



# ARAB RENAISSANCE

## Renewal of the Civilizational Message

APRIL 2018



النهضة العربية للديمقراطية والتنمية  
Arab Renaissance for Democracy & Development



American University of Beirut  
University Libraries



### **About the Conference**

This conference is organized on the occasion of ARDD's 10-year anniversary, under the patronage of University of Jordan and in partnership with the University Libraries of AUB and with the Arab Thought Forum. As numerous challenges in the Arab region remain persistent despite all efforts, this conference brings together leading intellectuals, experts, activists and representatives from civil society, government, and the private sector to rewrite a new chapter of regional development and modernization, with concrete actions contributing to a new Arab world where just, diverse, tolerant and knowledge-seeking societies prevail.

The Arab Nahda provides inspiration and many insights into finding solutions to the challenges the Arab region is currently facing. Believers in the Nahda think that new approaches based on individual and collective capabilities will lead to answers to critical issues. ARDD proposes a project of Nahda to be discussed in this conference with a deep and thorough reflection on other renaissance experiences and realities in the Arab World, with a primary focus on inclusiveness, tolerance, humanity and applicability.

### **About Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD)**

ARDD is a Jordanian civil society organization and a think tank that aspires to create all-inclusive intellectual and developmental change in the spirit of the Nahda - The Arab Renaissance - through achieving social, economic, and political justice, and assisting vulnerable segments of society in acquiring their rights. ARDD's vision is a society where everyone has equal rights and access to justice, regardless of status, and our target groups include marginalized individuals and communities, including women, youth, refugees and migrants.

ARDD's work builds on the insights and vision of the Arab Renaissance: that all human beings have the potential to contribute and take part in the development of their societies.

## Conference Agenda

Wednesday, 25 April 2018

Time	Sessions	Speakers
8:30-9:30	Registration and Welcome Coffee	
9:30-10:00	Opening Session	- <b>Zaid Eyadat</b> : Chairman of the Board of Trustees - <b>Azmi Mahafza</b> : President of University of Jordan - <b>Moh'd Abu- Hammour</b> : Secretary General Arab Thought Forum
10:00-10:30	Opening of the Arab Renaissance Guide Exhibition	<b>Fatmeh Charafeddine</b> , Head of Research and Instruction Services Department, American University of Beirut
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00-1:00	<p><b>Session 1:</b> <b>Renaissance: Conceptual Framework: Contexts and Outcomes</b></p> <p>This session is dedicated to deconstruct and discuss the various conceptualizations of the idea of Renaissance and its variations across time, space and cultures. It also provides comparison analysis of different Renaissance and Development experiences in order to draw some generalized conclusions on factors contributing to Renaissance and societal change. In particular, it will look at the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussion of the conceptualization of the idea of the Renaissance.</li> <li>- Factors contributing to Renaissance and social change.</li> </ul>	<p>- <b>Ahmad Madi</b> - <b>Ali Oumlil</b> - <b>Radwan AlSayed</b> - <b>Wacini Al Araj</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Ibtisam ElKatbeh</p>
1:00-14:30	<p><b>Session 2:</b> <b>The Arab World of Today: Realities and Trajectories</b></p> <p>This session is dedicated to deconstruct and discuss the strategic, political, intellectual, developmental and moral/ethical outlook of the Arab World today, including challenges and opportunities. In particular, we will look at the following challenges:</p> <p>Discussion about the strategic, political, intellectual, developmental and moral/ethical outlook of the Arab world today, and challenges and opportunities.</p>	<p>- <b>Abu Y'arub Al Marzouqi</b> - <b>Hassan Sayyed Nafaa</b> - <b>Tariq Mitri</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Salah Jarrar</p>
14:30-15:30	Lunch Break	
15:30-17:30	<p><b>Session 3:</b> <b>The Humanist Arab Renaissance Project: Strategies and Policies</b></p> <p>This session discuss and analyze the strategies needed and public policies to reinitiate the new Arab Renaissance. In particular, it will look at the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the Renaissance strategies? Who is taking the lead on devising these strategies and on what basis?</li> <li>• What are the implementable public policies needed for the Renaissance project?</li> <li>• What strategies strengthen the integration of humanist principles in the Arab Renaissance project?</li> <li>• How will humanist principles be introduced to those unaware of the concept, particularly among community and local-based change makers?</li> <li>• Will humanist principles be presented as new criteria, or shaped within a localized and culturally-sensitive framework to facilitate their acceptance?</li> </ul>	<p>- <b>Fahima Charafeddine</b> - <b>Mahboub Abdelsallam</b> - <b>Mohammad Jabbab</b> - <b>Azmi Mahafza</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Rana H Issa</p>

