

Newsletter



The Centre for Lebanese Studies aims at building a better Lebanon through high quality research and action on the ground that promote Lebanon's long term social cohesion and sustainable development.

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Our current research priorities address some of the most sensitive and important issues facing Lebanon in which we believe the CLS can make an impact.

These include:

Education of Refugees

Reform in Lebanon

Citizenship and Exclusion

History Education

Memory and Healing

This short newsletter provides friends of the Centre an overview of recent research, development programmes and some key upcoming events.

RESEARCH

ACCESSING EDUCATION: LANGUAGE INTEGRATION OF SYRIAN REFUGEE CHILDREN

EDUCATION OF REFUGEES



The study examined and assessed language integration for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon. The assessment aimed to investigate whether students' language has been improved when sociolinguistic and Plura-linguistic approaches were incorporated in teaching.

The study was funded by The British Council Lebanon.

The Centre for Lebanese Studies is researching the quality of education provided to Syrian refugee children in Lebanon.

THE SCHOOLING EXPERIENCE OF SYRIAN REFUGEE CHILDREN IN LEBANON AND GERMANY: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

The study compared the education policies and provisions for Syrian refugees in Germany and Lebanon. It highlighted best practices for the reintegration of out-of-school Syrian refugees in education programmes and examined the future prospects of those who drop out. The main findings of the study revealed that in Lebanon there is a limited support to Syrian refugee students and their integration in the education system. There is no systematic plan as for future prospects of the dropout children. In contrast, Syrian refugee students in Germany were better prepared to be integrated in the school system due to the presence of a reintegration programme.

A RAPID NEED ASSESSMENT OF THE PSYCHO- SOCIAL NEEDS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN LEBANON



The assessment aimed at examining the psychosocial needs of the Syrian refugees. The study reported high psychosocial needs among Syrian refugee children. These included anxiety, unhappiness and preferring solitude. The study was commissioned by Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ),

THE POLITICS OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM IN LEBANON

REFORMING THE LEBANESE INSTITUTIONS



The study examined the process of administrative reforms and human resources management in public Lebanese institutions, inside the parties and on the state level. It revealed that parties with more structured administrative configurations tend to have more strategic approaches to administrative reform at the state level, while parties that organise around more loosely structured administrative configurations tend to be more visionary and more likely to perceive public administration and administrative reform in terms of the party's respective identity. The study was funded by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

The centre is conducting a series of studies focusing on administrative reforms in public institutions, parties, unions and education system in Lebanon.

CITIZENSHIP AND EXCLUSION IN LEBANON

CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION AND SOCIAL COHESION

Led by CLS current Fellow at St Anthony's College, University of Oxford, Dina Kiwan, the study examines how conceptions of citizenship change in contexts of significant political upheaval in Lebanon. The project's two main objectives are to understand the conditions and processes of change and how discourses are produced and interact.

The Centre for Lebanese Studies is conducting a series of research projects and programs that aim to examine the role of education in promoting social cohesion.

THE ROLE OF RESEARCH CENTRES IN SHAPING EDUCATION REFORM POLICIES IN LEBANON POST CIVIL WAR PERIOD



The study investigated the role of academic and research institutions in promoting and shaping reforms in educational sectors in Lebanon, namely the reforms that took place in 1994 and 2010. Contrary to the common belief, the results demonstrated a longstanding relationship between research, education policies, and reform in Lebanon. Academics appeared to play a significant role through their expert' position in influencing policy making. The study was co-funded by CLS and The Issam Fares Institute.

PROGRAMS

HOW TO DEVELOP HISTORICAL THINKING: NATIONAL EXPANSION PROGRAM

TEACHING THE HISTORY OF LEBANON



In its attempt to promote a disciplinary approach for teaching history in Lebanon instead of the one narrative approach, The Centre for Lebanese Studies and the Lebanese Association for History organised a training program entitled "How to Develop Historical Thinking".

The training program started in February 2016 and finished in June 2016. This training program aimed at shifting history education from didactic approaches of memorising a single narrative to disciplinary approaches. The program was funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Our aim is to promote the teaching of history as an academic discipline. We also seek to build the capacity and capabilities of history teachers through continuous professional development.

HEALING THE WOUNDS OF HISTORY WORKSHOPS IN LEBANON SINCE 2011

HEALING THE WOUNDS OF HISTORY



Since the success of the Healing the Wounds of History Conference at LAU in Nov. 2011, workshops have been developed to carry the trainings further and are held in Lebanon and elsewhere.

The HWH program has been designed to heal the deeper roots of violence, which so often trigger new cycles of violence – both in the individual, the family and society. Painful memories, recent, old and ancient, which have not been addressed nor healed, are often the source of new conflicts. When the 'stings' in these memories are healed, the relationship with ourselves and the "other" allows for a new, more creative future.

After appropriate training, each one can then apply the powerful HWH content into their own lives, helping to change the lives of those around them and contributing to positive change in whatever field they live or work. The HWH training releases individuals to create communities of change agents, field workers and practitioners able to heal traumatic memories and transform history.

The workshops are facilitated by Alexandra Asseily, psychotherapist and trainer, who focuses on conflict resolution and inter-generational trauma and Matthew Pruen, a consultant, group facilitator and coach in the fields of personal and organisational development. Mirvat Bakkour assists the trainings as a co-coach.

"Healing the Wounds of History" is a grass-root program that seeks to help to heal the deeper roots of violence experienced by people during the Lebanese civil war. Our approach is to address historical grievances and traumas that are often the root of inter-communal conflict.

Upcoming Events

CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE ARAB WORLD

November 2, 2016

The Seminar is organised by Dr Dina Kiwan, CLS visiting fellow at St Antony's college, University of Oxford.

Exact venue to be confirmed shortly.

HEALING THE WOUNDS OF HISTORY MODULE III

November 18-20, 2016

The Centre for Lebanese Studies continues to organise the series of "Healing the Wounds of History" training workshops. The next workshop will take place on 18-20 November 2016 at Silk Museum, Bsous. The workshop will be facilitated by Alexandra Asseily and Mathew Pruen. To book your place write to Mirvat Bakkour: Mirvatbakkour@hotmail.com.

RECONSTRUCTING THE CONCEPT OF REVOLUTION IN HISTORY: CASES FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

April 28-29, 2017

The Centre for Lebanese Studies and The Lebanese Association for History (LAH) are organising a regional conference entitled "Reconstructing the Concept of Revolution in History: Cases from the Middle East". The conference aims at promoting open inquiry and rigorous debate about the meanings of the past to better understand and cope with the world that we live in today.

QUALITY AND INNOVATION IN TEACHER EDUCATION: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

May 18- 19, 2017

The Centre for Lebanese Studies in collaboration with Haigazian University, The Lebanese American University (LAU), the Lebanese University (LU) and the UNESCO Office in Beirut, Regional Bureau of Education in the Arab States is organising its first annual conference entitled "*Quality and Innovation in Teacher Education: Issues and Challenges*". The conference will take place at UNESCO office in Beirut.