# IFI NEWSLETTER

*December - January 2024*

## NEWS

**Register for Beirut Security Debates**
Our Institute and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Regional Peace and Security Project are holding the second edition of the Beirut Security Debates (BSD) titled "The Gaza War and the Regional Turmoil in the Middle East."
The webinar themes include contemporary international and regional geopolitics beyond the region, the humanitarian crises, and response mechanisms central to current affairs in the Middle East.
Access the agenda and register here.

**IFI at COP28**
Members of our Climate Change and Environment team attended COP28 in December, marking the Institute's twelfth attendance since 2009.
Read More

**Tahawor Series**
IFI and Adyan Foundation held the first two in a series of ten dialogue sessions on reform and taxation as part of the Tahawor Project.

## PUBLICATIONS

**THE ROADMAP TO CITIZENSHIP IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

**THE RISK LANDSCAPE IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN: OLD DEMONS DIE HARD**

## POLICY BLOG

**Bridging Horizons: Chinese Investments Reshaping MENA's Future**
"Chinese investments in energy, infrastructure, technology & security have the potential to catalyze growth in MENA countries, addressing pressing needs for progress in their economies."
Read More

**COP 28 Sees Compromises on Loss and Damage Demands in the Absence of Accountability for Big Polluters**
"The fund has been a tabled demand since 1991, as developing countries bearing the climatic brunt of historical emissions and continuing extraction activities by developed industrialized states seek finance for averting, minimizing, and addressing climate disasters."
Read More

**COP 28: An Opportunity to Address the Vicious Cycle of Food Insecurity and Climate Change in the MENA Region**
"Since 2011, food subsidies in the face of food insecurity in the MENA region cost up to $21.6 billion and were the highest in Iraq, Syria, and Egypt amounting to over 2% of their GDP."
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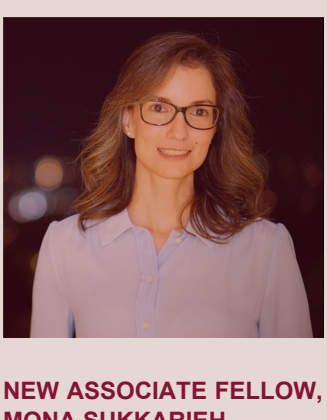
## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**NEW ASSOCIATE FELLOW, MONA SUKKARIEH**
Areas of expertise:

Energy, Geopolitics, Political Risk
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**NEW ASSOCIATE FELLOW, JIHAD YAZIGI**
Areas of expertise: Political

Economy, Syrian Economy
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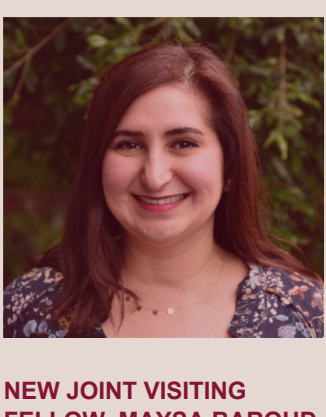

**NEW JOINT VISITING FELLOW, MAYSA BAROUD**

Areas of expertise: Refugee Rights, Migrant Rights, Social Policy, & Labor Rights.
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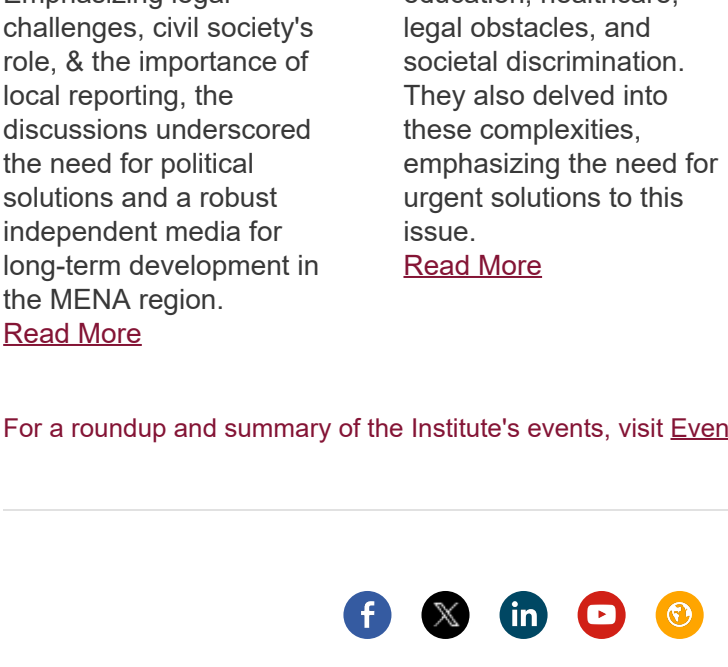
For our full list of fellows, visit IFI's Fellows page.

## EVENTS




10/16/2023
**THE WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY REGIONAL HUB- PRESENTATION & BOOK DISCUSSION**
The event hosted a presentation on "Dealing with the Past: The Role of Political Apologies," followed by a discussion on truth and justice with an emphasis on Dalal Mawad's book, "All She Lost."
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12/07/2023
**ADDRESSING GENOCIDE & ENDING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

The webinar addressed ongoing genocidal actions in the Middle East, focusing on cases such as the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict and Yazidi genocide. Emphasizing legal challenges, civil society's role, & the importance of local reporting, the discussions underscored the need for political solutions and a robust independent media for long-term development in the MENA region.
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12/06/2023
**PLIGHT OF THE RIGHTLESS: THE SEQUEL**
The event raised awareness to address

the significant challenges of statelessness in Lebanon. Panelists highlighted key obstacles faced by stateless individuals, including limited access to education, healthcare, legal obstacles, and societal discrimination. They also delved into these complexities, emphasizing the need for urgent solutions to this issue.
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10/06/2023
**TOBACCO ECONOMICS IN LIGHT OF THE FINANCIAL CRISIS**
The workshop covered

industry structure, reform recommendations for public health and financial goals, and potential adjustments to taxation policies, fostering collaborative efforts to inform policies addressing the intersection of tobacco use, public health, and economic challenges in Lebanon.
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For a roundup and summary of the Institute's events, visit Events at IFI.