

# MEEEA

NEWSLETTER

MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

Vol. 12 No. 2

Fall 2001

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## Letter from the MEEA President

September 11th was a sad and heart-wrenching day. Our thoughts are with the families, friends and colleagues of the victims of the attacks. I received numerous emails that week from colleagues and MEEA members who live in the Middle East who sent their condolences and sympathies. In view of the events, it is especially important that we reaffirm the importance of MEEA in strengthening an academic community of economists who work on Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and its interdependence with the rest of the world. Many of the papers presented at MEEA meetings over the last decade have called attention to the problems of poverty, income inequality, trade sanctions, labor markets, gender and of course monetary, fiscal and trade policies. The lack of appropriate institutions including governance and judicial institutions, and the existence of conflicts over territory, water, and religion plague most of the countries in the region. As other parts of the world have gained in economies of scale through regional integration in the last decade, many countries of the MENA region have exhibited declining personal incomes, increasing political instability and increasing religious fundamentalism.

The events of September 11th and the ensuing actions should make the academic scholars associated with MEEA more determined than ever to portray the economic and political realities of the region. MENA is composed of countries which exhibit very different macro and micro dynamics. Yet enhancing productivity through education, ending gender discrimination, increasing labor and trade flows to increase regional cooperation, ending sanctions, settling land and resource disputes, restoring

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## Call for Papers

**The Twenty-Second Annual Meeting of the Middle East Economic Association (MEEA)** to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Allied Social Science Associations in Washington, D.C.  
January 3-5, 2003

Please send a one-page abstract by March 31, 2002 to:  
Jeffrey Nugent, Executive Secretary  
Middle East Economic Association  
Department of Economics  
University of Southern California  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0253

Note: Abstracts should be accompanied with a program submission fee of \$25 US as well as an annual membership fee for 2002 of \$25 US for faculty and other professionals, \$20 for students, and \$10 for all members residing in a MENA country.

# Topics in Middle Eastern and North African Economies

the online journal of MEEA <http://gsb.luc.edu/depts/economics/meea/volume3>

Editor: E. Mine Cinar

Contents of Volume 3, September 2001

THE EFFECTS OF FINANCIAL LIBERALIZATION ON THE TUNISIAN BANKING  
INDUSTRY: A NON-PARAMETRIC APPROACH

Wade D. Cook, Moez Hababou and Gordon S. Roberts

TRADE, GROWTH AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: POTENTIAL FOR EGYPT'S  
REGIONAL AND GLOBAL INTEGRATION

Nagla Rizk

DOES AN EXCHANGE-RATE-BASED STABILIZATION PROGRAMME HELP FOR  
DISINFLATION IN TURKEY?

Öner Günçavdi and Benan Zeki Orbay

POLICY AND PROGRESS IN MOROCCAN AGRICULTURE: A RETROSPECTIVE AND  
PERSPECTIVE

Channing Arndt and Wallace E. Tynes

EMERGING MARKETS AND VOLATILITY OF REAL EXCHANGE RATES: THE  
TURKISH CASE

Saziye Gazioglu

SIMULATION OF RISKS AND BENEFITS FROM A MONEY PURCHASE PENSION  
SCHEME FOR TURKEY

Serdar Sayan and Ahmet Tuncay Teksoz

INFLATION AND OUTPUT GROWTH IN TURKEY, 1963-1999

Tevfik F. Nas and Mark J. Perry

INCENTIVE-BASED REGULATIONS AND BANK RESTRUCTURING IN EGYPT

Alaa El-Shazly

ASSESSING THE PERFORMANCE OF ISLAMIC BANKS: SOME EVIDENCE FROM THE  
MIDDLE EAST

Abdel-Hameed M. Bashir

LONG MEMORY IN TURKISH INFLATION RATES

Haluk Erlat

COUNTRY CONCENTRATION OF TURKISH EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OVER TIME

Guzin Erlat

## President's Letter *(continued from page 1)*

democratic institutions and dignity can only benefit all the countries in the region. I urge all of you to submit papers or panels which address these issues by responding to our Call for Papers for our January 2003 meeting.

