

Mohamed Gamal Ali, Ph.D.

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Education

Ph.D., Political Science.

Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University, Egypt.

September 2020 – July 2025

Thesis: State-Religion Relations in Egypt and Tunisia: A Comparative Study in the Impact of Interactions between Political and Religious Elites 2011-2022.

Supervisors Nahed Ezzeldeen (Cairo University) and Nathan Brown (George Washington University)

CGPA: 3.9 (With distinction)

Master's, Political Science.

Institute of Arab research and studies, Cairo, Egypt.

September 2017 – November 2019

Thesis: The role of AL-AZHAR in the public sphere. In light of the transformations of the state-society relations in Egypt from 2011 to 2018.

Grade: Excellent. (CGPA: 3.7 on a scale of 4)

Pre-Master's Courses, Political Science.

Institute of Arab research and studies, Cairo, Egypt.

September 2015 to June 2017

Grade: Good. (GPA: 3 on a scale of 4)

Pre-Master's Courses, Sociology.

Higher Institute for Islamic Studies, Giza, Egypt.

October 2017 – June 2018

Grade: Very good. (GPA: 3.5 on a scale of 4)

Diploma in Islamic Studies

Higher Institute for Islamic Studies, Giza, Egypt.

October 2015 – September 2017

Grade: Good. (GPA: 2.8 on a scale of 4)

Bachelor, Political science (Major) – Public administration (Minor).

Faculty of economics and political science, Cairo University, Giza, Egypt

September 2011 – June 2015

Grade: Good (GPA: 2.797 on a scale of 4)

Graduation research: Islamists and the Modern State: A Comparative Study in the Experiences of the AKP in Turkey and the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt. (Grade: Excellent).

High school.

Al-Shaheed Noor- Alden Secondary School for Boys, Bani Suif, Egypt.

September 2008 – June 2011

Grade: 97.9 (GPA 3.9 on a scale of 4)

Work Experience

[The American University in Cairo](#), Cairo, Egypt, August 16, 2023- present

Research Officer, Dean of Global Affairs and Public Policy. (Full time)

- Author research through developing and writing policy papers, reports, articles, commentaries, and op-eds related to the scope of interest of the research project on “Pathways from neoliberalism in search of an alternative paradigm. Voices from the MENA region.
- Cooperate with the outreach team in the conception and design of the project’s outreach events, ranging from public seminars to closed workshops and so on the broad issue of relevance to the project.
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[The British University in Egypt](#), Cairo, Egypt, September 2025 – present

Assistant Professor of Political Science – Part-time.

Teaching (Theories and Practices of Leadership, Political Ideologies – Special Topics in Comparative Politics – International Organizations)

[Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights](#), Giza, Egypt. February 2019 – August 14, 2023

Researcher at the Freedom of Religion and Belief program.

- Collecting data about cases of violations of freedoms of thought, religion, and belief in Egypt.
- Advocating for victims of freedom of religion violations with legal support and press releases about their cases.
- Researching the legal, institutional, and political conditions that impede democracy and religious freedom.
- Organizing and managing seminars of "[The Religion and Freedoms Forum](#)" to discuss the religious situation in Egypt.

[ARKAN for Studies, Research, and Publication](#), Giza, Egypt. December 2017 – January 2019

Political researcher, the head of the research unit.

- Conducting research on the political developments in the Middle East.
- Supervising the work of a group of young researchers from July 2018 to January 2019.
- Managing the institution’s publishing unit from December 2017 to June 2018.

[Al Wady for Culture and Media](#), Cairo, Egypt. October 2014 – November 2017

Political researcher

- Writing political analyses of the politics in Egypt and Arab countries.

[ARBI INFORM Company](#), Cairo, Egypt. September 2014 – October 2014

Research Assistant

- Working on a research project to conduct a comprehensive survey of Arab press topics and classify them over a long historical period.

[Al Omma for media, research, and studies](#), Giza, Egypt. July 2014 – August 2014

Trainee researcher

- Classifying and analyzing the content of the daily Egyptian press.

