

FIDA KARAM

Associate Professor of Economics

Department of Economics and Finance
Gulf University for Science and Technology
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Born: July 16, 1982
Citizenship: Lebanese
Marital status: Married, 1 child

and

Research Fellow, ERF (Economic Research Forum), Cairo

EDUCATION

- June 2009 **Ph.D in Economics** (*with high distinction*)
Paris School of Economics, University of Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne.
Thesis under the supervision of Professor **Lionel Fontagné**.
Title: “*Migration and Economic Development: A Computable General Equilibrium Approach of the Moroccan Case*”.
- Committee: Prof. O. Cadot (HEC Lausanne), Prof. G. Capelle-Blancard (University of Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne), Pr. J. de Melo (University of Geneva), Pr. B. Decaluwé (Laval University), Pr. L. Fontagné (University of Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne), Dr. S. Jean (Research Director at INRA).
- 2004-2005 **Master Degree in International/Development Economics**
Paris School of Economics, University of Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne.
- 2000-2004 **Bachelor in Economics**
Lebanese University, Beirut. (with high distinction)

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- Nov 2015 – Associate Professor, Department of Economics and Finance,
Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST), Kuwait.
- Aug 2018 – Research Fellow, **ERF (Economic Research Forum), Cairo.**
Member of the Advisory Committee to the ERF BOT since 2020.

Feb 18-Aug 19	Chair, Gulf Financial Center, Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST), Kuwait.
Jan 14-Aug 17	Head, Department of Economics and Finance, Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST), Kuwait.
Sept 12-Jan 14	Coordinator of the Economics Program and Assistant Head, Department of Economics and Finance, Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST), Kuwait.
Mars 11-Aug 18	Research Associate, ERF (Economic Research Forum), Cairo.
Sept 09-Oct 15	Assistant Professor, Department of Economics and Finance, Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST), Kuwait.
Oct.05-Aug 09	Research Scholar and Teaching Assistant, University of Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne, France.

COURSES TAUGHT

GUST	Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 101), Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 102), Business Statistics (ECON 380), Practicum in Business & MIS (CBA 440), Summer Internship (CBA 441), Economics for Managers (ECON 503, MBA) and Statistical Analysis for Management Decisions (ECON 580, MBA).
Univ. of Paris 1	International Trade and Multinational Firms (MS), GAMS General Algebraic Modeling System (MS), Open Macroeconomics (MS) and International Trade (BS).

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International trade, trade policy, trade in services, migration, computable general equilibrium models, development economics, microfinance.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. “On women participation and empowerment in international trade: Impact on trade margins in the MENA region” (joint with Chahir Zaki), *The Journal of International Trade & Economic Development*, 2021, **30:3**, 384-406.
2. “A New Dawn for MENA Firms: Service Trade Liberalization for More Competitive Exports” (joint with Chahir Zaki), *Applied Economics*, 2020, **52(1)**, 19-35.
3. “Why Don’t MENA Countries Trade More? The Curse of Deficient Institutions” (joint with Chahir Zaki), *The Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance*, 2019, **73**, 56-77.

4. “How Did Wars Dampen Trade in the MENA region?” (joint with Chahir Zaki), *Applied Economics*, 2016, **48:60**, 5909-5930.
5. “Trade Volume and Economic Growth in the MENA Region: Goods or Services?” (joint with Chahir Zaki), *Economic Modelling*, 2015, **45**, 22-37.
6. “Insider Trading With Product Differentiation” (joint with Wassim Daher, Harun Aydilek and Asiye Aydilek), *Journal of Economics*, 2014, **111**, 173-201.
7. “On The Determinants Of Trade In Services: Evidence From The MENA Region” (joint with Chahir Zaki), *Applied Economics*, 2013, **45:33**, 4626-4640.
8. “Insider Trading In A Two-Tier Real Market Structure Model” (joint with Wassim Daher), *The Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance*, 2013, **53**, 44-52.
9. “Insider Trading with Different Market Structures” (joint with Wassim Daher and Leonard J. Mirman), *International Review of Economics and Finance*, 2012, **24**, 143-154.
10. “Trade Liberalisation And The Skill Composition Of Migrant Flows: The Case Of Morocco”, *The Journal of North African Studies*, 2011, **16(3)**, 445-464.
11. “Is International Migration A Cure For Moroccan Unemployment?” (joint with Bernard Decaluwé), *The Journal of North African Studies*, 2010, **15(4)**, 497-520.
12. “When Migrant Remittances Are Not Everlasting, How Can Morocco Make Up?” *The Review of Middle East Economics and Finance*, 2010, **6(1)**, Article 1.

