



المركز العربي للأبحاث ودراسة السياسات  
Arab Center for Research & Policy Studies



المعهد العربي للتخطيط  
ARAB PLANNING INSTITUTE

# Institutions and Development in the Arab Countries

## Challenges and Prospects

28-30 April 2024

Doha, Qatar

[About the Conference](#) | [Timetable](#) | [Participants and Abstracts](#) | [Moderators](#)





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# **About the Conference**

Since the 1990s, international interest in development, governance, and good governance has steadily increased. This focus has fostered a new perspective aimed at strengthening state-society relations through enhanced citizen participation and expanded interaction between public institutions and their constituents. Because this perspective centers on the concept of the public good, citizen interests are prioritized in policy formation and implementation. Transparency, accountability, the rule of law, and institutional integrity serve as its core principles.

In the Arab region, governance approaches and institutional reform have become particularly prominent since the 1990s, driven by ongoing regional transformations. Governments have adopted these approaches to address these transformations. The concept of good governance intertwines with interrelated institutional reform goals, both driven by a need to improve institutional effectiveness and enhance public institutions across all sectors. This emphasis extends beyond infrastructure and technological modernization, promoting a service-oriented work culture and principles that champion the public interest. Such efforts aim to limit concentrations of power, combat corruption, reduce inefficiencies, and effectively address broader governance challenges.

Within this context of reform, numerous initiatives and programs have sprouted across Arab countries. These initiatives aim to transform governmental institutions, shifting them away from traditional, siloed structures and towards a more holistic approach to service delivery. This comprehensive institutional reconstruction aligns with recognized international development best practices. The goal is to propel these institutions to a competitive level, meeting or exceeding global standards of effectiveness. Ambitious development plans prioritize the transformation of public services in sectors crucial to citizens' daily lives. This includes education, healthcare, housing, labor, public safety, and transportation. This emphasis on service delivery has demonstrably accelerated institutional development, particularly in Arab countries with the resources to finance such significant changes. Progress can be seen in their improved rankings on key development indicators.

Concurrently, a parallel academic and research interest arose, focused on solidifying knowledge within governance and new institutional trends. There was increasing interest in human capital development, recognized as pivotal for administrative solutions – from transforming public service culture to enhancing leadership and institutional training capabilities. Invoking governance within Arab government institutions became a means to address persistent, structural crises hindering the absorption of public interests, effective citizen-centered planning, and inclusive policy creation.

Moreover, the aspiration of numerous Arab governments to conform with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals has led to the embrace of principles of good governance and institutionalism. The UN has encouraged member states to collaborate in pursuit of these multifaceted, human-centric objectives. Despite advancements in most Arab countries, developmental hurdles endure, especially in the poorest and least economically affluent nations. Entrenched authoritarianism

further obstructs progress, impacting critical objectives Arab peoples aspire to: reducing poverty and unemployment, ensuring social equity, diversifying economic growth, and achieving sustainable development.

This circumstance spurred the inception of an academic conference in Doha, under the theme **"Institutions and Development in Arab Countries: Challenges and Prospects."** Jointly organized by the [Arab Planning Institute](#) (Kuwait) and the [Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies](#) (Qatar), the conference will be held from April 28-30, 2024 in Doha, Qatar. The conference committee includes the editorial board of the [Hikama Journal](#) for Public Administration and Public Policy, experts from the Arab Planning Institute, and professors from the [Doha Institute for Graduate Studies](#).

The conference provides a platform for researchers and academics with an interest in Arab development to contribute to the discussion outlined in its background paper (released in Summer 2023). The response was overwhelming, with over 500 research proposals received on various topics. Following a thorough review process, the conference committee accepted about 250 proposals. Subsequently, the committee received over 160 complete research papers, out of which 31 were rigorously selected to form the conference agenda.

The conference comprises ten sessions exploring diverse aspects of the core themes. Key topics include institutional reform, government performance enhancement, economic development and diversification, sustainability and climate change response, leadership, innovation, participatory approaches, community-state partnerships, roles of civil society and the private sector in development, developmental finance, post-conflict reconstruction, resource management, urban development, anti-corruption efforts, and governance of education and civil society.

Scholars and researchers are invited to contribute further insights and analyses on these topics. The central aim of this conference is to foster a collaborative academic spirit, bringing together Arab researchers and those invested in the region's development. The exchange of ideas and trends will contribute to Arab development, particularly addressing its most urgent challenges. The conference serves vital national goals, such as reforming public institutions, driving economic development, and modernizing development agencies through governance, sustainability, and standards that prioritize the needs and future of Arab citizens.





# Timetable

# Day One: Sunday, 28 April 2024

8:30 - 9:00	<b>Registration</b>
9:00 - 9:30	<b>Opening Remarks</b>
9:30 - 11:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session I</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Institutional Reform and Development Prospects in the Arab World</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderator: Abdel-Fattah Mady</b></p> <p><b>Brahim El Morchid:</b> Towards Better Integration of Informal Institutions in Arab Development Strategies: A New Institutional Economics Analysis</p> <p><b>Mohamed Harakat:</b> Institutions and Governance in Arab Countries: A Conceptual Analysis of Capacity Enhancement, Research Efforts and Performance Efficiency</p> <p><b>Musaab Mousa and Ahmad Al-Qassar:</b> Governance and Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab Countries: An Applied Study</p>
11:00 - 11:15	<b>Break</b>
11:15 - 12:45	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session II</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Governance and the Evolution of Public Administration</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderator: Mohamed Abo Zeineh</b></p> <p><b>Abdulla Alajami and Ahmad Khaldi:</b> Responsible Leadership and Public Sector Innovation: A Conceptual and Empirical Study</p> <p><b>Faisal Hamad al-Monawer:</b> Inefficiency and Ineffectiveness Of Arab Governments: Reasons And Solutions</p> <p><b>Mohammed S. I. Khalifa:</b> The Role of Governance in Combating Corruption in Palestine</p>
12:45 - 14:15	<b>Lunch Break</b>

<p>14:15 - 15:45</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session III</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Institutional Reform and Issues of Participation and Development</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderator: Walid Abdmoulah</b></p> <p><b>Nassireddine Baki:</b> The Private Sector and Sustainable Development in Algeria: A Participatory Analysis</p> <p><b>Abrar Bint Nasser Bin Humaid Bin Abdullah AL-Hadhramia:</b> Governance Needs in Civil Society Institutions to Enhance Local Development: A Case Study of Omani Women's Associations</p> <p><b>Omar Abdulhafidh Ali Al-Qusais and Ahmed Al Maweri:</b> The Role of Participatory Planning in the Development of Conflict-Affected Communities: A Case Study of Yemen</p>
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## Day two: Monday, 29 April 2024

9:00 - 10:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session IV</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Institutional Governance in Conflict Contexts</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderator: Moosa Elayah</b></p> <p><b>Ruba Mohammad Al Akash, Saleh Mahmoud Ali Bazi, Nadine Elsaddig and Nur Fathi Taissir:</b> From Home to Shelter: Redefining Top-Down Humanitarian Initiatives in the Middle East</p> <p><b>Mohamed Al Bdullah:</b> The Application of Corporate Governance Rules by Microfinance Institutions in Conflict-Affected Countries: A Case Study of Syria</p> <p><b>Araa al Jaramani:</b> Critique of Community Reconstruction Institutions and Organizations: The Unseen Consequences of War - The Syrian Family as a Case Study</p>
10:30 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 15:12	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session V</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Institutions and the Challenge of Climate Change in the Arab Countries</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderator: Marwa Farag</b></p> <p><b>Mazari Nacereddine:</b> AI-Powered Governance: Strengthening Institutional Practices through Digital Transformation</p> <p><b>Sufian Eltayeb Mohamed Abdel-Gadir:</b> Panel Cointegration Approach to Climate Change, Decarbonization, and Energy Transition in Arab Countries: Fresh Insights</p> <p><b>Manara Babiker Hassan Eltayeb:</b> Climate Governance Mechanisms and Their Role in Promoting Women's Migration in Sudan: North Kordofan as a Model</p>
12:15 - 12:30	Break

<p>12:30 - 14:30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session VI</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Role of Institutions in Resource Sustainability and Governance</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderator: Abdou Moussa</b></p> <p><b>Ahmed Haj Asaad:</b> Arab Water Security: Balancing Institutional Management and Political Will: A Case Study of Syria</p> <p><b>Hewa Ali Omar:</b> Sociological Analysis for Institutional Inequality in the Kurdish Region of Iraq</p> <p><b>Mounir Jarraya:</b> Water Crisis in the Context of Economic and Climate Difficulties in Tunisia: Implications and Emerging Challenges</p> <p><b>Abdel Rahman M. S. Rashwan:</b> The Role of Artificial Intelligence Technology in Enhancing the Digital Governance Framework for Achieving Sustainable Green Development</p>
<p>14:30 - 15:30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Break</p>
<p>15:30 - 17:00</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session VII</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Urbanization: Governance Challenges and Prospects for Sustainable Development</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderator: Alanoud Alkhalifa</b></p> <p><b>Ali Abd Alraouf:</b> Towards A Sustainable Development Model in Gulf Cities: The Shift to the Knowledge Economy and Its Challenges</p> <p><b>Mahmoud Zayed Abdallah Zayed:</b> The Right to the City: Alternative Housing Models</p> <p><b>Marwa Sobhy Montaser:</b> The Impact of Multi-level Climate Governance in China on Local Urban Sustainability Policies</p>

