

DAWLA MADANIYYA:
January 19-20, 2015

A FUTURE FOR THE CIVIL STATE IN THE ARAB WORLD?

Speakers: Sabine Damir-Geilsdorf (Cologne), Belhassen Ennouri (Carthage), Mark Farha (Doha), Marie-Christine Heinze (Bonn), Mbaye Lo (Durham), Shaimaa Magued (Cairo), Ibrahim Natil (Dublin), Jakob Skovgaard-Petersen (Copenhagen), Sarah Wessel (Hamburg/Cairo), Laila Al-Zwaini (Leiden)



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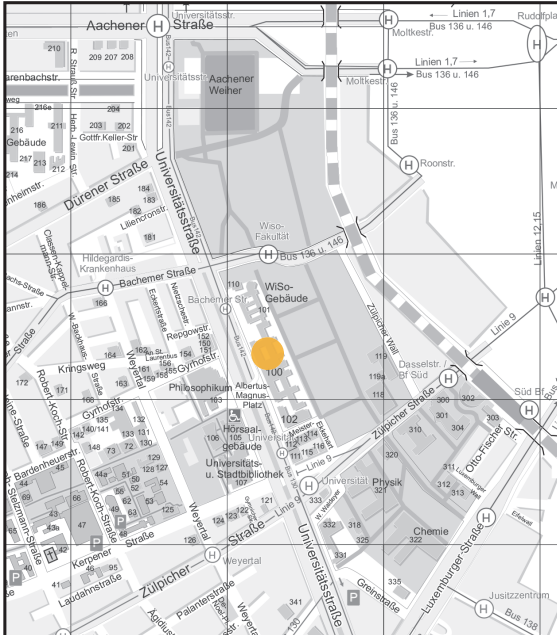
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WORKSHOP

Monday, 19 January

GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTION

01:30 pm The civil state (dawla madaniyya) as a contested concept in the Arab uprisings (Sabine Damir-Geilsdorf)

PANEL 1

REDIFINING STATE-SOCIETY RELATIONS
(Chair: Marie-Christine Heinze)

02:15 pm Sarah Wessel (Hamburg/Cairo): The 'Political' in Rehab: Negotiating the State in Post-Revolutionary Egypt

03:00 pm Shaimaa Magued (Cairo): The Evolution of the 'Civil State' Ontology in the Narratives of the Egyptian Political Actors since the Public Uprising in January 2011

03:45 pm Ibrahim Natil (Dublin): 'Civil State' in the post-Arab Spring Countries: Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya

04:30 pm Coffee Break

PANEL 2

REDIFINING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGION AND POLITICS
(Chair: Laila Al-Zwaini)

05:00 pm Jakob Skovgaard-Petersen (Copenhagen): From Din wa Dawla to Dawla Madaniyya

05:45 pm Mark Farha (Doha): 'Madani' or 'Almani'. Strategic Aversion or Deliberate Evasion? Examining the Lineage of Sensitivities to Secularism in Arab Political Discourse

Tuesday, 20 January

PANEL 3

REDIFINING POWER RELATIONS WITH AND WITHOUT VIOLENCE
(Chair: Sabine Damir-Geilsdorf)

09:30 am Belhassen Ennouri (Carthage): The 'Dawla Madaniyya' Notion in the Tunisian Political Scene: Significances and Evolution

10:15 am Marie-Christine Heinze (Bonn): Redefining State-Military Relations in an Armed Society: Demands and Visions for 'Dawla Madaniyya' in Yemen

11:00 am Mbaye Lo (Durham): Militant Islam and the Future of 'Dawla Madaniyya': The Case of Abu Bakr Naji's Book 'Idaratu-I Tawahush'

11:45 am Coffee Break

12:15 pm Roundtable Discussion: A Future for the Civil State in the Arab World? (Chair: Laila Al-Zwaini)

01:15-01:30 pm CONCLUSION

The term dawla madaniyya (civil state) was one of the most often heard during the so called 'Arab Spring' uprisings across the Arab World. Anti-regime protestors, regime supporters, intellectuals and academics of diverse social and political backgrounds, Islamic scholars, Islamist activists, tribal shaykhs, etc. all made use of it when framing their demands for the creation of a new political system and a new social contract in their respective countries. Used in such a ubiquitous manner, dawla madaniyya became a 'floating signifier' invested with multiple notions linked to the relationship between the governing and the governed, to citizenship, justice, security, the role of religion in state, etc. This academic workshop seeks to discuss and elucidate the underlying notions of and visions for the disputed and concept dawla madaniyya in the Arab World. How was dawla madaniyya framed in the various 2011 uprisings and their aftermaths and how was this influenced by the specific local contexts? Which actors were particularly active in bringing forward national and/or regional ideas of dawla madaniyya and how did their visions relate to other concepts of statehood? How have their visions impacted on political debate and reform in the various contexts? What are the historical discursive roots of dawla madaniyya in the Arab world and which changes has the concept undergone since it first began to take shape several decades ago?