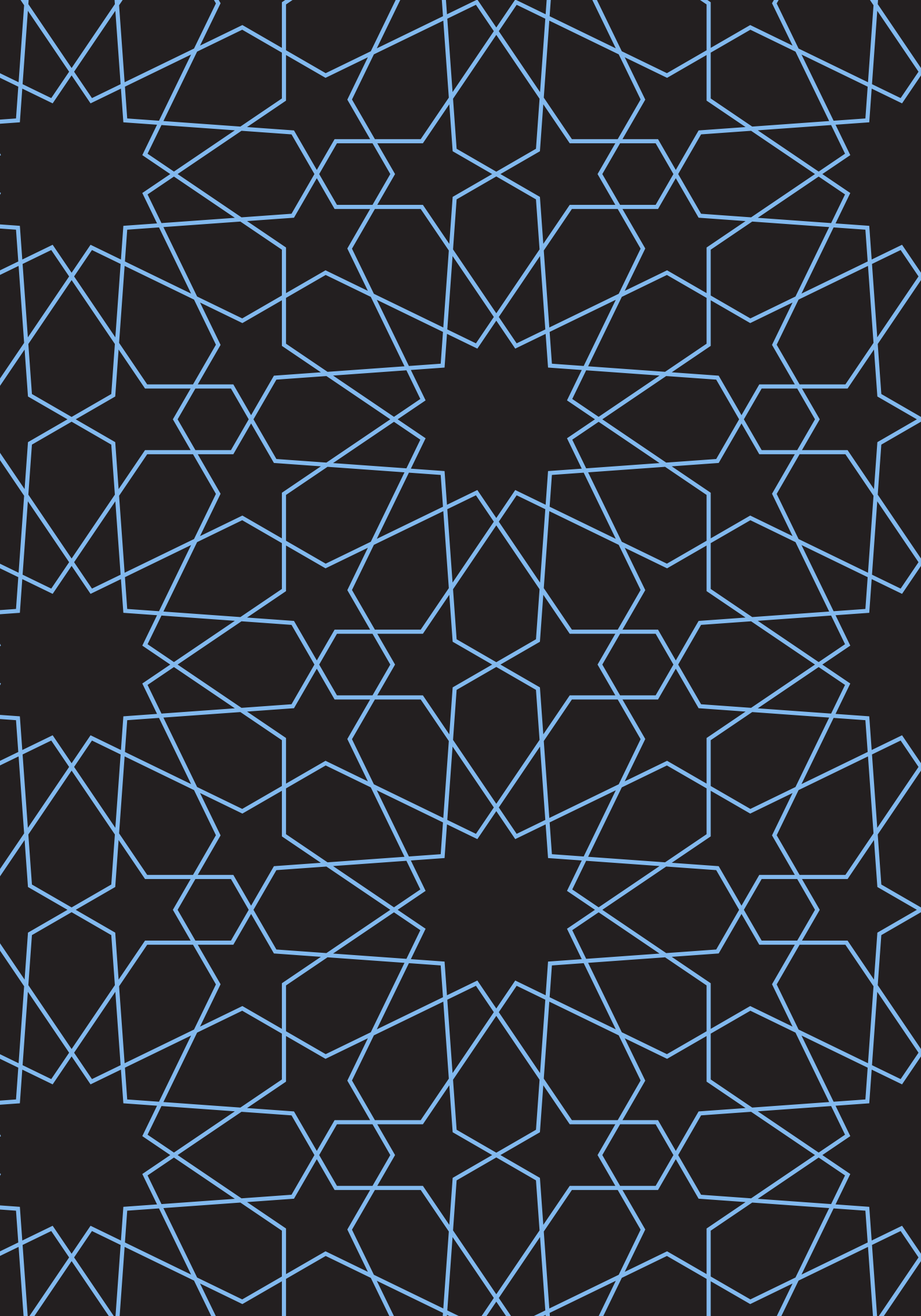


Middle
East
Mediterranean



Summer Summit 2018 Seminar

Seminar Programme
16–24 August 2018
Università della
Svizzera italiana
Lugano Campus



