

Association for Middle Eastern Public Policy and Administration

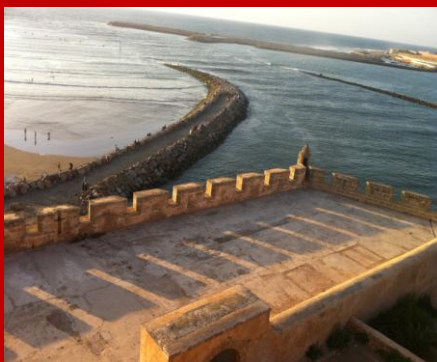
First Global Conference on Public Policy and Administration in the Middle East

Sound Governance: the Key to Peace and Prosperity in the Middle East

November 8-9, 2012

Rabat, Morocco

www.ameppa.org



The Association for Middle Eastern Public Policy and Administration (AMEPPA)

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Call for Papers

Scholars are encouraged to submit paper proposals to the conference co-chairs, Dr. Jennifer Bremer at jbremer@aucegypt.edu and Dr. Mohamed Harakat at harakatmohamed@yahoo.fr no later than August 31, 2012. Please limit your abstracts to no more than 500 words. Full papers for accepted abstracts should be submitted to the conference co-chairs no later than 15 October 2012. Since the conference will be organized in two tracks (Arab Spring and Sound Governance), the reviewers will be looking for a number of key features in proposals for papers:

- Directly related to one of the themes within a track and to one or more Middle Eastern countries.
- Abstracts should show evidence of theoretical and conceptual underpinning for the proposed paper.
- Empirically based, ideally with evidence of new findings from research by the author(s)
- Evidence of linkage to contemporary debates within public policy and administration, broadly defined.

Arab Spring Track Themes:

1. **Origins of the Arab spring:** What were the political, socio-economic and historical factors that led to the Arab Spring; how did such phenomena as tyranny, challenges to autocracy, demographic changes, and corruption create the conditions for the Arab Spring?
2. **Implementing the Arab spring:** What role did civil society, youth organizations, social media, and governmental responses play in determining the course of the Arab Spring? What lessons for the conduct of the Arab Spring can be drawn from international experience with revolutionary change?
3. **New and old actors in the Arab spring:** How will the changing role of Islamist political forces, the Arab feminist movement, the labor movement, new leftist/liberal parties, emerging civil society organizations, old elites, and the military affect and be affected by the Arab Spring?
4. **The Arab spring in the global arena:** How will the Arab Spring affect foreign policy concerns in the Middle East, such as management of WMD, the peace process, the role of Arab leadership in the region, etc.?

Sound Governance Track Themes:

1. **How can we address the key governance challenges of accountability, ethics, and transparency** that face the countries of the Middle East, both those emerging from the Arab Spring and those where established governments remain in place?
Subthemes: Building organizations of integrity; Causes and consequences of a culture of corruption; Ethics in public service; Human rights; Islam, religion and public

administration; Leadership styles; Mechanisms for accountability to citizens and legislatures

2. **How can governments raise the level and quality of services delivered to citizens to achieve social justice?**

Subthemes: Community participation in program delivery; Cost-Benefit Analysis; Disaster, risk management and emergency response; Education and health services; Environment and sustainability; ICT, e-governance, social media; Innovation in service delivery (social and infrastructure services)

3. **How can the productivity and performance of governments' human and financial resources be improved?**

Subthemes: Acquiring and building a capable civil service; Building a sustainable, equitable and efficient revenue base; Building professional administration and merit-based employment; Comparing compensation and benefits across and within work specialties; Diversity in the civil service (ethnicity, gender, other); Balancing revenue generation and expenditures; Influence of demographic change on recruiting and retaining public employees; Linking policies to financial implications and setting priorities; Strengthening accounting and forecasting techniques, budget cycles

4. **How can decentralization and partnering with nonprofit organizations, civil society, and the private sector make a greater contribution to good governance, government effectiveness, and service delivery?**

Subthemes: Civil society and promoting diversity; Decentralization and devolution; Democracy and civic engagement; Local governance; Metropolitan governance; NGOs and NPOs; Relationship between politics and administration