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Chapter 1 : Population Trends and Challenges in the Middle East and North Africa – Population Referen

Political Handbook of the Middle East 1st Edition by Anon (Author), Cover Art (Illustrator) Be the first to review this item.

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Subjects Description The Routledge Handbook of East European Politics is an authoritative overview that will help a wide readership develop an understanding of the region in all its political, economic, and social complexity. Including Central Europe, the Baltic republics, South Eastern Europe, and the Western Balkans, as well as all the countries of the former Soviet Union, it is unrivalled in breadth and depth, affording a comprehensive overview of Eastern European politics provided by leading experts in the fields of comparative politics, international relations, and public administration. Through a series of cutting-edge articles, it seeks to explain and understand patterns of Eastern European politics today. The Routledge Handbook of East European Politics will be a key reference point both for advanced-level students developing knowledge about the subject, researchers producing new material in the area, and those interested and working in the fields of East European Politics, Russian Politics, EU Politics, and more broadly in European Politics, Comparative Politics, Democratization Studies, and International Relations. The state of democracy 1. Democracy and democratization in post-communist Europe [Andrew Roberts] 2. Core executives in Central Europe [Martin Brusis] 5. Political parties and party organisations [Allan Sikk] 8. The rule of law [Martin Mendelski] 9. Elections and political participation Elections and electoral participation [Sarah Birch] Minorities and identity politics Understanding ethnic minorities in Eastern Europe [Sherrill Stroschein] The representation of women [Frank C. Politics at the fringes? Policy issues and policy choices Varieties of capitalism in Eastern Europe [Dorothee Bohle] Dealing with the past: Combatting corruption [Tatiana Kostadinova and Maria Spirova] International relations and actors Enlargement and Europeanization in Central and Eastern Europe: He is also the co-editor of the journal East European Politics.

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Chapter 3 : M.A. - Middle East Studies - The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies

Political Handbook of the Middle East (Regional Political Handbooks of the World) User Review - Not Available - Book Verdict. Entries in this surprisingly slender, data-packed volume run 20 to 30 pages and offer penetrating insight into 25 nations and symbolic nation-states that make up a tumultuous and frequently.

MENA is one of the cradles of civilization and of urban culture. But the influence of MENA extends beyond its rich oil fields. It occupies a strategically important geographic position between Asia, Africa, and Europe. It has often been caught in a tug-of-war of land and influence that affects the entire world. For hundreds of years, the population of MENA fluctuated around 30 million, reaching 60 million early in the 20th century. Only in the second half of 20th century did population growth in the region gain momentum. The total population increased from around million in to around million in " an addition of million people in 50 years. During this period the population of the MENA region increased 3. United Nations, World Population Prospects: The Revision New York: Population Change MENA experienced the highest rate of population growth of any region in the world over the past century. The introduction of modern medical services and public health interventions, such as antibiotics, immunization, and sanitation, caused death rates to drop rapidly in the developing world after , while the decline in birth rates lagged behind, resulting in high rates of natural increase the surplus of births over deaths. The declines in mortality that occurred in the past 50 years in the developing world mostly benefited infants and young children. In MENA, infant mortality infants dying before their first birthdays dropped from close to deaths per 1, live births in the early s to fewer than 50 deaths per 1, live births at the turn of the 21st century. Figure 2 Decline in Infant Mortality Source: On average, fertility in MENA declined from 7 children per woman around to 3. Even though the decline in fertility rates is expected to continue in the MENA region, the population will continue to grow rapidly for several decades. In a number of countries, each generation of young people enters childbearing years in greater numbers than the previous generation, so as a whole they will produce a larger number of births. Population Reference Bureau, May Demographic Consequences and Challenges Regardless of the level of economic development or national income, MENA governments are increasingly challenged to provide the basic needs for a growing numbers of citizens " adequate housing, sanitation, health care, education, and jobs " and to combat poverty, narrow the gap between rich and poor, and generally improve the standard of living. Over the next 15 years these children and adolescents will reach their childbearing years and enter the job market. In most MENA countries, the number of women of childbearing age 15 to 49 years will at least double in the next 30 years. Providing quality reproductive health services to a growing number of women is a challenge and is key to slowing population growth. For example, the elderly population of Egypt 60 years and older is expected to grow from 4. In , for example, there were five Jordanians under 15 years of age poised to enter the labor market for every Jordanian age 45 to 60 nearing retirement age. For Saudi nationals, this ratio was 8-to-1 in see Figure 5. Because of its young age structure and low level of female labor force participation, the proportion of the population that is economically active is lower in MENA than in all other regions. According to the International Labour Organization ILO , the only countries with a dependency ratio of two or higher an average of two or more persons not economically active per one economically active person are found in the MENA region. Many governments struggle to provide for the basic needs of their growing populations. Even some of the oil-rich countries in the Gulf, such as Saudi Arabia, which have traditionally had no unemployment, are faced with youth unemployment. Unemployment is highest among young people and women. In Jordan in , three-quarters of the unemployed were 15 to 29 years of age, and the female unemployment rate was twice as high as that of men. Unemployment rates in Egypt were reported to be 24 percent for women in , compared to 7 percent for men. In Egypt, between and , the literacy rate among the population age 15 years and older increased from 40 percent to 50 percent, but the total number of illiterate Egyptians still grew from 16 million to 19 million. Managing rapidly growing urban populations in the face of

