



CARMEN GEHA

Assistant Professor

Political Studies and Public Administration Department

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

American University of Beirut

P.O. Box 11-0236

Riad El Solh

Beirut, Lebanon 1107-2020

Email: cg10@aub.edu.lb

Telephone: +961 3 513907

EDUCATION

- 2010 – 2014** **University of St. Andrews – Scotland, UK**
PhD, International Relations
Dissertation: “Explaining the Constraints on Political Reform and Civil Society: Path Dependence and ‘Partially’ Critical Junctures in Lebanon and Libya”
- June 2012** **Brown International Advanced Research Institutes, Brown University**
Institute of Population and Development Studies
- 2006 – 2008** **American University of Beirut**
MA, Public Administration (emphasis in Human Resource Management)
Awarded Graduate Assistantship
Thesis: “Freedom of Information: The Gap between Citizen and State”
- 2008** **Tufts University**
Fletcher Summer Institute
Advanced Study of Non-violent Conflict
- 2008** **Georgetown University**
Semester Abroad, Public Policy
- 2006 – 2008** **American University of Beirut**
BA, Public Administration (minor Political Studies)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Politics and power-sharing institutions,
- Civil society and political mobilization,
- Women political participation and representation.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2018-2018 Fellow

Summer Program for Social Sciences
Institute for Advanced Study

Assistant Professor for Public Administration (2016 - present)

Political Studies and Public Administration Department (PSPA), American University of Beirut

- Teaching interests: public management, organizational development, public sector reform, civic engagement, digital activism...
- Research focus: the political aspects of public sector and policy reform.
- University roles: advisory on research task forces, service learning committees, PSPA creation of new minor, departmental brown bags...

Visiting Scholar (Spring 2018)

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University

- Research focus: Politics of the Syrian refugee crisis in Lebanon; foreign funded civic education and women empowerment programs; protest and social network analysis.

Academic Technical Coordinator (2016 – 2017)

Leaders for Democracy Fellows, American University of Beirut and World Learning

- Design of a five-week academic non-degree program for students aged 25-40 on leadership and democracy in the Arab region.
- Create first Arabic curriculum on leadership and democracy comprising of over 45 sessions and engaging academic and non-academic speakers.
- Reporting on learning outcomes, progress and recommendations.

Visiting Assistant Professor for Public Administration (2014 –2016)

Political Studies and Public Administration Department (PSPA), American University of Beirut

- Course design and teaching of:
 - PSPA 202: Introduction to Public Administration
 - PSPA 222: Civic Engagement, Leadership and Democracy
 - PSPA 275: Organizational Management
 - PSPA 299: Internship Program

Visiting Scholar (Summer 2015)

Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University

- Research focus: electoral politics and power-sharing systems, the notion of citizenship in Islam, women and active citizenship.
- Facilitator of the Institute of Ethnicity and Conflict at the Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI).
- Speaker at BIARI alumni conference.

Instructor (2010 – 2014)

Political Studies and Public Administration Department, American University of Beirut

- Course design and teaching of:
 - PSPA 202: Introduction to Public Administration
 - PSPA 222: Civic Engagement, Leadership and Democracy
 - PSPA 289 (special topics): Citizenship and Civic Participation

Lecturer (Spring 2011)

Political Science department, Haigazian University

- Course design and teaching of: PLS216: Active Citizenship (theoretical background and application of ‘active’ citizenship framework in the case of Lebanon).

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Book: *Civil Society and Political Reform in Lebanon and Libya: Transition and Constraint* (2016: Routledge Press).

Journal articles:

Geha, Carmen, and Frédéric Volpi. "Constitutionalism and political order in Libya 2011–2014: three myths about the past and a new constitution." *The Journal of North African Studies* 21, no. 4 (2016): 687-706.

"Understanding Arab civil society: functional validity as the missing link." *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* (2018): 1-16.

Academic reviewer for: *Mediterranean Politics*, *International Journal of Public Leadership*, the *Romanian Journal for Political Science*...

Recent non-academic publications:

- “Political Crisis as an Opportunity,” The Daily Star <https://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Lebanon-News/2018/Jun-01/451565-political-crisis-as-an-opportunity.ashx>
- “The Patriarchy Problem,” Executive Magazine <http://www.executive-magazine.com/opinion/the-patriarchy-problem>
- “A New Hope,” Executive Magazine <http://www.executive-magazine.com/author/carmen-geha>
- “Understanding Libya’s Civil Society,” Middle East Institute <http://www.mei.edu/content/map/understanding-libya-s-civil-society>

