

Dear Madame, dear Sir, dear colleague and friend,

Please find below the following announcements:

CONFERENCES

1. Graduate Conference: "Change and Continuity in the Middle East, Rethinking West Asia, North Africa and the Gulf after 2011", Graduate Section of BRISMES, LSE, London, 11 June 2012
2. International Conference: "Health Related Issues and Islamic Normativity", University of Hamburg, 20–23 June 2012
3. International Neighbourhood Symposium: "Security and Democracy in the Wake of the Arab Awakening", Heybeliada, Turkey, 26 June – 1 July 2012
4. Conference: "Moving Boundaries in Mobilities Research", University of Cagliari (Sardinia, Italy), 5–7 July 2012
5. International Conference: "Zoroastrianism in the Levant", Oriental Institute, University of Oxford, 4–6 July 2012
6. International Conference: "The Edomites (Idumeans) and the Nabataeans", University of Oxford, 24–27 July 2012
7. International Conference: "Democratic Governance: Challenges in Africa and Asia", Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, 8–10 August 2012
8. Workshop: "New Roles of the Friday Khutba", Copenhagen, 31 August – 1 September 2012
9. International Conference: "Urban Violence in the Middle East: New Histories of Place and Event", School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 13–15 February 2013

POSITIONS

10. Position: Part Time Doctoral Position (Research on Education in Early and Classical Islam), University of Göttingen
11. Eight Fellowships on Arab Transformation, SWP, Berlin
12. Two Ph.D. Scholarships, SWP, Berlin
13. Chaired Professorship in Middle East Politics and International Relations (Al-Qasimi Chair in Gulf Studies), University of Exeter

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

14. Summer Intensive Language Program at The Arab–American Language Institute in Morocco
- Best regards,
Guenter Meyer

www.ceraw.uni-mainz.de Centre for Research on the Arab World (CERAW), University of Mainz,

CONFERENCES

1. Graduate Conference: "Change and Continuity in the Middle East. Rethinking West Asia, North Africa and the Gulf after 2011", Graduate Section of BRISMES, LSE, London, 11 June 2012

The Graduate Section of BRISMES hereby extends an invitation to all early career researchers and PhD candidates to present research that addresses the political, economic, social and cultural transitions taking place across the region. We welcome submissions of papers and panel proposals from any disciplinary field which reflects on these events and the resilience displayed despite the pressure of mass uprisings, regime changes, and the emergence of new conflicts. Will the Middle East become more democratic? What is the role of political Islam? How do the events of 2011 influence the conflicts in the region? Is the Middle East finding a new civil conscience? How is the political economy of the region changing? To what extent were the arts, social networking, civil society or collective memory relevant factors of change in the region? What was the impact of foreign policies towards Middle Eastern states? Is the discourse of "resistance" outdated or is it a factor of change? Are human rights the new political vocabulary of the Middle East? Is women's emancipation really happening in the region?

Deadline for submissions: 13th of April 2012. We are delighted that thanks to generous funding from the Alexandria Trust, we will be able to offer travel grants to participants from Middle Eastern Countries with a universal ranking of under 48 in the HDI universal ranking system. For more <https://sites.g> information and to submit your paper or panel proposals, and on the travel fund, go to: <https://sites.google.com/site/brismesgs2012/>

2. International Conference: "Health Related Issues and Islamic Normativity", University of Hamburg, 20–23 June 2012

The conference will address the following topics with special focus on the countries Tunisia, Iran, and Malaysia.

- The national legal framework for selected medical practices, especially recently new implemented or revised laws relating to the health sector and the development of Fatwas with regards to medical issues.
- The national framework of the health sector in general, with special focus on the respective health insurance and social insurance systems, including their possible reform initiatives.
- The actors of the bioethical discussion in these countries such as National Bioethics Councils, Medical Associations, Muslim Religious Institutions, Parliaments and the Media, as well as international Islamic organizations will be of special interest.

Papers will be considered on any related theme from all disciplines with special promotion of young and talented scientists. Eight young scientists will be given the opportunity to hold an oral presentation at the conference. The Körber Fonds Nachwuchsforschung will cover their travel and accommodation expenses.

