

Think Tanks & Civil Societies Program

The Lauder Institute

*The University of Pennsylvania*

# **MENA Database and Query**

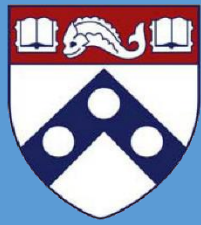
**Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program**

**Lauder Institute**

**University of Pennsylvania**

## Introduction

- The Middle East and North Africa Team of Summer 2017 attempted to create a database and query that would analyze the think tanks in their region and provide statistics and graphs.



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The screenshot displays a Java IDE with a project named 'TTCSP: MENA Data Query'. The main editor shows the 'Affiliations' class with the following code:

```
1 package field;
2
3 public class Affiliations {
4     private Affiliation[] list;
5
6     public Affiliations(Affiliation[] list){
7         if(list == null || list.length < 0){
8             Affiliation[] temp = {new Affiliation(null)};
9             this.list = temp;
10        }
11        this.list = list;
12    }
13
14    public int size(){
15        return list.length;
16    }
17
18    public Affiliation[] getAffi
19        return list;
20    }
21
22    public Affiliations(String s
23        if(string == null || str
24            Affiliation[] temp =
25            this.list = temp;
26            return;
27        }
28
29        String[] strs = string.s
30        int length = strs.length
31        Affiliation[] output = ne
32        for(int i= 0; i < length
33            output[i] = new Affi
34        }
35    }
```

The IDE also shows a 'Runner.java' file and a 'Console' window. A window titled 'TTCSP: MENA Data Query' is open, displaying a welcome message and the TTCSP logo.

Welcome to the Middle East and Northern Africa Think Tank database query. This program is only meant for use in the Think Tanks and Civil Society Program (TTCSP) of the University of Pennsylvania's Lauder Institute. If you wish to begin your query, please press the button below.

 **TTCSP**  
THINK TANKS AND CIVIL SOCIETIES PROGRAM  
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Begin!

## MENA Database and Query

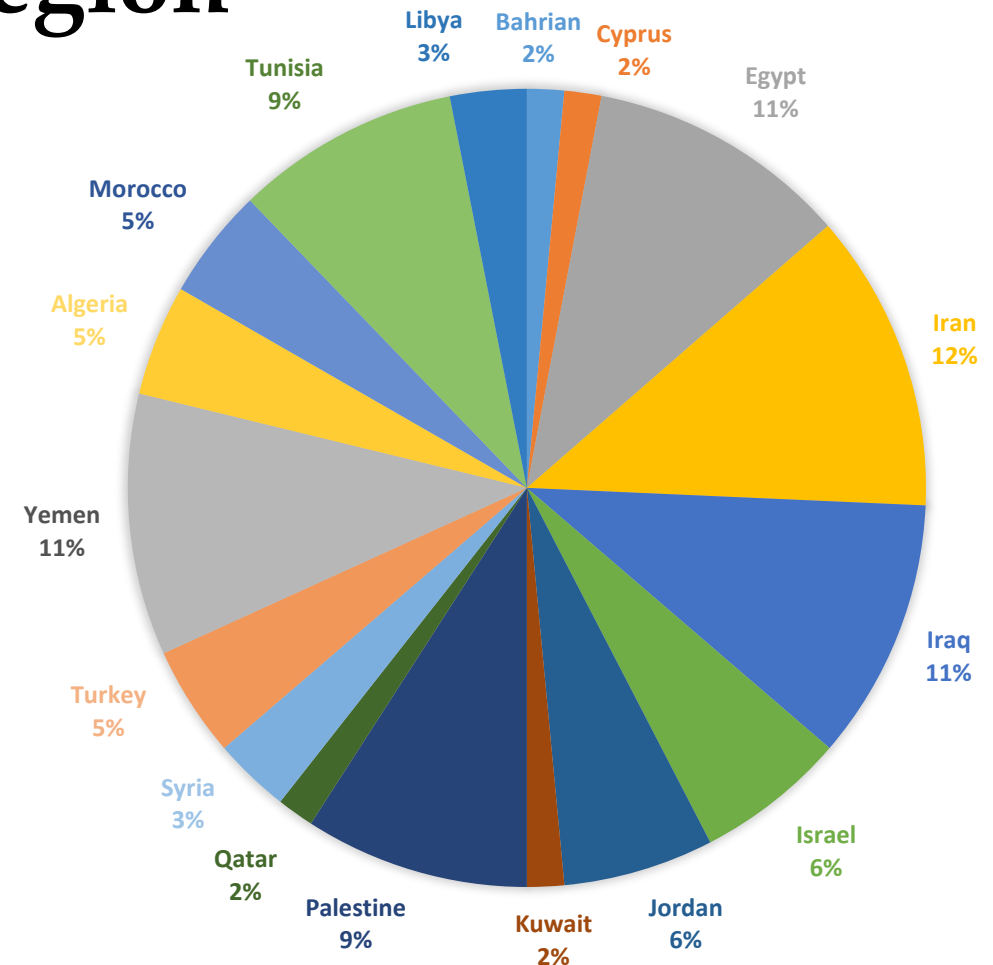
- Takes in a formatted .csv file with specific information from each think tank
- Creates a database of the aforementioned information
- Displays list of think tanks included in database
- Queries may be performed to search specific regions, or search for think tank ideologies or affiliations and provides counts for each

