More than four years later, revolutionary change seems to have been overpowered by authoritarian resilience.

This workshop is an attempt to reflect critically upon the unfolding processes through a different lens: the objective is to offer a comprehensive view, trying to identify the global trends behind and beyond the local events. For that purpose, we will invite both actors and researchers in order to insert the episodic stories in historical perspective. A special emphasis will be put on the concurrent phenomena of permanence and change in the MENA region, in what constitutes a unique opportunity to confront first-hand accounts with scholarly analysis.

## Credits and requirements

This workshop is worth 10 credits.

In order to be duly credited, participants must attend all workshop sessions and write a short position paper (no more than 500 words) on the topic of permanence and change in the Middle East and North Africa.

## Programme

The workshop will take place on May 27<sup>th</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup>, in Seminar Room 2 (Badia Fiesolana).

Please see a detailed agenda of the workshop below.

## Wednesday 27 May

*Seminar room 2, Badia Fiesolana*

- 10:00 – 10:10**      **Opening remarks**  
Prof Olivier Roy, Nagwan Soliman and Hugo Leal, *European University Institute*
- 10:10 – 11:30**      **The solid, the soft and liquid: how to understand politics in the Middle East**  
Heba Raouf Ezzat, *Professor of Political Theory, Cairo University*
- 11:30                      Coffee break
- 11:45 – 13:30**      **Dealing with radicalization in post-spring times**  
Naoufel Omeyya Seddik, *Special Adviser, Center for Humanitarian Dialogue*
- 13:30 – 14:30              Lunch break
- 14:30 – 16:30**      **Breaking up protest waves: contention and repression in the MENA region**  
Hugo Leal, *European University Institute*
- The cosmopolitan class: case study on Egypt**  
Liina Mustonen, *European University Institute*
- Changes in Salafi movements in Egypt and Tunisia**  
Nagwan Soliman, *European University Institute*
- 16:30 – 17:00              Coffee break
- 17:00 – 18:30**      **The "revival" of constitutionalism in the Arab world after the 2011 Uprisings**  
Nedra Cherif, *European University Institute*
- Revisiting the Role of Culture and Religion in the Expansion of International Society: Turkey and the EU as 'Norm-diffusers' in the Middle East"**  
Metin Koca, *European University Institute*

## Thursday 28 May

*Seminar room 2, Badia Fiesolana*

- 10:00 – 11:30**      **The General Tunisian Labour Union and the Advent of Democracy**  
Kasper Ly Netterstrøm, *European University Institute*
- Revolutions and elections in Tunisia: emergence of a civil society of resistance**  
Stéphanie Pouessel, *European University Institute*
- 11:30 – 12:30**      **Challenges of studying the Middle East in the course of change?**  
Olivier Roy, *European University Institute*
- 12:30 – 13:30              Lunch break
- 13:30 – 14:30**      **Concluding remarks**  
Hugo Leal and Nagwan Soliman, *European University Institute*