

Prof. Dr. Thomas Demmelhuber

Date of birth: 13.05.1980 in Passau (Germany)

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ACADEMIC CAREER AND DEGREES

2015 –	Visiting Professor at College of Europe, Natolin Campus
2015 –	Professor and Chairholder of Middle East Politics and Society at FAU, Institute of Political Science
2015	Interim evaluation (equivalent to “Habilitation”)
2012 – 2015	Assistant Professor of Political Science at Hildesheim University
2011	Visiting Professor at Cairo University
2008	Dr. phil. at FAU
2008 – 2012	Research Associate at FAU
2005 – 2008	PhD student at FAU
2005	Diploma/Master in Political Science and Middle East Studies at FAU
2000 – 2005	University Studies at FAU and University of California, Berkeley

MAIN RESEARCH AREAS

- Autocratization (e.g. transnational repression, authoritarian practices, non-material sources: affect and emotion studies) in MENA region and beyond
- Legitimacy/legitimation in autocratic regimes: policy fields sports, climate, culture et al.
- Technological transformation (digitalization, AI et al.) in MENA region and beyond
- International Actors in MENA and transregional entanglements (e.g. China’s BRI formats)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES IN ACADEMIA AND FOR THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

2026 –	Member of Scientific Advisory Board of Hannah Arendt Institute for Totalitarianism Studies (HAIT), Dresden
2024 –	Fellow of Bavarian Scientific Alliance for Peace, Conflict, and Security Research
2022 –	Member of Scientific Advisory Board of German Institute for Interna- tional and Security Affairs, Berlin (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, SWP)
2020 – 2026	Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Orient Institute Beirut (OIB)
2020 –	Member of Scientific Advisory Board of the Yemen Policy Center (YPC)
2020 –	Liaison lecturer of Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation at FAU
2018 – 2025	Board member and Hon. Secretary of the German Middle East Studies Association (DAVO)
2015 –	External reviewer in Tenure-Track Promotions at various universities in Germany and the MENA region
2012 –	Member in numerous selection committees (e.g. DAAD)

- 2009 – Consultant for federal ministries (e.g. BMZ, AA)
- 2009 – Reviewer for numerous international journals (e.g. Comparative Politics, Democratization) & funding bodies (e.g. DFG, SNF, AvH, DAAD, Leibniz)
- 2009 – 2018 Cash auditor for German Middle East Studies Association (DAVO)

AWARDS, HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2016 Visiting Fellow at GIGA Hamburg
- 2011 DAAD grant for visiting professorship at Cairo University
- 2009 Visiting Fellow at Gulf Research Center (GRC) in Dubai (UAE)
- 2009 Dissertation Prize awarded by German Middle East Studies Association
- 2006 – 2008 PhD scholarship awarded by Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation
- 2005 – 2008 Junior Fellow at Centre for European Integration Studies in Bonn

THIRD-PARTY RESEARCH FUNDING

Duration	Funding agency	Type of funding	Project title	Position within the project
2026 – 2031	DFG	Extension of RTG 2726	RTG 2726 "The Sentimental in Literature, Culture and Politics"	Principal Investigator (among 7 PIs)
2026 – 2032	DFG	EXC – Cluster of Excellence	Transforming Human Rights (EXC 3039)	Principal Investigator (among 25 PIs)
2022 – 2026	DFG	Research Grant	RTG 2726 "The Sentimental in Literature, Culture and Politics"	Principal Investigator (among 7 PIs)
2021 – 2023	Volkswagen Foundation	Research Grant	Global autocratic collaboration in times of COVID19	Principal Investigator (w/ Dr. Tobias Zumbrägel, CARPO Bonn and Dr. Julia Gurol, GIGA Hamburg)
2017 – 2021	DFG	Research Grant	Decentralization in the Arab World	Principal Investigator (w/ Prof. Dr. Roland Sturm, FAU)
2015 – 2018	DFG	Research Grant	Gravity Centres of Authoritarian Rule	Principal Investigator (w/ Prof. Dr. Marianne Kneuer, TU Dresden)
2012 – 2014	Fritz Thyssen	Conference Grant	Rethinking the Republic-Monarchy Gap in the Middle East	Principal Investigator (w/ Prof. Dr. Claudia Derichs and Prof. Dr. Russell Lucas (Berlin/Michigan)
2009 – 2012	Gerda Henkel	Research Grant	State, religion and political normativity	Principal Investigator (w/ Prof. Dr. Christoph Schumann †)