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The transformation of science systems in the Middle East and North Africa

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Propositions

Belonging to the thesis

The Transformation of Science Systems in the Middle East and North Africa

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1. Geographical, cultural, and historical proximities but also cooperation programs contribute to explaining international scientific mobility flows from/to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) (Chapter 2).
2. Despite recent gender policies, men demonstrate higher scientific mobility, representation, research productivity, and seniority than women in MENA (Chapters 2 and 3), but the recently observed progress is promising.
3. Funding acknowledgments in scientific publications can be used to identify and characterize the main domestic and foreign funders but also to provide insights into trends in research funding (Chapter 4).
4. Scientometric data and indicators are used by research managers as ‘global standards’ to transform science systems through decision and policy making (Chapter 5).
5. The regional scientific literature available in the Arabic Citation Index represents diverse perspective, addresses local relevance and can be used in the context of a more inclusive research assessment (Chapter 6).
6. Changes in authors’ affiliations present rich information about scientific mobility, but it is still challenging to precisely determine different types of scientific mobility of researchers at scale.
7. Understanding the temporality of gender policies is a crucial element in studying gender differences in science.
8. Contextualizing funding acknowledgments with respect to research fields, employment, and collaboration is an important future step toward a better understanding of the role of funders in science.
9. ‘Global standards’ in research assessment need to be approached as dynamic elements.
10. Open science is key to encouraging societal actors to engage with science, democratize knowledge, and combat misinformation.
11. Many research integrity issues in science, stemming from the ‘publish or perish’ research culture, might have the potential to accelerate a shift to improved science systems.
12. Significant achievements are often the result of many small, incremental efforts and actions.