Workshop Agenda

**The Long-Term Impacts of Syria’s War**

**Wednesday, 27 April 2016 | 13.45 – 17.30 | Chatham House**

Syria’s civil war has transformed the Middle East. After five years of conflict Syria has been shattered, with violence, political instability, state weakness and economic difficulty likely to continue for years to come, whatever the fate of the current war. For neighbouring states preventing the strife from spilling over borders has proved impossible, whether through flows of refugees, non-state fighters, radicalisation or sectarianism. Meanwhile, developments in Syria have helped shift geostrategic calculations for key regional and international powers as the US, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Iran, impacting their policies for the region as a whole. This workshop aims to explore what these transformations might mean going forward, assessing the long term local, regional and international impacts of Syria’s civil war.

*This workshop will be held under the Chatham House Rule.*

13.45  
*Tea and coffee on arrival*

14.00  
**Session 1: Local impacts**

After five years of conflict, Syria’s once stable polity is eroding. This session explores the long-term impact of the conflict at a local level, considering the effects on the state, economy and society.

*Speakers:*  
**Raymond Hinnebusch**, Professor of International Relations and Middle East Studies, St Andrews University  
**Samer Abboud**, Associate Professor, Arcadia University  
**Rim Turkmani**, Research Fellow, Civil Society & Human Security Research Unit, LSE

*Chair:*  
**Christopher Phillips**, Associate Fellow, MENA Programme, Chatham House

15.30  
*Coffee break*

16.00  
**Session 2: Regional and international impacts**

This session considers the long-term regional and international effects of the war. At a regional level, speakers will discuss the impact on Syria’s immediate neighbours and the evolution of regional powers’ policies. At an international level, speakers will discuss the future implications of the shift in US and Russian calculations.

*Speakers:*  
**Zeynep Kaya**, Research Fellow, Middle East Centre, LSE  
**Matthew Whiting**, Teaching Fellow in Politics, University of Reading  
**Christopher Phillips**, Associate Fellow, MENA Programme, Chatham House  
**Jasmine Gani**, Associate Director, Centre for Syrian Studies, St Andrews University

*Chair:*  
**Doris Carrion**, Research Associate, MENA Programme, Chatham House

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