

**AGENDA** 



### ERF Annual Conference

The Annual Conference of the Economic Research Forum (ERF) has evolved over the past 18 years to become one of the most important regional platforms for ERF and non-ERF affiliates to discuss frontier thinking about economic development, learn from one another and interact with international scholars. The upcoming conference comes at a time when the region is undergoing significant political transformation and will focus in its plenary sessions on a pertinent issue: *Economic Development and the Rise of Islamist Parties*. The plenary sessions will feature renowned economists and opinion makers and the conference will be held at the headquarters of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) in Kuwait, March 3-5, 2013. It is expected to host around 200 participants.

Besides the plenary sessions, there will be six parallel sessions, involving the presentation of almost 50 papers under the themes of: macroeconomics, finance, labor and human development, international economics, microeconomics and institutional economics. Parallel session papers are selected on the basis of a rigorous refereeing process in response to an open call for papers, hence their diversity. The closing session celebrates the six winners of what has become a regional institution: the Best Paper Award.

### **Conference Theme**

The political upheavals which swept ERF's region in early 2011 ushered in Islamist political parties in Egypt, Tunisia, and potentially elsewhere in the region. Deposed political regimes were generally perceived to have failed to deliver acceptable standards of living to the majority of their populations, denying them freedom and social justice in the meantime. There has been much discussion as to why the Islamist movements surged to the fore, and just as many questions about the likely development policies and outcomes of their ascendance to power. The fact that the track record of similar parties in other regions is mixed makes it doubly important to deal with questions about the conditions which would render this political development successful. This year's conference is intended to do just that, primarily by attempting to understand the causes behind the rise of Islamist parties, the conditions under which they succeed and the likely outcome in Arab Spring countries.

### Plenary Session 1: The Causes of the Arab Uprisings and the Rationale for the Rise of Islamist Parties to Power

This session will examine the root causes of the Arab uprisings and the rationale for the rise to power of Islamist parties. On the causes of the uprisings, the speakers will address such questions as: were the uprisings due to the failing of previous regimes to provide decent jobs for a growing population, to reduce poverty and to curb inequality and corruption? Or were the root causes social in nature, influenced by a growing middle class combined with limited social mobility? Was it due to political oppression and what role did the West play in the process, if any?

On the rise of Islamist political parties, history tells us that the region has been traditionally devout, but most countries have also been officially secular for centuries. So why did the uprisings lead to the rise of Islamist parties? Was it the power of ideology and organization? Do they offer a reform agenda that is likely to address the inadequacies of the previous regimes? How much of their success is due to the failure of other opposition parties to reach out to citizens? Finally, what do we know about the rise of such movements and their fates in other Islamic states?

### Plenary Session 2: Comparative Economic Performance in Islamist-Governed Countries

This session will focus on what happens comparatively when Islamist parties attain power. Panelists will examine such questions as: do these parties develop defining characteristics as far as development policies are concerned? Are they monolithic? Are the resulting development outcomes similar?

# March 3-5, 2013

What might explain the differences in outcomes across such diverse countries as Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey? What lessons can we draw from this comparative analysis for Arab Spring countries?

### Plenary Session 3: Outlook and Possible Scenarios

This session will contemplate the likely scenarios as a result of the Islamist party rule. Besides elaborating on their views on the likely political settlements in different countries in the region, the speakers will address such questions as: after decades in opposition, how well are Islamist political parties likely to manage the economy? Which path are they likely to follow; that of Turkey, Pakistan or Iran? To what extent are they likely to adjust their initial positions given the prevailing balance of power in different countries? And will they be able to strike a healthy balance between the neoliberal economic programs they have espoused with the need for social justice and income distribution? Finally, what are the prospects for power transitions in the future?