I use this space in our newsletter to give the MEEA community a progress report of our recent activities. The Executive Committee of MEEA and the Board had been discussing for some time the means of delivery of our annual research volume which was part of our membership fee. When our series editor, Jennifer Olmsted, informed us about her decision to resign from her position due to her other commitments, the discussions took on a new momentum. The issue was finally resolved after a vote was taken in October by the Board which temporarily decoupled the membership fees from our publications to give MEEA the breathing space to deliver the back volumes and to examine alternatives. The Board also voted on the new reduced dues which are announced in this newsletter for the coming year. One of the options being considered for the future is for MEEA to produce stand-alone research volumes independent of the membership fee.

We have also revised our by-laws, where, beside other matters, our membership voted to lengthen the terms of future Board and the Executive members. We have instigated this because of the steep learning curve the Executive members go through in learning MEEA matters and in carrying out the numerous tasks associated with running MEEA. With the exceptions of the present Board and the Executive team, the terms for service are going to be three years beginning in 2004.

I would like to thank the MEEA Board, Series Editor Jennifer Olmsted, Newsletter Editor Ward Sayre, Executive Secretary Jeff Nugent and Treasurer Bulent Uyar for the service they have given to MEEA over these last two years. I wish you a very productive new year.

Mine Cinar

Department of Economics, Loyola University Chicago

## MINUTES OF THE MEEA BUSINESS MEETING, JANUARY 6, 2001, NEW ORLEANS, LA

The meeting was started at 5:30 p.m. The audience observed one minute of silence to honor the memory of Charles Issawi. He was instrumental in the formation of MEEA, served as president and remained a strong supporter of MEEA until his death..

Jeff Nugent, Executive Secretary, announced that MEEA was losing one session for the ASSA meetings in 2002 and was in danger of being cut further in subsequent years. The cut this year reduces the number of ASSA sessions to seven for 2002 and is bad news for MEEA. MEEA has a crucial role to play in bringing economists from the region and US together to discuss vital micro and macroeconomic issues and to encourage good work on economies of the region. Unfortunately, the ASSA is reducing the sessions of other small associated organizations. The basis for the cuts has thus far been exclusively the average or median size of the audience of its sessions. Our attendance counts do not seem to match with the counts conducted by the students working for the ASSA.

Bulent Uyar, Treasurer, reported that MEEA's bank account has \$10,000 plus this year but against this are outstanding bills payable which could deplete MEEA's treasury very quickly. Uyar urged both Board and audience members to pay their membership fees on time and to recruit new members.

Jennifer Olmsted, Research Series Editor, reported that the gender volume (Vol 4) is now in production at the press (Elsevier successor to JAI) and that the Food/Agriculture volume (Vol 5) should be ready to send to Elsevier by June, 2001. Simon Neaime and Nora Colton have issued a call for papers for the next volume (Vol. 6) in the series and already has some drafts of papers in hand. MEEA favors an annual book format for the future. Jennifer Olmsted asked for help in soliciting book proposals for future volumes.

It was announced that Parvin Alizadeh is now the liaison person between the MEEA Board, the soon to be appointed Editorial Board and the Series editor. Parvin discussed the linkages she had in mind between the Editor and the Board. She also asked for names to be solicited for the Editorial Board. Ward Sayre, Newsletter Editor, announced that the newsletter is now taking on bigger dimensions. MEEA has already introduced a second summer newsletter which will be expanded to four pages. Any ideas or announcements would be greatly appreciated and should be submitted to him.

Mine Cinar, President, announced that good papers presented in the meeting will be solicited shortly for the electronic proceedings journal of MEEA (Topics in MENA) and asked that a short version be submitted to her. MEEA urges authors to publish fuller and more technical versions elsewhere.