## Day Three: Tuesday, 30 April 2024

9:00 - 10:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session VIII</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Issues of Economic Diversification</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderator: Hazem Rahahleh</b></p> <p><b>Siham Matallah:</b> Two Decades of Corruption behind Algeria's Economic Diversification: A Quantitative Study (1996-2019)</p> <p><b>Suleiman Hamoud Murshed Ahmed:</b> Institutional Reforms and Economic Development in Arab Countries</p> <p><b>Aiyoub Mohamed Younis Abdelsalam:</b> The Impact of Economic Policies and Institutional Factors on Economic Diversity in Arab Countries: A Quantitative Analysis</p>
10:30 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 12:15	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session IX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reform and Corporate Governance</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderator: Nawaf Abou Shamala</b></p> <p><b>Abdulghani Ahmed Ali Al-Hawri:</b> University Governance in Yemen: Exploring Global Models for Success</p> <p><b>Bilal Sandid:</b> The Role of Legislative Governance in Kuwait's Sustainable Development</p> <p><b>Kenza Teniou:</b> Requirements for Sustainable Development in the Fourth Industrial Revolution: The Case of Arab States</p>
12:15 - 12:30	Break

12:30 - 14:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session X</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Development Experiences in Morocco</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderator: Ayhab Saad</b></p> <p><b>Mohamed El Masaoui:</b> Morocco's Development Plans: Contrasting Institutionalized vs. Personalized Authority Models</p> <p><b>Omar Iharchane:</b> Morocco's Development Model: A Failed Model or a Governance Crisis?</p> <p><b>Lamia El Amrani:</b> Evolving Roles of NGOs in Morocco: A Case Study of Developmental and Charitable Dimensions</p>
14:00 - 14:15	<b>Closing Remarks</b>
14:15	Lunch





# Participants

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# Abstracts



## **Abdel Rahman M.S. Rashwan**

Assistant Professor in the Department of Administrative and Financial Sciences at the University College of Science and Technology in Gaza, Palestine. He obtained his doctoral degree from Suez Canal University, Egypt, in 2016. He has held positions as Treasurer and Secretary with the Palestinian Association of Accountants and Auditors. His research encompasses various aspects of financial accounting, auditing, accounting information systems, international accounting standards, and tax accounting.

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### **The Role of Artificial Intelligence Technology in Enhancing the Digital Governance Framework for Achieving Sustainable Green Development**

The paper explores the impact of artificial intelligence technology on improving digital governance frameworks in the pursuit of sustainable green development. Employing a descriptive-analytical approach, the paper conducted surveys among a sample comprising general managers, department managers, and financial and administrative heads from industrial companies listed on the Palestine Stock Exchange. The findings shed light on how the adoption of artificial intelligence technology can contribute to strengthening the digital governance framework, ultimately supporting the achievement of sustainable green development goals. The results of the survey reveal that the industrial companies listed on the Palestine Stock Exchange have actively worked towards enhancing digital governance practices, with a specific focus on promoting sustainable development objectives, such as efficient utilization of natural resources and environmental preservation. Consequently, the paper recommends the integration of artificial intelligence techniques within industrial companies listed on the Palestine Stock Exchange. Such integration is deemed crucial due to the significant and proactive role that these technologies play in fostering the technological, economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development within these companies.



## **Abdulghani Ahmed Ali Al-Hawri**

Associate Professor of Educational Principles and Head of the Gifted and Creative Department at the Educational and Psychological Guidance Center at Sana'a University. He obtained his PhD from Cairo University in 2013. His research interests focus on technology issues, contemporary trends, their role in enhancing education, developing scientific research and graduate programs, curriculum development, as well as governance, quality, and academic accreditation. He is a member of the Arab Council for Social Sciences in Beirut and a member and fellow of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies and the International Federation of Arab Academics. Among his recent research is "The Requirements for Employing Artificial Intelligence Technologies in Yemeni Universities from the Perspective of Academic Leaders," presented at the Fourth Scientific Conference of the Information Technology Center at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Sana'a, in 2023.

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### **University Governance in Yemen: Exploring Global Models for Success**

This paper sheds light on global experiences and practices in university governance, and illustrates the status of governance in Yemeni universities, as well as their assimilation of the experiences drawn from global practices, and the difficulties and obstacles that hinder the establishment of governance in those universities. The paper is based on an understanding of governance as an administrative approach aimed at solving the management problems faced by some organizations, institutions, and companies, improving decision-making methods, achieving efficiency, increasing effectiveness, and enhancing performance. Universities have found themselves confronted with a range of challenges, including increasing pressure on their services, growing societal demand for education with inadequate outputs, and a lack of alignment between these outputs and labour market requirements. Additionally, new types of education such as open, distance, electronic, and digital education have emerged, with efforts to secure advanced positions in university rankings, which are linked to three factors: talent concentration, funding provision, and governance. Hence, the adoption of governance approaches in universities worldwide and in Yemeni universities is the subject of study. The paper relies on the opinions of a sample of leaders in Yemeni universities to understand the reality of governance in those universities and the obstacles that hinder their desired impact. It concludes that global experiences have inspired governance practices in universities that have been utilized in the Yemeni university experience. Furthermore, it highlights the gap between the two and the multiple obstacles hindering the establishment of governance, including the lack of leadership selection through elections, scarce training, bureaucratic penetration, and financial shortages.



## Abdulla Alajami

Lecturer at the Grenoble Higher School of Management in France. He obtained his doctoral degree in 2021 from the same university. His research interests include leadership, organizational behaviour, work ethics, and social responsibility. He is a member of the American Institute of Project Management. Several chapters authored by him have appeared in peer-reviewed books, including "From Communication to Dialogue: How Leaders Communicate with Four Ears," in *Personal Communication in the Digital Age: Issues and Perspectives*, published by Baji Mokhtar University (in collaboration with Mahmoud Osman).

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### **Responsible Leadership and Public Sector Innovation: A Conceptual and Empirical Study** (With Ahmad Khaldi)

The paper highlights the relationship between innovation and the responsible leadership strategy of the public management apparatus. It explores ways to enhance innovation within the public management apparatus through the lens of responsible leadership, considering it a vital necessity for responding to the increasing demands on services provided by state institutions. The paper reviews the leadership and social dimensions associated with the public management apparatus and its institutions, seeking out methods to activate an approach that enables this apparatus to achieve effective innovative responsiveness. The paper employs a quantitative descriptive survey methodology using structural modelling to explore the strategies of responsible leadership and their relationships with innovative work behaviour, and their impact on this behaviour within the public management apparatus. The paper elucidates the relational perspective elements between public management and administrative sciences and highlights the dimensions of responsible leadership as a leadership approach based on social responsibility. It recommends paying attention to technical managerial skills, enabling the public management apparatus to function socially effectively. This always requires leaders with a visionary and social perspective who can develop a positive functional relationship with stakeholders in the community and maintain it. It also emphasizes that responsible leadership is a significant strategy for increasing the innovative capacity of the public management apparatus and enhancing its sensitivity to the issues, requirements, and changes of the society in which it operates.



## **Abrar Bint Nasser Bin Humaid Bin Abdullah AL-Hadhramia**

Researcher and social specialist at the Ministry of Education in the Sultanate of Oman. She obtained her master's degree from Sultan Qaboos University in Al Khoudh in 2023. She is interested in women's issues, governance, and activating the role of civil society institutions in educational fields. Among her published research is the study "The Role of the Social Specialist in Enhancing Students' Motivation for Learning: An Applied Study on Students with Low Academic Achievement in Second Cycle Schools for Basic Education," which appeared in the Journal of Social Service Studies.

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### **Governance Needs in Civil Society Institutions to Enhance Local Development: A Case Study of Omani Women's Associations**

This paper examines the governance requirements for developing financial and human resources for women's associations, using the case of Omani women's associations as a focal point. It aims to identify the governance needs related to internal democracy, transparency, and accountability within these associations. Methodologically, the paper relied on a sample social survey tool and studied a group of members of Omani women's associations in the governorates of Muscat and North Al Batinah. The paper concluded with several findings, notably that transparency requirements remain paramount among the governance requirements, followed by accountability requirements. The sample indicated a decline in requirements related to the principle of participation and the development of financial and human resources with lower response averages. The study emphasized the need for further practical studies and research on the importance of implementing governance within civil society organizations and providing a suitable environment to assist Omani women's associations in applying governance through appropriate programs and workshops in this field.



## Ahmad Al-Qassar

Director of the Inspection Department at the Syrian Securities and Markets Authority. He holds a master's degree in Business Administration from Damascus University in 2014. He is interested in researching topics related to financial development and financial marketing modelling.

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### **Governance and Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab Countries: An Applied Study** (With Musaab Mousa)

Based on the importance of the concepts of governance and sustainable development, this study tests the impact of indicators of good governance published by the World Bank on achieving sustainable development goals in 21 Arab countries during the period between 2000 and 2022 using panel data regression. Secondly, the study explores the role of government size as a mediator between governance and the achievement of sustainable development goals. Finally, the study measures the impact of both the Arab Spring disturbances and the reliance on oil in the proposed regression model. The results indicate the impact of most sub-indicators of governance in achieving sustainable development goals, as well as a limited role of government size as a mediator variable in the model, limited to the indicators of "organizational quality" and "rule of law". The results also reveal a negative impact of the Arab Spring disturbances on the relationship between governance and sustainable development goals, while the positive impact of the oil-dependent economic structure was evident in the relationship between governance and the achievement of sustainable development goals.



