

# TRAGEDIES & PROMISES

of Regional Conflicts of Peacebuilding

Responding to Disruptors and Enablers of MENA Development Pathway

ERF  
30<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Conference

ANNUAL  
**Conference** Agenda

2024

# About ERF

Established in 1993, ERF's core objectives are to build strong research capacity in the ERF region, to lead and support the production of independent, high quality economic research, and to disseminate research output to a wide and diverse audience.

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RETHINK



# 03 ERF 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

The ERF 30th Annual Conference aims to address the unprecedented regional challenges and to respond to the paramount global disruptors to envision a more resilient future, systems and institutions. ERF conferences provide a multi-stakeholder platform bringing together thought leaders, distinguished researchers and policymakers to discuss and debate pertinent global and regional perspectives to build towards a more peaceful prosperous future for generations to come.

The MENA region has more than its fair share of conflicts, which set the region into a path of human suffering, despair and instability. The Arab-Israeli conflict has become an inter-generational impediment to regional peace, development and cooperation for almost eight decades. It has so far plunged the region into four major regional wars and several uprisings by the Palestinian people, who continue to resist occupation and strive for their legitimate right to self-determination and statehood. The most recent outbreak of the tragic violence in Gaza is a natural consequence of the lack of will and commitment by the regional and international communities to achieve a just and amicable resolution of the Palestinian question, leading to a two-state solution.

Moreover, the aftermath of the Arab Spring ushered the region into political instability, even large-scale civil wars in socially fractionalized Arab countries affecting both the Asian and African wings of the Arab world. Instead of propelling the region into a wave of national renewal, democracy and economic renaissance, the unintended consequences of the Arab uprisings have further aggravated conflicts and instability in the region.

The state of conflicts and instability degraded state capacity, government effectiveness and public policy, resulting in unsustainable macroeconomic imbalances, high indebtedness and disappointing growth performance. Therefore, most economies of the region became exposed to the recent global shocks and associated crises - starting with the 2008-9 financial crisis, followed by the global COVID-19 pandemic, the rivalry between China and the United States and finally Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The impact of these crises has indeed taken a toll on the region.

Titled *Tragedies of Regional Conflicts and Promises of Peacebuilding: Responding to Disruptors and Enablers of MENA Development Pathway*, the ERF 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference plenary sessions aim to examine and assess policy measures to build towards resilient post conflict economic systems, balancing technology and future of work, and exploring prospects towards regional cooperation. In addition to the plenary sessions outlined in this document, the conference agenda will include 20 sessions providing a platform for some 60 diverse papers spanning cross-cutting themes selected on basis of rigorous refereeing process in response to an open call for papers. In keeping with ERF tradition celebrating excellence and unveiling outstanding performance, ERF Best Papers will be acknowledged in the Closing Plenary.

ERF gratefully acknowledges financial support to the ERF 30<sup>th</sup> annual conference from International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and University Mohammed IV Polytechnic (UM6P), Africa Institute for Research in Economics and Social Sciences (AIRESS).



Canada

Hosted by:



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## Agenda At A Glance

### Day 1: April 21

- **9:00 - 9:45**  
Opening Ceremony
- **10:00 - 11:30**  
Plenary 1 – Panoramic Political Economy Perspective of MENA
- **11:30 - 12:00**  
Coffee Break
- **12:00 - 13:30**  
Parallel Sessions: Group (A)
- **13:30 - 15:00**  
Lunch Break
- **15:00 - 16:30**  
Plenary 2 – Prospects in the Middle East for Peaceful Resolution of Conflict
- **17:30 - 18:30**  
Research Fellow Meeting (Closed)

### Day 2: April 22

- **9:00 - 10:30**  
Plenary 3 - SDG Stimulus to Deliver Agenda 2030
- **10:30 - 11:00**  
Coffee Break
- **11:00 - 12:30**  
Parallel Sessions: Group (B)
- **11:30 - 14:30**  
BOT Meeting (Closed)
- **12:30 - 14:00**  
Lunch Break
- **14:00 - 15:30**  
Parallel Sessions: Group (C)
- **15:30 - 16:00**  
Coffee Break
- **16:00 - 17:30**  
Plenary 4 – AI and Future of Work