- “*The Syrian Refugee Crisis and Lebanon’s Endemic Deadlocks: Trading Reform for Resilience*,” Middle East Institute <http://www.mei.edu/content/map/syrian-refugee-crisis-and-lebanon%E2%80%99s-endemic-deadlocks-trading-reform-resilience>.
- “*The Syrian Refugee Crisis is a Political Issue*,” The Daily Star <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/Opinion/Commentary/2016/Jul-25/363784-the-syrian-refugee-crisis-is-a-political-issue.ashx>.
- “*Reflections on Protest in a Sectarian System*,” The Daily Star <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/Article.aspx?id=368291&link=Opinion/Commentary/2016/Aug-22/368291-reflections-on-protests-in-sectarian-system.ashx>.
- “Guide to Solid Waste Management,” contributing author, American University of Beirut.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Committee Chair, co-curricular component review, MEPI Tomorrow’s Leaders
- Conference Co-Convener <https://website.aub.edu.lb/fas/wgs/Pages/Feminism-in-Crisis-Gender-and-the-Arab-Public-Sphere.aspx>
- Steering committee member for new MA program with Asfari Institute
- Elected Member of the University Student Faculty Committee (USFC)
- Member of the Women and Gender Studies Committee at FAS
- 2016 member of Strategic Planning team, committee to “Revitalize the Humanities”
- Co-facilitator of donor workshop at the Strategic Health Initiatives conference on “Rebuilding Health Post-conflict
- Member of the AUB for Refugees initiative
- Lecturer at the University for Seniors (Spring 2017)
- Coordinator of my department’s student internship program
- Co-organizer of Brown Bags at PSPA department
- Social media co-coordinator at PSPA department

RESEARCH GRANTS & AWARDS

- Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) grant to study the impact of various models for refugee education in Lebanon, Kenya and Uganda.
- University Research Board (URB) grant to study Lebanese power-sharing politics and the Syrian refugee crisis.
- Knowledge is Power (KIP) grant to study the participation and representation of women in politics in Lebanon.
- Nature Conservation Center at AUB grant to study power-sharing, local governance and waste management crisis.

- 2017 Faculty Development Grant to present a paper at a workshop on Deconstructing Statehood, Naples – Italy.
- 2016 Faculty Development Grant to present a paper at the European Consortium for Political Research annual conference, Pisa – Italy.
- 2015 fellowship grant for a Visiting Scholar summer position from the Brown International Advanced Research Institutes, Brown University.
- Scholarship to attend a semester of public policy courses at Georgetown University from the Fund for American Studies.

(SELECTED) CONFERENCE PAPERS

“Political Agency despite Co-optation: Protest Movements in Lebanon’s Power-sharing system,” presented at Deconstructing Unitary Statehood Conference, May 2017, University of Naples – Italy.

“Challenges to Mass Mobilization in Power-sharing Systems: The Lebanese Garbage Protests,” presented at the European Consortium for Political Research annual conference, April 2016 Pisa – Italy.

“Protests, Threat and Co-optation in Lebanon,” presented at Issam Fares Institute Conference: Five Years after the Arab Spring, January 2016, Beirut –Lebanon.

“The Traps of Civil Society in a Sectarian Power-sharing System: The Case of Lebanon,” presented at the Brown International Advanced Research Institutes, June 2015, Rhode Island – USA.

“Civil Society Disrupted: Libya’s Challenging Path to Constitutional Development,” presented at the Issam Fares Institute conference on “(Re)Making Libya: Four Years after the Revolution,” April 2015, Beirut – Lebanon.

“Appraising the Process of Constitutional Development in Libya (2011-2013),” presented at the Asfari Institute for Citizenship and Civil Society Annual Conference, February 2015, Beirut – Lebanon.

“The Dilemmas of Reform in a Sectarian Power-sharing System,” presented at the annual conference of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), March 2014, Washington DC – USA.

“Constraints to Electoral Reform in Lebanon: Administrative and Political Dimensions,” presented at the annual conference of the Association for Middle Eastern Policy and Administration (AMEPPA), November 2013, Ankara – Turkey

“Constitutionalism and Political Order in Libya: Three Myths and the New Constitution,” presented at conference of ‘Constituting the Middle East,’ by Center for Global Constitutionalism and British School in Rome, British Academy, May 2013, London – UK.

“Libya’s Emerging Civil Society: New Opportunities and Challenges for Civic Activism,” presented at conference by the Center for Advanced Study of the Arab World (CASAW), December 2012, Tunisia.

“Decentralization Reform in a Sectarian State: A Roadmap,” presented at the annual conference of the British Society for Middle East Studies (BRISMES), June 2011, Exeter University – UK.

“Civil Society Activism in Lebanon: Are NGOs Gaining Leverage?” presented at Mediterranean Research Meeting at the European University Institute, March 2011, Florence – Italy.

(SELECTED) TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

“Building Alternatives? Civil Society and the Lebanese Elections,” Fares Center for East Mediterranean Studies, Tufts University, April 2018 (invited public lecture).

“Women in Politics: AUB-New York Briefing,” American University of Beirut New York Headquarters, March 2018 (available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2246TRGNeOg>)

“Power-sharing and Informal Institutions: Understanding Lebanon’s (Non)Policy Response to the Syrian Refugee Crisis,” Bobst Center, Princeton University, March 2018 (invited public lecture).

