

# Marsin R. Alshamary

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## Education

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**

**Ph.D. Department of Political Science, 2020.**

High distinction in Comparative Politics and International Relations.

Dissertation: *Prophets and Priests: Religious Leaders and Protest in Iraq*

**Wellesley College**

**B.A. (Cum Laude) in International Relations and French, 2013.**

## Fellowship Experience

**Harvard Kennedy School**

**Belfer Center for Science & International Affairs – Middle East Initiative**

Research Fellow, 2021-present

Pre-doctoral Research Fellow, 2019-2020.

**The Brookings Institution**

**Foreign Policy Program – Center for Middle East Policy**

Post-doctoral Research Fellow, 2020-2021.

## Selected Academic Publications and Research

“The NGO to Parliament Pipeline: Investigating the Challenges and Opportunities for Women’s Political Participation in Iraq,” *The International Development Research Center*. Ottawa, Canada. Expected: Nov 2022.

“Religious Peacebuilding in Iraq: Prospects and Challenges from the Hawza”, *The Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding*, 15:4, p.494-509, July 2021.

“The Marjayya, the people, and the post-Ba’athist state”, special issue on “Rethinking Iraqi state and society eighteen years after regime change”, *Third World Quarterly*, (under review).

“Reimagining the Hawza and the State.” *POMEPS Studies 35 Religion, Violence, and the State in Iraq*. October 2019.

## Selected Reports

“Iraqi Elections 2021: Independents and New Political Parties”. Report written for *The Konrad Adenauer Foundation*. January 2022.

“Post-war Development of Civil Society in Iraq’s Mid-Euphrates Region”. Report written for *The Brookings Institution*. January 2022.

“The Protestor Paradox: Why anti-Islamist Activists look towards Clerical Leadership”. Report written for *The Brookings Institution*. Expected publication: February 2022.

“How Iraq’s Proposed Economic Reforms Would Impact Iraqi Women”. *Iraq Economic Review, Institute of Regional and International Studies Report*. February 2021.

“Protestors and Civil Society Activists in Iraq: Between Reform and Revolution.” *Institute of Regional and International Studies Report*. December 2020.

## Selected Op-Eds

“Iraq’s upcoming elections: Voters and Winners.” *1001 Iraqi Thoughts*, June 2021.

“The prospects and limitations of United Nations electoral observation in Iraq.” *Order from Chaos*, The Brookings Institution. May 2021. Co-authored with Maya Nir.

“How Iraq’s economic crisis affects its traditional and non-traditional security sectors.” *Order from Chaos*, The Brookings Institution, January 2021

“Six months into his premiership what has Mustafa al-Kadhimi done for Iraq?” *Order from Chaos*, The Brookings Institution, November 2020.

“Important Iraqi archives are now back in Baghdad. Where were they, and what happens now?” *The Washington Post*, September 2020.

“The role of Iraq’s influential Shiite clerics is changing. Here’s how.” *The Washington Post*, February 2019.

“Authoritarian Nostalgia Among Iraqi Youth: Roots and Repercussions.” *War on the Rocks*, July 2018.

## Selected Presentations and

**Iraq Energy Forum**, June 2022. “The Role of Women in Shaping Iraqi Business, Policies and Politics”

**The Atlantic Council**, February 2022. “Assessing the impact of Iraq’s incoming government”

Invited Talks	<p><b>The Brookings Institution</b>, February 2022. “Iraqi Civil Society and Democratization”</p> <p><b>NATO Parliamentary Assembly, Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group</b>, June 2020. “Reconstruction and Reconciliation in Iraq.”</p> <p><b>Brookings Institution</b>, May 2020. “Iraqi-US relations under changing administrations.”</p> <p><b>The Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington</b>, March 2020. “In Crucial Election Year for Iraq, Could the Protest Movement Tip the Scale?”</p>
Consulting Experience	<p><b>International Organization for Migration – Iraq Mission</b> January 2022 – September 2022</p> <p><b>EnCompass &amp; USAID, Office of Transition Initiatives (Iraq)</b> June 2021 – December 2021</p> <p><b>Clingendael Institute &amp; The World Bank</b> July 2021 – July 2022</p> <p><b>Konrad Adenauer Foundation (Iraq/Syria Office)</b> March 2021 – July 2021</p> <p><b>International Organization for Migration – Iraq Mission</b> September 2019 – January 2020</p>
Skills	<p><b>Languages:</b> Arabic (native), French (intermediate)</p> <p>Kaufman Teaching Certificate (MIT), experience in conducting archival research, conducting interviews and focus groups, and designing and overseeing surveys in the Middle East.</p>
Awards	<p>International Development Research Center 2021 Women, Peace and Security Research Award. <a href="#">Presented</a> by the Honorable Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada on February 10, 2022.</p>