

Mona N. Khneisser

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Fields of Research and Expertise:

Social movements; collective action and organization; civil society; social justice; political economy; social inequalities; political participation; politicization of civil society.

Educational Background:

- 2019- : Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Sociology Illinois, USA
University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign
- 2015-17: Master of Arts (MA) degree in Sociology Beirut, Lebanon
American University of Beirut
Dean's Honor List
Thesis Title: The Specter of Politics and Antinomies of Collective Organization:
The Development of 'Alternative' Collective Organization & Action in Lebanon
(2015-2017): Case of *al-Hirak*, 'Beirut Madinati' & 'Sabaa.'
- 2012-15: Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Sociology and Anthropology Beirut, Lebanon
American University of Beirut
Dean's Honor List
- 2012: Lebanese Baccalaureate, Life Sciences Rabieh, Lebanon
Jesus & Mary School

Working Experience:

- Jan. 2018- Beirut, Lebanon
May 2019: **Part-time Instructor**
Courses: Introduction to Sociology
Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Media Studies,
American University of Beirut
- Dec. 2018 Beirut, Lebanon
July 2019 **Senior Research Assistant**
Asfari Institute for Civil Society & Citizenship
American University of Beirut
- May 2017- Beirut, Lebanon
Dec. 2018: **Part-time Researcher**
Arab Forum for Alternatives
- March 2018- Beirut, Lebanon
Sept. 2018: **Project Coordinator**
Civil Society Actors & Policymaking Program
Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy & International Affairs
American University of Beirut

Sept. 2017- Feb. 2018:	Research Assistant Civil Society Actors & Policymaking Program Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy & International Affairs American University of Beirut	Beirut, Lebanon
Sept 2015- May 2017:	Graduate Research Assistant Department of Sociology American University of Beirut	Beirut, Lebanon
July 2015- Nov 2015:	Intern Research Assistant United Nations Development Program, Regional Office	Beirut, Lebanon

Selected Publications:

- 2018 **The Marketing of Protest and Antinomies of Collective Organization in Lebanon.** Critical Sociology, SAGE. First published online.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920518792069>
- 2019 **The Specter of ‘Politics’ & Antinomies of ‘Alternative’ Political Representation & Articulation: Lebanese ‘Civil Society’ & the Contentions of Contemporary Politics.** Critical Sociology, SAGE.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0896920519830756>
- 2019 **‘Civil Societies’ & the Arab Uprisings- Prospects for Socio-Political Change: A Comparative Analysis of the Ongoing Tunisian & Egyptian Plight.** In Nasser Yassin & Robert Hobbe (Eds.) *Women, Civil Society and Policy Change in the Arab World*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Policy Papers:

- January 2018 **Examining Sexual Harassment Draft Laws in Lebanon: Women’s Equal Right to Public Space.** Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, (AUB), Beirut, Lebanon.
http://website.aub.edu.lb/ifi/publications/Documents/policy_memos/2017-2018/20180121_sexual_harassment_draft_laws_lebanon.pdf

Seminars, Workshops and Conferences:

- March 2019 Presented a paper on **Sectarian States and the Building of Alternatives: Popular Protests and Electoral Politics in Iraq and Lebanon**, in *Alternative Futures & Popular Protests*. Manchester, UK
- Nov. 2018 Presented a paper on **‘The ‘Hirak’ in Lebanon and** Beirut, Lebanon

‘fighting corruption’ (Arabic), in a conference organized by the Arab Forum for Alternatives and the Arab Anti-Corruption Organization.

- Nov. 2018: Presented my MA thesis on **The Development of ‘Alternative’ Collective Organization & Action in Lebanon (2015-2017): Case of *al-Hirak, Beirut Madinati & Sabaa***, in a talk organized by Dammeh Co-op. Beirut, Lebanon
- Sept. 2018: Presented a paper on **‘Recommendations for Donors, International Organizations & Civil Society in the Arab World’** in a conference organized by the Arab Forum for Alternatives and Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy & International Affairs, AUB. Beirut, Lebanon
- June 2018: Attended a two-weeks training workshop, **‘Arab Social Activism Program.’** Organized by the Asfari Institute for Civil Society & Citizenship, American University of Beirut. Beirut, Lebanon
- Jan. 2018: Attended a three-day training on **‘Proposal Writing & Research Design in Social Sciences in the Arab World.’** Organized by Arab Families Working Group and the Arab Council for Social Sciences. Amman, Jordan
- Jan. 2018: Presented a paper on **“The Development of ‘Alternative’ Collective Organization & Action in Lebanon,”** in a conference organized by the Lebanese Sociological Association in collaboration with Jadaliyaa and the Sociology Dept. at AUB. Beirut, Lebanon
- May 2017: Presented a paper on **“The Political Participation of Women & Youth in Municipal Election: Case of ‘Beirut Madinati’” (Arabic).** Organized by Arab Forum for Alternatives and Swedish Institute in Alexandria. Beirut, Lebanon
- Nov. 2017: Conducted a four-days training in the **‘Workshop on Alternative Economy,’** presenting the case of Lebanon. Organized by Rosa Luxemburg and Arab Forum for Alternatives. Tunis, Tunisia

Awards & Skills:

Academics & Awards:

- Illinois Distinguished Fellowship (three-year fellowship) (2019)
- The Selma Mirshak and Mohsen Slim award for graduate students in Sociology (2017)
- Graduate Fund for Masters degree from the Karim Makdisi Memorial Fund at Issam Fares Institute of Public Policy and International Affairs (AUB).
- Graduate Scholarship for Masters degree from the Department of Sociology at AUB (2015-2017)

Languages:

- Outstanding in Arabic written, read and spoken
- Outstanding in English written, read and spoken
- Competent in French, written, read and spoken
- Primary in German, A1 level at Goethe Institute

Software:

- Trained in SPSS, NetDraw, UCINET
- NVivo for Qualitative Research

Activities:

- Oct 2016/ Oct 2017: Graduate Students' Representative in the Student Representative Committee at AUB.
- Participated in the Model United Nations' (M.U.N) training
- Volunteered in the Lebanese Red Cross- Emergency Services
- Volunteered in The Focolari Movement
- Volunteered in Baytouna Hospital and Shelter for elderly care

References:

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|---------------------------|---|
| Dr. Asef Bayat | Professor of Sociology
Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Sociology, University of Illinois, Urbana
Champaign, USA
abayat@illinois.edu |
| Dr. Sari Hanafi | President of the International Sociological Association (ISA).
Professor of Sociology
Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Media Studies at the
American University of Beirut, Lebanon
sh41@aub.edu.lb |
| Dr. Rima Majed | Assistant Professor of Sociology
Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Media Studies (AUB)
rm138@aub.edu.lb |
| Dr. Nikolas Kosmatopoulos | Assistant Professor of International Affairs and Anthropology
Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Media Studies (AUB)
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