### Day 3: April 23

- **9:00 - 10:30**  
Plenary 5 - Relocalization and Regional Cooperation
- **10:30 - 11:00**  
Coffee Break
- **11:00 - 12:30**  
Parallel Sessions: Group (D)
- **12:30 - 14:00**  
Lunch Break
- **14:00 - 15:30**  
Parallel Sessions: Group (E)
- **15:30 - 16:00**  
Coffee Break
- **16:00 - 17:30**  
Plenary 6 - Morocco's Quest for Stronger Inclusive Growth
- **17:30 - 18:00**  
Celebrating Excellence and Closing

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# Sunday, April 21

## Conference Day 1

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### Plenary 1: Panoramic Political Economy Perspective of MENA

To set the analytical stage, this plenary would build on three flagship publications, namely: Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy, proposing a theory of the emergence of and stability of democracy and dictatorship; Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty sharing a theory of why some countries have flourished economically while others have fallen into poverty; and finally The Narrow Corridor: States, Society and the Fate of Liberty, examining the incessant and inevitable struggle between states and society, giving an account of the deep historical processes that have shaped the modern world.

### Plenary 2: Prospects in the Middle East for Peaceful Resolution of Conflict: The Generational Disruptor and Impediment to Development in the Region

The plenary aims to discuss the conflict in the Middle East as a generational disruptor and impediment to regional peace and development and the prospects for renewal and development under a just, amicable peaceful resolution, leading to the cherished goal of the two-state solution.



Register to attend online

Plenary 1: Panoramic Political Economy Perspective of MENA



Register to attend online

Plenary 2: Prospects in the Middle East for Peaceful Resolution of Conflict:

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## Our Speakers

Sunday, April 21



**Hassan Aly**  
Nile University



**Karim El Aynaoui**  
Mohammed VI Polytechnic U.



**Samir Makdisi**  
American University of Beirut



**Noha El-Mikawy**  
American University in Cairo



**Tarik Yousef**  
Middle East Council



**Raja Khalidi**  
Palestine Economic Policy



**Jeffrey Sachs**  
Columbia University



**Ziad Bahaa Eldin**  
Thebes Consultancy



**Ibrahim Elbadawi**  
Economic Research Forum



**Abderrahim Bouazza**  
Bank Al Maghrib



**James Robinson**  
University of Chicago



**Carl Bernadac**  
AFD



**Maha Yahya**  
Carnegie



**Atif Kubursi**  
McMaster University

# 07 Sunday, April 21 Conference Day 1

**Opening Ceremony**  
09:00 - 9:45

## Opening

Location: Amphithéâtre B-J0-01

**Chairperson & Moderator:** Hassan Aly, *Nile University and Chairman of the ERF Board of Trustees*  
**Welcome Remarks:** Ibrahim Elbadawi, *Economic Research Forum (ERF)*  
Karim El Aynaoui, *Mohammed VI Polytechnic University*  
**Keynote Speakers:** Abderrahim Bouazza, *Bank Al Maghrib*

**Plenary 1**  
10:00 - 11:30

## Panoramic Political Economy Perspective of MENA

Location: Amphithéâtre B-J0-01

**Chairperson & Moderator:** Samir Makdisi, *American University of Beirut (AUB)*  
**Keynote Speaker:** James Robinson, *University of Chicago*  
**Lead Commentators:** Noha El-Mikawy, *American University in Cairo (AUC)*  
Wessam El Beih, *International Development Research Center (IDRC)*  
Carl Bernadac, *Agence Française de Développement (AFD)*  
Tarik Yousef, *Middle East Council on Global Affairs*

**Coffee Break** 11:30 - 12:00

**Parallel Sessions**  
12:00 - 13:30

## Group (A) Full details in page 8

**Lunch Break** 13:30 - 15:00

**Plenary 2**  
15:00 - 17:00

## Prospects in the Middle East for Peaceful Resolution of Conflict: the Generational Disruptor and Impediment to Development in the Region