## Conference Agenda

Thursday, 26 April 2018

Time	Sessions	Speakers
09:00 - 09:30	Opening remarks from the first day	
09:30 - 11:30	<p><b>Session 4:</b>  <b>The Humanist Arab Renaissance Project: The Features, Substances and Conditions</b></p> <p>This session deals with the theoretical framework of the Arab Renaissance Project based in humanism and the human rights-based approach. In particular, it will look at the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What does Humanism mean for the concept of Renaissance? What does it mean for the concept of Arab Renaissance?</li> <li>- In what specific ways would the principles of humanism fundamentally change development strategies in the Middle East and North Africa? Would they replace or complement existing development strategies that do not share the same humanist basis?</li> <li>• What mainstream values found in the MENA coincide with broader humanist principles?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Louay Safi</li> <li>- Moh'd Hashas</li> <li>- Abdullah Sayyed WaladAbah</li> <li>- Ali Mahafzaa</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator:</b>                      Jeroius Samawi</p>
11:30 - 11:45	Coffee Break	
11:45 - 13:45	<p><b>Session 5:</b>  <b>The Humanist Arab Renaissance Project: Civilization Approach to Religion</b></p> <p>This session is dedicated to clarifying how the civilizational approach to religion contributes to the realization of Arab Renaissance. In particular, it will look at the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is Religion? What is its role and place in public life? What does a civilizational-Humanist approach to religion means?</li> <li>• How would a civilizational-humanist approach to religion depoliticize it?</li> <li>• What are the needed strategies to religious reformation and countering –extremism?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mohammad Shahrour</li> <li>- Hassan Hanafi</li> <li>- Abdel Jabbar Al Rifai</li> <li>- Younis Qandil</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator:</b>                      Amer Al Hafi</p>
13:45 - 14:45	Lunch Break	
14:45 - 16:45	<p><b>Session 6:</b>  <b>The Humanist Arab Renaissance Project: Developmental Perspective</b></p> <p>Promoting a balanced, humane and rational perspective of development that prioritizes equality and justice for all considering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education, human rights and security as a vehicle for development.</li> <li>• Environmental development and the projection of people's physical existence.</li> <li>• The psychological and physical forms of well-being and its importance as a factor for change.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ibrahim Awad</li> <li>- Suad Joseph</li> <li>- Magda Al-Sanousi</li> <li>- Ibrahim Gharaibeh</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator:</b>                      SakherM. Dudin</p>
16:45 - 17:00	Coffee Break	
17:00 – 18:00	<p><b>Closing Session:</b>                      The Humanist Arab Renaissance Project: Propositions and Reflections</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mohammad Shahrour</li> <li>- Hassan Hanafi</li> <li>- Abdel Jabbar Al Rifai</li> <li>- Abu Y'arub Al Marzouqi</li> <li>- Ali Oumlil</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator:</b>                      Nart Qakhon</p>
18:00 – 18:30	Closing of the Conference and Launching The Center for Renaissance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Zaid Eyadat</li> <li>- Basel Tarawneh</li> </ul>

## Key Participants



### **Prof. Abdul Jabbar al-Rifai**

An Iraqi thinker and professor of Islamic philosophy in Iraq, issued the magazine "Contemporary Islamic Issues" in 1997, which he headed, and published 68 issues and still publish today, the director of the Center for the study of philosophy of religion in Baghdad and adviser to the chair of UNESCO at the University of Kuffa, has discussed and supervised more than 60 PhD and MA in Philosophy, Speechology and Islamic Studies. Al-Rifa'i has many books, including: "Lectures in the Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence (two volumes), 2000,"

Principles of Islamic Philosophy (two volumes), 2001, "Introduction to the New Theological Question, 2005", "Modernization of the Literary and Philosophical Lessons in the Scientific Estate, 2010", "Saving the Humanism in Religion, 2012" and "Religion and Ecological Storms, 2015"

He was awarded several awards such as: Sheikh Hamad's First Achievement Award in International Understanding, for his pioneering intellectual achievement and its implications for the consolidation of the culture of knowledge and dialogue and the consolidation of the values of diversity, pluralism and coexistence, 14 December 2017, and the Golden Shield of the Cultural Movement in Antelias, Lebanon, for his role in enriching the cultural heritage of Lebanon and the Arab world in the year 2013. The Vatican's Pontifical Institute in Rome dedicated its 2012 book to a magazine of contemporary Islamic issues in recognition of its role in the modernization of religious thought in the last quarter century, and as the most important specialized journal of religions in Arabic. Al-Rifai holds a PhD in Islamic Philosophy with honors in 2005.



### **Abdullah Sayyed Wild Abah**

A Mauritanian academic, thinker and professor of philosophy and studies at the Mauritanian University of Nouakchott since 1989 and a visiting professor at several Arab and international universities.

Abah teaches modern philosophy, philosophy of ethics, politics, religion, philosophy of law, linguistics, Islamic philosophy, philosophy of communication and media sciences. He also oversees the training of

secondary school teachers in philosophy and social sciences, in addition to University thesis and research.

Abah also serves as a coordinator of Arab-Islamic cultural and civilizational dialogue programs, an advisor to the Supreme Council for Communication, a human development expert accredited to the United Nations, and secretary-general of the Mauritanian Society for Philosophical Studies and a writer for a weekly intellectual column for Asharq AlAwsat in the UAE since 2009

He has published several scientific works such as: Foko's History and Truth, Globalization Trends, Israel: the crisis of the Zionist project (jointly), the post-9/11 world, the obstacles to democratic transformation in the Arab world, the misery of prosperity (translation from French), Religion and Identity, the new Arab revolutions: track and destiny, Islam and the open society (translation), the political religious issue in modern Western thought, in addition to dozens of researches and articles published in Arab periodicals.



### **Ahmed Madi**

Professor of Philosophy at the University of Jordan, former dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and the Faculty of Arts. He is the President of the Arab Philosophical Society since its establishment. He was the editor of the Arab Philosophical Magazine. He was the president of the Jordanian Writers' Association for two consecutive terms, editor-in-Chief of Afkar magazine, published by the Ministry of Culture, and Chairman of the Studies Committee in the Cultural Department of Greater Amman Municipality.

Madi is a member of the Arab National Congress and a member of the Advisory Board of the Arab Foundation for Intellectual Modernization. He has many studies and researches published in many fields.

Madi published the book "Secularism: Models of Modern and Contemporary Arab Thought", the first part of the project "Secularism in Modern and Contemporary Arab Thought" and "Salama Musa: Secularism and Religion" the second part and "Sata' Al Hadari: Secularism and Religion" the third part.

## Key Participants



### **Mahboob Abdel Salam Mahboob**

A Sudanese writer, researcher and leader of the Popular Congress, Mahboob assumed several positions namely: the director of the Department of Foreign Media in the Ministry of Information and Culture of Sudan 1990-1992, officer manager of the Secretary General of the Arab and Islamic People's Congress 1992-1996, and Secretary General of the Intellectual Works Commission 1996-2000. Worked as a lecturer in several European and American Universities 2009-2013.

