



Académie Tunisienne des Sciences,
des Lettres et des Arts
Beit al-Hikma



The Carthage Seminars on Cultural Pluralism and Political Liberties

*An International Conference
The Third Annual Reset Dialogues Seminars in North Africa*

Tolerance: Legal and Constitutional Perspectives from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic

01 - 02 July 2020

Online, Via ZOOM

16:00-21:00 (Carthage Time, GMT +1)

15:00-20:00 (Rome, GMT+2)

09:00-14:00 (New York, GMT -5)

06:00-11:00 (San Francisco, GMT -8)

Organized by [Reset Dialogues on Civilizations Association](#) in Milan and [Reset Dialogues US](#),
in collaboration with [The Tunisian Academy of Sciences, Letters, and Arts \(Beit al-Hikma\)](#).

Background

The challenge of cultural and political pluralism has become a common area for improvement within both established and developing democracies. The debate about critical issues, ranging from electoral pluralism to the role of religion in public life, traverses the Mediterranean and will continue beyond the Covid-19 crisis. This year, Reset Dialogues will assemble a broad range of scholars and researchers in the virtual home of Beit al Hikma in Carthage, Tunisia. The Tunisian experience illustrates the complexity of the compromise between tradition and modernity, confessional rigor and openness to religious and political pluralism. Taking advantage of the serious economic stagnation across the region, the forces of authoritarianism, radicalism and militancy stand poised to fill any power vacuums that occur.

The Carthage Seminars, following previous successful editions of the Casablanca Seminars in 2018 and 2019, will again create a forum for in-depth and critical analysis of the relations between religion, history and political dynamics in Mediterranean, Arab and European, and American societies. Participants will engage in a thorough review of legal and constitutional perspectives. The program will bring together top-tier academics from the Middle East and North Africa, the US, and Europe, alongside young scholars and international pool of young professionals and opinion leaders from the fields of education, journalism, and social media who have the abilities and potential to reach and engage with a wide public, to discuss vibrant issues of regional and

world-scale importance. The working languages of the Seminars are Arabic and English, with simultaneous translation.

Conference Programme

Opening Session and Introduction

Day 1 – 01 July 2020
15:00-15:45 (Rome)

Abdelmajid Charfi, Director, Beit el-Hikma; Professor, University of Tunis
Giancarlo Bosetti, Director, Reset and Resetdoc, Milan
(Jonathan Laurence, Director, Reset US; Professor, Boston College)
Mohammed Hashas, Scientific Coordinator, Resetdoc; Researcher, FSCIRE, Palermo,
Federica Zoja, Scientific Coordinator, Resetdoc; Journalist, Avvenire, Milano

Reset Activities Video (5 mins)

Session 1 - Liberty in Mediterranean constitutional traditions: changes and challenges

Panel 1 – Constitutional liberties in Arab societies

15:45- 17:00

John Esposito
Mohamed Haddad
Lisa Anderson

Chair: Jonathan Laurence

Coffee Break 17:00-17:30

Panel 2: Political liberties in Arab thought

17:30-18:45

Jocelyne Cesari
Mohammed Masbahi
Abdeljabbar Rifai

Chair: Charfi? Otherwise Hashas

Panel 3 – Liberty in European and American constitutions and institutions

18:45-20:00

Silvio Ferrari
Alberto Melloni
Jonathan Laurence
Chair: Federica Zoja

Day 2, 2 July 2020

Session 2 – Pluralism and liberty: tolerating conflicting values

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Panel 1 – Juridical considerations North and South of the Mediterranean
15:00-16:15

Debora Spini
Alessandro Ferrari
Nader Hammami

Chair:

Panel 2 – Gender issues, social justice, and populism in the current Maghreb
16:15-17:30

Soumia Boutkhal
Amel Boubakeur
Mounir Kchaou

Chair:

Coffee Break 17:30-18:00

Panel 3 – The role of social sciences and the arts in promoting cultural pluralism
18:00-18:45

Oum Zin Benchikha
Sari Hanafi

Chair: Hala Wertani

Roundtable: Covid-19 Crisis: Reflections on the digital world, liberties and state surveillance
18:45-19:45

Jocelyne Cesari, Alberto Melloni, Mohammed Haddad, Sari Hanafi, Giancarlo Bosetti, +
{Livestream}

19:45-20:00.

Concluding notes

Academic Advisory Board

Giancarlo Bosetti (Reset DOC, Milan)
Abdelmajid Charfi (Tunisian Academy for Sciences, Letters, and Arts “Beit al-Hikma”)
Jocelyne Cesari (Goergetown and Birmingham Universities)
Mohamed Haddad (University of Carthage, Tunis)
Mohammed Hashas (Luiss University of Rome; FSCIRE-La Pira Centre, Palermo)
Jonathan Laurence (Boston College)
Federica Zoja (ResetDoc, Avvenire)

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