



**CARPO**

Center for Applied Research  
in Partnership with the Orient

# Annual Report 2017

Bonn, 1 December 2017

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# 1 Introduction

The year 2017 was a special one for CARPO: In the course of this year, we have taken significant steps forward in institutionalizing and professionalizing our nascent organization on the basis of our visions and principles. Since the official registration of CARPO in the summer of 2015, we have been able to gain a positive reputation in circles that are relevant to us and our field of work. Furthermore, we have managed to slowly but continuously broaden the scope of our activities. Our vision to conduct independent research and analysis in partnership with experts from the Orient is reflected in all our activities and projects. The idea to work towards a better understanding between Germany, Europe and the Middle East through research, consultation and exchange is a recurring theme throughout our work.

For the Middle East the year 2017 has been yet another year of manifold challenges, violent conflict and increasing volatility. Starting with the devastating effects of the so-called Islamic State in Syria, Iraq and other parts of the Arab world, to the escalating tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran and the various conflict arenas in Yemen, Iraq and Lebanon, the level of uncertainty and fragility has reached new heights. CARPO has taken on these challenges in a series of projects which aim at contributing to constructive engagements with these conflicts.

One example among several is our ongoing project “Rethinking Yemen’s Economy”, which aims to identify Yemen’s economic, humanitarian, social and development priorities in light of the ongoing conflict in Yemen, and to prepare for the post-conflict recovery period. Moreover, against the backdrop of an increasingly challenging environment, our Iranian-Saudi Track-II Initiative is opening up channels of exchange and engagement on issues of common concern. Results, analyses and contributions to general discussions have found expression in a number of different CARPO publications as well as in numerous further publications and media contributions by our staff.

An increasing number of projects, either continued or established in 2017, have made it possible to dedicate our work to a variety of relevant topics such as: environmental issues, economic developments, post-war reconstruction, gender-related issues, security sector reform, or the role of media in conflictive contexts. They also gave CARPO the resources to further physically establish itself. An important step in this direction was the opening of a new CARPO headquarter in the Kaiser-Friedrich-Straße in Bonn. In the government district of the former capital of Germany with its proximity to the UN, the

various institutions of German research funding, and many think tanks and NGOs, these premises offer excellent opportunities for our work, networking and in-house events.

Along with this development we saw an expansion of our financial resources as well as a broadening of donor institutions for our project activities. Particularly noteworthy in this regard are the European Union, the German and Dutch Foreign Ministries, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the World Bank. Cooperation with prestigious institutions such as the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung have helped to further establish CARPO internationally. Furthermore, in 2017 we were proud and honored to welcome three distinguished experts on our newly established Advisory Board. With Prof. Dr. Stephan Conermann, Dr. Gudrun Harrer, and Ambassador Marc Otte we are privileged to enjoy strategic advice by renowned personalities for our work in matters related to policy, academia and media.

Besides this, we were happy to continue the work with our Associate Fellows. This group of exceptional researchers with whom we enjoy continuous and fruitful exchange on their areas of expertise grew to a number of six in the course of 2017.

The Annual Report at hand gives an overview of our activities in 2017. After briefly presenting CARPO, its origin, mission and fields of activity, our project activities are described in more detail and the organization's structure and staff are laid out.

We are grateful for your interest in this report and look forward to fruitful collaboration and exchange in 2018.

## **The CARPO Executive Board**

Marie-Christine Heinze, President

Adnan Tabatabai, Chief Executive Officer

Jan Hanrath, Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Jasmin Khosravie, Head of Programs & Research

## 2 About CARPO

CARPO was founded in 2014 by Germany-based academics trained in the fields of Near and Middle Eastern Studies, Political Science and Social Anthropology. Our work is situated at the nexus of research, consultancy and exchange with a focus on implementing projects in close cooperation and partnership with stakeholders in the Orient.

### **Mission**

Our mission is to conduct independent research and analysis in partnership with experts from the Orient. We believe that a prosperous and peaceful future for the region can best be achieved through inclusive policy making and economic investment that engages the creative and resourceful potential of all relevant actors. Therefore, CARPO opens enduring channels for interactive knowledge transfer between academics, citizens, entrepreneurs, and policy-makers. Our network of researchers and experts establishes a functional interface between state, economy, and society to generate both context-specific and globally relevant knowledge.

### **Vision**

Exploring and initiating sustainable cooperation and partnership with(in) the Orient.

### **Services**

In order to reach our goals and to strengthen cooperation with our partners CARPO offers a broad range of services including

- Country- and issue-specific as well as regional analyses and studies;
- Conceptualization, implementation and post-processing of public events, workshops and conferences;
- Risk assessments and market analyses;
- Individual briefings, trainings, context- and issue-specific policy advice; and
- Evaluations.

## 3 Projects

### 3.1 Rethinking Yemen's economy

#### 3.1.1 Summary

This two-year project, which started in March 2017, is an initiative to identify Yemen's economic, humanitarian, social and development priorities in light of the ongoing conflict in Yemen, and to prepare for the post-conflict recovery period. The project is implemented by CARPO, DeepRoot Consulting and the Sana'a Center for Strategic Studies (SCSS). It is funded by the European Union and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Yemen.

The project aims to build consensus in crucial policy areas through engaging and promoting informed Yemeni voices in the public discourse. The aim is to ensure successful economic, humanitarian, social and development interventions in the conflict and post-conflict periods in Yemen, which will address the needs and rights of the Yemeni people and put the country on a path toward sustainable peace and development. There are three main objectives for the project:

- To empower Yemeni voices in contributing to the discourse on economic, humanitarian, social and development priorities in Yemen, re-engage Yemeni experts and build channels/platforms to counter the "brain drain" that the country is witnessing;
- To build consensus around key economic, humanitarian, social and development issues/priorities and approaches of addressing them; and
- To inform and positively influence local, regional and international development agendas in Yemen.

The project convenes a number of structured meetings for Yemeni development experts; develops a series of policy briefs and white papers on economic, humanitarian, social and development priorities; engages key stakeholders; reaches out to the Yemeni public in an effort to enhance representation and participation of all parts of society; and aims at positively influencing local, regional and international development agendas in Yemen.

*The project has four components:*

**Development Champions Forums:** A number of forums will convene senior Yemeni experts and professionals from both social and economic development fields with in-depth understanding and established experience. The Development Champions identify key issues for intervention and contribute to the research and analysis of the Research Hive. They are the driving force of this project.

**Research Hive:** A research hive of Yemeni researchers with experience in those issues identified by the Development Champions continuously conduct research on Yemen; identify best practices and lessons learned of various international experiences; and present empirical evidence on the specified issues. The researchers draft white papers on each of the key issues identified as well as provide regular situational analysis on the same issues through producing policy briefs.

**Public Outreach:** As part of the research process, and to ensure the inclusion of various stakeholders, consultation workshops with different local stakeholders including the private sector, youth and CSOs are implemented. Moreover, the project also engages the Yemeni public by ensuring effective media coverage and social media engagement throughout the different project phases.