Location: Amphithéâtre B-J0-01

**Chairperson & Moderator:** Ibrahim Elbadawi, *Economic Research Forum (ERF)*  
**Keynote Speaker:** Jeffrey Sachs, *Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University (Online)*  
**Lead Commentators:** Maha Yahya, *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*  
Raja Khalidi, *Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute*  
Ziad Bahaa Eldin, *Thebes Consultancy (Online)*  
Atif Kubursi, *McMaster University*



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# Sunday, April 21

## Conference Day 1



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## Parallel Sessions - Group (A)

### 12:00 - 13:30

#### Theme: Finance

##### Banking and Financial Markets in MENA

###### Parallel Session 1:

Location: Room B-I0-01

###### Chairperson

- Hassan Aly

###### Discussant

- Samir Ghazouani

##### Did the US Federal Reserve Policy Harm the Stability of GCC Banks?

- Mahmoud Haddad and Sam Hakim

##### What Are the Main Sources of Bank's Productivity in the GCC: Some Evidence Using a Semiparametric Cost Model

- Mohamed E. Chaffai

##### Sovereign Risk Mispricing and Investor Herding: MENA Debt Markets

- Eman Moustafa and Amira El-Shal

#### Theme: Labor Economics

##### Wages and Technology Adoption

###### Parallel Session 2:

Location: Room B-I0-02

###### Chairperson

- Hassan Hakimian

###### Discussant

- Touhami Abdelkhalek

##### The Impact of Minimum Wage Shock on Robot Adaption in Turkey

- Yusuf Emre Akgunduz, Ugur Aytun and Seyit Mumin Cilasun

##### Understanding Changes in Wage Inequality in Egypt: Evidence from Quantile Analysis

- Hatem Jemmali, Rabeh Morrar and Fernando Rios-Avila

##### Agglomeration Economies and Wage Differences: Evidence from Turkey

- Serife Genc Ileri and Muhammad Moiz



#### Hybrid Session

Register to attend online

#### Theme: Macroeconomics

##### Diversification Redux, Knowledge and Economic Growth and Industry

###### Parallel Session 3:

Location: Room B-H0-01

###### Chairperson

- Eisa Abdelgalil

###### Discussant

- Klaus Schmidt-Hebbel

##### Stages of Diversification Redux

- Hoda Assem, Roberta Gatti and Daniel Lederman

##### Reconsidering the Nexus between Knowledge and Economic Growth in An Unstable Economy: The Case of Turkish Economy

- Fatma M. Utku-Ismihan and Mustafa İsmihan

##### Deindustrialization and Growth in MENA Countries: A Focus on Tunisia

- Monia Ghazali and Rim Mouelhi

#### Theme: Political Economy

##### Trade, Finance and Conflict

###### Parallel Session 4:

Location: Room B-H0-02

###### Chairperson

- Belaid Rettab

###### Discussant

- Mohammad Reza Farzanegan

##### Direct and Indirect Effects of Conflicts on Firms: Evidence from Turkish Transaction Data

- Michele Di Maio, Michele Imbruno, Seda Koymen Ozer, Alessia Lo Turco and Daniela Maggioni

##### War and Peace in MENA: The Effects of International Trade and Finance

- Seda Ekmen Özçelik and Emre Özçelik

##### The MENA Trade and Regional Conflicts: Causal Evidence from a Disaggregated Analysis

- Pinar Tat and Halit Yanıkaya

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# Monday, April 22

## Conference Day 2

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### Plenary 3: SDG Stimulus to Deliver Agenda 2030

To deal with the multiple shocks that are threatening to further reverse progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the SDG Stimulus puts forward three areas for immediate action, first: tackling the high cost of debt and rising risks of debt distress; second: massively scaling up affordable long-term financing for development; third: expanding contingency financing to countries in need.

### Plenary 4: Artificial Intelligence and Future of Work

Disruptive technologies at large and AI specifically, will surely impact inequality, but the nature of that effect will depend on exactly how this technology is adopted. The plenary would set forward how to deploy generative AI to create and support new occupational tasks and new capabilities for workers. How public policy has a central role in encouraging this positive path of technology would also be addressed.