### **Parallel Sessions**

There will be six parallel sessions, covering the following broad areas of economics:

- 1. Institutional Economics/Governance
- 2. Finance
- Macroeconomics
- 4. International Economics
- 5. Labor and Human Development
- 6. Microeconomic and Sectoral Studies

### **Special Events and Meetings**

- 1. Meeting of the ERF Advisory Committee
- Thematic Leaders' Meeting
- 3. ERF Finance Committee Meeting
- 4. Research Fellows' Meeting
- 5. Meeting of the ERF Board of Trustees
- 6. Special Event: Open Access Data, unveiling ERF's new Micro data Access.
- 7. Book Launch: Economic Incentives and Environmental Regulation
- 8. Closing and award ceremony of the Best Paper Award

### Preconference Events

### 2 March 2013

09:00 - 13:00 ERF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING (CLOSED MEETING) | Four Points Sheraton Hotel

15:30 - 16:30 THEMATIC LEADERS MEETING (CLOSED MEETING) | Four Points Sheraton Hotel

17:00 - 18:00 ERF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING (CLOSED MEETING) | Four Points Sheraton Hotel

# DAY ONE

8:00 - 9:00 REGISTRATION

9:00 - 11:30 Opening and Plenary Session 1: The Causes of the Arab Uprisings and the Rationale for the Rise of Islamist

Parties to Power | Main Conference Hall (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Abdlatif Al-Hamad (Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and ERF)

Opening Remarks: Ahmed Galal (Economic Research Forum)

Speakers: Ishac Diwan (Harvard University and ERF)

Jean Philippe Plateau (University of Namur and University of Oxford)

Samer Shehata (Georgetown University)

11:30 - 12:00 COFFEE BREAK

12:00 - 13:30 PARALLEL SESSIONS

Institutional Economics

Discrimination and Justice

Main Conference Hall (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Susanne Szabo

Speakers:

Nadereh Chamlou, Juan Botero, Alejandro Ponce, Maliheh Birjandi, Leila Hanafi, and Bilgehan Gokcen Women's Access to Justice in the Middle East & North Africa: An Empirical Investigation

Andries de Grip and Ahmed Elsayed

Terrorism and Integration of Muslims: Evidence from Moroccan and Turkish Immigrants in the Netherlands

Discussant:

Jeffrey Nugent

FINANCE

Risk Management and Behavior of Investors

The Library (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Samir Makdisi

Speakers:

Shawkat Hammoudeh, Mehmet Balcilar and Riza Demirer

Investor Herds and Regime-Switching: Evidence from Gulf Arab Stock Markets

Riadh Aloui, Mohamed Ben Aïssa, Shawkat Hammoudeh, and Duc Khuong Nguyen

Extreme Risk Management in Oil and Natural Gas Markets

Discussant: Wafik Grais

Macroeconomics

Macro-Financial Linkages

Glass Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Simon Neaime

Speakers:

Inessa Love and Rima Turk Ariss

Macro-Financial Linkages in Egypt: A Panel Analysis of Economic Shocks on Loan Portfolio Quality

Hoda Youssef and Santiago Herrera

Macroeconomic Shocks and Banking Sector Developments in Egypt

Discussant: Fatih Ozatay

13:30 - 15:00 LUNCH BREAK

11:30 - 12:00

International Economics
Prospects of Exports

Mamluk Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Adel Beshai

Speakers: Marouane Alaya and Imed Mezghani

The Growth of Turkey in World Trade: Opportunity or Threat for MENA Countries?