housing shortages and inadequate infrastructure is also becoming more of a challenge. The populations of cities are growing faster than the populations of the countries as a whole, as population growth in the rural areas feeds a pool of potential rural-to-urban migrants. By 2000, Cairo While it is home to 6. Between 1980 and 2000, population growth caused the available renewable fresh water resources per person in MENA to drop by more than half: The per capita fresh water resources available are projected to decline to around 1, cubic meters by 2025, the internationally recognized threshold for water scarcity. Today, much of the region is already below the international standard, since nearly 80 percent of available fresh water in the region is found in Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Turkey. In countries such as Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia, the national average is below cubic meters per person per year. MENA, home to more than 6 million refugees, has the largest refugee population in the world. Iran has the largest number of refugees living in its territory. Palestinian refugees are the largest and oldest refugee population in the world. Different policies ranging from labor and trade laws and regulations to those related to raising the status of women and protecting the environment all need to take into account the population factor. To have a better understanding of the population factor, future MENA policy briefs will examine different population issues, highlighting regional and national approaches, success stories, and lessons learned. The Evolving International Consensus on Population The United Nations UN held its first meetings on global population in 1950 and 1955, warning that rapid population growth could exacerbate poverty and hinder development in countries with limited resources. Egypt, Iran, and Turkey were among the first less developed countries to officially support family planning. These governments set up family planning programs in the 1960s to improve health and lower population growth as part of their national development plans. At the UN World Population Conference in Bucharest, Algeria was among the countries leading the opposition to family planning programs on the grounds that they were an imperialist conspiracy aimed at limiting the population of the developing world. This group of countries believed that a national family planning program could not play a part in socioeconomic development, and only socioeconomic development was capable of creating the necessary environment for fertility to decline. Later, however, the Algerian government realized that development alone would not be sufficient to lower fertility and reversed its policy. In 1979, Algeria adopted a population policy that promoted family planning as part of its national development plan. Iran reversed its official position on family planning twice since the 1960s. After the Iran-Iraq war ended in 1975, the government of Iran turned its focus to the reconstruction of its war-ravaged country. It saw rapid population growth as a major obstacle to the economic development of the country and began to implement one of the most successful population programs in the less developed world. Most support the provision of family planning information and services, directly or indirectly, as part of their primary health care services. A number of countries, such as Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, and Turkey, have adopted explicit policies to lower fertility and have implemented national information and education campaigns to encourage smaller families. The Cairo conference was a landmark in the series of UN population conference because it emphasized individual needs and well-being beyond family planning-including the need for comprehensive reproductive health care and improvements in the status of women. High fertility, slowing fertility decline, early marriage, and high teenage fertility are major reproductive health concerns in a number of MENA countries. The practice of female genital cutting, though unknown in some areas outside Egypt and Yemen, is a major reproductive health issue that has brought national and international human rights, health, and women organizations together to call for its eradication. All governments participating in the Cairo conference endorsed its Programme of Action. For Muslim countries, including those in MENA, the endorsement generally came with the reservation that they would interpret and adopt its recommendations in accordance with Islam-a position needed for the delegations to take the recommendations back home for implementation. The Programme of Action touched on issues such as youth sexuality and empowerment of women, which are culturally sensitive in some Muslim countries. Other UN international conferences in the 1990s focused on related aspects of human development: The recommendations resulting from these conferences provide a framework for achieving socially equitable, sustainable development that each country can adapt to their own circumstances. This

