

SYMPOSIUM

POST-CONFLICT REBUILDING IN SYRIA

29-30 NOVEMBER 2025

Call for Papers

Concept

Fourteen years of civil war and sixty one years of Baath rule have come to an end with devastating political, humanitarian, social, economic, and infrastructural consequences in Syria. The fragmented state of Syria's territories and governance will influence rebuilding strategies. As the prospect of post-conflict rebuilding emerges, national, regional, and international actors are working on rebuilding in Syria. The experiences of post- conflict building efforts in different parts of the world show that for the success of post-conflict schemes, concerted efforts of national & international actors are required. This call for papers invites scholars, policymakers, and practitioners to contribute insights on the strategies, frameworks, and experiences that can shape Syria's post-conflict rebuilding. The aim of the international symposium is to provide a multidisciplinary platform to examine the intersection of international development and post-conflict rebuilding.

Key Questions

- What should be the role of international and regional actors ?
- How can rebuilding efforts align with local needs?
- What best practices from other post-conflict contexts can guide Syria's recovery?
- How can private sector investments support post-conflict rebuilding, particularly in fragile economic settings?
- How can rebuilding avoid reinforcing authoritarianism or exacerbating existing inequalities?
- What role can the diaspora play in the rebuilding process?

Themes and Topics

Submissions may address, but are not limited to, the following themes.

Inclusive Governance and Institutional Rebuilding

- Rebuilding governance institutions & rule of law
- Best practices for ensuring that rebuilding efforts do not inadvertently fuel new grievances or conflicts
- Transitional justice mechanisms, such as accountability for war crimes and reparations for victims
- Building inclusive institutions and addressing corruption
- Decentralization and local governance in rebuilding
- The role of women in shaping governance
- Examining the role of the Syrian diaspora in rebuilding, including economic investments, knowledge transfer, and advocacy for inclusive rebuilding policies
- The role of the diaspora in the peace process and nation branding

Geopolitics, International Collaboration, and Lessons Learned

- Influence of regional and international powers in rebuilding efforts. Balancing sovereignty with international contribution
- Lessons from other post-conflict zones: successes and traps. Case studies from other post-conflict settings, such as Iraq, Lebanon, or the Balkans, with a focus on lessons that can be adapted to Syria's unique context

Humanitarian Development

- Bridging immediate relief efforts with long-term development goals
- Addressing health and education disparities exacerbated by conflict
- Building Local Capacity and Resilience
- Integrating mental health programs into humanitarian development to address trauma caused by conflict

Economic Recovery and Development

- Strategies for reviving local economies and creating employment
- Role of international financial institutions and aid
- Rebuilding of critical infrastructure and services
- Assessing Private Sector and Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in providing funding and accelerating rebuilding in critical sectors like housing, healthcare, and education

Social Cohesion, Community Resilience, and Cultural Recovery

- Rebuilding trust among diverse communities. Role of education, culture, and civil society in reconciliation
- Addressing displacement, refugee return, and reintegration
- Addressing the specific needs of young Syrians, including education, employment, and opportunities to participate in governance and rebuilding efforts
- Protecting and restoring Syria's rich cultural heritage and aid programs

Sustainability, Climate Resilience, and Innovation

- Resilient urban planning that adapts to the challenges of environmental sustainability and potential climate challenges in the rebuilding process
- Implementation of electronic management and digital infrastructure in rebuilding processes

Submission Guidelines

We welcome submissions from various disciplines, including but not limited to international relations, political science, public administration, development studies, sociology, economics, urban planning, and environmental science. Submissions can include research articles, case studies, policy analyses, and theoretical frameworks.

They should be written in MS Word Processor in normal margins and **Times New Roman, 12-pt, space 1.15 lines, aligned left and right.**

Paper Size: A4 Top: 2.5 cm Bottom: 2.5 cm Left: 2.5 cm Right: 2.5 cm

Title page:

- Paper title 14pt, bold and centered
- First letter of all words are capital
- Tables, figures, pictures, and graphs should fit the journal page. If needed, they may be written in a smaller font size, and their text may be single-spaced.
- Tables and graphs should be numbered consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text. Place footnotes to tables below the table body and indicate them with superscript lowercase letters. Avoid vertical rules. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in tables does not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article.

Heading

- Left aligned, title case, numbered (excluding introduction, results, and references), bold
- Main headings and subheadings must numbered as follows: 1, 1.1, 1.1.1,...
- If two or more authors write the article, one author should be defined as the corresponding author. In a separate first page the full name and institutional affiliation of all author(s) and mailing address(es), ORCID(s), work/mobile phone number(s), and e-mail address(es) of the corresponding author(s) should be included.
- First letter of name and surname are capital,
- Centered
- Author's info (title, affiliation, email address ve Orcid number) in the footnote on the title page, left aligned and 10pt
- The full paper/manuscript should be uploaded without the author(s) details.

Abstracts: English abstract of between 150 and 250 words, including 5-8 keywords.

Full Papers: Selected abstracts will be invited to submit full papers of 5,000-7,000 words.

Format: APA Style 7th Edition in references.

Publication Opportunities

Selected papers will be published in a special issue of Turkish Journal of International Development (TUJID) or an edited volume.

Important Dates and Location

- Symposium Date: **29-30 November 2025**
- Location: **İstanbul Sabahattin Zaim University, İstanbul**
- Languages: **Turkish, English, Arabic.**



Organizers

This call is issued by Middle East Foundation, in collaboration with Omran Center for Strategic Studies, İstanbul Sabahattin Zaim University and Turkish Journal of International Development (TUJID) and Human Politics Society Studies Association



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Submission and Contact Information

- Please submit abstracts and inquiries to info@ortadoguvakfi.org.tr
- For additional details, visit our [web site](http://www.ortadoguvakfi.org.tr)



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