Hassan Hakimian, organizer of the MEEA Summer session to be held in University of London/SOAS during July 20-22, 2001, asked for submission of abstracts by February 28, 2001. The theme is globalization and regional integration in MENA.

Brochures for call for papers for the May 2001 conference in the Lebanese American University in Byblos, Lebanon, the host university for the new chapter that is being established for that region, were distributed to the audience.

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**Middle East Economic Association Meeting**  
**in conjunction with Allied Social Science Associations**  
January 4-6, 2002 Atlanta, Georgia

**January 4, 2002**

**8:00 a.m.**

Atlanta Hilton: Salon E

**Trade, Exchange, Institutional and Policy Issues in the Middle East (Poster Session)**

*Presiding*

**Jeffrey B. Nugent**, University of Southern California

**Nora Ann Colton**, Drew University, Poverty Alleviation and Development in Yemen

**Sasan Fayazmanesh**, California State University-Fresno, U.S. Corporations, Lobbies, and the Economic Sanctions Against Iran

**Murat Somer**, University of Washington, Ethnic Conflict in Low-Trust Societies: How Can Institutions Help During Transitions?

**Sousan Badiei**, California State Polytechnic University-Pomona, and **Cyrus Bina**, University of Minnesota, Iran's Economy in Perspective: Oil, Capital Formation, and the Rentier State

**Nozar Hashemzadeh**, Radford University, Energy Exports and Economic Growth in the Middle Eastern Region: A Test of Thirlwall's Hypothesis

**Guzin Erelat**, Middle East Technical University, and **Emel Memis**, Volkswagen Dogus Turketiei Finansman, Measuring Intra-industry and Marginal Intra-industry Trade: The Case for Turkey

**Zine Barka**, Universite de Tlemcen, Export Promotion and the Institutional Requirements: The Algerian Case Study

**Nagla Rizk**, American University in Cairo, Information Technology and Growth: Will the Software Industry Lead Egypt into a New Economy?

**Kassim Dakhllallah**, Claremont Graduate University, Choice of Exchange Rate Arrangement Fixed vs. Flexible Rate: Case of Lebanon

**G.V. Chomo**, American University, David and Goliath: The U.S.-Jordan FTA and Economic Development of Jordan

**Zelal Kotan** and **Gulbin Sahinbeyoglu**, Central Bank of Turkey, Exchange Rate Misalignment as a Source of Vulnerability

**Mine Cinar**, Loyola University of Chicago, Middle East Poverty Levels: Critical Splitting Nodes of Financial Variables

**Ayman Kandeel** and **Jeffrey B. Nugent**, University of Southern California, Developing the Emerging Stock Markets of the Middle East: Are Their Determinants Different?

**Hadi Esfahani**, University of Illinois, Institutional Requirements of Successful Export Promotion in the Middle East

**Zehra Kasnakoglu** and **Meltem Dayioglu**, Middle East Technical University, Value of Household Production by Gender and Income Groups in Turkey

**Florence Eid**, American University of Beirut, Governance and Incentives in the Public Hospital Sector

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**10:15 a.m.**

Atlanta Hilton: Embassy

**In Memory of Charles Issawi: Economic History of the Middle East**

*Presiding*

**Fatemeh E. Moghadam**, Hofstra University

**Roger Owen**, Harvard University, Issawi's Notion of Egypt's "Lop-Sided Development" Revisited

**Sevket Pamuk**, Bogazici University, Modern Economic Growth and the Middle East Since 1880

**Timur Kuran**, University of Southern California, Opportunistic Taxation in Middle Eastern History: Islamic Influences on the Evolution of Private Property Rights

**Fatemeh E. Moghadam**, Hofstra University, Nomadic Dynasties and the Development of Land Ownership: A Case Study of Iran (1000-1800)

*Discussants*

**Jeffrey B. Nugent**, University of Southern California

**Hadi Esfahani**, University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign

**Farhad Nomani**, American University of Paris

**Sohrab Behdad**, Denison University

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**2:30 p.m.**

Atlanta Hilton: Embassy

**Roundtable on the Turkish Financial Crisis**

*Presiding*

**Mine Cinar**, Loyola University of Chicago

**Nurhayat Bezzin**, Representative of the Central Bank of Turkey, New York

**Serdar Sayan**, Bilkent University

**C. Emre Alper**, Bogazici University

**MEEA Board Meeting**  
January 4th, 2002  
5:30- 7:30 P.M.  
Hilton: Jefferson Room  
(Invitation Only)

January 5, 2001

8:00 a.m.