overview of population trends and challenges in the MENA region is the first in a series of policy briefs from the Population Reference Bureau that analyze population, environment, reproductive health, and development linkages within the framework of the Cairo Programme of Action and the cultural contexts of population groups in the region. Future briefs on MENA will cover specific population-related topics or country case studies. Thanks are due to Ismail Sirageldin and Tom Merrick who reviewed the draft and offered useful comments. This work has been funded by the Ford Foundation. References At a 3 percent rate of growth, a population doubles in size in 23 years. Toward the 21st Century, ed. Key Findings New York: UN Population Division, Table 5, Data Tables and Highlights, Table Calculations done by author using the following sources: Committee for Refugees, Population Reference Bureau, July Well-being for All Washington, DC: Focusing on human development, the document calls for a wide range of investments to improve health, education, and rights — particularly for women and girls — and to provide family planning services in the context of comprehensive reproductive health care. ICPD set the following quantifiable goals for Provide universal access to a full range of safe and reliable family planning methods and related reproductive health services. Reduce infant mortality rates to below 35 infants deaths per 1, live births and under 5 infant mortality rates to below 45 deaths per 1, live births. Reduce maternal morbidity and mortality to levels where they no longer constitute a public health problem. Increase life expectancy at birth to more than 75 years. In countries with the highest mortality, aim to increase life expectancy at birth to more than 70 years. Achieve universal access to and completion of primary education; ensure girls and women the widest and earliest possible access to secondary and higher levels of education. Cairo in Action Since the Cairo conference, many countries have taken concrete policy actions toward the goal of providing universal access to reproductive health care. In some cases, these actions included developing comprehensive national reproductive policies; in others, governments redesigned aspects of existing family planning or other health programs to address reproductive health. The following are examples from MENA: Jordan adopted its National Population Strategy in Later, a national family planning strategy was also developed to inform married women and men, religious and community leaders, and service providers about a full range of reproductive health issues. Iran has created a national reproductive health program that includes economic opportunities for women and services for youth. Syria has introduced population education as a topic in both formal and informal education. In , Tunisia established a Presidential Award in reproductive health to encourage and reward individuals and organizations for their contribution to solving problems related to reproductive health and raising public awareness about the issue.

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Chapter 4 : List of modern conflicts in the Middle East - Wikipedia

Neither a light read nor a work of fiction, Political Handbook is a comprehensive work of detailed documentation on the political background of countries commonly considered as comprising the Middle East.

Students take courses through the Jackson School of International Studies and other departments on campus. The course of studies provides a student with a thorough grounding in the modern Middle East and a view of how this region fits into the world community politically, historically, and economically. To achieve this understanding, students take courses in the social sciences, humanities, and a Middle Eastern language. The Middle East Studies program offers a variety of courses. Courses on the economic development of the Middle East and advanced reading seminars on the region are given in the Jackson School. The Department of Political Science offers general courses about the government and politics of the Middle East as well as more specific offerings on theories of revolution in the Middle East and North Africa, and the Arab-Israeli conflict. Faculty members in the Department of History also offer general courses on regional history and more specific courses on the expansion of Islam, the modern Middle East, and Ottoman history. In addition to the social science-history focus, students must take courses beyond the second-year level in a Middle Eastern language. Through the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization, students may take courses in Islamic civilization, Islamic philosophy, Islamic law and jurisprudence, and the Quran. Students may combine their work on a masters degree in Middle East Studies with study in a professional school. In the same manner, students may apply two non-Middle East courses from a social science discipline toward the degree. Applicants must also meet all application requirements and deadlines set by the Jackson School and described in its application guidelines. Meeting these minimum standards, however, does not necessarily ensure admission. The weight given to GRE scores varies on a case by case basis. Although knowledge of a Middle Eastern language is not a prerequisite for admission, applicants are generally expected to have had the equivalent of at least one years study of the language in which they plan to concentrate. Students accepted with no language training may wish to begin their language study in an intensive summer program. Degree Requirements All students must complete at least 36 credits in addition to fulfilling the language requirement. This program is completed within two years. Language All students must complete three 3-credit or two 5-credit courses beyond the second-year level in one Middle East language. Native speakers of a language may satisfy this requirement through advanced literature or independent study. Coursework 20 credits on the modern Middle East, distributed across at least two disciplines in either the social sciences or the humanities. One approved Jackson School course, not necessarily focused on the Middle East. Two courses in one discipline or profession, not necessarily focused on the Middle East. Thesis or Two Papers Option, Exam To satisfy the requirements of the program, the student must elect either to 1 write a thesis and take an oral examination, or 2 submit two polished seminar papers and take an oral examination.

