



IFI NEWSLETTER

January -
February 2025



NEWS



INSTITUTE INSIGHTS: JIHAD YAZIGI

In the 7th episode of Institute Insights, IFI Associate Fellow Jihad Yazigi answers three questions on the state of the Syrian economy, measures Syria's transitional government should prioritize, and the future of Syrian Lebanese economic relations.

[Watch Here](#)



INSTITUTE INSIGHTS: AMB. NASSIF HITTI

In the 8th episode of Institute Insights, ex Foreign Affairs Minister and Associate Fellow Amb. Nassif Hitti answers three questions on the relationship between Lebanese identity and the country's foreign policy, the main pillars of a realistic and independent Lebanese foreign policy, and the adoption of "political neutrality."

[Watch Here](#)



WHAT ARE LEBANON'S ENERGY PRIORITIES?

With the formation of Lebanon's new government, what should be the main priorities of the Minister of Energy to advance the sector? Our Institute's energy experts and Associate Fellows Mark Ayoub and Mona Sukkarieh list these priorities and practical proposals.

[Watch Here](#)



IFI IN THE NEWS: ONGOING ANALYSIS

Our in-house and fellow experts featured on local, regional and international media, discussing what awaits the country after the election of President Joseph Aoun on January 9 after a two-year vacuum. Read and listen to their analysis in our X thread.

[Read More](#)



IFI AND DAKSHIN SIGN A GENERAL AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION

The agreement aims to establish academic and research links between both institutions, with a particular focus on collaborative research in areas of mutual interest aiming to attain key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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"PROJECT DESIGN FOR POLIC INFLUENCE"

The UNESCWA team delivered an engaging and insightful "Project Design for Policy Influence" training session for IFI staff. This interactive half-day workshop provided the team with practical tools to design and implement policy interventions that drive meaningful change.

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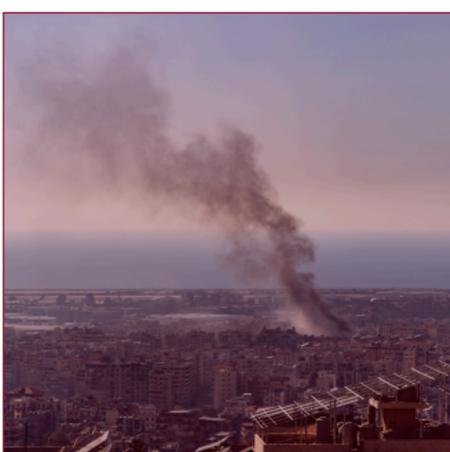


PUBLICATIONS



BEYOND A CEASEFIRE: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF UNSCR 1701 AND THE 2024 CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT

JOSEPH BAHOUT
YEGHIA TASHJIAN



قراءة في ما وراء وقف إطلاق النار تحليل مقارن للقرار 1701 واتفاق وقف إطلاق النار 2024

جوزيف باحوط
يغيا طاشجيان



LEBANON AMIDST THE SPIRAL OF A MIDDLE EAST IN FLAMES

JOSEPH BAHOUT



TOWARDS A PRODUCTIVE "NEW" LEBANON

AMER BISAT
ISHAC DIWAN



POLICY BLOG



Rebuilding Lebanon: Challenges in Post-War Urban Recovery

"Both Solidere and Wa'd illustrate how Lebanon's post-war reconstruction efforts have been dominated by private initiatives, with the state relinquishing decision-making to non-state actors."

[Read More](#)



Media Bias in Conflict Reporting during the Lebanon-Israel War

"Language selection within media reports also presented inherited biases. Terms such as "Retaliation" were often used to describe Israeli military actions, while terms such as "Aggression" or "Attacks" were utilized to frame activity from the Lebanese side."

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



SKILLS MONITOR WIDGET

The widget is an interactive tool powered by ESCWA, designed to provide valuable insights into skills profiles based on job titles. It dynamically generates responsive radar charts to visualize hard and soft skills data, helping users better understand the competencies associated with various professions.

[Read More](#)



EXPERT SNAPSHOT SERIES

We just launched our Snapshot Expert Opinion series, in which we ask IFI Fellows about current critical issues in their areas of expertise and others on their radar for the coming year. Visit our social media platforms regularly to read the latest in the series.



EVENTS

01/13/2025

"TÜRKIYE'S RENEWED MIDDLE EASTERN AMBITIONS: END GOALS AND CONSTRAINTS"

Our Institute hosted a discussion by Prof. Soli Özel, joined by AUB's Hilal Khashan and Joseph Bahout. The discussion examined Erdogan's efforts to assert regional influence following Assad's collapse, Israel's growing dominance, and Iran's setbacks, as well as the limitations of his ambitions.

[Read More](#)



02/21/2025

"THEIR FATE, THEIR LAND: PALESTINE AND THE FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW"

IFI, PLSC, and PSPA held a discussion featuring UN Special Rapporteur on the Palestinian Territories Occupied since 1967 Francesca Albanese, in conversation with Assistant Professor and IFI University Fellow Jamil Mouawad and PLSC Director Zeina Jallad.

[Watch Here](#)



02/11/2025

"THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE"

IFI, PLSC, and the Forced Displacement Program (FDP) hosted Ardi Imseis's book discussion, with AUB's Joseph Bahout as a moderator and Zeina Jallad as a, offering a legal history covering the key legal moments in the modern history of Palestine, such as the League of Nations mandate period, the UN's 1947 partition plan, and the State of Palestine's unsuccessful 2011 application for UN membership.

[Read More](#)



01/29/2025

"WOMEN AT THE TABLE: RECLAIMING NARRATIVES OF PEACE AND INCLUSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST"

IFI's Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Regional Hub in collaboration with the Middle East Council on Global Affairs, hosted a public panel discussion on the sidelines of the third convening of the WPS Working Group for the Arab States in Doha. The discussion addressed key themes, including occupation, systemic injustice, grassroots activism, and institutional representation.

[Read More](#)

For a roundup and summary of the Institute's events, visit [Events at IFI](#).

