

**Nicola Pratt**

***Embodying Geopolitics: Generations of Women's Activism in Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon* (University of California Press, 2020)**

When women took to the streets during the mass protests of the 'Arab Spring', the subject of feminism in the Middle East and North Africa returned to the international spotlight. In the subsequent years, countless commentators treated the region's gender inequality as a consequence of fundamentally cultural or religious problems. In so doing, they overlooked the specifically political nature of these women's activism. Moving beyond such culturalist accounts, this book turns to the relations of power in regional and international politics to understand women's struggles for their rights.

Based on over a hundred extensive personal narratives from women of different generations in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon, Nicola Pratt traces women's activism from national independence through to the Arab uprisings, arguing that activist women are critical geopolitical actors. Weaving together these personal accounts with the ongoing legacies of colonialism, *Embodying Geopolitics* demonstrates how the production and regulation of gender is integrally bound up with the exercise and organization of geopolitical power, with consequences for women's activism and its effects.

**About the author**

Nicola Pratt is a Reader in the Politics and International Studies Department at the University of Warwick and Vice President of BRISMES. She teaches and researches on the international politics of the Middle East, with a particular interest in feminist and decolonial approaches and a focus on 'politics from below.'