**Regional and International Stakeholder Engagement:** The project reaches out to regional and international stakeholders currently engaged in Yemen in order to ensure that they are informed about the outcomes of this project – for the benefit of the people of Yemen and in the hope of more concerted efforts in this regard by the international community.

### ***Project Duration***

March 2017 – February 2019

### ***Project Partners***

- DeepRoot Consulting
- Sana'a Center for Strategic Studies (SCSS)

## **3.1.2 Events**

### ***Kick-off meeting (March 2017, Location: Bonn)***

At the kick-off meeting between 23 and 25 March 2017 all project partners met in Bonn to discuss the upcoming activities as well as further approaches. In parallel, the Steering Committee Meeting took place, at which representatives of the donor organizations as well as the German Foreign Office as an observing partner came together and were briefed by the project partners.

### ***Development Champions Forum (April/May 2017, Location: Amman)***

The first Development Champions Forum was held in Amman, Jordan, between April 29 and May 1, 2017, to discuss practical interventions necessary to address the multiple and varied economic challenges facing Yemen. These challenges were identified within three categories: the food security crisis, the problems faced by the banking industry, and the collapse of basic services delivery. The

Champions' recommendations can be found in the policy brief "Addressing Yemen's most critical challenges. Practical short-term recommendations".

### *„Rethinking Yemen's Economy“*

#### *Consultation Workshops (September 2017, Location: Amman)*

In the general framework of the project, a number of consultation workshops are a part of the research phase. They are designed to offer our researchers the opportunity to meet with eminent Yemeni experts in the field they are doing research on. In this phase, the research topics chosen by our Development Champions are: post-conflict reconstruction; the role of the private sector; local governance; and anti-corruption. Moreover, the workshops aimed at expanding the group of stakeholders in our initiative to further members of civil society, youth and women. On 1-2 October 2017, our researchers accordingly met with 5-6 Yemeni experts each in separate working groups on their respective topics as well as in plenary discussions in order to bring their research forward. Some of these Yemeni experts also took part in the first Development Champions Forum beginning of May and demonstrated great ownership of our project in the group discussions.

### **3.1.3 Publications**

#### *Rethinking Yemen's Economy Policy Brief 01: "Addressing Yemen's Most Critical Challenges. Practical Short-term Recommendations"*

This brief summarizes the short-term recommendations to address Yemen's current most critical challenges in development and economy which resulted from the first Development Champions Forum. This Forum took place in Amman, Jordan, between April 29 and May 1, 2017 as part of the "Rethinking Yemen's Economy" initiative. The challenges addressed in this brief were identified within three main categories: the food security crisis, the problems faced by the banking industry, and the collapse of basic service delivery.

Online available

## **3.2 Consultations on the World Bank 'Recovery and Reconstruction Blueprint'**

### **3.2.1 Summary**

The World Bank has developed a comprehensive Recovery and Reconstruction Blueprint that aims to act as a guide for the immediate post-conflict scenario, for the government and international partners to ascertain the kind of support the country will need to sustain peace and embark on the long road to reconstruction and sustainable development. Since then, the World Bank

team has been preparing to engage various Yemeni and international stakeholders in deliberations over the main themes presented by the 'blueprint'. In its consultation effort, the World Bank has requested the engagement of the Development Champions of the "Rethinking Yemen's Economy" project in discussing the underlying themes of the document. Therefore, CARPO and its project partners DeepRoot and SCSS will be conducting virtual consultations on the topics of food security, urgent budget and financing needs, human development, infrastructure, job creation, and financing and implementation.

### ***Project Duration***

November 2017 – January 2018

### ***Project Partners***

- DeepRoot Consulting
- Sana'a Center for Strategic Studies (SCSS)

## **3.2.2 Events**

In December 2017 a series of virtual consultations with selected experts from the group of Development Champions will be implemented to get important feedback on the 'blueprint'.

## **3.3 Iran-Saudi Track-II Dialogue Initiative**

### **3.3.1 Summary**

CARPO has established an Iran-Saudi Track-II Dialogue format in cooperation with the EastWest Institute in Brussels. This initiative entails workshops and publications focusing on the exchange of perspectives on relevant issues between diplomats, policy analysts and security experts from both countries. The participating groups from Iran and Saudi-Arabia are composed of senior academics, think-tank representatives, business executives, and policy practitioners. The issues discussed range from bilateral economic and cultural relations to issues of regional security and exchange of best practices in different policy areas.

The aim of the project is to develop a set of clear-cut policy recommendations that help Iran and Saudi Arabia, as well as the EU and its member states, cooperate to counteract negative trends in the region. It aims at identifying common economic, environmental and security issues on the domestic level that can better – and at times only – be solved through mutual understanding and cooperation. The project envisions that the dialogues will bring about a better understanding within the policy communities in both Saudi Arabia and

Iran on 1) the grievances of the other, 2) mutual interests and benefits from an improved bilateral relationship, 3) ways to improve cooperation on vital economic and security matters affecting the entire region.

The initiative started in 2015 with a workshop on the root-causes of ISIS and on strategies to defeat and prevent the emergence of extremist organizations. It was continued with two workshops in 2016, one focusing on Iranian-Saudi Perspectives on the refugee crisis, the other dealing with challenges and opportunities a 'post-oil' era might bring for both countries. From the very beginning of this initiative, the increasing conflict and lack of trust between Iran and Saudi Arabia posed a challenge. Due to the intensified political tensions in 2017, ensuring balanced participation from Saudi Arabia and Iran has become ever more difficult. Nonetheless, CARPO and EWI were able to ensure the participation of academics, experts, journalists, security analysts and former diplomats in the project activities. In addition, European experts on the region from renowned institutions joined the workshops, as has been the case in previous meetings.

#### ***Project duration***

2015 – ongoing

#### ***Project partner***

- EastWest Institute

### **3.3.2 Events**

#### ***Workshop on Iranian and Saudi Perspectives on Environmental Challenges and Cooperation (April 2017, location: Bonn)***

In April 2017, the fourth meeting of the Track-II Dialogue Initiative took place in Bonn, addressing the topic of environmental challenges.

Scarce water resources and desertification, pollution-related health problems and a decreasing biodiversity are just a few of the many environmental problems the Middle East faces today. Industrial pollution, repercussions of violent conflicts, waste of energy, a general lacking awareness of environmental issues and many other causes have contributed to increasing environmental stress in all countries in the Gulf Region. Environmental degradation will further increase due to climate change as the region is most vulnerable to global warming, reduced precipitation, dust storms and rising sea levels. Competition for scarcer resources could escalate already high levels of violence and political turmoil even beyond the region's boundaries. Such ecological challenges are cross-border phenomena that no country can deal with alone. These interdependencies demand cooperation. While environmental issues

have not been central to conflict in the region, they have served as threat multipliers, adding stress to existing social and political tensions. Recognizing and tackling shared environmental challenges could potentially serve as a prototype for coordinated regional governance. Yet, cooperation is lacking in a region marked by geostrategic rivalries, ongoing military conflicts and deep rooted mutual distrust among regional actors.

