

<b>Position</b>	:	<b>Part-time Professor</b>
<b>Institution</b>	:	<b>European University Institute (EUI) Middle East Directions Programme</b>
<b>Name</b>	:	<b>Virginie COLLOMBIER</b>
<b>Date of birth</b>	:	<b>1979/01/03</b>
<b>Nationality</b>	:	<b>French</b>

**Research areas:**

- Social and political change in North Africa & the Middle East (special focus on Libya)
- Processes of mediation and reconciliation
- Security sector reform
- Political economy of conflicts

**Key qualifications:**

- + 15 years academic and policy researching on MENA countries, including 5 year-focus on Libya
- Direct experience in support to mediation, national and community dialogue in Libya
- Analysis & policy advice on Libya and Egypt for various European governmental bodies and NGOs
- Working languages: French, English, Arabic (classical, Libyan dialect), Italian

**Education:**

*Institution:* ■ **University of Grenoble, France**  
*Date:* ■ 2005 – 2010  
*Degree:* ■ **PhD in Political Science**

*Institution:* ■ **Sciences Po Paris, France**  
*Date:* ■ 2002 – 2003  
*Degree:* ■ **M.A. in Political Science (Muslim World Program)**

*Institution:* ■ **Institute of Political Studies, Lyon, France**  
*Date:* ■ 1998 – 2001  
*Degree or Diploma:* ■ **Degree of the Institute of Political Studies  
University Degree on the Contemporary Arab World**

**Employment record:**

*Date:* ■ May 2018 – now  
*Country:* ■ Italy  
*Institution:* ■ **Middle East Directions Programme / European University Institute (EUI)**  
*Position:* ■ **Part-time Professor & Scientific Coordinator of MEDirections**  
*Description:* ■ Research on social and political transformations in Libya and the MENA region  
 ■ Project Director of the “Libyan Societal Dialogue. Rebuilding the Social Contract” (funded by Germany’s Federal D)  
 ■ Mentorship of a small team of junior researchers based in Libya  
 ■ Coordination of MEDirections research activities

*Date:* ■ Oct. 2016 – May 2018  
*Country:* ■ Italy  
*Institution:* ■ **Middle East Directions Programme / European University Institute (EUI)**  
*Position:* ■ **Research Fellow & Scientific Coordinator**  
*Description:* ■ Research on social and political transformations in Libya and the MENA region  
■ Orientation and coordination of MEDirections research activities (with research fellows established in Italy, Lebanon, Egypt, Libya and Tunisia)  
■ Director of the Libya Initiative (<http://middleeastdirections.eu/libya-initiative/>), support and advice to the Libyan Peacemakers' Social Dialogue  
■ Mentorship of a small team of junior researchers based in Libya

*Date:* ■ Sept. 2013 – Sept. 2016  
*Country:* ■ Italy  
*Institution:* ■ **European University Institute (EUI)**  
*Position:* ■ **Research Fellow**  
*Description:* ■ Research on social and political change in Libya and on the regional environment within the framework of DIRECTIONS, a joint project between the Robert Schuman Center for Advanced Studies of the EUI and the Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Center (NOREF)  
■ Research Coordinator for the Middle East Directions Programme  
■ Support to the Libyan "Peacemakers" Social Dialogue initiative, in coordination with NOREF  
■ Policy advice on Libya (various European governmental bodies, Médecins sans Frontières - France & Netherlands, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs)

*Date:* ■ Sept. 2011 – Aug. 2013  
*Country:* ■ Italy  
*Institution:* ■ **European University Institute (EUI)**  
*Position:* ■ **Postdoctoral researcher**  
*Description:* ■ Research (fieldwork and analysis) on political transitions in North African countries  
■ Preparation of a research project looking at the articulation between political developments and social change in Egypt, Libya and Tunisia  
■ Participation in seminars and workshops on the MENA region at the European University Institute and abroad (Egypt, Tunisia, France, USA, Brazil, Turkey, Norway)

*Date:* ■ Dec. 2010 – Aug. 2012  
*Country:* ■ France  
*Institution:* ■ **Arab Reform Initiative**  
*Position:* ■ **Senior Researcher**  
*Description:* ■ Editor and main contributor of the Middle East and North Africa Report (a monthly report published by NOREF)  
■ Field research and drafting of research papers on political evolutions in the Arab world, especially Egypt  
■ Supervision and coordination of a research project on "Arab Securitocracies and Security Sector Reform"

*Date:* ■ Sept. 2008 – Dec. 2010  
*Country:* ■ France  
*Institution:* ■ **General Secretariat for National Defense and Security (SGDSN)**  
*Position:* ■ **Desk Officer for North Africa & Middle East**  
*Description:* ■ Monitoring of the major political and security crises in North Africa and the Middle East  
■ Orientation and secretariat of interdepartmental work  
■ Drafting of reports and policy briefs

**Date:** ■ March – June 2008  
**Country:** ■ France  
**Institution:** ■ **Policy Planning Staff, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs**  
**Position:** ■ **Desk Officer for North Africa / Middle East (acting)**  
**Description:** ■ Drafting of policy briefs  
■ Monitoring of ongoing consultancies  
■ Organization of roundtables and thematic workshops

**Date:** ■ Oct. 2007 – Oct. 2008  
**Country:** ■ France  
**Institution:** ■ **Policy Planning Staff, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs**  
**Position:** ■ **Consultant**  
**Description:** ■ Various consultancies based on field research in Egypt

**Date:** ■ Oct. 2004 – July 2007  
**Country:** ■ France  
**Institution:** ■ **Refugee Appeals Board (CNDA, National Court of Asylum)**  
**Position:** ■ **Rapporteur**  
**Description:** ■ Analysis of asylum seekers' requests on geopolitical and legal grounds  
■ Drafting of reports and presentation in public hearings  
■ Drafting of court decisions

**Languages:**

<b>Languages</b>	<b>Speaking</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>
French	Mother tongue	Mother tongue	Mother tongue
English	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Arabic (classical, Libyan & Egyptian dialects)	Working knowledge	Working knowledge	Working knowledge
Italian	Good	Good	Good

**Selected publications**

○ *Edited volumes*

*Tribes and Global Jihadism* (with Olivier Roy), Hurst, 2017.

