



JEAN-PIERRE FILIU
Sciences Po-Alliance Visiting Professor at Columbia University, Spring 2011

Jean-Pierre Filiu is the Alliance Visiting Professor at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs during the spring semester 2011. An historian and Associate Professor at Sciences Po since 2006, within the Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA), he has taught at the universities of Georgetown and Bir Zeit. Jean-Pierre Filiu specializes in contemporary Islam, with an emphasis on jihadi movements and Al-Qaeda, and on the multi-faceted adaptation of Islam to globalized modernity. Filiu published several books at Fayard, in France, including « *Mitterrand and Palestine* » (2005), « *The Boundaries of jihad* » (2006) and « *The nine lives of Al-Qaeda* » (2009). His « *Apocalypse in Islam* » (University of California Press, 2011) was awarded the main prize by the French History Convention. His works and articles have been translated in a dozen languages. He is currently writing a "History of Gaza".

Alliance Visiting Professorship Program

Open to faculty members from Columbia University, Ecole Polytechnique, Sciences Po and Université Paris I, the Alliance Visiting Professorship Program allows 6 faculty members every year to spend a semester as a visiting professor in one of the four partner universities.

Following Ghassan Salamé, Christophe Jaffrelot and Laurence Tubiana, Jean-Pierre Filiu is the fourth Alliance Visiting Professor from Sciences Po invited at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia.

COMPREHENSIVE MEDIA CLIPS

THE NEW YORK TIMES

[Syrian Crisis Tests the Mettle of Its Autocratic Ruler](#)

April 24, 2011 - In the past day or two, mixed signals have emerged about which path he will take. On the one hand, Mr. Assad has hinted at a willingness to enact greater reforms than those announced last week, when he officially lifted Syria's draconian emergency powers law. But there have been dark warnings of harsher repression as well. In Syria's notoriously opaque

political environment, it is impossible to tell which way the president is leaning. “This is the moment of truth for Bashar al-Assad,” said **Jean-Pierre Filiu, a visiting professor at Columbia University** who has written extensively on Syria. “He has potentially the ability to impose reforms on his own Baath Party, but has he the will to do so?”

THE MIDDLE EAST CHANNEL *in* FOREIGN POLICY

The second Arab renaissance

April 13, 2011 – Piece posted by Jean-Pierre Filiu - The democratic uprising is only beginning in the Arab world. It would be wrong to assess it based on either its initial breakthroughs in Tunisia and Egypt or from the various setbacks, betrayals, and splits it will undergo in many countries. This is a regional movement of popular *intifadas* that are both inclusive and nationalist, but each protest develops inside its own framework of post-colonial borders and within its specific context. ... **Jean-Pierre Filiu is a professor at the Sciences Po in Paris and a visiting professor at Columbia University** in New York. He is the author of *Apocalypse in Islam* (University of California Press, 2011).

NPR

Want Regime Change? Win Over The Military

April 1, 2011 – “When it's successful, as in Tunisia and Egypt, militaries are at the center, not because they're at the center of the revolution but because they see themselves as a separate institution upholding the national interest,” says **Jean-Pierre Filiu, a visiting professor of international and public affairs at Columbia University**. “As long as the ruler is identified by the military as the best embodiment of the national interest, he is fine. If not, they will topple him.”

L'EXPANSION

Le “printemps arabe” marque aussi la défaite d'Al-Qaida

April 1, 2011 – Entretien: Propos recueillis par Bernard Poulet. - Une vague de démocratisation parcourt le monde arabo-musulman. Si ses résultats sont incertains, ils montrent pourtant déjà que cette partie du monde n'est plus condamnée à l'alternative dictature laïque ou dictature islamiste, explique **l'historien Jean-Pierre Filiu, qui enseigne actuellement à la Columbia University**, d'où il observe aussi les débats américains.

O GLOBO

O segundo renascimento árabe

March 28, 2011 – Opinião – A rebelião democrática que o mundo árabe enfrenta ainda está no começo e, como todas as pulsões históricas, experimentará retrocessos, refluxos, traições e rupturas. ... **Jean-Pierre Filiu e historiador e professor das universidades Sciences Po (Paris) e Columbia (Nova York)**.