Register to attend online

Plenary 3: SDG Stimulus to Deliver Agenda 2030



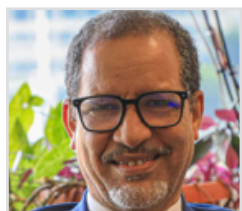
Register to attend online

Plenary 4: Artificial Intelligence and Future of Work

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## Our Speakers

Monday, April 22



**Moctar El Hacene**  
ESCWA



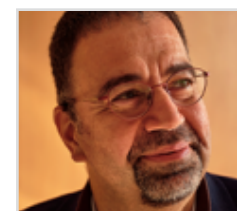
**Roberta Gatti**  
The World Bank



**Sara Hassanain**  
Former Acting Minister of Health



**Touhami AbdelKhalek**  
Mohamed VI Polytechnic U.



**Daron Acemoglu**  
MIT



**Najat El Mekkaoui**  
University Paris-Dauphine



**Li Junhua**  
United Nations



**Mahmoud Mohieldin**  
United Nations



**Heba Handoussa**  
ENID



**Asena Caner**  
TOBB University



**Ragui Assaad**  
University of Minnesota



**Djavad Salehi-Isfahani**  
Virginia Tech University

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# Monday, April 22

## Conference Day 2

### Plenary 3

09:00 - 10:30

## SDG Stimulus to Deliver Agenda 2030

Location: Amphithéâtre B-J0-01

**Chairperson & Moderator:** Moctar Mohamed El Hacene, *ESCWA*

**Keynote Speaker:** Li Junhua, *Under-Secretary-General, United Nations* (Video Recording)

Roberta Gatti, *The World Bank*

Mahmoud Mohieldin, *United Nations* (Online)

**Lead Commentators:** Sara Hassanain, *Former Acting Minister of Health, Sudan*

Heba Handoussa, *Egypt Network for Integrated Development*

Touhami AbdelKhalek, *Mohamed VI Polytechnic University*

Coffee Break 10:30 - 11:00

### Parallel Sessions

11:00 - 12:30

## Group (B) Full details in page 12

Lunch Break 12:30 - 14:00

### Parallel Sessions

14:00 - 15:30

## Group (C) Full details in page 13

Coffee Break 15:30 - 16:00

### Plenary 4

16:00 - 17:30

## Artificial Intelligence and Future of Work

Location: Amphithéâtre B-J0-01

**Chairperson & Moderator:** Asena Caner, *TOBB University*

**Keynote Speaker:** Daron Acemoglu, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)* - (Online)

**Lead Commentators:** Ragui Assaad, *University of Minnesota*

Najat El Mekkaoui, *University Paris-Dauphine*

Djavad Salehi-Isfahani, *Virginia Tech University*

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# Monday, April 22

## Conference Day 2



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## Parallel Sessions - Group (B)

### 11:00 - 12:30

#### Theme: Finance

##### Financial Inclusion, Covid & Energy Equities in MENA

##### Parallel Session 5:

Location: Room B-I0-01

##### Chairperson

- Mohamed Chaffai

##### Discussant

- Sami Mensi

##### Evaluating the Impact of COVID-19 on Credit Rationing for Tunisian SMEs: A Conditional Difference-in-Differences Analysis

- Wided Mattoussi, Ameny Ben Sayari and Younes Ben Zaied

##### Explaining the Financial Inclusion and Digital Financial Access Gap in the Aftermath of COVID-19: A Case Study of Palestine

- Rabeh Morrar, Fernando Rios-Avila and Habib Hinn

##### Connectedness and Portfolio Management between Clean Energy, Crude Oil Prices and Equities Market before and During the Ukraine War: Evidence for GCC Countries