“Women Political Empowerment: Insights from Lebanon,” Middle East Initiative, Harvard University, February 2018 (invited public lecture).

“The Role of Universities in Addressing the Political Facets of the Syrian Refugee Crisis in Lebanon,” presented at the conference on Universities Responding to the Refugee Crisis, AUB, November 2017.

“Pedagogies of Donor Funded Active Citizenship Programs in the MENA Region,” Peace Research Center, Oslo – Norway, May 2017 (invited closed lecture).

“The Origins of Sexism: A Political Studies Perspective,” presented at interdisciplinary panel on sexism at the Knowledge is Power Conference, AUB, March 2017.

“The Role of Civil Society Leaders during Conflict: the Case of Libya,” presented at panel on Academic Research in Conflict by the Afari Institute, AUB, March 2016.

“The Role of Civil Society in Lebanon after 2005: Shrinking Civic Spaces Project on Middle East Democracy (invited closed lecture), Washington DC, June 2015.

“Teaching Civic Education: Opportunities and Challenges in the MENA,” presented at American Society for Public Administration annual conference, Forum on Public Management Practice, Washington DC, March 2014.

“Media Performance during Electoral Campaigns in Lebanon,” Bali Media conference, organized by Bali Media Forum and Thomson Reuters Foundation office, Bali – Indonesia, November 2013 (invited public lecture).

“The Role of Youth in Political Parties and Elections in Lebanon: Recommendations to Enhance the Participation of Youth,” presented at event for International Day for Democracy in the Lebanese Parliament, organized by United Nations Development Program, September 2013.

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

United Nations Development Program, Myanmar

- Designing and implementing a feasibility study for the integration of social cohesion modules into the curricula of academic institutions under the Ministry of Border Affairs

Columbia University Global Centers, Istanbul

- Designing and facilitating a five day leadership retreat for Syrian women leading non-profit organizations in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey, with the support of Asfari Foundation.

UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

- Short-term Research Consultant for an evaluation of ESCWA top publications; created an evaluation matrix and criteria to assess quality, relevance and impact of 40 publications.

Business Development Manager (2013-2014)

Beyond Reform & Development

- Developed and implemented business development strategy.
- Designed proposals, products and services for targeted clients.
- Opened up representation with German partner to work on EU-MENA issues.

Founder and Consultant in Public Administration and Development (2010 – 2014)

Beyond Reform & Development

- Specializing in policy research, public management consulting and capacity development.
- Consulting and advising public institutions, UN agencies, international organizations, civil society and political groups.

- Managed projects on public sector reform, civil society, elections, constitutional development, entrepreneurship, and women's issues in Lebanon, Tunisia, Libya, Jordan, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia among others.

Sample policy and public management projects (2010 – 2014):

- **Gender Specialist** for United Nations Development Program in Libya on special measures for women within the Libyan constitution.
- **Elections Expert for Al Nahda Association for Women** on a national education program for first-time voters in Saudi Arabia.
- **Entrepreneurship Consultant** for Relief International on a women widows association and income generation project in Iraq.
- **Policy Consultant** for United Nations Development Program and International Center for Non-profit Law on drafting Libya's first law for NGOs and voluntary associations.
- **Dialogue Specialist** with the Forum for Democratic Libya and United Nations Development Program on grassroots dialogue project in 15 cities for Libya's new constitution.
- **Citizenship Education Expert** for a two year grassroots capacity building program on Active Citizenship with the Forum for Democratic Libya.
- **Research Specialist** on the role of youth and challenges faced in political parties and elections in Lebanon for United Nations Development Program.
- **Research Specialist** with International Alert developing policy briefs and reports on state of Security Institutions and Security Sector Reform prospects in Lebanon.
- **Elections expert** for national voter education programs targeting first time voters in the Gulf.
- **Organizational Development Consultant** to the National Commission for Lebanese Women to assist in restructuring process, human resource development, and strategy development.
- **Decentralization Expert** for Safer World project in Lebanon to empower municipalities and assist them in response to Syrian refugees.
- **Social Cohesion Consultant** for UNDP project with 24 vulnerable municipalities to enable localities to address tensions between Lebanese and Syrian refugees.
- **Civil Society Expert** for European Union (South program) to map, identify needs, and develop recommendations for EU strategy towards civil society organizations across Lebanon.
- **Public Management Consultant** for Relief International on local economic development needs and decentralization priorities for 137 municipalities across Lebanon.
- **Training Specialist** on young women's political representation and leadership skills in Iraq with the National Democratic Institute.
- **Election Observation Expert** for Tunisia's parliamentary elections in 2011 with coalition of local NGOs.

External Service and Public Engagement

Member of the National Commission for Lebanese Women

- Active on committee to enhance the role of women in politics and in decision making
- Head of committee on restructuring and organizational development

Founding member of Beirut Madinaty

- Member of the electoral program team
- Supported training representatives and election-day violations reporting

-References available upon request-