Mahboob was the head of the news section at the Sudanese newspaper Al-Raya in 1986. He also worked for Al Youm Elsabe' magazine in Paris from 1986 to 1990 and started to publish a series of articles in the London Journal of Science since 1987. He has also published several articles at various times in Al-Hayat newspaper, Al-Sharq Al-Awsat newspaper and Al-Quds newspaper, as well as a large number of articles and researches in various magazines, newspapers and electronic media. "Islamic Liberation for Women", and "The Chapters of the Southern Sudanese Fire ", "The Pilgrimage and the Meaning(translated from English)" The Islamic Movement of Sudan The Spotlight, Dark threads (Contemplating the first 10 Year Rule of Inqath), and "A paper on Sudan after the Secession of the South" presented to the Aljazeera Studies Center, and "A paper on Soil School between Thought and Practice". Arab Center for Studies and Research Doha ", " Sudan Islamic Movement, "Hurriyat Al-Elektronia" newspaper, " The Sudan Paper Polarization or Confirmation, "the Sudanese Public Opinion" newspaper.

Mahboob graduated from the Faculty of Arts / Department of Philosophy from Cairo University in Khartoum in 1981. He holds a diploma in political science from Cardiff University (Britain) in 1983 and a Diploma in Advanced Studies (DEA) in Anthropology from Paris III University in 1989. Comparative Qur'anic Studies, Institute of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 2004



### **Ali Mahafzeh**

A Jordanian academic and diplomat, an Arabic thinker who has been able to combine high academic efficiency and research activity not only within the university but also outside it. He managed to succeed in many different fields and refused to join any government work as he preferred to stay focused on academic areas. He started work as a teacher for the Jordanian Ministry of Education and then became a diplomat at the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - and worked at the embassies of Bonn, Tunis, Algeria, Paris and Cairo,

he then became an associate professor at the University of Jordan's History Department and a professor in modern history. He masters a number of foreign languages, namely English, French and German.

Mahafzeh has participated in many international conferences and has many works in international relations, historical studies and intellectual trends. He spent many years in diplomatic work in Bonn, Tunis, Algeria and Cairo until joining the University of Jordan in 1971.

Mahafzeh holds a BA in Arts from Damascus University, a Diploma in Education from the same university, a PhD in Islamic Studies from the Sorbonne III, and a Doctor of State in Arts and Human Sciences from Sorbonne I.



### **Ali Oumlil**

Professor and lecturer at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities in Rabat. A prominent Arab philosopher, thinker, human rights activist, diplomat and political persona. A primary figure in the fields of Islamic historical methodology and Arab political thought, he is considered to be a pioneer in issues related to state formation in the Arab world. Oumlil has extensively studied the relationship between intellectual authority and political power, the sociological pluralism and its ideological interpretations as well as the reformist trends in Arab

contemporary thought.

Oumlil wrote 11 books, 3 of which were translated from Arabic to French. His writings are taught throughout the major universities of the MENA region and around the world, he co-founded the Moroccan Association for Human Rights in Rabat, which he chaired until 1985, He was also a member and co-founder of the Board of Directors of the Executive Committee of the Arab Institute for Human Rights in Tunis. He headed the Arab Institute for Human Rights in Cairo. He was elected as The Secretary General to the Board of Trustees of the Arab Thought Forum. He was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Egypt and Ambassador to the Lebanese Republic. He participated in many seminars and has many works in both Arabic and French.

Oumlil holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Cairo University and joined the Sorbonne to work with the French scholar Roger Arnalds with a focus on Ibn Khaldun's methodology. He completed his doctorate in 1977.

## Key Participants



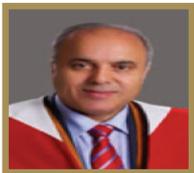
### **Dr. Amer Adnan Alhafi**

A Jordanian academic, Alhafi has published many scholarly works, including: Ibn Rushd's Influence on Christian Theology, Political Parties in Israel, Israeli Right Parties, Neighborly Love in Islam, Journal of the Pontifical Institute for Arab and Islamic Studies, Rome, 2004, Interpretation and public opinion at the Jewish sects, Fundamentalism in Religions, Augustus in the city of God, Nature and Natural Law, etc. He also participated in the design of training manuals for imams and preachers on the Amman Message by the Royal

Institute in 2014.

Al Hafi is fluent in both English and Hebrew and served as an academic adviser the RoyakInstitut. He has participated in many training courses, conferences and symposia. He has lectured in scientific forums and is a member of many research and charitable institutions, such as the Advisory Board of the Religions Foundation, Beirut, since 2015 and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Royal Institute for Religious Studies in Amman since 2014. He has served as a member of many committees and has participated in the preparation and presentation of numerous television and radio programs such as "An Hour for Love", "Thirty Ramadan", "Thought and Culture", "Religion and Life" among others.

Al-Hafi holds a professorship in Islamic Sciences (Comparative Religion) from the University of Prince Abdelkader Al-Jazairi, Constantine, Algeria, in 1989, and his PhD in Fundamentals of Religion, Religions and Doctrines of Zaytouna University, Tunis, Tunisia, 1996. Religion, in 2003 from the University of Zaytouna in Tunisia.



### **Azmi Mahafza**

The President of the University of Jordan, Mahafza has assumed many academic and professional positions. He is a member of many boards and committees. He has many achievements such as the establishment of the Clinical Skills Center and the Laboratory of Molecular Biology at the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Jordan. He set the specifications of the educational program in the Faculty of Medicine and led its curriculum modification efforts from traditional to integrated at the University of Jordan, he also offers many consultations

locally and regionally, and has organized several medical conferences, and has published many scientific researches.

Mahafza holds a doctorate in medicine from the University of Damascus, a PhD in basic medical sciences from the American University of Beirut, a fellowship in virology from Bell University in America, and the Jordanian Board of Clinical Laboratory Medicine.



### **Abu Yarub Mohammed Habib Al Marzouki**

Tunisian philosopher, Professor and advisor to the Prime Minister of the First Revolution and an elected member of the Tunisian National Constituent Assembly and a member of the Department of Islamic Sciences of the House of Government, specializing in Arabic, Greek and German philosophy.

Al Marzouki assumed many positions: a professor of philosophy at the Faculty of Arts - Tunis I University, Director of the Institute of Translation (Bait Al Hikmeh) in Tunisia, Professor of philosophy at the International Islamic University Malaysia, and has more than one hundred researches and studies in Arabic, French and English in intellectual Arab and humanitarian issues.

