



ELITE

*With
Prof.
Asmaa
Ezzat*

FEPS Professor winning the 2024 State Award

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ÉLITE



FEPS, WHERE ELITES ARE MADE
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Anniversary of The July Revolution and Establishing The Republic

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INTERVIEW WITH DR. ASMAA EZZAT RECIPIENT OF THE STATE ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

MS. CAROLINE SHARIF - SALMA AL-BUKHARI - MENNA WALID - ABDEL RAHMAN SAKR

Elite Magazine was honored by conducting an interview with Dr. Asmaa Ezzat, assistant professor in FEPS and the awardee of the state's encouragement award for her research in the field of institutional reform and governance. It was a rich and impressive discussion about the stages of her life until she reached her current position in our prestigious faculty as she answered some questions with great pleasure...

How did your relationship with FEPS begin, and why did you choose it?

First, I want to thank the faculty and the magazine for their interest. I was a student in the literary department in high school, and I got a grade of 98.6%. My ambition was to join the Faculty of Economics and Political Science because it was the top faculty in the literary department. Despite the long journey between my home and the faculty, I knew that the faculty was special and not everyone joined it. When my father took me for the first time and pointed out the length of the journey to me, I did not care because I was attached to the Cairo University campus.

After I obtained an excellent grade in my first year, I was confused about choosing my major. As for the Department of Statistics or the Department of Economics, at first, I joined the Department of Statistics and I loved it very much, but because there were not, at that time, many fields, I decided to join the Department of Economics and chose the minor to be Statistics. I did not always get an excellent grade throughout my faculty years. I used to get a very good grade, but in the fourth year I got an excellent grade and was ranked ninth in the class. Fortunately for me, I loved teaching and delivering information. I wanted to teach at any private university after graduation, and I did not expect to be appointed to the faculty because the appointment, previously, was not for all of those who got an excellent grade, but due to the need that year, they decided to appoint everyone who had received a distinction that year, and I was appointed. I obtained a master's degree from faculty in 2011. I was working at the same time in the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development. My doctoral journey began with joint supervision with the University of Hamburg through a partnership program initiated by the faculty with the University of Hamburg for doctoral researchers. I used to travel to Germany to write part of my thesis every year, and I obtained a PhD degree in 2015 in the field of economic law.

Why did you choose economics as a major, and how does this major contribute to character formation?

The department contributed greatly. I was in the literary department in high school, and I only memorized, but in the economics section; I had to use my mind and not just memorize. My personality completely changed from the first level to the fourth level, because economics is not based on the idea of memorization, but on the idea of applying it to practical reality, such as the concept of supply and demand. It is very theoretical in study, but supply and demand exist in all stages of our lives. I have acquired the skill of analysis. We graduate with the title of economic researcher, political researcher, and so on. The role of the researcher is to access information, analyze it, and present this analysis accurately. The subjects I studied, and my professor completely changed my way of thinking.



What was your student life like, what activities did you engage in, and what was your relationship with your professors?

I wasn't really a first-bench student; I used to sit with my friends in the back. Since I was young, I loved to enjoy my life, and I did not devote all my time to one specific thing; I studied and worked hard, but I had fun with my friends during my break. I was close to some of the professors, and they welcomed my questions. I also participated in student activities in the faculty, especially the stock market model.

What are the lessons learned from your study of the field of anti-corruption during most of your years of activity?

My interest in this field began in my master's degree, and the credit for choosing this topic goes to Dr. Abdullah Shehata and Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim, as they supervised my master's thesis. This area was not particularly studied in the Department of Economics as it was a subject of public administration. For this reason, I linked it in my study with economic growth. But it is beginning to become very popular in institutional economics.

The laws, customs and traditions, and the entities that regulated the work of individuals, became considered as institutions. This was the beginning of my love and interest in the field of institutional economics, because corruption appears when institutions are weak

Now, these terms, such as corruption and governance, have become buzzwords and have received attention from many governments. In Egypt, the state is interested in this field, and I have participated in writing the third version of the anti-corruption strategy. This indicates the state's interest. Indicators that measure corruption and the quality of institutions in the state have also started to appear.

What experiences did our guest gain from working at the Ministry of Planning? What do you think about merging both the Ministries of Planning and Economic Development together?

I started my work at the Ministry of Planning immediately after my master's degree as a researcher in the office of Minister Dr. Mohamed Fathi Saqr, so I gained practical application experiences for what I studied in faculty, such as how to calculate and collect data. The Ministry now issues special reports analyzing economic performance and following up on the state's plan.

During my work in the Ministry, what was called the "Five-Year Plan" was issued. It was a plan every five years and it followed development every year, but now its name has become the investment plan that aims to achieve Egypt's 2030 plan

I was part of the team that developed the five-year plan. I learned how ministries achieve their goals and how to arrange their priorities to achieve the required growth rates. I worked in collecting data such as the level of contribution of the public sector and the private sector to national income, as well as various industries and agriculture. Now I have returned to the National Institute of Management as Director of the Governance Center. We are responsible for monitoring the country's performance in governance indicators. We publish annual reports containing 14-26 indicators to monitor Egypt's performance throughout the year. We also publish a magazine and enhance the culture of governance.

I think that merging the two ministries will help avoid any overlap in the tasks of the Ministry of Planning and the Ministry of Economic Development. There were common tasks but merging them limits the repetition of those tasks.

There is no doubt that your professional career is impressive. What are the most influential milestones in it?

Firstly, my progression in the faculty is one of the important milestones in my life. As for my professional milestones, the first is becoming director of the Governance Center at the National Institute of Management.

I was also an assistant coordinator in the cooperation program between the faculty and the University of Hamburg, and this contributed to learning about a different field between law and economics.

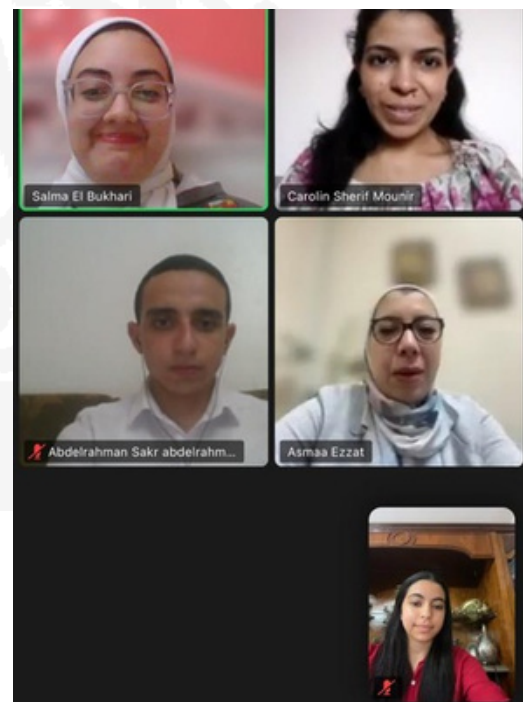
Because of this trip, I made new friends and got to know different professors. I had the honor of getting to know Professor Stifelvokt, who was the supervisor of my doctoral thesis, and I benefited a lot from him. Currently, I work as a coordinator for the cooperation program between UNICEF and the faculty, through which we work to raise awareness and the importance of working for children, adolescents, and youth. We provided training for students to work for UNICEF. We also work on the relationship of economic conditions to children and adolescents. We hold a conference every year to present research papers on the impact of various economic, political and social aspects on youth, adolescents and children. This was a turning point because I gained a network of acquaintances in different places. I think that my teaching at private universities such as New Giza University and the American University gave me experience in teaching different types of students. In my field of governance, I was exposed to dealing with African parties in the .

