

The Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS), in collaboration with the Department for Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies (TORS) at the University of Copenhagen, has the pleasure of inviting you to a seminar on:

The Syrian Uprising: Sectarian and Regional Dynamics  
Thursday, 6 June 2013, 13.00-16.00  
Danish Institute for International Studies  
Main Auditorium  
Strandgade 71, ground floor, 1401 Copenhagen K

#### Background

Two years into the Syrian uprising, a protracted civil war has replaced the initial model of peaceful mass protest that Syrian protestors borrowed from their Egyptian and Tunisian counterparts during the early days of the "Arab Spring" in 2011. While the international society had proven incapable of responding unanimously to the armed conflict in Syria, regional actors have engaged heavily through proxy with the aim of influencing the broader regional power balances of the post-Arab Spring Middle East. Partially as a by-product of this regional engagement, sectarian dynamics has become an increasingly important factor in shaping the armed conflict in Syria.

The seminar investigates how these parallel dynamics – regionalism and sectarianism – influence the on-going civil war in Syria and raises the question how Denmark and the international society may best respond.

#### Speakers

[Steven Heydemann](#), Senior Adviser for Middle East initiatives, United States Institute of Peace (USIP)  
[Patrick Haenni](#), Advisor for the Middle East Office, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue  
[Jakob Skovgaard Petersen](#), Professor MSO, TORS, University of Copenhagen  
[Helle Malmvig](#), Senior Researcher, DIIS  
[Rasmus Alenius Boserup](#), Research Fellow, DIIS

#### Programme

More details about the seminar are available on our [website](#).

#### Practical Information

The seminar will be held in English.

Participation is free of charge, but registration is required. Please use our [online registration form](#) no later than Wednesday, 5 June 2013 at 12.00 noon.

Please await confirmation by e-mail from DIIS for participation.

Sincerely,

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