



CMEG

Center for
Middle East and
Global Order

Dear Subscribers,

After years of preparation, CMEG was finally launched in late April 2023 by a **transnational team of dedicated volunteers** driven by the same passion and ambition to make a change in academically grounded foreign-policy research and consultancy with a focus on the Middle East and the evolving global order. If you want to learn more about our mission, *raison d'être* and what we offer, please read our **Whitepaper**.

Now, this is our first-ever newsletter that offers a glance into CMEG's activities within the first three months since its establishment. It includes, *inter alia*, our launch webinars showcasing our wide spectrum of expertise, our own publication platform **The Middle East and Global Review** in partnership with the renowned *Global Policy Journal*, our scholars' media engagement (among it, a CNN interview), and a look at what's coming next!

We are excited that you are accompanying us on this fascinating journey toward contributing to sustainable peace and development in the Middle East – and let us know your thoughts [info@cmeg.org]!

Your CMEG Team

Updates from CMEG

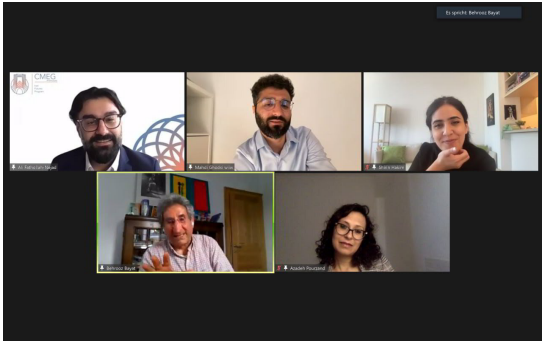


1st Launch Webinar: "Iran, the Middle East, and the world order"

Our **first launch webinar** provided a first glance into CMEG's mission to examine key transformations underway in Iran (Azadeh Kian), the Middle East (Nadine Abdalla), and the global order (Anoush Ehteshami).

[Watch recording](#)

2nd Launch Webinar: “#IranFutures: A multidisciplinary look at Iran’s protests and future trajectory”



Our **second launch webinar** featured CMEG’s flagship #IranFutures program. Our Iran scholars offered insights on current topics of significance for Iran’s future trajectory and also its revolutionary process, from their respective disciplines – from human rights, the economy to climate challenges and the nuclear issue. The panel featured our Senior Fellows **Azadeh Pourzand**, **Shirin Hakim**, **Behrooz Bayat**, and **Mahdi Ghodsi**.

[Watch recording](#)

You can also subscribe to our **YouTube channel** in order not to miss future events and interviews uploaded there.

Publications

Launch of *The Middle East and Global Review* – CMEG’s publication platform hosted by *Global Policy*

We are truly honored to announce the launch of our publication platform **The Middle East and Global Review**, which is hosted by our partner, the *Global Policy Journal*.

The Middle East and Global Review showcases the research output of CMEG and of other scholars and practitioners working on transformations underway in the Middle East and the world order.

Articles published so far:

- **Parched Politics: Iran’s Water Scarcity and the Rising Wave of Discontent** (July 6, 2023) – By **Shirin Hakim**, CMEG Senior Fellow and Head of the Environment, Climate Security and Public Health Unit
- **The Islamic Republic’s grand-strategic dilemma following the deal with Saudi Arabia** (June 22, 2023) – By **Amin Naeni** (CMEG Fellow) & **Ali Fathollah-Nejad** (CMEG Director)
- **Enforce sanctions – not normalize the Assad regime** (June 16, 2023) – By **Rebekka Rexhausen** (CMEG Fellow & Assistant Director)

CMEG in the Media

In the first three months after CMEG’s launch, our scholars were featured in a number of renowned international media outlets, including *CNN*, CSIS’s Mideast podcast *Babel*, *Deutsche Welle (DW)*, *heute-journal*, and *Süddeutsche Zeitung*.

Here is a selected overview:



CNN interview with CMEG Senior Fellow Azadeh Pourzand

Azadeh Pourzand, CO-Head of our State–Society Research Unit, talked to CNN’s Becky Anderson about the Islamic Republic’s repression in the context of the Iran protests.

[Watch here](#)

CSIS podcast interview with CMEG Senior Fellow Shirin Hakim

Hakim was interviewed on Iran’s ecological challenges and the politics surrounding it in CSIS’s Babel podcast by Jon B. Alterman, senior vice president, Zbigniew Brzezinski Chair in Global Security and Geostrategy, and director of the Middle East Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

[Listen here](#)



Süddeutsche Zeitung features comments by Director Ali Fathollah-Nejad

CMEG’s **Founder** extensively commented on Iran’s announcement to redeploy its so-called Morality Policy and the ramification of this decision for the leading German daily SZ (*in German*)

[Read here](#)



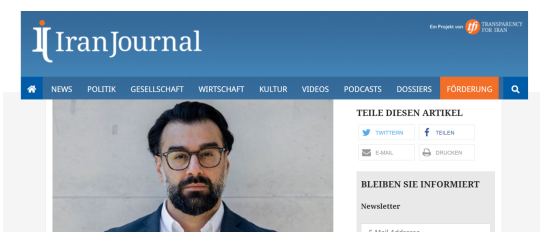
"Das Regime wiegt sich in Sicherheit"



In den vergangenen Monaten hat man in Teheran, wie hier in Teheran, häufig Proteste ohne Kapital gesehen. Das können Sie sehen auch in der Foto-Galerie oben.

Iran Journal interview on CMEG’s mission

In an interview entitled “Sustainable rather than authoritarian stability” with the leading German-language Iran-focused outlet, Iran Journal, our





[CMEG Fellow Rebekka Rexhausen](#) talked about CMEG's mission and *raison d'être* (in German):

[Read here](#)

CMEG Fellow Rebekka Rexhausen on human rights in Syria and the normalization process with Assad

Our Syria expert **Rebekka Rexhausen** provided insights on the human rights situation in Syria as well as on the controversial normalization process with Damascus, for *Deutsche Welle* and in her incisive article for *The Middle East and Global Review* and *Qantara.de* (in **English, German, and Arabic**).

[Read DW commentary here](#)



سوريا - إعادة تأهيل الأسد
"عاقبوا نظام الأسد بدل التطبيع معه"
الصدام السوري العالم بقرار الجامعة العربية. أعاد نظام الأسد إليها بعد 12 عاما من العزلة. البهجة
ريبيكا ريكسهاوزن ترى أن على العرب فرض عقوبات عليه لأن من شأن غير ذلك تقوية السلطوية في
بلد المنطقة.

For more interviews and comments, see our [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#) pages.

What's Next?

- In the next few months, we will introduce our *regular publication formats* on various topics of CMEG expertise in English and in German.
- Moreover, we will announce our *partnerships* with, inter alia, renowned academic centers.
- In fall, we are holding our *physical launch* with a CMEG expert panel at Germany's renowned Freie Universität (FU) Berlin, hosted by its Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies.

...and much more, so watch our spaces & spread the word!

