



Invite You to Attend

A Public Forum on

‘The Origins, Flowering, and Future of the Arab Spring’

Since late 2010 no other single event on the global stage has captured and held international attention more on a daily basis than the extraordinary events unfolding in the Middle East and across North Africa. There are important New Zealand interests at stake.

To better understand why this phenomenon is occurring and its many possible consequences, the NZIIA is pleased to host a very timely panel of recognised authorities on Middle East affairs. Each of the experts is able to bring special skills, experience and insights to promote greater appreciation of the complex political and social dynamics of this historic region, and in which direction the current turmoil might be headed.

Participants:

Prof. Amin Saikal, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia - Egypt and her close neighbours

Prof. Mark N Katz, George Mason University, Virginia, USA - The Arabian Peninsula

Prof. Tim Niblock, University of Exeter, United Kingdom - Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States

Prof. Eyal Zisser, University of Tel Aviv, Israel - Israel’s relations with neighbours including Iran

Prof. Bill Harris, University of Otago – Syria and Lebanon

Moderator

Dr Nigel Parsons, Massey University

Date & Time: 5.30pm Tuesday 2 August 2011

Venue: **TBC** Lecture Theatre 1, Government Buildings, Law School
Pipitea Campus, Victoria University of Wellington

Please email: nziia@vuw.ac.nz acceptance only

**NZ Institute of International Affairs
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Victoria University of Wellington
&
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade**