

BEIRUT HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK

Saint Joseph University of Beirut
CIS Campus, Damascus Road

December 10-14, 2018

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THE SAMIR KASSIR FOUNDATION



Event hashtag
#BeirutHumanRightsWeek



Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth
Faculté de droit et des sciences politiques
Institut des sciences politiques

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary
of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

THE INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AT USJ

is honored to invite you to its



#BeirutHumanRightsWeek



Global Campus
Arab World



EIUC

European Inter-University
Centre for Human Rights
and Democratisation

Event live streaming
[Live.beiruthumanrightsweek.com](https://live.beiruthumanrightsweek.com)

#BeirutHumanRightsWeek

DECEMBER 10-14, 2018

Open to the public

- I- Opening Ceremony,
Awards to 5 distinguished NGOs and their founders,
keynote speeches**
(François Bassil Auditorium, USJ – CIS Campus, Damascus Street, Beirut)

- II- International Conference on
'Skepticism and Adversity to Human Rights:
National Experiences and Regional Challenges'**
(François Bassil Auditorium, USJ – CIS Campus, Damascus Street, Beirut)

- III- Workshop on freedom of expression in partnership
with the Institut Français and the Samir Kassir Foundation**
(Salle de Conseil, Bloc B, 5th floor, USJ – CIS Campus, Damascus Street, Beirut)

- IV- Field Trip on refugees
in partnership with UNHCR**
(reserved to Global Campus guests)

- V- Movie Night on Democracy and Human Rights
in partnership with the Institut Français
and Fondation Liban Cinéma**
(Salle Montaigne, Institut Français, Damascus Street, Beirut)
World Premiere of the Documentary "The Declaration" by Jordanian Filmmaker Rawan Damen on the drafting of the 1948 International Declaration of Human Rights, discussion with the director, and projection of other movies and documentaries

- VI- Roundtable discussion on 'Combating Violence against Women'
in partnership with the Embassy of Canada to Lebanon**
(Salle de Conseil, Bloc B, 5th floor, USJ – CIS Campus, Damascus Street, Beirut)

- VII- Workshop on 'Human Rights as the vehicle to full citizenship:
political participation and elections' in partnership with UNDP**
(Salle de Conseil, Bloc B, 5th floor, USJ – CIS Campus, Damascus Street, Beirut)

I - OPENING CEREMONY

Welcome and keynote speeches

Simultaneous translation available in Arabic, English and French

December 10, 2018 | François Bassil Auditorium, USJ – CIS Campus

08:30 – 09:00

Welcome and registration

09:00 - 10:00 AM

- ◇ KARIM EMILE BITAR, Acting Director of the Institute of Political Science at USJ
- ◇ MANFRED NOWAK, EIUC Secretary General
Followed by a presentation of the 'Imagine Human Rights' book by international artist KOEN VANMECHELEN
- ◇ CHRISTINA LASSEN, Head of the delegation of the European Union to Lebanon
- ◇ MARWAN HAMADE, Minister of Education (tbc)
- ◇ FR. SALIM DACCACHE S.J., Rector of Saint Joseph University

10:00 – 11:00

Human Rights Awards to Five Distinguished Lebanese NGOs and their Founders

- ◇ Imam Sadr Foundation
MRS. RABAB AS-SADR
presented by Raed Charafeddine
- ◇ Committee of the Families of Kidnapped and Disappeared in Lebanon
MRS. WADAD HALWANI
presented by Lyna Comaty and Nayla Geagea
- ◇ Arc-En-Ciel
MR. PIERRE ISSA
presented by Robert Fadel / Khalil Daoud and Amine Issa
- ◇ Amel
DR. KAMEL MOHANNA
presented by Georges Corm
- ◇ Offre-Joie
MR. MELHEM KHALAF
presented by Antoine Messarra

11:00 – 11:15

Coffee Break

11:15 – 13:00

Introduction: **VERONICA GOMEZ**

Chairperson of the Global Campus of Human Rights

◇ **MONCEF MARZOUKI**

Former President of Tunisia

'Reflections on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights'

(video from Tunis), introduced by Karim Bitar

◇ **RULA JEBREAL**

Visiting Professor at the University of Miami, Author, Journalist, Foreign Policy Analyst, 'Reflections on Democracy and Human Rights in today's Arab World' (video from Miami)

◇ **TAMIM BARGHOUTI**

Poet and Political Scientist, visiting Professor of politics at Georgetown University, 'To endure, to erupt; on Human Rights in the Arab Region'

عن الاحتمال والاحتمال: حقوق الإنسان في المنطقة العربية حالها ومآلها

◇ **MOHAMMAD-MAHMOUD OULD MOHAMEDOU**

Head of the History Department, The Graduate Institute - Geneva, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mauritania,

