

IGNACIO ALVAREZ-OSSORIO VILARIÑO

Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies at the Complutense University of Madrid. He holds a PhD in Arabic Philology from the UAM and a Master's degree in International Relations from the Fundación Ortega y Gasset. Between 1999-2019 he was Professor of Arab and Islamic Studies at the University of Alicante, where he directed the Inter-University Institute for Social Development and Peace. In December 2019 he joined the Complutense University of Madrid where he directs the Complutense Research Group on the Maghreb and the Middle East. Since July 2014 he has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Spanish Committee of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

He has written or edited some twenty books on the contemporary Arab-Islamic world, including 'Gaza. Chronicle of a Nakba Foretold' (2024), 'Qatar. The Pearl of the Gulf' (2022), 'Syria. The Black Decade' (2022), 'Geopolitics of the Arab Springs' (2022), 'Popular Mobilisations after the Arab Springs' (2021), 'Between Spain and Palestine. A Critical Review of Relations' (2018), 'Syria. Revolution, sectarianism and jihad' (2016), 'The Arab Spring revisited' (2015), 'Civil society and contestation in the Middle East and the Maghreb' (2013), 'Report on the Arab revolts' (2011), 'Contemporary Syria' (2009), 'Why has peace failed? Keys to Understanding the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict' (2007), 'Spain and the Palestinian Question' (2003), 'The Fear of Peace. From the Six-Day War to the Second Intifada' (2001) and 'The Middle East Peace Process' (1999).

He currently teaches on the Inter-University Master's Degree in Diplomacy and International Relations (Escuela Diplomática), Master's Degree in Peace, Security and Defence (Instituto Universitario Gutiérrez Mellado, UNED), Master's Degree in International Cooperation and Management of Public Policies, Programmes and Development Projects (Fundación Ortega y Marañón) and Master's Degree in Contemporary Studies on the Arab World and Muslim Communities (UCM).

In the past, he has taught on the Master's Degree in Contemporary Arab Studies (UAM) and the Master's Degree in Arab and Hebrew Cultures: Al-Andalus and the Contemporary Arab World (UGR). During this period he has supervised around fifty final degree and master's degree projects, as well as five doctoral theses (all with Cum Laude).

During his training as a researcher, he spent time at various international centres such as the Institut Français d'Études Arabes in Damascus and the Arab Studies Society in Jerusalem. As a teacher, he was Visiting Research Scholar in the Department of History at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) during the first semester of the 2008-09 academic year. He has also been Principal Investigator of three R&D projects funded by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness: 'Civil society and political contestation in the Middle East: internal dynamics and external strategies' (CSO2009-11729), 'The Arab revolts: emerging political actors and reconfiguration of the public sphere in North Africa and the Middle East' (CSO2012-37779) and 'Resilience of authoritarianism, clash of Islamisms and intensification of sectarianism in the Middle East and the Maghreb' (CSO2017-86091-P).