## Ahmad Khaldi

Associate Professor at Al-Rashid Private University for Science and Technology. He earned his doctoral degree in 2006 from the University of Huddersfield in Britain. His research focuses on managerial leadership, organizational behaviour, consumer behaviour, and digital marketing issues. He is a member of both the International and European Societies for Social Marketing. He is also a member of the Research Group on Consumer Issues Related to Travel and Tourism at Huddersfield University. He published "The Effect of Customers' Gender, Education, and Age on Their E-banking Experience and Word-of-Mouth Online," in the Journal of Business Studies Quarterly.

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### **Responsible Leadership and Public Sector Innovation: A Conceptual and Empirical Study** (With Abdulla Alajami)

The paper highlights the relationship between innovation and the responsible leadership strategy of the public management apparatus. It explores ways to enhance innovation within the public management apparatus through the lens of responsible leadership, considering it a vital necessity for responding to the increasing demands on services provided by state institutions. The paper reviews the leadership and social dimensions associated with the public management apparatus and its institutions, seeking out methods to activate an approach that enables this apparatus to achieve effective innovative responsiveness. The paper employs a quantitative descriptive survey methodology using structural modelling to explore the strategies of responsible leadership and their relationships with innovative work behaviour, and their impact on this behaviour within the public management apparatus. The paper elucidates the relational perspective elements between public management and administrative sciences and highlights the dimensions of responsible leadership as a leadership approach based on social responsibility. It recommends paying attention to technical managerial skills, enabling the public management apparatus to function socially effectively. This always requires leaders with a visionary and social perspective who can develop a positive functional relationship with stakeholders in the community and maintain it. It also emphasizes that responsible leadership is a significant strategy for increasing the innovative capacity of the public management apparatus and enhancing its sensitivity to the issues, requirements, and changes of the society in which it operates.



## Ahmed Al Maweri

Associate Professor and Director of the Excellence Center for Training and Consultancy at the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies. He previously served as the Chair of the Political Science Department at Sana'a University. He is a founding member of the Governance and Peacebuilding Center in the Middle East. He was awarded a PhD in Public Administration from Cairo University in 2012. He has conducted numerous studies in the fields of administrative reform, non-governmental organizations, local governance, and governance. Among his notable works is the book *Public Administration and its Applications in the Yemeni Republic* and the research papers, "Administrative Challenges Facing the Transition to a Federal System in the Yemeni Republic," published in the *Journal of Commerce and Economics*. He also contributed to a research paper titled "National Dialogues as an Interruption of a Civil War? The Case of Yemen," published in the *Peacebuilding Journal*.

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### **The Role of Participatory Planning in the Development of Conflict-Affected Communities: A Case Study of Yemen** (With Omar Al-Qusais)

This paper seeks to understand the role of participatory planning in the development of conflict-affected communities, focusing on the case of Yemen by shedding light on the level of application of participatory planning. It relies on a descriptive and statistical framework, identifying the opinions of development workers, members of community committees, and beneficiaries. The paper reveals that conflict-affected communities experience conditions where the role of authority in local development diminishes, and community influence on policies is severely limited. The analysis demonstrates the existence of a statistically significant relationship between participatory planning and the development of conflict-affected communities. Projects planned with community participation better met community needs, improved services in targeted areas, and provided employment opportunities for community members within these implemented projects. The results also demonstrate that identifying and implementing developmental needs with community participation had the greatest impact on the development of conflict-affected local communities. The paper recommends generalizing the experiences reviewed and benefiting from their lessons in the work of civil society organizations operating in conflict-affected communities. It also argues for enhancing the role of community participation in local development at all stages and interventions, in partnership with local authorities, with a greater role for women and marginalized and vulnerable groups in all stages of development planning, tailored to their nature, preserving their dignity and rights.





## Ahmed Haj Asaad

Director of GeoExperts, an organization based in Geneva. In 2022, he obtained his doctoral degree from the University of Lausanne in Switzerland. His research focuses on economic resource management, agricultural production economics, rural development, and the application of geographic information systems in the field of development.

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### **Arab Water Security: Balancing Institutional Management and Political Will: A Case Study of Syria**

This paper investigates how political interests undermine the effectiveness of technical and legislative institutions responsible for water resource management. It reveals that politicians often prioritize popularity and personal gain over adhering to water-related laws, resulting in resource depletion and pollution. The study uses the Al-Ghab region in central Syria as a case study, demonstrating how shifting political agendas across different regimes have harmed water management. The paper critically examines how powerful individuals, driven by self-interest, manipulate concerns over water protection to seize control of resources. The examples of the Al-Ghab – Hama special zone project and the Mooh Lake – Palmyra illustrate how water resources are used to strengthen political power within the Syrian steppe. Ultimately, the paper argues that sustainable water management is impossible without establishing mechanisms that shield these resources from undue political influence.



## **Aiyoub Mohamed Younis Abdelsalam**

Lecturer at the Department of Economics, Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Benghazi University, Libya. He obtained his doctoral degree in 2021 from the National University of Malaysia in Selangor. His research revolves around issues of economic diversity, economic policies, and development. He has several published research papers in peer-reviewed journals, including his latest works "Public Expenditure and its Impact on GDP in Libya," in the International American Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, and "The Role of Digital Economy in Mitigating the Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Sustainable Development," in the Journal of the Islamic University of Malaysia.

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### **The Impact of Economic Policies and Institutional Factors on Economic Diversity in Arab Countries: A Quantitative Analysis**

This paper assesses the impact of economic policies and institutional factors on economic diversification in a selected group of Arab Gulf countries using the econometric methodology of panel data analysis. It applies the Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) model to the case of Libya. The study finds a significant and positive relationship between government quality in Gulf countries and increased economic diversity, alongside advancements in institutional quality. Economic policies also positively influence government revenue diversification in these countries. However, in the case of Libya, unlike Gulf countries, economic and institutional variables have a very weak relationship with economic diversification. The paper attributes this to poor governmental performance, institutional decay, widespread corruption, and political instability.



**Ali Abd Alraouf**

Professor of Architecture, Urban Planning, and City Planning. He earned his PhD in 1996 from both Cairo University (Egypt) and the University of California, Berkeley (USA). He held a visiting professorship at Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Doha. His specializations include contemporary Gulf cities, knowledge and creative cities, post-oil urbanism, architectural/urban heritage value, and architectural/urban criticism. He has authored numerous influential books, such as *Architectural Criticism and Its Role in Developing Contemporary Architecture*, *From Mecca to Las Vegas: Essays on Architecture and Sacredness* and *Architecture, Urban Planning, and the City after Corona*. His research has also been featured in journals such as: *The International Journal of Tourism Cities*; *International Journal of Architectural Research*; *Journal of Urban Research and Development*; and *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements*.

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## **Towards A Sustainable Development Model in Gulf Cities: The Shift to the Knowledge Economy and Its Challenges**

This paper challenges the prevailing development model in contemporary Gulf cities, arguing for a shift away from reliance on oil and spectacle-driven urbanization. It advocates for a human-centred, sustainable urban model driven by a carefully implemented knowledge economy. The analysis examines the potential of the knowledge economy to address structural, infrastructural, and urban challenges faced by Gulf cities. The paper begins by critiquing the current emphasis on "airport and entertainment cities," highlighting the need for a more equitable and sustainable model. It then analyses the role of the knowledge economy in Gulf states, examining varying levels of implementation and success. Crucially, it emphasizes the importance of integrating sustainability, resource protection, and climate change mitigation within this transition. Using case studies, the paper evaluates how Gulf cities are producing urban spaces under this new model. The central question is whether they can successfully shift from building dazzling cities towards creating just sustainable, knowledge-driven cities that enhance the quality of life.



## Araa al Jaramani

Senior Researcher at the Dutch Institute for Interdisciplinary Demographic Studies, Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy and Sociology at the Free University of Brussels, and Policy Expert at the Syrian Citizenship Charter Program for Peacebuilding Operations, active within the Initiatives Organization in Lebanon. She obtained her PhD in Literary Criticism and Semiotic Methodology in 2012 from Damascus University. Her research focuses on migration issues, refugee policies, and integration in Europe. She has published numerous studies, including "'Girls are like Glass': Situated Knowledge of Syrian Refugee Women on Datafication and Transparency", published in the book *Interrogating Datafication Towards a Praxeology of Data in Germany*. Another notable work is her book *The Trends of Semiotics Literary Criticism in the Arabic Novels*.

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### **Critique of Community Reconstruction Institutions and Organizations: The Unseen Consequences of War - The Syrian Family as a Case Study**

The paper argues for the importance of focusing on the creation of knowledge production in the Arab region concerning family reconstruction in areas affected by conflicts and wars. It examines the suitability of policies of active organizations in Syria in family and community reconstruction. The paper notes that the activities of many of these organizations have focused on empowering women and providing relief, while Western funding has often come with its own agenda. This raises questions about the ability of civil society organizations, supported by Western organizations, to meet the social and familial needs in Syria. The paper analyses the opinions of a wide sample of over 1200 researchers from various regions of Syria to understand the challenges faced by Syrian families during the conflict. It employs qualitative research methods through interviews with active figures inside Syria to assess the compatibility between the requirements of the Syrian social context and the initiatives and activities funded by international organizations. The paper concludes that there is an urgent need for supportive family and community institutions to promote positive social and familial values. It recommends giving civil society the opportunity to implement projects aligned with the social context they represent, enriching studies that contribute to shaping policies of organizations supporting affected communities, and establishing stable family support centres in all municipalities to work with local schools and families to address negative behaviours resulting from wars and disasters in each region and strive to reinforce positive values in communities.