Atlanta Hilton: Embassy

**Palestinian Economy: Problems and Prospects**

*Presiding*

**Edward Sayre**, Agnes Scott College

**Leila Farsakh**, SOAS, University of London--  
Palestinian Labor Migration to Israel: Is It a Finished Story?

**Edward Sayre**, Agnes Scott College, The Effects of the Peace Process on the Palestinian Economy: Separation, Renewal and Disillusionment

**Jennifer Olmsted**, Occidental College, Income and Poverty in Palestine: A View of the Past Ten Years

*Discussants*

**Insan Tunali**, Koc University

**Mona Said**, International Monetary Fund

**Hans Lofgren**, International Food Policy Research Institute

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10:15 a.m.

Atlanta Hilton: Embassy

**Demography, Social Contract and Intergenerational Relations in the Middle East**

*Presiding*

**Jennifer Olmsted**, Occidental College

**Mona Said**, International Monetary Fund, A Decade Rising Wage Inequality? Gender and Occupation in the Egyptian Wage Structure: 1988 - 1998

**Serdar Sayan**, Bilkent University, Political Economy of Pension Reform: The Lessons that MENA Countries Can Derive from the Pension Reform Experience of Turkey

**Tarik M. Yousef**, Georgetown University, Demography, Inequality and Intergenerational Generations in the Middle East and North Africa

**Hassan Hakimian**, University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies, Population Boom and Bust: Iran's Experience After the Revolution

**Jehad Yasin**, Fort Valley State University, Effects of Economic Factors on Fertility for the Arab Middle East Countries

*Discussants*

**Jennifer Olmsted**, Occidental College

**Jeffrey B. Nugent**, University of Southern California

**Florence Eid**, American University of Beirut

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2:30 p.m.

Atlanta Hilton: Embassy

**Financial Markets and Flows in the Middle East**

*Presiding*

**Nora Ann Colton**, Drew University

**Haluk Erlat**, Middle East Technical University, The Nature of Persistence in Turkish Real Exchange Rates

**Hassan Y. Aly**, Ohio State University, and **Fatima Al-Shamsi**, United Arab Emirates University, FDI and Economic Growth in GCC: An Empirical Investigation

**Nuray Guner**, Middle East Technical University, **Zeynep Onder**, Bilkent University, and **Seza Danisoglu Rhoades**, Middle East Technical University, Performance and Choice of Financing: What Do Equity Issues Really Mean?

**Abdel-Hameed Bashir**, Grambling State University, and **M. Kabir Hassan**, University of New Orleans--  
Financial Development and Economic Growth in the Middle East

**Ahmed Goma and Besalet Basoglu**, Manhattan College--International Accounting Standards and Middle East Securities Exchange Markets

**Saziye Gazioglu**, Aberdeen University, Volatility of Real Exchange Rate and an Emerging Market: The Turkish Case

*Discussants*

**C. Emre Alper**, Bogazici University

**Shailender Swaminathan**, University of Michigan

**Nagla E. Rizk**, American University in Cairo

**A.F. Alhajji**, Ohio Northern University

January 6, 2001

8:00 a.m.