- Walid Chkili and Samir Mabrouk

#### Theme: Poverty and Inequality

##### Modelization of Inequality, Multi-dimensional Poverty and Wage Penalty

##### Parallel Session 6:

Location: Room B-I0-02

##### Chairperson

- Heba Handoussa

##### Discussant

- Ragui Assaad

##### Informing Policies Amid Multidimensional Poverty Changes: Impact Simulation and Poverty-Reduction Optimization

- Hassan Hamie, Jinane Jouni, Vladimir Hlasny and Khalid Abu-Ismael

##### A Geospatial Analysis of Food Insecurity Among Refugee Households in Lebanon Using Machine Learning Techniques

- Angela C. Lyons, Josephine Kass-Hanna, Deepika Pingali, Aiman Soliman, Yifang Zhang, David Zhu and Alejandro Montoya Castano

##### The Incidence and Wage Penalty of Overeducation: The Case of Egypt

- Ali Fakih and Zeina Lizzaik

#### Theme: Macroeconomics

##### Innovation, Inclusiveness and Economic Growth

##### Parallel Session 7:

Location: Room B-H0-01

##### Chairperson

- Javier Diaz Cassou

##### Discussant

- Ida Mirzaie

##### Beyond the Norms: Innovation, Productivity, and Gender in Egyptian Firms

- Amira El-Shal and Eman Moustafa

##### The Causality between Financial Inclusion & Inclusive Growth: Evidence from a Newly Constructed Index in Egypt

- Hanan Abouelfarag and Noha Nagy Elboghdady

##### Economic and Distributional Effects of Dams: Evidence from Iran

- Hans R.A. Koster, Jos van Ommeren, Saeed Tajrishy and Mohammad Vesal



**Hybrid Session**  
Register to attend online

#### Theme: Political Economy

##### Political Economy

##### Parallel Session 8:

Location: Room B-H0-02

##### Chairperson

- Sara Hassanain

##### Discussant

- Raimundo Soto

##### The Impact of Independent Media on Political Mobilization during the Arab Spring

- Laura Angelini, Luisito Bertinelli, Rana Comertpay and Jean-Francois Maystadt

##### Women's Electoral Participation in Turkey: Micro and Macro Factors

- Ali T. Akarca, Aysit Tansel and Şenay Üçdoğruk Birecikli

##### On the Political Economy of Conflicts in the Middle East and Africa

- Olivier Parent and Abdallah Zouache

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# Monday, April 22

## Conference Day 2

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## Parallel Sessions - Group (C)

### 14:00 - 15:30

#### Theme: International Economics

##### GVCs, Labor Markets and Migration

##### Parallel Session 9:

Location: Room B-I0-01

##### Chairperson

- Sofiane Ghali

##### Discussant

- Pinar Tat

##### Does Global Value Chain Participation Lead to Economic Upgrading?

- Hüseyin A. Özer, Taner Turan and Halit Yanikkaya

##### GVC and Labor Market Outcomes: Evidence from MENA

- Yasmine Eissa

##### News Sentiment in Destination Countries and Migration Choices: Evidence from Libya

- Michele Di Maio, Nelly Elmallakh and Valerio Leone Sciabolazza

#### Theme: Climate Change & Energy Transition

##### Poverty, Social, Financial Inclusion and Climate Change

##### Parallel Session 10:

Location: Room B-I0-02

##### Chairperson

- Adel Ben Youssef

##### Discussant

- Atif Kubursi

##### A Comprehensive Analysis of the Dynamic Space-time Impacts of Climate Change on Poverty in Egypt

- Amira Elayouty and Hala Abou-Ali

##### Natural Resource Volatility and Inclusive Growth in MENA: The Moderating Effect of Financial Development and Institutions

- Eslam A. Hassanein and Nourhan A. Hassan

##### Financial Inclusion and Threshold Effects in Carbon Emissions

- Nidhaledine Ben Cheikh and Christophe Rault

#### Theme: Labor Economics

##### The Employment Impact of Public Policies and Programs

##### Parallel Session 11:

Location: Room B-H0-01

##### Chairperson

- Djavad Salehi-Isfahani

##### Discussant

- Meltem Dayioglu

##### Economic Burdens, Social Protection and Well-being during the COVID-19 Crisis in the MENA Region: Insights from Fuzzy Set-Theoretic Approach

- Khaled Nasri and Mohamed Anis Ben Abdallah

##### When Active Labor Market Policies Increase Unemployment: An Assessment of the Impact of the Employment Agencies Program in Algeria