'Human Rights in the post 9/11 era: terrorism, securitization and the crisis of democracy' (video from Geneva)

◇ **ROBERT MARDINI**

Permanent observer to the UN and Head of Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in NYC, Former Middle East Director of the ICRC 'Humanitarian Law, the UDHR, the Geneva Conventions, today's regional conflicts and their impact on Human Rights' (video from New York)

◇ **CHARBEL NAHAS**

Former Minister of Labor, Lecturer at the Institute of Political Science at USJ, 'Social and Economic Rights in the Arab World'

الحقوق الإجتماعية والإقتصادية في العالم العربي

13:00 – 13:30

Presentation of the workshops and side events
of the Beirut Human Rights Week

◇ **VERONIQUE AULAGNON,**

Director of the French Institute

◇ **KATRINA BURGESS,**

Political Counsellor, Embassy of Canada to Lebanon

◇ **CELINE MOYROUD,**

Country Director, UNDP

◇ **GISELLE KHOURY or AYMAN MHANNA,**

Samir Kassir Foundation

◇ **MICHEL HÉLOU,**

Executive Director, L'Orient-Le Jour

◇ **MAYA DE FREIGE**

Presentation of the movie night in partnership with
Fondation Liban Cinema and the French Institute

◇ Trailer of Rawan Damen's documentary "The Declaration" (6 mins)

II - INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“Skepticism and Adversity to Human Rights: National Experiences and Regional Challenges”

Arab Master in Democracy and Human Rights

December 10-11, 2018 | François Bassil Auditorium, USJ – CIS Campus

PANELS

December 10, 2018

15:30 – 17:30

Panel I: Human Rights and Democracy under attack: are guided, limited / illiberal democracy, “Asian values” becoming the new normal?

Democracy can no longer be thought of as a purely Western concept. Today more than ever, common standards are required as fundamental human rights are still being challenged. The first panel will reopen the debate on the universality of human rights. Is Amartya Sen's response to the proponents of “Asian values” still valid? How can philosophy and political science respond to the rising skepticism? What are the appropriate academic responses to those who still argue that Human Rights are a useless abstraction or to those who claim that they are incompatible with certain local cultures or values? To what extent are human rights being used as a smokescreen to cover Western interventionism?

Are we witnessing a long-term challenge against expertise and the global elites? Even in some old European democracies, the erosion of democracy is threatening the democratic freedoms and political rights of minorities. Recent polls show that the commitment to democracy is also wavering among American millennials. 24% of them think that democracy is “bad” or “very bad.” The proportion of citizens who believe that army rule would be a “good” or a “very good” thing has risen steadily in many mature democracies, with one in six Americans holding this opinion today. (Yasha Mounk, 2016) Can the global populist wave be reversed and challenged?

Chair: **KARIN DELIN**, International Consultant and Siren Associates Director

- A. **GEORGE ULRICH** (Director of European Programme at EIUC, Italy): ‘Engaging with human rights skepticism parameters of contestation’
- B. **MIKE HAYES** (Co-director of Asia-Pacific Programme at Mahidol University, Thailand): ‘The Legacy of Asian Values: How does one get rid of an unwanted guest? When ‘Asian Values’ overstays its welcome’
- C. **ARUSYAK ALEKSANYAN** (Caucus Programme - Yerevan State University, Armenia): ‘Revolutions through the prism of political stability and democracy: Post-Soviet Transitions’

09:00-11:00

Panel II: Human Rights in the age of Dictators and Populists, Counter-Revolution and Authoritarianism: analyzing the post Arab Spring in a comparative perspective

The hopes and dreams of the Arab Spring have receded and a rising tide of authoritarianism is engulfing major countries in the MENA region. A full-fledged counter-revolution seems to be under way. Reactionary currents are gaining ground throughout the Arab world but also in the three non-Arab states of the MENA region.

The checks and balances have been tamed and domesticated. How can the justice system, the media, the parliaments, Civil Society, youth movements, labor organizations, feminist groups and the NGOs continue to play their role in this context?

Are the current human rights violations laying the ground for new radical jihadist terror groups? To what extent will securitization impede human rights promotion? Will the return of the "Deep State" lead to a reemergence of radical groups like the Islamic state?

Chair: **KARIM BITAR**, Acting Director of the Institute of Political Science at USJ and Director of the Arab Master in Democracy and Human Rights

- A. **THOMAS JEREMY GUNN**, International University of Rabat
'Freedom of religion or belief in the MENA Region: 1948-2018'
- B. **AIDA ALAMI**, New York Times Contributor
'اسمع صوت الشعب Arab spring lives on in Morocco'
- C. **NICOLAS DOT-POUILLARD**, Associate Fellow at IFPO,
'Reflections on the Counter-Revolutions in the Arab World'
- D. **DALIA GHANEM-YAZBECK**, (Resident Scholar, Carnegie Middle East Center),
Authoritarianism in Algeria: A case study

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30– 13:30

Panel III: Conflict in Human Rights views and practices between the developed and developing worlds: Can hope come from the Global South?

