

Jörg Gertel, Katharina Grüneisl (eds.)
Inequality and Mobility

Jörg Gertel (Prof. Dr.) is a professor of Arabic Studies and Economic Geography at Leipzig University. His education took him to the universities of Damascus, Cairo and Khartoum. He also taught and conducted research at Freiburg University and several times in Seattle and Auckland. His research focuses on the wider Mediterranean region and tackles questions of food security, mobility, market dynamics, and the situation of young people.

Katharina Grüneisl (Dr.) is a postdoctoral research fellow in Geography at the University of Nottingham. Her current research examines gendered relations of work in Jordan's industrial zones for export-oriented garment manufacturing. She completed a PhD in Human Geography at Durham University in 2021 and has since held postdoctoral positions at Universität Leipzig and the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) in Paris. Her dissertation project examines urban change through the lens of the used clothing economy in Tunisia's capital city.

Jörg Gertel, Katharina Grüneisl (eds.)

Inequality and Mobility

Capabilities and Aspirations in Post-Revolutionary Tunisia

[transcript]

GEFÖRDERT VOM



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at <https://dnb.dnb.de>



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons License BY-SA 4.0. For the full license terms, please visit the URL <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>.

Creative Commons license terms for re-use do not apply to any content (such as graphs, figures, photos, excerpts, etc.) not original to the Open Access publication and further permission may be required from the rights holder. The obligation to research and clear permission lies solely with the party re-using the material.

2025 © Jörg Gertel, Katharina Grüneisl (eds.)

transcript Verlag | Hermannstraße 26 | D-33602 Bielefeld | live@transcript-verlag.de

Cover design: Jan Gerbach

Printing: Elanders Waiblingen GmbH, Waiblingen

<https://doi.org/10.14361/9783839467459>

Print-ISBN: 978-3-8376-6745-5 | PDF-ISBN: 978-3-8394-6745-9

ISSN of series: 2703-1640 | eISSN of series: 2703-1659

Printed on permanent acid-free text paper.

*“From irregular migration to a precarious economy, from deferred dreams to the reality of forced flight, *Inequality and Mobility* offers a reflection of a society challenged by insecure livelihoods and the demand for dignity. This volume is not simply a Tunisian case study, but rather a contemporary anthropological reading of the post-revolutionary reality in the Maghreb: a space where besieged desires intertwine with the dynamics of hesitant change, and where hope for a dignified future continues to rise from the depths of marginalization.”*

HOUDA LAROUCI, University of Carthage, Tunis; author of *Tunisia in Crises. Local Tensions and Conflicts in a Post-Revolutionary Context*

*“This volume is a much-needed, innovative contribution on the interconnectedness of some of the most pressing challenges of our time as they dominate the larger Middle East. Focusing on the case of Tunisia, *Inequality and Mobility* provides rich empirical material and fresh insights into the struggles of daily life under continuous authoritarian rule after the failed Arab up-risings of a decade ago. It opens new perspectives for comparison across the region, from the Mediterranean to the Mashreq.”*

NADIA AL-BAGDADI, Central European University, Vienna; co-editor and co-director of *Striking from the Margins – State, Religion, and Devolution of Authority in the Middle East*

*“*Inequality and Mobility* represents an invaluable collection of studies on the struggles and aspirations of the Tunisian people in the aftermath of the 2011 revolution. The essays conjoin economic and sociological analysis with fine-grained ethnographic accounts of the textures and vicissitudes of individual lives confronted with economic precarity, racial discrimination, and a political system that forcefully, if inconsistently, stifles and instrumentalizes mobility. This superb volume is a crucial resource for those seeking to understand the complex challenges faced by the peoples of North Africa in their search for a life of dignity, equality, and prosperity.”*

CHARLES HIRSCHKIND, University of California, Berkeley; author of *The Ethical Soundscape. Cassette Sermons and Islamic Counterpublics*

