

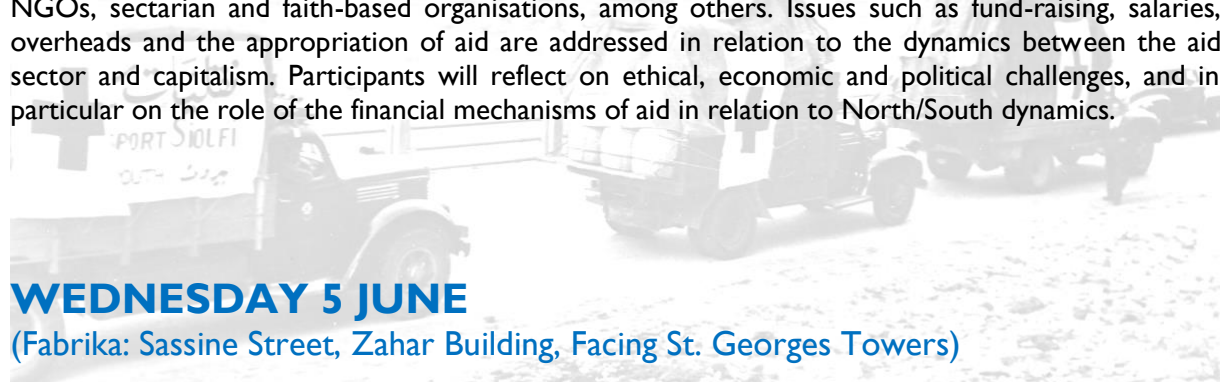
“It's a rich man's world?”

Financing humanitarian aid and development in the Middle East since the mid-19th century

International Workshop

Beirut

This exploratory workshop aims to delve into the financial dimensions of transnational aid, tracing its evolution from the emergence of modern humanitarianism in the mid-19th century to the present day. As a "laboratory for humanitarianism", the Middle East provides an optimal setting for such an enquiry. Hosted in Beirut, the event brings together researchers from a wide range of disciplines as well as practitioners from the humanitarian and development sectors. It examines the financial resources of aid, including their allocation, management and circulation, examining practices, discourses and strategies, while also considering long-term reflections. The objective is to analyse the processes of normalisation, exploring their effects and how they are contested, criticized or challenged. This analysis spans various scales and draws on a diverse array of actors, encompassing international and local NGOs, sectarian and faith-based organisations, among others. Issues such as fund-raising, salaries, overheads and the appropriation of aid are addressed in relation to the dynamics between the aid sector and capitalism. Participants will reflect on ethical, economic and political challenges, and in particular on the role of the financial mechanisms of aid in relation to North/South dynamics.



WEDNESDAY 5 JUNE

(Fabrika: Sassine Street, Zahar Building, Facing St. Georges Towers)

9.30 Welcome and Opening Remarks

Kamel Dorai (CNRS, Migrinter), Marie Levant (IFPO & École française de Rome), Léa Macias (AFD & EHESS), Matthieu Rey (IFPO)

10.00 Fundraising Methods and Networks

Discussant: Philippe Bourmaud (Institut français d'études anatoliennes, Istanbul)

Souad Slim (University of Balamand): *Greek Orthodox Charities in Healthcare and Education in Beirut during the Ottoman Period: Accounting Sources.*

Annalaura Turiano (Iremam / Centre Marc Bloch): *Humanitarian and Development Associations in Egypt (1930-1960). Financial Issues and Mutual Dependence.*

Norig Neveu (CNRS, Iremam): *Securing and Managing Funds for Melkite Hospitals and Charities after 1948. Women and Missionary Materialities in Jordan.*

14.00 Administering Resources in the North-South Context: Norms, Controls and Power Relations

Discussant: Mona Harb (American University of Beirut)

Sbeih Sbeih (Iremam): *La Palestine des bailleurs de fonds ou l'aide comme instrument de domination.*

Cybele Atme (Erasmus University Rotterdam): *Suspicion and Compliance: Forming Bureaucracy in Lebanon's Financial Aid Industry.*

Wafra Najdi (Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam): *Thinking Refugee Leadership and Humanitarian Funding from Lebanon: Selective Empowerment or Systemic Exclusion?*

Nadia Latif (Mount Holyoke College): *"Decent work?" Humanitarian Aid and Palestinian Refugee Women's Labour Precarity.*



18.30 Social Sciences and Development Practitioners: a Dialogue to Enhance Knowledge Production (Public Event)



THURSDAY 6 JUNE

(IFPO, Institut français du Proche-Orient: French Embassy, Damascus Street)

10.00 Humanitarian Profits: Individual Prospects, Economic Development and State Strategies

Discussant: Jihane Sfeir (Free University of Brussels)

Charles Ganier (Université Paris-Cité): *Humanitarian Fund Transfers –and Diversion– from the USA to Iran in the early 20th century: The Petros Ellias Case (1900s)*

Seda Altug (Boğaziçi University): *The Economics of Resettling Refugees in Syria during the Mandate period.*

Cynthia Kreichati (McGill University): *"Economic dislocation": Palestinian refugees, early humanitarian interventions and the problem of labour in Lebanon (1948-1951)*

Laura Chaudiron (Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne): *Contact, tension and exit between North and South. The case of a "local" volunteer in a French NGO in Lebanon.*

14.00 Transfers and Circulations of Money

Discussant : Abdalla Muhieddine (Lebanese University)

Kristina Tschunkert (University of Manchester): *Humanitarian Social Protection and the Political Marketplace in Lebanon: Conflict-sensitivity Concerns and Opportunities for Peace**

Yahia Hakoum (EHESS / IFPO): *Exploring Diverse International Aid Mechanisms and Their Effects on Local Dynamics: The Case Study of Ghouta, Syria*

Antonia Nora-Collard (Sciences Po Paris): *An analysis of Turkish Red Crescent's institutional transformations based on its domestic and international financial resources.*

16.15 Final Round Table

Chair: Rosalie Berthier (Synaps, Beirut)

With: Philippe Bourmaud (Institut français d'études anatoliennes), Mona Harb (American University of Beyrouth), Jihane Sfeir (Université Libre de Bruxelles), Abdalla Muhieddine (Lebanese University).



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