

## Editorial

Dear Colleagues,

This is again a special Newsletter I am sharing with you. I send it from abroad as I have not been able to go back to Sudan since March. I shall be in Khartoum by the end of July – if condition are good enough and air traffic allows it, but I hope CEDEJ Khartoum will be open soon again and continue to offer a comfortable working and social space for our colleagues in Khartoum. I am glad to let you know that our colleagues and associate researchers have been fine so far.

Some activities have been frozen by the Covid-19 pandemic (see the detailed update below), but most of us have been working from home and have remained active as much as we could, as you will read in the following pages. Unfortunately, all of us do not have the same conditions to work from home, to access field, to use digital networks, or just to survive from home for not being able to conduct their usual activities. My thoughts go to them, our friends, colleagues, partners, and their daily challenges. I wish them to stay safe and to enjoy a bright future, starting as soon as possible.

My position as the coordinator for the Khartoum branch of CEDEJ will come to an end on August 31. We shall know in the coming weeks who will be the next person in charge. By the end of August, I shall share with you a more general assessment of our general activities, and more specifically mine as coordinator of CEDEJ Khartoum since September 2016. In the meanwhile, you will find in this 9th Newsletter a general view on our activities from December 2019 until May 2020, and some perspectives for 2020-2021.

## A Perspective on Contemporary Sudans Migration - Social Studies - Religion

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I take this opportunity to remind you that CEDEJ Khartoum now has a Guest House allowing us to host more students and researchers (pictures soon!). Due to our limited means and funding, I would like to encourage all researchers, students, and colleagues to use this Guest House during their stay in Khartoum, as a means to support our activities. In fact, the modest rent shall be used to support field works, scholarships, and buy new books for the library. Do not hesitate to contact me for more details.

Last but not least, a beautiful news, as our colleague Roland Marchal was released from Iranian prisons on 21 March. We hope Fariba Adelkhah, also a senior researcher at CERI-Sciences Po, will join us very soon as well (see the [support committee website here](#)).

Kind regards.

Jean-Nicolas Bach

Coordinator CEDEJ Khartoum  
jeannicolas.bach@cedejkhartoum.com

# Upcoming Events

Our colleagues from the French Research Centre in Koweit (CEFAS) have initiated a monthly seminar as a framework of discussion about the **Covid-19 pandemic** in the Arab World, through a network called SOCOSMA (*Séminaire d'Observation du Covid-19 dans les Sociétés du Monde Arabe*). The aim is, notably, to discuss how the virus and its representation affects our societies.

Next Seminar: See on [CEFAS Website](#)



**Séance du 16 juin 2020 (IFPO)**

**Confinement en situation d'effondrement économique et social :  
une révolution suspendue au Liban ?**

**Joseph Bahout**

La pandémie du Covid-19 est venue retrouver et amplifier une situation libanaise déjà au bord de l'effondrement ; huit mois après le déclenchement du soulèvement du 17 octobre, le pays se trouve aujourd'hui dans une triple crise — sanitaire, économique-financière et socio-politique. S'ajoute à tout ceci une situation régionale hautement volatile et appelée à le devenir plus encore dans les mois restants avant les élections américaines. Au niveau politique, l'ensemble des forces est dans l'impasse — un gouvernement paralysé et famélique, une opposition politique démonétisée et sans projet, et une révolution incapable de trouver un socle discursif commun ou tout semblant de direction. Les scénarios qui se profilent donc sont pour le moins noirs, et c'est autour de ceux-ci que l'analyse portera.

*Joseph Bahout est chercheur non-résident au Carnegie Endowment (Middle-East Program), enseignant à Sciences-Po Paris, consultant permanent auprès du CAPS-MAEE. Docteur en Sciences Politiques, licencié en économie, il a longtemps enseigné au Liban (USJ), et y a été chercheur (CERMOC-IFPO). Il est anciennement chargé de mission à l'Académie diplomatique internationale.*

Le séminaire se tiendra en visioconférence via zoom entre 14h et 15h heure de Paris  
(13h Rabat et Tunis, 14h Le Caire, 15h Beyrouth et Koweït, 16h Abu Dhabi et Mascate)

L'inscription est obligatoire pour recevoir le lien et mot de passe de la réunion, auprès de

[socosma@pm.me](mailto:socosma@pm.me)

