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**Lahcen ACHY (PhD)**  
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July 2018

## CONTACT DETAILS

Surname: **ACHY**  
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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Deputy Director at *International Monetary Fund, Middle East Center for Economics and Finance (IMF\_CEF)* based in Kuwait since May 2017.
- Senior Economist at **IMF\_CEF** based in Kuwait from April 2014 to April 2017
- Senior Associate at the *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace - Middle East Center in Beirut* from July 2009 to March 2014
- Full professor of Economics at **National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (INSEA)**, Rabat Morocco from December 2004 to June 2009 (Head of the department of Economics and Finance from November 2007 to June 2009)
- Associate professor of Economics and Finance at **National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics**, Rabat Morocco from July 2001 to November 2004
- Researcher in Economics at the *Department of Applied Economics (DULBEA, University of Brussels)* from September 1997 to June 2001 (on leave from INSEA)
- Senior Lecturer of Economics and Statistics at **National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics**, Rabat Morocco from November 1994 to August 1997
- Lecturer of Economics and Statistics at **National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics**, Rabat Morocco from November 1989 to October 1993

## EDUCATION

- **PhD in Economics** from Free University of Brussels, Belgium, May 2001  
**Dissertation Title:** *Exchange Rate Management and Macroeconomic Fundamentals: an empirical investigation*
- **(Double) Master in Econometrics** from Free University of Brussels, Belgium, June 1998
- **Master in Applied Economics and Statistics** from National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (INSEA), Rabat, Morocco, June 1989
- **Bachelor in Statistics** from INSEA, National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics, June 1987

## OTHER ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS

- *Associated Fellow* at the Department of Applied Economics of Free University of Brussels (DULBEA) since September 2001
- *Research Fellow* at the Economic Research Forum (ERF) since 2008
- *Member of the board* of the Mediterranean Forum for Economic Institutes (FEMISE) From 2011 till 2014.

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

### a) Articles published in referred international academic journals

- “**Decentralization and Regional Economic Performance in Morocco**” joint with Khalid Sekkat, *Frontier in Science and Engineering*, (October 2014)
- “**Training, New Equipment and Job Creation: A Firm-level Analysis using Moroccan Data**” joint with Khalid Sekkat, *European Journal of Development Research Vol. 23, 4, 615–629* (September 2011)
- “**Corporate capital structure choices in MENA: Empirical evidence from non-listed firms in Morocco**”, *Middle East Development Journal* (December 2009)
- “**Coping with sectoral data limitations when measuring oligopoly power in a developing country**”, Joint paper with K. Sekkat and A. Azzam, *Regional and Sectoral Economic Studies* (December 2009).
- “**Parity Reversion Persistence in Real Exchange Rates: Middle Income Country Case**” in *Applied Economics* n°35 (2005).
- “**The Impact of European Single Currency on MENA’s Manufactured Exports to Europe**” joint with Khalid Sekkat, *Review of Development Economics* (November 2003)
- “**Purchasing Power Parity and Co integration: The case of North African Currencies**” in *Brussels Economic Review* n° 71 (4), 2001.

### b) Books and book chapters

- **Competition Policies and Consumer Welfare in Developing Countries**, edited book with Susan Joeques, *Edward Elgar*, (September 2016)
- **Breakdown of the Authoritarian 'Social Contract' and Emergence of New Social Actors, Chapter 23** in the Handbook of the Arab Spring: Rethinking Democratization, *Routledge* (2015).
- **The Price of Stability in Algeria**, *Carnegie Editions, Washington DC, April 2013*.
- **Tunisia’s Economic Challenges**, *Carnegie Editions, Washington DC, December 2011*.
- **Inflation Targeting in MENA countries: An unfinished Journey** (Joint chapter with Dr Adel Boughrara), *Palgrave Macmillan* 2011
- **Morocco’s Experience with Poverty Reduction: Lessons for the Arab World**, *Carnegie Editions, Washington DC, August, 2010*.
- **Market Dynamics and Productivity in Developing countries** (Joint chapter with Dr Khalid Sekkat), *Springer Editions*, 2010

- **Trading high unemployment for bad jobs: Employment challenges in the Maghreb**, *Carnegie Editions, Washington DC, June 2010*
- **Competition and Efficiency in the Arab World** (Joint chapter with Dr Khalid Sekkat), *Palgrave Macmillan, 2008*
- **L'Economie Marocaine en Question** (Joint book with Dr Khalid Sekkat), *Editions l'Harmattan, 2007*
- **Le commerce intra régional : l'Afrique du Nord est-elle une exception ?** (Chapter in « l'Année du Maghreb », *Editions CNRS, 2007*
- **Globalization, Employment and Income Distribution in Developing Countries** (Joint chapter with Dr Khalid Sekkat), *Palgrave Macmillan, 2006*
- **The Impact of Financial Liberalization on Saving and Investment in MENA Countries** *Routledge, Collection Research in Middle East Economics (Volume 6, chapter 4), 2005*
- **Marché du Travail et Genre Maghreb-Europe**, *Editions DULBEA* (co-edited book), 2004
- **Management du Taux de change au Maroc : Quelle option par rapport à l'Euro** (Book edited by Dr Lahcen Achy), *Editions El Maarif Al Jadida, 2003.*

