

Abdelhamid Abdeljaber

Education

PhD- Currently pursuing a PhD in Political Science at the Graduate Center of the **City University of New York** with International Relations as a major and Comparative Politics as a minor. (Completion is expected no later than 2008)

Courses completed include: human rights, international organization, foreign policy, humanitarian intervention, development of political thought, international political economy and many other subfields.

M.A. 1976 **New York University**
Political Science-International Relations

B.A. 1971 **University of Jordan**-Amman
Arabic Language and Literature

Non-Credit training and learning sessions

Completed all UN courses in French; 1982-1984

Completed all UN courses in Spanish; 1986-1988

Interviewing Technique; 1986

Special Workshop on Human Development and Supervision; December 2000

HTML-Elementary, Medium and Advance Courses; March 2002

French- a Working Language- Intensive course at: Centre International d'Etudes

Pedagogiques; Paris-France- November 2002-

Workshop on Human Rights-Al-Hammamat, Tunisia- July 3-16, 2002

Work Experience

Spring semester (January-May 2007) - Lecturer at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Rutgers University-New Jersey, New Brunswick Campus.

Course: Islam and Democracy in the Arab world

UN Experience (1981-2006)

1 December 2003- 31 December 2004: Assigned to the Office of the Director of News and Media Division to implement number of projects related to Arab Media;

May 1997- 30 September 2006: Chief of Arabic Radio Unit at the News and Media Division of the Department of Public Information (DPI) at the United Nations

June -August 2003: Deputy Spokesman for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq- Baghdad;

October-November 2001: Spokesman and Assistant to the Director of UNIC- Islamabad. Assignments covered both Pakistan and Afghanistan included deployment in Kabul;

December 1994 – December 1995: Press Officer/Spokesman for the UN Mission for Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO); Laayoune, Western Sahara

August 1994– May 1997- Information Officer, Media Analyst at the News Distribution Section-DPI

March 1992- July 2004- Information Officer at the Office of the Spokesman for the Secretary-General

January 1989- February 2002- Political Affairs Officer at the Office for Research and Collection of Information- Office of the Secretary-General;

April 1981-December 1989: Coordinator of the Arabic Language Program- Office of Personnel Service.

Non-UN Experience:

1977-1981: Teacher of International Baccalaureate in Arabic language and literature at the United Nations International School; NY

1979-1982: Arabic Language Instructor at Farleigh Dickenson University

1984-1987: Cultural and Educational Consultant for Children Television Workshop (CTW) while producing 62- educational episodes in Arabic called “Al-Manahil” targeting second and third graders.

Missions and Assignments

28 May-10 June 2006, **Algeria** – participated in the celebration of international day of the environment;

11-19 November 2005, **Tunis-Tunisia**, participated in the World Summit of Information Society

- 15-18 June 2004, **Beijing-China**- participated in a UN regional seminar on the “Role of Civic Society in Promoting a Just and Lasting Peace in the Middle East”
- 11-15 May 2004, Beirut-**Lebanon**, Participated in a conference entitled “Strategic Communication Program for the Middle East and the Arab Region”, in Beirut, Lebanon
- October-November 2001: **Islamabad-Kabul**- Assigned to address and deal with an influx of global media during and after the war in Afghanistan. First in Islamabad and later in Kabul;
- 20 June-19 August 2003: **Baghdad-Iraq**- Assigned as Deputy Spokesman for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, the late Sergio Vieira de Mello;
- 12-19 January 2003: Cairo-**Egypt**- Head team of examination officers to distribute and proctor examinations to recruit Arabic translators, editors and verbatim reporters;
- 4-6 September 2002: **Botswana** –Visited and reported on a few UNDP and GEF projects aimed at preserving endangered species
- 24 August- 4 September 2002: **South Africa** - Attended the World Conference on Sustainable Development;
- 2 -16 July 2002: **Tunisia**-Participated in a two-week Human Right Workshop for Arab human rights groups;
- 26 August-11 September 2001: **Durban-South Africa** Attended the World Conference against Racism;
- December 1998: **Israel and Palestine**- Met and interviewed three prominent figures in connection with “UN Oral History Project”;
- October 1998: **Marrakech-Morocco**- Participated in training program for local information officers sponsored by UNDP;
- 28 May-14 June 1998: **Western Sahara**- Observed and reported on the identification process in Laayoune, Tindouf and many Moroccan cities;
- August 1997: **Kuwait-UAE-Jordan**–Assigned to establish stronger relations with the Radio Stations and media outlets;

July 1997: **Iraq** toured the whole country to report on the effects of sanctions and the application of the “oil-for-food” program;

December 1994-December 1995: **Western Sahara**, Attached to the Office of the SRSG as a Press Officer/Spokesman

May 1993: **Ethiopia-Eritrea**- Assigned as an “Election Officer”, in connection with the referendum in Eritrea to decide its status: Independence or annexation with Ethiopia;

1992-1999: Participated in numerous missions to **Libyan Arab Jamahiriya** in connection with the “Lockerbie Affairs”. I was a member of the “UN Team” that dealt with the issue for seven years from the very beginning to the delivery of the two suspects in December 1999. Some meetings were held in Rome and Geneva;

October 1985: Former **Czechoslovakia**- Monitored National Competitive Examinations to recruit junior officers for the UN.