Next SOCOSMA Seminar: [CEDEJ Cairo](#)

1st July 2020 - Title to be confirmed

See [CEDEJ Cairo Website](#)



# Congratulations to...

... dr. **Philippe Gout**, for his successful PhD defense in Public Law, on December 2nd 2019: «L'appréhension de l'ordre juridique coutumier infra-étatique par le droit international : l'expérience soudanaise de la consolidation de la paix»

«**The perception of the infra-state customary legal order by international law : a sudanese experience of peacebuilding**»

## Summary

The international peacebuilding intervention model was conceptualized in the 1990's by the United Nations. It originates from theoretical approaches within Global Administrative Law that promote a materialist and alienating understanding of the concept of sovereignty and monist theories of international law. Peacebuilding aims at establishing liberal rule of law that fosters democratic good governance and the protection of individual human rights. A close scrutiny of this international peacebuilding framework in two exemplary settings in Sudan (Darfur, the "two areas" of South Kordofan and Blue Nile) allows for an analysis of the general legal regime of the peacebuilding model. In the interest of upholding the state's rule of law, peacebuilding dismantles any competing infra-state legal order. Such so-called autonomous 'customary' orders are theorized here following Italian institutionalism and a formalist approach to law. This enables an understanding of how international law maneuvers the constituent elements of such legal orders. Maneuvering of infra-state customary legal orders is enacted through localized and temporary development and transitional justice programs based on the institution of the "trust". The peacebuilding model consequently appears as a renewed and fleeting form of internationalized administration of territories borrowing from the League of Nations mandate or the United Nations trust systems. By drawing on customary legal orders, international law alienates the constituent elements therein at the price of an acknowledge paradox: international law denies any legal nature to the customary legal orders with which it interacts on a daily basis.

... **Katarzyna Grabska**, for her new position as Senior Researcher at the Peace Research Institute, Oslo, Norway.

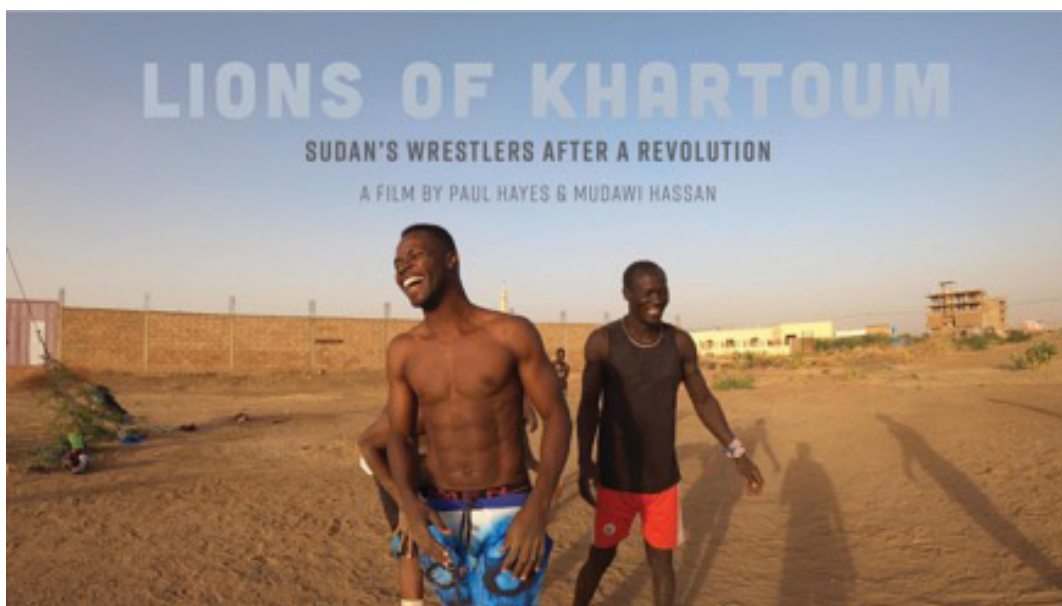
**Katarzyna Grabska**, also an associate researcher to CEDEJ Khartoum, obtained a grant from PRIO as a project leader: [Inspirational Creative Practice: the work of artists after war and violent conflict](#)