MEM Summer Summit 2018 Seminar

The Seminar
16–24 August
USI Lugano campus





MEM Summer Summit Seminar General Programme

Stream A

New Dynamics of the Middle East Mediterranean Region

Course Directors

Prof. Gilles Kepel, USI and PSL Paris Sciences et Lettres-École Normale Supérieure, Paris, France

Prof. Hela Ouardi, Université de Tunis, Tunisia

Plenary Sessions

Thursday 16 August – Plenary session 1 – Afternoon

“The Geopolitics of the MEM Region: International, Regional and Domestic Implications”

Gilles Kepel, USI and PSL Paris Sciences et Lettres-École Normale Supérieure, Paris, France

Hela Ouardi, Université de Tunis, Tunisia

Monday 20 August – Plenary session 2 – 9.00-12.00

“The Political Economy of the MEM Region”

Ishac Diwan, PSF Paris Sciences et Lettres and Columbia University, USA

Gilles Kepel, USI and PSL Paris Sciences et Lettres-École Normale Supérieure, Paris, France

Workshops

Friday 17 August – Workshop 1 – 14.00-17.00

“Social Networks: Friend or Foe?”

Fabrice Epelboin, Sciences Po, Paris, France

Gino Raidy, Blogger, Lebanon

This session promotes a reflection on the dualistic nature of social media in general and, in particular, in the MEM region. Social networks were originally conceived as major tools for freedom of speech and democratisation – epitomised by the catchphrase, ‘Revolution 2.0’. In recent years, however, they have been used by ISIS and other terrorist groups to proselytise and threaten their adversaries. Totalitarian regimes also used them to propagate ‘fake news’ on a massive scale. What kind of an assessment can we make of the use of social networks in the MEM region? What could be the best practice for the future?

Saturday 18 August – Workshop 2 – 14.00-17.00

“Can Entrepreneurs Succeed?”

Habib Karaouli, Cap Bank, Tunis, Tunisia

This workshop addresses a variety of issues related to entrepreneurship in the MEM region and can be regarded as continuous with the proposed morning session on ‘Political Economy’. Entrepreneurship thrives in the MEM region with young leaders in many fields – from civil initiatives to start ups, from alternative media to healthcare or project financing. Can such grassroots phenomena develop into a global political economy for the region? What are the obstacles to be overcome? It is suggested that participants be allocated to discussion groups guided by an expert in the field of finance and entrepreneurship.

Monday 20 August – Workshop 3 – 14.00-17.00

“Mapping the Middle East Mediterranean Crises”

Fabrice Balanche, Hoover Institution, The Washington Institute, Washington, USA

This workshop aims to introduce participants to the geography of the MEM conflicts. How do we represent them? The very process of identifying the areas of contention, according to variable criteria (ethnicity, religious denomination, poverty level, age groups, income, etc.) can be either a relevant or a biased factor. He very often precludes our understanding of the issues we debate. This workshop will deal with the mapping process – and we shall build maps together under the guidance of one of the world's best experts in Middle East Mediterranean geography and geopolitics.

Tuesday 21 August – Workshop 4 – 14.00-17.00

“Women’s Empowerment: What is at Stake?”

Essma Ben Hamida, Enda Inter-Arabe NGO, Tunis, Tunisia

Increased access to education has changed the status of women in the MEM region, leading them, in many cases, to challenge the patriarchal nature of traditional societies. This workshop aims to explore the ethical, political and socio-economic implications of women's empowerment (in the economy, in political life, in Science, in the creative dimension, etc.) in ‘free world’ countries as well as in countries where women still live under the yoke of a coercive religious tradition. What are the ethical, political and socio-economic factors that present challenges to women's empowerment today? Has an environment in which civil wars have forced displacement and migration, reinforced conservative values?

