CONTACT

- **RESEARCH** Religion-State Relations in the Middle East- Democratization- Religious **INTERESTS** Minorities.
- **CURRENT** Research director
- **POSITION** Arab Forum for Alternatives Beirut, Lebanon

PROFESSIONEL AND ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

2023- now	Research director at the Arab Forum for Alternatives in Beirut, Lebanon.
2022- 2023	Part-time Assistant Professor at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies in Florence, Italy.
2016- now	Associate Fellow in the Middle East and North Africa Programme at Chatham House in London, UK.
2016 - 21	Research Fellow at the Middle East Directions Programme at Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies in Florence, Italy.
2014-16	Non-resident scholar at the Carnegie Middle East Centre in Beirut, Lebanon.
2007-2013	PhD in Political Science European University Institute (Supervisor: Laszlo Bruszt)

Dissertation title: Institutionalizing Religion: Islamic religious authorities and support for democracy in the Middle East (comparing Egypt and Turkey).

2005-2007 M.A. in Political Science (Cairo University)

2003-2005 B.A. in Economics (Cairo University)

1999-2003 B.A. in Political Science (Cairo University)

GRANTS

2013-2014Research grant from the Arab Reform Initiative (ARI)Project: Religious actors and support for democratization in the Middle East.

2009-2010Research grant from the Danish Egyptian Dialogue Institute (DEDI)Project: De-radicalization experiences in Europe and the Middle East.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

June-August 2010 Boğaziçi University (Istanbul, Turkey) Course: Comparative Politics of the Middle East.

LANGUAGES

ARABIC – Mother tongue ENGLISH – Very Good FRENCH – Good ITALIAN– Intermediate

EDITED BOOKS

The Governance of Islam and Violent Radicalization: Causes and Consequences (with Tina Magazzini), Routledge (forthcoming).

De-radicalization Coalition Building: Lessons from the Past and Future Challenges, (with Lasse Lindekilde), Al-Ahram Centre for Strategic Studies, Cairo, 2011.

SELECTED RESEARCH PAPERS

Resilience against Violent Radicalisation: why haven't more Islamists taken up arms in Egypt since 2013?, EUI RSCAS, 2020/17, Middle East Directions (MED), 2020.

The debate over the use of violence within the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt after 2013, EUI RSCAS PP; 2018/01; Middle East Directions (MED), 2018.

The future of Syrian Christians after the Arab Spring, Middle East Directions (MED); 2018/04, 2018.

What is the future of Christians in the Middle East?, Policy Briefs; 2017/07; Middle East Directions (MED), 2017.

Market for Jihad: Radicalization in Tunisia (With Hamza Meddeb), Carnegie Middle East Center, Beirut, October 2015.

Al-Azhar and democratic transition in Egypt (Al-Azhar wal tahawul al-dimocratie fi Masr), AlAhram Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Cairo, April 2013.

Egypt presidential election 2012: the survival of the July 1952 regime, Arab Reform Initiative, Paris, July 2012.

ARTICLES

Colin Powers, Erik Skare, Georges Fahmi, Nouran Ahmed, Ahmad Mhidi, Myriam Ababsa and Olivier Roy (2023). Why Individuals and Communities Do Not Turn to Violent Extremism. Perspectives on Terrorism, Volume XVII, Issue I, 1-17.

Georges Fahmi & Mehdi Lahlou (2022). Negotiating religion-state relations in the MENA region: actors' dynamics, modes, and norms, Religion. State and Society, 50:4, 436 451, DOI: <u>10.1080/09637494.2022.2135350</u>

CHAPTERS IN EDITED BOOKS

Tunisia: Governing the Religious Sphere After 2011, in Anna Triandafyllidou and Tina Magazzini (editors), Routledge Handbook on the Governance of Religious Diversity, London: Routledge, 2021.

Dialogue as tool for addressing religious tensions: containing the violence, or true conflict resolution? In Pernille Rieker and Henrik Thune (editors), Dialogue and Conflict Resolution: Potential and Limits, Surrey, England; Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2015.

The Copts and political activism (Al-aqbat wal nashat al-siyasi), in Mohammad Agati (editor), nontraditional patters of youth participation in Egypt, Cairo: Arab Forum for Alternatives, 2012.