# Lions of Khartoum: Sudan's Wrestlers After a Revolution

Paul Hayes & Mudawi Hassan

A short film by CEDEJ researchers

Recently, two colleagues of CEDEJ, Paul Hayes (Associate Researcher) and Mudawi Hassan (Research Assistant) released a short film, *Lions of Khartoum: Sudan's Wrestlers After a Revolution* (29 minutes). The film explores the role of Khartoum's iconic wrestlers in the Sudanese revolution of 2019, through the voice of Mudawi, who is a childhood wrestler-turned-wrestling commentator. Until the 2019 Sudanese revolution, Khartoum's local wrestling organisation was run by Islamist party acolytes (kīzān), who were more focused on making money from ticket sales than training the athletes or promoting the sport. During the horrific June 2019 massacre in Khartoum, one of the wrestlers was murdered by the Janjaweed, the former regime's paramilitary forces. His face now adorns the wrestling stadium formerly controlled by the kīzān. Against the extraordinary backdrop of revolutionary change, however, the film shows us that the ordinary mundanity of life continues for Khartoum's wrestlers. The film builds on the filmmakers' 12 months of ethnographic fieldwork (sponsored by CEDEJ), which involved living and training with Khartoum's wrestling community prior to and during the Sudanese revolution. The film can be watched on YouTube at: [https://youtu.be/QMUj\\_FSewts](https://youtu.be/QMUj_FSewts)



## PhD Scholarship...



Call for Ph.D. Degree Scholarship in Mycetoma social sciences

The Mycetoma Research Centre, in collaboration with Brighton and Sussex University, UK, is offering one PhD scholarship. The scholarship is of three years duration, a sandwich programme between Sudan and UK, starting immediately, and the candidate will be registered with Brighton and Sussex University, UK. Selection will be by open competition and personal interview.

The two Ph.D. will be in social sciences.

Scholarships requirements are:

- University certificate in medical, health or social sciences
- Higher diploma, or master degrees
- The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) certificate (7.5 score at least)
- Research and publications experience
- Full-time commitment

The applications and CVs to be sent to: [info@mycetoma.edu.sd](mailto:info@mycetoma.edu.sd)

Shorted listed candidates will be interviewed for final selection

Mycetoma Research Centre, P.O.Box 102 Khartoum, Sudan  
E-mail: [info@mycetoma.edu.sd](mailto:info@mycetoma.edu.sd) - Website: [www.mycetoma.edu.sd](http://www.mycetoma.edu.sd)

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# Field Grants 2020

A commission composed of Dr. Yasir Awad (Dean Faculty of Economic and Social Studies), dr. Azza A. Abdel Aziz (independent researcher, associated CEDEJ), dr. Raphaëlle Chevrillon-Guibert (IRD, associated CEDEJ) and dr. JN Bach (coord. CEDEJ Khartoum) selected the beneficiaries of CEDEJ grants for 2020 as follows:

(NB: cancelled grants for 2020 due to Covid pandemic do not appear here)

**Amigoni Livio**, *The Struggle for movement: Sudanese forced migration, refugee choices and support networks*, livio.amigoni@outlook.it

**Amira Osman**, *Exploring women and youth activism during the 19th December revolution in Sudan*, amiraosman55@yahoo.co.uk

**Chevrillon-Guibert Raphaëlle**, *L'exploitation des mines d'or au Soudan entre accaparement et redistribution*, raphaelle.chevrillon-guibert@ird.fr

**Gout Philippe**, *Negotiating a paradox: SPLM-N between the re-integration into the Sudanese State structure and the claim for regional autonomy*, Philippe.Gout@u-Paris2.fr

**Grabska Katarzyna & Azza A. Abdel Aziz**, *Social history of Sudan: The prism of Music and Musicians*, kgrabska@yahoo.com, dimensions122000@yahoo.com

**Hänsch Valerie**, *Sensing change: Aesthetic activism and the reclaiming of the city*, valerie.haensch@ethnologie.lmu.de

**Hisham Bilal**, *New Social Relations Generated By Mobile Phone Business in Sudan*, hishambilal@hotmail.com

**Jan Zahorik**, *Education, mobility and the legacy of the Cold War: Former Eastern Bloc and the Broader Horn of Africa*, nvogol@seznam.cz

**Siri Lamoureaux**, *Gender politics and social media in the Sudanese revolution*, lamoureaux@lost-research-group.org

**Anne-Laure Mahé**, *Constitution d'un fond d'archives sur les purges du régime de l'Ingaz, 1989-2019*, anne-laure.mahe@irsem.fr