IL MULINO

La seconda rinascita araba

March 18, 2011 - L'insurrezione democratica che attraversa il mondo arabo non è che all'inizio e, come tutti i grandi rivolgimenti storici, conoscerà sconfitte, battute d'arresto, tradimenti e rotture. Non ci sarà un effetto domino tra movimenti che sono profondamente radicati nel proprio contesto specifico. La moderna e irresistibile rinascita cui stiamo assistendo, la vittoria di una

generazione determinata a riprendere in mano il proprio destino, porta in sé le promesse incompiute e l'energia emancipatrice della precedente, in arabo "Nahda", che si aprì con la spedizione di Bonaparte in Egitto e si concluse con la seconda guerra mondiale. ... **Jean-Pierre Filiu** è professore associato presso l'Istituto di studi politici di Parigi (**Sciences Po** – Medioriente).

THE ATLANTIC

[After Mideast Uprisings, Will the Arab League Finally Lead?](#)

March 16, 2011 - Whether or not this decision sets a precedent remains to be seen. **Jean-Pierre Filiu, a professor of Middle East studies at Columbia University and the Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po)**, noted, "It's the first time the League is accepting that one of its own members' sovereignty can be infringed," a development he sees as "enormous." If that's the case, its enormity should be balanced against a long history of existing as what Egyptian political commentator Mona el-Tahawy called "a totally discredited organization."

THE AMERICAN, The Enterprise Blog

[Revolutions Mean Hard Times for Al Qaeda](#)

March 11, 2011 - This may prove one of the most daunting challenges confronting al Qaeda now: how is the global jihadi network going to survive, in the near or distant future, the inevitable fall of Moammar Qaddafi? ... This tragic farce had an invaluable side-effect for the jihadis: it rejuvenated their big fantasy of global boogeyman, at a moment when the revolutionary movements in Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya are practically pushing al Qaeda to the limbos. ... nobody cares anymore in the Arab world about the jihadi statements, which find their main audience in the West. ... **Jean-Pierre Filiu is a professor at Sciences Po, Paris, and Columbia, New York, and author of "Apocalypse in Islam."**

LE MONDE

[L'intifada démocratique arabe est un mouvement de libération nationale](#)

March 10, 2011 - Point de vue - Le soulèvement démocratique qui traverse le monde arabe n'en est qu'à ses débuts et, comme toutes les grandes pulsions historiques, il connaîtra des revers, des reflux, des trahisons et des ruptures. ... Il n'y aura pas d'effet domino entre des mouvements qui sont, pour chacun d'entre eux, enracinés dans un contexte spécifique. ... **Jean-Pierre Filiu, professeur à Sciences Po, actuellement invité à Columbia.**

BLOG TALK RADIO

[Mad in the Middle: Libya What Did the US Do, What Should it Do Now?](#)

March 7, 2011 - Award winning journalist Gary Anthony Ramsay hosts "Mad in the Middle". This week we will talk about the crisis in Libya. Our Guest: Professor & author **Jean-Pierre Filiu**. What role did US policy play in the current drama? What should it do now and in the months to come as this civil war rages? The "left" and the "right" have waged war on each other and damaged the country leaving the rest "Mad in the Middle".

PUBLICO

[Como as revoltas árabes mataram a narrativa da Al-Qaeda](#)

March 6, 2011 - Pillar avisa que é "demasiado cedo" para proclamar o fim da Al-Qaeda, como fazem alguns analistas. "É uma derrota total para a Al-Qaeda, que em mais de 20 anos foi

incapaz de desestabilizar regimes que manifestantes desarmados derrubaram em poucas semanas na Tunísia e no Egipto", afirma, por seu turno, **Jean-Pierre Filiu, professor nas universidades Science Po (Paris) e Columbia (Nova Iorque).**

INFORMATION (DK)

[Demokratisk opstand er al-Qaedas farligste udfordring](#)

March 4, 2011 – »De unge i det Muslimske Broderskab støtter en moderne form for islamisme inspireret af den sekulære tyrkiske statsmodel,« siger den franske islamekspert **Jean-Pierre Filiu, professor ved Sciences Po i Paris**, til Information. Filiu forklarer: »Det egyptiske oppositionspartis konservative lederskab holdt sig i baggrunden under opstanden. Det var ungdomsorganisationen, der var med på barrikaderne, og de nu har taget initiativet til at gøre oprør mod Broderskabets ikke-valgte ledere.« De folkelige opstande er en katastrofe for al-Qaeda, der i 20 år har været ude af stand til destabilisere regimer, som det nu er lykkedes for ubevæbnede demonstranter at vælte i Tunesien og Egypten i løbet af nogle få uger,« siger professor **Filiu**... Det endelige resultat af de arabiske revolutioner kan ifølge **Jean-Pierre Filiu** blive en yderligere 'pakistanisering' af al-Qaeda... **Filiu** hører til optimisterne. Der eksisterer også en reel mulighed for, at regimeskift i arabiske lande fører til varig politisk ustabilitet, økonomisk kaos og en udbredt usikkerhed, som ekstremistiske islamiske grupper ville kunne udnytte til at gribe magten med voldelige midler.