A 400-word abstract and short CV (word or pdf) should be submitted by 1 May 2012 by email. Abstracts should include a) name of author, b) affiliation, c) email address, d) title of abstract, and e) body of abstract. Emails should be entitled: Islamic Bioethics. Notification regarding acceptance will be given by 16 May 2012.

schreiber.jenny@go All proposals and inquiries should be directed to the attention of: Jenny Schreiber,

+49 40-42838 3179. thomas.eich@uni-hamburg.de , +49 40-42838 2941 and Thomas Eich,

3. International Neighbourhood Symposium: "Security and Democracy in the Wake of the Arab Awakening", Heybeliada, Turkey, 26 June – 1 July 2012

The Center for International and European Studies (CIES) at Kadir Has University will host this symposium which aims to promote further understanding and cooperation in the Eastern Neighbourhood and the Mediterranean South and beyond by providing a forum for study, dialogue and networking in a multicultural and interdisciplinary environment. Young professionals and graduate students primarily from the countries of the Eastern Neighbourhood, the Mediterranean South, EU member states, and the United States are the Symposium target group. In addition, applicants from the fields of public policy, politics, journalism, and business are especially encouraged to apply. The target age group is 22–35 years of age.

The CIES project enjoys the support of numerous international partners and sponsors including the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, the Harvard University Black Sea Security Program, the International Relations Council of Turkey (UIK), Kadir Has University, the Corporate Social Responsibility Association of Turkey, the Center for Governance and Culture in Europe at the University of St. Gallen, European Studies Institute of Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO), Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, the International Institute for Peace, Vienna and the Open Ukraine Foundation.

ciesac The deadline for applications is 15 April 2012. For more information and to apply please contact tivities@khas.edu.tr

. The application form and the draft program can be accessed from the CIES website at <http://cies.khas.edu.tr>.

4. Conference: "Moving Boundaries in Mobilities Research", University of Cagliari (Sardinia, Italy), 5–7 July 2012

This conference, funded by the University of Cagliari and organized in collaboration with the Cosmobilities Network, aims at discussing new directions in mobilities research, showcasing the state of the art in the field, and providing a unique opportunity to create lasting links among researchers, especially in the north and the south of Europe.

Young and experienced researchers are invited to submit abstracts for paper presentations. High quality abstracts on any aspect of mobilities are welcomed although submissions addressing the following themes are particularly encouraged: – histories of mobilities in the Mediterranean, – cultures of mobilities in the Mediterranean, – the spaces and politics of mobility (and immobility) in the Mediterranean city etc.

This event is organised as a 'festival of ideas' consisting of short presentations followed by plenty of

time for questions and collective discussion. Deadline for abstract submissions 25 April 2012. Contact urossi@hotmail.com and Ugo Rossi jcaletrio@gmail.com for abstract (350 words) submissions: Javier Caletrio jcaletrio@gmail.com

Further information at
<http://spol.unica.it/cosmobilities>

5. International Conference: "Zoroastrianism in the Levant", Oriental Institute, University of Oxford,
4–6 July 2012

ARAM Society for Syro–Mesopotamian Studies is organizing this conference which aims to study the Zoroastrian religion in the Levant (including Iran), and to pay a special attention to the interaction of Zoroastrianism with Near Eastern religions, especially with Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

All papers given at the conference will be considered for publication in a future edition of the ARAM [aram](#) Periodical, subject to editorial review. If you wish to participate in the conference, please contact @orinst.ox.ac.uk. Deadline for papers: 15 April 2012.

6. International Conference: "The Edomites (Idumeans) and the Nabataeans", University of Oxford,
24–27 July 2012

ARAM Society for Syro–Mesopotamian Studies is organizing this conference which aims to study Edom and the Edomites and Idumea and Idumeans and their relationship to the Nabataeans.

All papers given at the conference will be considered for publication in a future edition of the ARAM [aram](#) Periodical, subject to editorial review. If you wish to participate in the conference, please contact @orinst.ox.ac.uk. Deadline for papers: 15 April 2012.