**Mayada Abdelazim & Mohamed Mutasim**, *U-turns and full circles: prospects for political and economic transformation in post-revolution Sudan*, mayadaazim@gmail.com, mhd\_mutasim@hotmail.com

**Noha Hassan & El-Sadig Yahya**, *The role of Language in Social Integration, A case of the December revolution*, nohahamza0@gmail.com

**Perez Corten**, *La filière de la brique rouge, de Al-Gereif au Grand Khartoum (Soudan)*, cortenperezhouis@gmail.com

**Petitdemange Cécile**, *Voyage des salafismes entre Tchad et Soudan*, Cecile.petitdemange90@gmail.com

**Saker El-Nour**, *Farmers and Revolution in Sudan: case study of agrarian protest movements in Gezira Scheme*, sakerabdol@gmail.com

**Shahenda Suliman**, *Labour transformations: Exploring the role of organised labour in Sudan's social movements*, ssuliman@live.co.uk

**Tubiana Jérôme**, *Transition et Périphéries au Soudan*, tubiana@gmail.com

**Van der Maeden Berend**, *Small-Holder Farmers & Political Transition in Khartoum*, b.a.j.vandermaeden@students.uu.nl

**Van der Meulen Mureille**, *Virtual Uprising: the digitalization of youth activism*, mureillevdmeulen@gmail.com

**Verhoeven Harry**, *Trouble in the East*, Harryverhoeven33@gmail.com

**Watson Marshall**, *Commodity Frontiers in Transition, Resource Extraction in Sudan from the Turkiyya to Independence*, marshall.watson@yale.edu

**Wessel Josepha**, *Sustainable Sudan; documenting the past and visioning the future through graffiti and environmentalism*, josepha.wessels@mau.se

**Willemse Karin & Metje Postma**, *Documenting, archiving and reflecting on the role of youth, women (Kandaka), and the social media in the peaceful resistance during the Sudan popular uprising (2019-2020)*, k.willemse@eshcc.eur.nl, postmam@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

# Ongoing Research Programs

Among the ongoing research programs in 2020, see the [“Sudan Revolution Archive”](#), and the promising field grants by CEDEJ Khartoum which shall give many opportunities for future seminars and conferences along 2020 and 2021 (see above).

**Transcriptions of 130 discourses/speeches recorded on the sit-in area (April-June 2019)** by Jean-Nicolas Bach and Mudawi Hassan have been transcribed in Arabic and Translated in English. I would like to thank the director and translators of Dictionary for their work, and the Association Netsanet Connecting Research for its financial Support.

In 2020, a few research programs are being **completed**:

In 2020 the project coordinated by [Barbara Casciarri and Mohamed Bakhit](#), [“Being Arab, Muslim, Sudanese”](#), will come to an end. For more details on publications (Working papers online, and special issue to be published in *Les Cahiers d’Etudes Africaines*) and conferences, see online on CEDEJ blog

The [Observatoire de l’Afrique de l’Est](#), Observatory of East Africa, coordinated by CEDEJ Khartoum and CERI Sciences Po, also came to an end in December 2019. We hope we can reactivate this Observatoire soon. For publications and international conferences organized by the Observatory, see online CEDEJ Blog

Other research programs have been **postponed** due to the Covid-19. We hope we can start as soon as possible:

Among these, an **international conference on the Sudanese December Revolution**, had to be postponed sine die. Considering the difficult financial and material condition we are going to face in Sudan in the coming months, the conference shall be held in 2021. More news soon hopefully.

Also, a series of **conferences supported by the French Institute (Paris) on “Transitions”** had to be postponed. This project is coordinated by CEDEJ Khartoum and the French Centre for Ethiopian Studies, aimed at reflecting about the notion and processes of “transition” and “democratization” in Sudan and Ethiopia. We hope we can start the project by the end of 2020 or beginning of 2021.

Unfortunately, other research programs have been cancelled, as the **GIZ project on migration**. We hope we can find a way to reactivate our cooperation with the GIZ on similar issues as soon as possible.

