



**Middle East Studies Association
53rd Annual Meeting
November 14-17**

Abountiful meeting program of more than 300 sessions (starts on page 12), a Book Bazaar (see page 4) featuring mountains of books brought to you by the people who publish your work, and an exciting FilmFest (sneak peak on page 9) await you at MESA's 53rd annual meeting in one of America's favorite cities, New Orleans. Rich in history, unparalleled in live music, a foodie's paradise, and around-the-clock nightlife make New Orleans magical. Gathering with friends and colleagues is priceless. Rather than extol the virtues of New Orleans here, we suggest you turn to page 6 for the insider's guide to the city by New Orleans native and MESA member Nabil Al-Tikriti.

MESA's affiliated associations and other groups will hold a majority of their events on Thursday, November 14 (see page 10). The first panel session will be on that day at 5:30pm and the meeting will conclude at the close of the last panel session on Sunday, November 17 at 3:30pm.

Registration

To preregister for the MESA 2019 annual meeting, complete the registration form located on the back page of this program and return it along with payment to the MESA Secretariat. If paying by credit card save a stamp and register online by logging into your myMESA account at <https://mesana.org/mymesa/login.php>. Preregistration is recommended as onsite registration rates are higher. The preregistration deadline is **October 24, 2019**.

Category	Preregistration	Onsite
full/associate	\$150	\$200
student/retired member	\$90	\$125
student non-member	\$120	\$150
General non-member	\$200	\$250

The best way to support your fellow meeting participants is to plan to depart New Orleans sometime Sunday afternoon or evening and to attend the many fine sessions that will be held on that day before you leave.

Finally, two requests. First, if you have the means, please book your stay at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel using the link on the hotel page on MESA's website and printed below. We need maximum bookings to meet our contractual obligations. Second, please support the companies that go to great expense to exhibit in the Book Bazaar, by visiting the Book Bazaar and buying a book. The book publishing enterprise faces a lot of challenges. It's in all of our interests to try to help keep it viable.



Sheraton New Orleans Hotel

500 Canal Street

New Orleans LA 70130

504-525-2500 • 888-627-7033

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/msyis-sheraton-new-orleans-hotel/>

Rates/Reservations

\$225 single/double
\$250 triple
\$275 quad



<https://book.passkey.com/e/49880909>
(plus room tax of 16.35% + \$3/night occupancy fee)

ALERT: Avoid Hotel Booking Scams

Housing companies or wholesalers NOT affiliated with MESA may contact attendees to book hotel rooms for the 2019 annual meeting. These companies may actually put people at risk for credit card and identity theft. If the hotel is almost sold out, MESA staff will let you know. Don't believe a thing these scammers say. We do not recommend doing business with them. All housing for the MESA 2019 annual meeting is handled through the link above.

Program

5:30-7:30PM Thursday November 14

000 5:30-7:30pm

Room TBA

5431 Legal Regimes of Refugee Settlement in the Middle East

Organized by **Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky**

Chair: **Reem Bailony**, Agnes Scott Col
Discussant: **Laura Robson**, Portland State U

Aslı Z. Igsiz, NYU—*Rethinking Politics of Expertise and Human Displacement in the Post-Second-World-War Era*

Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky, Furman U—*Making the Late Ottoman Refugee Regime*
Lauren Banko, Yale—*“Masquerading as Refugees”: The Absence of the Refugee in Interwar Palestine*

Ramazan Hakki Oztan, U Neuchatel—*Rethinking the Settlement Law of 1934 and the Kemalist Population Politics*

000 5:30-7:30pm

Room TBA

5433 Ottoman Political Economy in the Mediterranean

Organized by **Ellen M. Nye**

Chair: **Maurits Van Den Boogert**, Brill

Irena Fliter, U Goettingen—*The Commerce of the Camondos: Jewish Merchants between Ottoman and European Authorities in the Late Eighteenth Century*

Michael Talbot, U Greenwich—*Peaceful Commerce and the Abode of Holy War: Regulating Trade between Algiers and Western Europe in the Eighteenth Century*

Ellen M. Nye, Yale—*Ottoman Monetary Policy and the Shaping of Inter-Imperial Credit Relations at the Turn of the 18th Century*

000 5:30-7:30pm

Room TBA

5473 Ideologies, Political Formations, and Conflict in Kurdistan

Organized by **Huseyin Rasit**

Chair: **Vera Eccarius-Kelly**, Siena Col
Discussant: **Mehmet Gurses**, Florida Atlantic U

