

Call for Applications

FES Summer Academy: In Search for Regional Security Cooperation

Young Voices from the MENA Region

2- 6 September, 2019

Akademie für politische Bildung, Tutzing

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) invites graduate students as well as young professionals from the MENA region to apply for a summer academy in Tutzing, Germany, in order to work on a roadmap towards regional security cooperation and integration.

The Academy

In comparison to similarly conflict prone regions, the Middle East is characterized by the absence of a regional peace and security architecture or an inclusive framework for regional dialogue. At the same time the region faces a series of threats, be it the ongoing wars in Syria and Yemen, terrorizing non-state actors or open interstate rivalry which is on the brink of escalation.

Against this backdrop, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is organizing a summer academy with graduate students and young professionals from the MENA region in order to facilitate exchange and debate amongst the next generation of political leaders and thinkers and to jointly work on a roadmap towards **regional security cooperation and integration**. The aim of the academy is to allow the participants to meet with their fellow peers from different countries in a safe and open environment and to **exchange** and **learn** perspectives outside national discourses. As conflict lines in the Middle East are heavily intertwined and ongoing crises have been stalemated for years, **creative** approaches and thinking **outside the box** are needed to face this challenge.

The first part of the academy will consist of thematic inputs by **renowned experts** on various aspects of regional security. In the second part, the participants will be asked to engage directly with each other and to develop small **roadmaps** towards more enhanced regional security integration and cooperation. The third part will include the **presentation** of the work done and the discussion of the respective ideas.

Who can apply?

We encourage **graduate students** in the fields of **political sciences, regional studies and peace and conflict studies** as well as **young professionals** in the respective fields from the MENA region to apply for this project. All participants must have a **very good command of English**, as the whole programme will be taught in English, and must be ready to prepare, actively contribute and engage within the scope of the academy. We expect from all participants a keen interest and openness towards inter-regional, constructive dialogue.

Application process

In order to apply for the academy please send us your **tabular resume** as well as a **one-page cover letter** explaining why you would like to participate in the academy and how your fellow participants would profit from your participation. Please send both documents no later than **June 23, 2019** to Ms. Sarah Schmid (sarah.schmid@fes-lebanon.org). Selected candidates will be notified in the beginning of July.

All costs for the participation (travel, travel health insurance, accommodation, meals and seminar fees) will be covered by FES.

Questions

Should you have any questions on the programme or the application process, please do not hesitate to contact:

Ms. Sarah Schmid
Programme Manager
FES Project on Peace and Security in the MENA Region
E-mail: sarah.schmid@fes-lebanon.org
Phone: +961 (0) 1 324566

About FES

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is the oldest political foundation in Germany with a rich tradition dating back to its foundation in 1925. Today, it remains loyal to the legacy of its namesake and campaigns for the core ideas and values of social democracy: freedom, justice and solidarity. It has a close connection to social democracy and free trade unions.

The promotion of social democratic values, including democratic and inclusive decision-making, social justice, sustainable economic development, the preservation of the environment for everybody, and peaceful international relations, are at the core of FES' activities in the MENA region. In an increasingly interconnected and globalized world, more and more challenges for the societies, such as political stability, economic development, social justice, security and many more surpass the national level. Increasingly, answers to new challenges have to be found on a regional or global level. Therefore, FES regional projects try to lead the way for improved and enlarged regional cooperation and coordination.