- Ali Souag and Ragui Assaad

##### Local Employment Effects of Affordable Housing Construction: Evidence from Iran

- Saeed Tajrishy and Mohammad Vesal

#### Theme: Political Economy

##### Environment and Conflict

##### Parallel Session 12:

Location: Room B-H0-02

##### Chairperson

- Mohamed El Moctar

##### Discussant

- Ali Akarca

##### Does Satisfaction with Amenities and Environment Influence the Taste for Revolt in the Middle East

- Mohammad Reza Farzanegan and Hassan F. Gholipour

##### Does the Environment Matter? Climate Change, Transboundary Effects, Economic Growth and Conflicts

- Eleftherios Giovanis and Öznur Özdamar

##### Disaster Resilience Index for MENA Countries and Its Impact on Economic Losses

- Ali Ersin Dinçer, N. Nergiz Dincer and Abdullah Demir



**Hybrid Session**  
Register to attend online

# 14

## Tuesday, April 23

### Conference Day 3

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#### Plenary 5: Relocalization and Regional Cooperation in an Increasingly Shock Prone Global Economy

The changing global environment calls for a new push for Arab economic cooperation and integration, taking into account: the current geopolitical situation; the possible intra-Arab value chains and how they could be developed; potential emerging areas for intra-Arab cooperation: digital market, power market, water and food security; possibilities for greater economic integration with neighboring regions, namely Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and Europe.

#### Policy Panel: Morocco's Quest for Stronger Inclusive Growth

Morocco has decided to change course with the adoption of a new model of development, which came with an ambitious reform track, giving the priority to human capital, as reflected in the recent generalization of social protection and the ambitions to climb up the complexity ladder in global value chains.



Register to attend online

Plenary 5: Relocalization and Regional Cooperation



Register to attend online

Policy Panel: Morocco's Quest for Stronger Inclusive Growth

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## Our Speakers

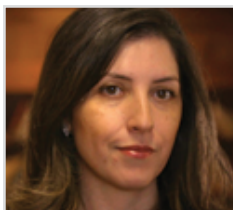
Tuesday, April 23



**Merza Hassan**  
AFESD



**Bernard Hoekman**  
European University Institute



**Leila Baghdadi**  
University of Tunis



**Marouane El Abassi**  
Former Governor, Central  
Bank of Tunisia



**Karim El Aynaoui**  
Mohammed VI Polytechnic U.



**Touhami AbdelKhalek**  
Mohamed VI Polytechnic U.



**Hafez Ghanem**  
Brookings Institute



**Majid A. Al-Moneef**  
KAPSARC



**Arjan de Haan**  
IDRC



**Nouredine Bensouda**  
Trésorerie Générale du Royaume



**Fathallah Oualalou**  
Policy Center for the New South



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## Tuesday, April 23

### Conference Day 3

<b>Plenary 5</b> 09:00 - 10:30	<div> <div> <b>Relocalization and Regional Cooperation in an Increasingly Shock Prone Global Economy</b> </div> <div> <p><i>Location: Amphithéâtre B-J0-01</i></p> <p><b>Chairperson &amp; Moderator:</b> Merza Hassan, <i>Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development</i></p> <p><b>Panelists:</b> Hafez Ghanem, <i>Brookings Institute and Policy Center for the New South</i> Bernard Hoekman, <i>European University Institute</i> Majid A. Al-Moneef, <i>King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC)</i> Leila Baghdadi, <i>University of Tunis</i> Arjan de Haan, <i>International Development Research Centre (IDRC)</i> (Online)</p> </div> </div>
<b>Parallel Sessions</b> 11:00 - 12:30	<div> <div> <b>Group (D)</b> </div> <div> <p>Full details in page 17</p> </div> </div>
	<b>Coffee Break</b> 10:30 - 11:00
<b>Parallel Sessions</b> 14:00 - 15:30	<div> <div> <b>Group (E)</b> </div> <div> <p>Full details in page 18</p> </div> </div>
	<b>Coffee Break</b> 15:30 - 16:00
<b>Plenary 6</b> 16:00 - 17:00	<div> <div> <b>Policy Panel – Morocco’s Quest for Stronger Inclusive Growth</b> </div> <div> <p><i>Location: Amphithéâtre B-J0-01</i></p> <p><b>Chairperson &amp; Moderator:</b> Marouane Abassi, <i>Former Governor of the Central Bank of Tunisia</i></p> <p><b>Panelists:</b> Nouredine Bensouda, <i>Trésorier Général du Royaume, Morocco</i> Karim El Aynaoui, <i>Mohammed VI Polytechnic University</i> Fathallah Oualalou, <i>Policy Center for the New South (PCNS)</i> Touhami Abdelkhalek, <i>Mohammed VI Polytechnic University</i></p> </div> </div>
<b>Closing Session</b> 17:00 - 18:00	<div> <div> <b>Future Outlook and Celebrating Excellence– ERF Best Papers Awards Ceremony</b> </div> </div>