Al Marzouqi has many books, including: al-Ghazali's concept of causation, Aristotelian philosophy or the status of mathematics in Aristotelian scientific discourse, the Khaldun theoretical Sociology, contemporary Arab history, jurisprudence and alternative pathology. He also translated a number of philosophical references, including the translation of the book of sources of Arabic philosophy, the translation of the book of Anasah, and the translation of the book of the summary into the philosophical dilemmas: the problem of the foundation and rationality of philosophy and the philosophy of religion by Hegel. Marzouki was given Sheikh Zayed's Award for his translation of Hurssals firstbook in Phenomenology.

Marzouki is a graduate of the Higher Teachers' House and the first Tunisian University. He holds a degree in philosophy from the Sorbonne University. He holds a degree in law from the Sorbonne and a doctorate in Arabic and Greek philosophy from the first Tunisian University.

## Key Participants



### **Bassel Ibrahim Al Tarawneh**

The Government Coordinator for Human Rights in the Jordanian Prime Ministry and the Chairman of the Governmental Committee for the Follow-up of Human Rights Recommendations.

Tarawneh was chosen to hold several positions and memberships including: Vice-President of the Board of Trustees of the Supreme Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and a member of its Board of

Trustees by a decision of the Council of Ministers. He is also a member of each of the following committees by a decision of the Council of Ministers: The Jordanian National Committee for Women's Affairs the National Team for the Protection of the Family against Violence. He is also a member and a Rapporteur of the Committee for Preparing the Comprehensive National Human Rights Plan by a decision of the Prime Minister and a member of the Supreme Steering Committee Security Council No. 1325 (Women, Security and Peace) by a decision of the Council of Ministers and a member of the National Committee for Criminal Justice by a decision of the Council of Ministers. Tarawneh was also appointed head of the Fact-Finding Committee on Domestic Violence by a decision of the National Family Protection Team from Violence and Chairman of the Follow-up and Inspection Committee by a decision of the Board of Trustees of the National Council for Family Affairs. And a member of the Board of Directors of the Syrian-Jordanian Free Zone (representing the Jordanian Government).

Al-Tarawneh worked in several institutions and held several positions including: General Manager of Jordan Media Center (four years), Assistant to the President of Mutah University (three years) and Advisor to Radio and Television Corporation and Amman Municipality. And an adviser to the Prime Minister / Prime Ministry (for seven years). And an executive director of Al-Arab Al-Youm, Al-Bilad newspaper and others (for three years) (private sector) previously. Al Tarawanah was previously a member of the board of trustees of the Royal Society of Fine Arts and a member of several national and international councils and bodies in the field of human rights, media, development, youth and a member of the Board of Trustees of the American University of Education / Beirut (five years).



### **Fatme Charafeddine**

Lebanese academic, Charafeddine heads the Research and Instruction department at the American University of Beirut. She manages a project to compile and build a website featuring the personal papers donated to the University Libraries by a Lebanese politician, she also managed the Index Nahda journals project.

She holds a M.A. Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada and M.L.S. Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, USA.

She published: Contemporary Lebanese Feminist Literature: Studies of Bibliography / Prepared by Hania Osiran, Fatima Charafeddin, supervised by Samira Agassi. Beirut: Lebanese American University, Institute of Women's Studies in the Arab Year.



### **Fahima Sharaf al-Din**

An independent consultant and researcher, and a professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Lebanese University. She has many researches in social and political sciences, especially in the field of women's issues in Lebanon and the Arab world.

Sharaf Aldin has provided her experiences in the field of human rights and the integration of the gender to

many international organizations and UN agencies such as ESCWA, UNEVEM, UNDP and UNESCO, she holds the position of vice president of the National Commission for Follow-up on Women's Issues and is also the editor of the Arab Thought Magazine, Director of Research at the Institute of Arab Development, and Director General of the Institute of Arab Development.

Sharaf El Din holds several honorary posts and memberships, including a founding member of the Lebanese Women's Network, the Secretary General of the Arab Society for Sociology, a member of the Editorial Board of Qadaia and others. She also has many publications, including: The Situation of Lebanese Women Married to Non-Lebanese, and has published many studies dealing with violence against women and the problems of the Lebanese family and the position of women, the impact of programs and activities related to human rights on culture in Lebanon, and has more than 25 books and many published studies covering the basis of Arab culture and women's issues.

Sharaf Aldinn holds a BA degree and a master's degree in Philosophy from the Lebanese University in Lebanon, a second master's degree and a PhD in political philosophy from a university in France and a PhD in philosophy from the same university.

## Key Participants



### Hassan Nafaa

An Egyptian researcher and thinker, Nafaa is currently serving as a full professor in the Political Science Department at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University, where he was its president for eight years. He has worked as a visiting professor at many universities and as a lecturer in several diplomatic institutes affiliated to the foreign ministries in Egypt and a number of Arab countries. He served as Secretary General of the Arab Thought Forum, Secretary General of the Arab Society for Political Science, General

Coordinator of the Egyptian Campaign Against Inheritance and then of the National Assembly for Change. He is a member of the advisory board of Al-Ahram International Journal of Politics.

Nafaa won many awards including the State Encouragement Award in Political Science and the State Prize for Excellence in Social Sciences. He is a member of the General Secretariat of the Arab National Conference.

He has many publications: Reform of the United Nations, Arabs and UNESCO, the United Nations in half a century, Western Europe and North America, Egypt and the Arab-Israeli conflict: from inevitable conflict to impossible settlement, the European Union and Arab lessons learned, and has also published numerous studies and articles in several magazines and newspapers. He contributes regular articles in several Arabic newspapers.

He holds a BA in Political Science from the Faculty of Commerce, Alexandria University, and a PhD in Political Science from Sorbonne University, France.



### Hassan Hanafi

An Egyptian thinker and academic, one of the most important theoreticians of the Islamic left movement, and Phenomenology, and one of the modern Arab thinkers who launched Arab intellectual projects, he studied in several Arab and foreign universities and headed the philosophy department at Cairo University. He has several publications in Arabic, English and French. He served as a scientific advisor at the United Nations University in Tokyo from 1985-1987. Hanafi is Vice-President of the Arab Philosophical Society and Secretary

General of the Egyptian Philosophical Society.

