Empowering Arab Youth: Towards a New Social Contract

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OBJECTIVES

Conceptualizing transition in Arab countries with a focus on Arab youth from an interdisciplinary perspective

Mapping political, socio-economic and cultural change for young people in the Arab world in a context of multiple transitions, relying on:
- Perspectives from different countries and stakeholders
- Prospective studies and trends to anticipate future change
- Identification of opportunities for youth, seen as a transformative agent

Exploring similar past situations as possible models to inform the management of political and economic transformations

Providing policy-makers with a range of tools and original frameworks of analysis and data to integrate the role of youth for a better EU support for change in the region

Focus on Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon

RESEARCH THEMES

Youth Opportunities
Education, Employment and Social Inclusion
To research the determinants of the mismatch between demand and supply of skills in the labour market and the expectations of young people in this respect, in particular young women

Youth Empowerment
Social and Political mobilization and participation
To research patterns of mobilization, social organization, political engagement and use of social media, contextualized by socio-economic, political conditions and historical revolution

Youth Cultures
Values, Representations and Social Conditions
To research cultural practices of young people in relation to the articulation of different social conditions, focused on the evolution of youth social values and civic participation

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Gender Equity
To research different pathways towards fostering equality between young women and men and the existing or emerging conditions for establishing social justice in gender relations

Migration and International Mobility
To research the main determinants of migration and migration intentions, how they will evolve over time and what are their effects on local societies and transnational mobility

Comparative Transition Experiences
To research experiences and lessons to be extracted from youth transitions in Eastern Europe and Turkey

Public Policies and International Cooperation
To research youth and gender policies, as well as international cooperation in this area, in particular in the ENP context

METHODOLOGY

EMPIRICAL RESEARCH

Youth Survey
A multi-country survey of a representative sample in each of the five countries with a common questionnaire covering all aspects of the project: education, employment and inclusion, political participation and mobilization, values and culture, gender roles and perspectives, migration and international mobility. As a result, a unique comparative dataset on youth in the Arab World will be made available for further research

Fieldwork in Local Context:
Anthropological research based on the case study method of urban, peri-urban and rural areas. Semi-structured interviews and social ethnography observation techniques will be used to produce life stories, a cartography of change, a documentary addressed to the wide public and a Shababpedia of young perspectives in and on the process of multiple transitions

RESEARCH WORK FLOW

2014-2016

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Dataset Youth Surveys
Concept & Background Papers
Handbooks for Practitioners
Policy reports, papers and briefs
Documentary

Scenarios
Scientific papers

Life Stories (videos)
Cartography of change
Shababpedia

CONCEPTUALIZATION

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES: Employment, Education and Social Inclusion

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT: Social and Political mobilization, and participation

YOUTH CULTURES: Values, Representations and Social Conditions

PERSPECTIVES

Gender Equity
Migration and International Mobility
Comparative Transition Experiences

PUBLIC POLICIES AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

2014-2016

RESEARCH PARTNERS

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