



FACULTY OF
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION,
ECONOMICS &
POLITICAL SCIENCE



The
BRITISH UNIVERSITY
IN EGYPT



POLITICAL SCIENCE CONFERENCE MODEL

PSCM

SIXTH EDITION

GLOBAL FRACTURES,
REGIONAL ORDERS:

CONFLICT AND COOPERATION
IN A NEW ERA



Call For Abstracts

Abstracts (250–300 words) should clearly outline the research question, paper argument, theoretical framework, and contribution to the conference theme.

The conference will be conducted in a hybrid format, enabling both in-person participation at BUE (Cairo) and online participation for students outside Egypt.

Abstract submission deadline: 10th of November, 2025

Draft Papers:
1 March 2026

Presentation Submission:
1 April 2026

Conference Date:
21 April 2026

Final Papers:
15 May 2026



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Concept Note

The world is navigating an unprecedented period of transition. The post-Cold War order has given way to an era of strategic competition, geopolitical fragmentation, and complex interdependence. Global powers are recalibrating their strategies, while regional actors, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), are asserting greater agency in shaping their own security and economic architectures.

The war in Ukraine continues to reverberate through global energy and food systems, while the conflict in Gaza has triggered a profound regional crisis, redefining alliances and humanitarian challenges. Simultaneously, the climate crisis, biosecurity risks, and the rapid ascent of Artificial Intelligence present existential challenges and new arenas for cooperation and conflict.

The 6th edition of the Political Science Students Conference Model (PSCM-6) seeks to explore these dynamics through multiple lenses: the global, the regional, with a special focus on the Middle East and Egypt, and the theoretical, drawing on International Relations, Comparative Politics, and Political Theory. The conference invites students to analyze how these layered crises test the limits of international institutions, forge new and unexpected forms of cooperation, and redefine the very meaning of security, sovereignty, and regional order in the 21st century.



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Concept Note

I. The Middle East & North Africa (MENA) in Flux

- **The Gaza War and its Regional Repercussions:** Shifting alliances, humanitarian crises, and prospects for a new regional security framework.
- **The Horn of Africa and Red Sea Security:** Rivalries over ports, naval bases, and implications for Egypt's and regional security.
- **De-escalation and Rapprochement:** The durability of normalization efforts (e.g., Saudi-Iranian deal, Türkiye's outreach).
- **Egypt's Foreign Policy Doctrine:** Balancing Gaza mediation, Nile water dispute management, and regional security.
- **Theoretical Lens:** Postcolonial IR perspectives on sovereignty, intervention, and regional order.



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II. Climate, Security & Political Economy

- **The Climate–Security Nexus:** Water disputes (Nile Basin, Sahel, Tigris–Euphrates) as conflict multipliers.
- **Green Energy Geopolitics:** Critical minerals, energy transition, and shifting power balances.
- **Economic Statecraft:** Sanctions, debt diplomacy, BRICS+, and de-dollarization.
- **Food Security and Environmental Peacebuilding:** Hunger, supply chains, and resource management as pathways to stability.
- **Theoretical Lens: Political Economy & Digital Capitalism:** The influence of tech giants on democratic institutions and state sovereignty.



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III. Technology, Media & Society in Conflict

- **AI and Autonomous Weapons in Warfare:** Legal, ethical, and strategic challenges.
- **Digital Authoritarianism vs. Democratic Resilience:** Surveillance, censorship, and disinformation.
- **Information and Influence:** Propaganda, deepfakes, and post-truth politics in global conflicts.
- **Civil Society and International Law:** NGOs shaping awareness and application in conflict zones.
- **Culture, Memory, and Power:** Sports, film, visual culture, and war commemoration in shaping geopolitics.
- **Theoretical Lens: Political Theory in Action –** Sovereignty, legitimacy, and the ethics of intervention in the digital age.