

NOUVEL HAY MAGAZINE

SANS FRONTIÈRES

Arpa

table ronde sur

« « Arméniens au Moyen-Orient et perspectives d'avenir » »

Panélistes : Yeghia Tashjian, James Barry et Sarkis Balkhian.

Hratch Tchilingirian comme discutant

Modéré par Ani Shabazian

samedi 7 mai 2022 à 11 h 00, PST

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ARPA Institute Zoom Panel Discussion

On "Armenians in the Middle East and Future Prospects"

Panelists: Yeghia Tashjian, James Barry and Sarkis Balkhian.
Hratch Tchilingirian as Discussant

Saturday, May 7, 2022 @ 11:00 am, PST
Moderated by Dr. Ani Shabazian

Abstract: Armenians in the Middle East are mostly concentrated in Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Cyprus, Iraq, Jordan, and Jerusalem, although well-established communities exist in Egypt, Turkey, and other countries of the region. Many have left during the civil wars in Lebanon and Syria and during the early years of the Islamic regime in Iran, for North America, Europe, or the Republic of Armenia. The Armenians who had sought refuge in Lebanon and Syria at the end of World War I were granted citizenship in 1939 under the French mandate. Following World War II, about 40,000 Armenians left Lebanon and Syria and immigrated to Soviet Armenia. Those remaining in Lebanon and Syria, formed strong, internally cohesive ethnic communities. However, in the past years the situation in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Turkey has resulted in new waves of immigration, thus dwindling the strength and liveliness of these communities. The panelists will address the current state of Armenians in the Middle East and the potential future developments.

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Yeghia Tashjian received his BA from the Haigazian University in political science and his MA from the American University of Beirut in Public Policy and International Affairs. In 2010, he founded the New Eastern Politics forum/blog. He was a research assistant at the Armenian Diaspora Research centre at Haigazian University. Yeghia is the regional officer of Women in War, a gender-based think tank and has presented on minority rights and regional security issues in many international conferences. He is a contributor to various local and regional newspapers, a columnist in the Armenian Weekly, and a presenter of the "Turkey Today" program for Radio Voice of Van. He is an associate fellow at the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut and a Middle East-South Caucasus expert in the European Geopolitical Forum.

James Barry is an Associate Research Fellow with Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation at the university of Deakin, Melbourne Burwood Campus, Australia. James' research interests involve the intersections of religious, linguistic, and national conceptions of identity in the Middle East, specifically Iran. Dr. Barry is the author of *Armenian Christians in Iran: ethnicity, religion, and identity in the Islamic Republic*, Cambridge University Press, 2018. James speaks Armenian and Persian-Farsi. He received his PhD from Monash University, where he was a lecturer from 2012 to 2014. He is currently researching the role of heritage in conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, and attitudes towards heritage reconstruction in Iraq and Syria.

Sarkis Balkhian is a human rights advocate focusing on the Middle East and the South Caucasus regions. He is the Executive Director of Aleppo-NGO, an Armenia based group supporting refugees from Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Syria, and Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh). He has worked at the Armenian Weekly in Massachusetts, Human Rights Watch, USA and for UN High Commissioner for

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