Hanafi has served in the following academic posts: Professor of Philosophy at the Faculty of Arts, Cairo University, Visiting Professor at the University of Temple, Philadelphia, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Professor of Philosophy, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University, Visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo, Japan, Visiting Professor of philosophy at the Faculty of Arts in Fez, Morocco, In the Faculty of Arts - Cairo University.

Hanafi has several books, including: "Our Position on Ancient Heritage: Heritage and Innovation", "Dialogue of Generations", "From Copying to Creativity", "The Encyclopedia of Arab Islamic Civilization", "Introduction to Phenomenology" and "From dissolution to permanence" " From Copying to Reasoning" and " The Sanctuary of Time ". He was awarded the State Appreciation Award in Social Sciences in 2009 and the Great Nile Prize in Social Sciences in 2015 for his scientific activity. He was one of the signatories of the open letter in October 2007 from Muslim thinkers to Christian leaders, "We are all equal between us." He was awarded the Prize of the Free Thinker of Poland, and the Shirazi Prize of President Khatami.

Hanafi received his doctorate in philosophy from the Sorbonne University in 1966. After graduating from the Department of Philosophy at the Faculty of Arts, Cairo University in 1956, he traveled to France immediately before the tripartite aggression against Egypt after the nationalization of the Suez Canal.



### Ibtisam Al-Kitbi

An Emirati academic and a professor of political science at the UAE University. She is one of the leading women in politics and scientific research in the Arab world, Al-Kitbi is the founder and president of the Emirates Center for Policy and the first Arab woman to become the head of the think tank and research center. She has been a member of several committees, such as the Advisory Board of the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies (IISS) between 1998-2002, and member of the Population Structure Committee of the Federal

National Council 2002. She is an expert in school curriculum, and editor of the Arab Human Development Report on "Toward the Rise of Arab Women" 2005 Al-Kitbi has received many awards, such as the Rashid Prize for Scientific Excellence 1991, the Federal Personality Award in 2013 and many more.

Al-Kitbi has also published several articles, including: "Security Dimensions of Military Relations between the GCC and the United States of America." "The global Community and the War on Terror: Threat or Opportunity?" And "Democratic Transformations in the GCC".

Al-Kitbi holds a BA in Political Systems from Cairo University, a PhD in Philosophy in Political Science from the Faculty of Economics and Political Science from the same university and was granted the Fulbright Scholar Scholarship in Washington in 2001.

## Key Participants



### Ibrahim Awad

An Egyptian scientist in politics and political economy, he is currently a professor of international relations at the American University in Cairo and director of the Center for Migration and Refugee Studies.

In addition to his experience at the American University in Cairo, Awad held several positions in several regional and international organizations, including the League of Arab States, the United Nations and the

International Labor Organization. He also worked in several countries in Europe, Latin America and the Arab region. The Director of the ILO Sub regional Office for North Africa, the Director of the International Migration Program at ILO headquarters, who was responsible for the intergovernmental machinery, as well as relations with Member States and other entities of the International Labor Organization United Nations and civil society organizations system during the work of the United Nations Commission on Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

Dr. Awad has been active as a member of the governmental and academic scientific councils, programs, centers and projects of international organizations, and has published research and articles on international issues, international cooperation, human rights, international migration and employment. His most recent work is "Challenge of Global Governance in the Sustainable Development Agenda" Sustainable development Goals. Goal #16: Peace, justice and strong institutions; "Multiple levels of international migration governance"; "Informal Egyptian migration in the GCC countries", Survival skills: irregular migration in the Gulf; "Towards a common approach to migration and asylum in the Euro-Mediterranean space Migration and Development;" Population Movements in Wake of the Crisis of Migration and Asylum; "Making and Abolishing of the 2012 Constitution in Egypt", in North Africa: From Inertia to Revolution; Governance of Labor Migration in Times of Political Transition: Comparative Study of Egypt and Tunisia, Syrian Asylum Crisis among regional factors and the States Interests ", on migration in the Mediterranean: approaches to human rights, security and economic development.

Awad holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Cairo University, a degree in advanced studies in international relations and a doctorate in political science from the Graduate Institute of International Studies and Development at the University of Geneva / Switzerland.



### Ibrahim Gharaibeh

A Jordanian researcher, author and journalistic writer, Gharaibeh has various articles published in the most important Jordanian and Arab newspapers and magazines. He has published a number of books and studies in the fields of Islamic thought such as the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan, the Islamic Movement, Rights and Freedoms, the Power of Islam, Islamic Discourse and Cultural and Social Transformations, Religion and State in Jordan, in addition to his studies on Social work, development, reform, and book reviews and cultural offerings.

He has also worked in the field of drama and presented a television program on books and wrote several novels such as Mirage, The Sound, in addition to writing many stories for children and youth.

Gharaibeh has co-founded the Jordanian Social Forum and assumes the position of Vice President of the Forum since its establishment in 2004, and also co- founded the Jordanian Society for Human Rights, the Global Forum for Mediation, and has been active in the Islamic Movement for a long time and presented a series of critical and analytical visions on Islamic work.

Gharaibeh is currently a researcher at the University of Jordan at the Center for Strategic Studies. He is a consultant for the report on the religious situation to be published by the Scholars Without Borders Foundation for studies and research. He also assumes several positions including the director of studies at Al Ghad newspaper, and Al Jazeera Net Studies Department head, content manager and quality control at ITV, director of the Nation Studies Center and editor-in-chief of the Nation magazine.

Gharaibeh holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Jordan and a bachelor's degree in library and information from King Abdulaziz University / Jeddah



### His Excellency Jeryes Samawi

Poet, writer, journalist, Jordanian intellectual and former Minister of Culture, Samawi is a member of the Jordan Writers Association and the General Union of Arab Writers. He has also served as a member in several committees and cultural and volunteer organizations in Jordan, the Arab World and the world. He has worked in translation and the written press. He translated and published poems by American poets of Arab origin in the cultural press entitled "New Immigrants". He contributed in producing and editing a number of cultural

programs for the Jordanian TV Arabic and English channels in addition to some radio and television programs for several stations such as Radio Monte Carlo (memory of melodies) and a documentary television program on Arab women's issues entitled (Noon Al Nisswa), and he served as Director General of the Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts years (2001-2006).

