

Haitham Abdelsamad

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RESEARCH PROFILE

MA graduate from Sciences Po Paris (International Security) and BA graduate from the University of Vienna (Political Sciences) with a topical research focus on terrorism, radicalization and (violent) extremism and a regional research focus on Western Europe and the Middle East. Looking to contribute towards: 1. Establishing terrorism studies in the DACH-region as Secretary-General of a newly established Austrian think-tank. 2. Making academic writing accessible to a wider audience through designing learning guides. 3. Facilitating cooperation and exchange between the Middle East and the West by highlighting current obstacles through various publications. 4. Understanding online terrorist recruitment through post-graduate studies.

Academic Education

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| 11/2021 - Present | Harvard Online Learning <i>Rhetoric: The Art of Persuasive Writing and Public Speaking</i> Certified edX online course by Prof. James Engell |
| 11/2021 - Present | Google Digital Garage <i>Fundamentals of digital marketing</i> Certified introductory course by Google trainers |
| 08/2016 - 08/2019 | Sciences Po Paris, France MA International Security – GPA: 3.3 <i>Topic: Soft-power as a component of a 21st century counter-terrorism strategy</i> |
| 10/2011 - 06/2015 | University of Vienna, Austria BA Political Sciences – GPA: 3.9 <i>Topic: Al Sisi - Between returning to the neo-millet system and a new way of dealing with Copts</i> |
| 02/2011 - 06/2011 | American University Cairo, Egypt Semester abroad – GPA: 3.7 |
| 10/2005 - 06/2009 | Vienna Bilingual School Draschestraße, Austria Matura – Highschool diploma – GPA: 3.7 |

Military service

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| 12/2021 - 03/2022 | Voluntary Military Service COVID-19 assistance: implementing the health regulations at the Austrian border <i>Rank: Private/Lance Corporal (NATO rank class: OR-2)</i> |
| 07/2009 - 01/2010 | Compulsory Military Service Military guard |

Academic Memberships

International Political Sciences Association (IPSA)
British International Studies Association (BISA)

Peer Reviewing

Journal of Strategic Security
Journal of Conflict Resolution
Journal of Social and Political Psychology
Journal of the Society of Terrorism Research
St. Andrews Journal of International Relations

Academic Work Experience

- 01/2021 – Present **Secretary-General**
International Institute for Social and Economic Studies (IISES), Austria
- Building online-presence: website, newsletter, marketing, branding etc.
 - Capacity-building: designing projects and seeking funding
 - Networking: approaching and networking with (potential) partners
 - Education: designing future online courses and workshops on (violent) extremism
- 11/2021 – Present **Remote Research Intern**
Lancaster University, United Kingdom
- Research: finding relevant academic publications for the University's website 'radicalisationresearch.com' with the aim of making high-quality academic research more accessible to a wider public.
- 11/2021 – Present **Remote Translation Volunteer**
Jihadology.net
- Translating primary source material from Arabic to English for Dr. Aaron Zelin's upcoming book on the history of Syrian jihadism
- 10/2017 – 09/2018 **Research Intern**
Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute, Austria & Germany
- Research: writing 60-page research report on the EU counterterrorism policy
 - Public speaking: talking to mixed audience (experts and laypersons) on this topic
 - Administrative tasks: hosting regular events on East-Western dialogue
- 09/2015 – 10/2015 **Temporary Junior Researcher**
National Defense Academy, Austria
- Research: completing a research project on terrorist arguments focusing on Islamist organizations and 'lone-wolf' terrorists
 - Monitoring: daily monitoring of security events in the Middle East
 - Peer-review: proof reading and editing academic publications
 - Translations: translating texts from/to English, German and Arabic
- 08/2014 – 09/2014 **Research Assistant**
John Cabot University, Italy
- Research: working under the supervision of Professor Michael Driessen to research and code interreligious initiatives in the Middle East for his book '*Religion and Democratization: Framing Religious and Political Identities in Muslim and Catholic Societies*' (Oxford University Press)
- 03/2014 – 05/2014 **Remote Volunteer**
Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason and Sciences, United States of America
- Research: finding academic articles to be included in the Foundation's online guide, which helps educate U.S. lawmakers on the relationship between religion, law, demographic and politics
 - Promotion and outreach: leading the team of volunteers to promote Prof. Dawkins' tour through the U.S.A. as well as various important events. Tasks included contacting local groups in each of the planned cities, including newspapers, radio- and television stations as well as online pages such as social media groups and event calendars.
 - Creating news stories

Publications

Abdelsamad, Haitham. 2022. 'Jenseits kritisch-traditioneller Trennlinien: Die Notwendigkeit der Entwicklung einer inklusiven, umfassenden und unabhängigen Terrorismusforschung in der DACH-Region - Beyond the critical-traditional divide. The importance of developing an inclusive, institutionalized and independent terrorism studies in the German-speaking region'. *Journal for Intelligence, Propaganda and Security Studies* 16 (1): in press.

Abdelsamad, Haitham. 2021a. Review of *Presidential Rhetoric on Terrorism under Bush, Obama, and Trump. Inflating and Calibrating the Threat after 9/11*, by Gabriel Rubin. *Journal for Intelligence, Propaganda and Security Studies* 15 (2): 267-278. ZDB: 2381482-2/ISSN: 1994-4101.

Abdelsamad, Haitham. 2021b. Review of *The Terrorist Argument: Modern Advocacy and Propaganda*, by Christopher C. Harmon and Randall G. Bowdich. *Journal for Intelligence, Propaganda and Security Studies* 14 (2): 237-238. ZDB: 2381482-2/ISSN: 1994-4101.

Abdelsamad, Haitham. 2021c. 'Revisiting Austria's counter-terrorism policies'. *Al Ahram Weekly, Focus*. <https://english.ahram.org.eg/News/438369.aspx>

Abdelsamad, Haitham. 2021d. 'Muslim Brotherhood whispering in Western ears'. *Al Ahram Weekly, Opinion*. <https://english.ahram.org.eg/News/434181.aspx>

Abdelsamad, Haitham. 2021e. 'Narrating the Afghan story'. *Al Ahram Weekly, Opinion*. <https://english.ahram.org.eg/News/422202.aspx>

Abdelsamad, Haitham. 2018. 'Terrorism and counterterrorism in the EU'. *Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute, Governance & Diplomacy, Special Reports*: 1-58. <https://do cresearch.org/2018/08/counterterrorism/>

Abdelsamad, Haitham. 2015. 'Von allen Göttern verlassen – abandoned by all Gods'. *Profil – das Nachrichtenmagazin* 35: 62-64.

Abdelsamad, Haitham. 2014. 'A rebirth of Religion in International Relations theory?'. *Politix - University of Vienna department journal*. 1: 15-17. ZDB 2714940-7/ISSN 1990-4630.

ORCID iD: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1835-8399>

Language Skills

Arabic: *Mother-tongue*

German: *Native language*

English: *Near native*

French: *Basic*

REFERENCES

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| Prof. David B. Roberts | david.b.roberts@kcl.ac.at | +44(0)1783788193 |
| Prof. Peter Herrly, Col. (ret.) | peter.herrly@sciencespo.fr | +33(0)141129156 |
| Prof. Shahrbanou Tadjbakhsh | shahrbanou.tadjbakhsh@sciencespo.fr | +33670424928 |