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. “Trade and economic growth in the MENA region: Do trade in goods and trade in services differ in their impact on growth?” (joint with Chahir Zaki), (2021), Chapter 10, pp. 165-185, In *The Routledge Handbook on the Middle East Economy*, Edited by Hassan Hakimian,

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. “When gender matters for exports by MENA firms” (joint with Chahir Zaki), 2021, ERF Policy Portal, the Forum. <https://theforum.erf.org.eg/2021/01/04/gender-matters-exports-mena-firms/>

WORKING PAPERS

1. “On Trade Policy and Workers’ Transition between the Formal and Informal Sectors: An application to the MENA Region in the Time of COVID-19?” (joint with Chahir Zaki), ERF Working Paper No. 1628, 2023.
2. “On women participation and empowerment in international trade: Impact on trade margins in the MENA region” (joint with Chahir Zaki), ERF Working Paper No. 1425, 2020.
3. “A New Dawn for MENA Firms: Service Trade Liberalization for More Competitive Exports” (joint with Chahir Zaki), ERF Working Paper No. 1296, 2019.

4. “Why Don’t MENA Countries Trade More? The Curse of Bad Institutions” (joint with Chahir Zaki), ERF Working Paper No. 1148, 2017.
5. “Why Can’t MENA Countries Trade More? The Curse of Bad Institutions” (joint with Chahir Zaki), AGRODEP Working Paper No. 0037, 2016.
6. “How Did Wars Dampen Trade in the MENA Region?” (joint with Chahir Zaki), ERF Working Paper No. 933, 2015.
7. “Trade Volume and Economic Growth in the MENA Region: Goods or Services?” (joint with Chahir Zaki), ERF Working Paper No. 825, 2014.
8. “On the Determinants of Trade in Services: Evidence from the MENA Region” (joint with Chahir Zaki), ERF Working Paper No. 692, 2012.
9. “Trade Liberalization And The Skill Composition Of Migrant Flows: The Case Of Morocco”, ERF Working Paper No. 595, 2011.
10. “Migration Impact On Moroccan Unemployment: A Static Computable General Equilibrium Analysis” (joint with Bernard Decaluwé), CES Working Papers 2008.52, 2008.
11. “Trade Liberalization Under Different CGE Structures” (joint with Bernard Decaluwé), 2006, *mimeo*.

WORK IN PROGRESS

1. “On Trade Policy and Workers’ Transition between the Formal and Informal Sectors: An application to the MENA Region in the Time of COVID-19?” (joint with Chahir Zaki), **submitted**.
2. “Insider Trading with Information Sharing: The Stackelberg Case” (joint with Wassim Daher)
3. “When Trade Agreements Are Gender-Friendly: Evidence from Firm-Level Data” (joint with Chahir Zaki).

SELECTED CONFERENCES

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| 2023 | 43rd Annual Meeting of the Middle East Economic Association (MEEA), Allied Social Science Associations ASSA, New Orleans, LA, USA. |
| 2022 | 28th Annual Conference of the Economic Research Forum (ERF, conducted exceptionally online through webinars due to COVID-19) |
| 2021 | 41th Annual Meeting of the Middle East Economic Association (MEEA), Allied Social Science Associations ASSA (conducted exceptionally online through webinars due to COVID-19). |
| 2020 | 26th Annual Conference of the Economic Research Forum (ERF, conducted exceptionally online through webinars due to COVID-19) |
| 2018 | Eighth International Conference on Economics, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