Morgan Tufan, Stanford—*Allegiance and Autonomy in Early Modern Kurdistan*

Arin Savran, Trinity Col Dublin—*The “Other” Middle East Peace Talks: A Conflict Transformation Perspective on the Peace Process between Turkey and the Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK), 2009-2015*

Kaner Turker, Clark U—*Assembling Community Economies in Northern Kurdistan*
Huseyin Rasit, Yale—*A Tale of Two Kurdistans: Ideological Structures and Political Formations in Kurdistan-Syria and Kurdistan-Iraq*

Cezary Blaszczyk, U Warsaw—*The Ideology of Democratic Confederalism and the Rule of Law*

000 5:30-7:30pm

Room TBA

5475 The Turkish War of Independence 1919-22

Organized by **Mesut Uyar**

Organized under the auspices of
Antalya Bilim U

Chair: **Virginia Aksan**, McMaster U

Mesut Uyar, Antalya Bilim U—*A Deadly Dilemma, Confronting or Embracing Defeat: The Ottomans in the Aftermath of the First World War*

Veysel Simsek, McGill U—*Mapping the Turkish Offensive in the War of Independence, August–September 1922*

Benjamin C. Fortna, U Arizona—*Kuḫcubaḫı Eḫref in the Turkish War of Independence*

Ibrahim Sani Mert, Antalya Bilim U—*Professional Military Education during the Turkish War of Independence*

000 5:30-7:30pm

Room TBA

Roundtable

5481 Advancing and Integrating Legal Scholarship in and on the Middle East

Organized by **Mai El-Sadany**

Organized under the auspices of
The Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy

Chair: **Nathan J. Brown**, George Washington U

Ghuna Bdiwi, York U

Mona Oraby, Amherst Col

Mai El-Sadany, Tahrir Inst for Middle East Policy

Allison McManus, Tahrir Inst for Middle East Policy

000 5:30-7:30pm

Room TBA

5483 Women in Lebanon: From Late Colonialism to Early Independence

Organized by **Ziad M. Abu-Rish** and **Nova Robinson**

Chair: **Tsolin Nalbantian**, Leiden U

Nadya J. Sbaiti, AUB—*A Single Source: Towards a Theory of Women’s Activism in Lebanon, 1930-1960*

Sana Tannoury-Karam, Arab Council for Social Sciences—*Demanding Political Rights, Challenging Democratic Principles: Emily Fares-Ibrahim and the Feminist Struggle for Suffrage in Mandate Lebanon*

Ziad M. Abu-Rish, Ohio U—*Getting the Vote: Suffrage and the Women’s Movement in Post-Independence Lebanon*

Nova Robinson, Seattle U—*Reaching Rural Women: The Village Welfare Society, Women’s Rights, and Development Discourse in Post-Independence Lebanon*

000 5:30-7:30pm

Room TBA

5491 From Libya to Lausanne: International Law, Diplomacy, and the Making of Ottoman Sovereignty in Wartime

Organized by **Pinar Odabasi Tasci** and **Kate Dannies**

Chair/Discussant: **Lale Can**, City Col of New York CUNY

Will Smiley, U New Hampshire—*A Question of Interest: The Russian Indemnities Arbitration and Its Eurasian Context*

Pinar Odabasi Tasci, U Akron—*Edirne during the Balkan Wars: Reclaiming Sovereignty and Utilizing Violence in the Ottoman Western Borderlands*

Kate Dannies, Miami U—*The 1917 Law of Family Rights and the Ottoman Quest for Sovereignty in World War I*

Aimee Genell, U West Georgia—*From the Legalist Empire to the Sovereign State: International Law at the Treaty of Lausanne*

I:30-3:30PM Sunday November 17

000 1:30-3:30pm

Room TBA

5683 Post-Ottoman Challenges to Imperialism

Organized by **Alp Yenen**

Chair: **Ramazan Hakki Oztan**, U Neuchatel
Discussant: **Houri Berberian**, UC Irvine

Sarah Khayati, U Basel—'L'Orient aux Orientaux': Middle Eastern Activists under International and National Surveillance in Interwar Switzerland

Remzi Çagatay Çakırlar, Leiden U - EHESS Paris—Anti-British Currents in Post-War Middle East: Transnational Encounters of Kemalists, Bolsheviks, and French Radicals

