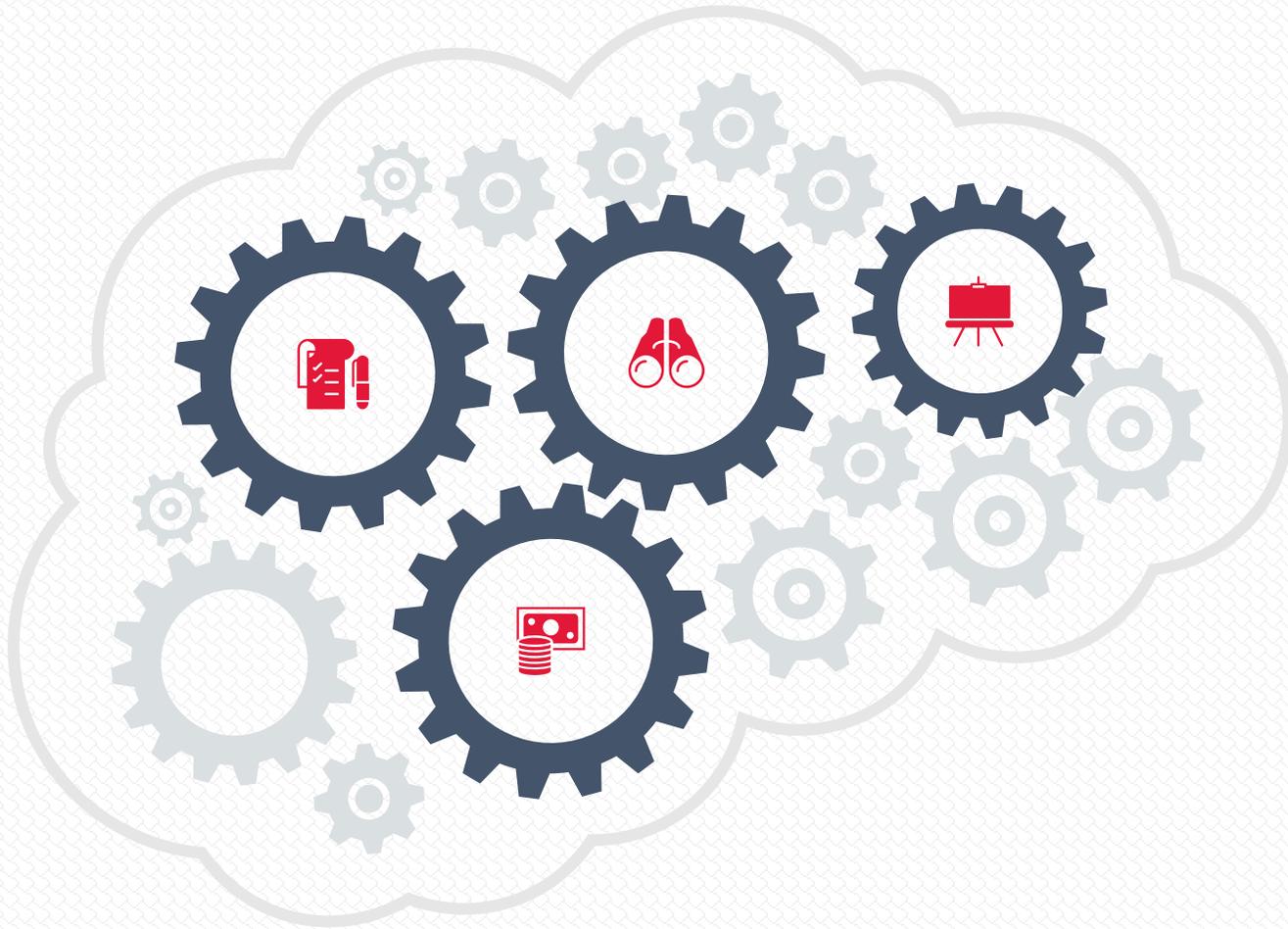


Asfari Institute MAY 2019 Monthly Events Roundup



MONTHLY ROUNDUP



The monthly roundup of the Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship is a summary of :