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Chapter 5 : Middle East Studies - Routledge

*Political Handbook Of the Middle East (Regional Political Handbooks of the World) [CQ Press] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. An indispensable research tool for academic, public, and high school libraries, corporate and non-profit organization libraries.*

Download eBook Governance in the Middle East is topic of interest to scholars, activists and policy makers. The currently proposed book is intended to present the first comprehensive framework of the question of governance in the Middle East in its various forms and manifestations: This study will supply the context that is missing in the existing literature on, perhaps, the last bastion of authoritarianism in the world. Proposed Contents This book will be structured into two parts: Part I Chapters provides some theoretical background and analyzes the patterns and challenges of governance in the Middle East, providing some global context; Part II Conclusion will examine specific cases in selected countries and regions in the Middle East. Theory and Context Chapter 1 will be an introduction describing the main aspects of the book and highlighting the main points made by the contributors. Chapter 2 will present the theoretical dimensions of governance and review the "state of the discipline" and the latest trends in the literature on governance. The author of this chapter will be an authority in the subject of governance, but does not have to be necessarily a Middle East scholar. Chapter 3 will examine the general political trends in the Middle East and provide a historical background: Chapter 4 will look into the economic aspects of governance in the Middle East and contextualize the economic challenges and deficiencies affecting the region. Chapter 5 will examine the areas of success and failure in government performance in the region and the aspects of human development. Chapter 6 will look into the role of religion in shaping the governance in the Middle East. After all, most Middle Eastern governments declare Islam as the State religion, while a few consider Islam the source of governance and legislation e. Saudi Arabia and Iran. Sunnis and the significance of this division for the governance, particularly in countries where the ruling groups belong to a different sect than the governed, such as Bahrain, Saudi, Kuwait and Lebanon. Chapter 8 will examine relation between the state of governance in the Middle East and the progress of human rights, or lack thereof. The Middle East remains one of the most troubling regions on human rights and the respect for human dignity. Chapter 9 will focus on the status of women in the Middle East and the governmental performance in the region in relevance to women rights and status. The recent years have witnessed many positive changes in this regard, but there remains a lot of work to be done, which is going to be outlined in this chapter. Chapter 10 will look into the role of oil and other natural sources in shaping the economic and political performance of Middle Eastern governments. Chapter 11 will examine the role of international organizations and trade agreements on the performance of governments and whether or not such factors influence or shape governance in the region. It is well-known that Turkey has changed many of its laws and social policies in response to the demands of EU members and in hopes of being admitted into the EU. The chapter will elaborate on this and similar cases throughout the region. Case Studies Chapter 12 will examine the case of Iraq. The country is experiencing perhaps the most dramatic scenarios of governance in the region. This chapter will shed light on the unfolding political process and the struggle of Iraqis to forge a path toward democracy in a region determined to resist any political change within its boundaries. Power-sharing, pluralism, federalism, ethnic and sectarian conflict, trust-building, corruption and political violence. Chapter 13 will examine the case of Iran. Thirty years after the Islamic Revolution, Iran is entering into a soul-searching phase in its history. The ongoing battle between the reformers and the hardliners is only a sign on the larger problem of governance. A majority of Iranians have no personal recollection of the problems that led to the Revolution. It is vitally important that the government changes its claims to legitimacy from being the force that toppled the Shah to being the provider of prosperity and development of the country and its young population. Political reform, human rights, reconciliation with the West, allocation of resources and services. Chapter 14 will examine the case of Egypt. The country is facing an unknown future with

