

**CMES**CENTRE FOR ADVANCED
MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

2023-12-19

Internship(s), Beyond Project

CMES is offering 1-2 part-time internships within the MECW project [“Beyond Sacred/Secular Cities: Exploring Politics of Memory, Space, and Religion in Middle Eastern Nationalisms”](#).

The Centre for Advanced Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) coordinates the Strategic Research Area (SRA) [“The Middle East in the Contemporary World”](#) (MECW). The research program consists of four research themes: 1) Environment and sustainable development; 2) Security and sustainable peace; 3) Democratization, migration and sustainable socio-economic development; and 4) Religion, identity and culture.

Project Description

The project Beyond Sacred/Secular Cities explores urban entities and environments as stages for the construction and contest of nationalist imaginations in the Middle East (and beyond). It aims at unpacking how nationalism and national memory, in various national contexts and urban localities, comprises entangled and ambiguous religious/secular imaginaries. As such it aims at providing critical perspectives on conventional dichotomies of ‘sacred’ versus ‘profane’, and ‘traditional’ versus ‘modern’, and how cities orchestrate national memories and political processes in juxtaposition of such characteristics and legacies.

The project empirically explores two Israeli/Palestinian, and two Turkish cities, conventionally associated with such bifurcated imaginaries: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv-Yafo, Istanbul, and Izmir. It contextually and comparatively explores local-urban memory

institutions and -processes in the four cities (focusing museums and public commemorative spaces), in relation to local and national debates on ‘national values’, aesthetic legacies, and the commemoration of historical/ritual fixtures. The project also comprises the seminar-platform ‘City/Religion/Nationalism’, a forum for theoretical development and comparative perspectives on memory, religion, secularity, and nationalism in urban contexts.

Qualifications

- Be a registered student at Lund University for the duration of the internship
- Ability to work both independently and in a research team
- Skills in English – required
- Good written and verbal communication skills

Intern Responsibilities

The exact tasks to be carried out by the intern(s) will be discussed with the research team but may include:

- Assisting the research team in collecting data on museums, monuments and/or other significant memory spaces in urban settings in the MENA region
- Compiling a literature review
- Assisting the research team in analysing data on museums, monuments and/or other significant memory spaces in urban settings in the MENA region
- Assisting the research team in writing articles as well as to communicate research through the organisation of seminars, conferences and other types of academic meetings

Internship Details and Duration

The internship is unpaid, part-time and temporary.

- Number of positions: 1-2
- Duration: 1 February – 2 June 2024 (or as per agreement)
- Part-time: 4 hours/week

Application

Submit the application form and a CV (no longer than 2 pages) to ansokan@cme.lu.se no later than 19 January 2024.

Contact Information

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