*Inside Wars. Local Dynamics of Conflicts in Syria and Libya* (with Luigi Narbone and Agnès Favier), European University Institute, 2016.

○ *Chapters in edited volumes*

“Sirte’s Tribes under the Islamic State: from Civil War to Global Jihadism”, in Virginie Collombier and Olivier Roy (eds), *Tribes and Global Jihadism*, Hurst, 2017.

“Conclusion”, in Virginie Collombier and Olivier Roy (eds), *Tribes and Global Jihadism*, Hurst, 2017.

“ ‘Nouvelle Libye’ ou ‘fin de la Libye’? Les chemins tracés par la transition post-Qaddafi”, in Anna Bozzo and Pierre-Jean Luizard (eds), in *Vers un nouveau Moyen-Orient? Etats arabes en crise entre logiques de division et sociétés civiles*, Roma Tre Press, July 2016.

“Building an Army to Build the State? The Challenge of building security institutions in post-Qaddafi Libya”, in Holger Albrecht, Aurel Croissant and Fred H. Lawson (eds), *Armies and Insurgencies in the Arab Spring*, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016, pp. 225-240.

"Dialogue, mediation and reconciliation in Libya's local conflicts", in Luigi Narbone, Agnès Favier and Virginie Collombier (eds), *Inside Wars. Local Dynamics of Conflicts in Syria and Libya*, 2016.

“The Islamic State in Libya: Strategy and Reality on the Ground”, with Seif Eddin Trabelsi, in Luigi Narbone, Agnès Favier and Virginie Collombier (eds), *Inside Wars. Local Dynamics of Conflicts in Syria and Libya*, 2016.

“‘Modernizing’ political parties: the National Democratic Party of Egypt on the path of British New Labor?”, in Eberhard Kienle (ed.), *Democracy Building and Democracy Erosion. Political Change North and South of the Mediterranean*, Saqi, 2009, pp. 59-77.

- *Reports and papers*

“To engage or not to engage? Libyan Salafis and State Institutions”, with Fiona Barsoum, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, 2019.

“Armed conflicts and the erosion of the state: the cases of Iraq, Libya, Yemen, Syria” (ed.), MENARA Working Papers, No. 22, November 2018.

“Militarization and militia-ization: dynamics of armed groups proliferation in Egypt and Libya”, with Rasmus Alenius Boserup, MENARA Working Papers, No. 17, October 2018.

“The Libyan Security Continuum: the impact of the Libyan Crisis on the North African/Sahelian regional system”, with Djallil Lounnas, MENARA Working Papers, No. 15, October 2018.

“Libya: moving beyond the transition mood”, MENARA Future Notes, No. 11, April 2018.

“Make war, not politics: armed groups and political competition in post-Qaddafi Libya”, in *Out of the Inferno? Rebuilding Security in Iraq, Libya, Syria, and Yemen*, Arab Reform Initiative, 30 August 2017, <https://www.arab-reform.net/en/node/1090>.

“Once and For All a New Compromise in Libya?”, ISPI, February 2017, <http://www.ispionline.it/en/pubblicazione/once-and-all-new-compromise-libya-16285>.

“The power struggle behind the new ‘battle of Sirte’”, Arab Reform Initiative, 13 September 2016, <http://www.arab-reform.net/en/node/977>.

“Libya urgently needs new mechanisms for dialogue”, FriEnt, 29 June 2016, [http://www.frient.de/news/details/news/libya\\_urgently\\_needs\\_new\\_mechanisms\\_for\\_dialogue/](http://www.frient.de/news/details/news/libya_urgently_needs_new_mechanisms_for_dialogue/).

“Dans l’euphorie de la révolution, les blessures libyennes ont été sous-estimées”, Le Monde, 20 February 2016, [http://www.lemonde.fr/international/article/2016/02/20/dans-l-euphorie-de-la-revolution-les-blessures-libyennes-ont-ete-sous-estimees\\_4868935\\_3210.html](http://www.lemonde.fr/international/article/2016/02/20/dans-l-euphorie-de-la-revolution-les-blessures-libyennes-ont-ete-sous-estimees_4868935_3210.html)

“Libya’s political dialogue needs more security content”, Arab Reform Initiative, September 2015, <http://www.arab-reform.net/libya%E2%80%99s-political-dialogue-needs-more-security-content>.

“Fighting the Islamic State in Libya: by political means first”, NOREF, 2 March 2015, <http://www.peacebuilding.no/Regions/Middle-East-and-North-Africa/Publications/Fighting-the-Islamic-State-in-Libya-by-political-means-first>.

“Bani Walid: quelle place pour les ‘vaincus’ de la révolution?”, *Moyen-Orient*, n°25, Jan./March 2015, pp. 42-47.

“En Libye, seul un consensus entre les communautés peut éviter le chaos”, Médiapart, 24 November 2014, <http://blogs.mediapart.fr/edition/les-invites-de-mediapart/article/241114/en-libye-seul-un-consensus-entre-communaut-es-peut-eviter-le-chaos>.

“Compromise in Libya: a fraught task, but not an impossible one”, Middle East Eye, 18 November 2014, <http://www.middleeasteye.net/fr/columns/libya-pushing-more-consensus-less-competition-1006105611>.