- Events organized by the institute
- Events attended by team members
- Publications
- Interviews
- Research and projects updates
- New team members

Events Organized – Movie Screening

No Kids Land



Program/ Project: *Role of Civil Society in Conflict and Post Conflict Settings*



Date: 17 May



Location: IFI Auditorium, AUB

“No Kids Land” explores the social, cultural and political issues behind the options available to unaccompanied Syrian child refugees in Lebanon. The death of parents due to shelling, at a checkpoint or even their disappearance is not the only reason for the tragedy that is the life of more than 2,500 separated Syrian children, living in Lebanon without their parents. Dire circumstances such as poverty and broken families – which are augmented under the pressure of war – have driven parents to either seeking asylum without their children or abandoning them to orphanages in Lebanon. The children, in need of guidance and foster care, find themselves in precarious and dangerous situations between control and neglect.

Coverage of the event: [Al Jadeed](#)



Events Organized – Workshop

Refugee Education in Lebanon: Past, Present, and Future Prospects



Program/ Project: *The Lay of the Land : A Social Mapping of Daily Practices in Informality Amongst Syrian Displaced Communities in Lebanon*

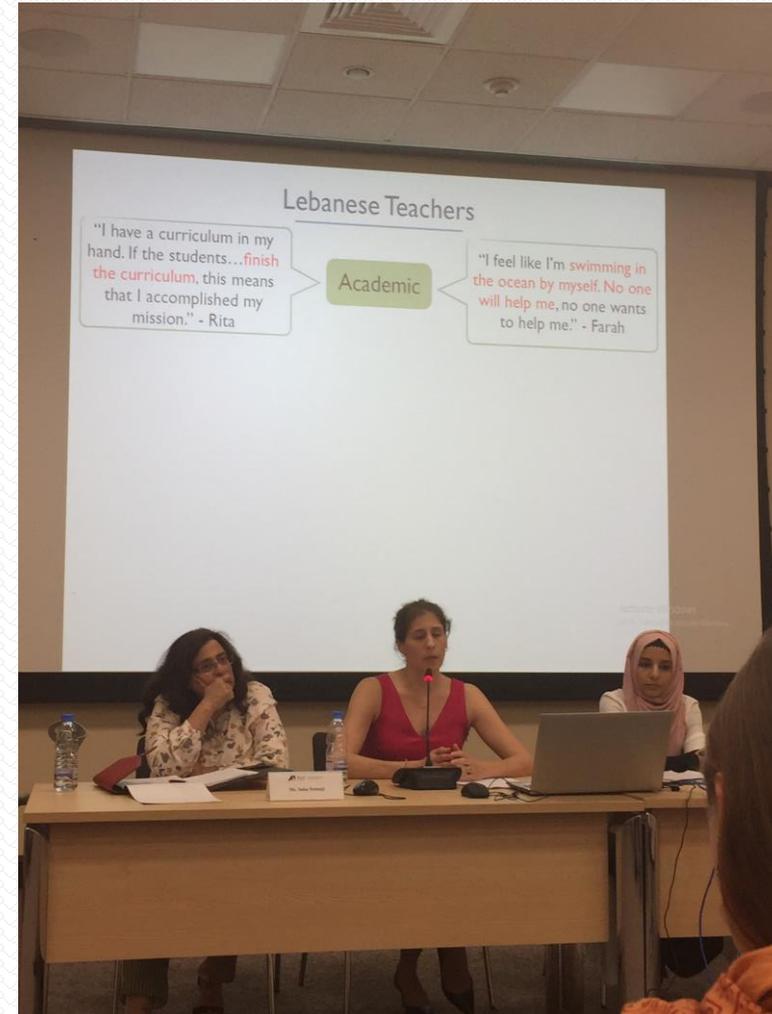


Date: 21 May



Location: Auditorium B1 – College Hall, AUB

The workshop, co-organized with the Harvard Graduate School of Education, invited scholars, civil society actors and practitioners working in the field of refugee education in Lebanon to discuss their research findings on global refugee education, inclusion vs. exclusion of refugees in the national education systems of hosting societies, the successes and shortcomings of the Lebanese state in providing education opportunities , and Syrian refugees and teachers' opinions in formal and non-formal refugee education in Lebanon.





