

ERF WEBINAR ON
CONFLICT AND POST CONFLICT TRANSITION TO PEACE BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT IN WAR-AFFLICTED ARAB COUNTRIES
SEPTEMBER 19TH-20TH, 2022

CONTEXT AND CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

In the context of the ERF research program on *Conflict, Peace Building and Post Conflict Transition in War-Afflicted Arab Countries*, ERF completed four important and timely projects that aimed at promoting constructive knowledge-based policy dialogue among stakeholders in these conflict-afflicted societies, and helping them build consensus around national post-conflict development and state-building agendas. The completed components included the aftershock of the Arab uprisings, the micro-level analyses of the impact of conflict on lives and livelihoods in MENA, post conflict growth agenda in MENA, and the relationship between economic interdependency and conflict.

A fifth project was launched in 2022, to critically examine the conditions for a sustained political and economic transformation in countries emerging from civil conflicts. This new project extends the previous research produced under the ERF program in several dimensions, and deepens the analysis on the links between political and economic reforms and the nature of the new social contract for post-conflict MENA countries that would ensure the sustainability of their reforms. In addition, it provides a quantitative analysis of the determinants of their success, which could serve a guide for the study of MENA economies.

The project includes three papers, the first takes up the political economy of post-conflict reform; the second pertains to the nature of the post-conflict social contract; and the third presents a model that would help identify the path to national peace and democracy. The project is managed by Samir Makdisi and Raimundo Soto.

The purpose of this webinar is to present and discuss the findings and results of the three papers among a group of panelists, experts from academia, and international organizations.

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AGENDA

DAY 1: MONDAY, 19TH OF SEPTEMBER

04:00-04:15 **WELCOMING REMARKS**
Ibrahim Elbadawi (*Economic Research Forum*)

04:15-05:20 **PRESENTATIONS AND PANEL DISCUSSION**

MODERATOR: Ibrahim Elbadawi (*Economic Research Forum*)

SPEAKERS: Samir Makdisi (*AUB and ERF*) and Raimundo Soto (*PUC and ERF*), *The Arab Uprisings and the Path to National Peace and Sustainable Development* (15 min)

LEAD COMMENTATOR: Semih Tumen (*TED University, Institute of Labor Economics and ERF*) (10 min)

Adeel Malik (*Oxford and ERF*) and Chahir Zaki (*AUC and ERF*), *The Political Economy of Post-Conflict Reform in Arab Societies* (15 min)

LEAD COMMENTATOR: Youness Abouyoub (*United Nations*) (10 min)

Q&A (15 min)

DAY 2: TUESDAY, 20TH OF SEPTEMBER

04:00-04:40 **PRESENTATIONS AND PANEL DISCUSSION**

MODERATOR: Noha El-Mikawy (*American University in Cairo and ERF*)

SPEAKER: Shantayanan Devarajan (*Georgetown University*), *A New Social Contract for Post-Conflict Middle East and North Africa* (15 min)

LEAD COMMENTATOR: Khalid Abu-Ismaïl (*UN-ESCWA and ERF*) (10 min)

Q&A (15 min)

04:40-05:10 **CONCLUDING REMARKS**

SPEAKERS: Samir Makdisi (*American University of Beirut and ERF*) (10 min)
Raimundo Soto (*Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and ERF*) (10 min)

Q&A (10 min)