Mohamed Ben Abdallah and Zouheir Bouchaddakh

Banking and Monetary Crises: Impacts on Exports of MENA Countries

Discussant: Rohinton Medhora

LABOR AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT Social Network and Spatial Inequality

Rounded Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Mongi Boughzala

Speakers: Moundir Lassassi and Christophe Muller

Reseaux Sociaux et Insertion Sur le Marche du Travail en Algerie

Aomar Ibourk and Jabrane Amaghouss

Les Inégalités dans le Domaine de l'éducation au Maroc: Une Approche par l'économétrie Spatiale

Discussant: Ragui Assaad

MICROECONOMICS

Egypt Post Revolution and Global Oil Supply Shocks

Tunisian Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: *Hania Sholkamy* 

Speakers:

Amr Hosny, Magda Kandil and Hamid Mohtadi

The Egyptian Economy Post Revolution: Sectoral Diagnosis of Potential Strengths and Binding Constraints

Paul Cashina, Kamiar Mohaddes, Maziar Raissi and Mehdi Raissi

The Differential Effects of Oil Demand and Supply Shocks on the Global Economy

Discussant: Samir Ghazouani

# DAY ONE

15:00 - 16:30 PARALLEL SESSIONS

Institutional Economics

The Dynamics of Social and Political Change in the Arab World

Main Conference Hall (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Imed Limam

Speakers:

Mina Baliamoune Lutz

Different Arab Springs? The Political Elite and De Facto Political Power

Ishac Diwan

Who are the Democrats? Leading Opinions in the Wake of Egypt's 2011 Popular Uprisings

Discussant: Hadi Esfahani

FINANCE

Banking Efficiency

The Library (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Mouna Cherkaoui

Speakers:

Mohamed El Arbi Chaffai and Sémia Lassoued

Ownership, Technical Efficiency and Cost of Bad Loans: Evidence from the Tunisian Banking Industry

Laurent Weill and Laurent Gheeraert

Does Islamic Banking Development Favor Macroeconomic Efficiency? Evidence on the Islamic Finance -Growth Nexus

Discussant: Hassan Aly

MACROECONOMICS

Fiscal Policy in Crisis

Glass Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Taher Kanaan

Speakers: *Brahim Mansouri* 

Fiscal Policy, Trade Surpluses and Exchange Rates in a Situation of Trade Liberalization and Crisis: The Case of Morocco

Ebaidalla Ebaidalla

Impact of Exchange Rate Volatility on Macroeconomic Performance in Sudan

Discussant: *Magda Kandil* 

16:30 - 17:00 COFFEE BREAK

17:00 - 19:00 RESEARCH FELLOWS' MEETING (CLOSED MEETING) | Main Conference Hall (Ground Floor)

20:00 WELCOME DINNER | MADEENA RESTAURANT

International Economics
Determinants of Trade

Mamluk Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Subidey Togan

Speakers:

Zaki Mehchy, Rabie Nasser, and Marc Schiffbauer

Trade Determinants and Potentials of Syria: Using Gravity Model with an Estimation of Syrian Crisis Impact on Exports

Patricia Augier, Olivier Cadot, and Marion Dovis

Moroccan Non-Tariff Measures' Impact on Domestic Firms: A Booster through Deeper Integration or Protection Measure?

Discussant: Caroline Freund

LABOR AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT Female Education and Labor Participation in Egypt

Rounded Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Nada Al-Nashif

Speakers:

Ragui Assaad and Rana Hendy

On the Two-Way Relation Between Marriage and Work: Evidence from Egypt and Jordan

Asmaa Elbadawy

Evaluating the Impact of Ishraq: A Second Chance Program for Outof-School Rural Adolescent Girls in Upper Egypt

Discussant: *Insan Tunali* 

MICROECONOMICS

Subsidies, Equity, and Spatial Manufacturing

Tunisian Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Najib Harabi

Speakers:

Mohammad Bakhshoodeh

Proxy Means Tests for Targeting Subsidies Scheme in Iran

Mohamed Ben Jemaa

Productive Performances and Spatial Spillover: Evidence from the Egyptian Manufacturing Sector Using a Spatial Correlation Model

Discussant:

Amirah El-Haddad

16:30 - 17:00

# DAY TWO

9:00 - 11:00 PLENARY SESSION 2: COMPARATIVE ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE IN ISLAMIST-GOVERNED COUNTRIES | Main Conference