Events Organized – Award Ceremony

Asfari Culture Award Ceremony



Program/ Project: *Culture as Resistance*



Date: 21 May



Location: Asfari Institute, AUB

The Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship held the first edition of its Culture Award ceremony, co-sponsored by The Asfari Foundation. This year's award honors winners of the short story competition. The awarding ceremony announced the two winners who shared the first prize and read their work to the audience: Anas Nassif and Hassan Al Joude. The selection committee comprised Ibrahim Samuel, a Syrian writer and Arabic teacher; Ibrahim Abdel Maguid, an award-winning Egyptian novelist and author; and Hassan Daoud, a Lebanese novelist and journalist. Present at the ceremony were the last two juries, the awardees, members of the Asfari Institute, and a number of leading academics and actors in the culture field.

Coverage of the event: [AUB](#), [Syria TV](#)





Events Organized – New CEO Welcoming



Date: 21 May



Location: Asfari Institute, AUB

The Asfari Culture Award ceremony was followed by an official welcoming of Asfari Foundation's new CEO, Saba Almubaslat, who joined the foundation to replace its first ever CEO, Marieke Bosman. Almubaslat brings over 25 years of experience delivering innovative and impactful projects in many of the world's most challenging regions. Prior to joining the Asfari Foundation, she was CEO at the Humanitarian Leadership Academy, where she led the development of localised humanitarian learning approaches to empower communities in conflict areas. Bosman was the foundation's first ever CEO.



Events Co-organized – Panel Discussion

الفاعلية الثقافية السورية في لبنان



Program/ Project: *Culture as Resistance*



Co-organizing Entity: *Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs*



Date: 28 May



Location: Conference Room – IFI, AUB

The Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship, in partnership with the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, organized a panel discussion on Syrian cultural movement in Lebanon. The panel gathered a number of practitioners, journalists, and cultural operators in Lebanon, both Syrian and Lebanese, to discuss the interactions and effects of the Syrian cultural action on the Lebanese cultural scene.

Coverage of the event: [Al Modon](#)



Events Attended – Conference

A Century of Human Displacement and Dispossession: Europe and the Middle East 1919-2019



Organizing Entity: *Center for Arts and Humanities (CAH)*



Date: 14, 15 and 16 May



Location: Auditorium B1 – College Hall, AUB

The American University of Beirut (AUB) hosted the 3-day conference that was organized by Professor Abdulrahim Abu Husayn, director of the Center for Arts and Humanities (CAH), and Dr. Onur Yıldırım, Alfred H. Howell Chair in History and Archeology, AUB. The conference stemmed from the understanding that the post-World War One treaties, one of which is that of Versailles 1919, resulted in the carving out of nation-states out of the two great empires (the German and the Ottoman) in Europe and the Middle East and authorized the nascent states to displace and dispossess populations in the name of peace and order.



Events Attended – Talk

Inequality and Populism



Organizing Entity: Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs



Date: 23 May



Location: Conference Room – IFI, AUB

Professor Bourguignon's work, which was elaborated in this talk, aims at breaking the very common misconception of the exclusive link between Inequality and Populism and at showing that this link goes beyond the mere vicious circle of: increased inequality has a political impact which gives populist politicians a chance to be elected and become in power and thus to make decisions that further increase inequality in the world and cause economic damages. His reflections assert that populism is indeed the product of globalization and migration, which have led to job losses and social discrepancies, but also flag the fact that this inequality channel is not about the typical vertical income inequality but about another form of inequality whereby ethnicity, identity politics, and – more importantly – inequity intervene, among several other factors.