## MENA Database and Query

- I will provide three examples of queries the program was built to create.
- These charts were created by the MENA Research team manually. Although the program had the potential to create each one of these charts.

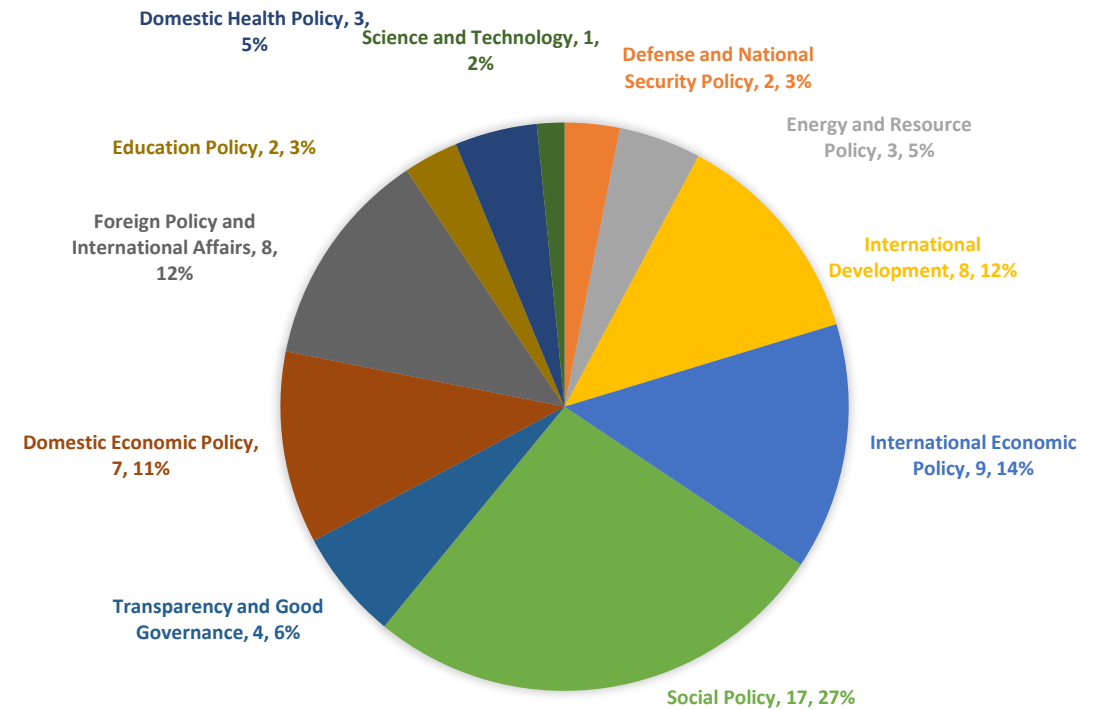
# Inactive Think Tanks in MENA Region

Example 1

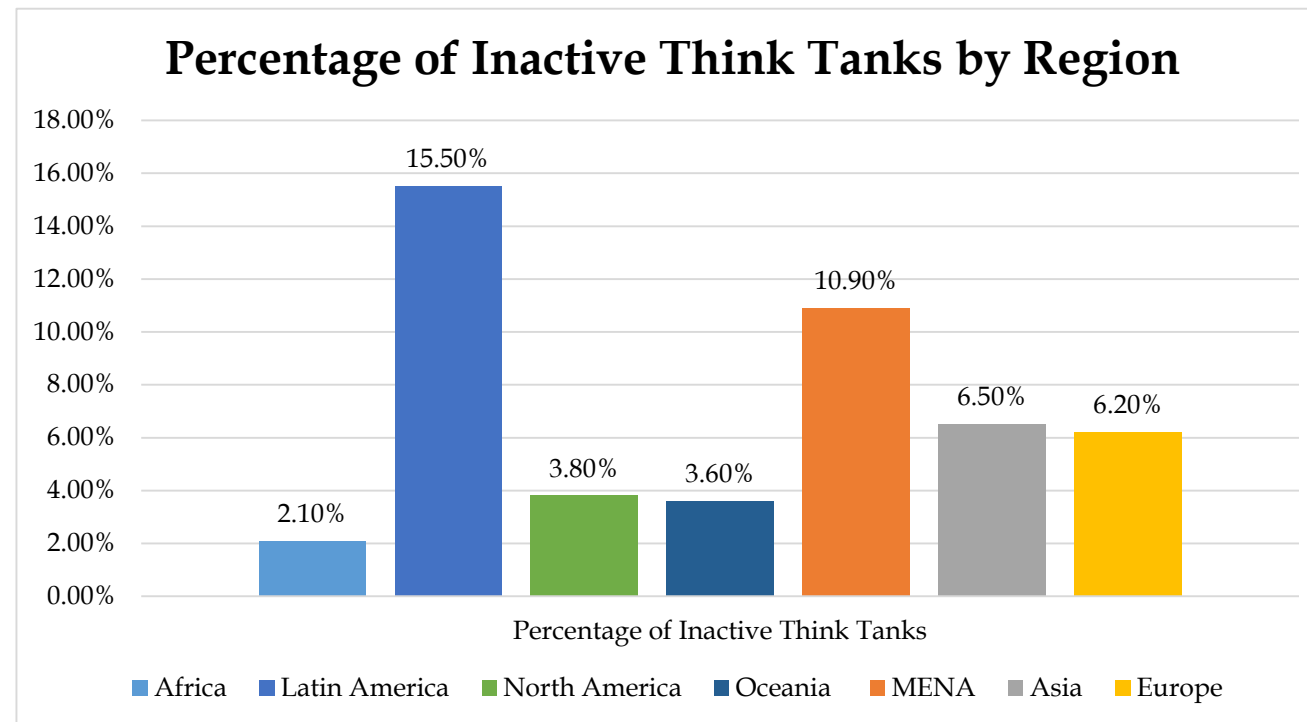


