

alississ@post.harvard.edu
Tel: ++ (20)22-615-3206

Mohamad M. Al-Ississ
<http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~alississ>

AUC Avenue, P.O. Box 74
New Cairo 11835, Egypt

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO, Cairo, Egypt 2010-present
Assistant Professor, Economics Department, School of Business
Assistant Professor, School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

EDUCATION

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge, MA 2007-2010
Ph.D. in Public Policy – Focus: Economic Development and Financial Markets. Successful dissertation defense: April 2009.

- Dissertation Committee: Alberto Abadie, Iris Bohnet, and Asim Khwaja.
- Dissertation topic: The Role of Beliefs in Financial Markets: Three Essays on Violence, Trust, and Religion. Dissertation explores how investment behavior is affected by political violence, religious experience, and insurance. Specifically, it investigates the impact of violence and faith on financial markets, and the effect of insurance on trust and trustworthiness in the Middle East through lab experiments.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge, MA 2005-2007
Masters in Public Administration/International Development

- Awarded Fulbright scholarship after ranking first in Jordan

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge, MA 1999-2000
M.A. in Middle Eastern Studies

HARVARD COLLEGE, Cambridge, MA 1996-2000
B.A. in Economics with honors and advanced standing status.

- Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences Scholarship “in recognition of outstanding academic and extracurricular accomplishments” (1996-2000)
- Harvard College Dean’s List (1996-2000)
- Harvard College Scholarship (1996-2000)
- Harvard Foundation Award of Recognition for contributions to intercultural life (1999)
- Harvard World Model United Nations special award for “outstanding service to the cause of international peace and understanding” (2000) and best chairman award (2000)

LESTER B. PEARSON UNITED WORLD COLLEGE OF THE PACIFIC, B.C., Canada 1994-1996
Granted full scholarship. Multilingual International Baccalaureate Diploma. Perfect score in higher courses.

FELLOWSHIPS

- Fellow: Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative grant (2008-2010)
- Fellow: Harvard University Belfer Center’s Dubai Initiative (2008-2009)
- Fellow: Harvard Program On Negotiations (2008-2009)
- Fellow: Harvard Kennedy School Presidential Public Service Program (2007-2008)

GRANTS & AWARDS

- Harvard University Women and Public Policy Program grant (2008-2009)
- Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (2007)
- Harvard University Public Policy grant (2007)

RESEARCH PAPERS

- Bohnet, Iris, Herrmann, Benedikt, Al-Ississ, Mohamad, Robbett, Andrea, Al-Yahia, Khalid, and Zeckhauser, Richard. "The Elasticity of Trust: How to Promote Trust in the Arab Middle East and the United States." HKS Faculty Research Working Paper Series RWP10-031, June 2010.

- Al-Ississ, Mohamad and Miller, Nolan H. "What Does Health Reform Mean for the Healthcare Industry? Evidence from the Massachusetts Special Senate Election". July 2010. NBER Working Paper Series, Vol. w16193, pp. -, 2010.
- Al-Ississ, Mohamad and Bohnet, Iris. "Does Insurance Increase Trust? Experimental Evidence on Institutional Design". Working Paper, August 2010.
- Al-Ississ, Mohamad. "The Impact of Religious Experience on Financial Markets", Working Paper, April 2010.
- Al-Ississ, Mohamad. "The Cross-Border Financial Impact Of Violence", Working Paper, April 2010.
- Al-Ississ, Mohamad. "Investigating the Intraday Trends in the Amman Stock Exchange", Work in Progress.
- Al-Ississ, Mohamad. "Evaluating the Impact of Domestic, Regional and International Violence and Instability on the Jordanian Economy using the Event Study Methodology", 2007.
- Al-Ississ, Mohamad. "Jordan's Competition Legislation and the Transplant effect: Overview and Analysis", 2006.
- Al-Ississ, Mohamad. "Private Interest's Reaction to Jordan's 2002 Competition Law: An Event Study", 2007.

ARTICLES AND POLICY BRIEFS

- Applying For-Profit Principles in Water Management and Agricultural Policy in the Middle East and North Africa, Article, 2006.
-

CONFERENCES

- Speaker, Conference on Economic Development in the Middle East: Past and Present, Duke University, Durham, NC, 2010.
- Speaker, Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative Annual Review, Washington, DC, 2009.
- Speaker, Workshop on Economic Experiments in Developing Countries, McGill University, Canada, 2008.
- Speaker, Euro-Med Market Program on Competition, Germany, 2003.
- Organizer and Speaker, Tunisian Competition Experience: Lessons Learned, Tunisia 2004.
- Organizer and Speaker, Jordan's Competition Law and implementation, Jordan 2003 & 2004.

