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International Implications of State-Minority Relations in the Middle East

Friday, 23 June 2023 10:45 (1h 30m)

Minority communities in the Middle East have often been characterised in Western policy circles as one of two extremes – avid supporters of authoritarian states or persecuted minorities living in a hostile Muslim environment (Mahmood 2016; Rowe 2018). In the Middle East, their minority status is often denied by both a group and the state due to connotations with Western intervention to 'protect' minorities (Rowe 2018). This panel seeks to provide a nuanced understanding of the experiences of Middle Eastern minorities, how these shape their relations with the state and the implications for international discourse on minority rights, democratization and peacebuilding.

Track Classification: International Studies of the Mediterranean, Middle East & Asia Working Group