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# Tuesday, April 23

## Conference Day 3



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## Parallel Sessions - Group (D)

### 11:00 - 12:30

#### Theme: Finance

##### Turkish Economy

##### Parallel Session 13:

Location: Room B-I0-01

##### Chairperson

- Amine Tarazi

##### Discussant

- Mustapha Chaffai

##### The Impacts of Matching Contributions on Retirement Savings: Evidence from a Quasi-Natural Experiment

- Sadettin Haluk Citci and Halit Yanikkaya

##### Long Shadows of the Walking Dead on Economic Activity

- N. Nergiz Dincer and Pelin Pektekin Ayça Tekin-Koru

#### Theme: International Economics

##### Trade and Connectiveness, Walls and Integrations

##### Parallel Session 14:

Location: Room B-I0-02

##### Chairperson

- Bernard Hoekman

##### Discussant

- Chahir Zaki

##### Trade and Connectiveness between Neighbours across the Strait

- Fatima El Khatabi and Inmaculada Martinez-Zarzoso

##### Traders' War Against Trade Walls: Evidence from Import Prohibition in Iran

- Kowsar Yousefi and Samad Alaamati

##### Regional and International Financial Integrations: The Drivers and Collateral Benefits

- Erdal Özmen and Fatma Taşdemir



**Hybrid Session**  
Register to attend online

#### Theme: Poverty and Inequality

##### Child Marriage, Female Poverty and a Model of Fertility Decisions

##### Parallel Session 15:

Location: Room B-H0-01

##### Chairperson

- Nurhan Davutyan

##### Discussant

- Paul Makdissi

##### Income Shocks, Bride Price and Child Marriage in Turkey

- Isabelle Chort, Rozenn Hotte and Karine Marazyan

##### Female Headship and Poverty in the Arab Region: Analysis of Trends and Dynamics Based on a New Typology

- Shireen AlAzzawi, Hai-Anh Dang, Vladimir Hlasny, Kseniya Abanokova and Jere Behrman

##### The Tradeoff between Child Quantity and Child Quality: Testing Becker's Q-Q Model and Long-terms Effects on Women Using Data from Egypt

- Hosam Ibrahim

#### Theme: Political Economy

##### Investor-State Bargaining, Food Security and Poverty

##### Parallel Session 16:

Location: Room B-H0-02

##### Chairperson

- Noha El-Mikawy

##### Discussant

- Sezgin Polat

##### The Interplay of Political Turbulence and Investor-State Dispute: Insights from Africa and the MENA Region

- Dina Kassab

##### Food Security, Prices and Geopolitical Risk: A Panel Threshold Regression (PTR) Approach

- Samer Mehibel, Reda Hamza, Boudjana Amel Bouzid and Messaoud Lazereg

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# Tuesday, April 23

## Conference Day 3

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## Parallel Sessions - Group (E)

### 14:00 - 15:30

#### Theme: Labor Economics

##### Female Employment and Migration

##### Parallel Session 17:

Location: Room B-I0-01

##### Chairperson

- Jackline Wahba

##### Discussant

- Dorothee Boccanfuso

##### Higher Participation But Lower Pay? Occupational Segregation and the Gender Wage Gap in Turkey

- Meltem Dayioglu and Sezgin Polat

##### What Makes Women Want to Leave? Survey Results from Lebanon

- Lea Bou Khater, Marion Dovis, Josephine Kass-Hanna, Karine Moukaddem and Eva Raiber