African Ministerial Review Mechanism. The African Union is trying to evaluate the role of states in promoting governance and institutional quality. I was part of writing the report that Egypt submitted to the Union on its commitment to governance within the framework of the African Mechanism. This trip will give you experience about the African Union, its Africa 2063 vision, and its interest in development among African countries.

We congratulate you for receiving the State Encouragement Award in the section on the role of Egyptian institutions in the state of law and for your full-of-scientific research CV. In light of this, would you please tell us about the award, and what is your opinion of the status of scientific research in Egypt and how has it developed over the various periods of your research career?

The award is given to those under 40 years of age and is awarded for research, all research under the field of economic and legal sciences under the field of the role of institutions in the state of law. The name of the research was “Governance and Institutional Reform as an Institutional Pillar for Building the New Egyptian State.” I published this research in the Public Policy Magazine issued by the Information and Decision Support Center. Thank God, it met the required standards and was passed by the jury and won the award.

I submitted this research at the faculty’s annual conference last year, in cooperation with USAID, and the commentator on this paper was Dr. Jannat Al-Samlouti. She gave me comments, I modified the paper, and then submitted it for publication in the Public Policy Journal. This was non-applied research, but it presented some of the different concepts in that field. Then it reviewed Egypt's performance in various governance indicators. Egypt was lagging behind in some indicators, so I presented some of the experiences of other countries in Africa and the Middle East that were lower-middle- income countries. There is no prescription or magic solution to all problems but benefiting from different experiences. In the end, I made recommendations for how Egypt can



benefit from these experiences so that we can develop an action plan to achieve economic development.

As for scientific research in Egypt, it has developed greatly. In the past, research was difficult, and data was more difficult to obtain. I see the process of scientific research as a process of learning through experience. Publishing research was difficult; Publication was limited to local research, a department conference, or a faculty conference, but now, all researchers seek international publication in highly ranked journals registered in well-known databases. The procedures became extremely transparent and there was interest in plagiarism as not all people knew what plagiarism is and how to avoid it. International publishing obligates the researcher to adhere to standards and integrity in scientific writing. Although, of course, we aspire for the quality of research to be higher, because there are still weak journals that are published for the sake of money, but there is a very great development.

What is your advice to faculty students and graduates in the labor market and the challenges they face now?

The first piece of advice is for the student to look for a job that he is passionate about. I know that this is not easy, but the saying “Love what you do so you can do what you love” is very important.

If I am fully convinced of what I am doing, I will do my best and succeed. Unfortunately, many of our faculty graduates look for any job, and I appreciate this, but these jobs are less than their abilities and skills, but I advise them to seek a job that is appropriate for their skills. We have a mistaken idea that our jobs are like the jobs of graduates of the Faculty of Commerce, but they have their own specializations in which they excel, but our faculty graduates are researchers who have analytical and research skills that must be exploited. Not giving up, looking for a job that I love and giving it my full energy, and not striving for material, though it is difficult due to the current financial circumstances, but this is should not be the main factor, but looking to the future and how I will develop. Having aspirations for the best and exploiting capabilities

As for the advice to students... do not think about grades, benefit from the courses. I know that a lot of our concern is the pursuit of grades, and this is common among all students. This will actually happen if you like what you studied and understand it, and not just studying for the exam and then forgetting what was studied. Take advantage of the courses because you will use them later in your life.

Of course, not all subjects are entertaining for all people, but enjoy your favorite subjects and study the other subjects because they are still useful and you will discover that later, such as econometrics. We did not know what we would do with what we studied through it, but its concepts are extremely important. You have to make an effort, because faculty is not a school. The student has to make most of the effort to understand and access information, and you have to read different books and readings. In the end, Dr. Asmaa and the interviewers exchanged thanks. Dr. Asmaa thanked the faculty and the magazine for their interest and motivation for the faculty members.

through the interviews, and that in the end, those who encouraged her for her research paper that won the award were her professors in the Economics Department. She also mentioned that the professors, the support she received, and their lack of stinginess with information is a very distinctive factor for our faculty in particular. Dr. Asmaa thanked, in particular, her professors and colleagues, the faculty administration, Dr. Hanan Hassan, and Dr. Ramy Magdy for their support of the achievements made by faculty members, which encourages them to develop.





ISO RENEWS ITS CERTIFICATION OF FEPS

KENZY TAMER

The Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences at Cairo University has obtained the renewal of its two ISO certificates (2018/21001, 2015/9001) concerning the administrative and educational aspects, after fulfilling all the necessary international standards related to these fields.



Professor Dr. Hanan Mohamed Ali, Acting Dean of the Faculty, stated that the renewal came as a culmination of the great and continuous support from Cairo University headed by Professor Dr. Mohamed Othman El-Khosht.

It also includes the efforts made by all the faculty members and employees. Especially members of the Faculty's Quality Assurance Unit team, Heads of Departments, Directors of Research Centers, Directors of Service Units, Members of the Administrative Staff, Development Partners and even students. Each and every member worked very hard in order to achieve this record level. Dr. Hanan has also confirmed that obtaining the renewal of these certificates is a source of pride for the faculty.



It conforms and showcases its ability to absorb all modern administrative and educational techniques, which are not only limited to transferring knowledge. But rather enhancing the student's skills to obtain comprehensive academic qualifications, and developing necessary knowledge required and demanded by the labor market.



Dr. Hanan concluded that this renewal came to add to the previous achievements of the faculty. In fact, in the last 3 years FEPS has received a number of distinguished awards, perhaps the most important of which are: renewal of local accreditation from the National Authority for Educational Quality Assurance and Accreditation, and the Egypt Award for Government Excellence as the second-best faculty out of more than 450 faculties at public universities. This reliably confirms the continued fulfillment of accreditation requirements in its various axes.

Let the next generation of faculty members continue in this unique bond, and showcase a unique state of consciousness in order to raise higher the name of our faculty: The Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences.





FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: ACHIEVEMENTS AND SERVICES OF BANQUE MISR

HANA S.ELBADRY- SECOND LEVEL - ECONOMICS



In recognition of the critical importance of Financial Inclusion and in alignment with Egypt's Vision 2030 for its Sustainable Development Strategy, the Faculty of Economics and Political Science hosted Mr. Tamer Abdel Fattah Hamouda, Director of Banque Misr's Cairo University branch, and Mr. Hamada Abdel Rahman, Sales and Customer Service Manager at Banque Misr, for a seminar titled "Financial Inclusion and Sustainable Development: Achievements and Services of Banque Misr." The event took place in Sawiris Hall on Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

Dr. Marwa Mohamed Shibl Biltagy, Vice Dean of the College for Postgraduate Studies and Research and the seminar's moderator, commenced the event by extending a warm welcome and words of gratitude to the attendees.

She then highlighted the historical background of Banque Misr, which was established in 1920 by the pioneering economist Talaat Harb Pacha. Dr. Biltagy noted that Banque Misr is the first Egyptian bank to be entirely founded and owned by Egyptians. Its inception aimed to bolster economic growth, propel the nation towards development, and reinvigorate the business landscape following the British occupation.

Mr. Tamer Hamouda emphasized that Banque Misr is truly a bank for all Egyptians, boasting a large network of branches spread across the entire country. He praised the presence of a branch at Cairo University, noting that it provides numerous banking services to university students, saving them considerable time and effort.

Mr. Hamouda also announced the availability of the Meeza card, now offered free of charge to all students, functioning as an electronic wallet. He assured that every product of the bank benefits both the bank and the customer, countering the common misconception that the bank is the sole beneficiary in banking transactions.



