

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

17th DGAP International Summer School

The Uprisings in North Africa and their Geopolitical Implications

Berlin, 19 August – 29 August 2013

The EU-Middle East Forum (EUMEF) of the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) will be hosting the 17th **DGAP International Summer School** on **“The Uprisings in North Africa and their Geopolitical Implications”** in Berlin from **19 until 29 August 2013**. EUMEF is a program for the advancement of students and young professionals at DGAP, which is carried out in close cooperation with its long-standing partner, the Robert Bosch Stiftung, as well as the German Federal Foreign Office and the Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations (ifa).

After decades of political stagnation, Tunisia and Egypt have witnessed tremendous changes during the past two and a half years. Since the peaceful uprisings and mass demonstrations, which forced former presidents Ben Ali and Mubarak to step down in 2011, both countries have seen a remarkable political awakening of their populations, an unprecedented flourishing of their political landscapes and (relatively) free and fair elections. Expectedly, however, the transformation processes in both countries are also fraught with uncertainties and overshadowed by, sometimes violent, power struggles. Both societies seem to be more divided than ever, and while the polarization between Islamist and liberal/secularist currents is often at the center of attention, the socio-economic situation poses major challenges that urgently need to be addressed. Morocco, too, has been affected by the wave of popular uprisings in the Arab world, albeit in a less dramatic way. The monarchy has so far been able to contain the protests by initiating a reform process that included the passing of a revised constitution in 2011. As in Egypt and Tunisia, an Islamist party won the parliamentary elections. Nevertheless, in Morocco, too, the socio-economic situation remains worrying and large factions of society are dissatisfied with the state of reforms.

The International Summer School will look at the current status of transitions in Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco, highlighting achievements as well as challenges. In addition to discussing recent domestic developments in the three countries, this year's summer school will focus on the geopolitical implications of the Arab uprisings, analyzing the role of external actors such as the EU and Germany, Turkey or the Gulf countries, as well as new alliances and power shifts within the wider region. The new Islamist governments' foreign policy agendas will be addressed, as well as the implications of violent conflicts and the status of regional integration.

DGAP's International Summer Schools gather promising students and graduates from Europe, Turkey and North Africa in Berlin. They offer participants a unique opportunity to experience a highly stimulating intellectual environment and to broaden their horizons by attending lectures, panel debates, working groups, and communication and argumentation workshops, and by engaging in Oxford debates (role-plays). Renowned experts, academics as well as practitioners, offer their insights and analysis, and participants visit thematically relevant institutions in Berlin and experience intense joint intellectual and social activities.

The summer school integrates various formats, alternating between panel discussions, working group sessions, training workshops and visits to relevant institutions. For the working group sessions, participants will be allocated to three groups, dealing with **The Political Sphere**, **The Socio-Economic Sphere** and **External Actors and Geopolitical Implications** respectively. Each participant is expected to deliver a presentation of 10-15 minutes (a paper of around 2000 words) on one sub-aspect of the three thematic blocs. In the first bloc, for example, participants might analyze the role of different political actors, such as the military, the old regimes, Islamist groups, the opposition, or elaborate on institutional and legal reforms, the process of constitution writing, the role of the media, political participation of youth etc. In the second bloc, participants might work on subjects such as (youth) unemployment and the labor market, economic reforms, corruption, the informal sector, subsidies, gender equality, social justice etc. In the third bloc, participants will focus on the role of external actors such as the EU, Gulf countries, Iran, China, Turkey etc. and discuss geopolitical power shifts, old and new alliances, regional integration, conflicts and (civil) wars, migration and mobility etc. For the application, please specify **two subjects** related to **two of the three thematic blocs** that you would be willing to address in your presentation. Both suggestions must be briefly outlined in a one-page-paper (½ page for each idea) and be attached to the application. We will decide on the final topic.

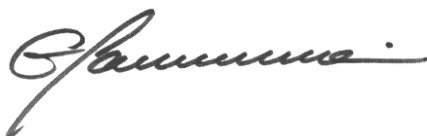
We are looking for qualified **students at the end of their studies or recent graduates (22 - 28 years of age) from Germany, France, the UK, Italy, Spain, Greece, Turkey, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco**. Applicants should have an academic background in the fields of Social Sciences, Economics, Law or Media Science and should demonstrate profound interest in the transformation processes in North Africa and related subjects, be it in their studies and/or in extracurricular activities. The summer school's 30 participants will be selected on the basis of their academic achievements, motivation, the quality of their intended input statement, relevant activities, and language proficiency (working language is English). Special emphasis is placed on gender balance and an adequate representation of the different countries. DGAP will cover all program-related costs in Berlin, i.e. accommodation and meals. Participants will receive a travel subsidy according to their place of residence. Participants from Germany receive up to 100€, from other European countries up to 200€, from Turkey up to 350€ and from the North African countries up to 450€ once they provide us with all travel documents (receipts, boarding passes etc.). **Participation in all activities related to the summer school is mandatory.**

To apply, please send the following documents to Sami Mokdad (eumef1@dgap.org):

- The filled-in application form (see attachment)
- Your CV
- A one-page letter of motivation in which you express your motivation and highlight your relevant qualifications
- A one-page-paper of two suggestions (½ page for each idea) for an intended input statement in narrative form (the final paper should comprise around 2000 words and must be sent to the organizers prior to the summer school)

Deadline for application is 12 May 2013. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any further questions or concerns. We are looking forward to receiving your application!

Sincerely,



Prof. Dr. Eberhard Sandschneider
Otto Wolff-Director of the Research Institute
DGAP



Sarah Hartmann
Head of the EU-Middle East Forum
DGAP