### Distribution of Think Tanks in North Africa by Area of Research

# North Africa

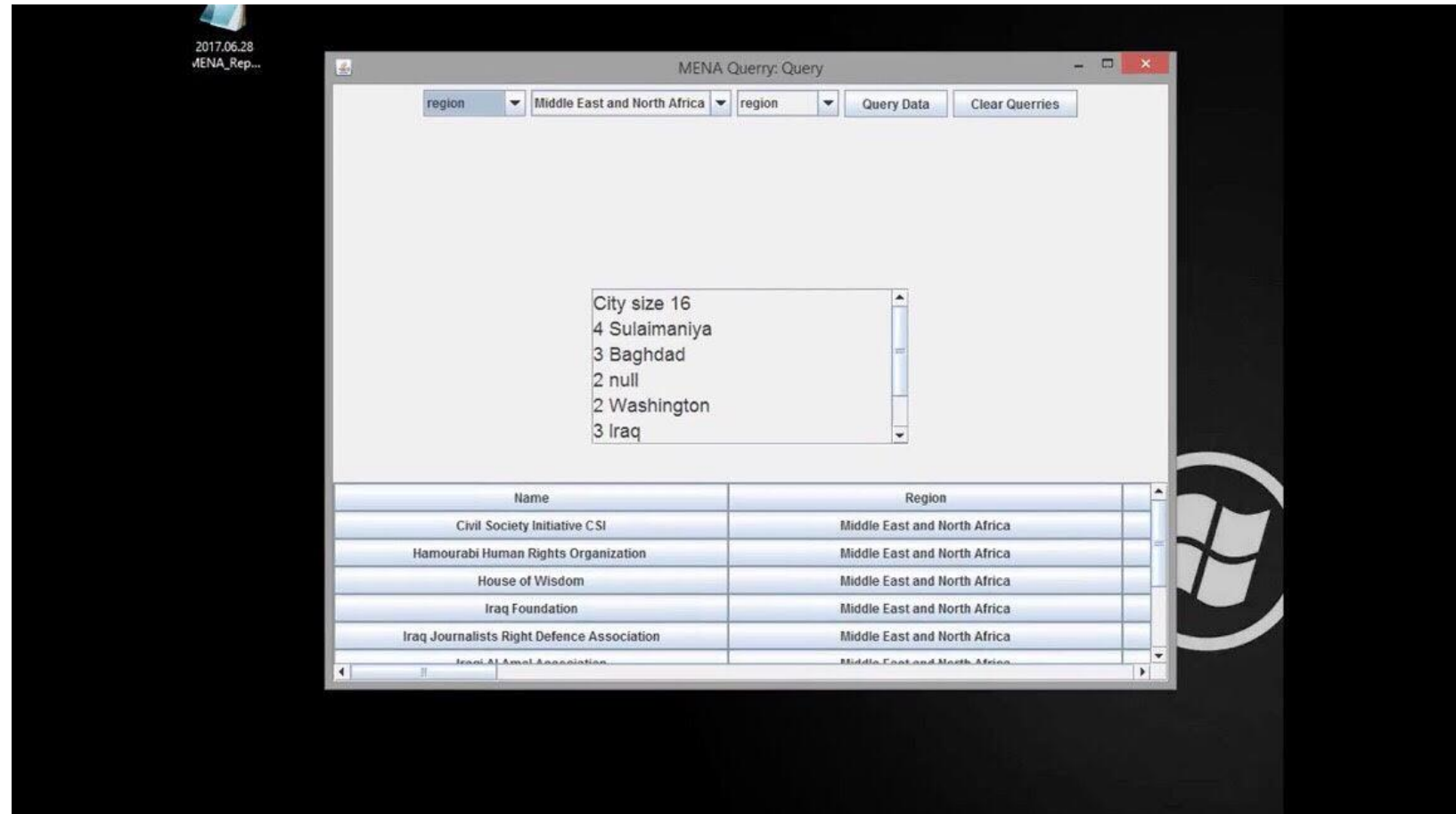


# Global Inactive Think Tanks





# Working Demo



The screenshot shows a software interface titled "MENA Query: Query". At the top, there are two dropdown menus for "region", both set to "Middle East and North Africa", and two buttons: "Query Data" and "Clear Queries". Below these, there is a list of items with a vertical scrollbar. The list contains the following items:

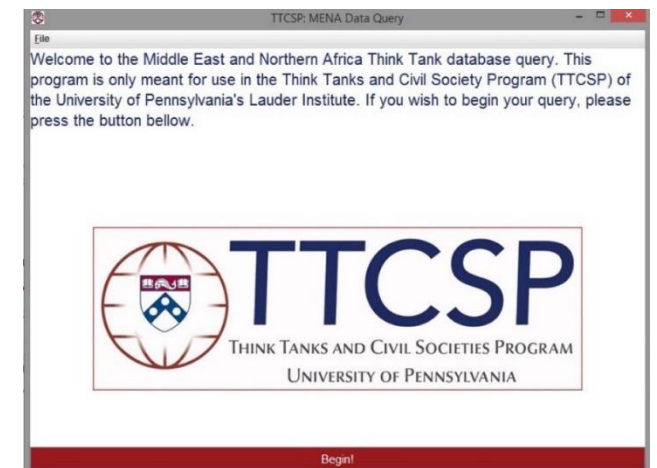
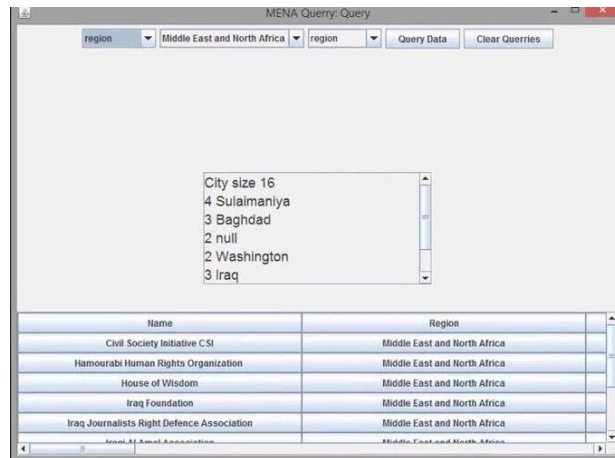
- City size 16
- 4 Sulaimaniya
- 3 Baghdad
- 2 null
- 2 Washington
- 3 Iraq

Below the list is a table with two columns: "Name" and "Region". The table contains the following data:

