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Political Aid and Arab Activism examines transnational programs in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Yemen, Lebanon, Tunisia, Algeria, the exceptional cases of Palestine and Iraq, and the Arab region at large during two tumultuous decades. To understand the controversial and contradictory effects of political aid, Sheila Carapico analyzes discursive and professional practices in four key subfields: the rule of law, electoral design and monitoring, women’s political empowerment, and civil society. From the institutional arrangements for extraordinary undertakings such as Saddam Hussein’s trial or Palestinian elections to routine templates for national women’s machineries or NGO networks, her research explores the paradoxes and jurisdictional disputes confronted by Arab activists for justice, representation, and “non-governmental” agency.

Sheila Carapico is Professor of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Richmond and Visiting Professor of Political Science at the American University in Cairo. The author of Civil Society in Yemen: The Political Economy of Activism in Modern Arabia (Cambridge University Press, 1998), she has also researched and written about Yemeni, Egyptian, and Arab political activism; American foreign policy in the Middle East; and the politics of international political aid.
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Political Aid and Arab Activism

Democracy Promotion, Justice, and Representation

SHEILA CARAPICO
University of Richmond
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Dedication and Acknowledgments

This work is dedicated to my parents, whose own parents named them Gino Enrico Ciarapica and Catherine Christina Maloney, respectively, but who later became the loving couple Gene and Katie Carapico.

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