7. International Conference: "Democratic Governance: Challenges in Africa and Asia", Cheyney
University of Pennsylvania, 8–10 August 2012

The purpose of this conference is to bring together an international group of scholars and practitioners from diverse disciplines (economics, sociology, public administration, political economy, business, anthropology, law, political science, information technology, journalism, education, etc.) to collectively explore the multiple facets of the problems of democratic governance, particularly as they relate to corruption, and to suggest concrete strategies geared toward solving these problems in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and other regions of the world.

The ultimate goal of this conference is to provide a platform to discuss multiple dimensions of democratic governance and corruption and help devise strategies to improve governance practices and anti-corruption strategies for the countries in the developing world.

Proposals from individuals at all stages of their careers are welcome. Proposals by graduate students are particularly encouraged and will be evaluated separately by the program development committee.

The deadline for submission of proposals is March 31, 2012. For further information contact Dr. gmudacumura@cheyney.edu Gedeon Mudacumura at

8. Workshop: "New Roles of the Friday Khutba", Copenhagen, 31 August – 1 September 2012

The workshop is organized by the New Islamic Public Sphere Programme of the University of Copenhagen, in collaboration with the Center for the Study of Contemporary Muslim Societies of the Qatar Faculty of Islamic Studies.

During the Arab uprisings of 2011, the mosque, the preacher and the Friday sermon, al-khutba, played crucial roles. Traditionally viewed as formalistic and rigid, the khutba turned out to be a remarkably apt vehicle for criticizing authoritarian rulers and mobilizing citizens against them. Friday sermons often ushered demonstrations, effectively triggering the mass movement on the street. However, and while still potentially powerful in its original setting (i.e. the mosque), the khutba today is omnipresent and far more reaching. It can be recorded, uploaded and accessed by anyone in possession of a mobile phone.

With the momentous events of the Arab Spring in mind, this workshop will examine the roles the khutba plays: it will explore the emergence of the various types of mediated sermons (particularly Friday sermons) throughout the 20th century. While print media allowed khutbas to reach broader publics, these publics can now access a khutba repeatedly, compare it to others, refer to it and comment on it. More recent developments in radio, TV and internet have given the khutba a return to its oral basis, and in forms that allow for even greater outreach. Within the last 20 years, in particular, we have witnessed the rise of star preachers, who draw on genres of classical preaching but also break with them. Preaching in its various forms has regained its pivotal role in public consciousness.

The workshop invites papers addressing these and other issues related to the mediated khutba and its cultural and political role today in the Middle East and beyond. The deadline for the submission of abstracts, including jsp@hum.ku.dk (no more than 200 words) is 30 April, 2012, to which airfare will be covered.

9. International Conference: "Urban Violence in the Middle East: New Histories of Place and Event", School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 13–15 February 2013

The conference is part of the research project, jointly funded by the British Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the German Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. This event is convened by Nelida Fuccaro (SOAS) and Rasmus Christian Elling (University of Copenhagen / SOAS).

This conference seeks to develop new discussions on the relationship between public violence and urban politics, societies and cultures – a topic that despite its importance and relevance to contemporary events has not yet been the subject of systematic academic interest. For this conference, we wish to bring together a core of established and young historians working on the Middle East, and

invite a number of academics specialising on other regions and disciplines, including the social sciences, urban studies and philosophy. The aim is to foster innovative understandings of urban violence informed by comparative and interdisciplinary approaches.

The conference is open to papers dealing with cities and towns of the Arab world, Iran and the Ottoman Empire/Turkey in the early modern and modern periods, approximately from the late 18th Century to the 1960s. Contributions dealing with later periods will be given consideration provided that they have a very strong historical focus. We do not impose any limitations on the forms of violence considered, as long as they are related to the public arena.

