



ISIS Center for Women and Development



Konrad
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Stiftung

50 YEARS OF WORLDWIDE COOPERATION

PROGRAM

ISIS CENTER FOR WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT

KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG | RABAT OFFICE

International Forum: **Mediterranean Womens's Rights in the Aftermath of the 'Arab Uprisings'**

Date : June 21-23, 2013

Venue : Palais des Congrès, Fez, Morocco

Contact: Prof. Dr. Fatima Sadiqi (ISIS), Academic Director sadiqi_fatima@yahoo.fr
Dr. Ellinor Zeino-Mahmalat (KAS), Logistics Director, ellinor.zeino@kas.de

Conference languages: Arabic, French, English (simultaneous translation provided)

Women's rights in the south of the Mediterranean have been on the rise with ups and downs. There seems to be a backlash on these rights after the Arab uprisings. In reflecting on women's rights two years after the uprisings, many paradoxes come to mind. On the one hand, we have witnessed a spectacular presence of women of all ages, ideologies, ethnicities and social statuses during the political mobilization of the uprisings (as has been well documented by the media). Yet, on the other hand, and here is the first paradox, in Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, and Kuwait, the newly elected governments have a very weak, if not a zero, representation of women. Furthermore, the political Islamization of the MENA region is a fact (with the adjectives "moderate" and "salafist" added according to the Islamic dose involved). However, and here is the second paradox, what most advocates of women's rights (scholars and activists) had scored through decades were also "Islamic" gains. Women's rights advocates in the region fought to improve, not replace, Sharia laws and they have targeted patriarchy, not Islam. These two paradoxes call for serious debate and action. The goal of the forum is to discuss the new challenges facing academics, activists and politicians.



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Friday, June 21

- 8: 00 h Arrival and Inscription
- 9: 00 h Opening and Welcome
- 10: 00 h **Keynote Speech**
Revolutions, Democratic Transitions, and Women's Rights: The Arab Spring in Comparative Perspective
Valentine MOGHADAM, Director, Program of International Affairs, Northeastern University, Boston, USA
- 10: 00h Reception

Panel I: Equality of Sexes in the New Constitutions

Chair: Moha ENNAJI, Author and Researcher, President, international Institute for Languages and Cultures (INLAC), Fez

- 11: 00 h *The New Egyptian Constitution After the Revolution: Gender Equality and Non-Discrimination* (in Arabic)
Moushira KHATTAB, former Egyptian Ambassador to South Africa, former Minister for Family and Population, Egypt
- 11: 20 h *Gender Equality in the Tunisian Constitution* (in French)
Lilia LABIDI, former Minister for Women's Affairs, Tunisia
- 11:40 *The "Arab Spring": Between Reality and Imagination* (in Arabic)
Ramziyah ELARYANI, Secretary General, Arab Union of Women, President, Yemeni Women Union
- 12: 00 h Discussion
- 12: 30 h Lunch break

Panel II: Women's Rights after the Arab Revolutions

Chair: Mino VIANELLO, Professor Emeritus of Economic Sociology, University of Rome / Columbia University "Seminars", New York, USA

- 15: 00 h *Women's Rights after the Arab Revolutions* (in Arabic)
Islah JAD, University of Birzeit, Palestine



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- 15: 20 h *What About Maghrebian Women's Rights after the "Arab Spring"?*
Moha ENNAJI, Author and Researcher, President, International Institute
for Languages and Cultures (INLAC), Fez
- 15: 40 h *Revolutionary Narratives: Nawal El Saadawi and Samar Yazbek*
miriam cooke, Duke University, North Carolina, USA
- 16: 00 h Discussion
16: 30 h Coffee break

Panel III: Women's Rights and Islam

Chair: Ellen MCLARNEY, Duke University, USA

- 16: 45 h *Women in Limbo: on Liminal Citizenship and the Quest for Equality*
Soumia BOUTKHIL, Director, Master Program "Gender, Society, &
Human Development", Mohamed I University, Oujda, Morocco
- 17: 05 h *The Moral Permissibility of Unveiling*
Soroush DABBAGH, University of Toronto, Canada
- 17: 25 h *Women's Rights, Islam, and the Stakes of Moroccan Secularity*
Jonathan WYRTZEN, Al-Akhawayne University, Ifrane / Yale University,
USA
- 17: 45 h Discussion
- 18: 15 h *Presentation of the anthology "Des Femmes Ecrivent L'Afrique.
Afrique du Nord"* (Women Writing Africa – The Northern Region"
(published by Karthala (Paris) and directed by Fatima Sadiqi, Amira
Nouaira, Azza El Khouly, Moha Ennaji)
- Christiane OWUSU-SARPONG**, Associate Professor, KNUST, Kumasi,
Ghana, Ethno-linguiste, Translator, Strasbourg, France
Fatima SADIQI, Editor
Moha ENNAJI, Editor
Khadija ZIZI, Associate Editor, cover designer
Ali OUAHIDI, Associate Editor
Zakia IRAQUI-SINACEUR, Associate Editor
Fatima-Zahra ALAOUI, Journalist, Poet, Fez (Readings)
- Dinner



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Saturday, June 22

Panel IV : Gender and Power / Women and Political Participation

Chair: **Nathalie PILHES**, Secretary General, Inter-Ministerial Mission, Mediterranean Union, Paris, France