Mr. Hamada elaborated on the services designed for various societal segments, including savings accounts, current accounts, the "Super Cash" account, the "Al Mongez" account for freelancers, various types of deposit certificates, and the "Hewalty" account for foreign currency transfers. Additionally, the bank offers numerous financial services that align with the imperative of financial inclusion and the reduction of cash dependency in Egypt. These services include the ability to obtain the prepaid Meeza card, exempt from issuance fees, as well as subscribing to the BM Wallet, Banque Misr's electronic wallet, and the Banque Misr Online platform.

Regarding the bank's profitability, Mr. Hamada stated that it stems from "providing service for service," referring to loans granted to businesses and individuals.

He explained that interest rates start at 2.7% for loans designated for small, medium, and large enterprises, while the interest rates for individuals vary based on their income levels. He also recommended taking advantage of the facilities offered by the bank to university professors, including streamlined procedures for obtaining loans and extending the retirement age to 65. Additionally, the bank provides financing for wedding expenses and car loans to all segments of society, in support of the principle of financial inclusion.



Mr. Tamer was then asked about treasury bills and investment funds. He explained that investing in treasury bills starts at 25,000 EGP and they can be purchased from any Banque Misr branch. He proudly noted that Banque Misr is one of the leading providers of investment funds in the country. He highlighted the bank's prominence in offering investment funds, particularly the "Day by Day" Mutual fund, which provides its holders with a daily cumulative return, as well as other funds such as Islamic funds and the "Sandouk Al Umr." He emphasized the importance of monitoring fund prices daily to choose the best investment, noting that they vary according to stock market fluctuations. He also mentioned that the bank provides free credit cards to all customers, with a repayment period of one year. Mr. Tamer stressed that the bank strives to build a strong, trust-filled relationship with customers, walking together on the path of sustainable development.

Finally, Mr. Tamer responded to Dr. Marwa's inquiry about student loans by acknowledging that, in the past, they were granted to the student's guardian (usually their parents) and admitted that this approach was impractical as the repayment period was limited to no more than 10 months. He affirmed that there are ongoing efforts to improve and develop student loan offerings to increase their benefits and enhance accessibility.





FRENCH LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS 2024: AN EXTREME RIGHT & LEFT DUEL AND TENSE EXCHANGES BETWEEN YOUNG PEOPLE ON TIKTOK

KENZY TAMER - L1

A massive participation rate in the different constituencies, a historic election and a plot twist in the results... The Fifth Republic witnessed one of the shortest electoral campaigns but also the most impactful and significant for the French political scene. Following the victory of the National Rally (RN) in the European Elections, President Emmanuel Macron announced on June 9 his decision to dissolve the National Assembly. This is due to the increased influence of the far right on the presidential majority. As a result, debates arose on social media between the far right, left-wing parties and the presidential party. Which has strongly evoked the reactions of internet users of different ages on social networks and especially Tiktok, the number 1 application for Gen Z.

First of all, the dissolution of the Assembly imposed two rounds of elections: the first held on June 30th and the second on July 7th. The first round was made up of around a dozen parties. However, it ended with the victory of the RN winning 33% of the votes and great popularity among the different constituencies. In order to face this victory in the second round, major electoral alliances and coalitions were formed. Notably that of left-wing parties such as La France Insoumise (LFI), Les Écologistes, the Socialist Party, and several others, which then formed the New Popular Front (NFP). The center presidential party also forms the coalition: Ensemble pour la République (ENS) with the Renaissance party at the top.



Before explaining the right-left rivalry, let us first present the 3 protagonists of the second round and the 3 large blocs of the National Assembly. The party winning the elections was the New Popular Front (NFP), this left-wing coalition won 180 seats among the 577 seats in the Assembly. The NFP in its program focuses on the well-being of the French citizens, especially in relation to improving purchasing power and the fight against social and financial inequalities, as well as putting in place measures that strengthen the rights of foreigners in France.



Then the presidential coalition Ensemble, comes in second place which is the center “Macronist” party led by Prime Minister Gabriel Attal. ENS therefore obtained 163 seats and lost 82 seats compared to the first elections.

Finally, in third position, the National Rally: classified as a far-right party. The RN led by Marine Le Pen and Jordan Bardella won 145 seats. This right-wing party advocates for the protection of French cultural identity against “foreigners”. And a key notion of their program is to hold minorities (immigrants: Arabs, Africans or others) responsible for economic deterioration,

and the only “magic” solution is to expel them or attenuate their rights, it also favors capitalism and non-intervention of the state in economic affairs.

These 3 dominant blocks put France in a complex situation since no party obtained an absolute majority (289 among the 577 seats). Therefore, there is a difficulty in selecting a new prime minister and forming a new stable government.

In addition, it should be noted that with the evolution of means of communication and social networks, everything is changing and the political scene is not immune to this change! Social networks had a considerable impact on these legislative elections. **But how???** Let's analyze this together throughout the article in the form of 3 main points.



1. Evolution of electoral propaganda strategies and techniques

First of all, the main goal of all the candidates is to win the support of young people, especially those aged 18 to 25 who represent a large segment of French society, because a large proportion of young people do not show any real interest in politics. And gaining their support with traditional campaign strategies is not effective enough.

Therefore, in order to achieve this objective “2.0 tactics” were used on social networks to highlight the candidates and their ideas.

Tiktok was therefore at the heart of their campaign since it is the closest application to young people and their ways of thinking. Even if the videos can highlight the candidates in a ridiculous or non-serious way.

But the most essential thing was to generate views and reactions from young people so that they would share the content.

Each party therefore took advantage of Tiktok trends and mastered the Tiktok codes in order to promote their campaigns. The application was therefore the main place of opposition between the right, the left and the center, and each side mastered Tiktok techniques in its own way. The main party that benefited from Tiktok was the RN, because the videos mainly revolved around the “persona” created for Jordan Bardella. He is presented as a charismatic young man, a little charming and natural: he eats candy before appearing in a television series and has a fighting history that is quite close to young people and their interests and wishes. He also took advantage of Tiktok trends, and the most important trend was the “edits” of Bardella and Prime Minister Gabriel Attal. Jordan Bardella therefore knew how to use these edits by reacting to them with humor in order to gain more followers on his Tik Tok account. As a result, Bardella was able to gain 2 million followers on Tiktok, Bardella therefore became the most followed politician on Tiktok.



On the other hand, left-wing parties have also gained a large popularity, for example the NFP videos with Jean-Luc Mélenchon and the promises of his campaign which are mainly attractive to the public, especially to immigrants. He is seen in front of masses of French people giving his speeches and gaining support. Or the videos of Manon Aubry in the debates where she “roasts” and clashes with Bardella...In addition, Gabriel Attal also has a Tiktok account with a number of followers which does not exceed that of Bardella. However, like Bardella, he took advantage of the “edits” in order to gain more popularity; he also publishes videos of himself with young people in the street and shares his most recent BeReal in order to share his daily life and get even closer to young people.



2. A voice is given to young people: the emergence of political activism in the form of trends

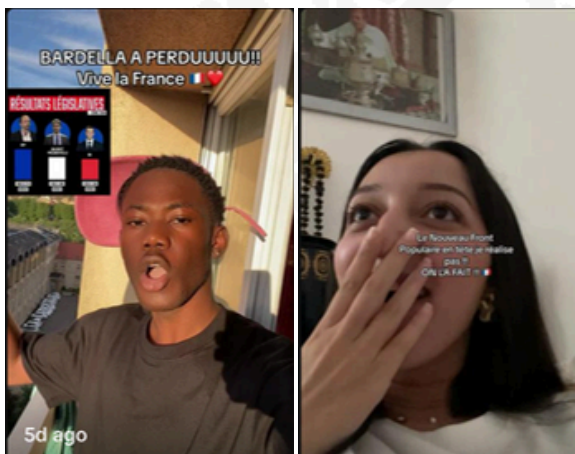
Due to the proximity of the candidates to young people, the videos published were a mix between serious and lighter content; some videos were informative, sarcastic or parodic, others fueled by anger or sadness....