24th Annual Conference of the Economic Research Forum (ERF), Cairo, Egypt. |

- 2017** 37th Annual Meeting of the Middle East Economic Association (MEEA), Allied Social Science Associations ASSA, Chicago, USA.
- 23rd Annual Conference of the Economic Research Forum (ERF), Amman, Jordan.
- The 3rd MENA Trade Workshop - Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo, Egypt.
- Workshop of the Course Design Institute facilitated by the University of Missouri Saint-Louis, GUST, Kuwait.
- 2015** 14th International Conference of the Middle East Economic Association (MEEA), Hammamat, Tunisia.
- 21st Annual Conference of the Economic Research Forum (ERF), Gammarth, Tunisia.
- Fourth Joint Research Workshop between Paris 1 University and the Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences, Cairo University, Egypt.
- 2014** 13th EBES Conference, Istanbul, Turkey.
- 2013** ERF 19th Annual Conference, Economic Research Forum, AFESD, Kuwait.
- 2012** The Fourth Euro-African Conference in Finance and Economics, American University of Cairo, Egypt.
- ERF 18th Annual Conference, Economic Research Forum, Cairo, Egypt.
- 32nd Annual Meeting of the Middle East Economic Association (MEEA), Allied Social Science Associations ASSA, Chicago, USA.
- 2011** International Conference on Mathematical Finance and Economics, Istanbul, Turkey.
- International Conference on Economics and Finance, Izmir, Turkey.
- ERF 17th Annual Conference, Economic Research Forum, Antalya, Turkey.
- ECCH Case Method and Workshop, GUST, Kuwait.
- 2008** European Trade Study Group (ETSG), Warsaw, Poland.
- 57th Annual Congress of the French Economic Association (AFSE), Paris, France.
- International Conference on Policy Modeling, EcoMod, Berlin, Germany.
- Eleventh Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis (GTAP), Helsinki, Finland.
- Augustin Cournot Doctoral Days, Strasbourg, France.
- 2007** 56th Annual Congress of the French Economic Association (AFSE), Paris, France.

AWARDS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2018** Best Paper Award in International Economics, ERF 24th Annual conference, for the paper “A New Dawn for MENA Firms: Service Trade Liberalization for More Competitive Exports”
- 2015** AGRODEP Excellence in Publication Award for the paper “Trade Volume and Economic Growth in the MENA Region: Goods or Services?”
- Best Paper Award on “Trade and Growth”, Egypt Scholars Economic Society, for the paper “Trade Volume and Economic Growth in the MENA Region: Goods or Services?”
- AGRODEP Innovative Research grant, International Food Policy Research Institute for the project “Wars and Institutions: The Political Economy of International Trade in the MENA region.”
- 2014** Research grant from the African Development Bank for the paper “Trade Volume and Economic Growth in the MENA Region: Growth or Services?”
- 2011** Best Paper Award in International Economics, ERF 17th Annual conference, for the paper “Trade Liberalization And The Skill Composition Of Migrant Flows: The Case Of Morocco”
- 2006-2008** PhD financed by the French Ministry of External Affairs, **Bourse d’Excellence Eiffel**.
- 2006** Laval University - Economics Department, two-month assistantship.
- 2004-2005** Master Degree financed by the **Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie**.

REFEREE REPORTS

Applied Economics, Economic Modelling, Economie Internationale/International Economics, European Journal of Development Research, Emerging Markets Finance and Trade, International Journal of Euro-Mediterranean Studies, , International Journal of Trade and Global Markets, International Trade Journal, Journal of Economics, Journal of North African Studies, Journal of International Trade and Economic Development, Middle East Development Journal, Review of Middle East Economics and Finance, Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance,

(NON-ACADEMIC) TRAINING EXPERIENCE

- Jul-Aug 2004** The Central Bank of Lebanon: Financial Operations Departments and Current Operations Department.
- Jul-Oct 2003** Société Générale de Banque au Liban: Organization Department (survey of SGBL product quality).
- August 2002** Fransabank: Credit operations, accounts, money transfer.

LANGUAGES

Arabic: Mother tongue
French: Fluent
English: Fluent
Portuguese: Beginner

COMPUTER SKILLS

GAMS, STATA, E-Views, LateX, Microsoft Office.

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Bernard Decaluwé

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Economics Department
Laval University
Pavillon J.-A.-DeSève
Quebec, Canada G1K 7P4
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Chahir Zaki

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