



SEASONS OF MIGRATION FROM THE SOUTH: REFUGEES IN A CHANGING WORLD ORDER

MARCH 22 – 23, 2016, PHOENICIA HOTEL

AGENDA

DAY 1 | March 22, 2016

9:30 – 9:45 a.m.

Welcoming Remarks

Marwan Muasher, vice president for studies at Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Maha Yahya, senior associate and acting director of Carnegie Middle East Center

9:45 – 11:15 a.m.

PANEL I | RECONSTITUTING STATES AND SOCIETIES: THE POLITICS OF THE REFUGEE CRISIS

Nine Arab countries are experiencing violent conflict; these countries have generated almost half of the world's refugees. The war in Syria has transformed the country into the epicenter of the largest refugee crisis in recent history. The scale and nature of these migrations are radically transforming the region on multiple levels. Speakers will consider the political implications of the refugee crisis and explore its impact on state systems, social orders, and economic prospects, and will comment on future trajectories.

Abdallah Al-Dardari, Deputy Executive Secretary at UN ESCWA

Elias Bou Saab, Lebanese Minister of Education and Higher Education

Sigrid Kaag, United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL)

Sinan Ülgen, visiting scholar at Carnegie Europe

Moderator: **Maha Yahya**, senior associate and acting director of Carnegie Middle East Center

11:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Coffee Break

11:45 – 1:30 p.m.

PANEL II | A PUSH TO THE FRINGE: EXPANDING A REGIONAL UNDERCLASS

Conflict-driven population movements are generating extensive socio-economic turmoil, not least of which is the dramatic impoverishment of large numbers of citizens, particularly in urban areas. Speakers on this panel will reflect on the challenges facing millions of internally displaced populations as well as the needs of refugees and host communities in terms of education, training,

health care, and employment. They will also consider the impact of the refugee crisis on social solidarity and assess policies that can mitigate the alarming expansion of informality and inequality, and evaluate options for host countries to turn the sudden influx of populations from a burden to an opportunity.

Ibrahim Awad, director of the Center of Migration and Refugee Studies at AUC

Jihad Azour, former Lebanese minister of finance

Tanya Chapuisat, UNICEF Lebanon Representative

Rabie Nasr, researcher and co-founder of the Syrian Center for Policy Research

Moderator: **Yezid Sayigh**, senior associate at Carnegie Middle East Center

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Lunch Break

2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

PANEL III | VOICES FROM THE FIELD

Municipalities, local governance councils, and national civil society organizations are often the first responders to the needs of migrating populations in duress. They are also at the front lines of engaging with the challenges facing refugees and host communities. Participants will report on their views from the field with regards to the distressed refugees and host communities and consider the specific actions critical to addressing their needs.

Samar Muhareb, co-founder and director of Arab Renaissance for Democracy & Development-Legal Aid

Şenay Özden, independent researcher and analyst on Syria and Turkey

Hussam Salim, activist and contributor to *Zahrat Nisan*

Dergham Touma, head of the municipality of Qubb Elias

Moderator: **Lamia Moubayed Bissat**, director of Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan

4:00 – 4:15 p.m.

Coffee Break

4:15 – 6:00 p.m.

PANEL IV | WHAT NEXT AFTER LONDON?

The London conference promised \$11 billion to countries that have taken in the largest number of refugees in the region, namely Turkey, Jordan, and Lebanon. While government strategies and white policy papers have been presented by respective governments, the modalities of this funding and of implementing projects remain in question. Speakers in this panel will discuss plans for addressing the refugee crisis after London and respond to the question of what needs to be done differently. The panel will also consider the mechanisms needed to enhance innovative public-private partnerships and business-government collaboration in dealing with the fallout of the crisis.

Mireille Girard, representative of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in Lebanon

Ziad Hayek, secretary general of the Higher Council for Privatization of the Republic of Lebanon

Shadi Karam, senior advisor to the Prime Minister

Omar Razzaz, chairman of the Al-Ahli Bank in Jordan

Moderator: **Ferid Belhaj**, director of the World Bank for Middle East and North Africa

DAY 2 | March 23, 2016

9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

PANEL V | INNOVATORS AND ENTREPRENEURS

With over 60 million people displaced from their homes across the globe, and an expanding wave of refugee and migration patterns, governments and international agencies have been under considerable strain to respond to an overwhelming quantity and range of needs. At the same time, entrepreneurs and innovators have stepped in to try and address some of the fallouts of the refugee crisis. Speakers at this panel will consider different roles that innovators and entrepreneurs are playing and the operational frameworks that could facilitate their work.

Markus Kreßler, co-founder of Kiron University, world class education for refugees

Loay Malahmeh, co-founder Refugee Open Ware, advanced technology for human rights in conflict zones

Abeer Seikaly, architect, artist, and cultural producer, designer of “Weaving our Home”

Ionna Theodorou, co-founder of StartupAid

Moderator: **Maha Yahya**, senior associate and acting director of Carnegie Middle East Center

11:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Coffee Break

11:30 – 1:00 p.m.

PANEL VI | EUROPE AND ITS OTHER (Organized with Carnegie Europe)

The large influx of refugees is placing European countries under considerable strain, posing a fundamental challenge to the very principle of the union of the Mediterranean advocated by the European Union prior to the crisis. Speakers will consider long term challenges posed by the refugee crisis including issues of identity and integration as well as more recent security-based questions both in terms of homeland security and foreign policy.

Yves Bertoncini, director of the Jacques Delors Institute in France

David Gardner, international affairs editor at the Financial Times

Martin Huth, Ambassador of Germany to Lebanon

Henriette Johansen, anthropologist and researcher, focusing on migration and the Middle East
Roderick Parkes, senior analyst at the European Union Institute for Security Studies

Moderator: **Sinan Ülgen**, visiting scholar at Carnegie Europe

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Lunch Break

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

PANEL VII | GOVERNING THE CRISIS: RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT OR RESPONSIBILITY TO RESOLVE

Conflicts of the twenty-first century are no longer inter-state. Rather they are taking place between government forces and non-state actors. This changing nature of conflict has a significant impact not only on the millions caught in the line of fire, but also on the means with which to respond to these conflicts. It also poses considerable questions about the adequacy of current international protection systems and the mechanisms available for the governance of the refugee crisis. Speakers at this panel will consider international and regional responsibility in protecting civilians as well as resolving conflicts. They will also reflect on the challenges of protracted displacement, options for stabilization and peace-building processes and the possibility of rights that are not contingent on political membership.

Sarah Cliffe, director of NYU's Center on International Cooperation

Tarek Mitri, director of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at AUB

Pierre Vimont, senior associate at Carnegie Europe

Hugo Brady, speechwriter to the President of the European Council, and visiting fellow at LSE

Moderator: **Marwan Muasher**, vice president for studies at Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.