Samawi published several books such as: "Another Slip of Wisdom", and another book that includes a collection of poems translated into Spanish by the University of Costa Rica and another book translated into Turkish and a number of musical performances, one of which was recently composed by the musician Dr. Abdel-Rab Idris. Samawi has two books in print, Some of Samawi's poetry was translated to English, Italian, French, Spanish and Turkish. He participated in many festivals, poetry and literary events in Jordan, the Arab world and internationally.

Samawi studied English literature, philosophy and the art of media communications in the United States and Jordan.

## Key Participants



### **Loay Al Safi**

A Syrian academic thinker, writer and researcher interested in issues of development, modernity and methodologies of scientific research, democracy and human rights. Al Safi is a political activist in Syrian affairs, in addition to being active in defending the rights of the Arab and Islamic communities in America and the West. He is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Center for the Study of Islam and Democracy and a fellow at the Institute for Social policy and a fellow at the Center for Muslim-Christian

Understanding at Georgetown University, associate professor at Indiana University and Purdue University in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Al-Safi has contributed to the establishment of the Syrian American Council and has been its president since its inception. He is a member of the Department of Political Science, the Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Knowledge of Revelation and Human Sciences and Dean of the Research Center. He has also served as Director of the International Institute of Islamic Thought in the United States And the editor of the American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences in English. He is currently a member of the secretariat of the Syrian National General Council and heads its Planning and Policy Office. He is a member of the Political Committee of the National Coalition for Revolutionary Forces and Exhibitions Syria.

Al Safi has published eleven books in Arabic and English, including: The Challenge of Modernity, Doctrine and Politics, the Basis of Science, Truth and Reform, the Realization of Reason, Peace and the Limits of War, Freedom and Citizenship and Political Islam, among others, he also participated in many international scientific forums and conferences and has many published research and studies in scientific journals, such as the Arab future, The Dialogue Platform, Human, political readings, and Islamic knowledge.

Al-Safi received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, followed by a master's degree and a doctorate in political science from Wayne University in Michigan.



### **Magida Elsanoussi**

Sudanese activist and women's rights advocate. Currently, she is heading the Women's Empowerment Section of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) as an expert and consultant on gender issues and the political empowerment of women. She participated in the Libyan peace negotiations as an adviser to the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the United Nations Mission in Libya and worked to support women at the negotiating table and supported the path of women in the peace negotiations. She has participated in

several regional and international papers on the role of women in peace processes and negotiation. Elsanoussi contributed to the process of drafting the constitution in Libya through the provision of technical support to Libyan women to integrate materials specific to the needs of women, which promotes the rights of citizenship in the Constitution. Her current work is based on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, security and peace, on political empowerment and on women's access to decision-making positions.

Elsanoussi has worked in Sudan and has worked with many national and international organizations for a number of years.

Elsanoussi started her career outside Sudan in 2000 with Oxfam GB, where she worked with women leaders and led the anti-early marriage campaign. She helped establish Watan to support Yemeni women in their struggle. She also worked in Jordan, Egypt, Regional - Middle East - Oxfam GB.

Elsanoussi received a tribute from the Kingdom of Bahrain as part of the "Takreem" honoring the Arab achievements held by the Bahraini Ministry of Culture for the Arab Woman of the year 2012. Elsanoussi aspires to establish a women's center in the Arab region.



### **His Excellency Mohammed Abu Hammour**

A Jordanian economic thinker and an economic researcher in the Research and Studies Department, Abu Hammour held a number of positions, most notably: the Minister of Finance, Chairman of the Potash Company, Chairman of the Executive Privatization Authority, Minister of Industry and Trade, Head of the Financial Control Unit and Deputy Chairman of the Economic, Financial and Monetary Assessment Committee, a Professor of Finance at the University of Jordan, Head of the Public Finance Department of the Central Bank,

Head of External Economy and Balance of Payments Department, Secretary General of the Arab Thought Forum.

Abu Hammour received several awards: Best Middle East Finance Minister 2004 in Washington, DC, in October 2004 on the sidelines of the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. The award was given by Euromoney's Emerging Markets newspaper, and Best Middle East Finance Minister 2010 granted by The Banker magazine for his contributions to the recovery of the Jordanian economy during the various financial crises. He also has many researches, studies and publications and is a member of several committees and boards of directors of several companies and institutions.

Abu Hammour holds a Bachelor of Economics from Yarmouk University, a Master of Economics from the University of Jordan, and a PhD in Economics / Public Finance from Surrey University in Britain.

## Key Participants



### Mohamed Hashas

A Moroccan researcher based in Rome, he has published research and articles with international publishing houses and journals in English on European Islam and contemporary Arab Islamic thought. He has many press articles in English and Arabic. Hashas was a research fellow at the Oxford Center for Islamic Studies, the Leibnitz Center for Middle Eastern Studies in Berlin and a visiting scholar at the Babylon Center for the Study of Multicultural Society at the University of Tilburg, the Netherlands, and the Center for European Islamic

Thought at the University of Copenhagen.

Some of Hashas publications: *Islam, State and Modernity: Muhammad Abed Al-Jabri and the Future of the Arab World*, in partnership with Zeid Eyadat and Francisca Krau (2018), and the *Book of Imams in Western Europe: Roots and Changes and Challenges* (2018), in partnership with Jan Jaap de Reuter and Nils Valdemar Vinden. He has a new book entitled *The Concept of European Islam: Religion, Ethics, Politics and Modernity*, to be published (August 2018).

Dr. Hashas holds a doctorate in political theory from the University of Louis International in Rome, a master's degree in European studies from the same university, and an MA in cultural-literary studies from the University of Mohamed I in Oujda, Morocco. He is currently a researcher and adjunct professor at the University of Louis in Rome and has also studied at the American University.