Wednesday 22 August – Workshop 5 – 14.00-18.00

“Cultural Policies in Question”

Jean-François Charnier, Agence France-Muséums, Louvre Abu Dhabi, France – United Arab Emirates

Alexandre Kazerouni, SciencePo, Paris, France

The workshop aims to stimulate reflection on the great trends of cultural policies in the MEM region today. These include the public policies of tangible and intangible cultural heritage conservation, the role of patronage and private entrepreneurship in promoting artistic creation. The workshop will also raise questions on the role of international organisations (UNESCO, ALECSO, etc.) and on the different ways of spreading cultural productions across the MEM region.

Stream B

Middle East Mediterranean Region Governance, Administration, and Policy Making

Course Directors

Ambassador Wolfgang Amadeus Brühlhart, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAE)

Prof. Dr. Jean-Patrick Villeneuve, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland

Mr. Gabriele Derighetti, DFAE

Ms. Marlen Heide, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland

Plenary Sessions

Saturday 18 August – Plenary session 1 – 9.00-12.00

“Political System and Foreign Policy Agenda of Switzerland”

Ambassador Wolfgang Amadeus Brühlhart, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAE)

Jean-Patrick Villeneuve, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland

Gabriele Derighetti, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAE)

Francis Piccard, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAE)

Julian Höttinger, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAE)

This plenary will introduce participants to the Swiss Political System and the Swiss foreign policy agenda, programs and activities. The presentation is embedded in a general introduction to the specificities of the Swiss system; i.e. federalism, consensus democracy, semi-direct democracy, as well its foreign policy agenda. The objective of this presentation is to familiarise all Summit participants with Switzerland as a regional partner and educating them on some of the constructs underpinning Switzerland's national dynamism and international effectiveness. Participants will be familiarised with the structure and maintenance of 'Good Offices', one of the key contributions of the Swiss Department of Foreign Affairs to the functioning of the international system.

Tuesday 21 August – Plenary session 2 – 9.00-12.00

“Sharing Experiences, Learning from Mistakes and Best Practices”

Mark Thatcher, London School of Economics, London, United Kingdom

Jean-Patrick Villeneuve, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland

Marlen Heide, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland

This plenary will introduce participants to the field of policy studies from a comparative perspective. The first part of the session familiarises participants with diverse administrative traditions and political cultures, providing an overview of analytical patterns and practical dynamics. The second part of the session illustrates such differences through the example of cultural heritage preservation across different countries, asking how States deal with public goods and discussing the impact of these choices on issues of citizenship and national identity.

Workshops

Friday 17 August – Workshop 1 – 14.00-17.00

“Strengthening Compliance with Democratic Norms”

Claudia Baez-Camargo, Basel Institute on Governance, Basel, Switzerland

Jean-Patrick Villeneuve, Open Government Partnership, Washington D.C., United States

Marlen Heide, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland

This workshop addresses a variety of democratic standards, notably those around the logics of better governance, transparency and anti-corruption. The workshop will build on the second plenary meeting “Sharing Experiences, Learning from Mistakes and Best-Practices”. International standards will be presented to allow for a discussion on their impact on public organizations and policies in general.

Saturday 18 August – Workshop 2 – 14.00-17.00

“The role of civil society in peacebuilding - The case of Syria”

Luca Urech, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Peace Promotion Program Syria

Abir Hajibrahim, Mobaderoon Network, Lebanon/Syria

Yosra Nagui, Swisspeace, Switzerland

Ibrahim Olabi, Syrian Legal Development Programme, London

This workshop explores how civil society can influence peace processes and impact the course of events in the Syrian conflict. What is the role and ability of citizens to shape and guide the development of policies and institutions? What tools and mechanisms have Syrian civil society used throughout the course of the conflict to affect change and influence the situation?