At a time when there is growing disenchantment with Liberal Democracy in the West, many activists in the Global South refuse to believe the postmodern theorists who argue that we are living the end of the grand narratives. They still believe in freedom and emancipation and are still committed to the Human Rights struggle. How can the South benefit from advances in the field of international human rights law? Are there local success stories through empowerment of previously marginalized groups? In what parts of the world can we find glimmers of hopes? What are the best practices that can be learned from specific case studies, particularly the transition processes in Latin America and Africa?

Chair: **LYNN MAALOUF**, Amnesty International

- A. **MANFRED NOWAK**, EIUC Secretary General and Professor of International Human Rights at the University of Vienna

- B. **JUAN PABLO ALBAN**, Law Professor at Universidad San Francisco de Quito – Ecuador
'Reading between the lines: how the inter-American system bodies have expanded human rights protection beyond the verbatim content of the inter-American convention'
- C. **ADEM K ABEBE** (LL. D), Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria
'Coming full circle: From the domestic to the international, and back?'

15:00 – 17:00

PANEL IV: Changing the discourse to face the new challenges and make human rights and democratization popular again

The twenty-first century will be marked by a significant increase in migration, climate change, technological threats to privacy, pollution and environmental degradation. What role can the UN and international community play in this context? Are China, India, and other rising industrial nations properly equipped to face these technological and environmental challenges? How can they reconcile their industrial development with good governance and sustainability?

Will migrations provoke an inevitable backlash that will further fan the flames of xenophobia and subject migrants to violations of their basic human rights? Can North-South dialogue and cooperation create win-win scenarios? What are the appropriate mechanisms to monitor, protect or promote Human Rights in this new rapidly changing context? In the age of disenchantment and skepticism, how to make democratization popular again?

Chair: **LARA KARAM BOUSTANY**, Law Professor, USJ

- A. **IGOR STIKS** (South-East Europe Programme, University of Belgrade, Serbia)
'Radical Democracy vs. Liberal and Illiberal Democracies: A Balkan Experience'
- B. **CAROLE ALSHARABATI** (Arab Master Programme, Saint Joseph University of Beirut)
'Advancing Human Rights and Democracy by Design'
- C. **MUDAR KASSIS** (Arab Master Programme, Birzeit University, Palestine)
'The Future of Human Rights and the Human Right to a Future'

III - WORKSHOP

Workshop on freedom of expression

La liberté d'expression dans tous

ses états

organized with the Institut Français and the Samir Kassir Foundation
Simultaneous translation available in Arabic, English and French

December 12, 2018 | Salle de Conseil, USJ – CIS Campus

10:00 – 10:20

Mots de bienvenue et remarques préliminaires sur la liberté d'expression

- ◇ VÉRONIQUE AULAGNON, directrice de l'Institut Français
- ◇ GISELLE KHOURY ou AYMAN MHANNA, Fondation Samir Kassir
- ◇ KARIM BITAR, Institut des sciences politiques de l'USJ

10:20 – 11:30

L'avenir des médias et de la liberté d'expression au niveau du modèle économique

panel modéré par AYMAN MHANNA

- ◇ MICHEL HÉLOU,
Directeur exécutif de L'Orient-Le Jour
- ◇ HALA BEJJANI,
Directrice exécutive de Kulluna Irada

et

L'avenir des médias et de la liberté d'expression dans le monde des algorithmes, de la surveillance généralisée et des plateformes techniques,

- ◇ STÉPHANE BAZAN,
conseiller en communication et enseignant à l'Institut des sciences politiques
de l'USJ

11:30 – 11:45

Coffee Break

11:45 – 13:00

Médias, arts, sexualité, censure et liberté d'expression dans le cadre de démocraties « illibérales »

panel modéré par KARIM BITAR

- ◇ 'Arts, censorship and freedom of expression in the age of globalization',
Artist KOEN VANMECHELEN
- ◇ 'Press Censorship: repression or cooptation? Examples from the United States
and the Arab World',
AIDA ALAMI, New York Times
- ◇ 'The War on LGBT: the Use of Anti-Human Rights Discourse by Conservative
Groups in Indonesia',
ULYA NIAMI EFRINA JAMSON

Conclusion

- ◇ 'Liberté du corps : la liberté d'expression à travers la danse',
ALEXANDRE PAULIKOVITCH interrogé par Rita Bassil

13:00 – 13:30

Q&A

IV - FIELD TRIP

Field Trip on refugees organized with UNHCR

reserved to Global Campus guests

December 12, 2018

09:00 – 14:00

Lebanon has always portrayed itself as a country of refuge: traditionally for religious minorities, and then political dissenters in the Arab World. In 1948, it received a large wave of refugees from Palestine, and since 2011, it has hosted over one million refugees fleeing the war in Syria. The country is recognized today as having the highest number of refugees per capita, though still not a signatory to the Geneva convention of Refugees.

