



Rethinking 'State' and 'Regime' in the Middle East and North Africa

Pembroke College, Thomas Gray Room

Friday 6 March 2026

09:30-10:00 Coffee, Pastries, and Fruits

10:00-10:45 Opening Remarks

Workshop introduction and objectives, Introduction of all participants

10:45-12:30 Panel 1: Structures of the State/Regime

Imperialism and State-Regime Nexus in the Middle East and North Africa

Gianni Del Panta

Discussants: Gilbert Achcar, Rosie Bsheer

From Instrumentalization to Antinomy: Rethinking State Feminism in the Middle East

Funda Hülägü

Discussants: Maha Abdelrahman, Madawi Al-Rasheed

12:30-13:45 Lunch Break

13:45-15:30 Panel 2: The Words of the State/Regime

State, Regime, and Political Terminology in 2019 Lebanon

Jamil Mouawad

Discussants: Gilbert Achcar, Andrew Arsan

Politics of *Hukm*: State, Regime, and Sovereignty in the Gulf

Ahmed Dailami

Discussants: Madawi Al-Rasheed, Rosie Bsheer

15:30-15:45 Coffee Break

15:45-17:30 Panel 3: The Neoliberal State/Regime

The Entropy of the Regime-State Paradigm in Egypt after 2019: A Political Economy-Ethnopolitical Combined Revisionism

Maria Gloria Polimeno

Discussants: Salwa Ismail, Hazem Kandil

Desiring the State, Disdaining the Regime: Perspectives from Below on the State/Regime Distinction in Neoliberal Jordan

Barbara Schenkel

Discussants: José Ciro Martínez, Glen Rangwala

18:30 Workshop Dinner



Saturday 7 March 2026

09:00-9:30 Coffee, Pastries, and Fruits

09:30-11:15 Panel 4: Ethnographies of the State/Regime

The Words of Power: Positions, Opposition, and Social Uses of the “*Makhzen*” in Morocco

Lina Benchekor

Discussants: Michael Willis, Irene Fernández-Molina

Practicing the State, Performing the Regime: Ethnographic Insights into Algeria’s Post-Hirak Reconfigurations of Power

Amel Boubekour

Discussants: Michael Willis, Irene Fernández-Molina

11:15-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 Roundtable

Teaching the State/Regime: Approaches and Sources

All workshop participants

13:00-14:15 Lunch Break

14:15-16:00 Panel 5: State/Regime Reconfigurations

The Syrian State and the End of the Assad Regime: A Socio-Spatial Approach

Gabriel Garroum Pla

Discussants: Lisa Wedeen, Salwa Ismail

Constitutionalism in an Authoritarian Key and Populist Authoritarianism: Tracing the State-Regime Relationship in Turkey’s Constitutional History

İlker Gökhan Sen

Discussants: Lisa Wedeen, Hazem Kandil

16:00-17:00 Closing Remarks and Future Plans