### c) Other published research

- **“Economic dynamics of the Arab countries in turbulence”**, *Analysis* n° 207, November (2013), Institute for International Policy Studies.
- **“The Long Journey out of Authoritarianism in the Arab Mediterranean Countries”**, *Annual Report (2012)*, Mediterranean Forum of Economic Institutes (FEMISE).
- **“The Breakdown of the Authoritarian Bargain in the Arab Mediterranean Countries”**, *Annual Report (2011)*, (FEMISE).
- **“Why Did Protests in Algeria Fail to Gain Momentum”**, *Foreign Policy*, March (2011).
- **“Questions d'économie marocaine”**, *Cahiers du Plan*, n° 22 (2009).
- **“Choix des financements des entreprises au Maroc”**, *Cahiers du Plan*, n° 11 (2007).
- **“Création et destruction des emplois dans l'industrie manufacturière au Maroc”**, *Cahiers du Plan*, n° 8 (2006).
- **“Overlapping trade agreements: Status and challenges for Morocco”**, *Economic Research Forum, Research Report Series: n° 0427* (2005)

### d) Working papers

- **“Structural transformation and industrial policy in Morocco”**, *Economic Research Forum working paper* (n° 796/2013).
- **“Restructuring and efficiency in the manufacturing sector: A firm level approach applied to Morocco”**, *Economic Research Forum working paper* (n° 565/2010).

- **“Labor Market and Growth in Morocco” (2005)**, available online <http://econpapers.repec.org/scripts/search/search.asp?neplist=nepcwa2005-12-20>
- **“Exchange Rate Misalignment in Selected MENA Countries”**, Working paper, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSC N° 2001/42), European University Institute of Florence.
- **“Taux de Change et Potentiel d’Exportation au Maroc : Cas des Industries de Textile Habillement et Cuir“**, *Economic Research Forum working paper* (n° 0318/2001).

#### d) List of journals and editors for which I acted as referee

- Review of Development Economics
- Journal of Comparative Economics
- Journal of International Development
- World Economy
- Eastern Economic Journal
- Applied Economics
- Middle East Development Journal
- Empirica
- Open Economics Journal
- International Journal of Emerging Markets
- Brussels economic review
- World Bank
- Oxford University Press
- Canadian Journal “Actualités Economiques”
- French Journal Revue d’Économie internationale
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#### e) Policy-oriented research and reports (2006-2013)

- **“Decentralization and Economic Performance in Selected South Mediterranean Countries, Report for the European Union”** (*Femise Network*), (*April 2013*)
- **“Access to finance by Morocco’s SMES: Diagnostics and policy recommendations”**, *Report for UNCTAD (October 2009)*
- **“Morocco’s Free Trade Agreement with the United States: State of Regulation, Opportunities and Threats in Services”**, *Report for the Moroccan Business Association (December 2007)*
- **“Promoting trade in Services in the MENA region: the case of Morocco”**, *Report for OECD and IDRC (December 2007)*.
- **“The Political Economy of Trade Policy in Morocco: Textiles and pharmaceuticals”**, Policy Research Paper *Economic Research Forum (ERF)*, (*September 2007*).
- **“Liberalization of trade in services and European Neighborhood policy”**, Report for the World Bank, (*March 2007*)
- **“Assessment of the potential of regional trade integration in North Africa”**, Report for the Economic Commission for Africa (North African Bureau), (*March 2006*)

## CONSULTANCY POSITIONS

Various short term consultancy positions with international organizations among which:

- The World Bank
- The United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- The International Labor Organization (ILO)
- The Canadian International Development Research Center (IDRC)
- The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- The United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- The Islamic Development Bank (IDB)
- The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- The British Department for International Development (DFID)
- The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

## CONFERENCES AND OTHER SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS (2010-2014)

- May 2016: **“The Path to Economic Diversification in Kuwait and other GCC Countries” joint symposium by the CEF and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), Kuwait.**
- April 2016: **“Social Safety nets and Labor Market Policies in the MENA region”** panel discussion organized by the World Bank, Kuwait
- November 2014: **“Reforming the education system in the Arab world with the view of enhancing employability of outcomes”, International Expert meeting organized by** and Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the World Bank, Kuwait.
- June 2014: **“The Future of Arab Youth”** Expert meeting organized by Silathech at the SOAS, University of London, UK.
- May 2014: **“Building the Future: Jobs, Growth, and Fairness in the Arab World“**, high level conference jointly organized by IMF , Government of Jordan and Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Amman, Jordan
- December 2013: Training workshop for MENA policymakers on **“Strategic Policies for Inclusive Growth for the MENA region”**, World Bank and IMF-Middle East Center for Economics and Finance, Kuwait.
- October 2013: **“A Transforming Arab World: Between Continuity and Change”**, EuroMeSCo Annual Conference, Paris, France.
- August 2013: **“North Africa’s Difficult Transition”**, Summer School organized by the German Council on Foreign Relations, Berlin, Germany.
- July 2013: **“Inclusive growth, integration of youth, children and vulnerable groups: issues of funding and policymaking”** Meeting organized by UNICEF regional Office, Amman, Jordan
- June 2013: **“Transition and Gender Equality in Arab Countries”**, Meeting organized by Carnegie Middle East Center, Rabat, Morocco