Academic Activities

- October 2006, presented a paper at a two-day seminar on human rights after 9/11 at **John Jay College of Criminal Justice, NY**. The paper entitle: Dichotomy in Response-Arab Reaction to September 11.

- March 2006, International Study Association (**ISA**) Convention in **San Diego, Ca.** Presented, as a panelist, a paper entitled: "Pan-Arabism- Institutional Manifestation, Challenges and Chances for Revival". The panel was chaired by Professor Jacqueline Braveboy-Wagner of City College and the theme was: North-South Divide;
- July 2005, Naval Postgraduate School, **Monterey, Ca.** presented a paper on my experience in Iraq to a conference on "Interim Governments".
- June 2005, **Monmouth University, NJ**, participated in a three-member Panel entitled: "The Significance of Jerusalem to Jews, Christians and Muslims."
- April 2005, **Portland, Maine**, presented a paper on "The Impasse of the Peace Process in Western Sahara" for the Northeast Political Science Association (NESPA) annual convention
- October 2003, Graduate Center of **CUNY-NY** Lectured Professor Adamantia Pollis' class: Struggle for Identity in Iraq
- October 2002, **Monmouth University, NJ**- Participated in a panel on the Peace Process in the Middle East.
- May 2003, **Rutgers University**, Presented a paper on the UN Role in the Arab-Israeli Conflict to a panel discussion entitled "Fifty-Five Years of conflict in the Middle East",
- February 2002, State **University of Colorado at Saint Collins**- Presented a paper on the "Quest of Palestinians for an Identity" in one-day seminar on the Middle East Peace Process. (Among the participants Professor William Cleveland, Abdelaziz Sachedina and Moshe Ma'oz);
- March 2001, speaking at a seminar on Western Sahara organized by **International Peace Academy**. Eric Jensen, former SRSG in Western Sahara, was the second participant;
- September 1997, **University of Groningen**, in the Netherlands-Symposium on International Terrorism. Presented a paper on the "Predicament of Reaching a Definition of International Terrorism";
- May 1994, **University of Wisconsin-Whitewater**- World Affairs Seminar: Conflicts in the Middle East; the cases of Palestinians and Kurds
- February 1994 **State University of Idaho**, 23rd Annual Church Symposium on International Affairs: Intervention -The New World Order and the Search for Peace and Justice. Presented a paper on the "UN and Intervention" (Former Assistant Secretary of State, Elliot Abrams was one of the panelists)

-October 1990-**Hofstra University-Long Island, NY**. Presented a paper on the UN Role in the Gulf Crisis since August 2nd, 1990.”

Lectures and Briefings-UN related

I have been giving briefings, seminars and lectures at both UN Headquarters and at university campuses and other international institutions in the US, Canada and the Netherlands. Topics included peace-keeping, Disarmament, international terrorism, dialogue among civilizations, agenda for peace, Somalia, Bosnia, and most importantly the Arab-Israeli Conflict and the UN and Iraq.

Following is only a sample of the Universities I have been invited to speak at:

- Hofstra University (1990)
- State University at Pocatello; Idaho (1994)
- Old Dominion University at Norfolk, VA; (a keynote speaker and speaker since 1991)
- Bemidji University, Minnesota, 1992
- Clark University, NY; (1994)
- University of Ann Arbor; (1996)
- Marquette University (Wisconsin); (1996)
- University of Alberta, Canada (1994 and 2005)
- Bentley College (Massachusetts) (Member of Model UN Board since 1994)
- State University of Colorado at Fort Collins; (2002 and 2003)
- Graduate Center of CUNY (2003)
- Fordham University (2004)
- Monmouth University (NJ); (2002 and 2005)
- University of Miami (2005)
- City College, NY (2005, 2006)
- McGill University, Montreal, Canada (2006)
- Hunter College, NY (2006)

Languages

Arabic: Mother Tongue
 English: Proficient
 French: Good knowledge
 Spanish: Working knowledge

Membership

Member of the Steering Committee of Arabic and Islamic Study Center at Rutgers University, NJ
 Member of the Board for Model UN at Bentley College

Carter Center
American Civil Liberty Union