



Call for Abstracts

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) will convene a conference entitled “*Economic Policies for Social Justice in the MENA Region*”, on 24-25 October 2015 in Tunis.

The conference aims at discussing the current economic and social challenges in the MENA region and will debate different paradigms of economic policies that boost not just sustainable economic growth, but also create decent jobs and enhance social justice. This conference will mark the starting point of a series of workshops and meetings FES plans to hold at regional and national levels in 2016 to develop policy recommendations for decision-makers in the MENA region.

FES invites academics and experts from the region to submit an abstract **in English or in Arabic** on the following topics:

- Shortfalls of the current economic policies implemented by countries in the Middle East and North Africa.
- Income and wealth redistribution policies and mechanisms (e.g. tax policy, subsidy policy, government spending policy, wage setting policy etc.)
- The economic impacts of Labour and social protection policies (e.g. labour law, employment policy, protection against unemployment, social security system, poverty mitigation policy)
- Inclusive agricultural and industrial policy reforms (e.g. pro-farmer policies, support of SMEs, tax incentives, technical support, financing)
- Public social services (education policies, public health policy and insurance)
- Inclusive economic reform policies (e.g. pro-poor economic growth, increasing level of participation in the policy-making process)
- Human development policies and regional development (e.g. regional planning/ economic decentralization, reduction of regional disparity and development gaps bridging)
- Investment and trade policies (e.g. impact on SMEs, market shares, import/exports, competitiveness, access to foreign markets, cooperation and finance, foreign direct investment)

Please note that abstracts with focus on case studies (one or two example countries) are welcomed.

Participants are kindly invited to submit abstracts of around 300-words by email to salam.said@festunis.org until **September 5th, 2015**. Final acceptance of abstracts will be notified by September 20th, 2015.

FES is particularly encouraging female and young participants originating from the region either living abroad or in one of the countries of the region.