# Conferences Seminars Workshops

At the occasion of International Women Day, **8 March**, on the invitation of the **French Institute**, **Professor Balghis Bedri** from Ahfad University gave a seminar on the History of **Women’s Movement in Sudan**. Moderator: JN Bach

**Khadidja Medani**

28 January 2020

**An Islamic «Mini Africa» in Khartoum.**

**A Spatial Study On the International University of Africa**, CEDEJ Khartoum Seminar

**22-23 January, a Workshop was held in CEDEJ Khartoum in order to operate a first selection of about 250 pictures of the Revolution**, out of which about 60 shall be published in the book dedicated to the Sit-In of the December Revolution. The book shall be first published in French and Arabic, and then in English. The participants to the Workshop were Juliette Agnel (Photographer), Olivier Cabon (editor and photographer), Fabrice Mongiat (director of the French Institute in Sudan), and Jean-Nicolas Bach (project/book coord).

**20 February 2020 : Latest Workshop “Being Arab, Muslim, Sudanese”**, coord. Barbara Casciarri and Mohamed A. Bakhit, Venue CEDEJ Khartoum, with the support of CEDEJ Khartoum, and the Agence Universitaire pour la Francophonie. [More details here](#)

## International Conference Towards a new social history of Sudan

Venue: University of Chicago in Paris

6 Rue Thomas Mann, 75013 Paris

**10-12 December 2019**

Sponsoring institutions: IMAF, Paris 1, AUF, IISMM, ANR SyndiQuAf, IRD, CEDEJ Khartoum

[Complete program online, IMAF.CNRS](#)

Elena Vezzadini, Anaël Poussier, Lucie Revilla, Jean-Nicolas Bach

**Jan Zahorik**,

5th December 2019, CEDEJ Khartoum Seminar

**The HoA and former Czechoslovakia in the Cold War: Transfer of Knowledge and Socialist Modernity**

CEDEJ Khartoum Seminar

# Publications

Zachary Mondesire, [Predisposed to Chaos. What do we gain by exposing the material shortcomings of African health systems?](#), published on *Africa is a Country*

See the regular and weekly publications on the blog of the [International Humanitarian Studies Association](#) managed and curated by dr. Susanne Jaspars

See also Susanne Jaspars' recent contribution on African Arguments, [Going Remote: Learning from Aid Practices in Somalia and Sudan for the Covid-19 Crisis](#)

Barbara Casciarri & Stefano Manfredi, «[Freedom, Peace, and Justice. A Glossary of the Third Sudanese Revolution](#)», AUF programme Working Paper n°2, March 2020 .

Anaël Poussier, «[How history has informed Sudan's revolution](#)», Middle East Eye, 2019.

## Forthcoming publications

We are glad to announce two collective work to be published during the Summer:

**Special issue on Sudan's last decade of Inqaz regime, in Politique africaine**, Jean-Nicolas Bach, Raphaëlle Chevillon-Guibert, Alice Franck (dir.)

And «**Soudan année 0**», a compilation of texts and pictures gathered from Sudanese researchers and photographers about the sit-in, 6 April-3 June 2019. The first two versions will be published in French, and in Arabic in the coming months. A third version shall be published in English, hopefully in 2020. Soleb Editions. with the financial support by CEDEJ Khartoum, the French Embassy, and Netsanet Connecting Research.

More on our team [here](#)

Former Newsletters are available online [Here](#)

# Transient Students & Researchers

**Corten Perez Houis**, Master Student, Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne

**Abir Nur**, Master Student, EHESS

**Barbara Casciarri**, Maîtresse de conférence - HDR (anthropology), LAVUE-Université Paris 8

**Katarzyna Gabska**, Assistant Professor (gender, development, migration), IISS, The Hague

**Mai Hassan**, assistant professor (Political Science) at the University of Michigan, LSA

**Enrico Ille**, Researcher (anthropology-History), Lost Research Group

**Khadidja Medani**, PhD Candidate (Geography), Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

**Zachary Mondesire**, PhD Candidate (History), UCLA

**Anael Poussier**, PhD Candidate (History), University Paris 1, Panthéon Sorbonne

**Berend van der Maeden**, Master Student, Utrecht University, the Netherlands.

**Mureille van de Meulen**, Master Student, Utrecht University, the Netherlands.

## Institutional affiliations



## Partners

[CEDEJ Cairo](#)

[University of Khartoum](#)

[Faculty of Economic and Social Studies, UofK](#)

[Les Afriques dans Le Monde, Sciences Po Bordeaux](#)

[Université Paris 8](#)

## Contact Us



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