Affiliations:

- Member of the scientific board of the Research Centre: Religions, Law and Economics in the Mediterranean Space

(REDESM) at the University of Insubria, Italy. July 2025 – present.

- Member of the University Platform for Research on Islam “PLURIEL” May 2022 – present.
- Member of the American Political Science Association (APSA). January 2024 – present.

Scientific conferences

- Participant at the 9th annual conference of **the European Academy of Religion, June 30 – July 4th 2026**, Luiss University, Rome, Italy. My participation included two presentations in two different panels. The first presentation was on my chapter at the RUTLEDGE book “Political, Social, Religious and Economic Challenges in the Middle East and North Africa - From Covid-19 to Agenda 2030” on Al-Azhar and politics in Egypt in the post 2011 revolution, and the second presentation was on my ongoing research about religious elites and family law-making in Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, and Turkey.
- Participant at the American Political Science Association (APSA) annual meeting 2025, Vancouver, Canada, **September 11-14, 2025**. My participation included presenting my article titled “The Politics of Family Laws in Egypt and Tunisia” in a Panel titled “Gender, Claim-Making, and State-Society Relations in the MENA Region”. I also participated as a speaker at the APSA Open Career House “international job market- Middle East table”.
- Participant at the first conference of The Political Economy of the Global South, organized by the project Pathways Beyond Neoliberalism at the AUC. The conference was organized on **September 27- 28**, and I presented my paper entitled “Decontextualized Cooperatives in Egypt... State-led Agricultural Cooperatives in a Neoliberal Market Economy”.
- Participant at the American Political Science Association (APSA annual meeting 2024) in Philadelphia, US. My participation included presenting a paper entitled “Family Laws in Egypt and Tunisia... A Comparative Study of the Settlement Politics of Religion in the State” in a research development group about political behavior in the MENA region. **September 3-8, 2024**
- Participating in the third international conference of [the Platform for Research on Islam \(PLURIEL\)](#) on the topic of **Islam and the otherness**, with a paper entitled (Citizenship in the Discourse of Al-Azhar ... Contradictions and Problems).
Beirut: 23 – 27 May 2022

Find the recorded video of my presentation via the following link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiozCM8w8ug>

- Participating in the Second International Conference of the Institute of Islamic Studies and Education at the University of Monster in Germany in partnership with the Institute of Islamic Science at the University of Tubingen, Germany, the Arab Association for Civilization and Islamic Arts, and the APTEES Foundation Strasbourg, France Entitled "Religious and civilizational transformations between theory and practice ... Religious institutions in times of crisis from the Arab Spring to Covid-19). My paper is entitled (Informal Education of Alazhar and the Conflict on Patterns of Religiosity in Egypt.

Online conference 1 – 3 July 2021.

WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS

- Rome Summer Seminar on Religion and Global Politics, the University of Notre Dame, Rome, June 8-21, 2025.
- Summer School on Citizenship and Religious Pluralism, organized by the Dominican Institute for Oriental Studies (Egypt) and the University of Insubria (Italy), Cairo, July 15-21, 2025.
- Participated in a workshop entitled “Re-visiting the New International Economic Order” organized by the project Pathways Beyond Neoliberalism at AUC, the American University in Cairo, on May 8-9, 2024.
- Participated in a workshop entitled “Research Proposal Development Workshop: Studying Political Behavior in the Middle East and North Africa”. It was organized by the American Association for Political Science at the American University in Cairo, on January 6-11, 2024.
- Participation in a workshop (Public Policies and Crises... COVID-19 as an Example), jointly organized by the Arab Forum for Alternatives, Tunisian Observatory for Democratic Transition, and supported by the United Nations

Democracy Fund UNDF. Beirut 27,28 February 2023. Tunisia 6-10 October 2023.

- Participated in the second summer school of the Law and Society Research Unit at the American University in Cairo. entitled (Law in Action: Research and Application Mechanisms in the African Context).

