

Democratic Transitions in the Arab World

In the wake of the unprecedented uprisings that swept across North Africa and the Middle East in late 2010 and 2011, observers widely speculated that these events heralded the beginning of a new age of democratic transition across the region. The result of a four-year research project, this book offers a cross-country analysis of the dynamics of democratic transition and of the state of democracy and authoritarianism from Tunisia, Sudan and Egypt to Syria, Kuwait and Lebanon.

Ibrahim Elbadawi and Samir Makdisi identify specific economic, political and social conditions influencing the transition across the region and in each of the individual countries, as well as the requisite conditions for consolidating democracy once the process is initiated. This volume examines the struggling, halted and painful transitions, where these have for the time being failed, as well as instances in which democratic consolidation can be seen.

This is a unique and wide-ranging examination of Arab development and democracy for those investigating the fate of authoritarian regimes.

Ibrahim Elbadawi is Research Fellow, The Economic Research Forum, Cairo, Egypt. He is the co-editor of two recent volumes: with Samir Makdisi, *Democracy in the Arab World: Explaining the Deficit* (2011); and, with Hoda Selim, *Understanding and Avoiding the Oil Curse in Resource-Rich Arab Economies* (2016).

Samir Makdisi is Professor Emeritus of Economics and Founding Director of the Institute of Financial Economics at the American University of Beirut (AUB). He is the author of *The Lessons of Lebanon, the Economics of War and Development* (2004) and co-editor (with Ibrahim Elbadawi) of *Democracy in the Arab World: Explaining the Deficit* (2011).

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To all those who believe in and continue to struggle
for democracy in the Arab world

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