Monday 20 August – Workshop 3 – 14.00-18.00 (Visit to Bellinzona)

“Decentralisation and Local Governance”

Paolo Beltraminelli, State Councillor, Canton Ticino, Switzerland

Arnoldo Coduri, State Chancellor, Canton Ticino, Switzerland

Andreas Ladner, Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration (IDHEAP), Lausanne, Switzerland

This workshop addresses one of the particularities of Switzerland; its high level of local autonomy. This workshop looks at local governance arrangements by using Canton Ticino as case study. Following a presentation on the Federal structure of the country, and its impact on day-to-day operations of public institutions, high-level political and administrative officers of the Canton will address the reality of operating in a decentralised system.

Tuesday 21 August – Workshop 4 – 14.00-17.00

“Information Society and Government”

Tomasz Janowski, Gdańsk University of Technology, Poland

Daniel Gasteiger, Procivis, Zurich, Switzerland

This workshop proposes a general introduction to the rationales and cutting-edge practices in eGovernment and the use of ICTs on the part of civil-society. Specifically it will address topics such as blockchains and their impacts on e-government and the dangers and pitfalls of the continued development of ‘better’ and more extensive technological solutions at the State level.

Wednesday 22 August – Workshop 5 – 14.00-17.00

“Public Services and Infrastructures”

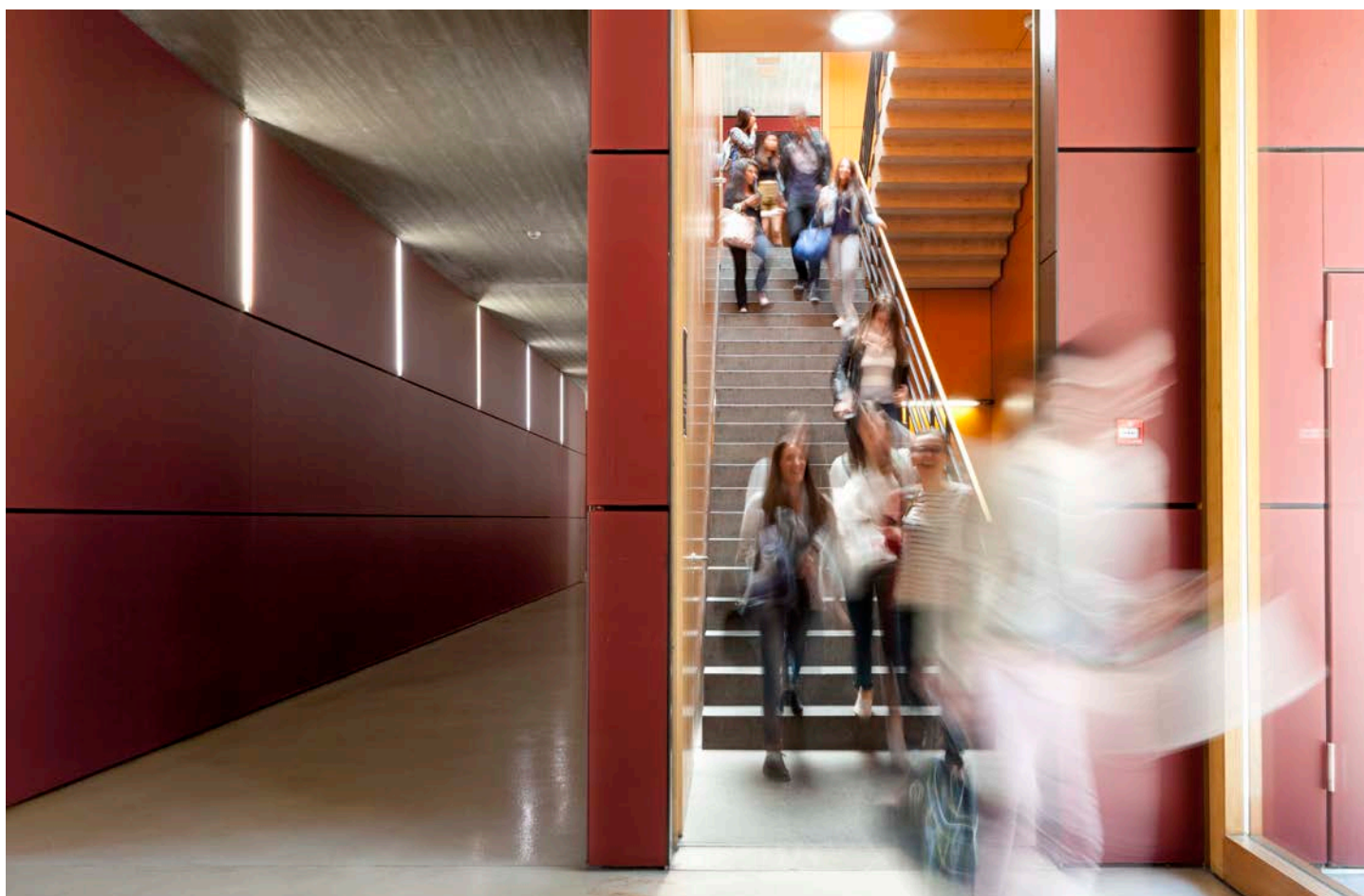
Xianku Lu, LEDECO, Geneva, Switzerland; University of International Business and Economics UIBE, Beijing, China

