

A 45 minutes tour in the Middle East: an economic perspective

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Samer Hamati, PhD in Economics

Samer Hamati has already got a PhD degree in Economics from the University of Minho. His thesis was about economic growth in post-civil conflict countries. Recently, he received a congratulation from the Portuguese Parliament since he is one of the first Syrians who are obtaining their doctorate degrees from Portugal. His career is full of experience concerning researching in poverty, aid, conflict, institutional reforms, and development in MENA countries. He spent five years in one of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) projects in Syria, and now he is working with the world bank writing a background note investigating the impact of Syrian refugee influx on the labor market in Iraq, where he was two months ago in a mission with the ferman cooperation agency.

Abstract

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) is one of the tensest regions in the world, and events taking place there are severe and result in larger externalities. Above all, due to the common history, culture, and economic interests, the MENA countries are highly interconnected. This leads to a high level of political and military interferences causing security, political and economic instabilities. This lecture is surfing in economic, political and social phenomena in the MENA. Its goal is to introduce the region to UTAD students who are looking for expanding their knowledge and open new opportunities for their careers.