- 9: 00 h *Women and Power in Political Life*
Mino VIANELLO, Professor Emeritus of Economic Sociology, University of Rome / Columbia University "Seminars", New York, USA
- 9: 20 h *All that Glitters is not Gold : Two Decades of Gender Politics in Turkey*
Ayşe GÜNEŞ-AYATA, Chairperson, Centre for Black Sea and Central Asia, Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey
- 9:40 h *Women and Political Representation in the Maghrib*
Rachid TLEMCANI, University of Algiers, Algeria
- 10: 00 h Discussion
10:30 h Coffee break

Panel V: Feminist Discourses in the Region / The Issue Of Reference

Chair: **Soumia BOUTKHIL**, Director, Master Program "Gender, Society, & Human Development", Mohamed I University, Oujda, Morocco

- 10: 45 h *Women and Islamic Reference : A Reformist Vision (in French)*
Asma LAMRABET, Biologist Doctor, Coordinator, Research group on Muslim women and Intercultural Dialogue, Rabat, Morocco
- 11: 05 h *What Frame(s) of Reference for Gender Equality in Countries of Muslim Majority? The Moroccan Experience (in French)*
Nouzha GUESSOUS, Professor of Medicine, Hassan II University, Casablanca – Activist and Researcher in Human Rights and bioethics. Ex membre of the Consultative Commission of the Moudawana Reform
- 11: 25 h *Moroccan Feminist Discourses after the "Arab" Uprisings – The Berber (Amazigh) Dimension*
Fatima SADIQI, Author and Researcher, President, ISIS Center for Women and Development
- 11: 45 h Discussion
12: 15 h Lunch



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Panel VI: Women and Economic Empowerment

Chair: Souad SLAOU, President, Center for Studies and Research on Women, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez

- 15: 00 h *Women and Economic Empowerment (in Arabic)*
Randa MASRI, Director, Connect Middle East, Washington D.C., USA
- 15: 20 h *Factors Influencing Working Women, Non-Working Women, and the Employer in Jordan (in Arabic)*
Amal EL KHAROUF, Director, Division of Research and Training, Amman, Jordan
- 15: 40 h *For a Sustainable Economic Empowerment: The Case of the local enterprise ANAROUZ*
Manal ELATTIR (Founder & CEO, ANAROUZ) and **Yamina EL KIRAT EL ALLAM**, (Mohamed V University, Rabat-Agdal, Morocco)
- 16: 00 h Discussion
16: 30 h Coffee break

Panel VII: Women and Cultural Empowerment

Chair: Katja Zvan Elliot, Al Akhawayne University, Ifrane

- 16: 45 h *Moroccan Women's Cultural Rights: a Psychosocial Perspective*
Rachida KERKECH, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Rabat, Morocco
- 17: 05 h *Gender and Cultural Rights in Mauritania (in French)*
Madina TOURÉ, University of Nouakchott, Mauritania
- 17: 25 h *Civil Marriage in Lebanon*
Myriam SFEIR, Institute of Women Studies in the Arab World, Managing Editor, "Al-Raida" Journal, Beirut, Lebanon
- 17: 45 h *An example from The Netherlands - The Struggle Still Exists on the Local Level*
Hester TJALMA, Director, Association for Local and Regional Councillors of the CDA (Christian Democratic Appeal), Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 18: 05 h Discussion
Dinner



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Sunday, June 23

Panel VIII: Women's Rights and Public and Individual Freedoms

Chair: **Touria KHANNOUS**, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, USA

- 09: 00 h *Moroccan Women and Individual Freedoms*
Abdellatif ZAKI, Agronomic and Veterinary Institute, Rabat, Morocco
- 09: 20 h *Women After the Egyptian Revolution: Struggle, Violations and Political Participation (in Arabic)*
Yahia MUHAMMAD ZAED, Human Rights Activist, Egypt
- 09 : 40 h *Individual Freedoms as an Entry to the Reform of Justice (in French)*
Asma EL MEHDI, President, Initiatives for the Protection of Women's Rights-IPDF, Fez
- 10: 00 h *Libyan Women: From Revolution to Politics (in Arabic)*
Sayf-AI-Islam AL-HANGARY, activist, Libya
- 10 : 20 h Discussion
10: 50 h Coffee break

Panel IX: Women, Media and International Networking

Chair: **Zakia IRAQUI-SINACEUR**, Mohamed V Souissi University, Rabat, Morocco

- 11: 00 h *Women and Public Service Television Contents: A Quantitative Analysis*
Bouziane ZAID, Al-Akhawayne University, Ifrane, Morocco
- 11: 20 h *Women and International Networking (in French)*
Simone SUSSKIND, Free University, Brussels, Belgium
- 11: 40 h *Mediterranean Women as Partners of Political and Social Change*
Sarah FEINGOLD, University of New York, USA
- 12:00 h Discussion
- 12: 30 h Recommendations and Closing Remarks**
Chair: Fatima SADIQI
- 12 : 45 h End of Conference
Lunch



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Organizing Committee

Fatima SADIQI
Helmut REIFELD
Moha ENNAJI
Hassan SLIGHOUA
Ellinor ZEINO-MAHMALAT
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Mounia ABOUSAKHRA
Souad BELHORMA
Slimane DOUIH
Yousra BETTACHE
Azelarab AMRANI
Mohamed Moufid

Book exhibit : Librairie populaire – Fez
Le Fennec - Casablanca

Paintings exhibit: **Khadija ZIZI**, Professor, Institut Supérieur de l'Information et
de la Communication / Painter, Rabat

Khadija MADANI ALAOUI, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez

Women's products exhibit: ESPOD Association, Fez
Rajae SLAOUI-HAMMOUDA, President