Some took to their own Tiktok accounts to share their perspectives. This has therefore created a state of polarization, dramatization, and radicalism since everyone shares their point of view and campaigns in different ways which can sometimes be very violent.

It must be said that one of the main causes leading to the unexpected change in the results in the second round and the victory of the NFP was the voice of young people. First of all, influencers like Squeezie, one of the biggest French Youtubers, used his platform to express the risks of the rise of the RN to power for dual nationals or immigrants, because of their anti-immigrant program and racist terms used in their speeches.

In addition, some published videos marked the resurgence of antifascist songs expressing total opposition to the RN and preferring to support left-wing parties. Since the RN draws its origins from the revolutionary New Order movement advocating a neo-fascist ideology.

Likewise, several parodic and sarcastic videos were published by binational users or immigrants living in France in order to confront the racism of the RN against Arabs or Africans. The uprising of the trend: “Are we going to return to the “bled” (our homeland/country in Arabic refers to Morocco) if the RN comes to power? Where users wondered if they would be safe if the RN came to power. Expressing worry in a satirical way expresses the coping mechanism of young people when faced with a serious situation. All these videos and trends aimed to confront the RN and therefore more young people voted left rather than right in the second round, fearing the consequences of the arrival of the far right to power.



On the other hand, thanks to and because of the Tiktok algorithm, the videos appearing on the “For You Page” can sometimes be stifling. Because it is hard to see political ideas being imposed at the same time and videos in huge quantities whose strategies and goals are very different. The risk above all is to lock oneself into a single thought bubble of a specific party.

Which therefore leads to the quite virulent or violent political activism of young people locked into a single way of thinking.

3. The “masks” of certain Internet users are revealed: hate speech and violence

Political activism on Tiktok has been able to remove the masks of certain users sharing racist and sectarian posts separating “native French” and dual nationals. People also insult each other on the application by calling each other “leftists who are going to ruin the country” or “racist fascists”. In fact, there are two types of users: a hostile minority whose main concern was the fact that immigrants “steal” work reserved for “original” ethnic French people. Against it there is a majority open to diversity and recognizes the role of immigrants contributing to the construction of the France that we know today.

In addition, videos have circulated on the application of interviews carried out with French people aged between 50 and 70 who support the RN, and spread hate speech against Arabs and Africans. Besides this, violence against people of color, Muslims, Jews and immigrants has increased in French streets and between French people on social networks. Some politicians believe this rise is because of the popularity of the far right.



To conclude, it must be said that this election period was not easy for the French and it was and was fueled by the tense debates between the parties and the heavy opinions shared on social networks. The increased visibility of different parties, particularly on TikTok, has amplified tensions and divisions within French society, with debates often heated and polarizing. Despite these complex dynamics, the election results ultimately resulted in the formation of a diverse but fragmented parliament, requiring compromise and alliances to govern effectively. The task that now faces France is that of rebuilding governmental unity, while addressing the divisions exacerbated by an intense and sometimes acrimonious electoral campaign.



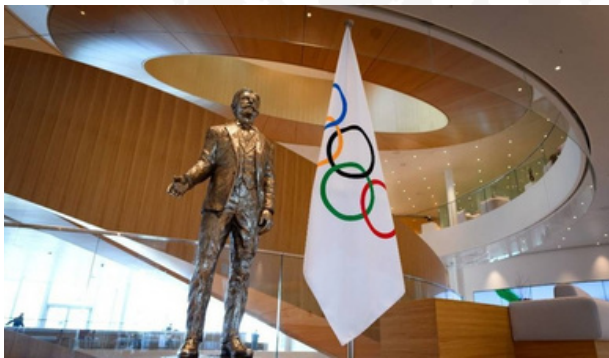


MEDALS AND MAYHEM: WHEN NATIONALISM TAKES OVER THE OLYMPICS

SALMA AHMED- SECOND LEVEL- POLITICAL SCIENCE



The original vision of the Olympics, as articulated by Pierre de Coubertin and the founders of the modern Games, was to create a competition that transcended borders and brought the world together through the unifying power of athletic excellence. The Olympic Charter explicitly states that the Olympic Movement is "to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of humankind, with a view to promoting a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity."



However, over time it has become increasingly dominated by nationalist narratives, with countries competing to outperform each other on the medal tables to project an image of national strength and assert their place in the global scene.

This has created significant barriers for stateless and refugee athletes who find themselves excluded from representing any national team becoming an unwelcome anomaly in this nationalistic narrative. The creation of the Refugee Olympic Team in 2016 was an important symbolic gesture to support refugees and address in a non-political way the bigger issue of the refugee crisis in Europe.

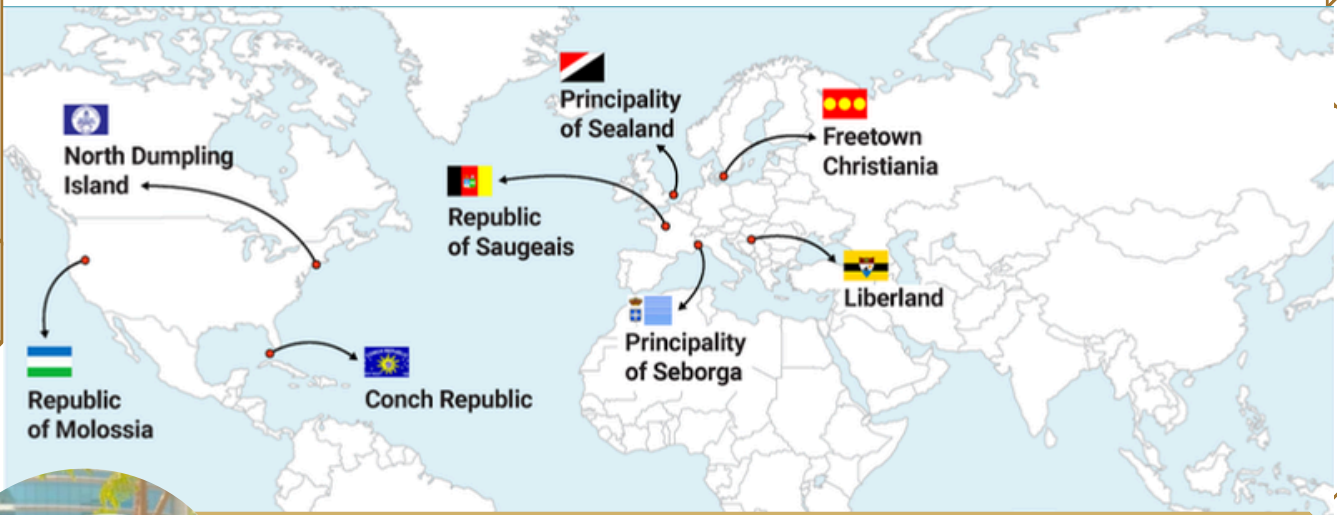
Yet, this initiative also exposed the limitations of the current Olympic system. Refugee athletes still face immense challenges like securing funding and training facilities and also the extremely complex bureaucratic processes just to gain the right to compete. The very concept of national representation works against them. They are operating at a disadvantage compared to national athletes who have the full institutional support of their countries. In fact, in Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2021 not a single medal had been won by the Refugee Olympic Team which highlighted even more the gap between a national athlete, having proper training and support from their country, and the refugee athlete, struggling to acquire the same quality of preparations.



This problem extends beyond the Olympics as well. In many popular sports, citizenship requirements and registration processes effectively shut out non-citizen athletes, including children of refugees born in camps. The underlying logic, which is never explicitly stated, is that sports are severely tied to national identity and the pursuit of global prestige.