Marco Kampp, Deutsche Bahn, Frankfurt, Germany - Italy

Sharma Prashant, World Bank, Geneva, Switzerland

Cosimo Risi, Former Italian Ambassador and Professor of International Relations, Italy

The role of administrations is in large part to deliver services. These range from education and health to the building and managing of effective infrastructure networks. Switzerland has recently built the longest tunnel in the world. The Chinese government is building the longest railroad in the world (OBOR project) that will cross the Middle East. Transport industries, at the example of Deutsche Bahn, are expanding their networks and branching out in other industries. All the while public services are being delivered in new and more flexible ways. This seminar will look at some of these initiatives and address the challenges of designing, constructing and managing socially and economically viable systems that are the backbone of the State's capacity to act.



Stream C

Middle East Mediterranean Region: Narratives, Representations, and Images

Course Directors

Prof. Riccardo Bocco, Graduate Institute, Geneva, Switzerland

Prof. Silvia Naef, Université de Genève, Switzerland

Dr. Federica Frediani, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland

Plenary Sessions

Friday 17 August – Plenary session 1 – 9.00-12.00

“Narrating the Middle East Mediterranean Region”

Riccardo Bocco, Graduate Institute, Geneva, Switzerland

Silvia Naef, Université de Genève, Switzerland

Federica Frediani, Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland

This plenary session, conceived as a conversation between Riccardo Bocco, Silvia Naef and Federica Frediani, constitutes the introduction and the framework for the whole of Stream C. It explores the role of narratives in seizing reality in the Middle East Mediterranean region as well as the emergence of new expressions in art, cinema, and literature, and analyses the increased importance of exhibitions and heritage conservation in this regional context. Federica Frediani will introduce the session defining the role of narratives. Silvia Naef will then lecture on images and representations in the MEM region, giving a broad historical outline. Finally, Riccardo Bocco will present how cinema creates specific and often contrasting narratives.

Wednesday 22 August – Plenary session 2 – 9.00-12.00

“Violence, Memory and Cinema in the MEM Region”

Riccardo Bocco, Graduate Institute, Geneva, Switzerland

Isa Blumi, Department of Asian, Middle Eastern and Turkish Studies, Stockholm University, Sweden

