Institute of International Relations, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies Lecture Series: "Contemporary World and International Relations"

Reconsidering Lebanese-Syrian Historical Relations. Cross Border Abductions, Testimonies, and the Politics of Recognition

One of the most prolonged south-to-south military interventions in the Middle East was Syria's invasion of Civil War Lebanon in 1976. After three decades, and eventually, under international pressure, Syria withdrew its 30,000 army forces from Lebanon in 2005. During the Civil War that lasted 15 years, from 1975 to 1990, abductions of civilians and combatants and erasing the distinction between these two were common ways to express personal, political, economic, and social desires, demands, and discontent. During the Syrian army presence in Lebanon between 1976 and 2005, the Syrian military security, in collaboration with local actors, abducted an unknown number of Lebanese and Palestinians and transferred them to Syria. This lecture zooms into the stories of these cross-border abductions to reveal the Syrian regime's production of multiple histories of its relation to Lebanon.



Hybrid

<In person> at Institute of International Relations, TUFS (Kenkyu Kogito 401-3) <Online> Zoom

Language:English

Open to the Public

Mainly for

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by Noon 24 April [Thu.]

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