The workshop in Bonn took up these topics and deepened the debate on ecological challenges from an Iranian and Saudi perspective. It produced concrete policy recommendations to both governments, the international community, and to multilateral organizations such as the GCC, OPEC, and regional divisions of the UN, and raised awareness both with Saudi Arabia and Iran on the urgent need of cooperation in this field.

***Workshop on Saudi and Iranian Perceptions of ‘the Other’ in the Respective Media Landscape”: Track-III workshop with opinion leaders, media producers, journalists, commentators and bloggers (Summer 2017, location: Brussels)***

The idea of this Track-III workshop, which took place in Brussels in June 2017, was based on the realization that perceptions of ‘the other’ as presented in the respective media landscapes are of utmost importance and have a massive impact on discourses, policy-making and overall societal sentiments. Participants from both countries (representing both domestic and international media outlets) were brought together to introduce their respective media contexts to each other, to describe how ‘the other’ is portrayed in the media, and to explore formats on which cooperation between journalists of both countries would be tangible. The workshop entailed lectures by media experts and inputs from journalists from Iran and Saudi Arabia. It focused on making sense of how ‘the other’ views and perceives ‘the self’. Furthermore, discussions took place on the question how to deconstruct misconceptions that eventually lead to misunderstandings and mistrust.

### **3.3.3 Publications**

***CARPO Brief 08: “Environmental Challenges in a Conflictive Environment – Iranian and Saudi Perspectives on the Risks of Climate Change and Ecological Deterioration”***  
*by Jan Hanrath and Wael Abdul-Shafi*

The fourth meeting of CARPO and the EastWest Institute’s Iran-Saudi Track-II Dialogue Initiative dealt with the political, social and economic risks posed by current environmental challenges to Iran and Saudi Arabia alike. The workshop brought together academics, environmental experts, security analysts and former diplomats from Iran and Saudi Arabia as well as international

experts. The participants discussed environmental issues to reach a better understanding of the political context and to identify opportunities and limits for Iranian-Saudi cooperation in the field of regional environmental policy. Fully aware that the current political situation makes cooperation very difficult, participants discussed potential avenues of exchange below the level of national governments and proposed initiatives for cooperation on a regional and international level. CARPO Brief 08 summarizes key insights and recommendations derived from the conference discussions.

Online available

***CARPO Brief 07: “Envisioning the Future: Iranian and Saudi Perspectives on the Post-Oil Economy”*** *by Danila Bochkarev and Jan Hanrath*

The third meeting of CARPO and the EastWest Institute’s Iran-Saudi Track-II Dialogue Initiative, which took place in November 2016 in Leuven, Belgium, was dedicated to the repercussions of changing global energy markets on Iran and Saudi Arabia. The workshop brought together policy experts and economists from Iran and Saudi Arabia as well as experts from Europe. They discussed challenges and opportunities a ‘post-oil’ era might bring and explored potential areas for cooperation between both countries. While participants agreed on the necessity of cooperation for creating strong and less oil-dependent economies, from which both countries as well as the whole region would benefit, their assessments varied on where this could begin. CARPO Brief 07 summarizes key insights and recommendations derived from the conference discussions.

Online available

### **3.4 Enhancing women’s role in peace and security**

#### **3.4.1 Summary**

In cooperation with Saferworld and the Yemen Polling Center, CARPO implemented the research project ‘Enhancing Women’s Role in Peace and Security’ in Yemen. The aim of the research, which was led by CARPO as the main applicant and which was funded by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research, was to provide sound knowledge on issues around women and peace-building in Yemen during conflict (including impact of the conflict on women; services and support in the community; role of women in conflict; etc.); on local actors, such as women, who are active in their communities; and on opportunities and obstacles for women to play a role in peace-building. The results of this research will feed into a larger EU-funded project on women and peace-building in Yemen implemented by Saferworld.

### ***Project duration***

July 2016 – June 2017

### ***Project partners***

- Saferworld
- Yemen Polling Center

## **3.4.2 Events**

### ***Collaborative data analysis workshop (February 2017, location: Amman)***

In February 2017, CARPO's lead researcher as well as Saferworld's Sana'a and London-based staff (YPC's staff was unable to travel due to security concerns) met in Amman for a collaborative data analysis workshop with two Yemeni NGOs – the National Foundation for Development and Humanitarian Response (NFDHR) and Wogood for Human Security (that are Saferworld's partners on an EC funded project to enhance women's role in peace and security in Yemen, which will be informed by the findings of this project). A leading Yemeni gender expert also joined the workshop. The lead researcher presented the initial raw findings from the research, which the participants discussed in detail to inform those findings with contextual knowledge. This collaborative analysis was then drafted by the lead researcher, co-authored by a Yemeni gender expert, and edited by the Saferworld team. It resulted in the report 'Women Nowadays Do Anything. Women's Role in Conflict, Peace and Security in Yemen'.

## **3.4.3 Publications**

***"Women nowadays do anything.' Women's role in conflict, peace and security in Yemen"*** by Marie-Christine Heinze and Marwa Baabbad

This study brings together the findings of qualitative research conducted in Ibb and Aden by the Yemen Polling Center (YPC) in cooperation with CARPO and Saferworld. It looks at the impact of the war on women and their families in these two regions, particularly in terms of security-related issues, and the roles women play or have played in the conflict as well as in the building of security and peace.

Online available

## **3.5 Academic approaches to peace-building and state-building in Yemen**

### **3.5.1 Summary**

The project “Academic Approaches to Peace-Building and State-Building in Yemen” is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in the framework of its Transformation Partnership. The partners in the project are the Institute of Oriental and Asian Studies at the University of Bonn and the Gender-Development Research & Studies Center at Sanaa University. CARPO is involved in the publication of papers resulting from this project.

#### ***Project Summary***

Against the backdrop of the ongoing war in Yemen, this project aims to contribute to peacebuilding and state building in the country. This objective is to be achieved by strengthening ties between researchers, academic staff, students and – subordinately – to experts in the policy and development community in order to develop ideas and find new ways of academic support to respective endeavors. A particular focus will be placed on the promotion and support of young academics and women.

Regarding outputs, the project focuses on common workshops and conferences, an annual summer school, a project website and a series of policy papers.

#### ***Project Objective***

This project’s objective is to investigate and support peace-building and state-building initiatives in post-conflict Yemen from an academic perspective and thus a) to support and strengthen the work of practitioners and policy-makers in the country through the provision of expertise; and b) to build the respective expertise in Yemeni and German academia to support and critically accompany a). In the first year of this project, activities will focus on academic approaches to peace-building, while the focus of the second year will be on state-building, governance and particularly federalism should its introduction have been decided by then.