Jasmin Basic, Film Festival's Curator, Switzerland

Gabriella Zalapi, Independent artist, Paris, France

Prof. Riccardo Bocco will examine the role of film directors as social actors in (re)shaping collective memories in the context of ongoing conflicts (Israel-Palestine) or post-civil war (Lebanon). The focus will be on (young) national film directors and their contribution to social change and to peace-building. Prof. Isa Blumi will address the structures behind the funding of films since the 1990s. The use of 'Soft Power', and the heavy investment into NGOs and Cultural Foundations are important items to consider, leading to a critical discussion on macro-economic forces, the impact of neoliberalism and the political economy of cultural production in the MEM region. J. Basic will look at the role of a new (post-conflict) generation of film directors from the Balkans in reshaping memories of the past to address the stakes of the present. Finally, Mrs Gabriella Zalapi, will focus on the 'reception' of movies, in particular the role of the spectators.

Workshops

Friday 17 August – Workshop 1 – 14.00-17.00

Workshop 1: “Heritage Preservation and Cultural Memory in the MEM Region”

Alexandre Kazerouni, Researcher Ecole normale Supérieure, Paris, France

Mouna and Shireen Atassi, Atassi Foundation and Atassi Gallery, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

This workshop will discuss the role of art institutions, public or private, in preserving the region's cultural memory. It will start from the recent boom in museum building, and focus on the impact of these newcomers with international visibility on the existing museum scene. Then, the notion of “heritage” itself, originating in the MEM region in a colonial view of world art history that considered mainly the pre-Islamic and (more rarely) the classical Islamic period, will be questioned. More recently, local players have highlighted the importance of the modern artistic heritage. The opening of the Mathaf in Doha, with its comprehensive collection of modern Arab art, is probably the best known initiative in this field. In war torn countries like Iraq and Syria, preserving the modern artistic heritage has become an urgent task. In such a context, virtual “museums” may be a solution, in making this heritage accessible to a worldwide audience and thus preserving it from looting and illegal sales.

Saturday 18 August – Workshop 2 – 14.00-18.00

“Exhibiting Art in and from the MEM Region”

Catherine David, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France

Ahmed Mater, Artist, Misk Art Institute, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Moataz Nasr, Artist, Darb 1718, Cairo, Egypt

Mario Cristiani, Galleria Continua, Italy

This workshop will discuss how Middle Eastern art is exhibited within and without the region. Starting timidly in the 1990s, the number of exhibitions of art from this region has increased dramatically since the 2000s. Museums in New York, Paris, London, as well as biennales and other prestigious international art shows, have suddenly “discovered” that there is an art production there, thanks also to some innovating curatorial initiatives. In parallel, new art institutions in the region have developed and have become players in the global art scene. Starting from the panelists' individual role as artists and curators but also from the position of their institution within the art world, the workshop will analyze how this new global situation has impacted on exhibition practices and on art production in the MEM region.

Monday 20 August – Workshop 3 – 14.00-17.00

“Identities, Memories, Migrations, and Diaspora”

Martino Lovato, researcher and Visiting Lecturer, Mountholyoke College, Italy-USA

Mattia Vacca, photojournalist and documentary photographer, Italy

Authors are at the core of cultural discourse and representations of the MEM region. They depict their identities and describe the encounter with other identities. Diaspora intellectuals and authors propose counter-narratives of the Middle East Mediterranean and stage multicultural and plural identities. The workshop explores various forms of counter-narratives: literatures, documentaries, photographs.

Tuesday 21 August – Workshop 4 – 14.00-17.00

“Narratives: Past and Present through Cinema and Photography”

Ghada Sayegh El Rahal, Institut d'Etudes Scéniques, Audiovisuelles et Cinématographiques, Université Saint-Joseph Beyrouth, Lebanon

Johanna Fassl, Franklin University Switzerland

Moderated by R. Bocco and G. Zalapi, the workshop explores, through the contribution of Dr. Ghada Sayegh the notion of Lebanon's 'missing images', starting with the cinema of the Civil War, considering issues of what can or should be seen of war and death and, finally, looking at contemporary works that integrate the notion of absence and erasure into their narratives, forms and mechanisms. Then, Prof. J.Fassl will introduce works of artists who have enlisted in the army to serve as soldiers in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria. She will question how the human body confronts situations of great emotional stress: how physical perception is altered in those situations; how visual stimuli are encoded by brain and body; and how memory is triggered in the creative processes of making art.