**Bilal Sandid**

Legal Advisor to the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Assistant Professor of Public Law at the Kuwait International Law School. He holds a PhD in Law from the University of Montpellier in France and the Lebanese University, awarded in 2002. He is a member of the arbitration board for the Al-Qarar Journal for Scientific Research in Lebanon. His research focuses on constitutional law and sustainable development issues. He has authored numerous studies, including "Foreign Direct Investment in the State of Kuwait: Challenges and Legal Realities," published in the Kuwait International Law School Journal. Among his recent books is Capital Market Authority, Functional Independence, and Political Oversight.

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## **The Role of Legislative Governance in Kuwait's Sustainable Development**

The paper examines the issue of "legislative governance" and its connection to the legal rules governing institutional reforms. It starts from the premise that legislative governance and sustainable development are two sides of the same coin, especially concerning the coherence of roles and the exchange of tasks aimed at maintaining social stability and meeting the aspirations of current and future generations. The paper takes Kuwait as a case study, highlighting the Kuwaiti experience as a suitable option characterized by political dynamism and specificity, yet still affected by a kind of "political populism" that influences legislative decisions and development requirements. The paper focuses on the dimensions of legislative governance that affect sustainable development, linking the discipline of the legal system to the goals of societal welfare and prosperity. It reviews the various dimensions of the sustainable development system in Kuwait, its objectives, and its connection to the concept of "legislative governance" and some of its applications in relevant public institutions. Through its research, the paper presents the Kuwaiti case as an approach to the duality of sustainable welfare, the duality of law and development.



## **Brahim El Morchid**

Professor of Higher Education at Cadi Ayyad University in Marrakech, Morocco, where he earned his PhD in Economics in 2005. His research interests revolve around the role of institutions in development and economic transformations in Africa and the Arab world. He serves as Vice President of the Council for the Development of Social Research in Africa (Dakar) and as an expert with the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (Rabat). His work has been published in various Arabic and French journals. Recently, he contributed a chapter titled "Social Sciences and Public Policy Making in the Arab World: Towards a Methodology for Bridging the Gap" to the book *The Question of Methodology in Social Research: Multidisciplinary Approaches* (Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies, 2023). He also co-authored the study "The Economic and Social Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Morocco" with Ibrahim Mansouri, published in the inaugural issue of the *Journal Hikama*.

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### **Towards Better Integration of Informal Institutions in Arab Development Strategies: A New Institutional Economics Analysis**

This paper examines the alignment between Arab informal institutions and lived social and cultural realities. It investigates how this compatibility influences development in the Arab world. The paper employs a new institutional economics framework, emphasizing social, political, economic, and cultural norms. This approach allows for a long-term understanding of development trajectories and a critical analysis of economic outcomes. Institutional structures, historical factors, political systems, norms, and constraints shape economic activity. The paper concludes that faltering development strategies in most Arab countries stem from institutional imbalances and weak integration between formal and informal institutions. Reforms often appear transplanted from foreign contexts, failing to adapt to local circumstances and histories and implementation can be overly rigid, leading to societal resistance. Such institutional factors have critically shaped the incentive structures within Arab economies. The paper recommends further research into the role of informal institutions to gain deeper insights into how development can better respond to institutional change. It stresses that the nature of informal institutions guides individual economic behaviour and determines the level of engagement in wealth creation.



## **Faisal Hamad al-Monawer**

A Kuwaiti academic and former consultant in the technical department of the Arab Institute for Planning. He holds a PhD in Public Administration (with a focus on Public Policies) and a Master's degree in Crisis Management. He is a member of the Arab Association for Political Science, the Kuwaiti Economic Society, and serves on the editorial board of the Unified Regional Report on Social Risks in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries. Additionally, he serves as the rapporteur of the editorial board for the National Human Development Report for Kuwait. He has contributed to numerous consultancy studies for various Arab ministries and agencies operating in the social and economic sectors. Furthermore, he has published several research papers covering topics such as development management, public policy analysis, strategic planning, institutional evaluation, crisis management, and institutional reform.

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### **Inefficiency and Ineffectiveness of Arab Governments: Reasons and Solutions**

This paper delves into a significant challenge encountered by Arab nations: the inadequate efficiency and effectiveness of governmental administration. This deficiency has given rise to various risks jeopardizing the stability and progress of these nations. The paper examines the state of governmental administration by utilizing diverse indicators from the international institutional landscape, aiming to pinpoint the key shortcomings, analyze their causes, and propose solutions. It concludes by suggesting strategies to bolster the efficiency and effectiveness of governmental administration across Arab countries. Methodologically, the paper adopts a qualitative analysis approach, leveraging a range of international indicators to assess the efficiency, effectiveness, and broader developmental impact of governmental administration. It also draws insights from influential literature that has scrutinized the overall landscape of Arab governmental administration, particularly in the past two decades.



## Hewa Ali Omar

Lecturer in the Faculty of Arts, Department of Sociology, at Salahaddin University in Erbil. He obtained his PhD in 2020 from Shahid Beheshti University in Tehran, Iran. His research focuses on tribal and clan issues, Kurdish political structures, and challenges related to Kurdish nation-building. His latest publications include "Social Fault Lines for Nation Building: An Analytical Study of Daily Life".

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### **Sociological Analysis for Institutional Inequality in the Kurdish Region of Iraq**

This paper seeks to explain the inequality in the Kurdish region of Iraq and its dimensions shaped by institutional dynamics. It examines manifestations of this, particularly the use of institutions in a manner favouring individuals aligned with dominant political parties (the Kurdistan Democratic Party and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan) in government positions, providing them with greater opportunities compared to those not affiliated with these parties. In pursuit of this advantage, many bureaucratic leaders, Peshmerga commanders, social and tribal leaders, and investors tend to form alliances with these political parties. The paper adopted a qualitative approach, focusing on questions related to inequality, how it emerges, and its effects. It concludes that the existing inequality within the institutions of the Kurdistan Regional Government results from direct and indirect interventions by the ruling parties, affecting organizational structures, decision-making processes, and legal procedures. It also illustrates ways in which influential political parties in the Kurdish region of Iraq exploit and consolidate inequality. The paper recommends addressing this issue by ensuring compliance with regulations and laws while promoting ethical behaviour within these institutions.





**Kenza Teniou**

Lecturer at the Faculty of Sharia and Economics at the University of Prince Abdelkader for Islamic Sciences in Constantine, Algeria, specialized in Islamic economics. She earned her PhD in Economics in 2020 from Abdelhamid Mehri University Constantine 2. Her research interests lie primarily in the areas of digital economics, sustainable development, the impact of the fourth industrial revolution, and financial inclusion challenges. She recently published, "Arab Countries' Outlook for the Future in the Era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution," in the Journal of Strategy and Development. Additionally, her study, "Reality and Prospects of the Contribution of Halal Tourism in Enhancing the Application of Islamic Economics," appeared in Psychology and Education.

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### **Requirements for Sustainable Development in the Fourth Industrial Revolution: The Case of Arab States**

The paper delineates the necessary steps for ensuring the implementation of sustainable development in Arab nations by the year 2030. Furthermore, it seeks to evaluate the potential impacts of fourth industrial revolution technologies on facilitating sustainable development in these countries. It provides insights into the roles played by key stakeholders, including individuals and both public and private institutions. Employing a descriptive analytical approach, the study elucidates concepts pertinent to sustainable development and the fourth industrial revolution. Through qualitative analysis of a set of global indicators, the paper assesses the progress of Arab countries towards achieving sustainable development goals. It underscores the significant challenges posed by the fourth industrial revolution to these nations' pursuit of sustainable development and advocates for adaptation to the rapid technological changes it entails. Additionally, the paper evaluates the readiness of Arab countries to embrace the era of the fourth industrial revolution, drawing on examples such as the experiences of Saudi Aramco and Qatar Airways in leveraging digital technologies to advance sustainable development objectives.



**Lamia El Amrani**

Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Legal, Economic, and Social Sciences at Mohammed V University in Rabat, Morocco. She obtained her doctoral degree from the same university in 2023. Her research focuses on public administration and administrative reform in Morocco, as well as issues related to civil society. Her recent publication, *The Moroccan Reconciliation Program and Its Role in Combating Extremism and Terrorism: Morocco's Experience in Managing Violent Extremism (Institutions and Individuals)*, was published by the Marsab Center for Studies and Research.

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## **The Evolving Roles of NGOs in Morocco: A Case Study of Developmental and Charitable Dimensions**

This paper examines the roles of NGOs in the charity and development sectors, exploring how these roles have evolved over time. The paper also considers the influence of political and social contexts on the activities of these organizations in Morocco. It highlights the challenges faced by NGOs in their work. By conducting case studies and surveys with individuals working in charitable and developmental associations, the paper reveals that Moroccan NGOs have been able to provide a range of services and programs that address the needs of society, despite the obstacles they encounter. However, it emphasizes the need for an updated legislative and administrative framework, adequate funding, and support for the initiatives of these organizations to enhance their role. The paper concludes that the third sector in Morocco has played a significant role in shaping the current landscape, transitioning from being marginalized and restricted by the state to becoming an active partner in public affairs and recognized as a constitutional actor in the development process. It also emphasizes the ongoing need for reform in the environment in which Moroccan NGOs operate, with policies and procedures that promote their role in sustainable development and improve the quality of life in Moroccan society. The paper highlights that NGOs complement the roles of the public and private sectors and can provide innovative solutions to the developmental challenges faced by society. It recommends removing obstacles, including legal, administrative, financial, human, and logistical constraints, to enable the third sector to fulfil its functions and responsibilities effectively.