Atlanta Hilton: Dekalb

**Political Economy and Policy Issues in the Middle East**

*Presiding*

**Sohrab Behdad**, Denison University

**Farhad Nomani**, American University of Paris, The Interpretative Debate of the Classical Islamic Jurists on "Riba"

**Haluk Kasnakoglu and Erol Cakmak**, Middle East Technical University, Political Economy of Agricultural Policies in Turkey: Gainers and Losers

**A.F. Al-Hajji**, Ohio Northern University, Oil, Economic Freedom, and Human Rights: Is There a Link?

**Insan Tunali**, Koc University, How Household Consumption responds to Big Price Shocks: Evidence from Turkey, March - May 1994

*Discussants*

**Timur Kuran**, University of Southern California

**Fatemah E. Moghadam**, Hofstra University

**Murat Somer**, University of Washington

**Parvin Alizadeh**, Denison University

**Tarik M. Yousef**, Georgetown University

**Ignacio Falgueras Sorauren**, University of Malaga, University of Southern California

MEEA Business Meeting  
January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2002  
5:30- 7:30 p.m.  
Hilton: Embassy

**Housing Instructions**

To make reservations contact ASSA Housing Bureau.

Make your reservations as soon as possible-online, fax (print form) or phone 866.789.6103 (9:00 am-8:00 pm EST, M-F), International call 312.396.2128. Reservations are processed on a first received basis.

Full reservation information is available at the AEA website [www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/hotl.htm](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/AEA/hotl.htm)

**Hotels**

Atlanta Marriott Marquis  
265 Peachtree Center Ave  
Atlant, GA 30303  
404.521.0000

Embassy Suites Hotel  
267 Marietta Street  
Atlanta, GA 30313  
404.223.2300

Hilton Atlanta  
255 Courtland St., NE  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404.659.2000

Holiday Inn Downtown  
101 International Blvd.  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404.524.5555

Hyatt Regency Atlanta  
265 Peachtree St., NE  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404.577.1234

Sheraton Atlanta  
165 Courtland Street  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404.659.6500

Minutes of the Business Meeting  
Continued from page 2

Sohrab Behdad, co-chair of CHARAF, the watchgroup for human rights violations of economists in MENA region asked the audience for cases to be reported to him. He briefly discussed the case of Saadeddin Ibrahim, the prominent Egyptian sociologist who was jailed last year.

Mine Cinar discussed the various measures that have been adopted for quality control purposes in MEEA. She mentioned that a necessary condition for getting published in Topics, the proceedings journal, is to get the papers to the discussants on time. She also mentioned the established rule of MEEA where 'no-shows' in sessions are automatically blacklisted for the next two years. The session chairs this year are keeping track of audience counts, number of papers handed out to the audience as well as the quality of papers. She mentioned that good discussants are essential to adding value to papers and as a result that MEEA cherishes good discussants. MEEA is also in the process of reviewing the Ibn Khaldun prize for young scholars (defined as dissertation students or scholars up to 3 years beyond the PhD degree) in order to find ways to expand the submission base.

Jeff Nugent reported that MEEA activities are growing and as a result that MEEA is increasing the size of the Board with a change in by-laws this year and told the members in the audience that they might be tapped to run for elections for the Board.

The business meeting was adjourned at 6:15p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mine Cinar

## IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

I am happy to inform you that the Board of Directors has just voted to reduce the annual membership fees beginning January 2002 to the following: Regular members \$25, Student Members \$20, All Members residing in a MENA country \$10. Abstract submission fees remain at \$25 for all persons wanting to participate in one of our MEEA sessions. The lower membership fee is made possible by the fact that beginning in the year 2002 membership and receipt of the Research in Middle East Economics (RMEE) will be de-coupled. This de-coupling will last at least until these volumes can come out in a timely manner or alternative arrangements are made. While we were happy to distribute volume 4 of RMEE this summer to those who were dues-paying members in 1999, volume 5 (on agriculture) and volume 6 (on finance) are still in production. These volumes will be distributed to those who paid their dues in the years 2000 and 2001, respectively. Once again, we apologize for the unfortunate delays in delivering these volumes.