In order to better comprehend this reality and open up new perspectives for research and policies on refugees, the Institute of Political Science, in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is organizing a series of visits starting at the UNHCR headquarters in Beirut, and continuing in Saida, where participants will visit Al Hamshari hospital, operated by the Palestinian Red Crescent, and a UNHCR Community Centre where they will get to discuss with Refugee Outreach Volunteers.

V - MOVIE NIGHT

Democracy and Human Rights

in partnership with the Institut Français and Fondation Liban Cinéma

December 12, 2018 | Salle Montaigne, Institut Français, Damascus Street

18:00 – 22:30

- ◇ 18:00 World Premiere of the Documentary “The Declaration”
by Jordanian Filmmaker Rawan Damen on the drafting of the 1948 International Declaration of Human Rights, discussion with the director.
- ◇ 19:00 “Taste of Cement” by Ziad Kalthoum, 2017
- ◇ 20:30 “Manila High” by Anders Palm Olesen
- ◇ 20:45 “L’homme qui répare les femmes” by Thierry Michel, 2015

VI - ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

'Combatting Violence against Women'

organized with the Embassy of Canada to Lebanon

December 13, 2018 | Salle de Conseil, USJ – CIS Campus

09:00 – 09:30

Coffee and Registration

09:30 – 10:15

Introductory Session

- ◇ Welcome by **MR. KARIM EMILE BITAR**,
Acting Director of the Political Science Institute at USJ
- ◇ Welcome by **H.E. MRS. EMMANUELLE LAMOUREUX**,
Ambassador of Canada to Lebanon
- ◇ Message by **H.E. MR. JEAN OGHASSABIAN**, Lebanese Minister of Women Affairs
- ◇ Video Testimony by a victim of violence
- ◇ Moderator: **DR. CAROLE RIZKALLAH ALSHARABATI**,
Professor at the Institute of Political Science at USJ

10:15 – 10:30

Coffee Break

10:30 – 12:00

Session 1: Roadmap

- ◇ 'How the ISF deals with domestic violence?'
COLONEL ZIAD KAED BEY, Head of training department, Human Rights trainer,
Internal Security Forces – Lebanon
- ◇ 'Domestic violence definition: How the judiciary corrected the legal text'
MR. NIZAR SAGHIEH, Lawyer and Executive Director of the Legal Agenda
- ◇ 'Achievements & Challenges'
MRS. ZOYA ROUHANA, Director of KAFA
- ◇ 'Domestic violence and family laws' reforms?'
MR. GHADIR EL ALAYLI, Attorney-at-law, Consultant notably for the Lebanese
Parliamentary Subcommittee for Administrative Decentralization
- ◇ 'Engaging men and boys in violence prevention: Lessons learned'
MS. LANA WELLS (by video from Calgary), Associate Professor /Brenda Strafford
Chair in the Prevention of Domestic Violence, Faculty of Social Work,
University of Calgary

12:00 – 12:30

Session 2: Q&A

VII - WORKSHOP

'Human Rights as the vehicle to full citizenship: political participation and elections'

in partnership with UNDP

December 14, 2018 | Salle de Conseil, USJ – CIS Campus

9:00 – 13:00

- ◇ Opening remarks by DAN RADULESCU, UNDP
Panel moderator: MR. RABIH ELCHAER, Policies Advisor
- ◇ 'Awareness raising and policy advocacy for citizens' rights'
MR. OMAR KABBOUL, Executive Director,
Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections – LADE.
- ◇ 'Women exercising their political rights: challenges and opportunities'
Ms. NORA MOURAD, UNDP Research and Gender Officer.
- ◇ 'Overview of PWDs political rights and participation in elections'
Ms. SYLVANA LAKKIS, Head of LPHU and former SCE member
- ◇ 'Youth Participation and Active Citizenship: Why and What For?'
DR. CARMEN GEHA, Assistant Professor of Public Administration,
Department of Political Studies and Public Administration,
American University of Beirut
- ◇ Open floor discussion and Q&A

Concluding remarks and Wrap Up of the Beirut Human Rights Week
by KARIM BITAR

organized by
the Arab Master in Democracy and Human Rights



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