

1st Summer School on Internal Displacement in the Middle East ***“Crisis, Displacement and Protection”*** **20-24 June 2022**

Overview

This five-day Summer School offers up to 40 participants from academia, government and civil society in the Middle East a firm understanding of the crisis of internal displacement in the region. Focusing on countries with protracted internal displacement dynamics, the School addresses the situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the Middle East, the challenges that this issue presents, key elements of the humanitarian and development response and the legal and policy frameworks, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on IDPs.

Set-up

The School is as a distance-education project by three specialised research institutions, drawing collaboratively on their respective fields of expertise. The programme encompasses both introductory and specialized sessions, and promotes interaction between participants and Guest Lecturers, who are leading experts from both academia and the humanitarian sector. The School runs entirely online in English and is free for the selected participants.

The School’s objectives are to:

- Foster an interactive understanding of internal displacement in the Middle East;
- Promote an interdisciplinary approach, drawing on migration and refugee studies;
- Raise awareness of how intersecting contexts shape the situation of IDPs in the region;
- Support analysis of how law, policy and practice shape IDP protection and solutions;
- Identify key challenges and opportunities for addressing IDP challenges in the region.

Format

The Summer School will take place over five (5) half-days during the week commencing 20 June 2022. It will comprise ten (10) sessions that will take place via Zoom. Participants thus need to ensure that they have access to a computer and reliable internet connection during that time.

See below for the draft programme for the School sessions. It is subject to change without prior notification. Some pre-reading by participants may be required for the sessions.

Participants who actively participate in at least eight of the ten interactive sessions of the School, and complete a short piece of written work within two months of the finishing the taught sessions, will receive a Certificate of Completion signed by the Co-Directors.

Application/Selection

Only 40 places are available on the Summer School, such that admission is competitive. To apply for a place, send an email to rid@sas.ac.uk with the following PDF attachments, in English: a brief CV (max. 3 pages); and a covering letter explaining your motivation (max. 500 words). The deadline for applications is Friday 8 April 2022.

Only people living/ working in the Middle East are eligible for the School. We particularly welcome applications from academics, officials and civil society, as well as IDPs and others living in countries affected by internal displacement, and students who provide evidence of completing our free introductory '[Internal Displacement, Conflict and Protection](#)' online course on Coursera. Participants will be selected by the School Co-Directors, whose decision is final.

Co-Directors

- *Dr. Hana Asfour* - Lead, Middle East Research Network on Internal Displacement
- *Dr. Jasmin Lilian Diab* - Director, Institute for Migration Studies, School of Arts and Sciences, Lebanese American University
- *Prof. David Cantor* - Director, Internal Displacement Research Programme, Refugee Law Initiative, School of Advanced Study, University of London

Programme (provisional)

All times correspond to Beirut, Lebanon

Day 1	Opening and Introduction (20 June)
9.30 – 10.00	1. Welcome and Introduction: Dr. Jasmin Lilian Diab, Lebanese American University Keynote Speech: Cecilia Jimenez Damary, UN Special Rapporteur on IDPs BREAK (15 minutes)
10.15 - 11.30	2. What are IDPs, and where are they located in the Middle East? Dr. Hana Asfour, MERNID
Day 2	Insights from the Field (21 June)
9.30 – 10.45	1. Providing Protection on the Field: The Role of UN Agencies and INGOs (the Case of Afghanistan) Dr. Hedayat Siddiqi, Co-founder and Director, Bilim Organization for Research and Social Studies, Kabul- Afghanistan

11.00 - 12.15	<p>BREAK (15 minutes)</p> <p>2. Political Will and Conflict: The Role of Governments in Providing Protection (the Case of Afghanistan) Dr. Hedayat Siddiqi, Co-founder and Director, Bilim Organization for Research and Social Studies, Kabul- Afghanistan</p>
Day 3	Gendered and Developmental Approaches to Internal Displacement (22 June)
9.30 – 10.45	<p>1. IDPs and Development Greta Zeender, IDP expert</p> <p>BREAK (15 minutes)</p>
11.00 - 12.15	<p>2. Gender-specific Implications of Internal Displacement Dr. Jasmin Lilian Diab, Lebanese American University</p>
Day 4	International Law and Internal Displacement (23 June)
9.30 – 10.45	<p>1. International Legal Instruments Governing Internal Displacement Dr. Mhd Ekbal Anak, MERNID</p> <p>BREAK (15 minutes)</p>
11.00 - 12.15	<p>2. Why Does “IDP Law” Matter? Prof. David Cantor, University of London</p>
Day 5	Internal Displacement and Barriers to Access (24 June)
9.30 – 10.45	<p>1. Disaster Displacement: The Case of the Beirut Blast Dr. Fadi Nicholas Nassar, Lebanese American University</p> <p>BREAK (15 minutes)</p>
11.00 - 12.15	<p>2. The Impact of COVID-19 on Internal Displacement: Cases from the MENA Region Ms. Rasha Kaloti, Independent Global Health Researcher</p>
12.15 - 12.30	<p>CLOSING REMARKS (5 minutes) Jasmin, David and Hana</p>