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| Position | : | Senior Researcher & Consultant |
| Institution | : | European University Institute (EUI) Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Center (NOREF) |
| Name | : | Virginie COLLOMBIER |
| Date of birth | : | 1979/01/03 |
| Nationality | : | French |

Areas of expertise:

- Social and political change in North Africa & the Middle East (special focus on Libya & Egypt)
- Political economy of transitions
- Security sector reform
- Processes of mediation and reconciliation

Key qualifications:

- + 15 years researching on MENA countries (fieldwork and analysis), including 4 year-focus on Libya
- Direct experience in support to mediation, national and community dialogue in Libya
- Analysis & policy advice on Libya and Egypt for various European governmental bodies and NGOs
- Working languages: French, English, Arabic (classical, Libyan & Egyptian dialects), Italian

Education:

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

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

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

Employment record:

Date: ■ Sept. 2013 – now
Country: ■ Italy
Institution: ■ European University Institute (EUI)
Position: ■ Research Fellow
Description: ■ Research on social and political change in Libya and on the regional environment within the framework of DIRECTIONS, a joint project between the Robert Schuman Center for Advanced Studies of the EUI and the Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Center (NOREF)
 ■ Research Coordinator for the MIDDLE EAST DIRECTIONS Programme
 ■ Support to the Libyan “Peacemakers” Social Dialogue initiative, in coordination with NOREF
 ■ Policy advice on Libya (various European governmental bodies, Médecins sans Frontières - France & Netherlands, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs)

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 Norwegian 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: ■ **Policy Planning Staff, 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

Languages:

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

Selected publications:

"Libya urgently needs new mechanisms for dialogue", FriEnt, 29 June 2016,

http://www.frient.de/news/details/news/libya_urgently_needs_new_mechanisms_for_dialogue/.

"Dialogue, mediation and reconciliation in Libya's local conflicts", in *Inside Wars. Local Dynamics of Conflicts in Syria and Libya*, Ed. Luigi Narbone, Agnès Favier & Virginie Collombier, 2016,

http://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/41644/Inside%20wars_2016.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.

"The Islamic State in Libya: Strategy and Reality on the Ground", with Seif Eddin Trabelsi, in *Inside Wars. Local Dynamics of Conflicts in Syria and Libya*, Ed. Luigi Narbone, Agnès Favier & Virginie Collombier, 2016,

http://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/41644/Inside%20wars_2016.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.

"Dans l'euphorie de la révolution, les blessures libyennes ont été sous-estimées", Le Monde, 20 February 2016,

http://www.lemonde.fr/international/article/2016/02/20/dans-l-euphorie-de-la-revolution-les-blessures-libyennes-ont-ete-sous-estimees_4868935_3210.html

"Libya's political dialogue needs more security content", Arab Reform Initiative, September 2015, <http://www.arab-reform.net/libya%E2%80%99s-political-dialogue-needs-more-security-content>.

"Fighting the Islamic State in Libya: by political means first", NOREF, 2 March 2015, <http://www.peacebuilding.no/Regions/Middle-East-and-North-Africa/Publications/Fighting-the-Islamic-State-in-Libya-by-political-means-first>.

"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, <http://blogs.mediapart.fr/edition/les-invites-de-mediapart/article/241114/en-libye-seul-un-consensus-entre-communaut-es-peut-eviter-le-chaos>.

"Compromise in Libya: a fraught task, but not an impossible one", *Middle East Eye*, 18 November 2014, <http://www.middleeasteye.net/fr/columns/libya-pushing-more-consensus-less-competition-1006105611>.

Consultancies, in-person briefings, and other collaborations:

- EUI/EP Policy roundtable discussion on transformations in the Middle East and North Africa; in-person briefings on Libya with European Parliament officials and European External Action Service, Brussels, 29-30 June 2016
- Occasional in-person briefings on Libya and Egypt – French and Norwegian Ministries of Foreign Affairs
- Hearing with the President of the Mission of information on Libya, French National Assembly, Paris, 10 September 2015
- Intervention on the situation in Libya, Italian Senate of the Republic, Rome, 7 May 2015
- Hearing on the situation in Libya, German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin, 24-25 February 2015
- Advice and support for activities in Libya – Médecins sans frontières (French and Dutch sections)
- Analysis and advice on Libya – United Nations Office for the Coordination of Human Affairs (OCHA)
- Lead author on Libya for the project "Rebuilding security in fragmented societies", Arab reform initiative