The reduced dues, however, will require MEEA to reduce its mailings and other services to those who have not kept up their memberships to date. Hence, **to continue to receive our newsletter, call for papers and have access to some features on our website beyond the spring of 2002, you will have to renew your membership for the calendar year 2002. Anyone not able to do this but wanting to remain on our mailing list, please send the membership form back to me instead of to the Treasurer.**

The members also voted to make two changes to the by-laws, one lengthening the terms of its officers from two to three years and increasing the size of the Board from seven to nine. In view of the fact that several of the officers are running for re-election, it was agreed by the Board that the change in terms would not become effective until the next election cycle (2003-2005).

For all those who will be able to join us at the MEEA meetings held in conjunction with the ASSA meetings in Atlanta, Georgia, Jan 4-6, 2001, please try to attend as many as possible of the MEEA sessions (on pages 3-4 in this newsletter) and attend our business meeting on Saturday evening January 5. Please feel free to bring students, colleagues and friends. We hope that we will be able to maintain the upward trend in attendance at MEEA sessions despite the concerns about air travel and world hostilities. Please check our website: <http://www.meeaweb.org/> for the latest information about MEEA activities and announcements.

Jeffrey B. Nugent  
Department of Economics  
University of Southern California  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0253

## New Members 2001

A. Alattas University of Leeds	Kassim M. Dakhallah Claremont Graduate University	Farrokh Guiahi Manhattan College	Hassan Merza Kuwait University	Murat Somer University of Washington
A.F. Al-Hajji Ohio Northern University	Dipak Dasgupta World Bank	Nader Habibi WEFA Group, Philadelphia	Abderrahman Robana Alfred University	Rana Sukhtian Family Business, Jordan
Rania A. Al-Mashat International Monetary Fund	Bryan Daves St. Antony's College, Oxford	Behrouz Hadi-Zonooz Allemeah Tabatabai University	Farian Sabahi Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva	U. Erickson Von Alman International Monetary Fund
Don Babai Harvard University	Abda El-Mahdi Cairo University	Haluk Kasnakoglu Middle East Technical University	Mona Said International Monetary Fund	Jacklin Wahba University of Southampton
Ghazi Ben-Ahmed Free University of Brussels	Hasan Ersel Yapi Kredi Bank	Zehra Kasnakoglu Middle East Technical University	Sheikh Shanawaz Univ. of Southern California	J.W. Wright US Agency for International Development
Nabil Blel University of Tunisia	Goma Ahmed Manhattan College	Mehrdad Madresehee Lycoming College	Jehad Yasin Fort Valley College	
Grace V. Chomo American University				

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### IBN KHALDUN PRIZE

Reminder that submissions for the Ibn Khaldun Prize for the best paper on one or more Middle Eastern countries by a junior economist (no more than three years after receiving Ph.D.) must be received no later than December 10, 2001 at the following address: Prof. Jeffrey B. Nugent, Dept. of Economics, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0253, USA. The entries will be evaluated by a three person committee.

### MEEA-CHRAF

MEEA's Committee on Human Rights and Academic Freedom (CHRAF) monitors infringements of human rights and academic freedom of economists in the Middle East. For information, please contact Co-Chairs of MEEA-CHRAF, Abbas Alnasrawi or Sohrab Behdad. Professor Alnasrawi may be reached at the Department of Economics, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 054505, USA. phone 802.656.3064, fax 802.656.8405, email [alnastra@moose.uvm.edu](mailto:alnastra@moose.uvm.edu) Professor Behdad is at the Department of Economics, Denison University, Granville, OH, 43023 USA. phone 740.587.6404, fax 740.587.6348, email [behdad@denison.edu](mailto:behdad@denison.edu).

### WESTERN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION JULY 2002

Jeff Nugent will be organizing sessions for the 2002 meeting of the Western Economic Association, International. The meetings will take place June 29-July 3 2002 in Seattle, WA. Any one interested in a Middle East or Development (broadly defined) related topic who is willing both to present a paper and serve as a discussant on another paper should contact Jeff with a title and complete address and email by January 15, 2002. Those not currently members of WEAI will need to pay the registration fees of the WEAI which are generally over \$150 dollars.