Photo from IFI Twitter account

Events Attended – Panel Discussion

The Military and Politics: The Cases of Algeria, Egypt, Libya, and Sudan



Organizing Entity: Carnegie Middle East Center



Date: 28 May



Location: Conference Room – IFI, AUB

Will the scale of social crisis and structural economic challenges prompt the armed forces to seek an exit from governing? That is the main question asked by the panel discussion held by the Carnegie Middle East Center. The discussants - Younes Abouyoub from ESCWA, and Dalia Ghanem and Yezid Sayigh from Carnegie Middle East Center - looked into the likely trajectory of military politics in Algeria, Egypt, Libya, and Sudan, and the implications for genuine political transition.



Snapshot from Carnegie Middle East Center's Youtube channel

Publications



Title:

Traveling Critique:
Anti-imperialism, Gender and Rights Discourses



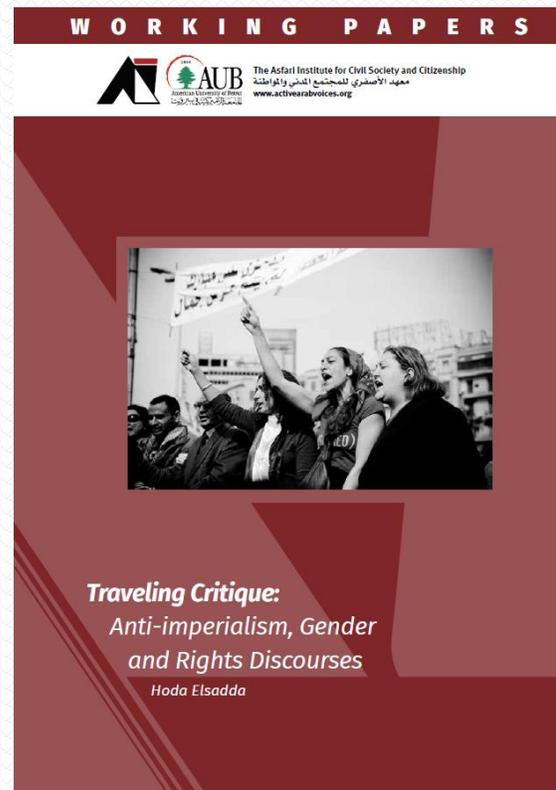
Author(s):

Hoda Elsadda



Summary:

The article engages with the feminist anti-imperialist critique of rights discourses, particularly when used as a theoretical lens to understand or evaluate women's rights movements, or gender related campaigns for justice in non-democratic settings. The writer argues that the anti-imperialist critique is caught up in a locked binary of universalism versus cultural relativism; that the anti-imperialist critics disregard the insights gained from Edward Said's important intervention about "Traveling Theory; and that in many cases, the feminist anti-imperialist has not been attentive to the geopolitics of critique.



