

Agenda for the
Launching Conference
6th Arab Watch Report on Economic and Social Rights 2023
with a focus on the Right to Health
Beirut, Lebanon
July 7, 2023

The launching conference for the 6th Arab Watch Report on Economic and Social Rights 2023 aims to showcase the main findings of two years of research on the right to health in the Arab Region, conducted towards enhancing the role of civil society to hold accountable the social and economic policies that violate the right to health, and to inform policy and advocacy efforts at the national and regional levels towards achieving the right to health for all. The conference will feature a series of panels and discussions focusing on the issues covered in the regional, thematic, and national reports for the project. Discussions throughout the day will highlight the current situation of the right to health in the region, provide an overview of the main determinants of health, as well as discuss the main issues hindering the attainment of the right to health for all in a context of political, economic, and health crises.

Time	Session
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Registration
9:30 am – 9:40 am	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ziad Abdel Samad, Executive Director, Arab NGO Network for Development • Iman Nuwayhid, Former Dean and Professor of Public Health and Occupational and Environmental Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut
9:40 am – 10:40 am	Overview of the Right to Health in the Region: Presentation of the Regional Report <i>The regional report synthesizes the findings of the national reports, thematic papers, and case studies featured in the Arab Watch Report 2023 with a focus on the right to health. It highlights the cross-cutting themes that emerged from the various reports and provides a regional overview on the right to health.</i> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sawsan Abdulrahim, Professor of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, and Lead Author and Editor of the AWR2023 <p>Discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abdinasir Abubakar, Acting Representative in Lebanon, World Health Organization • Alexis Benos, Member of the Advisory Committee, People’s Health Movement, Prof in Social Medicine and Primary Health Care teaching in Aristotle University of Thessalonik

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10:40 am – 11:00 am	Coffee break
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	<p>Political Economy of Health <i>This panel will include presentations on health governance and the impact of globalization on the right to health, and of the impact of neoliberal policies on the right to health in the region.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hani Serag, Assistant Professor and Public Health Researcher. Previously, global coordinator of the People's Health Movement • Mohamed Said Saadi, Economist and independent consultant <p>Discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lea Bou Khater, Social Protection Technical Officer, International Labour Organization • Mohammad Abu Zaineh, Professor of Economics and Chair in Health Economics & Policy, Aix-Marseille University <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zahra Bazzi, Programs Director, Arab NGO Network for Development
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	<p>Facilitators and Barriers to Achieving the Right to Health: Highlights from the Region <i>This panel will feature several of the national researchers who contributed to the Arab Watch Report 2023 in a discussion around the facilitators and barriers to achieving the right to health in their respective countries, and will present national level policy recommendations to achieving the right to health for all.</i></p> <p>National researchers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muntather Hassan, Iraq • Hamza Al Duraidi, Jordan • Maysa Baroud, Lebanon • Mohamed Mahbouby, Mauritania • Ali Nashaat Shaar, Palestine • Maisa El Fadul, Sudan • Ines Ayadi, Tunisia <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sawsan Abdulrahim, Professor of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, and Lead Author and Editor of the AWR2023
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Lunch

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<p>2:30 pm – 3:30 pm</p>	<p>Right to Health in Times of Crisis <i>This panel will include presentations on the right to health in times of crises, including conflicts, pandemics, with a focus on COVID-19, and during natural disasters, such as the recent earthquake in Northern Syria.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rabie Nasser, <i>Economist, researcher and co-founder of the Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR)</i> • Farah El Shami, <i>Policy and development economist, Senior Fellow at the Arab Reform Initiative</i> • Dalia Hyzam, <i>Academic and researcher, Women’s Research and Training Center, University of Aden, National Researcher for Yemen</i> <p>Discussant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iman Nuwayhid, <i>Former Dean and Professor of Public Health and Occupational and Environmental Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut</i> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muntather Hassan, <i>Iraqi al-Amal Association</i>
<p>3:30 pm – 5:00 pm</p>	<p>Towards Achieving the Right to Health for all in the Arab Region <i>Building on the discussions from previous sessions, this panel will feature regional and global experts, and aims to discuss policy recommendations and next steps to move forward with advocacy towards achieving the right to health for all in the Arab region.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sawsan Abdulrahim, <i>Professor of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, and Lead Author and Editor of the AWR2023</i> • Roberto Bissio, <i>Coordinator of the Social Watch, Third World Network Representative in Latin America</i> • Adib Nehme, <i>Expert and consultant in development, social policies and the fight against poverty, Arab NGO Network for Development</i> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ziad Abdel Samad, <i>Executive Director of the Arab NGO Network for Development</i>

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