### FIRST WORLD CONFERENCE FOR MIDDLE EAST STUDIES SEPTEMBER 8-13 2002

The First World Conference for Middle East Studies was initiated by the Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA). It will be a joint congress of the European Association for Middle East Studies (EURAMES), the British Society for Middle East Studies (BRISMES) and the German Middle East Studies Association (DAVO). For information contact: Gunter Meyer, Centre for Research on the Arab World, Institute of Geography, University of Mainz, D-55099. Mainz (+49 6131 3922701; fax: +49 6131 3924736; [davo@geo.uni-mainz.de](mailto:davo@geo.uni-mainz.de); [www.geo.uni-mainz.de/davo](http://www.geo.uni-mainz.de/davo)) Deadline for abstracts is February 15, 2002.

### GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS IN GENDER, WORK AND FAMILY

The Economic Research Forum (ERF) and The University of Minnesota (UM) are delighted to announce a new six-month graduate fellowship at UM.. The ERF-University of Minnesota Fellowship program is affiliated with the UM Population Center. Eligible candidates will work with faculty members from the University's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, the Department of Applied Economics and the Industrial Relations and Human Resource Center of the Carlson School of Management on research related to gender, work and family in the Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey (ERF region). The fellowship is designed to support researchers committed to a multidisciplinary approach to gender, work and family issues whose research is centered on the analysis of household surveys. Enrollment date for the second round of the ERF-University of Minnesota Fellowship program will be August, 2002 - January 2003. The application deadline for the second round will be in March of 2003. Further information can be found at [www.erf.org.eg](http://www.erf.org.eg) and applications should be sent to:

ERF-University of Minnesota Fellowship Secretariat, **Azza El-Shinnawy, Program Officer**, Economic Research Forum For Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey, 7 Boulous Hanna st. Dokki, Cairo, Egypt, Tel: (202) 748 5553-337 0810, Fax: (202) 761 6042, Email: [ashinnawy@erf.org.eg](mailto:ashinnawy@erf.org.eg).

### FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE ECONOMICS AND FINANCE OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA MAY 30-31, 2001 BYBLOS, LEBANON

The School of Business at The Lebanese American University in association with the Middle East chapter of the Middle East Economic Association (MEEA) is holding its 4th International Conference on the *Economics and Finance of the Middle East and North Africa* on May 30-31, 2002, in Byblos, Lebanon. Papers in the all areas of economics and finance with applications to the Middle East and North Africa are solicited.

Papers presented to the conference can be submitted for consideration for publication in the inaugural issue of the *Review of Middle-East Economics and Finance*. Partial funding for travel and accommodation for the conference duration is available. For more information and submission of abstracts (~ 200-word) or full papers by email (as word or PDF attachment), please contact:

Dr. Ghassan Dibeh, Conference Co-Chair, LAU, P.O. Box 36., Byblos, Lebanon, Email address: [gdebh@lau.edu.lb](mailto:gdebh@lau.edu.lb), Deadline for submission: March 15, 2002. Notification of acceptance: April 1, 2002. Website: [www.lau.edu.lb](http://www.lau.edu.lb)

## New and Recent Titles

As part of the information services to MEEA members, the Newsletter will announce new titles on the political economy of the Middle East. We renew our request to publishers to send us copies of new titles on the political economy of the Middle East.