<http://h-net.msu.edu/cgi-bin/logbrowse.pl?trx=vx&list=H-AMCA&month=1203&week=d&msg=ImPdaCc24gOKjejD7pFfZQ&user=&pw=> Deadline for abstract submissions: 1st June 2012. For further information see or contact

Nelida Fuccaro (
nf2@soas.ac.uk

) and Rasmus Christian Elling (
re13@soas.ac.uk

). The organisers expect to provide accommodation and reimbursement of travel expenses for participants although we might ask for a contribution towards overseas airfares.

POSITIONS

10. Position: Part Time Doctoral Position (Research on Education in Early and Classical Islam), University of Göttingen

The Courant Research Centre "Education and Religion from Early Imperial Roman Times to the Classical Period of Islam – EDRIS" at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen is currently inviting applications for one part-time doctoral research position.

The position will be part of the third junior research group: "Revelation, Reason, and Identity: Education in Early and Classical Islam" (7th–13th centuries CE). Any subject relating to this field of research is welcome.

Excellent young researchers will mainly pursue their individual research projects within their area of choice. Applications from scholars of all relevant disciplines are welcome. The successful candidates will have a strong research background as demonstrated by an excellent MA degree. Interest in interdisciplinary work is essential. Permanent presence in Göttingen is expected, in order to ensure active scholarly interaction among the research groups of the Centre.

The positions will start in mid April and initially last for one year (in order to replace a colleague who is on maternity leave). Salaries are in accordance with the German state regulated public service salary scale (E 13 TV-L, approx. 1000€ net-income per month).

Applications should contain a CV, project proposal, and a reading sample. They must be submitted by 30 March 2012 to Prof. Dr. Jens Scheiner by post or by email. For further information on the

) jschein@uni-goettingen.de application process please contact Prof. Dr. Jens Scheiner (

11. Eight Fellowships on Arab Transformation, SWP, Berlin

The German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik – SWP) is initiating a collaborative, policy-oriented research project geared to study the dynamics and directions of the current transformations in the Arab World under the headline: “Elite change and new social mobilization in the Arab world”

SWP is calling for applications for up to eight “Arab Transformation Fellowships” that will be awarded to mid-career academics and practitioners from the region. These fellowships will have a length of between two and six months and will be awarded during the period July 2012 through December 2013.

You will:

- be part of an international research team based at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin:
 - participate in the practice of think-tank work;
 - participate in the cooperative development of a conceptual model for an understanding of the current transformations in the Arab world;
- discuss policy-oriented research results in different contexts and have the opportunity to participate in scientific conferences.

Your tasks:

- to contribute a short policy-oriented paper on a specific question relevant to the project;
- to take part in regular meetings of the fellow forum to discuss research results, methodological questions and participate in developing the conceptual model;
- to take part in other activities of the project, such as policy-oriented and academic workshops and conferences;
- depending on the length of your stay: to contribute a case study (for details refer to the concept paper on the project website) on Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Syria, Tunisia, or Yemen, and conduct field research in this country. Applicants are explicitly encouraged to work on countries other than their country of origin/residence.

Eligibility:

- Citizenship or former citizenship of a member state of the Arab League;
- Masters degree or PhD in the social sciences, or equivalent experience;
- Five years of professional experience in a university, think tank, NGO, administration or international organization;
- Substantial periods of residence in the Arab region;
- Excellent knowledge of Arabic and English, Knowledge of French and/or German a plus.

Successful applicants will receive a fellowship of € 2,800 per month, as well as support for travel expenses.

Applicants should submit a CV and proof of academic and professional achievements, as well as a concept note of between 1,000 and 1,500 words detailing a specific aspect or research question of relevance to the overall framework of the project that they intend to pursue, references to preliminary works concerned with related matters, the country they intend to work on and a schedule specifying the intended date and length of their stay in Berlin.

. lothar-j.bucke@swp-berlin.org Please send your email application until 15 April 2012 to

12. Two Ph.D. Scholarships, SWP, Berlin

The German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik – SWP) is initiating a collaborative, policy-oriented research project designed to study the dynamics and directions of the current transformations in the Arab World under the headline “Elite change and new social mobilization in the Arab world”.