### Dr. Mohamed Nouredine Jabbab

Algerian academic, a professor of philosophy at the University of Algiers and has several intellectual contributions including: *The Controversy in History and Civilization in Modern and Contemporary Arab thought*. *The Problematic Identity and Contradiction in Modern Arab Thought*, Abdullah Al-Arawi and *Modernity, Reading the Arab Renaissance, Arab Thought and Orientalism*.

Jabbab received a bachelor's degree from the University of Algiers, a master's degree from Damascus University and a doctorate from the University of Algiers.



### Dr. Mohamed Shahrour

He is a Syrian academic and writer, holds two master's degrees and a PhD in civil engineering, a Soil Mechanics and Foundations from the University of Dublin, Ireland. A former professor of civil engineering at the University of Damascus and the author and analyst of what he called a contemporary reading of the book. He issued "The Book and The Qur'an: A Contemporary Reading" in 1990, in which he tried to apply some new language techniques in an attempt to find a new reading of the Quran. For years, many books were published

to discuss the ideas contained in his book and try to refute them or support them. Muhammad Shahrour has won many supporters and opponents of his ideas in many countries.

Dr. Shahrour still offers consultancies and engineering studies in his private office in the field of Soil Mechanics, Foundations and Engineering. He has participated in technical consultations for many important installations in Syria. He has several books in his field of study which are considered as important references to Soil Mechanics and Foundations. He started studying the Quran in Ireland while applying mathematical logic through his studies and continued to study so far. He has published several books such as: (The book and the Quran - a contemporary reading), (State and Society: the destruction of villages and the prosperity of cities), (Quranic stories first and second parts), (Religion & Power: contemporary reading of Governance), (The Origins of Islamic Law: The Foundations of Personal Status Legislation), (Drying the Sources of Terrorism), among others.

Shahrour holds master's and PhD degrees in Civil Engineering, Soil Mechanics and Foundations from the University of Dublin, Ireland.



### Radwan Al Sayed

A Lebanese intellectual, journalist, translator and writer. He is a professor of Islamic studies at the Lebanese University. He was co-editor of the quarterly Ijtihad magazine.

He has many books and translations, the most prominent of which are the Ummah, the community and the authority, the concepts of groups in Islam, contemporary Islam, and others. He also has the translation of the

book "Barda al-Nabi" by the American author Roy Mehda, and the German orientalist: development, influence and sources in addition to political and intellectual articles in Al-Hayat and Al Sharq Al Awsat newspapers.

He received the King Faisal International Prize in the field of Islamic Studies in 1438 AH / 2017 AD, where he received the award from King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud.

Dr. Al-Sayed holds a high degree from the Faculty of theology in Al-Azhar University and holds a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Tübingen, Germany.

## Key Participants



### Rana H Issa

A Lebanese Palestinian Norwegian researcher, historian and academic, Issa works at Ibsen Studies and is an Assistant Professor in Translation Studies at the Department of English in the American University of Beirut and is a member of CELERT since Spring 2017.

In studies of the Nahda, Rana Issa has been most interested in the translation of foundational texts as a way to interrogate three aspects of the literary landscape of Arab modernity: 1) the linguistic impact of translation on

the styles and genres of written Arabic 2) the dependence of conceptual transfers on key (foundational) texts and 3) the emergence of translation as a technology of choice for the elaboration of a discourse on globalization. Her doctoral work on the Bible explores how translation emerged as a tool of synchronization in the nineteenth century. This interest has triggered specific interests in temporal concepts of origin, tradition, newness, progress, belatedness and acceleration. of 1871: Christian Authors and

Some of her recent publications include "The Arabic Language and Syro-Lebanese National Identity: Searching in Buṭrus al-Bustānī's Muḥīṭ al-Muḥīṭ." "Rakākah and the Petit Quarrel the Competition over Arabic." "The Fallibility of Tradition in al-Shidyāq: The Case of Islam." And "Missionary Philology and the Invention of Bibleland." She has also published translations of the Syrian author Yassin Hajj Saleh.

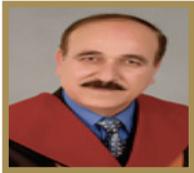
Issa holds PhD from the University of Oslo.



### Nart Gakhon

He is a Jordanian academic and lecturer in the University of Jordan. He has articles in several Jordanian newspapers. He has a soon to be published work entitled "Interpretations and Sunnah". He participated in many scientific and practical courses in leadership and planning. From the University of Jordan for his essential role in establishing the University of Jordan Radio in 2009. He is a member of the Circassian Charitable Society and Al Ahli Club and the Forum of Arab Thought and Civilization.

He holds a bachelor's degree from the Faculty of Science at the University of Jordan and a BA in Islamic Thought and Law from Al-Balqa Applied University. He then joined the University of Jordan and received a bachelor's, master's and doctorate in Arabic Language and Literature.



### Salah Jarrar

A Jordanian writer and researcher, a professor of Arabic language and a specialist in Andalusian literature at the University of Jordan, he was appointed for several years secretary-general of the Jordanian Ministry of Culture until 2002. He then became Vice-President of the University of Jordan in Amman and served as the Jordanian Minister of Culture in the Khasawneh and Tarawneh governments in 2012. He was a teacher at the Jordanian Ministry of Education from 1974 to 1978. He supervised the comprehensive catalog of the Arab-

Islamic heritage written by the Royal Academy. He has many studies, researches and articles published in cultural journals. He is a member of several committees and bodies. He has several published works such as: literary studies, linguistic and achieve sources and research method in the language and the father, and Marj Kohl Andalusian (his biography and his poetry), and the Paradise of satisfaction (3 parts) Abu Yahya bin Asim (investigation and study) among others in addition to the general cultural studies Jarrar holds a PhD in Andalusian Literature from the University of London - School of Oriental and African Studies - 1982.



### Samar Muhareb

Is the CEO of the Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development – ARDD, a Jordanian NGO, which she co-founded in 2008, in response to the Iraqi Refugee Crisis. Having worked as a lawyer for many years prior to 2008, Samar realized that one of the most urgent needs refugees and marginalized individuals and communities face, is access to justice regardless of status.