#### ***Project partners***

- Institute for Oriental and Asian Studies at the University of Bonn
- Gender-Development Research & Studies Center at the University of Sanaa

#### ***Project duration***

2016 – 2018

#### ***Website***

<http://bonn-sanaa.de/>

### 3.5.2 Publications

#### *“Knowledge in peacebuilding: Elements, production, dissemination”*

*edited by Marie-Christine Heinze and Bilkis Zabara*

This publication is the result of the summer school “Academic Approaches to Peacebuilding in Yemen” held in Amman, Jordan, in September 2016, which brought together advanced academics from the University of Bonn and the Gender-Development Research & Studies Center at Sanaa University as well as MA and PhD students from Yemen and Germany. In an exercise over the course of two mornings, the student participants, led by the editors of this paper, developed recommendations for researchers and policy-makers on how best to approach, implement and present research on peacebuilding in societies in conflict. The exercise aimed to achieve two objectives: a) to develop a guide for young researchers, NGOs and policy-makers involved in generating knowledge on and for peace-building processes; and b) to subject the summer school participants to an intercultural / inter-academic writing and learning process in which a German and a Yemeni student teamed up to produce one recommendation. This paper is the result of this exercise.

Online available

## 4 Other Activities

### 4.1 Events

#### *Conference “Addressing Security Sector Reform in Yemen” (April 2017)*

The Regional Office Gulf States of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and CARPO jointly organized the conference ‘Addressing Security Sector Reform in Yemen. Challenges and Opportunities for Intervention during and post-Conflict’ from 3-5 April 2017 at the Dead Sea in Jordan. The aim of this conference was to bring together distinguished experts and practitioners from Yemen and the region as well as from Europe and the United States in order to discuss lessons learned from previous attempts at SSR in Yemen and to identify and develop practical policy options for constructive interventions during and post-conflict that aim to contribute to the stabilization of the country. A publication resulting from this conference will be published in December 2017.

## 5 Overview Publications 2017

In an effort to make our work available to a broader public, contribute to academic discussions, engage in public debates and influence policy making processes CARPO offers a range of publication formats. These publications may result from ongoing projects, summarize particular project activities or are stand-alone texts dealing with topics and fields CARPO is active in.

### *CARPO Briefs*

CARPO Briefs offer concise and target group oriented analyses with clear-cut policy advice. They address decision-makers in politics, economics, and society as well as an interested public. This series focuses on specific topics and offers profound background and action-oriented knowledge.

### *CARPO Reports*

CARPO Reports comprise policy-oriented studies. They offer in-depth analyses of specific topics, provide crucial background knowledge and end with policy recommendations for pertinent stakeholders.

### *CARPO Studies*

CARPO Studies offer a forum for thorough historical and contextual knowledge on the modern Orient. As an interdisciplinary and innovative series, CARPO Studies sets new impulses and opens up new perspectives for an audience interested in the region.

### *Other*

Further CARPO publications beyond the categories Briefs, Reports and Studies, generally resulting from project cooperation.

Dezember 2017

***“Addressing Security Sector Reform in Yemen. Challenges and Opportunities for Intervention During and Post-Conflict”***

*edited by Marie-Christine Heinze*

This collection of papers by eminent scholars working on Yemen is published in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation’s Regional Programme Gulf States and results from a joint conference implemented in April 2017 at the Dead Sea. It takes a critical look at the historical evolution of the Yemeni armies in North and South, its current state and the role the security sector has played in the fight against terrorism in Yemen. It also offers a look at challenges and opportunities for security sector reform in Yemen now and in the future.

21.10.2017

***„Knowledge in peacebuilding: Elements, production, dissemination“***

*edited by Marie-Christine Heinze and Bilkis Zabara*

This publication is the result of a summer school entitled “Academic Approaches to Peacebuilding in Yemen” held in Amman, Jordan, in September 2016, which brought together advanced academics from the University of Bonn and the Gender-Development Research & Studies Center at Sanaa University as well as MA and PhD students from Yemen and Germany. In an exercise over the course of two mornings, the student participants, led by the editors of this paper, developed recommendations for researchers and policy-makers on how best to approach, implement and present research on peacebuilding in societies in conflict. The exercise aimed to achieve two objectives: a) to develop a guide for young researchers, NGOs and policy-makers involved in generating knowledge on and for peace-building processes; and b) to subject the summer school participants to a intercultural/inter-academic writing and learning process in which a German and a Yemeni student teamed up to produce one recommendation. This paper is the result of this exercise.

Online available

11.09.2017

***CARPO Brief 08: “Environmental Challenges in a Conflictive Environment – Iranian and Saudi Perspectives on the Risks of Climate Change and Ecological Deterioration”***

*by Jan Hanrath and Wael Abdul-Shafi*

The fourth meeting of CARPO and the EastWest Institute’s ‘Iran-Saudi Track-II Initiative’ dealt with the political, social and economic risks posed by current environmental challenges to Iran and Saudi Arabia alike. The workshop brought together academics, environmental experts, security analysts and former diplomats from Iran and Saudi Arabia as well as international experts. The participants discussed environmental issues to reach a better understanding of the political context and to identify opportunities and limits for Iranian-Saudi cooperation in the field of regional environmental policy. Fully aware that the current political situation makes cooperation very difficult, participants discussed potential avenues of exchange below the level of national governments and proposed initiatives for cooperation on a regional and international level. CARPO Brief 08 summarizes key insights and recommendations derived from the conference discussions.

Online available

22.06.2017

***“Women nowadays do anything.” Women’s role in conflict, peace and security in Yemen***

*by Marie-Christine Heinze and Marwa Baabbad*

This study brings together the findings of qualitative research conducted in Ibb and Aden by the Yemen Polling Center (YPC) in cooperation with CARPO and Saferworld. It looks at the impact of the war on women and their families in these two regions, particularly in terms of security-related issues, and the roles women play or have played in the conflict as well as in the building of security and peace.

Online available

05.06.2017

***Rethinking Yemen's Economy Policy Brief 01: "Addressing Yemen's Most Critical Challenges. Practical Short-term Recommendations"***

This brief summarizes the short-term recommendations to address Yemen's current most critical challenges in development and economy which resulted from the first Development Champions Forum. This Forum took place in Amman, Jordan, between April 29 and May 1, 2017 as part of the "Rethinking Yemen's Economy" initiative. The challenges addressed in this brief were identified within three main, if overlapping, categories: the food security crisis, the problems faced by the banking industry, and the collapse of basic service delivery.

Online available

18.04.2017

***CARPO Brief 07: "Envisioning the Future: Iranian and Saudi Perspectives on the Post-Oil Economy"***

*by Danila Bochkarev and Jan Hanrath*

The third meeting of CARPO and the EastWest Institute's Iran-Saudi Track-II Dialogue Initiative was dedicated to the repercussions of changing global energy markets on Iran and Saudi Arabia. The workshop brought together policy experts and economists from Iran and Saudi Arabia as well as experts from Europe. They discussed challenges and opportunities a 'post-oil' era might bring and explored potential areas for cooperation between both countries. While participants agreed on the necessity of cooperation for creating strong and less oil-dependent economies, from which both countries as well as the whole region would benefit, their assessments varied on where this could begin. CARPO Brief 07 summarizes key insights and recommendations derived from the conference discussions.