FIFA, for example, has strict rules around the eligibility of players to represent national teams. In order to play for a national team, a player must hold citizenship of that country. Looking ahead to Paris 2024 and beyond, the Olympic movement faces a crucial test. Can it evolve to prioritize athletic merit and human dignity over narrow nationalist agendas? Doing so would mean dismantling the exclusionary systems that have long dominated international competition. This is not an easy task, as the Olympic Games and other major sporting events have become heavily intertwined with geopolitics and the pursuit of soft power. However, if the Olympic ideals of fostering global unity, peace, and the celebration of our shared humanity are to be realized, then the playing field must be truly equitable and accessible to all athletes, regardless of their national origin or citizenship status.





Building a Nation in the Age of Technology... Dream or Delusion?

Huda Nada- third level-statistics



Bored? Have you ever considered founding your nation? You only need five components; the first is the population, which is the citizens who live in the state and are politically, legally, and morally connected to it; keep in mind that the larger the population, the greater the state's strength and importance in terms of economy. The second component is having a defined territory belonging to the state, and on which citizens reside, and includes water areas, and airspace. The third component is the government responsible for organizing society, running the people's affairs, and seeking to achieve a political, economic, social, and human rights system in the state. Government means the supreme authority, with its three branches, the judiciary, the legislature, and the executive. The fourth component is sovereignty and independence so that it has its independent entity, free from any external interference. The last component is recognition, where other states must

recognize and acknowledge their existence, deal with them, allow them to exercise their external sovereignty, and be considered a member of the international community. The recognition may be individual, issued by each state towards the new state, on its own, or in response to the request of the new state. The recognition may be collective, issued by a group of states, or by an international organization such as the United Nations, and recognition shall be during an international conference, and shall include a document or treaty. See? Ingredients are seemingly simple. Just look for a piece of land that does not belong to any country and invite your friends there, appoint yourself as its king, or president, establish a government, and ask other countries to recognize your state.



I'm afraid to inform you that it is not that simple. Building your nation can be a difficult road, and getting international recognition might be the largest challenge. Your country becomes just another "unrecognized country" if it does not receive international recognition. Furthermore, it is hard to locate a piece of land not controlled by another nation. Our morality forbids us from occupying territory that is not ours, committing genocide against a population to seize land and establish our rule over it. First, let's define what a micronation is, a micronation is a political entity whose representatives declare it to be an independent nation or sovereign state, but it lacks legal recognition from any sovereign state. Micronations often exist online or on a small piece of land. Yes, you read it right, you may construct your nation online. However, it's important to notice that you are creating a micronation rather than a state in the conventional sense, and you should be aware that the international community will not recognize your claims to sovereignty. The Kingdom of Asgardia, also known as the Space Kingdom of Asgardia, is the first space kingdom in history and an example of a micronation. Although they live on Earth, its people, the Asgardians, are citizens of this nation situated in space. Igor Ashurbeyli, a Russian billionaire, founded Asgardia in October 2016 to create a prosperous and peaceful space nation for humanity. The Kingdom of Asgardia has its constitution, flag, and national anthem. It even maintains a social media presence on Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube. Anyone over eighteen can apply for citizenship online, and there is a registered

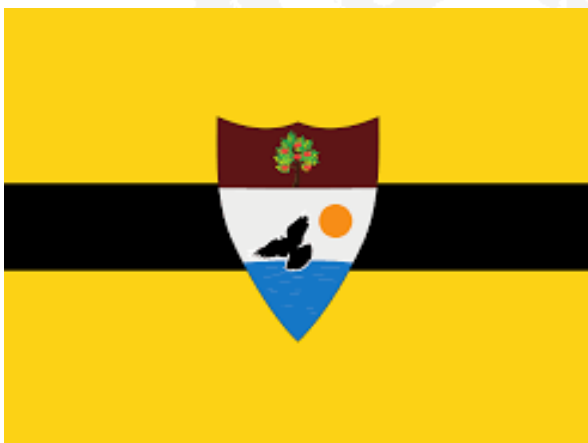
parliament and council. However, as a virtual entity, Asgardia faces challenges, primarily the lack of physical land. Its administrative center is currently on Earth, specifically in Vienna, Austria. Additionally, it lacks international recognition from established states. Questions also arise regarding laws implementation or governance for its citizens in space. The future of Asgardia depends on its capacity to establish a physical presence in space, perhaps through its satellites or alliances with space agencies. The complexities of establishing a micronation seem to grow. However, in the era of technology and advancements in space science, where space travel has become more accessible and we witness space tourism and endless research on other planets to determine which are habitable, creating a space nation becomes more feasible.



Let's explore another example of a micronation, not in the vast expanse of space but on our beautiful planet Earth. Situated on a small piece of land between Serbia and Croatia lies Liberland. It was proclaimed in 2015 and is a daring attempt at self-governance that goes beyond

conventional state notions. Founded on principles of individual liberty and free-market economics, Liberland promises a minimal government with a flat tax rate and minimal regulations. This approach, built on the concept of "terra nullius" (unclaimed land), has attracted cryptocurrency enthusiasts and those seeking an alternative to existing governments. Liberland aspires to become a center for innovation and entrepreneurship, utilizing blockchain technology and fostering a culture of self-responsibility and environmental conservation. Nevertheless, challenges remain. Serbia and Croatia both claim ownership of the area that was used to construct Liberland. Under international treaties and historical maps, Serbia regards the island of Gjirijevice, the birthplace of Liberland, as part of its territory. Supported by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, Croatia claims that the island is under its authority because it is located inside its economic zone in the Danube River. No UN member state has recognized Liberland internationally as a result of this debate. It has also had trouble setting up a

functioning government and infrastructure on its land. By suggesting a land exchange, Liberland tried to settle the border conflict with Serbia in 2022. Liberland proposed that Serbia recognize it as an independent state in return for a portion of its territory. This effort, nevertheless, was unable to end the dispute. Liberland continues to face significant legal and political challenges in its pursuit of international recognition and the establishment of a viable nation. Several examples of micronations are still in existence today such as Sealand and Molossia. Others have collapsed, like the Kingdom of Elleore. Establishing a micronation is not as easy as it might initially seem. Hence, if you're bored this summer, pursue a hobby you enjoy or an activity that benefits your body and mind, travel and explore the world, read a book that stimulates your intellect, spend time with friends and family, clean up your room, assists your parents with household chores, or even watching a movie to clear your head. And don't get carried away with those nonsense ideas again.





