

DIMA SMAIRA

Education

Durham University PhD in International Relations Title: <i>Changing Security: Theoretical and Practical Discussions. The Case of Lebanon.</i> Supervisor: Dr Christopher Davidson	Durham, UK Oct 2008—Sept 2014
Lebanese American University (LAU) MA in International Affairs	Beirut, Lebanon 2003-2007
Lebanese American University (LAU) BA in International Affairs	Beirut, Lebanon 1999-2003
Mission Laïque Française: Grand Lycée Franco-Libanais Baccalauréat Français (littérature)	Beirut, Lebanon -1999

Professional Experience

Act for the Disappeared (NGO) Executive Director	Beirut, Lebanon June 2022-
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Lebanese human rights organization that aims to contribute to the clarification of the fate of the missing and disappeared from the Lebanese civil war and to foster an inclusive reconciliation process which lays the foundation for a more sustainable peace in Lebanon.

- *Developing strategic vision of NGO with Board members*
- *Overseeing implementation of objectives and strategy approved by Board*
- *Overseeing planning, budgeting and reporting of projects*
- *Fundraising*
- *Stakeholder relations*
- *Day to day running of NGO*

American University of Beirut (AUB) Lecturer (Part-time)	Beirut, Lebanon Fall 2017-
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Public International Law</i>○ <i>Intro to International Politics</i>○ <i>International Security</i>○ <i>International Conflict and Conflict Regulation</i>○ <i>Intro to Political Science</i>○ <i>Civil Discourse</i> (Short course to USAID University Scholarship Program)	Fall 2017-Fall 2023 Spring 2018/2021, Fall 2021 Spring 2019/2020/2022/2023 Spring 2019/2020 Fall 2018, 2019, 2020 Spring 2021

Finnish Institute in the Middle East (FIME)

Resident Scholar

Beirut, Lebanon

February-April 2022

- *Research and writing on mediation as everyday peace practices across Beirut's Southern Suburbs (Dahiyeh)*
- *using a spatialized Bourdieusian framework*
- *Contributing to the vernacular, spatial and practice turns of the everyday peace and urban peacebuilding literatures*

Lebanese American University (LAU)

Lecturer (Part-time)

Beirut & Byblos, Lebanon

- *Middle East in World Affairs*
- *Government & Politics of Lebanon*
- *Foreign Policy of Major Powers*
- *Citizenship*
- *Intro to Political Science*
- *Public International Law*

Spring 2019, Spring 2020

Fall 2019

Fall 2017

Fall 2015, 2017, Spring 2018

Spring 2013

Spring 2013

King's College London – Department of Middle Eastern Studies

Visiting Research Fellow (based in Lebanon)

London, UK

Sept 2017-Sept 2019

With Prof Jeroen Gunning

- *Everyday security practices in Beirut's Southern Suburbs (Dahiyeh):*
 - *Exploring narratives and experiences of everyday security of residents of Dahiyeh*
 - *Developing a spatially dynamic Bourdieusian framework to explain who people go to for everyday security matters*
 - *Advancing 'spatially varied hybrid security assemblages' between state and non-state security actors for security governance*
 - *Semi-structured interviews, group interviews, focus groups, walking tours, street chats, participant observation*

YouCitizen - Durham University Geography Department

Post-Doctoral Research Associate

Durham, UK

May 2014-June 2017

PI: Prof Lynn Staeheli

Lebanon & Cyprus research team

- *European Research Council (ERC) funded multi-country research project on Youth Citizenship in Divided Societies: <http://www.youcitizen.world/>*
- *Based at LAU (Beirut) as a Visiting Research Associate between Sept 2014-June 2016*
- *First co-led, then led the research design, budgeting, organization and implementation of field-work, reporting, dissemination, and various forms of writings according to ERC and Durham University ethical and academic standards for the Beirut, Tyre, and Cyprus sites.*
 - *Key informant interviews with civil society groups to examine their efforts promoting citizenship as a way of overcoming ethnic, racial, and religious divisions*
 - *Focus groups with Ministry of Education Citizenship Education advisors*
 - *Interviews, focus groups, participant observation, and participatory digital story mapping with young people to learn about their own understanding and experiences of citizenship*
 - *Coordinated and co-implemented the Beirut participatory digital story mapping project*

- *Coordinated and led the organization, training and implementation of the Tyre (Lebanon) participatory digital story mapping project*
- *Co-coordinated, co-organized, co-led the training, and led the implementation of the Cyprus participatory digital story mapping project*
- *Produced a study for the Ministry of Education on public school students' views and experiences of citizenship and the citizenship education curriculum in Lebanon.*
- *Co-authored a number of publications*

International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ)

Consultant:

- *Study on the failure to deal with the legacies of the Lebanese war.*

Beirut, Lebanon
Feb 2013-Dec 2013

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC): Lebanon Delegation
Research Assistant to the Political Advisor (Communication Department)

Beirut, Lebanon
Aug-Dec 2006