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President Mubarak reaching advanced age. The debate over his succession is dividing the country in a dramatic way. Egypt is also a country with depleted infrastructure and an ever-shrinking middle class. If the country falls into a violent cycle after the looming departure of Mubarak, the entire region could fall into the abyss. Succession of Mubarak, economic performance, services, religious extremism Muslim Brotherhood and Nationalism. Chapter 15 will examine the case of Israel. While politically different from its neighbors, Israel is sinking fast into the same problems that plague the Middle East. The country suffers political corruption and many leadership crises. Chapter 16 will examine the case of Saudi Arabia. The country is perhaps the most authoritarian regime in the world. The lack of individual liberties and abuses of human rights are the main problems. The country does not have a meaningful public participation and the Royals who run the government have no accountability to anyone. Chapter 17 will examine the case of Bahrain. This small country in the Persian Gulf is facing many challenges. Like Iraq before, it is a country with a clear Shia majority ruled by a small Sunni minority. The Shia are excluded from the government they were allowed to run for the parliament in the last election for the first time, the military and many other important arenas. The government uses the naturalization of Sunnis as a political tool to change the demographic balance in the country. Chapter 18 will examine the case of Yemen. The current struggle over government performance and fairness toward the South has given rise to the calls for separation of the two parts of Yemen. Yemen is also a country with many ungoverned spaces and the governance in the "governed" areas is abysmal. Chapter 19 will examine the case of Turkey and its impressive rise as a model for a strong Muslim nation which tries to reconcile Islam and democracy. Chapter 20 will examine the case of Syria and the influence of the Arab nationalist ideology on keeping the country as one of the most oppressive regimes in the region. Chapter 21 examines the case of Lebanon. This country which witnessed more governance challenges than any other in the region makes a very interesting case study. Chapter 22 will focus on the case of Sudan. This country has been in the center of world attention because of the internal conflict and the accusations of serious violations of human rights and the rise of separatist movements that receive much foreign sympathy and support. The country has missed many opportunities to attain social and political reconciliation, but it should not be considered a lost cause. There is a lot of potential in the country, especially when we consider the vibrant politics of government and opposition. Chapter 23 will examine the case of Jordan and the role of the uniqueness of the regime in creating relative social and political stability. Unlike the most of the governments in the region, the Jordanian Monarchy keeps the government as a convenient buffer between the Royals and the people. When popular sentiments turn very negative, the King, acting as the good cop, dismisses the government and orders the formation of a new one. Also, Jordan has achieved some good success in absorbing the Islamist groups into the political system, but not without challenges. The chapter will also focus on the Palestinian factor – Palestinians make more than half of the Jordanian population. These states face many challenges in their governance: Chapter 27 will focus on governance in Libya. Having ruled the country for forty-seven years, the Libyan president is the dean of Middle Eastern dictators. He has taken his country through all kinds of political adventures. The rule through popular committees is a unique system that gives Col. Chapter 28 will focus on the governance in the United Arab Emirates. This confederation of seven emirates has witnessed some excellent success in the economic and infrastructural development, especially in Dubai, which competes with the richest cities in the world, thanks to the energy and vision of its Emir, Muhammad b. While it is generally considered much better than its fellow Gulf States, the UAE has its own challenges, especially in light of the absence of unified system of governance, because each emirate has the autonomy to shape its internal affairs. Chapter 29 will examine the governance and, in certain cases, lack thereof in the countries that form the Horn of Africa, i. Somalia, Eritrea and Djibouti. The failure of these states, as seen in the case of Somalia, can make the problems of security in the whole region much worse than it is now. Famine and anarchy have already led to wars, piracy and the flood of refugees, not to say much about the humanitarian catastrophes in the region. This chapter will highlight the problems of governance in these often forgotten countries. Chapter 30 will be a conclusion and final remarks on the general framework of

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