- June 2013: **“Rethinking Economic Growth in Arab countries: Towards more productive and inclusive societies”** Workshop co-organized by Carnegie Middle East Center, UNDP and ILO, Beirut, Lebanon.
- May 2013: **“Persistent Challenges to Sustained prosperity in the Arab Region”** UNIDO meeting, Amman, Jordan
- March 2013: **“Conference on Political and Economic Transition in North Africa”**, organized by the Finnish Parliament and Finnish Institute for International Studies Helsinki, Finland.
- March 2013: **“Annual Conference of Economic Research Forum (ERF)”**, Kuwait.
- April 2012: **Conference of the International Competition Network**, Rio, Brazil
- January 2012: **Islamic Development Bank workshop on Inclusive Development**, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- January 2012: **Wilton Park conference on Future trends and challenges for the MENA region”** Sussex, UK
- December 2011: **Conference on Inclusive Growth, organized by IDRC (Canada)**, in New Delhi, India
- October 2011: **Workshop on the Political Economy Analysis for Development**, UNDP, Cairo, Egypt
- September 2011: **War and Turmoil: The Challenges of Rebuilding Libya**, Carnegie Middle East Center, Beirut, Lebanon
- September 2011: **Workshop on the economics of the Arab Spring**, Chatham House, London
- September 2011: **Deauville Partnership of the leading Mediterranean Economists**, Marseille, France
- July 2011: **Conference on Tunisia’s Short and Medium Term challenges**, Tunis, Tunisia
- March 2010: **Workshop on research issues at firm level in the MENA region**, EEF Forum, Cairo, Egypt.
- September 2010: Conference co-organized by Carnegie and Morocco’s institute for international relations on the **Experience of Poverty Reduction in Morocco: Forces, Limits and Strategic Options**, Casablanca, Morocco.
- July 2010: **Conference on poverty reduction in the Arab World, contrasting three experiences: Egypt, Morocco and Syria.**
- March 2010: **Workshop on research issues at the firm level in the MENA region**, Economic Research Forum, Cairo, Egypt.
- January 2010: International conference on **labor markets in the Maghreb: Structures, Institutions and Policies, Rabat, Morocco.**

### **SELECTED ARTICLES IN INTERNATIONAL PRESS**

- **Arab States Need Industrial Policy Reform**, *Al Monitor*, September 22, 2013.
- **Lack of support to "Arab uprisings" may be costly!** *Les Echos*, July 31, 2013.
- **Moroccan Youth Struggle to find employment opportunities**, *Middle East Al Monitor*, July 1, 2013

- **What complementarity between public and private sectors?**, Al Hayat (London-based Arabic Newspaper), June 12, 2013.
- **Reform of fuel subsidies: success and failures**, Al Hayat (London-based Arabic Newspaper), May 28, 2013.
- **Excessive centralization widens regional disparities in Arab countries**, Al Hayat (London-based Arabic Newspaper), May 14, 2013.
- **Tunisian Economy Struggle**, Middle East Al Monitor, May 3, 2013.
- **Algeria Held back by corruption and poor planning**, Middle East Al Monitor, April 16, 2013.
- **Morocco's Gender-Equality Laws fail to improve situation**, Middle East Al Monitor, April 5, 2013.
- **The economic consequences of Syria's social unrest**, (*Los Angeles Times*, August 17, 2011)
- **Algeria: Postponing Economic Therapy is Playing with Fire** (*LA Times*, July 18, 2011)
- **Egypt: Foreign Debt Constrains Economic Choices** (*LA Times*, June 5, 2011)
- **Morocco: What a GCC Membership Would Mean for the Economy** (*LA Times*, June 3, 2011)
- **Syria: Economic Hardship Feeds Social Unrest** (*LA Times*, March 31, 2011)
- **Tunisia: Unemployment crisis and protests** (*LA Times*, December 27, 2010)
- **Egypt: Policymakers ignore increasingly disaffected youth** (*LA Times*, December 26, 2010)
- **The uncertain future of economic reforms in Egypt** (*Al Ahram*, December 23, 2010)
- **Egypt: economy haunted by inflation, unemployment and corruption** (*LA Times*, December 18, 2010)
- **MENA Oil Importing Countries: Sluggish Recovery and Immense Challenges Ahead** (*International Economic Bulletin*, September 2010)

## LANGUAGES

- **Proficiency level in Arabic, English and French**
- **Intermediate level in Spanish**

## SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES

- Radio and TV interviews on various economic and political economy issues: *BBC radio*, *Russian radio* (RIA), French Radio (RFI), Moroccan Radios (Medi1, RTM, Atlantic, Aswat), Tunisia Radio (Radio FM), Aljazeera TV (Arabic and English), France 24 (Arabic, French and English), Chinese TV (CCTV), Lebanese Future TV, Al Hurra, Moroccan TV (2M).