



**PEACE ECONOMICS:
OPPORTUNITIES AND OPTIONS
FOR A POST-CONFLICT MIDDLE EAST**

Jerusalem, July 19, 2017

9.30/16.00

A NEW-MED CONFERENCE
IN COOPERATION WITH THE HARRY S. TRUMAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PEACE AT THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

Venue:

*The Mandel School for Advanced Studies
Faculty of Humanities
Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Mt. Scopus Campus
(Room 530 – 5th floor)
Jerusalem*

Agenda

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9:00-9:30 Registration of Participants

9:30-09:40 Welcome Greetings

Moshe Maoz, The Harry S. Truman Research Institute

Lorenzo Kamel, Istituto Affari Internazionali/University of Freiburg

9:40-9:50 INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Luisa Balbi, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Laura Quadarella, Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

9:50-11:20 **SESSION I – ENERGY AND WATER: PERSPECTIVES ON REGIONAL DYNAMICS**

The first recorded war in human history took place around 2450 BCE between the Lagash and the Umma kingdoms in ancient Mesopotamia (present-day Iraq): it was triggered by competing claim over water sources and supplying of water. Over four thousand years later water remains a key source of instability in the MENA. Water resources (both surface and groundwater) have been gradually depleted leaving the region heavily dependent on the world market to procure food. Session I will focus on challenges and opportunities connected to water in the MENA, with a focus also on energy and its sustainable production and consumption, social and environmental innovation in businesses in the region, and the potential role that water and energy may have in enhancing regional cooperation.

Chair: **Ettore Greco**, Istituto Affari Internazionali

Panelists: **Tony Allan**, School of Oriental and African Studies

Michael Tanchum, The Harry S. Truman Research Institute

Nader Al-Khateeb, Water and Environmental Development Organization

Harry Tzimitras, Peace Research Institute Oslo - Cyprus Centre

11:20-11:45 Coffee Break

11:45-13:15 **SESSION II – CAUSES OF STABILITY AND INSTABILITY IN THE MENA**

Following the Arab uprisings, a number of countries in the MENA region have experienced regime change or collapse, while others are engulfed in conflict and proxy wars. In this increasingly unpredictable scenario the nature of the ongoing democratic and economic transition remains very much in question, and regional uncertainty seems to impact any level of local societies. Session II will analyze causes of stability and instability in MENA countries with a special emphasis on transnational political and economic processes affecting the region.

Chair: **Tal Shenhav**, The Harry S. Truman Research Institute

Panelists: **Michele Dunne**, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

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Avraham Sela, The Harry S. Truman Research Institute

Galip Dalay, Al Sharq Forum

Richard Colebourn, Middle East Bureaux, BBC News

13:15-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00 **SESSION III – FRAMING A NEW MULTIPOLAR REALITY**

While the first two sessions focused on regional and local dynamics, this session brings in the global dimension. What role have international actors played in conflicts in the region? How could diplomacy be fostered in an increasingly multipolar context? How can local communities and groups be included in such diplomacy, and how can their concerns be better understood? How can new initiatives be more representative of the needs and expectations of those living in the region? Session III will focus on these and a number of other related questions, with a view on new potential – political, diplomatic, economic or cultural – initiatives.

Chair: **Lorenzo Kamel**, Istituto Affari Internazionali/University of Freiburg

Thanos Dokos, Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy

Galia Press-Barnathan, The Harry S. Truman Research Institute

Christina Lin, Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies, University of California, Irvine

Benedetta Berti, Institute for National Security Studies

16:00 END OF THE CONFERENCE

In cooperation with

