

# Cairo Talks on Transformation and Change – CTTC

The Cairo Talks on Transformation and Change (CTTC) aim to provide a platform to analyse the ongoing changes and assess the perspectives of political transition in Egypt. 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), Freie Universität Berlin, and the German Orient-Institut Beirut (OIB).

In the 13th CTTC talk Dr. Maaïke Voorhoeve (Forum Transregionale Studien, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin) will discuss with Prof. Zeinab Khadr (AUC and Cairo University) on:

## “Love, life and law – The future of family politics in Egypt and Tunisia”

Family politics are a governmental tool to organize society. In some states, these might be to a more or lesser extent in conformity with the dominant traditions and beliefs. Under the toppled regimes of Egypt and Tunisia, however, family politics were seriously authoritarian: they can be characterized as the imposition of certain norms and values regardless of whether these were shared by the society at large. They were a means to instruct people, to organize, to control and to discipline societal structures. The uprisings opened up the debate on the norms and values imposed by the dictatorships. Questions arising in these debates are: what are the norms pertaining to the organization of families, and how important are religious beliefs and traditions in this regard? The 13th CTTC session addresses these questions by exploring the debates on and the changes in the official norms pertaining to the family.

**Dr. Maaïke Voorhoeve** is a researcher at the Forum Transregionale Studien of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. She published the books *Family Law in Islam* and *Gender and Divorce in North Africa*. Among her many research interests are the interplay between formal and informal norms and public debates on law-related issues, with a focus on Tunisia.

**Prof. Zeinab Khadr** is a researcher at the Social Science Research Center, American University of Cairo, and professor of Statistics, Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University. In her research she is specifically interested in population aging, health inequities, demographic change, and gender differences in health in the Arab region.

The debate will be chaired by Sarah Wessel, from the Orient-Institut Beirut (OIB) Cairo Office.



**Venue: DAAD premises, 11 Saleh Ayoub, Zamalek, Cairo**  
**Thursday, 27 February 2014, 7 pm**

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