

Cairo Talks on Transition and Change – CTTC

Since popular protest has ousted former President Hosni Mubarak from his office on February 11, Egypt is witnessing a profound transformation process that affects all aspects of society. The Cairo Talks on Transition and Change (CTTC) aim to provide a platform to analyse the ongoing changes and assess the perspectives of political transition in Egypt. Each month renowned scholars from Egypt and Germany will address key topics of this transition period. Each talk will be animated by contributions from two scholars and will leave sufficient time for debate. CTTC are jointly organised by the Cairo Offices of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the Freie Universität Berlin, and the German Orient Institut Beirut. CTTC are open to students, researchers, activists and the wider public. Light refreshments will be served after the talks to continue the debate in a more convivial setting.

In the second CTTC talk Dr. Holger Albrecht, Assistant Professor at the American University in Cairo, will speak about the role of the military in Egypt's current transformation process. Dr. Jochen Stadt, researcher at Freie Universität Berlin, will present the role of central institutions in Germany's path to democracy.

„Back on Horseback: The Military and Regime Change in Egypt“

The Egyptian military has played a pivotal role as the ultimate backbone of the Mubarak regime but refrained from safeguarding the ousted president during the Tahrir revolution. In spite of the melt-down of civilian institutions, the armed forces have remained in power and established a military government institutionalized in the Supreme Military Council. While the 'Man on Horseback' has returned to directly engineer political decision making, the military's long-term strategies and visions for the country's political future remain unclear as of yet. How does the military establishment influence the reform process and the resurrection of political institutions? Will the military preserve its tutelary position in politics or allow for the advent of genuine democracy?

Dr. Holger Albrecht is an assistant professor of Political Science at the American University in Cairo

Dr. Jochen Stadt is heading a research project at the *Forschungsverbund SED-Staat*, a research consortium at Freie Universität Berlin specialized in the history of the GDR

**Venue: DAAD premises, 11 Saleh Ayoub, Zamalek, Cairo.
Monday, 9 May 2011, 7 pm**

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