TEACHING & ADVISING EXPERIENCE

- **The American University in Cairo**, Economics 202: Microeconomic Theory
- **The American University in Cairo**, Economics 239: Economic History of the Modern Middle East
- **Harvard College**, Quincy House, Resident tutor in economics, public policy and business. Academically advised and supervised Harvard undergraduates. Nurtured students' extracurricular and career ambitions. Ensured students' well-being in a closely-knit residential environment. (2007-2010)
- **Harvard University**, Economics 1341: The Historical Origins of Middle Eastern Development, Teaching Fellow (Fall 2009).
Received 4.5/5.0 on overall student evaluations. Excerpts from the anonymous evaluations:
 - "[Mohamad] is awesome! He has very in depth knowledge of the subject and is extremely clear and articulate. He is always energetic and funny and very very helpful and accessible, even outside class...explains the important papers really well."
 - "He is very knowledgeable and relates to students well. He explains concepts well and makes connection to economics."
 - "Funny, engaging. Breaks down complex concepts. Solicits participation"
- **Harvard University**, Arabic 133. Upper-Level Spoken Modern Standard Arabic, Teaching Fellow (Fall 2009).
- **Harvard University**, Arabic 241ar: Modern Arabic Literature and Culture, Teaching Fellow (Fall

2009, Fall 2007).

Awarded Harvard University certificate of distinction in teaching (2007).

Received 4.6/5.0 on overall student evaluations. Excerpts from the anonymous evaluations:

- "I've been at Harvard a long time, so it means a lot when I say categorically that Mohamad is the best TF I have ever had in any class, bar none. The highest praise I can lavish upon him is this: I've never before found myself using the word "teacher" to refer to anyone at Harvard."
- "He is a natural teacher."

- **Harvard University**, Arabic 131b: Advanced Modern Arabic II, Teaching Fellow (Spring 2008)

Received highest possible evaluation, 5/5, on overall student evaluations. Excerpts from the anonymous evaluations:

- "Mohamad was a fantastic section leader. He easily generates enthusiasm for the subject matter and manages to motivate students and keep the class on task while maintaining a relaxed and fun environment. I always looked forward to section."
- "Mohamad did a terrific job leading the section and getting every student to participate. I found his style of teaching and moving on very effective and not overwhelming."
- **The World Bank**, teaching assistant for Jordanian policy makers. Ran policy analysis on household data sets (Summer 1999).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CHEMONICS INTERNATIONAL AND USAID, Amman-Jordan

2004- 2005

Manager, Investment Promotion, USAID's AMIR Program

- Developed and managed a program of technical assistance to deliver international best practice in investment promotion.
- Personally advised Jordan's Minister of Industry and Trade on a major institutional reform program, national competitiveness, investment promotion, and export development.
- Managed program's \$1 million budget.

EUROPEAN UNION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM & JORDAN'S MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE, Amman-Jordan

2002 – 2004

Senior Competition Advisor to five Jordanian Ministers of Industry and Trade

- Established and led Jordan's antitrust institutions to enforce competition and merger policy.
- Regulated the behavior of monopolies. Set up authorities' regulations and organizational structure. Recruited staff. Trained judges, lawyers and staff on the Law and relevant analysis.
- Executed an awareness campaign to promote competition culture.
- Participated in negotiating an EU-Jordanian competition cooperation treaty. Keynote speaker in various conferences and seminars.
- Investigated competition cases in metals, food, energy, machinery parts, and transport sectors.
- Presented before Ministers, private and public sector leaders.
- Named by The Minister to the Advisory Working Group for the Jordan Upgrading and Modernization Program (JUMP).
- Worked closely with HE the Minister of Justice on developing the Judicial Upgrading Strategy.

THE BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP, Boston, MA

2000-2002

Associate Consultant

- Worked closely with BCG's CFO, evaluated the competitive landscape in the consulting market, benchmarked its companies, assessed branding strategies, and designed profitability models for BCG's executive committee.
- Developed and audited growth strategies for large energy and technology clients.
- Formulated communication plan for post merger integration of an acquired major pharmaceutical firm as part of an overall \$7.8 billion deal, facilitated meetings, and presented to the client. Created and coordinated the integration strategies, activities, and financial models for the international,

alississ@post.harvard.edu
Tel: ++ (20)22-615-3206

Mohamad M. Al-Ississ
<http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~alississ>

AUC Avenue, P.O. Box 74
New Cairo 11835, Egypt

finance and operations business units of the acquired company.

- Analyzed organizational structure effectiveness of major companies for an internal initiative.

WORLD WIDE WEB DESIGN and DEVELOPMENT, Cambridge, MA 1996 – 2000
Personal Business: Built award-winning Arab Corner website as marketing channel. (+700,000 hits)

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

HARVARD SOCIETY OF ARAB STUDENTS, Cambridge, MA 1996 – 2000
President and Treasurer. Reelected to a second term. Coordinated activities, finances, guest speakers (included HM King of Jordan, the Coptic Pope, intellectuals, authors, and cabinet members).

HARVARD WORLD MODEL UNITED NATIONS, Cambridge, MA 1996 – 2000
Chairman, Middle East Multilateral Peace Summit in Athens'00, London'99, Brussels'98, and Budapest'97 conferences. Worked on a team to conduct \$50,000 UN simulation for 600 participants.

SKILLS

COMPUTER: Proficiency in using PC, Mac and Unix platforms, STATA, MS Office, HTML, image applications.

LANGUAGES: Fully bilingual Arabic-English, conversational French, basic Hebrew.