## **Mahmoud Zayed Abdallah Zayed**

Assistant Professor at the Department of Sociology at Cairo University. He earned his PhD in 2022 and is a member of the Sociologists Association in Cairo. His research focuses on urban issues, urban transformations, and social justice. He has published several research papers, including an article titled "Post-COVID Cities" in the Journal of the Faculty of Arts at Cairo University.

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### **The Right to the City: Alternative Housing Models**

Using a descriptive methodology and interview-based fieldwork, this paper examines Egypt's strategies in implementing housing justice. It specifically investigates the patterns of alternative housing as a fundamental aspect of the right to the city. The study traces the challenges faced by residents within new residential communities and analyses the impact of housing projects in the Masaken Al-Awwal and Asmarat neighbourhoods in Cairo. The research reveals significant transformations in Egypt's urban development sector, encompassing planning, infrastructure, and services. This sector has played a pivotal role in providing suitable housing for diverse population segments in accordance with their social and economic circumstances. The paper identifies three distinct patterns that the state implemented to achieve housing justice: first-care housing, informal housing structuring, and social housing. Furthermore, the paper highlights the high satisfaction levels among residents regarding alternative housing in these contemporary projects, which deviate from traditional housing models. However, the study acknowledges persistent challenges, including security issues in these areas and the deterioration of environmental conditions within the traditional alternative housing pattern.



## **Manara Babiker Hassan Eltayeb**

Researcher with a master's degree in International Relations from the University of Khartoum in 2016 and has been a member of the International Studies Association since 2022. She has actively participated in conferences focusing on women's issues, asylum, and migration. Her published studies include "On the Horns of a Dilemma: Human Traffickers, the COVID-19 Pandemic, and Victims of Trafficking in Khartoum" and "The MENA Region and COVID-19: Impact, Implications, and Prospects."

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### **Climate Governance Mechanisms and Their Role in Promoting Women's Migration in Sudan: North Kordofan as a Model**

This paper examines the impact of climate change on rural communities in Sudan, focusing on Sudanese women. By conducting interviews with women affected by conflict and civil society representatives in Kordofan, the study investigates how climate governance mechanisms led by the United Nations (UN) affect women impacted by climate change. Additionally, the research explores the role of women in food security and peacebuilding within conflict zones. It raises questions about the changing social dynamics caused by climate change and the effectiveness of governance strategies in empowering women, promoting leadership, and fostering independence. The paper concludes that climate governance projects have failed to address the underlying causes of climate change adequately. Inadvertently, these projects have contributed to the emergence of new family structures, where mothers assume primary responsibilities due to male migration driven by safety and economic factors. This shift has resulted in increased awareness and aspirations among women, leading to internal migration towards urban areas and even beyond Sudan's borders. Notably, women's migration is influenced by factors that extend beyond climate governance, such as the ongoing conflict in Sudan and its impact on the legal status of female migrants in other countries.



## **Marwa Sobhy Montaser**

Lecturer in Political Science at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University. She earned her PhD in Political Science from Cairo University in 2021. Her research explores security studies, refugee issues in the Middle East, and the intersection of environment and climate change. She has contributed to the book *The Digital Giants: The Roles of E-platforms in China's Technological and Trade Policies*. She has also published papers in peer-reviewed journals, including "Investigating self-settled Syrian refugees' agency and informality in southern cities greater Cairo: a case study", in *Review of Economics and Political Science*.

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### **The Impact of Multi-level Climate Governance in China on Local Urban Sustainability Policies**

The paper explores the intricacies of multi-level governance and its adaptability within various cultural frameworks. It delves into the processes and dynamics inherent in such governance structures, applying them to situations governed by authoritarian regimes. Notably, the case of China serves as a revealing example, where the implementation of multi-level governance has introduced novel analytical concepts like "fragmented authoritarianism" and "flexible authoritarianism". This Chinese model contrasts starkly with theories of multi-level governance prevalent in Western European contexts, characterized by democratic pluralism. Given the authoritarian nature of China's governance, several studies have questioned the applicability of multi-level governance theory in this context. The paper concludes by asserting the potential for Western theories, such as multi-level governance, to be tailored and implemented in diverse contexts that deviate from standard assumptions, including the unique context of China. The study underscores how cities like Shenzhen in China have achieved significant milestones in environmental policy and carbon emission reduction, all while maintaining alignment with central government directives. Simultaneously, there's been robust participation from local government bodies, affiliated councils, non-governmental organizations, corporations, and individuals in concerted efforts towards low-carbon urban development.



## **Mazari Nacereddine**

Professor at Zian Achour University in Algiers, Algeria. He holds a doctorate from the University of Algiers 3, earned in 2018. He manages the training program in information and communication sciences and serves as a member of the Scientific Committee within the university's Department of Information, Communication, and Libraries. Additionally, he is a founding member and public information officer for the State Observatory for Sustainable Development, Culture, and History. His research interests include media and journalism, and he is interested in the localization and use of artificial intelligence. He has recently published several books, including "Organizing the Media in Algeria, Specialized Journalism, and Writing Techniques in the Written Press" He also published a book in English, "Smart Media and News Generation" in 2024.

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### **AI-Powered Governance: Strengthening Institutional Practices through Digital Transformation**

This paper investigates the challenges and opportunities presented by AI-driven institutional governance. Focusing on institutional development through digital transformation, it examines the cases of Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. The paper explores mechanisms and concepts for applying AI to support development in Arab countries, including potential benefits from foreign expertise. The case studies highlight the importance of strengthening transparency and accountability in institutional decision-making within an AI-reliant context. Knowledgeable management is crucial; technical expertise in AI understanding enables effective governance systems, strategic AI implementation dialogues, risk/opportunity assessment, and informed decisions. The paper stresses the need to evaluate ethical risks of AI, such as those relating to data privacy, algorithmic bias, and responsibility. It recommends that institutions ensure responsible data sourcing in AI algorithms and prioritize transparency and accountability in data processing and AI use to prevent discriminatory outcomes.



## **Mohamed Al Bdullah**

Researcher at the Omran Center for Strategic Studies. He holds a master's degree in Economics from Istanbul Zaim University (2009). His research explores development economics and humanitarian and social financing within Arab and Islamic communities, especially those in conflict zones. His publications include the 2023 study "Governance of the Financial Sector in Northern Syria: Reality and Challenges," published by the Omran Center for Strategic Studies.

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### **The Application of Corporate Governance Rules by Microfinance Institutions in Conflict-Affected Countries: A Case Study of Syria**

The paper investigates how microfinance institutions (MFIs) in north-western Syria implement corporate governance rules. The study pinpoints key obstacles hindering compliance and analyses how adherence to governance rules impacts MFIs' financial sustainability, relying on semi-structured interviews alongside other data sources. The paper concludes that the MFIs within the study sample generally displayed low levels of corporate governance compliance. This is attributed to internal issues like ineffective boards of directors, poor risk management, and insufficient transparency. Additionally, external challenges, such as the unstable environment of conflict zones, lack of local legal frameworks, and a decline in donor support, combine to compromise the MFIs' ability to secure their future activities.



## Mohamed El Masaoui

Professor of Higher Education at Ibn Zohr University, Agadir, Morocco and Director of the Laboratory for Political and Territorial Development Studies and Risk Analysis at the same university. He obtained his PhD in Public Law in 2010 from the University of Al-Qadi Ayyad in Marrakech. His research focuses on constitutional law, political science, human rights, and political thought. He serves as the President of the Moroccan Center for Human Rights Studies and Training and is a founding member of the Moroccan Center for Policy Studies and Analysis. He has numerous published research papers in peer-reviewed journals, including "Islamic-Secular Dialogue in the Arab World, A Crisis of Communication and the Revival of Violence," published in Contemporary Arab Affairs. One of his latest books is Human Rights and Public Freedoms, Between International Law and Local Legislation.

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### Morocco's Development Plans: Contrasting Institutionalized vs. Personalized Authority Models

This paper explores the impact of institutional variables on the new development model adopted in Morocco as a case study, and the meanings attributed to this variable in the outputs of the Moroccan Development Model Committee. This committee was formed following widespread debate and was tasked with diagnosing the problem and proposing solutions. The committee concluded that one of the causes of the crisis is related to the nature of the political institutions, which lacked effectiveness under an advanced constitution that allows for change. The paper analyses the content of the "New Development Model Report" issued by the committee, analysing the discourse and context of the document and the discourse of the royal and international monetary institutions. It concludes that the committee did not rely on the institutional variables to achieve development and that it is the effective and rigorous implementation of the development model, prepared by the committee under the leadership of the king, that is required. A specific conception of institutional governance has prevailed, understanding the crisis to be rooted in management, with the solution to be found in implementing the principles of governance, as recommended by international monetary institutions. The paper criticizes the ambiguity of the institutional variable from this perspective, as reflected in reports from international monetary institutions and literature focusing on the relationship between institutions and development, where the concept of institutional governance has been reduced to good management, efficiency, effectiveness, state power, and trust, while sidelining the political, democratic, and rule of law aspects in diagnosing the reality of development in Morocco. The solution presented by this new development model does not link development stakes to transformations in the democratization of political power.





