Simon Mabon Bio

Dr. Simon Mabon is Senior Lecturer in International Relations at Lancaster University where he directs the Richardson Institute. He holds a PhD in International Relations from the University of Leeds and is the director of the SEPAD Project, funded by Carnegie Corporation which looks at the impact of the rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran on the contemporary Middle East ([www.sepad.org.uk](http://www.sepad.org.uk)).

Mabon is the author of a number of books on the contemporary Middle East including: Saudi Arabia and Iran: Soft Power Rivalry in the Middle East(2013); Hezbollah: From Islamic Resistance to Government (2015); British Foreign Policy Since World War II (2017); The Origins of ISIS: The Collapse of Nations and Revolution in the Middle East (2017); Houses built on sand: Sectarianism, revolution and violence in the Middle East (2020); and The Struggle for Supremacy: Saudi Arabia and Iran (forthcoming). He has published in a range of Middle East and International Relations journals including: Review of International Studies; Middle East Journal; Middle East Policy; British Journal of Middle East Studies; Politics, Religion and Ideology; Third World Quarterly. He is the co-editor of a major new Middle Eastern book series.

In 2016-7 Mabon served as academic advisor to the House of Lords International Relations committee report into the UK’s relations with the Middle East. He regularly consults with governmental agencies and for international news outlets including the BBC, CNN, CNBC, Sky, Al Jazeera, Al Arabiyya, France 24, Deutsche Welle, and others. He tweets @drmabon.