- Abdel-Khalek, Gouda and Karima Korayem. *Fiscal Policy Measures in Egypt: Debts and Subsidies*. Cairo: American University of Cairo Press, 2001.
- Ahmidi, Ali Abdullatif. *Beyond Colonialism and Nationalism in the Maghreb: History, Culture and Politics*. New York: Palgrave, 2000.
- al-Ali, Nadje. *Secularism, Gender, and the State in the Middle East: The Egyptian Women's Movement*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2000.
- Alizadeh, Parvin (Ed.). *The Economy of Iran: Dilemmas of an Islamic State*. New York: I.B. Tauris, 2001.
- Allan, Tony. *The Middle East Water Question: Hydropolitics in the Global Economy*. New York: I.B. Tauris, 2001.
- Anderson, Ewan W. *The Middle East: Geography and Geopolitics*. London: Routledge, 2000.
- Barrow, Ondine and Michael Jennings (Eds.). *The Charitable Impulse : NGOs and Development in East and North East Africa*. Kumarian Press, 2001.
- Beinin, Joel. *Workers and Peasants in the Modern Middle East*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001.
- Bibars, Iman. *Victims and Heroines: Women, Welfare and the Egyptian State*. New York: Zed Books, 2001.
- Buchanan, Andrew S. *Peace With Justice: A History of the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements*. New York: Palgrave, 2000.
- Cinar, E. Mine (Ed.) *The Economics of Women and Work in the Middle East and North Africa*. Amsterdam: JAI Press, 2001.
- Clay, Christopher. *Gold for the Sultan: Western Bankers and Ottoman Finance, 1856-1881*. New York: I.B. Tauris, 2001.
- Dana, Leo Paul. *Economies of the Eastern Mediterranean Region*. Singapore: World Scientific Publishers, 2000.
- Dessus, Sebastien and Akiko Suwa (Eds.) *Regional Integration and Internal Reforms in the Mediterranean Area*. Washington D.C.: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2000.
- Drori, Israel. *The Seam Line: Arab Workers and Jewish Managers in the Israeli Textile Industry*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2000.
- Ginat, Joseph and Edward Perkins (Eds.) *The Palestinian Refugees: Traditional Positions-New Solutions*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2002.
- Hanna, Nelly (Ed.). *Money, Land and Trade: An Economic History of the Muslim Mediterranean*. New York: I.B. Tauris, 2002.
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# MEEA-SOAS

## JOINT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, LONDON

### JULY 2001

London was the venue and July was the month for MEEA's first European conference, which was hosted by the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) of London University. This international conference was a special occasion to mark the twentieth anniversary of MEEA's foundation. Its aim was also to foster institutional collaboration and promote MEEA's profile outside the USA.

The theme of the conference was: '*Global Change and Regional Integration: Redrawing the Economic Boundaries in the Middle East and North Africa*'. The key concern of the conference was to examine the experience of globalization and prospects for regional integration in the MENA region. This gave a focal point for lively and interesting presentations and discussions, which extended over two days and encompassed some 50 papers organized into 13 panels.

The conference was inaugurated with a high profile plenary session launching a special issue of the *Economic Journal* (June 2001), which contained papers on '*The Economic Aspects of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*'. In another plenary session, Professor Tony Allan of SOAS was the keynote speaker to offer his vision on 'solving MENA's water scarcity problem in the context of the global trading system'.

In all, this first international venture for MEEA proved a major success. With as many as 140 participants we managed to bring together scholars of international reputation from the US, UK, and particularly from various countries in the MENA region (Turkey, Egypt, Algeria, Israel, Tunisia, Lebanon, Iran, Syria, Palestine, etc) as well as economists from the World Bank and IMF to share in their latest research.

We are grateful to SOAS for hosting and supporting this major event and to the Ford Foundation for a grant that helped our MENA participants attend the conference.

If you have any ideas about the next venue and occasion for a joint venture with MEEA, please let us know!

## Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Middle East Economic Association, please fill out this form and return it to the Treasurer. The membership fee is \$25 for faculty and other professionals, \$20 for students, and \$10 for all members residing in a MENA country.

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**The Middle East Economic Association**, a non-profit international organization, was formed in 1978 and is affiliated with the American Economic Association and the Middle East Studies Association. The main objective of MEEA is to foster scholarship and to establish lines of communication among specialists interested in the Political Economy of the Middle East. **Web: [www.meeaweb.org](http://www.meeaweb.org)**

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#### NEWSLETTER

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