

## Rouba AL-FATTAL EECKELAERT

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### **EDUCATION**

- Doctorate of Social Science** 2006-2011  
(Ph.D. Political Science) *University of Leuven*, Belgium Leuven  
Thesis: Transatlantic Trends of Electoral Assistance in the Mediterranean
- Masters of Science** 2004-2006  
(M.Sc. Political Science) *Université de Montréal*, Canada Montreal  
Thesis: Political Culture Role in Shaping the Disarmament Policies of the EU, the US and Canada
- Bachelor of Arts (Honours)** 2001-2004  
(B.A. Political Science) *McGill University*, Canada Montreal  
Thesis: The EU's Democratic Deficit: Rethinking the EU's Communication Policies with its Citizens

### **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Contributing Editor** 2012- Present  
*The Metropolitan & The Suburban (Quebec-based Newspapers)* Ottawa  
• Writing opinion articles on Canadian foreign affairs, the Middle East, and the European Union
- Short-Term Expert** 2011 July-December  
*European Commission (EU Neighbourhood Info Centre)* Brussels  
• Gathered pertinent documents on the south Mediterranean countries for a new user-friendly database  
• Drafted policy papers for EU delegations dealing with south Mediterranean countries
- Founding Member & Vice President** 2008-2011  
*EuroArab Forum (NGO promoting a better understanding between Europe and the Arab world)* Brussels  
• Managed projects, organized high-level conferences and workshops, and handled public relations  
• Drafted reports and advocacy papers, prepared grants applications and fundraising activities
- Associate Editor & Chief Communications Officer** 2007-2011  
*Central European Journal for International and Security Studies (CEJISS)* Prague  
• Edited, proofread, and nominated research articles and policy analyses for publication  
• Promoted the journal internationally, among universities and (non-) governmental institutions
- Research Fellow** 2009 July-October  
*Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs (PASSIA)* Jerusalem  
• Drafted and published a PASSIA Bulletin and a Policy Report on EU-PT Relations  
• Prepared policy briefings and proofread PASSIA's publications
- Research Assistant** 2008-2009  
*NATO – Parliamentary Assembly (Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group)* Brussels  
• Monitored and analyzed media releases on NATO operations, researched and drafted briefings and reports on NATO-Middle East, and prepared speeches for the parliamentary visits to the Middle East & Central Asia
- Diplomatic Trainee – Political Affairs, Foreign and Security Policy** Winter 2006  
*Canadian Mission to the European Union* Brussels  
• Drafted reports and analyzed press sources regarding Canadian-EU foreign and security relations  
• Presented the Mission's work at a seminar intended for young Canadian parliamentarians
- Research Assistant** 2003-2005  
*McGill University – Political Science Department – with Dietlind Stolle* Montreal  
• Amassed and correlated data, honed research, interview and statistical analysis skills  
• Worked on projects relating media and home to political participation of Canadian and European youth

**GRANTS & AWARDS**

- Won 4th place in the Anna Lindh Foundation Euro-Med Dialogue Award Competition of 2011.
- Scholarship for doctoral research, from the Quebec Ministry of Education and the Flemish Community of Belgium, 2006-2011.
- Scholarship for research at the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group, from the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, 2008-2009.
- Scholarship for research trip to Europe, from Institute for European Studies of McGill-Montreal University, summer 2005.

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS****Books:**

- Transatlantic Trends in Democracy Promotion: Electoral Assistance in the Palestinian Territories. London: Ashgate (January 2013)
- European Union Foreign Policy in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Jerusalem: PASSIA (March 2010).

**Book Chapter:**

- The Arab Spring: Where do the Arab Militaries Stand and Why? In "An Arab Springboard for EU Foreign Policy?", eds. Sven Biscop, Rosa Balfour, Michael Emerson. Brussels: CEPS (January 2012)

**Policy Paper:**

- "Electoral System in Future Syria," Strategic Research and Communication Centre (May 2012).

**Analyses:**

- "What do Egyptians Deserve from their Democracy?" The Suburban (7 November 2012).
- "Obama's Recovery from Ahmadinejad's Politics" The Métropolitain 3, no. 13 (December 2010).
- "L'Union pour la Méditerranée: du théorique au pratique." MEDEA - European Institute for Research on Mediterranean and Euro-Arab Cooperation (November 2010).
- "While the Arab League Slept: the EU had a Monologue on Cooperation." Europe's World, spring edition no. 14 (March 2010).

**SKILLS, INTERESTS & AFFILIATIONS**

**Computer Skills:** Microsoft Office Package, SPSS, EndNoteX, Nvivo, Social Media, and the Internet.

**Social Skills:** Able to liaise, share knowledge and build relationships with people from different horizons.

**Leisure Activities:** Spinning, reading, playing piano, creative writing, traveling, following art & literature.

**Professional Affiliations:** CPSA, ISA, EUSA, UACES, WIIS.

**LANGUAGES (WRITEN & SPOKEN)**

**Fluent:** Arabic and English

**Professional:** French

**Intermediate:** Dutch

**Basic:** Hebrew