

DREAM

Seminar
2020-21

DRAFTING and Enacting
the Revolutions in the Arab
Mediterranean.

In Search for Dignity –
from the 1950's until today

Décentrer les révolutions
Decentring Revolutions



European Research Council

The interdisciplinary seminar proposed by the research team of the DREAM project, offers a reflection on revolutionary itineraries in the Middle East and North Africa. It focuses on the experiences of political learning and places that remain unnoticed in most of the studies. These places are difficult to grasp by archives or not very present in the traditional repertoires of protest and mobilizations which tend to privilege political or union structures, or streets and its police handling, to identify revolutionary actors. In terms of documentation, this means a focus on the archives of power often targeting the same people, or structured activist documentation, or the collection of life stories from previously identified activists. These same activists often recall spaces and moments they consider important and that constitute decisive places of learning and sometimes the source of notable biographical breaks or ruptures.

These can be spaces of sociability such as reading or cinema circles, extracurricular or university activities, sports clubs, amateur newspapers or places of worship. They provide occasions for meeting and discussion, opportunities to explore and foster a “desire for change”. The DREAM Seminar welcomes reflections on these places of political learning. Researchers will be invited to discuss methodologies to capture them through empirical fieldwork and archival documentation.

In the course of the seminar researchers will present their work on activists’ biographies in the Arab world, particularly with regard to the uprisings that have occurred since 2010. Ten years later, it is possible to return to individual or collective itineraries, to examine more “cold” moments of engagement, or more intimate places of politicization (of bodies, sexualities or life choices often perceived as non-political). We will reflect on the theoretical and conceptual tools that allow us to address the question of “silences”, “breaks” and “blanks”. Apart from the presentation of ongoing research and books, raw documentation and archival collections will be presented as case studies and brought up for discussion.

The seminar is built around two thematic components:

- 1/** a reflection on the biographical consequences of contestation, focusing on recent mobilizations (from December 2010), articulated on the presentation of recent research.
- 2/** a series of presentations, readings and discussions on the spaces of political learning, conceived as a first identification of places where ruptures and commitments occur, or where future activists acquire skills they can mobilize in protests and revolts.

PART I

THE BIOGRAPHICAL CONSEQUENCES
OF THE PROTEST

Session 1

Monday
2 November 2020
14h30-17h30

*Militant Generations And Revolution*

Layla Baamara, Political Science (University of Rouen)
Chaymaa Hassabo, Political science (University of Johannesburg)
Cléments Deshayes, Anthropology (University of Paris 8)
Discussant: **Helène Combes**, Political Science (CERI, Sciences Po Paris)

Session 2

Monday
9 November 2020
14h30-17h30

*Private Wakes Of Revolutionaries*

Amin Allal, Political Science and Sociology (CNRS/Ceraps Lille 2)
Youssef El Chazli, Political Science (Brandeis University, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, Massachusetts)
Joseph Hivert, Political Science (University of Lausanne)
Discussant: **Camille Masclet**, Political Science and Sociology (CESSP, University of Paris 1)

Session 3

Monday
7 December 2020
14h30-17h30

*Work, Family, Revolution*

Jann Boeddeling, Political Science (London School of Economics)
Sarah Barrières, Sociology (EHESS Paris)
Michele Scala, Political Science (Sciences Po Lyon)
Discussant: **Bleuwenn Lechaux**, Political Science (ARENES Rennes 2)



PART II

ON THE MARGINS OF UNIVERSITY AND SCHOOL, LEARNING ABOUT POLITICS IN CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS, THINK TANKS

Session 4

Monday

4 January 2021

14h30-16h30

***Learning To Revolt
(Introduction Part II of the Seminar)***

Leyla Dakhli, Project Investigator ERC DREAM (CNRS/Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin)

Session 5

Monday

11 January 2021

14h30-16h30

***Coming Of Age In Times Of Change:
A Revolutionary Generation?***

Farah Ramzy, Political Science (University of Bordeaux)

Session 6

Monday

25 January 2021

14h30-16h30

***Revolution And Disenchantment.
Arab Marxism And The Binds Of Emancipation***

Fadi Bardawil, Political Anthropology (Duke University, Asian and Middle East Studies)

Session 7

Monday

15 February 2021

14h30-16h30

***The Spirit Of The Ciné-Club: Cinematic And
Political Imaginations In Bourguiba's Tunisia***

Morgan Corriou, Science of Information and Communication (Centre d'études sur les médias, les technologies et l'internationalisation, University of Paris 8)

The session will be held in French

Session 8

Monday

8 March 2021

14h30-16h30

***Remembering The Palestine Group: Friendship,
Global Solidarity, And The Iranian Revolution***

Naghmeh Sohrabi, History (Brandeis University, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, Massachusetts)

- Session 9  ***From The Living Room To The Printer. Militant Paths In The Syrian Communist Labour Party***
Monday
29 March 2021
14h30-16h30
Waël Ali, director (“metteur en scène”)
Simon Dubois, Sociology of Art (IFPO, Amman)
The session will be held in French
- Session 10  ***Najaf: A Case Study***
Monday
12 April 2021
14h30-16h30
Thibaud Laval, History (École des Hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris)
The session will be held in French
- Session 11  ***Book Discussion: “The Legacies Of Sartre”***
Monday
3 May 2021
14h30-16h30
Yoav Di Capua, History (University of Texas, Austin)
Sophie Wahnich, History (CNRS, Institut interdisciplinaire d’anthropologie du contemporain, Paris)
The session will be held in French and English, with translation
- Session 12  ***Becoming Student Activists Under Ben Ali. Political Socialisation Within The General Union Of Students Of Tunisia (UGET)***
Monday
31 May 2021
14h30-16h30
Moutaa Amine Elwaer, Political Science (Collectif de recherche Action Politique et Démocratie/ CAPED, University of Montreal)
The session will be held in French
- Session 13  ***Fanon And Its Cercles***
Monday
14 June 2021
14h30-16h30
Muriam Davis, History (University of California Santa Cruz)
Kmar Bendana, History (Manouba-University, Tunisia)
The session will be held in French and English, with translation

The Seminar is organised in cooperation with



The **Centre d'histoire sociale des mondes contemporains (CHS)** Paris
and The **Centre Marc Bloch (CMB)** Berlin

All Sessions will be held online via Zoom. For participation and/or subscription on our mailinglist please send an Email to

dream@cmb.hu-berlin.de

Further information on the sessions, such as texts for the preparation, but also changes of the program or the possibility of participating on site in Berlin or Paris, can be found on our homepage which is updated regularly

dream.hypotheses.org

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