

Beyond legal documents: Constitutions in the Middle East past and present

January 15-16, 2019

Diller Building (74), Room 301

Coordinators: Avi Rubin and Relli Shechter

Tuesday, January 15

9:00-9:30 **Congratulations and opening remarks**

9:30-11:00 **Religious legacies**

Chair: **Muhammad al-Atawneh**

Discussant: **David Mednicoff**

Naveed Sheikh, Keel University

The Constitution of Medina and Its Socio-Political Principles: Revisiting the Foundations of Prophetocratic Statecraft in an Age of Schism

Hanna Lerner, Tel-Aviv University

Religion and Constitution Making in Comparative Perspective

11:30-13:30 **Late Ottoman constitutionalism**

Chair: **Iris Agmon**

Discussant: **Kent Schull**

Susan Gunasti, Ohio Wesleyan University

The Social Contract and its Influence on Constitutionalism in Late Ottoman Islamic Political Thought

Aylin Koçunyan, Bilgi University

Negotiating the Final Draft of the 1876 Ottoman Constitution

Avi Rubin, Ben-Gurion University

The Ottoman "Constitution" before and after 1878: A View from the Court System

13:30-15:00 Lunch

15:00-16:30 **Constitutionalism in the transition to nation states**

Chair: **Haggai Ram**

Discussant: **Susan Gunasti**

Kent Schull, Binghamton University

MENA Constitutional Revolutions and Criminal Justice Reform in the Global Progressive Era

Relli Shechter, Ben-Gurion University

The 1923 Egyptian Constitution—Vision and Ambivalence in the Future of Education in Egypt

18:00 Dinner

Wednesday, January 16

9:00-10:30 **Why some constitutions were not meant to be?**

Chair: **Nimrod Hurvitz**

Discussant: **Daniel Zisenwine**

Nir Kedar, Bar Ilan University

Comparative Legal History in Action: The Story of the Absent Israeli Constitution

Juan Romero, Western Kentucky University

Arab Nationalist Constitutions:

The cases of the Egyptian-Syrian United Arab Republic and the Iraqi-Jordanian Arab Union

11:00-12:30 **Constitutions: hopes for better futures?**

Chair: **Dror Zeevi**

Discussant: **Felix Petersen**

David Mednicoff, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
Political Promulgations: Constitutions as Aspirational, Reflective and Symbolic in Contemporary Arab Politics

Heidi Lane, US Naval War College

Constitution-Building in the Counterterrorist State

12:30-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00 **Constitutions: hopes for better futures? (cont.)**

Chair: **Yonatan Mendel**

Discussant: **Heidi Lane**

Felix Petersen, Hebrew University and

Zeynep Yanaşmayan, Max Planck, Halle

The Failure of Popular Constitution Making in Turkey: Past, Present and Future

Daniel Zisenwine, Hebrew University

The Making of Tunisia's Post Revolutionary Constitution and Its Aftermath

16:15-17:00 **Concluding remarks (participants)**