Online available

28.02.2017

***CARPO Brief 06: "Between Dependence and Diversification. Making Sense of Iran's Energy"***

*by David Ramin Jalilvand*

Parallel to the conclusion and implementation of the nuclear deal, Iran's energy sector has become a subject of interest around the world. An estimated \$100 billion in foreign investment are needed for the modernization of the Iranian energy industry. Following the relief of sanctions granted as part of the nuclear deal, the government of President Hassan Rouhani is now trying to gain cooperation with international companies. In order to make better sense of Tehran's energy policy and to more accurately assess the overall situation in the Iranian energy sector, this paper argues that attention needs to also be given to Iran's long-term developments. Unlike the past, Iran is now increasingly utilizing its oil and natural gas production domestically. This has important implications for the country's political economy.

Online available

## 6 CARPO in the media

Throughout the year 2017 CARPO staff appeared on a variety of formats on radio, TV, print and online media. CARPO staff contributed by providing assessments and analyses in interviews or through commentaries and guest articles.

### *Marie-Christine Heinze, President*

- Interview "Jemen nach dem Tod Salehs: 'Weitere Konflikte, mehr Chaos'" (05.12.2017, Deutsche Welle)
- Kommentar "Krieg im Jemen: Mehr Dialog wagen" (01.10.2017, Der Standard)
- Interview "Jemen: Ein menschengemachtes Desaster" (Herbst 2017, Franziskaner)
- Radiointerview "Hoffnungsloser Fall. Krieg und Cholera im Jemen" (02.08.2017, SWR2)
- Radiointerview "Der Jemen, ein Land am Abgrund: Kampf für das nackte Überleben" (21.04.2017, SWR2)

### *Adnan Tabatabai, Chief Executive Officer*

- Radiointerview: Nach Donald Trumps Rede zum Atomdeal mit Iran (14.10.2017, DLF)
- TV Interview: Trump hints at decertifying the Iran deal (12.10.2017, DW)
- USA und Iran: Ohne Trump wären die Chancen besser (23.09.2017, ZEIT ONLINE)
- Kuration Iran-Dossier des Zenith Magazins, Ausgabe 03/17
- Rouhani's Challenge to Form His New Cabinet (04.08.2017, LobeLog)
- Radiointerview zum Jahrestag des Nuklearabkommens (17.07.2017, SWR 2)
- Radiointerview zur Katar-Krise: "Streit über Blockade setzt sich fort" (28.06.2017, RBB)
- Profil Hassan Rouhani "Der Sechser" (Zenith Magazin, Juni)
- Interview: "Es geht um Geopolitik und weniger um Religion" (08.06.2017, IPG-Journal)
- Radiointerview: "Verschärfen die Anschläge die Krise in Nah-Ost?" (07.06.2017, RBB)
- Interview: "Ruhani ist kein Reformier" (22.05.2017, Zenith)
- Radio Interview on outcome of Iran's Elections (20.05.2017, BBC Newshour)
- TV Interview: Iran's Presidential Vote (18.05.2017, DW)
- Bleibt Irans politische Mitte an der Macht? (17.05.2017, ZEIT ONLINE)

- 
- Radio Discussion: “Iran Voting for Change?” (12.05.2017, BBC Newshour)
  - Why Iran-US war of words won’t turn physical (09.02.2017, Al-Monitor)
  - USA und Iran: In Teheran kennt man das (04.02.2017, ZEIT ONLINE)
  - Radiointerview: Chaos an den Flughäfen – zum “MuslimBan” der Trump-Regierung (30.01.2017, RBB)
  - Buchrezension: “Morgen in Iran” (27.01.2017, SWR2)
  - Sorgenkind Atomdeal (18.01.2017, IPG-Journal)
  - Radiointerview: Ein Jahr nach dem Atomabkommen (16.01.2017, RBB)
  - Interview: Will Rafsanjani’s Death Shake Up Iran Politics? (11.01.2017, Zenith)

## 7 CARPO Presentations and Lectures

Throughout the year 2017 CARPO staff gave a number of public presentations and lectures. In addition to these public presentations and lectures, they actively participated in closed expert round-tables in Europe and beyond which were held under Chatham House rule.

### *Marie-Christine Heinze*

- Lecture “Der Jemen-Konflikt und seine Akteure. Um wieviel(e) Identität(en) geht es?“, University of Cologne, 06.11.2017, Cologne, Germany
- Presentation “Der Jemen-Konflikt. Akteure, Strategien, Lösungsszenarien“, JOUR FIXE Nahost Aktuell with Dr. Gudrun Harrer, 02.10.2017, Vienna, Austria
- Presentation on “The Huthis“, KAS / GRC workshop ‘The Way Forward for Yemen’, 20.09.2017, Berlin, Germany
- Presentation “Arrest and prison experiences of women and girls in Yemen“, meeting with the international donor community working on Yemen, 24.08.2017, Amman, Jordan
- Presentation “Enhancing women’s role in peace and security in Yemen. Key research findings“, workshop at the Foreign Ministry of the United Kingdom in cooperation with Saferworld, 31.05.2017, London, United Kingdom
- Presentation “Enhancing women’s role in peace and security in Yemen. Key research findings“, workshop at the Foreign Ministry of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, in cooperation with Saferworld, 11.05.2017, The Hague, Netherlands
- Presentation “Enhancing women’s role in peace and security in Yemen. Key research findings“, Saferworld workshop for the donor community working on Yemen, 10.05.2017, Brussels, Belgium
- Presentation “Security perceptions of the Yemeni public and attitudes towards the security sector“, meeting with the international donor community working on Yemen, 01.05.2017, Amman, Jordan
- Presentation “Reforming the Ministry of Interior. Findings from research conducted in 2013“, CARPO / KAS conference on ‘Addressing Security Sector Reform in Yemen – Challenges and Opportunities for Intervention During and Post-Conflict’, 04.04.2017, Dead Sea, Jordan

### *Adnan Tabatabai*

- Book presentation „Morgen in Iran“ and panel discussion on „Iran’s Regional Role“, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, 07.12.2017, Berlin, Germany
- Lecture “Iran’s Regional Role in the Middle East“, on invitation by the Deutscher Verband der Reservisten der Bundeswehr, 10.11.2017, Darmstadt, Germany

- 
- Presentation “Iran’s Political and Economic Context”, Cleanzone 2017 Exhibition, 17.10.2017, Frankfurt, Germany
  - Presentation “Iran after the elections”, Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies of the University of Marburg, 02.06.2017, Marburg, Germany
  - Presentation “Yesterday JCPOA. Today Trump. Tomorrow Hardliners?”, Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, 06.03.2017, Vienna, Austria
  - Book presentation „Morgen in Iran“, on invitation by CDU Kreisverband, 13.02.2017, Münster, Germany
  - Presentation “Iran’s Regional and Security Policies”, Center for Near and Middle East Studies of the University of Marburg, 19.01.2017, Marburg, Germany

## 8 CARPO Team

### 8.1 Staff

#### **Marie-Christine Heinze, President**

Marie-Christine Heinze holds a master in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, Political Science, and International and European Law from the University of Bonn and a master in Peace and Security Studies from the University of Hamburg. Her PhD thesis on material culture and socio-political change in Yemen in the field of social anthropology at the University of Bielefeld was successfully completed in 2015. Amongst others, she is currently head of an academic exchange project with the University of Sanaa on peace-building and state-building in Yemen at the University of Bonn, funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Since 2008, she has also regularly worked as a consultant on development and political change in Yemen.