Brochures

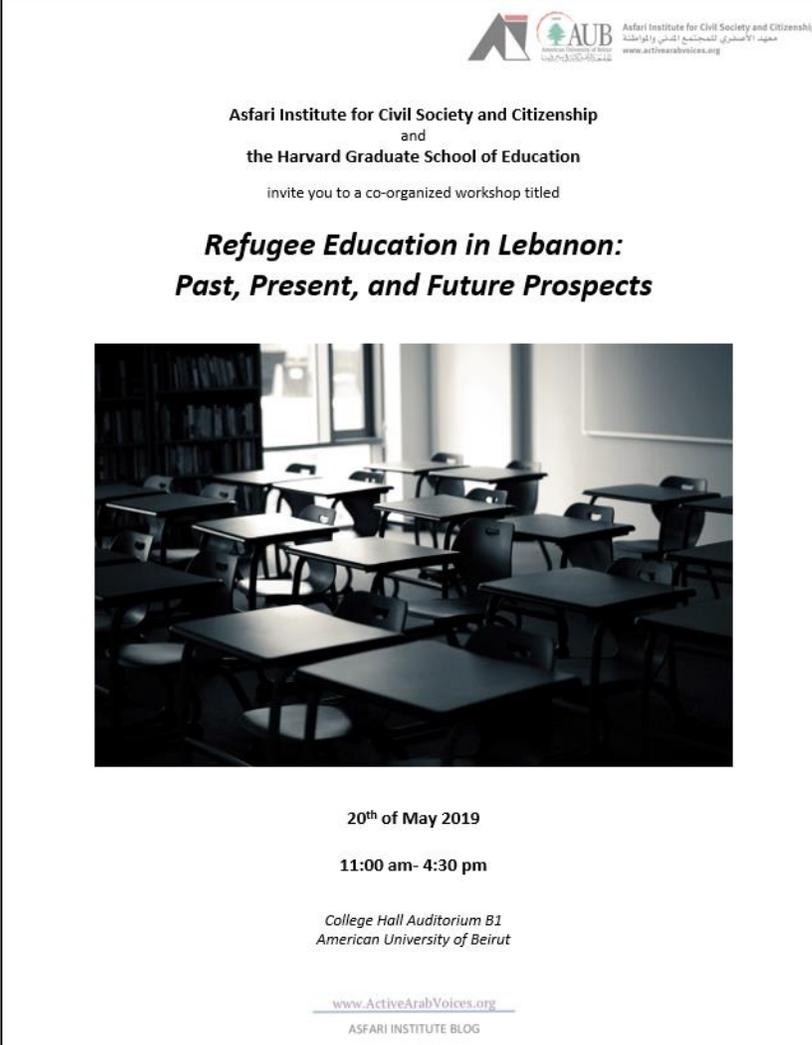
▶ Title:

Refugee Education in Lebanon: Past, Present, and Future Prospects

📄 Summary:

The brochure was devised as a handout for the workshop “Refugee Education in Lebanon: Past, Present, and Future Prospects”, organized by Asfari Institute and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The brochure introduced the concept of the workshop, motivated by a number of overarching questions: How should education programs be designed and delivered to meet the needs of both, marginalized Lebanese children and displaced, Syrian children in Lebanon? What kinds of futures can education in displacement prepare refugee children for?

The brochure also provided its readers with the workshop schedule.



The brochure features the logos of the Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship and the American University of Beirut (AUB) at the top right. The main text is centered and reads: "Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship and the Harvard Graduate School of Education invite you to a co-organized workshop titled **Refugee Education in Lebanon: Past, Present, and Future Prospects**". Below the text is a photograph of a classroom with several rows of desks and chairs. At the bottom, the date "20th of May 2019" and time "11:00 am- 4:30 pm" are listed, followed by the location "College Hall Auditorium B1 American University of Beirut". The website "www.ActiveArabVoices.org" and "ASFARI INSTITUTE BLOG" are also included.

Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship
American University of Beirut
www.activearabvoices.org

Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship
and
the Harvard Graduate School of Education
invite you to a co-organized workshop titled

**Refugee Education in Lebanon:
Past, Present, and Future Prospects**



20th of May 2019
11:00 am- 4:30 pm
College Hall Auditorium B1
American University of Beirut

www.ActiveArabVoices.org
ASFARI INSTITUTE BLOG

Brochures



Title:

جائزة الأصفرى للثقافة



Summary:

The brochure introduces the concept of the award, its mission and its vision. It also explains the selection criteria and the various bodies involved in the process, from the board of trustees to the jury members. The brochure also presents the two winners that shared the first-place prize, and includes a number of the winning excerpts.

