

Centre for Contemporary Middle East Studies, University of Southern Denmark

in cooperation with

Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II School of International Studies, University of Jordan

WORKSHOP AND ROUNDTABLE

Migration and refugees in the Middle East: recent regional and international challenges and repercussions

Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II
School of International Studies

University of Jordan

24-25 April 2016



DJUCO



Migration and refugees in the Middle East: recent regional and international challenges and repercussions

Venue: Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II School of International Studies

Organised by the Centre for Contemporary Middle East Studies, University of Southern Denmark, and the Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II School of International Studies, University of Jordan.

Organisers

Professor, Dean Faisal Odeh Al-Rfouh, Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II School of International Studies, University of Jordan

Dr. Hasan al-Momani, Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II School of International Studies, University of Jordan

Dr. Peter Seeberg, Director of Studies and Associate Professor, Centre for Contemporary Middle East Studies, University of Southern Denmark

Morten Bendtsen, Project Manager, Centre for Contemporary Middle East Studies, University of Southern Denmark

Introduction

The Middle East and North Africa region (MENA) has for decades been characterized by significant and complex migration patterns, some of which involve a European perspective. Over the last years the migratory movements have increased and become more complex. The so-called Arab Spring from 2011 and onwards led to more differentiated patterns of the population movements in the MENA-region and in particular the crisis in Syria and Libya caused a significant forced migration to neighbouring countries and towards Europe, which seems to continue and increase, not least as a result of the emergence on the political and military scene of the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS, or Daesh), in particular in Iraq and Syria.

However, beyond the recent dramatic developments concerning migration, which have caught the attention of the international media and more than ever have become high politics, significant patterns of more “traditional” population movements can be identified in the MENA-region. These movements still play an important role, influencing economic, political and social relations between the states in the region, but also contributing to the international repercussions of Middle Eastern migration. On both sides of the Mediterranean, and particularly from the European side, an increasing securitization of migration has become a reality, following the 2015 terror attacks in, among others, Egypt, Lebanon, and France.

It is the idea of this workshop to analyze and discuss recent migration tendencies in the MENA-region and their regional and international perspectives. The discussions will trace the roots of migratory movements in the Middle East and how they have influenced the political and social conditions of the region. Taking its point of departure in the recent turmoil in the MENA-region and how the ongoing crisis has added to the significant new migration tendencies, it is the ambition of the workshop to contribute to our understanding of this important and increasingly complex Mediterranean reality.

The workshop is part of the DJUCO-initiative, which as one of its activities develops a university cooperation partnership between Centre for Contemporary Middle East Studies, University of Southern Denmark, and Prince Al Hussein Bin Abdullah II School of International Studies, University of Jordan.

Sunday 24 April 2016

10:00-11:00	Registration, coffee and tea
11:00-11:30	Welcoming Remarks
	Professor, Dean Faisal Odeh Al-Rfouh, Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II School of International Studies, University of Jordan
	Dr. Peter Seeberg, Director of DJUCO, Centre for Contemporary Middle East Studies, University of Southern Denmark
11:30-13:00	Workshop – I
	Chair: Peter Seeberg
	Tamirace Fakhoury: Lebanon’s governance of the Syrian refugee crisis: drivers and consequences
	Martin Beck: Flexible response? On the Lebanese “refugee crisis”
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	Workshop – II
	Chair: Martin Beck
	Ibrahim Awad: Refugees in the Euro-Mediterranean Space: Issues in International Cooperation in Burden-sharing
	Peter Seeberg: Migration, Diplomacy and Regional Influence. The Syrian Refugee Crisis and the Turkish-European Relations
15:30-15:45	Coffee break
15:45-17:45	Workshop - III
	Chair: Ibrahim Awad
	Hasan al-Momani: Syrian Refugees and Jordan’s Deeply Rooted Water Problem
	Gerasimos Tsourapas: Population Mobility & Cross-Regime Competition: Tracing the Political Importance of Egyptian Migration under Mohamed Morsi
	Derek Lutterbeck: Exploring the dynamics of migrant smuggling. The case of the Central Mediterranean
20:00	Workshop Dinner

Monday 25 April 2016

10.00-10.30	Karolina Popp: Report Presentation: 2015 Situation Report on International Migration by IOM and ESCWA Chair: Hasan al-Momani
10.30-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-13.00	Roundtable discussion Migration and refugees in the Middle East. Recent regional and international challenges and repercussions Chair: TBA
13:00-14:00	Lunch