

Call for Papers: Please Distribute/Post

2007 MIDDLE EAST & CENTRAL ASIA

Politics, Economics, and Society Conference

September 6 - 8, 2007

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

SALT LAKE CITY, USA

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: MARCH 30, 2007

The fifth annual multidisciplinary Middle East & Central Asia Politics, Economics, and Society Conference will be held during September 6-8, 2007. Since its inception in 2003, the conference successfully has brought together academics (professors and advanced graduate students), analysts, policy makers, and NGO workers interested in the two regions of Middle East and Central Asia/Caucasus in order to network and share research interests.

This year, the organizers expect to accommodate as many as 150 research papers from around the world divided into nearly 40 panels. There will also be two plenary presentations, one of which will be delivered by Professor Robert Pape of the University of Chicago, the author of the *Dying to Win: The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism*.

The three-day event may also include a presentation by an Ambassador to the US from one of the two regions. Other attractions include two complimentary meals, an evening of Middle Eastern & Central Asian music and art, a book fair, and the screening of recently released films and documentaries on the Middle East and Central Asia.

PANEL THEMES: The conference encompasses and encourages interdisciplinary social science and humanities approaches to analysis and problem-solving. Panel themes may fall within, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

- State/Society Relations
- Religion & Politics
- Islam & Islamism
- Civil & Inter-State Conflict Prevention & Resolution
- Human Rights & Minorities
- Identity Politics
- Post-9-11 International Affairs
- The Broader Middle East and North Africa Initiative
- Terrorism, Counter-terrorism & State Violence
- Terrorist Funding and the Role of Grassroots Organizations
- Authoritarianism & Democracy
- Challenges of Post-Communism
- Problems of Economic & Democratic Transitions
- Nuclear Non-Proliferation
- Natural Resources & Conflict
- Economic Development & Sustainability
- International Financial Institutions & Regional Policy
- Oil & Natural Gas Trade & Conflict
- Nation-building Projects in Iraq & Afghanistan
- Politics of External Actors (US, Russia, EU, Pakistan, China, etc.)
- Regional Organizations & Cooperation
- Post-Communist Velvet Revolutions
- Xinjiang & Uyghur Nationalism
- Kurdish Nationalism
- Azerbaijan-Armenia Dispute
- Chechnya & Russia
- US-Iran Relations
- Turkey-EU Relations
- Palestine-Israel Conflict
- Culture, Gender, & Ethnicity
- Impacts of Globalization
- Civil Society, NGOs & International Development
- U.N. Millennium Development Goals
- Media, Cinema, & Film
- Literary Studies and Language
- Migration, Refugees, Displaced, & Diaspora
- The Role and Impact of Organized Crime
- Energy Security & Pipeline Issues
- Methodological Approaches to Regional Studies
- Teaching Middle Eastern and Eurasian Studies

APPLICATION: If interested in presenting a paper or organizing a panel/workshop in the 2007 MECA Conference, please submit:

- # YOUR FULL NAME
- # INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION
- # E-MAIL, POSTAL ADDRESS, and TEL.
- # PAPER TITLE (and Panel theme and paper titles if applicable)
- # 300-WORD PAPER ABSTRACT
- # ONE-PAGE-MAX ACADEMIC RESUME
- # Indicate willingness to serve as a session MODERATOR and/or DISCUSSANT
- # Whether, if accepted, you will need a US visa to attend the conference.

Kindly save the above in NO MORE THAN 2 PAGES TOTAL in A WORD FILE and name your file as: Your last name in capital letters, a hyphen, followed by your first name (e.g. your 2-page Word application should be named: LASTNAME-Name.doc). As the 'Subject' of your email type: 'MECA 2007 Proposal'. Applications should be sent by March 30, 2007 to: Middle-East@utah.edu. Updates also will be posted on: < <http://web.utah.edu/meca/> >.