

Lecture: Political Economy of Islam

Associate Prof. Dr. Moamen Gouda (CNMS & FB02)

SoSe 2022, Tuesdays 8-10 am (2 SWS, 6 ECTS)/ ILIAS Reading+ Online Sessions via BigBlueButton (BBB)

(Marvin Code: LV-02-698-041)

“No one can understand the economic performance of the Muslim nations without attending to the experience of Islam as faith and culture”

David Landes, *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations* (1998)

Background

There is an increasing attention to the role of religion and ethical norms in long-term development and economic growth of nations. An overall look at econometric studies shows that religious and religiosity matter in explaining the long-term cross-country differences in economic growth. The rise of Islam around the world and disappointing average economic and political performance of Lands of Islam have raised some important questions: to what extent religion, in general, and Islam, in particular, is pushing or blocking economic development and institutional change.

This lecture aims to investigate the modern empirical literature on interaction of Islam with politics, economic development, and legal institutions. We use stylized facts, related historical and theoretical background and empirical methods for better understanding of role of Islam (and religion in general) in development outputs across countries. The lecture covers three domains; the first will present some of the principles of Islam that are relevant to the economic institutions of Muslim societies. The second domain will be focused on the long-term impact of Islam on the political economy of the Middle East. We will examine how Islamic institutions (e.g., Zakat and Waqf) have affected the path of economic development of Muslim-majority societies. The last domain will tackle the (informal and formal) institutions of Islam in contemporary Muslim societies. We will analyze how Islamic constitutions affect various political and socioeconomic outcomes in Muslim societies. In addition, we will examine the economic determinants of contemporary (Islamic) extremism, as represented by the emergence of terrorist groups like the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

Language:

English

Evaluation:

Final written exam (120 min, 6 ECTS)

Reading:

Lectures are based on selected journal articles in peer-reviewed academic journals in the fields of economics and political science. Reading materials for each lecture sessions will be available in ILIAS platform of course for registered students.

Note: Presentation slides and reading materials will be available in ILIAS for this course in advance of the session. The links to online meeting will be added in ILIAS for each session. There will be weekly online meeting in allocated time slots for this course.

To improve the quality of online communications via BBB, please consider following basic points:

- If you are not speaking, please make sure that your micro is off. That helps to reduce background noise.
- Students are requested to turn on their video (optional) only when they are presenting and/ or discussing, or when we have introduction round.
- If you have a question or comment, please write in chat box in BBB.
- When you enter the BBB, write your full Name so we know who is participating.

Political Economy of Islam (SoSe 2022), Prof. Dr. Moamen Gouda

Lecture	Topic	Date
1	Introduction to the course	12.04.2022
2	Why (and how) economists study religion?	19.04.2022
3	Religion and economic development	26.04.2022
4	Historical consequences of Islamic political institutions	03.05.2022
5	Historical consequences of Islam's interest restriction	10.05.2022
6	Zakat and Waqf	17.05.2022
7	Challenges in Islamic law enforcement: The cases of Intellectual Property and theft Laws	24.05.2022
8	Islam and rule of law	31.05.2022
9	Islam as a formal Institution: The Islamic Constitutions Index	07.06.2022
10	Islamic constitutions and gender equality	14.06.2022
11	Islamic constitutions and religious minorities	21.06.2022
12	Islamic constitutions and democracy	28.06.2022
13	Political economy of terrorism- Part A: Determinants of Islamic State membership	05.07.2022
14	Political economy of terrorism- Part B: Democracy, personal freedom, and Islamic State membership	12.07.2022
15	Exam (120 minutes)	26.07.2022, 10:00-12:00, 00A26 (Hörsaal 00A26) (Deutschhausstr aße 12, Institutsgebäud e (F 14))
16	Re-sit Exam (120 minutes)	20.09.2022, 10:00-12:00, 00A26 (Hörsaal 00A26) (Deutschhausstr aße 12,

		Institutsgebäude (F 14)
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Contact:

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<https://www.uni-marburg.de/de/cnms/wirtschaft>

Consultation hour: Fridays (8-9), online via BBB. Appointment via email in advance.