

Georges Harb

E-mail: geoharb@gmail.com

Citizenship: Lebanese

EDUCATION, LANGUAGES, SOFTWARE SKILLS, RESEARCH INTERESTS/AFFILIATIONS

Education

The University of Nottingham

2013-14 Master degree in Economics and Econometrics; First Class Honors (rank 1)

Sciences Po Paris

2007-08 Post-Doctoral research at the "Groupe d'Economie Mondiale". Research topic: EU-Arab world trade relations

2002-07 Doctorate in Economics. Thesis topic: "Arab economic integration: appraisal and prospects", Highest Honors

2000-01 Master degree (Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies) in International Economics; Honors (rank 2)

Université Saint Joseph de Beyrouth

1999-00 Post graduate diploma (Maîtrise) in Economics; Honors

1996-99 Bachelor degree (Licence) in Economics

Languages

Arabic (native fluency), English and French (fluent)

Software

Microsoft office; statistical software: Stata, E-views

Research interests

Applied econometrics, Arab/Middle Eastern economies, growth/productivity analysis, tourism economics, trade/regional integration

Affiliations

Research Fellow, the Economic Research Forum, Cairo (Egypt) (www.erf.org.eg)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic experience

Sep 21-Present *Lebanese American University (Lebanon)*
Associate Professor at the School of Business, Department of Information Technology and Operations Management. Currently teaching managerial statistics and intermediate managerial statistics to undergraduate and senior year students

Sep 14-Aug 21 *Notre Dame University - Louaize (Lebanon)*
Assistant Professor (Fall 14-Spring 19)/Associate Professor (starting Fall 20) at the Faculty of Business Administration and Economics (FBAE), Department of Economics. Courses taught: microeconomics, macroeconomics, managerial economics, quantitative economics (I was the first to develop and teach this course at the FBAE), game theory (I

was the first to develop and teach this course at the FBAE) and applied econometrics (I developed the course) to undergraduate/senior year students. Services: coordinator of the microeconomics and macroeconomics courses over many years; member/chair of departmental committees across several semesters (activities committee, curriculum committee, outcome assessment committee), faculty committees (AACSB committee), and university committees (strategic plan review and implementation committee, institutional review board)

- Oct 11-Sep 13 *Lebanese American University (Lebanon)*
 Visiting Assistant Professor at the School of Business, Department of Economics. Taught microeconomics and macroeconomics to undergraduate students, as well as "Economics of regional integration" to senior year students
- Oct 10-Jul 11 Lecturer at the School of Business, Department of Economics (part-time faculty member). Taught microeconomics and macroeconomics to undergraduate students
- 2007-2008 *Sciences Po Paris*
 Lecturer (part-time faculty member) and postdoctoral researcher. Taught international economics (trade/regional integration) to postgraduate students (Master of Science in international economics), and "Economic integration in the Middle-East" to postgraduate students (Master's in international affairs) students
- 2004-2006 *Sciences Po Paris*
 Lecturer (part-time faculty member) and research fellow. Taught international economics (trade/regional integration) to postgraduate students (Master of Science in international economics), and "Economic integration in the Middle-East" to postgraduate students (Master's in international affairs) students
- Spring 2007 *Sciences Po Menton*
 Lecturer (part-time faculty member). Taught "Comparative economic regimes in the Arab world" to undergraduate students

Non-Academic experience

- Nov 2014- Jan 2015 **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)**, London, UK. (External) contributor to a study, commissioned by an emerging economy ICT government body, to estimate the impact of ICT spending on economic growth. Under the supervision of the Chief Economist at the EIU, I reviewed the empirical literature and the alternative quantitative approaches used to estimate the economic impact of ICT infrastructure/spending, focusing on the strengths and limitations of each methodology. I then recommended the most appropriate econometric technique to be used in the study

Feb 2009-Sep 2010

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Beirut, Lebanon. Consultant for the “Financing for Development Section” at the “Economic Development and Globalization Division”. I prepared several reports on the Arab countries: the impact of the financial crisis, FDI inflows and policies, financing for development (trade, debt, workers’ remittances), and economic integration. I also prepared a presentation on Lebanese workers’ remittances and their development impact on the Lebanese economy at the ESCWA Expert Group Meeting on workers’ remittances (Sep 2010)

Sep-Nov 2003

ESCWA, Beirut, Lebanon. Consultant for the “Globalization and Regional Integration Division”. I assessed the progress made by the Arab countries in terms of the implementation of the “Monterrey Consensus” as regards to developmental issues. I also analyzed the developments in intra-Arab trade

