

Invitation to a KOFF Roundtable on Crisis in Egypt: What are Ways Forward?

At 10:00-12:15 on Thursday, 24 October 2013, at swisspeace, Sonnenbergstrasse 17, Bern

with the participation of:

Islam Lutfi

Nevine Melek

Wael Qandil

Two and a half years after the fall of the Mubarak regime and after the recent ouster of democratically elected President Morsi, Egypt is in crisis and deeply divided. While pro-Morsi supporters see the old regime and “deep state” back in power, the anti-Morsi camp claims that the ouster and the military’s new transition plan were the only means to save the country from the “Ikhwanization” of the state and from chaos. Rare are the voices that express a more nuanced perspective.

The Geneva based Cordoba Foundation is going to host a delegation of Egyptian activists who claim to belong to neither of these camps and hold alternative views on ways out of the current crisis. The Center for Peacebuilding (KOFF) seizes the opportunity to invite some delegation members for a discussion. How do they assess the current situation in Egypt? What could be ways forward? How can external actors contribute to the promotion of human rights, security and reconciliation?

Dr. Islam Lutfi is a lawyer at the High Court of Appeals. He was formerly a leader of the youth wing of the Muslim Brotherhood and later on a founder and former president of the Egyptian Current Party. He is a member of the Third Square Movement and a former member of the National Council of Justice and Equality. Islam Lutfi is also a member of the Executive Bureau of the Coalition of the Youth of the Revolution.

Nevine Melek is a lawyer at the High Court of Appeals and a Coptic militant for the promotion of citizenship. She is a member of the al Wasat Party. She is also a member of the National Alliance for Supporting Legitimacy.

Wael Qandil is a prominent writer and political figure. He is a former member of the “Committee of the 100” at al Dustur Party. He is a member of the Conscience Front.