

# al-raida

Vol. 49 N° 1 Special Issue (2025)



## Countering Backlash

al-raida

Vol. 49 N° 1 SPECIAL ISSUE (2025)

#### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Myriam Sfeir

#### EDITOR

Sleiman El Hajj

#### MANAGING EDITOR

Miguel Mendelek

#### ADVISORY BOARD

Lila Abu-Lughod  
Joseph L. Buttenwieser Professor of  
Social Science, Columbia University

Samira Aghacy  
Writer and former Dean of the  
School of Arts and Sciences, Lebanese  
American University (LAU)

Dima Dabbous  
Director of Equality Now, Middle East  
and North Africa Office

Suad Joseph  
Distinguished Professor of  
Anthropology and Women and Gender  
Studies, University of California, Davis,  
United States of America (USA)

Valentine Moghadam  
Professor of Sociology and  
International Affairs and Director,  
International Affairs Program,  
Northeastern University

Lynn Welchman  
Professor of Law, SOAS, University of  
London

#### FOUNDER OF AL-RAIDA

Julinda Abu Nasr

#### ORIGINAL DESIGN LEAD

Greta Khoury

#### REVAMPED DESIGN LEAD

Yal Solan

#### TECHNICAL SUPERVISOR

Zouheir Debs

#### COVER CREDITS

Design by Yal Solan  
Illustrations by Bahij Jaroudi

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

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 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, *Al-Raida* journal undergoes a full redesign to renew its visual identity and enhance accessibility.

### 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.

The Arab Institute for Women  
Lebanese American University

P.O. BOX 13-5053 Chouran, Beirut,  
1102 2801 Lebanon  
TELEPHONE +961 1 867618 ext. 1275  
WEBSITE <http://aiw.lau.edu.lb>  
E-MAIL [al-raida@lau.edu.lb](mailto:al-raida@lau.edu.lb)

al-raida