THE AI REVOLUTION: TRANSFORMING JOBS AND SHAPING THE FUTURE LABOR MARKET

SARAH MOHAMED MAHMOUD- THIRD LEVEL- ECONOMICS MAJOR

Artificial intelligence plays a pivotal role in our lives now in various fields, as most of us have been exposed to it at least once or used it. Since the emergence of the fourth industrial revolution, societies and countries began trying to change and adapt to the new situation for fear of falling behind the rest of the countries, especially the developed countries that have the factors that qualify them to adopt AI. Despite the impressive and rapid progress achieved by AI in the recent period, such as improving decision-making, creating new job opportunities, and increasing efficiency and productivity, there are questions about the extent of its impact on jobs and the labor market. As it is difficult to predict the future of artificial intelligence and the change it will bring because it differs from automation, which is defined as a system that relies on programming to determine its rules and performs only routine tasks, i.e. it cannot deduce itself, unlike AI,

which depends on teaching machines and devices to deduce themselves without the need for human intervention and programming and aims to simulate human intelligence. Artificial intelligence consists of 6 branches, namely machine learning, where systems learn from data and improve their performance over time. There are also neural networks that simulate the brain and are able to recognize patterns and make predictions, robotics, which includes designing and developing robots to perform specific tasks, in addition to expert systems that simulate the ability to make decisions, as well as fuzzy logic that is used to deal with ambiguous information, and finally natural language processing, which enables machines to understand and deal with human language. Since AI started penetrating the labor market, it has brought about many changes as it is reshaping the nature of work. There are many studies predicting that it will completely replace jobs and others

suggesting that it will only complement human work. A group of experts at the International Monetary Fund conducted an analysis of this matter in which they concluded that about 40% of jobs are exposed to AI and that developed countries are the most vulnerable to the effects of AI on the labor market due to its ability to perform jobs that require high skills, as the percentage of jobs exposed to AI in developed countries reached about 60%, half of them will benefit from AI and increase its productivity, and the other half of the jobs will be performed by AI. As for developing and low-income countries, the impact of AI on the labor market there, whether positively or negatively, will be limited due to the lack of readiness of these countries in terms of infrastructure and readiness to receive it. However, this does not mean that these countries will not be affected by AI in any way, but rather that it will create a gap in income levels and inequality, as developed countries using AI will have higher productivity and therefore higher incomes. AI has two roles: complementary, reinforcing and substitutive. The complementary and reinforcing role lies in the fact that it can enhance the efficiency of workers and increase their productivity by doing routine work, giving workers an opportunity to focus on complex work, for example in industry, where robots can do dangerous work, thus preserving human life and increasing its productive efficiency. The substitution role is when AI replaces humans in all job tasks, such as self-driving cars, which over time reduces the number of drivers, and also in customer service, when AI solves traditional customer issue,

reducing the need for customer service employees. According to the World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs 2023 report, by 2027, nearly a quarter of the current jobs around the world will experience change as a result of technological change and artificial intelligence. This will translate into the creation of 69 million new jobs and the elimination of 83 million other jobs with an estimated growth rate of 10.2% and a decline of 12%, which means an estimated decrease of about 14 million jobs or 2% of current employment. Data analysts, data scientists, big data specialists, AI machine learning specialists, and cyber security specialists are among the jobs expected to grow significantly in the coming period. The field of big data analysis also ranks first among the technologies that are seen as a source of job creation, in addition to jobs related to e-commerce. In contrast, AI will contribute to the disappearance of some jobs such as secretaries, bank window clerks, and customer service. In short, AI plays an important role in reshaping the labor market in the current and upcoming years, so despite its many advantages that we enjoy now, which are also expected to increase, we must direct our attention to the challenges related to the loss of some jobs and try to look for quick solutions to this issue before these millions lose their jobs with the need to take into account education; educating future generations and training current generations so that the chances of losing their jobs are reduced and the income gap is also reduced.



IDOLIZING CELEBRITIES: BETWEEN REALITY AND ILLUSION

ZEYAD MOHAMED-THIRD LEVEL-ECONOMICS



Who among us doesn't have a favorite public figure, someone we admire and look up to in various aspects of life, significantly shaping our personality alongside other socialization factors? For many, these public figures represent role models, though not necessarily in the view of the collective conscience, which forms the foundation of society and reflects in their behaviors, embodying shared noble goals and ethical stances that unify and protect society from fragmentation and internal conflicts.

In truth, these public figures represent, for some, the ultimate ideal to strive for, and their influence can inadvertently manifest in one's behaviors and opinions, drawn from their admiration for this figure.

This raises the question: Does this public figure deserve to be emulated to the extent that some might almost idolize them, or are they like any other human being, whose public status stems from their uniqueness in a particular field only?



The reason for posing this question lies in the recurring situations that emerge and the way they are handled by various segments of society. Whenever an incident occurs, people quickly align themselves either in support of the person, not necessarily their behavior, or in opposition to a competing figure in the same field, which leads us to a critical fallacy.

We often stray from the main issue, which is that a public figure's value lies not in their persona but in what they offer to the public. Their opinions and contributions in other fields or their behaviors should be subject to scrutiny and critique.

However, what usually happens is a rush to support or oppose the person, not the issue at hand. Therefore, the answer to the question posed at the beginning of this discussion becomes evident when things are put in their proper context: any renowned figure can be a role model only within their field of expertise. Their approach to other aspects of life is subject to debate and criticism.



In conclusion, having a critical and analytical mindset capable of assessing situations from all angles is a rare trait in our time, one we should all strive to possess amidst a series of events and situations that require proper handling, free from biases that might blind us to the true nature of a public figure. This issue can have serious repercussions on an individual's character, especially the younger generation growing up in a world full of contradictions and erroneous inputs from these figures. Such behaviors are easily adopted by the youth simply because they come from a beloved figure, a trend that has increased with the rise of social media, leading some to believe they can tackle subjects beyond their expertise and knowledge just because they have a large following.

This phenomenon has become more frequent recently, with many young people falling for the ideas and beliefs of so-called "influencers." Even if these ideas are correct, they can undermine the youth's critical thinking abilities at an age when their personalities and temperaments are still forming.

This situation prompts us to ask a more important question than whether these celebrities' actions are right or wrong: "How can we foster critical thinking in young people to help them navigate the influence of public figures and content on social media, enabling them to distinguish between positive and negative influences?" This question opens the door for further discussion on educational methods and strategies that can be adopted to strengthen young people's independent and critical thinking skills in the face of various influences.





POOR AND DEAF EARS

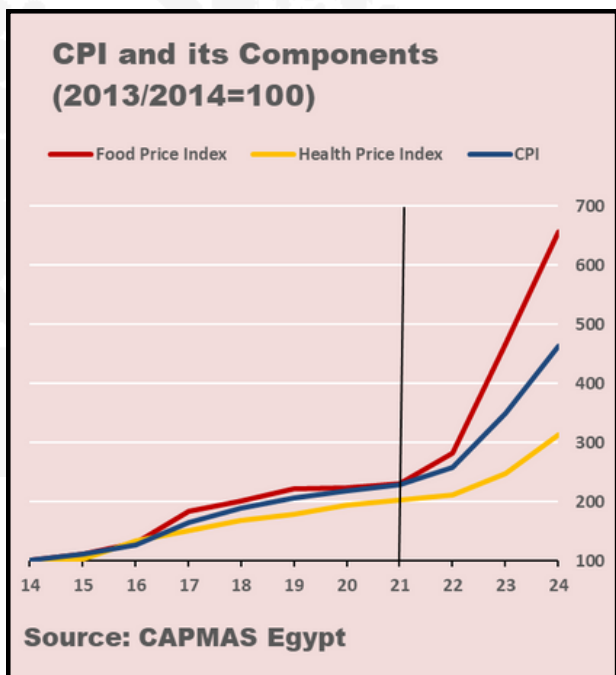
ABDELRAHMAN SAKR- SECOND LEVEL-ECONOMICS

Walking down the street during Eid Al-Adha, one would expect to see happy faces, a lot of veal and crowded cloths shops. However, this was not quite the case this Eid. One could easily notice that there is much less veal than last year, a lot more beggars, less crowded shops, and much gloomier faces. Sarcastically, people noticed there were almost no videos of veal trying to escape, which we are used to watching every Eid.

Double digits inflation-rate, sparked by currency depreciation, has eaten into people’s purchasing power, reaching an all-time peak of 38% in September 2023. This wave came after a decline in average family income from wages between 2018 and 2020, according to CAPMAS Egypt. And what hit consumers the most was the increase in food prices, which rose by 22%, 65.9%, and 40.5% on an annual basis in 2022, 2023, and 2024 respectively, meaning that food prices nearly tripled between 2021 and 2024. Less dramatic was the increase in

health goods and services prices, which rose by around 50% between 2021 and 2024.

