

Greetings from APSA's MENA Programs. We hope you and your loved ones continue to stay safe and healthy wherever you are.

We are pleased to share that the 2021 APSA Annual Meeting was held in a hybrid format combining both an in-person as well as a virtual option. The meeting took place on September 28-October 3 in Seattle, Washington and featured several MENA-focused events, including virtual research paper panels, roundtables, and an in-person MENA Politics reception. Alumni of the APSA MENA 2020 Workshop took part in a virtual paper panel to present their research on security issues in MENA. The [Arab Political Science Network \(APSN\)](#) held a virtual roundtable titled "Situating the Lebanese Uprising: Revolution, Transformation, and (De)Mobilization," which brought together MENA scholars to discuss the Lebanese uprising that began in October 2019. In addition, APSA supported this year's MENA Research Development Group (RDG) in collaboration with the MENA Politics Section and POMEPS. The program took place virtually on September 28, in conjunction with the APSA Annual Meeting, and supported five early-career scholars from MENA to receive research feedback and discuss professional development opportunities.

Our APSA MENA Programs continue to grow and evolve as we navigate the virtual space to support political science scholars in the Arab MENA region. This summer, APSA held its annual Workshop on "[Visuality and the Creation of Liminal Spaces of Participation: Ethnographic Approaches to the Middle East and North Africa.](#)" Nine fellows from across the Arab MENA region participated in the 6-week virtual program in July/August 2021, which consisted of a series of discussion sessions held in two blocks. The first block focused on theoretical and methodological discussions and hosted guest speaker experts in social anthropology with the second part focusing on research presentations and professional development.

Additionally, a follow-up program with four fellows from the 2020 Workshop on "[Securitization and Insecurity in the Middle East and North Africa.](#)" was also held in August 2021. During the 2-day Workshop, fellows received detailed feedback on their revised research proposals and discussed professional development opportunities. In efforts to continue providing accessible scholarly resources, we also held a recorded [webinar](#) on virtual methods for MENA politics research. Additional scholarly resources on MENA organizations and institutes, training, funding, and other opportunities can be found in our [scholarly resources](#) page.

Looking ahead to next year, we are now accepting applications for the 2022 IQMR summer program. APSA is sponsoring 4 scholars to participate in next year's program. We encourage those interested in receiving advanced training in qualitative and mixed methods to apply through this [link](#) by November 12, 2021. APSA will also be sponsoring 4 MENA scholars to attend next year's quantitative summer program organized by ICPSR at the University of Michigan. For those interested in applying, please check our website for updates on next year's opportunity. We have also announced a Call for Applications for our MENA [Mentoring Initiative](#), an opportunity we recently began to offer to early-career scholars due to Covid-19 restrictions and limited access to traditional sources of scholarly support. For our 2022 Workshops, we are in discussion with co-leaders, Karl Kaltenthaler (University of Akron, USA), Yuree Noh (Rhode Island College, USA) Daniel M. Silverman (Carnegie Mellon University, USA), Mujtaba Isani (King Fahd University

of Petroleum and Minerals, Saudi Arabia) to organize a summer Workshop on “Studying Public Opinion in the Contemporary Middle East: Challenges, Opportunities and Best Practices.”

As for our [departmental collaboration initiative](#), APSA recently awarded a grant to Alexandria University to organize a workshop for graduate students titled “Visualizing the Doctoral Thesis.” The 3-day virtual program focused on helping Masters and PhD students navigate the challenges of undertaking graduate research and presenting a strong research thesis.

If you are interested in learning more or getting involved with the APSA MENA Project, please contact us at menaworkshops@apsanet.org.

Best to all in the coming months and stay well!

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