## **Mohamed Harakat**

Professor at Mohammed V University in Rabat, Morocco. He obtained his Doctorate in Economics from the same university in 1992. He has numerous publications in reputable academic journals covering topics such as political economy, international public benefit governance, digital governance, economic diplomacy, institutional and strategic capacity development, as well as prospective studies. He currently serves as the director of the doctoral research team on Governance in Africa and the Middle East at Mohammed V University in Rabat. He serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the Moroccan Journal of Audit and Development. His publications include *The Judicial Agent of the Kingdom: A Project to Support Strengthening Institutional and Strategic Capacities*, and *Economic Diplomacy in Africa*.

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### **Institutions and Governance in Arab Countries: A Conceptual Analysis of Capacity Enhancement, Research Efforts and Performance Efficiency**

This paper seeks to articulate a comprehensive theoretical framework for governance and its effective applications in Arab institutions. It explores the obstacles hindering this, identifies the complex and underlying factors, and elucidates the available opportunities and essential conditions for formulating and crystallizing this framework. It critically examines debates surrounding governance, its definitional ambiguities, and its ideological dimensions, transcending its mere scientific conceptualization. It seeks to demonstrate the true scope of these criticisms, presenting an approach that relies on a comprehensive historical understanding of the phenomenon. The paper is grounded in a conceptualization of social sciences as governance sciences par excellence, highlighting the positive impact of governance on knowledge production and the valorization of Arab research efforts related to development and stability.



## Mohammed S.I. Khalifa

Director of Studies and Corruption Risk Assessment at the Anti-Corruption Authority in Palestine. He completed his master's degree at Yarmouk University in Irbid, Jordan in 1997. His research revolves around macroeconomic issues, governance of public sector institutions, and corporate governance. He is an active member of the Researchers Network affiliated with the Palestinian National School of Administration and serves as an expert on the team responsible for setting national priorities in studies and research at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. Recently, he published a paper titled "Integrity and Governance Measures in the Palestinian Land Authority" in 2020 and presented the study "The Role of Governance in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals: Target 5 as a Model" at the Conference on Policies, Governance, and Leadership in Turbulent Times in the Middle East and North Africa, organized by the American University in Cairo in 2023.

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### The Role of Governance in Combating Corruption in Palestine

This paper explores governance compliance in the public sector and its implications for corruption in Palestine. It analyses data from the World Bank's indicators for public sector governance and annual reports on integrity and anti-corruption efforts released by the Coalition for Integrity and Accountability (Aman). The study identifies major challenges for the adoption of governance principles, including the persistent policies of Israeli occupation deliberately targeting the Palestinian people, to exploit their resources and confiscate land, as well as embezzle public funds. Other challenges include inconsistent legal systems within the country, and the ongoing political division. It concludes that weak governance exposes vulnerabilities in the integrity and anti-corruption framework, evident through the limited role played by the Financial and Administrative Control Bureau, the lack of political will to combat Corruption, the absence of the Legislative Council, the lack of presidential, legislative, and local elections since 2006, the absent accountability of non-ministerial executive public institutions, the inadequate complaints system in the public sector, insufficient oversight and accountability of public services managed by the private sector, and the ever diminishing role of the judiciary. Furthermore, the Anti-Corruption Authority plays a significant role in enforcing the law, strengthening the integrity and anti-corruption framework, but faces major challenges. The paper stresses the need to enforce governance principles within public sector institutions, with the government taking the lead in coordinating and consulting with other sectors regarding legislation. Moreover, integral laws such as the Right to Access Information Act should be enacted, along with reinforcing the independent judiciary's role and spreading social accountability.



**Mounir Jarraya**

Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Sfax, Tunisia. He holds a PhD from Paris 7 University (Denis Diderot) in Paris, France, obtained in 2009. His research focuses on applied climatology, bioclimatic issues, the impact of climate on health, and topics related to health geography. He is a member of the World Climate Association, the Tunisian Geographers Association, and the Tunisian Association for Climate Science. He also serves on the editorial board of the Arab Journal of Geographic Studies and the International Journal of Scientific Research. One of his recent publications is the study "Applied Approaches to Climatology in the Context of Open Science and its Multiple Challenges: Contributions to the Study of Health Risks and Mitigation in the Case of the Sfax Region (Eastern Central Tunisia)," published in the Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences in 2021, and the study "Temporalité de Covid-19 en Tunisie: Aspects d'éventuelle saisonnalité et retombés sur le tourisme," published in the book Governance, Communication, and Development of Tourist Territories.

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## **Water Crisis in the Context of Economic and Climate Difficulties in Tunisia: Implications and Emerging Challenges**

The paper addresses aspects of the water crisis in Tunisia and its intersection with the deterioration of the economic and social situation, as well as clarifying the responsibility of the National Water Exploitation and Distribution Company for this crisis through its status and the measures it has taken in its management. The paper reviewed various digital data, including the water situation, economic conditions, food security, data related to the public water network, water distribution quantities, and the status of its infrastructure. The paper highlights the prevalence of water poverty in Tunisia and its impact on the lives of the population and food security. The repercussions of the crisis are being felt in a deteriorating economic reality, exacerbating social vulnerabilities. The paper discusses the state's policy in managing the crisis and the measures that prioritize drinking water and rationing consumption, with catastrophic consequences for the daily water needs of the population, especially in the inland regions of the country. The paper also documents various problems, including prolonged water shortages, which have sparked various forms of protest movements.



**Musaab Mousa**

Researcher and Lecturer at the Budapest International Business School and the Mannheim Business School in Germany. He obtained his PhD from the University of Széchenyi István in Hungary. He has published numerous studies in peer-reviewed scientific journals, including "Are ESG Shares a Safe Haven during COVID-19? Evidence from the Arab Region", published in the journal Sustainability.

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### **Governance and Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab Countries: An Applied Study** (With Ahmad Al-Qassar)

Based on the importance of the concepts of governance and sustainable development, this study tests the impact of indicators of good governance published by the World Bank on achieving sustainable development goals in 21 Arab countries during the period between 2000 and 2022 using panel data regression. Secondly, the study explores the role of government size as a mediator between governance and the achievement of sustainable development goals. Finally, the study measures the impact of both the Arab Spring disturbances and the reliance on oil in the proposed regression model. The results indicate the impact of most sub-indicators of governance in achieving sustainable development goals, as well as a limited role of government size as a mediator variable in the model, limited to the indicators of "organizational quality" and "rule of law". The results also reveal a negative impact of the Arab Spring disturbances on the relationship between governance and sustainable development goals, while the positive impact of the oil-dependent economic structure was evident in the relationship between governance and the achievement of sustainable development goals.



## Nadine Elsaddig

A student on the International Development Studies program at the University of Toronto. She is also the Student Research Officer at the Center for Refugee, Displaced, and Forced Migration Studies at Yarmouk University, Jordan. She is interested in refugee issues, human rights, and migration policies.

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### **From Home to Shelter: Redefining Top-Down Humanitarian Initiatives in the Middle East** (With Ruba Mohammad Al Akash, Saleh Mahmoud Ali Bazi and Nur Fathi Taissir)

This paper critically examines the nature of developmental humanitarian initiatives in the Middle East, specifically focusing on their impact on refugee communities. The study particularly emphasizes the Jordanian context. By analysing structural challenges and cultural insensitivity, the paper advocates for an inclusive and participatory approach. It highlights a significant gap between service providers and refugees within various humanitarian initiatives. The research methodology employed is archival, utilizing data from academic journals and international organizations to comprehensively understand the multi-dimensional nature of these programs. The paper explores avenues for improving the effectiveness of complex strategies employed in supporting refugees in the Middle East. It recommends a reassessment of humanitarian support strategies, prioritizing cultural sensitivity and fostering collaboration with stakeholders. The goal is to empower refugees through a more efficient and sustainable approach.



## Nassireddine Baki

Professor at the "Nour El Bachir" University Center, El Bayadh, Algeria. He received his PhD in 2023 at University of Algiers 3. He is a research member in the Laboratory of Studies and Analysis of Public Policies at the same university. His research interests focus on political systems and political economy, political development, as well as security studies. He has published several research papers in refereed journals, including "The Foreign Political Employment of Arab Minorities in Iran and Its Impact on Arab-Iranian Relations", published in Tajseer Journal. He has published two books, *The Political Elite and Its Role in Achieving Political Development in Algeria* and *The Role of Intellectual Elites in the Future of Arab Unity*.

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### **The Private Sector and Sustainable Development in Algeria: A Participatory Analysis**

This paper examines the participatory approach in Algeria and its potential for driving development. It highlights how the Arab Spring uprisings of 2011 heightened interest in this approach. Economic discontent fuelled political change in Algeria, leading to greater emphasis on the private sector's role in development. This shift contributed to the 2011 "oil and sugar crisis" and later the 2019 HIRAK movement, exposing the problematic entanglement of money and politics. Consequently, there's a growing need to reshape the private sector's role to foster genuine partnership with the state and civil society in the development process. The paper concludes that Algeria's embrace of the private sector followed decades of ideological conflict and a gradual shift toward a market economy. While the participatory approach holds promise, its implementation requires structural changes in the Algerian economy. Despite recent efforts to reorient the economy and engage the private sector under increased oversight, restrictive administrative procedures continue to impede progress.



## **Nur Fathi Taissir**

A consultant specializing in corporate engagement. She graduated from Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid in 2015.