But instead of having a war against poverty, the government is waging a war against the poor. Turning a blind eye to the struggle of the citizens, the government decided to reduce bread subsidy by 300%, raising the charged price from 5 piasters to



20 piasters a loaf. Such a step puts more pressure on those who are in need the most while those in extreme poverty and near poverty constitute about 60% of the population. Thus, we still have 64% of the population benefiting from the subsidy despite government efforts to limit the scale of beneficiaries, which shows how it is badly needed. Moreover, bread is used to deliver the poor calories and nutrients. On the contrary, the government should actually increase the subsidy to fill the calories and nutrients gap caused by inflation in food prices.

Some arguments were made to support the unpopular decision. All of them are shallow. First, the government argues that the price has been fixed since the 80s, which is not true because the government has reduced its weight multiple times since 2014, reaching 90gm in 2020. Second, many are calling for cash subsidies to replace the bread subsidy, arguing that it is more effective. However, the bread subsidy is way more effective and efficient as it requires much less administrative costs than cash subsidies since the subsidized bread is an inferior good that is only bought out of desperation. Takaful and Karama program, which the government keeps boasting of, has also proven to be ineffective, although it requires much more administrative costs to determine who is worthy of cash transfers. According to a report published by The Tunisian Observatory of Economy in 2023, 55% of people that the program intends to target in the poorest 10% of the population and 75% of those in the second poorest 10 per cent are wrongly excluded. Third, Mostafa Madbouly, the prime minister, argued that the government aims to divert the saved resources to health and

education, which is sarcastic given the insignificance of the size of the bread subsidy within the state budget, which constitutes 2% of total government spending, and that the amount saved from the reduction, 15 billion L.E, is a drop in the ocean of the increase in spending needed to reach the constitutional entitlement for education and health spending, which is equal to 744 billion L.E and 317 billion L.E respectively.

And while Egypt is going through a crisis of severe shortages in the pharmaceutical sector and an increase in prices ranging between 20-40%, in addition to the already high inflation in health goods and service prices in the previous years, the government drafted a bill that was approved by the parliament and signed by the president that would allow the private sector to manage and operate public hospitals. The bill mentioned no restrictions on charged prices, leaving the poor vulnerable to more inflation in healthcare prices. We used to complain of bad service in public hospitals. Yet, there is worse to come. Soon the poor will not be able to have treatment in the better equipped public hospitals, which are the ones offered to investors, and will be left only with the primary health-care centers.

These decisions represent an extension and a continuity of the policy of austerity in the already insufficient social spending while increasing spending on infrastructure projects, which resulted in the increase of interest payments as a percentage of public spending. Over the last decade, public expenditure as a percentage of GDP in Egypt fell by 10 points, decreasing from 31.3 percent in 2014 to 21.1 percent in 2024. Between 2013 and 2023, social spending share of public expenditure has decreased

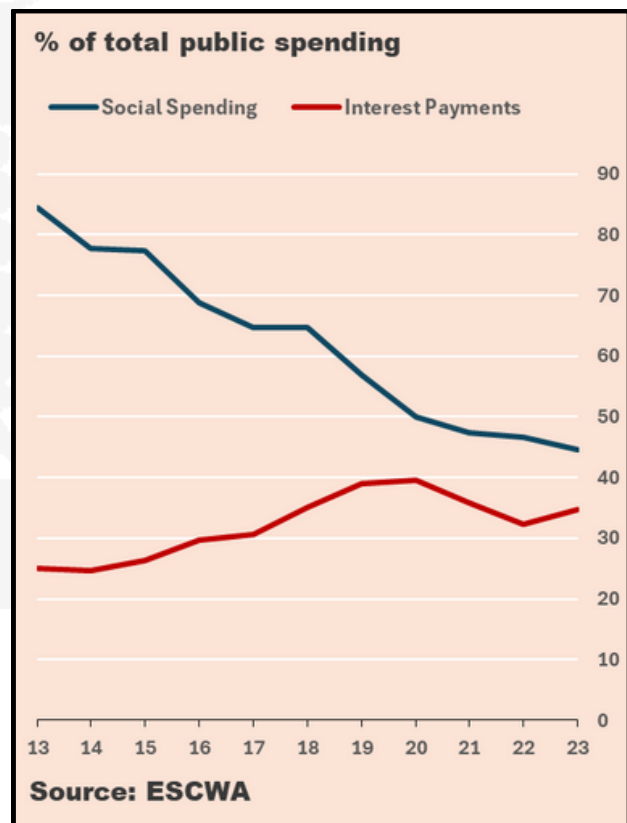
from 84.5% in 2013 to 44.6% in 2023 and interest payments have increased from 25% to 34.7% (check the chart below).

The future outlook does not give much hope. More reductions in subsidies and hikes in utility prices are expected. And amidst the economic crisis we are facing, the new phase of the administrative capital started at the beginning of this year while the poor are still suffering with no one to hear their rightful demands. The government is not likely to change its course of massive spending on mega projects and building new cities in the middle of the desert, and it does not mind doing so at the expense of the poor. “The rulers believe in the idea of the state itself, the powerful state by itself, the state that does not become weaker, nor softer, nor does it answer to their feebleness, no matter how much they solicited or even begged”, says Anwar Al-Hawary, a journalist and writer, in his latest book, “Waiting for Freedom”. The government deals with the citizens as pockets and revenue source, not as the source of its authority.

The government also considers putting more burden on the poor the first option. Instead of cutting bread subsidies, the government could, not to mention that it “should”, fight corruption and inefficiencies that lead to higher costs in goods and services. It could investigate corruption in public owned enterprises, like Egypt Air, and work on turning their losses into profits. For instance, the losses of the National Media Authority were EGP 11 billion in 2022, just 4 billion below the amount saved from the reduction in the bread subsidy. Most importantly, the government could start diverting the profits of economic authorities to support the state

budget. For example, the authority of urban communities made profit of 108 billion L.E in 2022/2023, of which only 5% was diverted to the state budget.

In order for this to change, political reforms are needed as the current monopolization of power and authority is leading to a very exclusive vision that does not take into consideration its effects on everyone. The government should be held accountable and civil society should be given more space to push the government towards increasing its capacity and to become more effective and efficient, otherwise the government will just keep passing its failures to the poor. However, this is not expected to happen soon, and so the misery of the poor continues, and so does the war against them.





A TORTURED CHILDHOOD IN THE TIME OF CRUELTY

NAME-LEVEL- MAJOR



Every now and then, something surfaces that disturbs the peace within us, leaving us feeling trapped within the confines of our own thoughts and the prisons of conscience. The ultimate question remains: what crime have I committed other than being a small dreamer?

All these young ones, whose innocence was robbed by life itself, find themselves caught up in the demands of survival, deprived of the joys of childhood. If we were to describe it, it's a childhood without childhood. They work to barely meet basic needs, remote from the luxuries or comforts their peers enjoy. They face the harsh realities of life with their small hands, bearing burdens not of their making, dreaming of

Fridays to rest after a week where the scorching heat of the season burnt their childhood dreams to ashes next to the manual labor they undertake.

What crime did these innocents commit to endure such hardship? What bodies can bear such a heavy burden of worries? They lost their resilience from the tenderest of ages, denied their right to care, robbed of self-love, education, and every aspect of molding good humans, all without the means to confront or escape these harsh circumstances.

We used to look forward to summer vacations to indulge in our own ways, where life felt lighter, and the noontime hours echoed with childhood dreams. What fault do they or their parents bear to be deprived of these simple dreams?