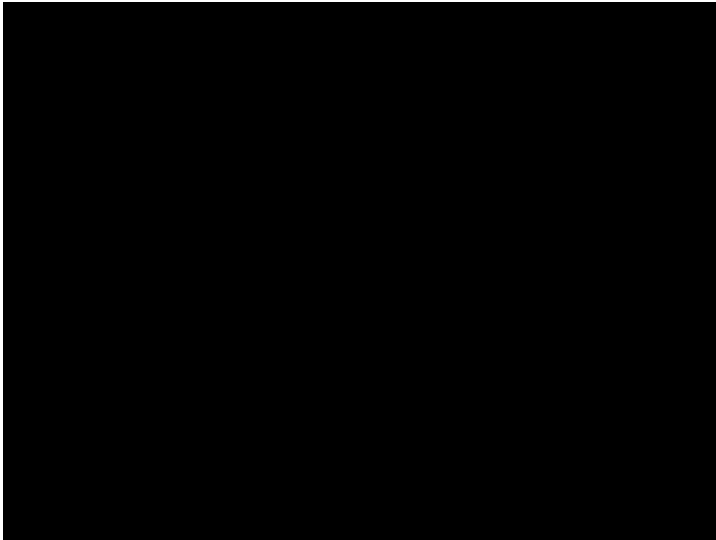
Name	Region
Civil Society Initiative CSI	Middle East and North Africa
Hamourabi Human Rights Organization	Middle East and North Africa
House of Wisdom	Middle East and North Africa
Iraq Foundation	Middle East and North Africa
Iraq Journalists Right Defence Association	Middle East and North Africa
Front Al Amel Association	Middle East and North Africa

## MENA Database and Query

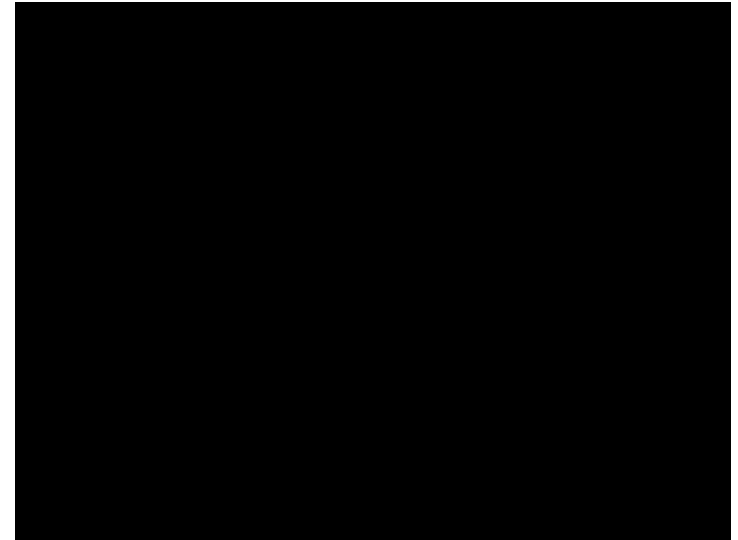
- Before development ended
  - The final program was in the process of being readjusted to look more visually appealing.
  - The program was being fed invalid data, so we were in the process of correcting it.



## Two Prototype Videos



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TwLmrtSFLKs>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZnbL5v1WViw>

## Provided Documents

- We have provided a copy of three versions of the program, and descriptions of each for further implementation.
- The working MENA Database and Query Program

Link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BxOx78K0xdqOZkN3U3BTc0JMMDQ/view>

## Advice for Completed Version

- A fully implemented version of this program might be able to be implemented on the SquareSpace site.
- Recommend contacting the Computer Science Department, and/or James Woolley for advice to implement a completed version.



## Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program Lauder Institute

# James Woolley

Knox College, 2018

Major: Computer Science, and History

Languages: French (elementary)

Computer Skills: C++, Java, Mathematica,  
Microsoft Office (Word, Excel,  
PowerPoint)

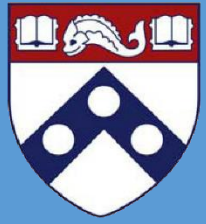
Email: [jgwoolley@knox.edu](mailto:jgwoolley@knox.edu),  
[jgw53824@bethel.edu](mailto:jgw53824@bethel.edu),  
[jamesxi.woolley@gmail.com](mailto:jamesxi.woolley@gmail.com)

James Woolley is a senior at Knox College in Galesburg Illinois, majoring in Computer Science and History. He has interest and background in German history from WWI to the end of the Cold War, the study of early Christianity, Middle Eastern Politics, and the foreign relations of the United States.

James Woolley worked as an intern to the president of the Foreign Policy Research Institute, Alan Luxenberg, to produce an article entitled "The Foreign Policy Views of Donald Trump" for their website. The article was written before the election, and examined what a Donald Trump presidency would mean to issues of U.S. foreign policy. Along with other students in the Computer Science department, James helped to produce a program for the head coach of the Knox College football team. This program parsed the NCAA Division 3 website to analyze every single play made by every team in the division for the past five years to determine the expected point values of fourth down plays. The team desires to have the conclusions of this research published in an academic sports journal by the end of the year. He is also working on his Honors Project in Social Generative Science to simulate religious and cultural interactions in the Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations.

Available for full time employment in summer 2018.





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