

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

**Key qualifications:**

- + 15-year academic and policy research on MENA countries, including +6 year-focus on Libya
- 10-year direct experience in support to mediation, national and community dialogues 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:**

<b>Institution:</b>	■ <b>University of Grenoble, France</b>
<b>Date:</b>	■ 2005 – 2010
<b>Degree:</b>	■ <b>PhD in Political Science</b>

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

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

**Employment record:**

<b>Date:</b>	■ Since Sept. 2013
<b>Country:</b>	■ Italy
<b>Institution:</b>	■ <b>European University Institute (EUI)</b>
<b>Position:</b>	■ <b>Part-time Professor (since May 2017)</b> ■ <b>Scientific Coordinator of the Middle East Directions Programme (since 2017)</b> ■ <b>Research Fellow (from Sept. 2013 to May 2017)</b>
<b>Description:</b>	■ Research on social and political transformations in Libya and the MENA region ■ Orientation and coordination of <a href="#">MEDirections</a> research activities (with research fellows established in Italy, Lebanon, Egypt, Libya and Tunisia) ■ Director of the <a href="#">Libya Initiative</a> : support and coordination of several homegrown mediation/dialogue initiatives in Libya, in close cooperation with a team of Libyan activists; commissioning and production of policy-oriented analysis on key policy issues; mentorship of Libya-based junior analysts to produce policy-oriented research ■ Consultancies and policy advice on Libya for various European governmental bodies, international organisations and NGOs

*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:* ■ **Centre d'Analyse et de Prévision (Policy Planning), 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

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## Languages:

Languages	Speaking	Reading	Writing
French	Mother tongue	Mother longue	Mother tongue
English	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Arabic (classical, Libyan & Egyptian dialects)	Good	Good	Good
Italian	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

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## Selected publications:

- *Edited volumes*

*Violence and Social Transformation in Libya* (with Wolfram Lacher), Hurst, forthcoming (2022).

*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 ([link to ebook](#)).

- *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.

“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.

- *Research and policy papers, journal articles*

“Libyan Salafis and the Struggle for the State”, in Third World Thematics (forthcoming).

“Les salafistes libyens après la révolution”, with Théo Blanc, in *Confluences Méditerranée* 2021/3, N° 118, pp. 119-132.

“Salafi Politics: ‘Political’ and ‘Quietist’ Salafis in the Struggle for the Libyan State”, Research Project Report, MEDirections European University Institute & Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, December 2020 ([link](#)).

“To engage or not to engage? Libyan Salafis and State Institutions”, with Fiona Barsoum, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, May 2019 ([link](#)).

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

“Militaryization and militia-ization: dynamics of armed groups proliferation in Egypt and Libya”, with Rasmus Alenius Boserup, MENARA Working Papers, No. 17, October 2018 ([link](#)).

“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 ([link](#)).

“Libya: moving beyond the transition mood”, MENARA Future Notes, No. 11, April 2018 ([link](#)).

“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, ([link](#)).

“Once and For All a New Compromise in Libya?”, ISPI, February 2017 ([link](#)).

“The power struggle behind the new ‘battle of Sirte’”, Arab Reform Initiative, 13 September 2016 ([link](#)).

“Libya urgently needs new mechanisms for dialogue”, FriEnt, 29 June 2016.

“Dans l’euphorie de la révolution, les blessures libyennes ont été sous-estimées”, Le Monde, 20 February 2016 ([link](#)).

“Libya’s political dialogue needs more security content”, Arab Reform Initiative, September 2015 ([link](#)).

“Fighting the Islamic State in Libya: by political means first”, Norwegian Peacebuilding Centre, 2 March 2015.

“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 ([link](#)).

“Compromise in Libya: a fraught task, but not an impossible one”, Middle East Eye, 18 November 2014 ([link](#)).

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### **Lecturing and teaching:**

- Regular lecturer, “North African Security” and “Introduction the Libyan conflict”, NATO Regional Cooperation Course, NATO Defense College (2 to 3 sessions per year since October 2017)
- Guest lecturer, 6-hour course “Middle East and North Africa: Transformations and Challenges” (Prof. Luigi Narbone), Master’s degree in International Security Studies, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna (academic years 2019-20 and 2020-21)
- Lecturer, “Interventions in Fragile States”, Paris School of International Affairs – Sciences Po, 17 November 2021
- Lecturer, “Middle East politics and Global Challenges”, Summer School “Global Challenges”, Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento, July 2019