Hall (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Mustapha Nabli (Former Governor, Central Bank of Tunisia and ERF)

Speakers: Michele Dunne (The Atlantic Council)

Magda Kandil (International Monetary Fund and ERF)

Jillian Schwedler (University of Massachusetts)

11:00 - 11:30 COFFEE BREAK

11:30 ERF Board of Trustees Meeting (closed meeting)

11:30 - 13:00 PARALLEL SESSIONS

Institutional Economics

Islam, Democracy and Economic Development

Main Conference Hall (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Hazem El-Beblawi

Speakers:

Brahim Elmorchid

Partis Islamistes, Pouvoir et Etat Profond dans le Monde Arabe: Analyse en Termes du Principal-Agent

Abdallah Zouache

Islam, Institutions and Economic Development

Discussant: *Ishac Diwan* 

FINANCE

SMEs and Interest Financing Contracts

The Library (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Mine Cinar

Speakers:

Fathi Abid and Jihene Rebai

Expected Utility Optimal Decisions Based on Zero Inflation and Interest Financing Contracts

Yosra Nouir and Sami Mensi

Accounting Information System of Tunisian SMEs: Complexity, Determinants and Impact on Financial Performance

Discussant: *Izak Atiyas* 

MACROECONOMICS

Current Account Deficit and International Reserves

Glass Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Yousef Al-Ebraheem

Speakers:

Nergiz Dincer and Pinar Yasar

Identification of Current Account Deficit in Turkey

Hoda Selim

The Demand for International Reserves and Monetary Disequilibrium in Egypt

Discussant: Saleh Nsouli

13:00 - 14:30 LUNCH BREAK

11:00 - 11:30

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Regional Integration and Growth

Mamluk Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Raed Safadi

Speakers:

Fida Karam and Chahir Zaki

Trade Volume and Economic Growth in the MENA Region: Goods or Services?

Nabil Boubrahimi

Approche de Négociation dans le Cadre d'un Accord de Libre Echange Régional Liant des Pays du MENA

Discussant:
Bernard Hoekman

LABOR AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT Education

Rounded Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Hassan Hakimian

Speakers:

Donia Smaali Bouhlila

Heyneman-Loxely Effect Revisited in the Context of MENA Countries: Analysis Using TIMSS 2007 Database

Murat G. Kırdar, Meltem Dayioglu Tayfur and İsmet Koç

Does Longer Compulsory Education Equalize Educational Attainment by Gender, Ethnicity, and Socioeconomic Background?

Discussant:

Djavad Salehi-Isfahani

MICROECONOMICS

Water Efficiency and Agricultural Productivity in the MENA Region

Tunisian Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Hala Abou-Ali

Speakers:

Gholam Reza Soltani

Agricultural Water-Use Efficiency in a Global Perspective: The Case of

Iran

Faten Jabsheh, Weam Benhbehani Noura AbdulMalek and Mohamed Chemingui

Agricultural Subsidies in the GCC between Cost and Benefit: The Case of Kuwait

Discussant: *Atif Kubursi* 

13:00 - 14:30

# DAY TWO

14:30 - 16:00 PARALLEL SESSIONS

Institutional Economics

Voting Patterns in Turkey

Main Conference Hall (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Pierre Jacquet

Speakers: Cem Başlevent

Socio-demographic Determinants of the Support for Turkey's Justice and Development Party

Ali Akarca

Modeling Political Performance of Islamist & Islamist-Rooted Parties in Turkey

Discussant:

Abla Abdel-Latif

FINANCE

Mergers, Competition and Bank Efficiency

The Library (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Sultan Abou-Ali

Speakers: Nurhan Davutyan and Canan Yildirim

Competitiveness in Turkish Banking and its Post-Crisis Performance: 2002-2004 vs 2008-2011

Malak Reda

The Effect of Mergers and Acquisitions on Bank Efficiency: Evidence from Bank Consolidation in Egypt