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This paper critically examines the nature of developmental humanitarian initiatives in the Middle East, specifically focusing on their impact on refugee communities. The study particularly emphasizes the Jordanian context. By analysing structural challenges and cultural insensitivity, the paper advocates for an inclusive and participatory approach. It highlights a significant gap between service providers and refugees within various humanitarian initiatives. The research methodology employed is archival, utilizing data from academic journals and international organizations to comprehensively understand the multi-dimensional nature of these programs. The paper explores avenues for improving the effectiveness of complex strategies employed in supporting refugees in the Middle East. It recommends a reassessment of humanitarian support strategies, prioritizing cultural sensitivity and fostering collaboration with stakeholders. The goal is to empower refugees through a more efficient and sustainable approach.



## Omar Abdulhafidh Ali Al-Qusais

Researcher and organizational training and development consultant at the Social Development Fund. He holds a master's degree in Business Administration in 2022 from the University of Sana'a, Yemen. He has published several studies, including "Training Quality and Its Impact on Human Resource Performance in Yemeni Banking Institutions."

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### **The Role of Participatory Planning in the Development of Conflict-Affected Communities: A Case Study of Yemen** (With Ahmed Al Maweri)

This paper seeks to understand the role of participatory planning in the development of conflict-affected communities, focusing on the case of Yemen by shedding light on the level of application of participatory planning. It relies on a descriptive and statistical framework, identifying the opinions of development workers, members of community committees, and beneficiaries. The paper reveals that conflict-affected communities experience conditions where the role of authority in local development diminishes, and community influence on policies is severely limited. The analysis demonstrates the existence of a statistically significant relationship between participatory planning and the development of conflict-affected communities. Projects planned with community participation better met community needs, improved services in targeted areas, and provided employment opportunities for community members within these implemented projects. The results also demonstrate that identifying and implementing developmental needs with community participation had the greatest impact on the development of conflict-affected local communities. The paper recommends generalizing the experiences reviewed and benefiting from their lessons in the work of civil society organizations operating in conflict-affected communities. It also argues for enhancing the role of community participation in local development at all stages and interventions, in partnership with local authorities, with a greater role for women and marginalized and vulnerable groups in all stages of development planning, tailored to their nature, preserving their dignity and rights.





## Omar Iharchane

Professor at the University of Al-Qadi Ayyad in Marrakech, Morocco and Director of the Moroccan Center for Research and Policy Analysis (CEMRAP). He obtained his PhD in Public Law from the Faculty of Administrative Law and Sciences at Hassan II University in Casablanca in 2011. His research revolves around topics such as administrative reform, development and governance, democratic transition, and social movements. He is a member of the Legal Research and Policy Analysis Laboratory at Al-Qadi Ayyad University. Among his latest works are the books Foundations of Legal Terminology Study, and Press and Communication Law in Morocco.

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### Morocco's Development Model: A Failed Model or a Governance Crisis?

This paper sheds light on the development dilemma in Morocco by investigating the causes and consequences of the successive failures officially acknowledged. It covers the quarter century reign of King Mohammed VI, from 1999 to 2023. It questions whether these failures are due to the state's strategic development choices made at the beginning of independence. Or are they related to the methodology for approving these choices and weak participation in them? Or are they linked to the institutions that were entrusted with the task of implementing these development plans? Or the development programs created in light of these decisions and plans, characterized by inconsistency, given Morocco to be a country aligned with a liberal system and at the same time maintaining the idea of five-year and three-year plan? Or is it related to the governance system? Or is it related to the absence of public participation by all of society? Furthermore, it examines whether these failures are linked to the governance system or the absence of public participation from all components of society. The paper demonstrates the lack of coherence between the efforts made and their outcomes in reality, as well as the delayed ranking that Morocco holds in the UNDP Human Development Index, raising questions about governance in this regard. It also highlights the failure to translate the outcomes of major economic workshops into social achievements or their lack of inclusivity for all sectors and regions, which places Morocco captive to stark regional and sectoral disparities that have been the cause of many uprisings and protests, including the Rif Movement, Jerada, Imider, and the February 20 Movement, which is associated with the broader context of the Arab Spring.



## Ruba Mohammad Al Akash

Director of the Refugee, Displaced, and Forced Migration Studies Center at Yarmouk University in Irbid, Jordan. She obtained her doctoral degree from the University of Kent in the United Kingdom in 2013. Her research focuses on refugee issues, forced migration, and women's studies in the Middle East. She has published several research papers, including her most recent work titled "Exploring Contested Meanings through Ethnography: Early Marriage among Syrian Refugees in Jordan," co-authored with M Chalmiers, in *Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters* in 2021.

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### **From Home to Shelter: Redefining Top-Down Humanitarian Initiatives in the Middle East** (With Saleh Mahmoud Ali Bazi, Nadine Elsaddig and Nur Fathi Taissir)

This paper critically examines the nature of developmental humanitarian initiatives in the Middle East, specifically focusing on their impact on refugee communities. The study particularly emphasizes the Jordanian context. By analysing structural challenges and cultural insensitivity, the paper advocates for an inclusive and participatory approach. It highlights a significant gap between service providers and refugees within various humanitarian initiatives. The research methodology employed is archival, utilizing data from academic journals and international organizations to comprehensively understand the multi-dimensional nature of these programs. The paper explores avenues for improving the effectiveness of complex strategies employed in supporting refugees in the Middle East. It recommends a reassessment of humanitarian support strategies, prioritizing cultural sensitivity and fostering collaboration with stakeholders. The goal is to empower refugees through a more efficient and sustainable approach.



## Saleh Mahmoud Ali Bazi

Assistant Professor at Yarmouk University in Jordan. He holds a PhD from Newcastle University in the United Kingdom. His research interests lie in digital marketing and branding. He has participated in numerous conferences and has published research papers, including the recent publication titled "Social Media Content Aesthetic Quality and Customer Engagement: The Mediating Role of Entertainment and Its Impacts on Brand Love and Loyalty," co-authored with Valerie and Jourdan, published in the Journal of Business Research in 2023.

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### **From Home to Shelter: Redefining Top-Down Humanitarian Initiatives in the Middle East** (With Ruba Mohammad Al Akash, Nadine Elsaddig and Nur Fathi Taissir)

This paper critically examines the nature of developmental humanitarian initiatives in the Middle East, specifically focusing on their impact on refugee communities. The study particularly emphasizes the Jordanian context. By analysing structural challenges and cultural insensitivity, the paper advocates for an inclusive and participatory approach. It highlights a significant gap between service providers and refugees within various humanitarian initiatives. The research methodology employed is archival, utilizing data from academic journals and international organizations to comprehensively understand the multi-dimensional nature of these programs. The paper explores avenues for improving the effectiveness of complex strategies employed in supporting refugees in the Middle East. It recommends a reassessment of humanitarian support strategies, prioritizing cultural sensitivity and fostering collaboration with stakeholders. The goal is to empower refugees through a more efficient and sustainable approach.



## **Siham Matallah**

Assistant Professor at the University of Oran 2 Mohamed Ben Ahmed, Oran, Algeria. She obtained her PhD in Economics in 2017 from the University of Abi Bakr Belkaid in Tlemcen. Her research focuses on development economics, good governance issues, economic diversification, renewable energy, and geopolitical conflicts. She has been a research associate at the Economic Research Forum (ERF) in Egypt since 2021. Her recent research includes "MENA oil exporters need a renewable energy transition before the oil wells run dry: A special focus on innovation, financial development, and governance," published in the Geological Journal.

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### **Two Decades of Corruption behind Algeria's Economic Diversification: A Quantitative Study (1996-2019)**

The paper examines the impact of corruption on economic diversification in Algeria from 1996 to 2019. The Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) model was employed as an approach, revealing the extent of the increase in economic diversification in Algeria if corruption control levels were achieved in another Arab country, namely Qatar, which serves as the closest example due to its status as an Arab gas and oil exporting country that has achieved considerable success in economic diversification thanks to its good governance and anti-corruption efforts. The paper concluded that corruption has a significantly adverse impact on economic diversification in Algeria. Improvement in corruption control by 1% was found to enhance economic diversification in Algeria by 11.89% and 13.06% in the short and long run, respectively. Furthermore, the paper estimated that the increase in economic diversification in Algeria after replacing its corruption control level with that of Qatar amounted to 12.59% in the short run and 19.17% in the long run.



## **Sufian Eltayeb Mohamed Abdel-Gadir**

Associate Professor at Sultan Qaboos University in the Sultanate of Oman. He obtained his doctoral degree in Economics in 2010 from the University of Thessaloniki, Greece. He is a contributing researcher at the Economic Research Forum (ERF). His research focuses on economic development issues, energy economics, climate economics, as well as issues related to achieving sustainable development and digital economy. His research papers include "Unveiling the Environmental–Economic Nexus: Cointegration and Causality Analysis of Air Pollution and Growth in Oman," published in the journal Sustainability.

