



## **GIGA-POMEPS Workshop, June 8-9, 2016**

***PARTICIPATION by INVITATION ONLY***

### **Transnational Diffusion, Cooperation and Learning in the Middle East and North Africa: A Post-Arab Uprisings Perspective**

The Arab uprisings and their aftermath were deeply shaped by transnational and international forces. Many accounts of the protest mobilization during and after the uprisings highlight transnational diffusion and demonstration effects. Explanations of regime responses similarly feature accounts of authoritarian adaptation and learning. In addition to these indirect mechanisms, there have also been significant direct interventions by states and transnational movements to either support or suppress protests. This GIGA-POMEPS workshop invites scholars to focus in a systematic way on the mechanisms of diffusion, demonstration, learning, cooperation and direct intervention during and after the Arab uprisings.

What precisely has diffused during and after the uprisings: ideas, identities, modular forms of protest or control, expectations, fear? What are the carriers and mechanisms of diffusion, demonstration, or cooperation? How do we assess the relative significance of transnational diffusion and local political factors? What evidence do we have by now for the actual operation of the hypothesized mechanisms? Is there anything distinctive about either the Middle East and North Africa or about the historical moment of the uprisings?

## **Timetable**

### **Wednesday June 8**

14:00-15:00 Welcome and Introduction

André Bank (GIGA Hamburg) & Marc Lynch (Georg Washington U) "Welcome"

Thomas Richter (GIGA Hamburg) "Transnational Diffusion, Cooperation and Learning in the Middle East and North Africa: Some Conceptual Notes"

15:00-16:30 Patterns of Transnational Learning (Chair: André Bank)

Steven Heydemann (Smith C) "The Political Ecology of Authoritarian Learning"

Reinoud Leenders (King's College London) "International Linkages and Authoritarian Learning in the Middle East and North Africa: A Proposed Ethnography of Counter-Revolutionary Bricolage"

Maria Josua (GIGA Hamburg) "Learning Delegitimation: Converging Patterns of Exclusion during the Arab Uprisings"

### **Thursday June 9**

9:00-10:30 Diffusion I (Chair: Marc Lynch)

Sean Yom (Temple U) "Community and Collaboration amongst Mideast Monarchies: New Theorizing after the Arab Spring"

Ahmet T. Kuru (San Diego State U) "Regional Diffusion, Rentierism, and the Crisis of Democracy in Turkey"

Monica Marks (U Oxford) "'Models' and mutual perceptions: Tunisia's Ennahda and Turkey's AKP"

*Coffee break*

11:00-12:30 Diffusion II (Chair: Thomas Richter)

Oliver Schlumberger (U Tübingen) "Contagious Crumbling: Is there a Diffusion of Arab State Failure?"

Wendy Pearlman (Northwestern U) "Diffusion Mechanisms as Stepping Stones: Qualitative Evidence from Syria"

Merouan Mekouar (York U) "International Social Agents and Norm Diffusion: The Case of LGBTQ Rights in Morocco"

*Lunch Break*

13:30-15:00 Sectarianism (Chair: Marc Lynch)

Ray Hinnebusch (U St Andrews) "The Sectarianization of the Middle East: Transnational Identity, Wars and Competitive Interference"

Toby Matthiesen (U Oxford) "Learning Sectarian Militancy: Transnational Diffusion between Shia Movements in the Levant, Iraq and the Gulf"

Bassel Salloukh (LAU) "The Diffusion of Contrapuntal Anti-Sectarian Protests"

*Coffee break*

15:30-16:30 Role of the Military (Chair: Thomas Richter)

May Darwich (Durham U) "To Intervene or Not To Intervene? The Use of Military Force as an Autocratic Policy Choice"

Ruth Hanau Santini (JHS Bologna / Naples U) & Kevin Köhler (AU Cairo) "Bankrolling Containment: How Saudi Arabia is Funding the Security State in Egypt and Tunisia"

16:30-18:00 Comparative Conclusions & Outlook

Inputs by Kristian Gleditsch (U Essex) & Marc Lynch (Georg Washington U) plus general discussion