I pondered this question long, seeking solace for the plight of these innocent children, but all I found was that their parents gave beyond their means, within the limits allowed by a society with teeth that gnaw at the poor. Their mothers, endlessly praising them as the most beautiful and strongest girls of their generation, worry about their fatigue and sadness, unable to provide them with a childhood intact like others of their time. These little ones, subjected to cruelty from a young age, lacking resilience not due to parental surrender but due to societal injustice and arbitrariness.

These neglected bottles, no one to care for them. Society's cruelty and the circumstances of the times have been their constant companions. Time did not spare them, nor did it advise them well. They paid their youth for a few pounds earned after a day's toil. They fell like spring flowers before they could bloom.

We lost them before losing ourselves, as instead of school trips, they rode death carts, falling into waters where no one drank, except they wouldn't return. They lost their lives for a hundred pounds, and our hearts broke witnessing this tragedy, unable to do anything.

We console ourselves and their families, saying sorrow will ease, but it hasn't and won't. Our grief multiplies, and their families remain haunted by thoughts, their eyes reflecting hidden pain, tears shimmering, a dark halo beneath their eyes. Their features may

be still, but their anguish is restless.

We stand by helplessly, asking: Is the state incapable of providing care and protection for them? How long will we remain like this? The poor's morsel is always laced with bitterness and cruelty, their reigns never peaceful or happy. Always struggling for a piece of bread and a sip of water.

Will the world remain so cruel? Will humanity continue to suffer like this? And after all this, they are your brothers and sisters, your nieces and nephews. Their loss should pain you deeply. Silence is the trait of cowards. Words of comfort cannot replace what's lost. But we console ourselves, knowing it's God's will, a test for them and their families. The ultimate test is their satisfaction with this trial, whether they accept it in adversity or not.

To all those enduring hearts, know that we stand with you in our thoughts during these difficult times. May God compensate your children for their lost childhood and youth in paradise, and grant you patience.





EGYPT CABINET : NEW ENOUGH ?

SARA BASHEER- THIRD YEAR - ECONOMICS

After President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi reappointed Dr. Madbouly as a Prime Minister and assigned him to form the new government, which is considered the fourth cabinet reshuffle under him, Dr. Madbouly formed a new cabinet that involved major changes in ministers and portfolios.

Changes have been made to 20 ministries, as Sherif El Sherbini is now the minister of housing; Ahmed Kojok minister of finance; Sherif Farouk minister of supply; Osama al-Azhari minister of endowments; Maya Morsy minister of social solidarity; Mahmoud Fawzy minister of parliamentary affairs and political communication; Adnan El Fangary minister of justice; Sameh El Hefny minister of aviation; and, Mohamed Abdel Latif minister of education.

Moreover, some ministries have been merged. The ministry of foreign affairs is now merged with the ministry of immigration, headed by Ambassador Badr Abdel Aty. In addition, the ministry of international cooperation and the ministry of planning and economic development have been merged together, headed by Minister Rania Al-Mashat, and the Ministry of Transport has been merged with the Ministry of Industry, led by Kamel Al-Wazir.



The new Egyptian cabinet is currently facing a set of complex challenges that are supposed to be addressed by the new expertise that Dr Madbouly has recently appointed, as President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi mentioned.

According to Prime Minister Madbouly, the new government's program focuses on various dilemmas Egypt is facing including, the Gaza war on Egypt's borders, the daily electricity cuts, lowering inflation, boosting investment, enhancing the education quality, high debts, and improving the overall well-being of the Egyptians.

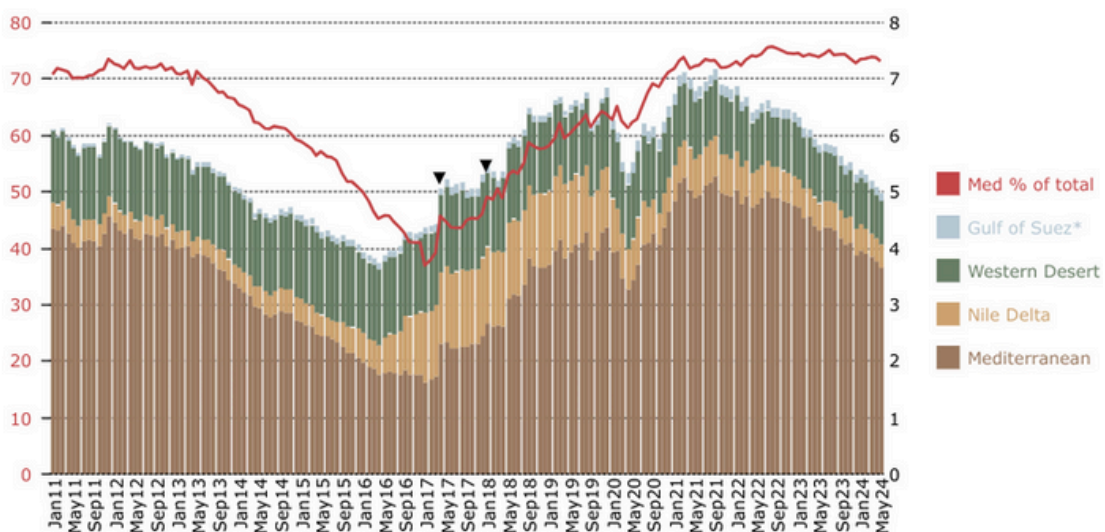
As Dr Madbouly promised to tackle the frequent power outages, Egypt's most prominent challenge, that stems from gas and oil shortage by the end of 2024, Dr. Madbouly appointed Karim Badawi, a manager at oil services firm Schlumberger in Egypt and the Eastern Mediterranean, the minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources.

"Providing the necessary fuel to operate electricity stations and thus making it available to citizens and companies operating in Egypt is one of the priorities the ministry will work on," Minister Karim Badawi said.

Badawi also emphasized that his ministry will mainly concentrate its efforts on increasing oil and gas production and discoveries and pumping modern technologies to develop discoveries and obtain new fields in the Mediterranean, the Western Desert, and throughout the country.

Despite those promises made by Madbouly and Karim Badawi, Egypt gas output at BP's Raven, the country's number two top producer of gas, keeps getting worse to reach below 5bn for the first time since early 2017, and the lowest in more than seven years, according to MEES.

Egypt Gas Output Falls Below 5bn cfd For The First Time Since Start-Up Of BP's Key WND Project In April 2017 (bn cfd)



Those figures apparently contradict and do not align with the plan of ending the frequent power cuts by the end of 2024 as the Prime Minister previously stated. Even though Dr Madbouly announced that the load-shedding cuts will be stopped starting next Sunday 21st July, those figures explain that, most probably, the crisis will not be completely come to an end, as its root causes were not tackled.

In addition, another objective of the new government is enhancing the quality of the Egyptian educational system, specially by raising the efficiency of the educational institutions and upskilling teaching staff. For this, Mohamed Abdel-Latif was appointed by Dr. Madbouly as the Minister of Education and Technical Education.

Abdel-Latif held various significant positions in the education sector. He served as a board member of Future International, a company involved in the education industry, and was the executive director of the Nermeen Ismail Schools Group. He is also known for his efforts to adapt American diploma curricula to better suit Egyptian culture.

However, Minister Mohamed Abdel-Latif turned out to have a questionable curriculum vitae. As many concerns have been raised over the recent accusations he is facing over allegedly faking his academic credentials “obtaining a fake PhD”.

Investigations show that the US-based Cardiff City, where Abdel-Latif claims to have acquired his PhD from, is an unaccredited institution that offers fake degrees, and lacks a physical campus.

Despite his rich professional experience, such accusations and an unethical behavior raise a lot of questions regarding Abdel-Latif’s validity to be responsible for such a crucial role of implementing effective and inclusive reforms in the current educational system.

