

HAROUT AKDEDIAN

Curriculum vitae

harout.akdedian@gmail.com

EDUCATION

- 2017 Doctor of Philosophy in Islamic Studies, University of New England, Australia
Dissertation: *The New Social Order in Syria: Islamic Radicalization and Ethno-Religious Relations*
- 2011 M.A. in International Law and Settlement of Disputes, United Nations University for Peace, Costa Rica
- 2010 B.A. in Political Science, Haigazian University, Lebanon

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 2023 *State Atrophy in Syria: War, Society and Institutional Change*. Edinburgh University Press.
- 2012 *The Armenian-Turkish Protocols: A Politico-Legal Critique of the Protocols on the Establishment and Development of Relations between Armenia and Turkey*. Riga, Latvia: Lambert Academic Publishing.

Edited Volumes

- 2024 *Spoils of War in the Arab East: Reconditioning Society and Polity in Conflict*, co-edited with Aziz Al-Azmeh and Haian Dukhan. London: I.B. Tauris.
- 2021 *Striking from the Margins: State, Religion and Devolution of Authority in the Middle East*, co-edited with Aziz Al-Azmeh, et al. London: Saqi Books.

Book Chapters

- 2024 "Civilian Resistance and Its Limits: The Case of Deir Hafer," coauthored with Ali Aljasem. *Spoils of War in the Arab East: Reconditioning Society and Polity in Conflict*. London: I.B. Tauris.
- 2021 "Stifling the Public Domain in Syria: Religion & State from Neoliberalism to State Atrophy." *Striking from the Margins: State, Religion and Devolution of Authority in the Middle East*, edited by Aziz al-Azmeh, et al. London: Saqi Books, 91-118.
- 2018 "State Formation and Social Conflict in Syria: Causalities, Unintended Consequences and Analytical Trajectories." *Emerging Scholarship on the Middle East and Central Asia: Moving from the Periphery*, edited by Katlyn Quenzer, et al. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 93-118.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2020 "State Atrophy and the Reconfiguration of Borderlands in Syria and Iraq: Post-2011 Dynamics," coauthored with Harith Hasan. *Political Geography*, 80, June.
- 2019 "Ethno-Religious Belonging in the Syrian Conflict: Between Communitarianism and Sectarianization." *The Middle East Journal*, 73:3, 417-437.
- 2019 "On Violence and Radical Theology in Syria: The Instrumentality of Spectacular

- Violence and Exclusionary Practices from Comparative and Local Standpoints.” *Politics, Religion & Ideology*, 20:3, 361-380.
- 2016 “The ‘Local Turn’ and Resilient Communities in Syria: Infrastructure for Peace or Hegemonic Pathways?” *Peace and Conflict Review*, 9:1, 71-79.
- Op-Ed**
- 2024 “How the Israel-Hamas War Fuels Extremism in the U.S. and Beyond” *Lawfare Institute*, 9 February.
- 2021 “Identity as Analytical Category: Ten Years of Knowledge Production on Syria” *Berkley Forum*, 24 March
- 2019 “Islamic State: the ‘caliphate’ is off the map for now, but will evolve in dangerous ways” *The Conversation*, 10 April
- 2019 “The Religious Domain Continues to Expand in Syria” *Carnegie Middle East Center*, 19 March
- 2017 “Will the US missile strike be the turning point in Syria’s war?” *The Conversation*, 10 April

GRANTS, AWARDS & HONORS

- 2017 DVCR Completion Scholarships, University of New England (AUD 8,000)
- 2016–2013 Australian Government Research Training Program (AUD 27,000 per annum)
International Postgraduate Research Award (IPRA), University of New England (AUD 64,000)
- 2015 Nominated, Teaching Excellence Award in the Humanities, University of New England

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

Discussant | Contributor

- 2024 Discussant and panelist, “Spoils of War in the Arab East: Where Are the Margins Now?”, The Bruno Kreisky Forum, Vienna, 8 March
- 2021 Panelist, The Bruno Kreisky Forum: “Solidarity in Crisis: Perspectives from the Middle East,” Central European University, Vienna, 16 September
- 2019 Panelist, “Devolution of Authority in the Arab Mashreq,” American University of Beirut, 10 January
- 2018 Panelist, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy: Roundtable on Tribes in Jihadi Lands, Beirut, 7 March
- 2018 Roundtable Speaker, “Devolution of Authority in Syria” Middle East Studies Association, San Antonio, Texas, 15-18 November
- 2018 “Political Violence in Syria: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives” Utrecht University, Utrecht, 14-15 September