Alp Yenen, Leiden U—'Enver & Talaat & the CUP-Jew-German-Bolshevik Combination': Making Sense of Muslim Revolutionary Societies after World War I

000 1:30-3:30pm

Room TBA

5707 Leadership, Laws and Dissent in Tunisia and Algeria: The Perils of Elite Bargains, Legislating Dignity, and Shared Protest Modalities

Organized by **William Lawrence**

Azzedine Layachi, St. John's U—Gerontocracy, Elections, and the Politics of Muddling through in Algeria and Tunisia

Aymen Abderrahmen, Journalist—Transitional Injustice: Youth Disillusion and the Demise of Tunisia's Dignity Commission

Houda Mzioudet, Independent Scholar—Tunisia's Landmark Criminalization of Racism: From Denial to Liminal Visibility

William Lawrence, George Washington U—Borderline Disorder: Hybridities and Cross-border Connections in Algerian and Tunisian Popular Protest

000 1:30-3:30pm

Room TBA

5727 Eco-Criticism II

Chair: **Joel Beinin**, Stanford

Basma Fahoum, Stanford—Palestinian Peasants and Tobacco: Natural Cultivators, or Hindrance to Industry?

Dale Stahl, U Colorado Denver—A People Freed from Need: Security, Sustainability, and the State in Southeastern Anatolia

Ekin Kurtiç, Harvard—Built in the Landscape: Large Dam Construction and Expertise in Turkey

Damla Isik, Regis U—Peri-urban Imaginary as Resistance and Alternative: Slow City, Slow Food, and Women's Entrepreneurship in Seferihisar, Turkey

Hussam Hussein, U Kassel (Germany)—Water Politics in Jordan: Unpacking Discourses, Power, and Geopolitical Dynamics

000 1:30-3:30pm

Room TBA

5732 Literary Modernity and Civic Society

Carmen M.K. Gitre, Virginia Tech—Nonsense and Morality: Interwar Egypt and the Comedy of Najib al-Rihani

Michael Ernst, NYU—"Global" 1968 in Egypt: Radwa Ashour's "Faraq" and the Disarticulation of Area Studies

000 1:30-3:30pm

Room TBA

5736 Gender and Representations

Chair: **Onursal Erol**, U Chicago

Demet Gulcicek, U Warwick—Negotiations of Women's 'Iffet' and Nation's 'Namus': Femininities and Masculinities in the Late Ottoman Empire Modernization

Nazli Akhtari, U Toronto—Performing Digital and Archival: An Inquiry into (Trans) National Iranian Media Landscapes

Ozge Calafato, U Amsterdam—Posing for the Republic: Gender and Turkish Vernacular Photographs from the 1920s and 1930s

Eugene Riordan, Jr., UC Santa Barbara—Consuming Pornography, Eroticizing Violence, and Protecting Women to Reconstruct Israeli Masculinity

Meltem Safak, U Georgia—Identity Crisis and Male Hysteria in the Nineteenth Century Ottoman Novel

000 1:30-3:30pm

Room TBA

5751 Middle Eastern Communities in the US: National and Islamic Identities

Chair: **Kent Schull**, Binghamton U

Abdulkader Sinno, Indiana U—Muslim, Christian Arab and Chaldean Paths to Political Integration: Representation, Participation and Activism in Metro Detroit

Sean Widlake, Independent Scholar—Iranian Counterpublics: Social Media, Diaspora, and Changing Culture

Afsane Rezaei, Ohio State U—Framing and Affect in Faith-Based Gatherings of Iranian Women in Southern California

Ehsan Estiri, Ohio State U—Talking to America: How Iranian Public Events in Los Angeles Respond to American Political and Media Discourses

Lydia Yousief, U Chicago—Mapping Community and Its Implications: A Case Study of Copts in Nashville

000 1:30-3:30pm

Room TBA

5753 Colonial Politics, Practices, and Perspectives

Chair: **James H. Sunday**, Johns Hopkins U

Heidi Walcher, University of Munich (LMU)—About Prostitution and Syphilis in 19th Century Iran: Inquiring into J. E. Polak's Report of 1861

Arman Azimi, Graduate Center CUNY—Refining Iran: Education, Health, Leisure, and the Civilizing Mission of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company in Iran, 1907-1951

Youssef Yacoubi, Seton Hall U—Mapping New Directions in Middle Eastern Studies: Democratizing Post-colonial Theory

Maysam Taher, NYU—Carceral Thresholds: Confinement and Deportation in the Afterlives of Colonialism