

# al-raida

The Arab Institute for Women  
Lebanese American University  
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fifty  
years of  
pioneering  
gender  
equality



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## The Arab Institute for Women (AiW) at the Lebanese American University (LAU)

Established in 1973 at the Lebanese American University (LAU) in Beirut, The Arab Institute for Women (AiW) is the first institute in the Arab region – and among the first globally – dedicated to women's rights and gender justice. Founded in honor of LAU's origins as the first educational institution for women in the Arab region, The AiW has worked at the intersection of academia and activism for over 50 years.

The AiW advances its mission nationally, regionally, and internationally through education, research, development programs, and outreach. It integrates gender across LAU's curricula, conducts research on women in the Arab region, and translates knowledge into practice through initiatives promoting women's rights and social change. The Institute prioritizes interdisciplinary approaches that link academic work to policy and advocacy.

Through its work, The AiW:

- Creates and shares knowledge on women and gender issues.
- Builds partnerships and strategic collaborations to address gender justice and end violence against women in all its forms.
- Provides capacity-building and continuing education on women and gender.
- Connects academics, practitioners, policymakers, and activists to foster dialogue and advance shared agendas.
- Engages in global conversations to amplify Arab voices and mobilize action for women's rights.

## *Al-Raida* Journal

**1976** – *Al-Raida* journal is launched as a short newsletter reporting on the Institute's activities.

**Mid-1980s** – *Al-Raida* journal begins accepting research-based articles.

**1994** – A themed "File" section is introduced, focusing on contemporary gender issues in the Arab region.

**2002** – *Al-Raida* journal becomes available online in Arabic and English, extending its reach.

**2007** – *Al-Raida* journal's format is updated and new sections such as "Young Scholars" and "Book Reviews" are added.

**2013** – *Al-Raida* journal evolves into a biannual, interdisciplinary, semi-peer-reviewed publication featuring both academic and non-academic content.

**2017** – The entire archive of *Al-Raida* journal is digitized, providing free online access to more than 40 years of research.

**2023** – On The AiW's 50th anniversary, *Al-Raida* journal undergoes a full redesign to renew its visual identity and enhance accessibility.

#### Disclaimer

This issue of *Al-Raida* was produced with the support of the Government of Canada, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and UN Women. The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the positions or policies of the Government of Canada, UNDP, or UN Women.

While this issue highlights the efforts of various NGOs, activists, and feminist groups, it represents only a portion of the work being carried out; many additional contributions could not be featured, and we do not claim to provide an exhaustive account. This issue reflects only what could be documented within the available scope and timeframe up to September 2023.

# Submission Preparation Checklist

As part of the submission process, authors are required to confirm compliance with all of the following items. Submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines may be returned to the authors.

- The submission has not been previously published, nor is it under consideration by another journal.
- The submission must follow the *APA style guide* (7th edition).
- The submission file should be in Microsoft Word format.
- The text should be single-spaced, use 12-point Times New Roman font, and include all illustrations, figures, and tables at the appropriate points rather than at the end.
- The text should adhere to the stylistic and bibliographic requirements outlined in the *Author Guidelines* below.

## Author Guidelines

All submissions undergo a screening process and are initially reviewed by the Editor of *Al-Raida* to ensure adherence to the journal's submission guidelines. Accepted manuscripts will be edited in accordance with the journal's standards. Contributors will be given designated timeframes to revise content and style as recommended by the Editor.

The Editor reserves the right to reject an article at any stage of the editorial process. Articles submitted for publication should be sent directly to [al-raida@lau.edu.lb](mailto:al-raida@lau.edu.lb).

## Academic Submissions

All academic submissions must include the following:

- 6,000-8,000 words (including notes and references)
- An abstract of 200-300 words
- 5-6 keywords
- A title page that includes: the title, author's name, affiliation, full contact details, and a brief biographical statement (up to 40 words)

The Editor of *Al-Raida* will inform authors within two weeks of submission whether their manuscripts will progress to review.

## Peer Review Policy

At present, all *Al-Raida* submissions are evaluated by at least one reviewer. Where needed, submissions may undergo further evaluation by up to two blind reviewers. Acceptance for publication will then be subject to modifications suggested by the reviewers and the Editor. In the case of disagreement between two reviewers, a third reviewer will be consulted for a final decision.

## Non-Academic Submissions

Non-academic submissions – including creative pieces, activist reflections, viewpoints, interviews, short stories, poems, photographic essays, and conference reports – must include the following:

- 1,500-4,500 words (flexible, depending on submission type and subject to Editor's approval)
- An abstract of 300 words (except for poetry and fiction)
- 5-6 keywords
- A title page that includes: the title, author's name, affiliation, full contact details, and a brief biographical statement (up to 40 words)

The Editor of *Al-Raida* will inform authors within two weeks of submission whether their manuscripts have been accepted for further review. Final acceptance for publication is subject to modifications as recommended by the Editor.

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