##### Maternal Employment and Children's Development Outcomes: Understanding the Influence of Employment Types

- Shireen AlAzzawi and Vladimir Hlasny

#### Theme: International Economics

##### FDI-Conflict Nexus and Dynamics of Exports

##### Parallel Session 18:

Location: Room B-I0-02

##### Chairperson

- Leila Baghdadi

##### Discussant

- N. Nergiz Dincer

##### A Spatio - Temporal Analysis of FDI-Conflict Nexus in MENA Region

- Marouane Alaya

##### How Inward FDI Shapes the Dynamics of Exports and R&D Activities: Evidence from Tunisian Manufacturing Firms

- Wided Mattoussi, Younes Ben Zaied, Omar Al-Tabaa and Foued Mattoussi

#### Theme: Climate Change & Energy Transition

##### Role of Institution and Policy in a Just Transition to Renewable Energy

##### Parallel Session 19:

Location: Room B-H0-01

##### Chairperson

- Luisito Bertinelli

##### Discussant

- Korhan Gokmenoglu

##### The Role of Institutional Factors in Shaping the Relationship between Economic Policy Uncertainty and Energy Consumption in Gulf Countries: An Empirical Analysis

- Hadil Hnainia and Sami Mensi

##### The Prospects of the Green Transition in the Arab Region: State-Society Actors, Power Relations, Interests, and Coordination

- Mohamed Ismail Sabry

#### Theme: Macroeconomics

##### Monetary Dominance, Oil Shocks and Energy Subsidies

##### Parallel Session 20:

Location: Room B-H0-02

##### Chairperson

- Rim Mouelhi

##### Discussant

- Kamiar Mohaddes

##### Fiscal versus Monetary Dominance: Evidence from Saudi Arabia

- Moez Ben Tahar, Sarra Ben Slimane and Raja AlMarzoqi

##### Inequality and Energy Subsidies Reform: Insights from the Largest Cash Transfer in the Developing World

- Mohammad Ali Mokhtari and Hamed Ghoddusi



**Hybrid Session**  
Register to attend online

# 19

## General Information and Links

### Conference Venue and Facilities

Mohammed VI Polytechnic University  
Rabat Campus Rocade Rabat-Salé, Rabat 11103

It will be hosted on Campus:

Teaching Building B.

All plenary sessions will take place in Auditorium B-J0-01, and all other parallel sessions will be in classrooms: B-I0-01, B-I0-02, B-H0-01 and B-H0-02.

Wi-Fi connection will be accessible across the entire campus for all participants.

### Conference Material

All information about the plenary sessions can be accessed through the following link:

<https://bit.ly/3Prt96E>

All conference papers for the parallel sessions can be accessed the following link:

<https://bit.ly/3VpCW0o>

### Virtual Attendance

To attend all the annual conference hybrid sessions, please register through the following links:

- Plenary 1 – Panoramic Political Economy Perspective of MENA
- Plenary 2 – Prospects in the Middle East for Peaceful Resolution of Conflict
- Plenary 3 – SDG Stimulus to Deliver Agenda 2030
- Plenary 4 – AI and Future of Work
- Plenary 5 – Relocalization and Regional Cooperation
- Policy Panel - Morocco's Quest for Stronger Inclusive Growth
- Celebrating Excellence and Closing
- Parallel Sessions - Group (A) - Theme: Labor
- Parallel Sessions - Group (B) - Theme: Macroeconomics
- Parallel Sessions - Group (C) - Theme: Political Economy
- Parallel Sessions - Group (D) - Theme: International Economics
- Parallel Sessions - Group (E) - Theme: Climate Change & Energy

**For further information or queries, please contact:**

Mrs. Hoda Azmi - Conference Manager

[hazmi@erf.org.eg](mailto:hazmi@erf.org.eg)

2024

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