With over 15 years of experience in working for the international aid community, Samar is an expert in the

field of human rights, refugee affairs, humanitarian response and women's empowerment in Jordan and the Middle East. In addition, she actively supports initiatives focusing on environmental justice in the region.



### Eng. Sakher M. Dudin

An architect and a member of the Jordanian Senate, Dudin is the rapporteur of the Committee of Palestine in the Senate and a member of the Board of Directors of the Arab World for Education Company. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Al-Taif International Energy Company, founder and board member of Afkar Investment Company. Dudin is a member of a number of committees including: the Information and National Guidance Committee, the Public Services Committee, the Jordan Engineers Association, the Jordanian

Engineering Bureau, the founder and the board member of Afkar Investment Company, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Royal Botanic Garden, a member of the Hebron Business Forum, a member of the Khalil al-Rahman Charitable Society, a founding member of the Ruwwad Society for Social Development, a founding member of the Petra Governorate Conservation Committee, and a board member of the Systems' Police.

Dudin holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Jordan in 1985.

## Key Participants



### Suad Joseph

A distinguished Research Professor of Anthropology and Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, University of California, Davis. Lebanese born, Joseph has founded a number of organizations: The Middle East Research Group in Anthropology precursor to the Middle East Section of the American Anthropological Association; the Association for Middle East Women's Studies; the Arab Families Working Group; University of California Davis Arab Region Consortium, a six-university consortium; the Middle East/South Asia Studies

Program at UC Davis. She co-founded the Arab American Studies Association, the Association for Middle East Anthropology; the Women and Gender Studies Program, UC Davis. She was the president of the Middle East Studies Association of North America. She is General Editor of the Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures and has edited numerous books, including: Gender and Citizenship in the Middle East; Intimate Selving in Arab Families; Women and Islamic Cultures; Arab Family Studies: Critical Reviews. She co-edited numerous books and published over 100 articles.

Joseph has been given many awards, including the University of California, Davis Prize for Undergraduate Teaching and Research (the largest such award in the United States), and life time achievement awards from the Association for Middle East Women's Studies and the Middle East Section of the American Anthropological Association. Her research focuses on Arab families; gender, citizenship and the state; child socialization and cultural constructions of selfhood; and community formation in the Middle East. She has numerous research grants, including grants for training early career scholars in proposal writing and research design.

Joseph completed her PhD in Anthropology from Columbia University in 1975 and joined the faculty at University of California, Davis in 1976.



### Tarek Mitri

Director of Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Relations at the American University of Beirut. He was appointed Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Libya from 2012 to 2014. He also served in four successive Lebanese governments between 2005 and 2011 and took over the Ministries of Environment, Administrative Development, Culture, Information and Foreign Affairs (Acting).

He taught at the Universities of Saint Joseph and the Bland (in Lebanon), Geneva, Amsterdam Free University, Harvard University and the American University of Beirut. He served on the World Council of Churches and the Council of Churches of the Middle East, in charge of Christian-Islamic relations.

He heads the Board of Trustees of the Palestine Studies Institute and the committee supervising the Nicola Ibrahim Sursaq Museum. Member of the Strategic Council of Saint Joseph University and the Board of Directors of the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies.

He has several publications such as: Rugged Roads, Two Years in Libya and for its Sake, Straight lines with zigzag characters: Eastern Christians and their relations with Muslims, A City on a mountain: on religion and politics in America, In the name of the Bible and America (in English), Religion and Human Rights (in English) and has dozens of studies and articles in Arab and international affairs and issues of religion and politics and relations between people of cultures and religions.



### Dr. Wacini Al Araj

An Algerian academic and novelist, Alaradj is currently a professor at the University of Algiers and the Sorbonne in Paris. He is considered one of the most important voices in the Arab world and is considered the pioneer of the Arab historical narrative and one of the most prominent Arab novelists who worked to recall history and use heritage. Through the its artistic use in a way that has dimensions and connotations, and its symbolic utilization to showcase the contemporary literary experience insights.

Alaradj published many famous novels such as "The Seventh Night after Thousand Nights", "The Jasmine Collar", "Ashes of the East", "The Kingdom of the Butterfly", "The Last Arab Story", "The Prince's Book", And he recently published the novel "Azzis Kuba Nights" in which he spoke about the journey of the writer Mai Ziadah. He wrote story collections, critical writings and articles. He received many prizes such as: "The Algerian novel prize for all his works in 2001", The Grand Librarians Award for his book "The Prince's Book" in 2006, "The Sheikh Zayed Book Award (Literature) in 2007", "The Literary Innovation Award" by the Arab Thought Foundation in Beirut for his novel "Lolita's Fingers" in 2013. "The Katara Prize for the Arabic Novel for his novel" Butterfly Kingdom " in 2015. His works have been translated into many foreign languages, including French, German, Italian, Swedish, Danish, Hebrew, English and Spanish. .

Alaradj obtained a BA in Arabic literature from the University of Algiers and holds MA and a PhD from the University of Damascus.

## Key Participants



### **Younis Kandil**

A Jordanian researcher in Islamic studies, specializing in Qur'anic studies, philosophy, and anthropology. Participated in many intellectual seminars and dialogues. He is the Secretary General of the Foundation of "Mouminoun without Borders", a newly established think tank based in Rabat. He also heads the Granada Institute for Research and Graduate Studies in Spain, that oversees the Chair of Civilization Studies Islamic and religious renewal, and sponsors two master programs in Spain and Italy. "

Dr. Kandil holds a BA in Modern Languages (French / German) from Yarmouk University and holds a BA in Social and Political Sciences and a Master of Middle Eastern Studies from the Free University of Berlin. His doctoral dissertation discusses the "Anthropology of Qur'anic Text".



### **Professor Zaid Eyadat**

Dr. Zaid Eyadat is professor of political science and human rights, and an expert on international and comparative politics. He is the founding chairperson of the Political Development Department, and the founding Dean of the Prince Al-Hussein School of International Studies at the University of Jordan. His training and research interests are in the fields of International Politics, Comparative Politics, International Political Theory, Modeling and Game Theory. He is a leading and distinguished expert on Middle East politics,

Human Rights, and on the nexus between Islam and Human Rights and his research has been published in many leading academic journals.