12-15 August 2018

- The foundations of political economy – Faculty of Economics and Political Science – Cairo University. October 2017
- Dialogue about the economy and the public budget, the Danish-Egyptian Dialogue Institute. September 2017
- Vision, methodology, and science map: Civilization Center for Studies and Research. July 2017
- The civilizational perspective and methodological approaches in political science, Civilization Center for Studies and Research. Augusts 2017
- Writing Policy Papers for sovereign bodies, Faculty of Economics and Political Science. March 2017
- The Arabic Center for Research and Studies training for Political Science Students and Graduates entitled (Restructuring the State under the Challenges of Terrorism). Augusts 2015
- Islamic methodology in research, thinking, and behavior, International Institute for Islamic Thought. April 2014
- Professional writing in local and international research publications, Faculty of Economics and Political Science. July 2014

Awards

- Winner of the first round of the Excellence Scholarship in Social Sciences offered by the Egyptian Research and Training Center in Cairo to support doctoral students in the social sciences at Egyptian universities. November 2023.

Leadership and Extracurricular Activities

The [Simulation of Arab League](#) (CIMAL)– American University in Cairo. (2013/2014 - 2014/ 2015)

- Member of the simulation, the council of the Arab summit (2013 / 2014)
- Member of the academic committee as an academic director for the council of “historical events”. My responsibility was to conduct research and lectures on the political history of the Middle East for members of the simulation. 2014/2015

Student Union member at Cairo University Residence (Social Committee), Academic year 2011/2012

- My responsibility was to represent students' interests at the university residence, especially regarding social issues.

Publication Samples:

Find more publications on my Research Gate account

Research Gate URL: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mohamed_Ali481

Type of Publication	Title	language	Date and Place of Publication
Journal Article (Peer Review)	The Politics of Family Laws in Egypt and Tunisia: A Comparative Study of State-Religion Relations	English	August 2025 Contemporary Arab Affairs Journal https://brill.com/view/journals/jcaa/18/3/article-p447_8.xml
Journal Article (Peer Review)	بيت الزكاة والصدقات المصري.. الدور لاجتماعي للأزهر بين خدمة المجتمع ودعم الدولة. The Egyptian Zakat and Charity House: The Social Role of Al-Azhar between Community Service & State Support	Arabic	Jun 2023 Hikama periodical https://hikama.dohainstitute.org/ar/issue06/Pages/art07.aspx
Books	عودة العمام الحضور الأزهرى فى المجتمع المصرى Return of the Turbans Al-Azhar Presence in Egyptian Society	Arabic book – (Single Author)	2024 Tamheed Publishers
Books	التعاونيات الزراعية فى زمن النيوليبرالية: تجارب المقاومة والتكيف وفرص الاقتصاد التضامنى Agricultural Cooperatives in the age of Neoliberalism: Experiences of Resistance and Adaptation, and Opportunities for Solidarity Economy	Arabic Edited Volume (Co-Editor)	2025 Sifsafa publishing house in collaboration with Pathways Beyond Neoliberalism Project.
Book Chapters	The concept of Citizenship in the Azhari discourse:	English	2024 A chapter in a book entitled “Islam and Otherness” https://www.darelmachreq.com/book/101066-islam-et-

	problems and contradictions.		alteriteanalyses-reflexions-et-defis-contemporains
Book Chapters	Al-Azhar and politics in Egypt in the post-Arab Spring.. understanding the current transformation of Al-Azhar's position within the state-society relations	English	Forthcoming – Routledge A chapter of a book entitled 2011-2023 A DECADE OF 'ARAB SPRINGS' - SOCIETAL AND ECONOMICAL CHALLENGES Editors: Flavia Cortelezzi, Alessandro Ferrari, Jinan Limam
Public scholarship	Exclusively for Adherents of “Divinely Revealed” Religions?! How did the preparatory work for the Egyptian constitutions discuss issues of freedom of religion and belief?	English	21 September 2022 Egyptian initiative for personal rights https://bit.ly/3BxEFWE
Journal Article – non-peer reviewed	الصراع الإسلامي العلماني بعد ثورة 1919.. دروس التاريخ للواقع The secular Islamic struggle after the 1919 revolution... History lessons for reality	Arabic	10 April 2019 Journal of Issues and Opinions- Civilization Center for Research and Studies https://bit.ly/3qY2GRI