*Focus & topics:* Yemen; political transformation; civil-military relations and security studies; historical background and collective memory; identifications and mobilization: religion, ethnicity, and gender; civil society and societal politics

#### ***Selected Publications***

- & Marwa Baabbad: 'Women nowadays do anything'. Women's role in peace, conflict and security in Yemen, CARPO / Saferworld / YPC (June 2017). Online available.
- Women's role in peace and security in Yemen. Literature review, CARPO / Saferworld / YPC (Dezember 2016). Online available.
- "From the margins of Yemen into the heart of the country, from fist-fights on Change Square to control of the capital city. Spatial manifestations of the Ḥūthī ascension to power", in: Stephan Conermann & Elena Smolarz (eds.): Mobilizing Religion: Networks and Mobility, Berlin: EB-Verlag (2015), S. 21-64.

#### **Adnan Tabatabai, Chief Executive Officer**

Adnan Tabatabai attained his master's degree in Middle East Politics at the School of Oriental and African Studies / University of London. He holds an assigned lectureship at the Heinrich-Heine-University of Dusseldorf lecturing approaches of social and political science to the Middle East. As an independent analyst on Iran affairs, Tabatabai is consulted by the German Federal Foreign Office, the German Bundestag and political foundations as well as

by international journalists and authors. As a project manager for the Berlin based NGO Media in Cooperation and Transition (MiCT), Adnan Tabatabai has conducted projects in the fields of media cooperation and political education to foster civil society dialogue in North Africa and West Asia.

*Focus & topics:* Iran, State-society relations, political transformation, power dynamics, civil society and societal politics, Civil-military relations and Security studies, intercultural dialogue, track II diplomacy

### ***Selected Publications***

- Why Iran-US war of words won't turn physical (09.02.2017, Al-Monitor)
- USA und Iran: In Teheran kennt man das (04.02.2017, ZEIT ONLINE)
- CARPO BRIEF 05: Victimized by Geopolitics – Iranian and Saudi Perspectives on the Refugee Crisis (24.10.2016 – CARPO)
- Morgen in Iran – die Islamische Republik im Aufbruch (Hamburg, October 2016)

### **Jan Hanrath, Chief Executive Officer**

Jan Hanrath, Dipl.-Soz.-Wiss., studied political science, European law and psychology (focus on intercultural communication) at the University Duisburg-Essen. Currently he writes his PhD thesis on German public diplomacy in the Middle East. From 2008 to 2014 he was researcher at the Institute for Development and Peace (INEF) at the University Duisburg-Essen and served as an Associate Fellow at the INEF. Prior to this he worked at NAVEND – Center for Kurdish Studies in Bonn. In the past years he has worked as a researcher and coordinator in projects on Islam and integration, migration and conflict, political transformation in the Middle East, and academic exchange.

*Focus & topics:* German Middle East policies, public diplomacy, peace and conflict research, political transformation and mobilization, diaspora and diaspora politics, intercultural dynamics, migration and integration, civil society and societal politics.

### ***Selected Publications***

- & Abdul Shafi, Wael: CARPO Brief 08: Environmental Challenges in a Conflictive Environment – Iranian and Saudi Perspectives on the Risks of Climate Change and Ecological Deterioration (11.09.2017 – CARPO)
- & Bochkarev, Danila: CARPO Brief 07: Envisioning the Future: Iranian and Saudi Perspectives on the Post-Oil Economy (18.04.2017 – CARPO)
- & Leggewie, Claus: Revolution 2.0? The Role of Digital Media in Political Mobilisation and Protest, in: Debiel, Tobias / Hippler, Jochen / Roth, Michele / Ulbert, Cornelia (eds.): Global Trends 2013. Peace – Development – Environment, Stiftung Entwicklung und Frieden (SEF), Bonn 2012, pp. 37-51.

- Transnationale Migrantengruppen und der Transport von Konflikten. Das Beispiel Türken und Kurden in Berlin, INEF-Report 105, Institut für Entwicklung und Frieden (INEF), Duisburg 2012.

### **Dr. Jasmin Khosravie, Head of Research and Programs**

Jasmin Khosravie has been trained in Near and Middle Eastern Studies (including Arabic, Persian, Turkish) and Comparative Religion in Cologne and Bonn. She completed her dissertation on a prominent Iranian women's rights activist and journalist in 2010. Since then, Jasmin Khosravie works and teaches at Bonn University. Recently, she was the head of a research unit on Middle Eastern travelogues on Europe. Her research focuses on women's and gender issues in the Islamicate World, identity/alterity and cultural contact as well as on the modern history of Iran and Central Asia.

*Focus & topics:* Gender, women's movements, identity/alterity, society and societal politics in Iran & Central Asia, Islamic mysticism, intercultural communication

### **Selected Publications**

- Die Freiheit der Person – Der Gender-Faktor, in: A. Dziri/M. Karimi (eds.): Freiheit im Angesicht Gottes – Interdisziplinäre Positionen zum Freiheitsdiskurs in Religion und Gesellschaft, Freiburg 2015, S. 43-56.
- Iranian women on the road – The case of Şadīqe Doulatābādī in Europe, 1923–27, in: C. Hillebrand / O. Akyildiz et al. (eds.): Venturing beyond borders. Reflections on genre, function and boundaries in Middle Eastern travel writing, Würzburg 2013, S. 131-156.

### **Julia Gurol, Project Assistant**

Julia Gurol studied Political Science, Sociology and Media Science at the Universities of Düsseldorf, Bonn and Granada (Spain). Her master thesis focused on the transformation of irregular armed actors and their strategies of (self-) legitimization with Hezbollah in Lebanon as an example. Currently she teaches at University of Freiburg and writes her dissertation. Her areas of expertise are social movements and uprisings, transformation processes and peace and conflict studies with a regional emphasis on the MENA Region. Before Julia started working as project assistant for CARPO, she has assisted in the project on arms export control at Bonn International Center for Conversion and worked as freelance journalist for the economic magazine WirtschaftsWoche.

### **Thomas Pietzsch, Project Assistant**

Thomas Pietzsch is an M.A. student at the Department of Islamic Studies and Near East Languages at the Institute of Oriental and Asian Studies (IOA) at the University in Bonn. Next to his studies, he works as project assistant for the DAAD-funded project on 'Academic Approaches to Peace-building and State-building in Yemen' at the IOA of which CARPO is also a partner. Previously, he worked as a student assistant for a project on Middle Eastern travelogues to Europe and as a teacher of German language for refugee children.

