The Arab Spring Abroad

The Arab Spring revolutions of 2011 sent shockwaves across the globe, mobilizing diaspora communities to organize forcefully against authoritarian regimes. Despite the important role that diasporas can play in influencing affairs in their countries of origin, little is known about when diaspora actors mobilize, how they intervene, or what makes them effective. This book addresses these questions, drawing on more than 250 original interviews, fieldwork, and comparative analysis. Examining Libyan, Syrian, and Yemeni mobilization from the United States and Great Britain before and during the revolutions, Dana M. Moss presents a new framework for understanding the transnational dynamics of contention and the social forces that either enable or suppress transnational activism.

Dana M. Moss is Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Notre Dame. Her research investigates how authoritarian forces repress their critics and how social movements resist this repression in a globalized world. Her work has been published in top sociology venues, and has received several awards from the American Sociological Association. This is her first book.
The Arab Spring Abroad

Diaspora Activism against Authoritarian Regimes

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A Note on Transliteration

This book uses a simplified version of the 2012 Library of Congress style of transliteration for Arabic (www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/roman.html). Diacritical marks, such as macrons and underdots, have been omitted except for ‘ayn (‘) and hamza (’), when they appear in the middle of a word, e.g., Sana’a, Aden (rather than ‘Aden), Tha’er. Arabic plurals, both irregular and sound, are rendered simply with an “s.” Proper nouns with universally accepted English spellings are rendered accordingly.
Abbreviations

CT conflict transmission
FSA Free Syrian Army
ICC International Criminal Court
ICG International Crisis Group
ISIS Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham
LCC Local Coordination Committees (in Syria)
LETF Libyan Emergency Task Force
MENA Middle East and North Africa
NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NFSL National Front for the Salvation of Libya
NGO nongovernmental organization
SAC Syrian American Council
SNC Syrian National Council
TR transnational repression
UCI University of California, Irvine
UN United Nations
YCA Yemeni Community Association