- 2018 Contributor, Carnegie Middle East Center: Workshop on Borderlands in the Middle East, Beirut, 3-4 August
- 2018 Contributor, Carnegie Middle East Center: Roundtable on the religious field in Syria, Beirut, 9 May
- 2017 Panelist, The Bruno Kreisky Forum: "Striking from the Margins: Religion, State and Disintegration in the Middle East," Central European University, Vienna, 15 December
- 2016 Panelist, 3rd Australasian Conference on Islam: "Refuting the Theological Foundations of Violent Extremism and Radicalisation," Melbourne, 13-14 October
- 2015 Panelist, Centre for Peace Studies: "Questioning Peace Infrastructure," University of New England, Sydney, 12-13 October
- 2013 Panelist, Perspective on Progress Public Lecture: University of Queensland, Queensland, 27 November

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of New England, Australia

- 2015 Interim Course Coordinator, Department of History
Graduate: "Islam and the Modern World Order"
Undergraduate: "Islam and the West: The Clash of Civilizations?"
- 2014-2016 Instructor, Department of Politics, and International Affairs
Graduate: "Contemporary Challenges to Global Security"
Undergraduate: "Introduction to Peace Studies"

United Nations Mandated University for Peace

- 2013-2011 Junior Lecturer, Department of International Law and Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Costa Rica
Graduate: "Borders and Conflict in the Middle East"; "Foundation Course in Peace and Conflicts Studies; Borders, Conflict, and International Law"

University of California, Berkeley

- 2012 Teaching Assistant, Summer Institute, Costa Rica
Undergraduate: "Problems Without Passports: Transnational Challenges to National Security"

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Fellowships

- 2022-2020 Senior Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (nonresident), Central European University, Vienna; Department of History: "Post-Conflict Analysis of the Syrian War; Peacebuilding; State-Society Relations in Syria; Community Resilience and Post-Conflict Social Cohesion"
- 2020-2017 Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Central European University, Budapest; Department of History: "Transformation of the Religious Field in Syria during Armed Conflict; State-Society Relations in Syria"

2013-2011 Research Fellow, United Nations University for Peace, Human Rights Center, Costa Rica:
 “Borders and Territorial Sovereignty in International Law”

Research Consultancies

2020-2019 Lead Research Consultant, United Nations, Beirut; Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia: “Civilian Efforts of Community Protection During War, Social Trust and Resiliency in Post-Conflict Syria”

2019 Advisory Participant, United Nations, Beirut; Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia: “Deradicalization in Northeast Syria”

2019-2018 Carnegie Middle East Center, Beirut: “Borders and Cross-Border Movement in Syria and Iraq”

COURTESY APPOINTMENTS

2019-present Visiting Scholar, Portland State University, Middle East Studies Center

2022-2024 Associate Fellow, Central European University, Centre for Religious Studies

CIVIL SERVICE

Government-Based

2022-present Civil Rights Advocate and Program Analyst, Oregon Dept. of Justice, Civil Rights Unit: Statewide education/outreach, emphasizing historically oppressed/marginalized communities; data collection, policy recommendations, system coordination; law enforcement training; direct support to victims of bias crimes, hate incidents and violations of Oregon’s Sanctuary Laws

Community-Based

2022-2019 Victim Advocate and Program Manager, Crime Victim Advocacy Program; Lutheran Community Services NW, Portland, Oregon: Provided/oversaw confidential victim-centered, trauma-informed intervention/support, focused on immigrant communities impacted by hate and bias; educational outreach on anti-immigrant hate to neighborhood associations and community organizations.

Workshops

2023, 2022 “Cognitive Bias and Cultural Humility in Advocacy,” Oregon State [online] Victim Assistance Academy

2021-2020 “The Trauma of Anti-immigrant Hate: Impact and Intervention from a Trauma-Informed Perspective,” City of Portland Civic Dialogue Series, for Portland United Against Hate and City of Portland Office of Community and Civic Life

LANGUAGES

Arabic: Native

Armenian: Native

English: Fluent

French: Excellent

Spanish: Conversational

Turkish: Basic Comprehension