## **8.2 Advisory Board**

### **Prof. Dr. Stephan Conermann**

Prof. Dr. Stephan Conermann is Director of the Department of Near Eastern History and Languages at the University of Bonn, where he has been Professor of Islamic Studies since 2003. He is also Vice President for International Affairs at the University of Bonn and founding member of the Center for Religion and Society at the university. With research interests in the fields of transformation processes in Muslim societies in the era of European colonialism and imperialism, Muslim historiography and identification processes and Islam in Germany – amongst others – he has published extensively on the history of the modern 'Orient' as well as on resulting European – Middle East relations today. He is also series editor of „Bonner Islamstudien“ (BIS), „Bonner Asienstudien“ (BAS), „Bonner islamwissenschaftliche Hefte“ (BiH), „Narratologia Aliena“ und „Mamluk Studies“.

### **Dr. Gudrun Harrer**

Dr. Gudrun Harrer is Senior Editor of Austria's national daily newspaper "Der Standard" where she previously served as the foreign editor. She holds an MA in Islamic and Arabic Studies and a PhD in International Relation Studies, with a doctoral thesis on the Iraqi nuclear program. She is a lecturer on modern history and politics of the Middle East at the University of Vienna, and at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna. In 2006, she was Special Envoy of the Austrian EU Presidency to Iraq and Chargé d'Affaires of the Austrian Embassy in Baghdad. Gudrun Harrer was awarded the prestigious "Bruno Kreisky Award for the political book" for her publications on the Middle East, among others for "Dismantling the Nuclear Programme: The Inspections of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Iraq 1991-1998" (Routledge 2014) and "Nahöstlicher Irrgarten: Analysen abseits des Mainstreams" (Kremayr & Scheriau 2014). She is member of the board of the Austrian Orient Society (ÖÖW) and of the Austrian Institute for International Affairs (OIIP).

## Ambassador Marc Otte

Ambassador Marc Otte is a Belgian diplomat. He has served in Washington DC and Kinshasa (RDC) and was Consul General in Los Angeles as well as ambassador to Israel. He was also director for strategic affairs and disarmament and director for policy planning at the Belgian MFA. From 1999 to 2003, he was advisor for security and defense policy to the High Representative for EU foreign and security policy and from 2003 to 2011, EU Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process. From 2013 to 2017, he was director general of the Royal Institute for International Relations / Egmont. He is currently Belgian Special Envoy for Syria and Vice President of the European Institute for Peace (EIP). He has written numerous articles and contributed to books on European defense and security policy as well as on the Middle East.

## 8.3 Associate Fellows

### Şafak Baş

Şafak Baş, M.A., studied Political Science and Near and Middle Eastern Studies at the Ruprecht-Karls University in Heidelberg as well as Persian at the Dekhoda Lexicon Institute in Tehran. After completing his studies, he worked as a policy analyst at the European Stability Initiative in Berlin and Istanbul (2012-2013) and as a freelance journalist in Istanbul and Tehran (2013-2014). Currently, Şafak is a Ph.D. student at the Center for Middle Eastern and North African Politics at the Otto-Suhr Institute of Political Science at Free University Berlin.

In his dissertation project, which is funded by the Hanns Seidel Foundation, Şafak is working on the foreign policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey in the Middle East. In addition to dissertation related topics of the foreign policies and geopolitics of Iran and Turkey, he is particularly interested in topics of the social sciences such as flight and migration. In this context, he visited the Turkish-Syrian border area between March and July 2015 and gathered numerous impressions and information on the situation of the Syrian refugees in Turkey in talks with politicians, helpers and refugees.

*Focus & topics:* Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Syria, foreign policy, and geopolitics, flight and migration research, ethnic and religious minorities in Iran & Turkey

### *Selected Publications*

- "Pragmatism and Rivalry. The Nature of Turkey-Iran Relations", in: *Turkish Policy Quarterly* 12/2 (Fall 2013), pp. 113-124.
- "Red Card for Tehran: How an ethnic self-consciousness took root among Iran's Azeris", in: *Diplomatic Observer* (June 2015), pp. 18-21.
- *Turkey's Parliamentary Elections and the Quest for Stability*, CARPO Brief 02 (October 2015).

## Sarah Dusend

Sarah Dusend holds a master in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, Political Science and French Language and Literature from the University of Bonn. She studied Arabic and Persian at the Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales in Paris as well as Arabic in Damascus. After completing her M.A. she was the coordinator of the Bonn Center for Asian Studies (2009-2013) as well as the Bonn Graduate School for Oriental and Asian Studies (2013-2015). Currently, she is a research fellow at the Department of Islamic Studies and Near East Languages at the Institute of Oriental and Asian Studies (IOA) at the University in Bonn, working on her PhD project funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). Her thesis deals with three pilgrimage reports by Qajar women at the end of the 19th century.

In addition to her research in the fields of women's studies and travel writing in the Iranian and Arab world as well as mobility and pilgrimage in Islam, she is furthermore interested in Afghan and Pakistani contemporary historiography and identity politics.

*Focus & topics:* Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, gender, travel writing, mobility, historiography, identity politics

### *Selected Publications*

- „Pilgern nach Mekka – zur Reisewirklichkeit einer qajarischen Prinzessin und den Funktionen ihres Pilgerberichtes Rūznāme-ye safar-e ‘atabāt va-Mekkeh“. In: Conermann, S./Agai, B. (ed.): *Wenn einer eine Reise tut, hat er was zu erzählen“ Präfiguration – Konfiguration – Refiguration in muslimischen Reiseberichten vom Ende des 18. bis zum Beginn des 20. Jahrhunderts.* Berlin (2013), pp. 75-118.
- *Solidarische Vernetzung, gesellschaftlicher Fortschritt und die Rolle der Frau: Die Debatten und Ergebnisse des Kongresses der Orientalischen Frauen in Teheran 1932.* Berlin (2010).

## Abdulsalam al-Rubaidi

Abdulsalam al-Rubaidi holds a master in Arabic Language and Literature from Sana'a University, Yemen. He is a lecturer at the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Faculty of Education at al-Baydha' University, Yemen. Currently, he is writing a doctoral thesis on 'Identity Constructions in Contemporary Yemeni Novels' at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany, in a project funded by the Volkswagen Foundation.

Abdulsalam worked as a teacher of the humanities (religion, history and Arabic language) in a number of private schools and universities in Sana'a from 2005 to 2009. From 2012 to 2014, he was a researcher at the Yemen Polling Center

(YPC) in Sana'a in the Volkswagen Foundation-funded project on 'Framing the Revolution in Yemen' with the University of Bonn. Since mid-2017, he has been working as editor of the Arabic section at al-Madaniya Magazine, a cultural electronic magazine run by YPC. Abdulsalam has published extensively on cultural and social issues in Yemen in both Arabic and English language.

