



Telebriefing:
POLITICAL EARTHQUAKE IN THE ARAB WORLD
February 23, 2011

Teleconference co-sponsored with the Peace and Security Funders Group

Speakers:

- [Judy Barsalou](#), Middle East and North Africa Representative, Ford Foundation (Cairo)
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Description:

In the past several weeks, an unprecedented wave of popular uprisings has swept the Middle East. Amid economic decline, rampant corruption, and oppressive rule, these uprisings have ended the 23-year reign of Tunisian dictator, Zine El Abedine Ben Ali, threatened to topple the autocratic regime of Hosni Mubarak in Egypt, and stirred calls for democratic reform, social justice and human rights elsewhere in the Middle East -- a region that, more than most, has long resisted democracy and the rule of law.

- How will these extraordinary challenges to entrenched authoritarian rule play out?
- What are the implications for broader issues of peace and security?
- What role can funders play in efforts to advance human rights, peace, and security in this hopeful but unstable (and uncertain) moment?

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