SWP is calling for applications for two Ph.D. Scholarships that will be awarded to graduate students from the region who wish to participate in this project and who are working on a Ph.D. thesis related to a subject of relevance to the project. These scholarships will cover a period of 18 months starting in July 2012 through December 2013.

You will:

- be part of an international research team based at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin:
 - have the opportunity to conduct field research;
 - get a hands-on introduction to the practice of think-tank work;
- participate in the cooperative development of a conceptual model for an understanding of transformations in the Arab world;
- discuss policy-oriented research results in different contexts and have the opportunity to participate in scientific conferences.

Your tasks:

- to contribute a case study (for details refer to the concept paper on the project’s webpage) on Egypt, Libya, Syria, Tunisia, or Yemen. Applicants are explicitly encouraged to work on countries other than their country of origin/residence:
 - to contribute a short policy-oriented paper on a specific question relevant to the project;
- to take part in regular meetings of the fellow forum to discuss research results, methodological questions and develop a conceptual model:
 - to take part in other activities of the project.

Eligibility:

- Citizenship or former citizenship of a member state of the Arab League:
 - Master or equivalent degree in the social sciences;
 - Pursuit of a Ph.D. thesis related to the subject of the project;
 - Substantial periods of residence in the Arab region;
- Excellent knowledge of Arabic and English. Knowledge of French and/or German is an asset.

Please note that SWP is not a university and therefore not in a position to award academic degrees. Applicants are expected to be registered in an academic program or institution authorized to award a Ph.D degree, or to register with such an institution upon receiving the scholarship.

Benefits: Successful applicants will receive a scholarship of € 1,700 per month, as well as support for relocation to Berlin and for field research expenses.

Applicants should submit a CV, proof of academic and professional achievements and a letter of recommendation from their academic advisor, as well as a project description of between 2,000 and 2,500 words detailing the country they will work on, the research question, methodology used, preliminary work of relevance and a research schedule. Please send your email application until 15 April 2012 to lothar-j.bucke@swp-berlin.org

13. Chaired Professorship in Middle East Politics and International Relations (Al-Qasimi Chair in Gulf Studies), University of Exeter

Job reference: R11070

Application closing date: 16/04/2012

Salary: Competitive salary reflecting qualification and experience (minimum 65,000 GBP / \$100,000 US)

Package: Generous holiday allowances, flexible working, pension scheme, car lease scheme and relocation package (if applicable)

We are now seeking to appoint a Chair in Middle East Politics and International Relations from 1 August 2012 to contribute to the research, teaching and leadership of the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies. The appointee will have a track record in producing high quality publications in Middle Eastern Politics and/or International Relations of the Middle East (MEP/IRME). Applicants may have expertise in any area of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. If the appointee's interests are appropriate he/she may be offered the Al-Qasimi Chair in Arab Gulf Studies.

[r.van-d](#) Applicants are encouraged to contact the Dean of the College, Prof Robert Van der Noort email: e-noort@ex.ac.uk

to discuss the post further. Informal enquiries can be made to Director of the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, Professor Ian Netton (tel: + 44 1392 725259); or by email: i.r.netton@exeter.ac.uk

https://jobs.exeter.ac.uk/hrpr_webrecruitment/wrd/ru For more information, and to apply, please go to: [n/etrec105gf.open?wvid=3817591jNg](https://etrec105gf.open?wvid=3817591jNg)

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

14. Summer Intensive Language Program at The Arab-American Language Institute in Morocco
The National Council, in collaboration with The Arab-American Language Institute in Morocco (AALIM) for the summer of 2012, is pleased to announce its Summer Language program in the

Kingdom of Morocco, Students will spend six weeks in historic Meknes, Morocco taking part in an intensive Arabic language program. Students at all levels of Arabic proficiency are encouraged to apply.

Program dates: June 4 – July 16, 2012

Josh Applications are available through the link below or can be obtained by emailing Josh Hilbrand at

[@ncusar.org](mailto:josh@ncusar.org)

www.ncusar.org/programs/AALIM-2012-Application.pdf

. Applications are due April 17, 2012.