



Kick-off seminar of WEP, the Nordic- Arab Network of Research on Women's Empowerment, Gender and Politics:

***Moving gender from the margin to the center of comparative politics.
Understanding gendered processes of politics and power***

Dates: November 1-3, 2010

Venue: Aalborg University, Denmark.

What are the role of women and feminist organization in democratization processes? What have been the determinants for best practices in securing the genders' equal rights? What influences the gendered patterns of migration and what are the risks and the potential for empowerment of migrating groups? How do we understand the different interpretations of men and women in the media? What is the role of religion and in which ways does it impede and facilitate gender equality? The first WEP seminar will address these issues in plenary presentations and papers presented during the workshop sessions. Analyses of the similarities and differences within the Arab and the Nordic region and between the regions are welcome.

The conference offers a unique opportunity for master students, PhD students and Postdoctoral scholars from the MENA region and the Nordic countries to present their work on women and politics in a broad sense including projects on women in politics, policy changes and gendered rights, migration and labour market, media and religion.

Participants: The workshop is *primarily* aimed at master students, PhD students and other young scholars taking and interest in and doing research on gender, politics in the Middle East and the Nordic Countries. However, some senior researchers are also welcome.

Programme: Please see http://womendialogue.org/sites/default/files/wep_seminar_1-3_nov2010_program_0.pdf

ECTS: The participants will be rewarded 1 ECTS for active participation in the seminar and another 2 ECTS for presenting a paper. A certificate confirming participation will be issued for all participants.

Language: The working language of the seminar is English and papers must be written in English.

Fee: Participation in the kick-off seminar is free of charge and includes accommodation (max 3 nights) and meals but Nordic participants are requested to cover their own travel expenses. If you do not have funds to cover your travel costs please state this when you apply for participation in the seminar.

Application for participation: Please sign up for the seminar using the online registration form: (early registration is strongly recommended – ie. as soon as possible as it takes time to get a visa):

<https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dEkyQk5YQ0NsdUF3aFFEbXJyajdxYmc6MQ>

Also, please join the WEP online forum at www.womendialogue.org and fill in the required information (for details on how you update your profile information please see: http://www.womendialogue.org/sites/default/files/Invitation_letter_WEP.pdf)