Aug 2002-Jan 2003

ESCWA, Beirut, Lebanon. Intern at the “Globalization and Regional Integration Division”. I collected and analyzed data pertaining to intra-Arab trade/investments. Monitored Arab countries’ trade and investment regulations

INTELLECTUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Papers

Ongoing research

- *Convergence dynamics in regional total factor productivity (TFP) across NUTS regions*: using regional data on GDP, capital and labor stock, we derive region-specific TFP levels across the NUTS European regions employing a recent methodology based on a macro-panel estimator that controls for cross-section dependence, nonstationarity and endogeneity of the regressors. The generated TFP series are then tested for convergence across regions. Key expected findings: (i) deriving region-specific TFP levels over 1995-2018; (ii) identifying convergence dynamics across regions. This project is in collaboration with Charbel Bassil (Qatar University) and Zouheir El Sahli (Qatar University)

- *Systematic literature review of papers that tackled the economic effect of tourism at a sub-national level*: using the Scopus database, we adopt a multi-stage screening process to select recent papers that have assessed quantitatively the economic repercussions of tourism at sub-country levels. The selected papers are then reviewed in light of, among other things, the methodology used, the sample selected, and the main findings. Key expected findings: (i) pinning down the main features of the literature; (ii) identifying the gaps that need to be dealt with in future research. This project is in collaboration with Charbel Bassil (Qatar University) and Roula Al Daia (University of Balamand; Lebanon)

- *Aid for trade (AFT) and the export performance of recipient countries:* combining recent data on bilateral AFT flows from donor countries to recipient (developing) countries, and on bilateral exports, we (i) evaluate the impact of AFT (overall AFT flows as well as each of the three AFT flows categories) on recipients' exports, and (ii) examine whether the effectiveness of AFT is contingent on (a) the quality of economic institutions and/or (b) the nature of political regimes in recipient countries, relatively to donor countries. Key expected findings: (i) assessing whether the effectiveness of AFT flows varies across their types; (ii) identifying governance-related policy priorities for recipient countries to enhance the efficacy of received AFT flows. This project is in collaboration with Chahir Zaki (Cairo University; Egypt) and Nora About Shady (Cairo University; Egypt)

- *Convergence dynamics in manufacturing sector TFP:* using data on manufacturing sector's added value, capital and labor stock for 63 countries, we derive country-specific manufacturing sector's TFP levels employing a recent methodology based on a macro-panel estimator that controls for cross-section dependence, nonstationarity and endogeneity of the regressors, The generated TFP series are then tested for convergence within different regional groupings. Key expected findings: (i) deriving the time evolution (over 1980-2016) of manufacturing TFP levels across sample countries; (ii) identifying convergence dynamics within regional groupings. This project is in collaboration with Charbel Bassil (Qatar University)

Research on growth determinants

- 2022: Georges Harb; Charbel Bassil, "Regional growth, domestic and foreign tourism in NUTS regions: new insights from the Old continent", *Journal of Travel Research* (ABDC: A*/Scimago: Q1/Shanghai List; IF: 10.982), 61(2)

- 2021: Georges Harb; Charbel Bassil, "Harnessing cross-regional disparities to assess the impact of tourism on regional growth in Europe", *Current Issues in Tourism* (ABDC: A/Scimago: Q1; IF: 7.430), 24(11)

- 2017: Georges Harb, "The economic impact of the Internet penetration and telecom investments in the Arab and Middle Eastern countries", *Economic Analysis and Policy* (ABDC: B/Scimago: Q1-Q2; IF: 2.497), 56(2017)

- 2017: Georges Harb, "Institutions and growth in the Arab and Middle Eastern countries", *International Journal of Economics and Financial Issues* (ABDC: C/Scimago: Q3), 7(1)

