



International Colloquium

The Communities of the State of Lebanon (1920-2020): Reflections and Prospects

March 21 and 22, 2019

Program

Thursday, March 21

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Opening Session

- **Address by Rev. Fr. Prof. Jean Akiki, Director of the RCMME**
- **Address by Mr. Hervé Sabourin, Regional Director of the AUF in the Middle East**
- **Address by Rev. Fr. Prof. Georges Hobeika, President of USEK**

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Plenary Session

Presentation: H.E. Ms. Emmanuelle Lamoureux, Ambassador of Canada to Lebanon

Evolution of the Status and Situation of Minorities in International Human Rights Law

H.E. Mr. Fernand de Varennes, Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Human Rights Council of the United Nations

11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Coffee Break

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. First Roundtable

The Communities of Centennial Lebanon: Duty of National and Religious Remembrance

Moderator: Georges Yaraq, USEK

- **The Greater Lebanon 100 Years after its Declaration: Assessment of a Composed Minorities Nation**
H.E. Ambassador Farid Khazen, Lebanon
- **Homogeneity and Diversity among Minorities in Lebanon: Anthropological Perspectives**
Ms. Mona Fayad, Lebanon
- **The Greater Lebanon of 1920 as Perceived by the Decision Makers of Religious Communities**
Mr. Antoine Hokayem, Lebanon

1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Lunch

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Second Roundtable**
One Hundred Years of Minorities Living Together in Lebanon and in the Levant: Failures and Successes

Moderator: Dr. Marie Fayad, USEK

- Chehabism: an Attempt to Build a Lebanese Nation
Mr. Georges Ghanem, Lebanon
- Uprooting and Territorial Deep-rootedness in the Wake of Lebanon's Civil Wars: Demographic Change after the Civil War (1975-1990) and its Impact on Living Together
Mr. Boutros Labaki, Lebanon
- Building a Lebanese Rule of Law or Partisan Conflicts to Promote Community Prerogatives? The Post-Taëf Period
Mr. Fadi Ahmar, UL, Lebanon

7:30 p.m. **Dinner**

Friday, March 22

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Third Roundtable**
The Lebanese Communities of the First Centenary of Greater Lebanon: Constants and Changes

Moderator: Dr. Joseph Chreim, USEK

- The Maronites: Between the Politics of a Founding and Governing Community of Greater Lebanon and the Status of a Suffering Minority
Rev. Fr. Karam Rizk, USEK
- The Sunnis: Does the "Lebanon First" Slogan Herald the Failure of Pan-Arabism?
Mr. Ahmad Al Ghaz, Lebanon
- The Druze: a Minority Survival Policy in Lebanon and Syria
Mr. Na'el Abu Chakra, Lebanon
- Lebanon's Shiites: The Rebellion of a Community that Founded the Lebanese Political System? Or a Transnational Political Project?
Mr. Wajih Kanso, Lebanon

11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Coffee Break**

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Midday Conference**

Presentation: Rev. Fr. Jean Akiki, USEK

The Arab Spring: An Aborted Hope for Christians and Minorities? Or Merely a Matter of Time?
Mr. Sami Aoun, University of Sherbrooke - SoDRUS

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Lunch**

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Fourth Roundtable

Case Studies and Comparison of Canada and Liberal Democracies

Moderator: Dr. Pamela Chrabieh

- From Colonialism to Reconciliation: The Law of Aboriginal Religions in Canada
Mr. Claude Gélinas, University of Sherbrooke, SoDRUS, Canada
- The Historical Management of Religious Diversity in Canada
Mr. Pierre Noël, University of Sherbrooke, SoDRUS, Canada
- Media and Building a National Identity in Lebanon and Canada: Unity in Diversity?
Ms. Mirna Bouzeid, UL

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Coffee Break

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Fifth Roundtable

Lebanon: Challenges of Diversity Management between the Republican Constitution and Multi-Communitarianism

Moderator: Rev. Fr. Toni Eid (USEK)

- Interreligious Dialogue and the Blockage of Civil Status
Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Nokkari, USJ
- Islamic Feminism: Rejecting the Treatment of Women as a Minority and Re-Reading Texts under a Non-Patriarchal Light
Ms. Safa Ben Saad, University of Sherbrooke, SoDRUS, Canada
- The National Pact: Role and Place of Minorities
Rev. Fr. Bassem Raj, USEK
- The “Lebanon-Earth” Concept among Maronite Patriarchs (from Douaïhi to Hoayek) and its Role in the Construction of Lebanon as a Nation
Rev. Fr. Georges Yaraq, USEK

6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Syntheses and Recommendations (RCMME, SoDRUS)