Wednesday 22 August – Workshop 5 – 14.00-17.00

“Cinema and Stories on Disillusionment, in Collaboration with the Locarno Festival”

Édouard Waintrop, Cannes Film Festival, Artistic Director Fortnight, Switzerland

Michel Khleifi, Film Writer, Director and Producer, Occupied Palestinian Territories-Belgium

This workshop, organised in collaboration with the Locarno Film Festival, focuses on the role of cinema in creating and spreading images that affect the audience's perception of cultures and spaces. The Locarno Film Festival is a great event, which encourages a critical gaze and multiple perspectives on our current reality. The workshop combines screening, group discussions and testimonies of cinema professionals.

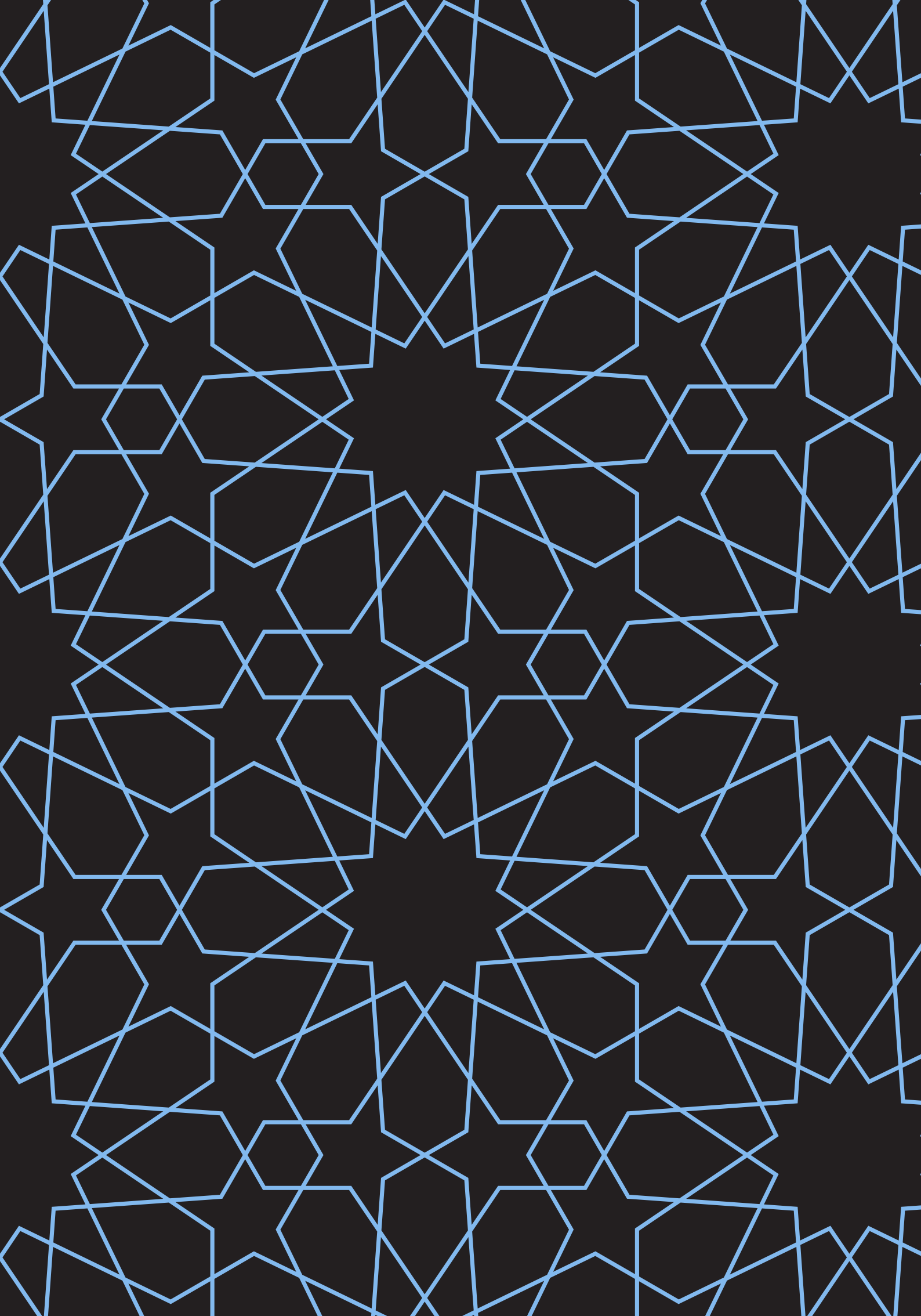
The Locarno Film Festival selects two films for the screenings, which provide input to work on during the workshop.