Research on bilateral flows determinants

- 2020: Georges Harb, Charbel Bassil, "Gravity analysis of tourism flows and the 'multilateral resistance to tourism' ", *Current Issues in Tourism* (ABDC: A/Scimago: Q1; IF: 7.430), 23(6)
- 2019: Georges Harb, Charbel Bassil, "Terrorism and inbound tourism: does immigration have a moderating effect?", *Tourism Economics* (ABDC: A/Scimago: Q1; IF: 4.438), 26(3)
- 2019: Georges Harb, "The impact of terrorism on inbound tourism: disentangling the cross-spatial correlation", *Economics Bulletin* (ABDC: C/Scimago: Q3; IF: 0.348), 39(1)
- 2016: Georges Harb, Nora Abou Shady, "Arab trade dynamics after the implementation of the Pan-Arab Free Trade Area (1998-2012)", *Review of Middle East Economics and Finance* (ABDC: C), 12(1)
- 2010: Georges Harb, "Communication infrastructures, institutional efficiency and EU-Arab trade: assessment and implications", *Review of Middle East Economics and Finance* (ABDC: C), 6(2)
- 2009: Georges Harb, "The Greater Arab Free Trade Area and intra-Arab trade (1997-2004): an analysis", *the Journal of Development and Economic Policies*, 11(1)
- 2008: Georges Harb, "Trade facilitation and intra-Arab trade (1996-2002): an empirical assessment", *the Journal of International Trade and Diplomacy*, 2(2)

Books

- 2011: Georges Harb, "L'intégration régionale arabe: bilan et perspectives", Editions Universitaires Européennes

Reports/Studies

Author of/Contributed to the following reports/studies:

- "Assessing the impact of information and communication technology (ICT) on economic performance", 2015, report of the Economist Intelligence Unit (co-author)
- "Institutions et croissance économique dans les pays arabes et du Moyen-Orient", Centre International des Sciences de l'Homme (CISH/UNESCO), 2015 (author)
- "Report on the follow up on the implementation of the international conference on financing for development in the ESCWA region", (2010 and 2003 issues) (co-author)

- "ESCWA's annual review of developments in globalization and regional integration in the Arab countries", ESCWA, (2009, 2003 and 2002 issues) (co-author)
- "Foreign direct investment report", ESCWA, 2009 (co-author)
- "The Impact of the financial crisis on ESCWA member countries: challenges and opportunities", ESCWA, 2009 (co-author)
- "The impact of the global financial crisis on the world oil markets and its implications for the GCC countries", ESCWA, 2009 (co-author)
- "The global economic and financial crisis: regional impacts, responses and solutions", the United Nations, 2009 (co-author)
- "Compendium on social statistics in the ESCWA region", ESCWA, 2003 (co-author)
- "EPAs: Thinking outside the European box", Working Paper, Groupe d'Economie Mondiale, Sciences Po, 2007 (co-author with Claire Delpuech)

Reviewer for international peer-reviewed journals

- Review of Middle East Economics and Finance; Current Issues in Tourism; International Journal of Tourism Research; International Journal of Tourism Policy

Conferences/Working papers/notes

- The Middle East Economic Association Annual Meeting (5-6 January 2022): my co-author (Chahir Zaki) presented the paper titled "Aid for trade and export promotion: economics or politics?", and my co-authors (Chahir Zaki and Nora Abou Shady) and I discussed the paper (the conference took place using the Zoom online platform)
- Cairo, Egypt (16-18 July 2019); conference on "Trade Integration for Food and Agricultural Commodities in Arab Countries: Challenges and Opportunities", organized by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Arab League of States, and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). As a Key speaker, I presented a study on the impact of the Pan Arab Free Trade Area on intra-Arab trade in agricultural commodities and highlighted a number of conclusions for policy makers/regional institutions
- 2022: Georges Harb, Charbel Bassil, "Manufacturing and productivity in MENA: a long term perspective", the ERF, the Forum, available at: <https://theforum.erf.org.eg/2022/03/06/manufacturing-productivity-mena-long-term-perspective/>

RESEARCH GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS/REFERENCES

- 2013-2014** Research grant from the "International Center for Human Sciences" (CISH/UNESCO). Research topic: institutions and growth in the Arab and Middle-Eastern countries
- 2007-2008** Post-doctoral research grant from the "Conseil Regional d'Ile de France". Research topic: EU-Arab trade relations: analysis and perspectives
- 2005-2007** Research and teaching fellowship ("Attaché Temporaire d'Enseignement et de Recherche") awarded by the French "Ministry of Higher Education and Research" to finance my doctorate research at Sciences Po Paris

References

Markus Eberhardt: Associate Professor, School of Economics, University of Nottingham, UK. Email address: markus.eberhardt@nottingham.ac.uk

Mohamad Hamadeh: Professor/Dean, College of Business, the American University of Iraq-Baghdad, Iraq. Email address: mhamade@auib.edu.iq

Patrick Messerlin: Professor Emeritus, School of Economics, Sciences Po Paris, France. Email address: patrick.messerlin@gmail.com