Discussant: Adel Boughrara MACROECONOMICS

The Dutch Disease and Exchange Rate Volatility

Glass Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Abdullah El-Kuwaiz

Speakers: Jean-Pierre Allegret and Tahar Ben-Khodja

The Dutch Disease Effect in a High vs Low Oil Dependent Countries

Sidi Mohamed Chekouri, Mohamed Benbouziane, and Abderrahim Chibi

Natural Resource Abundance and Structural Change: The Dutch Disease in Algeria

Discussant: *Ibrahim Elbadawi* 

16:30 - 18:00 Special Event: Open Access Data | Main Conference Hall (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Nemat Shafik (International Monetary Fund and ERF)

Speakers: Caroline Freund (World Bank)

Ragui Assaad (University of Minnesota and ERF)

Rana Hendy (Economic Research Forum)

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Trade Productivity and Business Cycles

Mamluk Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Ahmed Ghoneim

Speakers: Mohamed Ali Marouani and Rim Mouelhi

Contribution of Structural Change to Productivity Growth: Evidence from Tunisia

Mustapha Djennas, Mohamed Benbouziane and Meriem Djennas

Business Cycle Synchronization in Euro Area and GCC Countries: A Wavelets-GA Approach

Discussant: Mustapha Nabli

LABOR AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT Effects of External Factors and Shocks on Behavior

Rounded Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Heba Handoussa

Speakers:

Elisa Cavatorta and Ben Groom

Preferences and Exposure to Shocks: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Palestine

Simone Bertoli and Francesca Marchetta

Bringing It all Back Home: Return Migration and Fertility Choice

Discussant: Jackline Wahba **M**ICROECONOMICS

Climate Change and Digital Divide

Tunisian Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Sulayman Al-Qudsi

Speakers:

Younes Ben Zaied

A Long Run versus Short Run Study of Climate Change Effects on Agriculture Crop: Evidence from Tunisia

Mona Badran and Antonio R. Andrés

Young People and the Digital Divide in Egypt

Discussant: Lahcen Achy

# DAY THREE

9:00 - 11:00 PLENARY SESSION 3: OUTLOOK AND POSSIBLE SCENARIOS | Main Conference Hall (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Mohammed Al-Sabah (Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Kuwait)

Speakers: Nathan J. Brown (George Washington University)

Hazem El-Beblawi (Former Deputy Prime Minister, Egypt and ERF)

Hussein El Kazzaz (Office of the President, Egypt)

Marwan Muasher (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace)

11:00 - 11:30 COFFEE BREAK

11:30 - 13:00 PARALLEL SESSIONS

INSTITUTIONAL ECONOMICS

Political Patronage and Economic

Opportunity

Main Conference Hall (Ground Floor)

Chairperson: Jamel Zarrouk

Speakers:

Amirah El-Haddad

Political Patronage and Economic Opportunity: The Case of Vertical Integration in the Egyptian Clothing

Industry

Discussant: Riadh Ben Jelili LABOR AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

On-The Job Training & Wages

Rounded Room (Fourth Floor)

Chairperson: Aysit Tansel

Speakers:

Christophe Muller

and Christophe Nordman

Wages and On-the-Job Training in

Tunisia

Discussant:

Cem Baslevent

BOOK LAUNCH:

ERF AND EDWARD ELGAR:

Economic Incentives

and Environmental Regulations

Mamluk Room

(Fourth Floor)

Chairperson:

Ziad Bahaa El-Din

(Economic Research Forum)

Speakers:

Hala Abou-Ali

(Economic Research Forum)

Mohamed Yasser Sherif

(Environics)

13:00 - 14:30 LUNCH BREAK

14:30 - 16:00 PLENARY SESSION 4: AWARDS CEREMONY AND CLOSING | Main Conference Hall (Ground Floor)

### **ERF Contact Information**

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# Notes

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