Food on the Table, Anissa Helou in conversation with Chiara Sulmoni Friday, 17 August, 18.30 Room 3, LAC, Lugano	With a Syrian father and Lebanese mother, Anissa Helou is a well-known writer, blogger and chef based in London. She specialises in Mediterranean, Middle-Eastern and North African cuisines. In her lecture, she will talk about the role of food as a meeting place.
Migrante Jazz Concert Giovanni Falzone Friday, 17 August, 21.00, Piazza Luini, LAC, Lugano	A brilliant trumpet player, composer and arranger, Giovanni Falzone is one of the leading figures of Italian and European jazz. He calls himself a migrant, having left his home town in a Sicilian province to set out on a quest for a new life.
Screening of L'Intrusa by Leonardo di Costanzo Saturday, 18 August, 20.00, Auditorium, Lugano Campus, in Italian with English subtitles	The film tells the story of Giovanna, a woman of Naples who founded a Centre for children called "La Masseria" (The Farm). The Centre is a place for playing and light-heartedness, where mothers take their children to escape degradation and be sheltered from the culture of organised crime.
Screening of Zindeeq by Michel Khleifi Tuesday, 21 August, 20.00, Auditorium, Lugano Campus, in Arabic with English subtitles	The Israeli director, Michel Khleifi, tells the story of the Palestinian filmmaker 'M', who lives in Europe and comes back to Ramallah to film the witness accounts of the 1948 Nakba. He analyses the events of that troubled time, placing them in the context of the tensions and uncertainty that characterise present-day Palestine.
Pictures and Algorithms for the Preservation of World Heritage at Risk Conference by iconem Thursday, 23 August, 18.00, Auditorium, Lugano Campus	Iconem's mission is to conserve endangered places by digitising them for exploration and study. Iconem travels the globe, combining the largescale scanning capacity of drones and the photorealistic quality of 3D to create digital replicas of most treasured places, record them for future generations.
Mediterraneo Jazz Concert Giovanni Falzone Friday, 24 August, 21.00, Piazza Luini, LAC, Lugano	The popular Sicilian songs of the Giovanni Falzone Trio will blend in with other songs from the other shores of the Mediterranean: from the voice of Sufi mysticism of Tunisian Houcine Ataa, to the African percussions of Dudu Kouatè, all the way to the mythical instrument of the Persian Santur of Iranian Alireza Mortazavi.
Symphony for Water and Peace Saturday, 25 August, 21.00 - 23.00, Internal Courtyard, Town Hall, Piazza Riforma, Lugano	The Blue Peace Orchestra will perform its Symphony for water and peace, composed by a collective of artists from all corners of the world: Mich Gerber (Svizzera), Alune Wade (Senegal), Tarek Younis (Giordania), Carlos Guzman (Costa Rica), and Serge Frasunkiewicz (Brasile). The concert is organised in association with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (DSC) and the City of Lugano.





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