

# Egypt's electoral roller-coaster: Voting in times of political turmoil

*Joint workshop of the MLU's Oriental Institut (Arabic/Islamic Studies) and the Graduate School "Society and Culture in Motion".*

**Workshop and discussion with Hania Sobhy (FUB), Florian Kohstall (FUB), Daniele Cantini (MLU), Björn Bentlage (MLU).**



*Abbildung 1: al-ğazīra: 2015-12-02: "intihābāt miṣr bi-yawmihā al-aḥīr waṣṣ iqbāl ḍa'if."*

This year's parliamentary elections in Egypt ended in early December. They were barely noticed outside of the country even though they mark the end of a long transitional period that had begun with the Arab Spring in 2011. That period is now – after five tumultuous years of military rule, several elections and constitutions, dissolutions of parliament, and a popular coup against an elected Islamist president – coming to a close as the parliamentary elections usher in a newly assembled system under president al-Sisi. After the 2015 elections, Egypt will have a complete set of state powers for the first time since 2011. It is time to look back then, reflect on the events of the last years, and consider what may lie ahead. The workshop means to compare the muted elections of 2015 with the partly enthusiastic, partly embittered voting experiences in the years before, providing an opportunity to discuss the volatile meaning and import of elections in general and the prospects of Egypt in particular.

**Friday, December 18, 2015, 10.15-11.45 a.m., Mühlweg 15, SRI.**