*Focus & topics:* Arabic linguistics and literature, Sufism, political and religious discourses in Yemen, identification processes and social change in Yemen

### **Selected Publications**

- "Skepticism among emerging public intellectuals in post-revolution Yemen", in: Marie-Christine Heinze (ed.): *Yemen and the Search for Stability. Power, Politics and Society after the Arab Spring*, London: IB Tauris (forthcoming).
- & Laurent Bonnefoy: "The reconfiguration of identities in the context of the current war in Yemen: The contemporary Sunni Islamist field", in: *Majallat Idhafat* 38-39 (2017), pp. 50-67
- "The concept of shabāb in Yemen. Some remarks", in: *Jemen-Report* 47 (2016), pp. 122-125.
- "Sixtieth versus Seventieth Street. Practices and counter-practices during the Yemeni Spring 2011", in: *Jemen-Report* 45 (2014), pp. 27-31.
- *al-Naṣṣ al-Ghā'ib fī 'l-Qaṣīda al-'Arabiyya al-Ḥadītha* [Intertextuality in Modern Arabic Poetry], Amman: Dār al-Ghayda' (2012).

### **Sebastian Sons**

Sebastian Sons, M.A., studied Islamic Studies, History and Political Sciences in Berlin and Damascus. Prior to that, he trained as journalist in print, TV and radio media at the Berlin School for Journalists (Berliner Journalisten-Schule). After finishing his studies, he worked as Head of Research and Editor-in-Chief of the academic magazine *Orient* at the German Orient-Institute from 2009 to 2014 and as a project researcher at the Program Near East and North Africa at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) in Berlin. At the moment, he is Associate Fellow at the DGAP. He is currently finishing his Ph.D. thesis on "media discourses on labor migration from Pakistan to Saudi Arabia" at the Humboldt University Berlin for which he conducted field research in Pakistan from January until April 2016. As an analyst on Saudi Arabian affairs, he is consulted by German political institutions such as the German Bundestag and political foundations as well as by international journalists.

*Focus & topics:* social developments in Saudi Arabia, domestic and foreign policy of Saudi Arabia, South Asian migration to the Gulf region, jihadist movements, security in the GCC countries

### ***Selected Publications***

- “In dire need for a new social contract: Saudi Arabia’s socioeconomic and political challenges in times of changing energy dynamics”, in: Kirsten Westphal & David Jalilvand (eds.): *Changing Dynamics of Energy: Political and Economic Challenges for the MENA-Region*, London: Routledge (forthcoming).
- “Eine deutsche Strategie gegenüber Saudi-Arabien: Regionale Stabilität und Terrorismusbekämpfung als Eckpfeiler“, in: Christian Mölling & Daniela Schwarzer (eds.): *Außenpolitische Herausforderungen für die Nächste Bundesregierung: Stärken, Schwächen, Chancen und Risiken*, DGAPkompakt 6, Berlin 2017, pp. 40-42.
- “Hausarrest für Katar. Die Krise entpuppt sich als Kampf um die Vormacht in der Golf-Familie“, in: *Internationale Politik* 4 (Juli bis August 2017), pp. 98-102.
- *Auf Sand gebaut. Saudi-Arabien – Ein Problematischer Verbündeter*, Berlin (November 2016).
- “Oil as a Burden: Saudi Arabia’s struggle for energy diversification“, in: Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (ed.): *IASS Study on the G20’s Potential for Advancing a Global Transition towards Sustainable Energy*, Berlin (Dezember 2016), pp. 83-89.

### **Dr. Andrea Warnecke**

Andrea Warnecke has recently completed her PhD at the European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Department of Political and Social Sciences. Her thesis focuses on the evolution of the post-war peacebuilding practices of a range of international development, humanitarian, and peacekeeping organisations over the past two decades. In particular, the thesis accounts for the persistent depoliticization of external peacebuilding practices by analysing the role of international organisations in post-conflict governance as characterised by tensions between impartiality and political agency.

Prior to undertaking her PhD research, Andrea earned a Master’s degree in History, English Literature, and Media Studies from the University of Bochum, Germany. From 2006 to 2011, she worked as a (Senior) Researcher at Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC). During this time, she acquired and conducted a number of projects, which inter alia received funding under the 7th EU Research Framework Programme, from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Gerda Henkel Foundation, in the fields of involuntary migration, diaspora politics, and peacebuilding and development.

*Focus & topics:* post-war peacebuilding, peace making and mediation, international organisations, crises governance, critical security studies, peacekeeping, sociology of violence, conflict and migration, diaspora politics

### **Selected Publications**

- Ethiopian Diasporas in Germany. Commitment to Social and Economic Development in Ethiopia. Consultancy report. German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development: Bonn (2015).
- & Schmitz-Pranghe, C.: "Diasporaengagement für Entwicklung und Frieden. Handlungsspielräume und Kapazitäten der äthiopischen Diaspora in Deutschland", in: Tatjana Baraulina & Andrea Riester (Hg.): *Potenziale afrikanischer Migration in Deutschland und den Herkunftsländern*. Eschborn: BAMF/GTZ (2011), pp. 183-215.
- & Tänzler, D.; Vollmer, R.: *Climate Change, Migration and Conflict. Receiving Communities under Pressure?* Policy paper. Washington DC: German Marshall Fund of the United States (2010).
- & Franke, V. C.: "Building Peace: An Inventory of UN Peace Missions since the End of the Cold War", in: *International Peacekeeping* 16/3 (2009), pp. 407-436.

### **Sarah Wessel**

Sarah Wessel recently submitted her PhD thesis *The Making of Political Representation: Processes of Claim-Making and Receiving During the Egyptian Transformations (2011-2014)* at the University of Hamburg, Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences. Her research explores the political and cultural transformations in the Arab region following the popular mass uprising in 2010/11 with a particular focus on Egypt. The study is an in-depth qualitative, empirical political ethnography with long-term encounters, spanning the duration of the manifold political events in Egypt prior to and after the January 25 Revolution until 2015. The work draws upon a comprehensive, empirical set of qualitative data, including interviews with diverse socioeconomic groups. The analysis provides an answer to the question how the massive uprisings demanding freedom and socio-political justice regressed into the reproduction of an authoritarian, repressive military regime just three years later. In theoretical terms, the study advances thinking regarding the complex political and societal mechanisms and dynamics that enable or undermine the emergence of stable representative political relations.

Sarah Wessel studied Economics at the University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt as well as Cultural Anthropology, Political Science and Arabic at the University of Münster. After completing her studies, she worked as a Project Manager of the funding program German-Arab Transformation Partnership at the German

Academic Exchange Service in Cairo (2012-2013). From 2013 to 2015 she was a Research Fellow at the Orient Institute Beirut in Cairo. In addition, she worked a trainer for scientific writing and research methods at the Cairo Academy of the DAAD (2013-15). Currently, she is working as an independent scientific consultant in Berlin and is planning a new research project on investigating contemporary economic practices in the Arab world.

*Focus & topics:* Relations between Europe and the Arab region with particular focus on Germany and Egypt, political representation, dynamics of legitimation, political anthropology, economic anthropology, gender diversity, poverty

### ***Selected Publications***

- *Grey-Scales. Negotiating the Civil State in Post-Revolutionary Egypt*, CARPO Study 03 (19.12.2016 – CARPO).
- "Wahl und Kampf in Ägypten", in: *zenith. Zeitschrift für den Orient* (2013).
- "Political representation and legitimacy in Egypt. The making and the reception of claims during the parliamentary elections 2011", in: C. Steuer (eds.): *Les élections de la révolution* (2011-2012). Cairo (2013).

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