The State of Democracy in North Africa and the Middle East

20 April 2022, Beirut, Lebanon
Agenda

08:30-09:00	**Registration of participants**
09:00-09:30	**Opening Session** *Welcome remarks* • **Kevin Casas-Zamora**, **Secretray-General, International IDEA** • **Roba Sharamo**, **Regional Director, Africa and West Asia, International IDEA** • *Khameyel Fenniche*, *Head of Programme, North Africa and West Asia, International IDEA* • *Ziad Abdel Samad*, *General coordinator,* **Arab Network for Democratic Elections**
09:30-09:40	**Session 1: Presentation of International IDEA's 2021 Global State of Democracy Report and Indices** • **Middle East and North Africa Findings, International IDEA (10M).** **Zaid Al-Ali**, Constitutional building programme, North Africa and West Asia, International IDEA

9:40-10:30	**Session 2: Challenges and opportunities for the democracy in the *North Africa and West Asia***
	Moderator: : **Zahra Bazzi**, Programme Director, Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND)
	
	• **Decline of democratic trends in *North Africa and West Asia*:**
	   Joseph Bahout, Director, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut
	
	• **Challenges facing clean elections in *North Africa and West Asia***
	   Hisham Kuhail, Executive Director of the Central Committee of Elections-Palestine- Head of the Executive Board of the Arab Electoral Management Bodies Organization
	
	• **Civil Society in the *North Africa and West Asia* in building democratic societies:**
	   Rahaf Abu Shahin, Expert in Democracy and Elections **-** Arab Network for Democratic Elections

10:30-10:45	**Break**

10:45-12:30	**Session 3: Weaknesses and strengths of the Lebanese democracy** Moderator: **Emna Zghonda,** Electoral process programme, North Africa and West Asia, International IDEA • **Managing elections in the Lebanese challenging context** **Ziyad Baroud** ,Former Lebanese Ministry of Interior.
	• **Role of the Civil society and institutions in Lebanon: complementarity or competitiveness?** **Rony Assad**, Secretary – General, Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections
	• **Political representativity in Lebanon: Inclusiveness or division?** **Rudaina Baalbaki** Researcher and Program Coordinator, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut

12:30-13:00	**Closing remarks**
	   Hamza Amor , Political Participation Programme, Africa and West Asia office, International IDEA
	   Ziad Abdel Samad, General coordinator, Arab Network for Democratic Elections