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### **Panel Cointegration Approach to Climate Change, Decarbonization, and Energy Transition in Arab Countries: Fresh Insights**

The paper highlights the progress made in carbon reduction in Arab countries by studying the interaction between economic factors and institutional factors related to governance. The paper focuses on variables including carbon dioxide emissions per capita, real GDP per capita, government effectiveness, renewable energy consumption, energy use, and the percentage of urban population among the total population. It employs data from 13 Arab countries and applied the standard model based on Panel Data to study the period from 1996 to 2022. Additionally, it utilizes the integrated approach methodology and the Error Correction Model to analyse the long-term relationships between these variables. To measure the impact of integration in the long run, the paper uses the Dynamic Ordinary Least Squares (DOLS) and Fully Modified Ordinary Least Squares (FMOL) models. Through descriptive statistical analysis, the paper reveals significant variations in carbon dioxide emissions and other key variables, indicating the need for comprehensive analysis. The results of the cointegration tests indicate significant cointegration among the variables, suggesting a long-term relationship between them. The paper presents a comprehensive view of the complex relationships between economic factors, governance, energy consumption, urbanization, and carbon dioxide emissions in Arab countries, aiming to contribute to progress in carbon reduction efforts, achieving sustainable economic growth, and environmental protection.



## **Suleiman Hamoud Murshed Ahmed**

Faculty Member in the Department of Economics at Taiz University, Yemen. He earned his master's degree from Gazi University in Ankara, Turkey, in 2019. His research is centred on international trade issues and economic policies. His previous publications include "The Twin Deficits Hypothesis: The Case of Yemen" and "The Triple Deficit and Growth: The Case of Turkey."

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### **Institutional Reforms and Economic Development in Arab Countries**

This paper posits that the primary factor hindering economic development in developing nations, despite abundant resources and economic reform efforts, is the lack of robust institutional transformation. The study focuses specifically on Arab countries, which have experienced economic growth and infrastructural progress – particularly in oil-producing states – yet consistently fall short of achieving comprehensive economic development goals. The study aims to investigate the correlation between institutional reform and economic development outcomes. It will test the hypothesis championed by institutional economists that institutional improvements positively impact economic development. The research employs the Political Risk Index (ICRG) to measure institutional quality and the Human Development Index (HDI) to gauge economic development within Arab countries. Using a random effects model, the paper analyses the relationship between these variables. The anticipated outcome is a demonstration of a positive correlation between the political risk index and the human development index, along with a statistically significant causal relationship where strong institutions (reflected in ICRG) are seen as a driver of economic development (reflected in HDI).

## Moderators

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### **Abdel-Fattah Mady**

Professor of Political Science who currently chairs the Unit of State and Political Systems Studies. He also holds the position of Editor-in-Chief for Hikama. Throughout his career, he has held various positions, including being a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington DC, an expert at UNDP, a visiting scholar at the University of Denver, and a consultant for the Cordoba Peace Institute in Geneva. Additionally, he is an accomplished author with five books to his name, having edited nine others. His research focuses on regime transitions and democratization in the Middle East, Civil-military relations, Israeli-Arab conflict, civil education, human rights and academic freedoms. He obtained his PhD in Political Science from Claremont Graduate University, CA, USA in 2005.



### **Abdou Moussa El-Bermawy**

Researcher at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies (ACRPS), Member of editorial board of peer-reviewed Hikama for Public Administration and Public Policy. He is interested in the issues of political reform, democratic transition, development and human rights. He has provided his expertise to many international development agencies and organizations, including the UNDP, and The Canadian International Development Agency. and others. He led the Institutional Capacity Building Unit at the Internationally funded Education Reform Program in Egypt. He worked as Research Advisor at the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights. He has co-edited several books, including Youth and Democratic Transition, Transitional Justice and Democratic Transition in the Arab Countries, Constitutions and Democratic Transition, and The Yemen of Revolution, Democracy and War, all of which are published by ACRPS. He also contributed the chapter titled "The Struggle for Revolutionary Memory: Historiography and Documentation of the January 25 Revolution" appeared in the book Arab Spring: Modernity, Identity and Change with Belgrave Publishing.

### **Alanoud Alkhalifa**

A researcher at the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies Unit at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies. She holds a Ph.D. in Gulf Studies from Qatar University. Recognized as one of the outstanding researchers at the same university in 2023, in appreciation of her academic achievements and research contributions. Her research focuses on identity and nationalism in the Arabian Gulf, along with contemporary issues in the region. She also

studies cultural heritage and critically analyzes museum discourse in the Gulf region. Her research aims to understand the vital role museums play in shaping narratives related to national identity and belonging in Gulf societies. She explores the transformations related to national identities and studies the new contexts that influence them on local, regional, and international levels. Additionally, she investigates political and economic issues in the region and their impact on the societal context.



### **Ayhab Saad**

Associate Professor, Dean of The School of Economics, Administration and Public Policy at the at Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, where he is Associate Professor of Economics. His research interests are applied microeconomics, international trade, development economics, labor, and political economy. Previous and current research projects focus on the implications of firm heterogeneity in the global economy on firm productivity, innovation, labor markets, wage inequality, wage gender gap, and the quality of institutions. His research interests also include economic integration, multinational production and intra-firm trade and economic sanctions. He developed a new measure of economic integration and uncovered new facts about bilateral gravity in foreign affiliate sales. In addition, he applies quasi- experimental methods to study labour markets, economics of education, demographic shifts, and conflict in the developing countries. He is the recipient of Ibn Khaldun prize offered by Middle East Economic Association for young economists. He obtained his PhD from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 2014



### **Hazem Rahahleh**

A researcher and head of the Economic Studies and Policies Unit at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies. He earned his Ph.D. in Economics in 2005 from Darmstadt University of Technology in Germany. He previously held positions including General Director of the Public Institution for Social Security in Jordan and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors (2018 - 2022). He has also served as Director of Policies and Studies at the Economic Cities Authority in Saudi Arabia, an expert at the Ministry of Economy and Trade in Qatar, and an economic advisor to the General Secretariat of the Supreme Economic Council in Saudi Arabia. Additionally, he worked as an economic advisor to the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Labor in Jordan, and as a consultant in social insurance system reform for the World Bank and the International Labor Organization. He has conducted numerous economic studies focusing on insurance, social protection, and public policies.





## **Marwa Farag**

Associate Professor and Director of Public Policy program at Doha Institute for Graduate Studies in Qatar. She is the Managing Editor of Hikama Journal. She held the position of Associate Professor at University of Saskatchewan in Canada. Previously, she worked as a senior Research Associate at the Schneider Institutes for Health Policy, Global Institute for Health and Development at Brandeis University and as a research fellow at the Kennedy School of Government (KSG), Harvard University. Her international field experience includes working in Iraq on health financing and resource allocation issues and on health sector reform in Egypt. Among her primary research areas are health policy, health financing, health economics, and health program planning and evaluation. She has a MSc in Health Policy, Planning and Financing (Health Economics) from the London School of Economics and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London, UK. She has a second Msc in International Health Policy and Management, and a PhD in Health Policy from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University, USA.



## **Mohammad Abu Zaineh**

Associate professor at Doha Institute for Graduate Studies. Abu-Zaineh has been an Associate Professor of Economics at Aix-Marseille University. He has also been a research fellow at the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research. Abu-Zaineh received a PhD in Economics and Public Administration from Aix-Marseille University in 2008 and has obtained an authorization to direct research ("Habilitation à diriger des recherches") from the same university in 2020. His areas of expertise include research on the development economics and public policy with a particular focus on issues related to health economics and policy, measurement of inequality; economic evaluation of public policies and microeconometrics. In addition to his active participation in several international conferences, he has extensively published in international high-ranking peer-reviewed journals including: Review of Income and Wealth, Journal of Health Economics, Health Economics, Social Science and Medicine, The Lancet, Health Policy and Planning, Health Policy, International Journal of Health Economics and Management, and Research on Economic Inequality.



## **Moosa Elayah**

Associate Professor at Doha Institute for Graduate Studies and Managing Editor of Hikama Journal. He served as an Assistant Professor at Radboud University Nijmegen and Leiden University in the Netherlands. He served as a Non-resident Fellow at the Academic Alliance for Reconciliation, Conflict Transformation, Peacebuilding in the Middle East, and Northern

Africa, based at the University of Jena, Germany. He also serves as the Executive Director of the Association for Middle Eastern Public Policy and Administration (AMEPPA). He has published many articles in peer-reviewed journals in public administration, International Development, Peacebuilding, and Conflict Studies. He received his PhD degree from the Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs, Leiden University, Netherlands, in 2014. His research interests include International Development Administration and Donors' Aid Policies, NGOs Management and Governance, Non-State Actors and Service Delivery During Conflict, Conflict Transformation & Peacebuilding.



### **Nawaf Abu Chamali**

Advisor and Head of the Research and Publishing Committee at the Arab Planning Institute. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the Institute of Arab Research and Studies in 2010. Since 2012, he has been involved in preparing numerous consultancy studies in areas such as sustainable development, investment in education, industrial cluster development, public administration reform, and investment mapping. He has published studies in the fields of structural transformation, economic diversification, green economy, applications of modern industrial policies, and labor market policies. He was responsible for the development and reconstruction file at the Secretariat General of the League of Arab States during the period (2002 – 2012). He participated in the preparation of many economic reports such as the Unified Arab Economic Report, the Strategic Economic Trends Report, and the Arab Development Report for the period (2002 – 2023).



### **Walid Abdmoula**

Advisor and Deputy Director of the Arab Planning Institute in Kuwait. He obtained his PhD in Economics from Paris 12 University in France in 2003. Before joining the institute, he worked as an assistant professor at the Institute of Higher Commercial Studies in Tunisia, and at the Community College in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, as well as at Paris 12 and 13 Universities in France. His research interests include financial markets, foreign trade, and modern industrial policies. He has extensive training and consulting experience in monetary economics, finance, developmental planning, competitiveness, and educational economics, and many of his research papers have been published in international and regional peer-reviewed journals.