

Call for Applications Summer School 2018, Tunis

Social (In)Justice in the MENA Region: Debunking the Myth of Neoliberal Economic Policies

Date: August 7 – 11, 2018 (Arrival on August 6, departure on August 12)

Location: Tunis, Tunisia

In the framework of its project "[For Socially Just Development in the MENA-Region](#)" Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) invites researchers, activists and professionals to apply for the Summer School "***Social (in)justice in the MENA Region: Debunking the myth of neoliberal economic policies***" from 7 to 11 August 2018 in Tunis, Tunisia. FES is a German political organisation and works on many issues related to economic policies, social justice, social market economy and trade unions in MENA region and worldwide.

The Summer School aims to provide a forum for young scholars from different disciplines who have a profound interest in studying social justice from the perspective of economic policies. During the Summer School, the effects of existing economic and development policies based on neoliberalism will be discussed and compared to alternative development models and heterodox economic policies.

The programme of the Summer School consists of both lectures and working groups. While the lectures offer a theoretical introduction to different fields of economic policies, working the dynamic group sessions are designed to provide a space for discussion and self-research on selected case studies from the region under the guidance of instructors. Additionally, the programme includes a session on qualitative and quantitative research methods to deepen specific research skills of the participants. The Summer School is designed to support critical research and enhance scholarly networks and exchange in the MENA region.

Academic input is provided by leading scholars from the region. Participants will work on and discuss the following subjects:

- Neoliberalism, development and social justice
- Fiscal and trade policies in key MENA countries
- Labour market policies, social protection and informal employment
- Regional disparity and social inequality
- Environmental justice and alternative development

Follow-up

In the light of its ongoing project on economic policies for social justice in the region, FES offers a potential follow-up to the summer school. This could include the publication of joint papers planned during the group work or meetings.

Application requirements:

- Post graduate until post-doctoral level: Diploma, Master (MA/MSc), PhD or Post-doctoral degrees in one of the following fields: political science, economics, political economy, social sciences, development studies
- Excellent language skills in either Arabic or English, minimum good knowledge of the other.

Application documents:

- **Letter of Motivation** (200 – 300 words), specifying the interest in the summer school, heterodox economic policy, social justice or political and civil society activism
- **A tabular resume**, including, if applicable, publications (one page max)
- **Abstract** (300 – 400 words), presenting the applicant's past, current or planned research project (including the relevance of the subject, aims and research methods) in one of the fields mentioned above.

Applicants from or with residency in one of MENA countries are welcome to submit their application in Arabic or in English to salam.said@festunis.org.

Female and/or young researchers are particularly encouraged to apply.

[Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung will cover the costs of travel and accommodation \(according to FES' regulations\) and will support visa-application to Tunisia.](#)

The deadline for applications is April 30th, 2018.

Please note the following:

- Participants will be able to obtain an attendance certificate for the Summer School, but no academic credits.
- Please only apply if you will be able to commit for the full duration of the Summer School.
- Presentations and discussions will be in either Arabic or English, no translation will be available.
- Participants will be expected to present their research/abstract.
- Only complete applications will be taken into consideration!
- You will receive a confirmation of your participation the latest by May 31st, 2018, please refrain from inquiries before this date.