EL PAIS

[La cadena de revoluciones arrolla a Al Qaeda](#)

March 3, 2011 - "Al Qaeda está totalmente superada por este mar de fondo que sumerge al mundo árabe", afirma **Jean-Pierre Filiu**, autor del libro *Las nueve vidas de Al Qaeda* (París, Fayard 2009). ... "El empuje democrático invalida todo lo que los yihadistas proponen y sus métodos de actuación", insiste Filiu, que ahora es profesor de la **Universidad de Columbia**.

NPR

[Tunisia Not Sudden Paradise After President's Ouster](#)

March 1, 2011 - The decision of Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to flee the country one month ago triggered protests throughout the region, ... Ben Ali had been "successful in eradicating the whole structure of the opposition," says **Jean-Pierre Filiu**, a visiting professor at the **Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs**. For that reason, Filiu says, Tunisia may be the perfect laboratory for an experiment in democratic transition, but it has no recipe for how to get there.

LA VOZ DEGALICIA.es

[«El movimiento democrático ha desestabilizado a Al Qaida»](#)

February 28, 2011 - «Al Qaida está totalmente superada por los movimiento democráticos en los países árabes, que invalidan todo lo que los yihadistas proponen y profesan», asegura el historiador y arabista Jean-Pierre Filiu (París, 1961). Profesor de **Ciencias Políticas en París**, actualmente es **profesor invitado en la Universidad de Columbia** (EE.UU.). Filiu, que está considerado uno de los mayores expertos del mundo en Al Qaida, responde a La Voz desde Nueva York.

LE MONDE

[Jean-Pierre Filiu : « Al-Qaïda est totalement dépassée par la lame de fond arabe »](#)

February 26, 2011 – Entretien – Les manifestants se sont mobilisés au nom de valeurs que les djihadistes récusent. **Jean-Pierre Filiu, professeur à Sciences Po**, est l'auteur de *La Véritable histoire d'Al-Qaïda* (Pluriel, 384 p., 9,50 euros). Que sait-on vraiment de la présence ou non de djihadistes dans ce pays ? La dénonciation de Ben Laden par M. Kadhafi serait dérisoire si elle n'intervenait pas dans un contexte aussi tragique. La Libye a certes été, en mars 1998, le premier Etat à émettre un mandat d'arrêt international contre le chef d'Al-Qaïda, à l'heure où peu de services de renseignement avaient pris la mesure de cette menace globale.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

[Uprisings Put al Qaeda on Sidelines](#)

February 23, 2011 - "It's not just a defeat. It's a catastrophe, the worst thing that has happened since al Qaeda was created," said **Jean-Pierre Filiu**, an expert on al Qaeda and affiliated groups at the University of **Sciences Po** in Paris. ... "It would have been better for them to shut up," said Mr. Filiu, the al Qaeda expert. "It's the first time al Qaeda's senior leadership has shown themselves to be so out of touch," he said.

THE RECORD, Columbia University

[Middle East Scholars Discuss Egypt's Democratic Uprising](#)

February 23, 2011 - The global economic crisis and a recent crackdown on dissent fueled the popular uprising that ousted Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak, according to a group of Middle East scholars who spoke at Columbia ... and **Jean-Pierre Filiu, the Alliance Visiting Professor at Columbia**, and a professor at Sciences Po in Paris. ... Filiu argued that the elements that caused the protests have been in place for some time. "I would say, 'Why didn't it happen before?'" he said. "We are witnessing the catch-up process."

MARIANNE2

[L'Amérique se passionne pour le Soulèvement arabe](#)

18 Février, 2011 - Jean-Pierre Filiu, Professeur à **Sciences-Po** et **professeur invité à l'université Columbia**, à New York. Pour lui, une grande partie des Etats-Unis, qui ne voyait jusque-là dans le monde arabe qu'une pépinière de terroristes, est amenée à revoir son analyse de l'islamisme.

SIPA NEWSLETTER

[Egypt Uprising: SIPA Expertise in the Spotlight](#)

February 15, 2011 - The breathtaking changes in Egypt come with a huge array of not only political and governmental, but also social and economic implications—and SIPA faculty are on top of them all. In addition to numerous media appearances, Professors **Jean-Pierre Filiu** and Rashid Khalidi participated in a panel discussion on February 10 hosted by **Columbia University's** Committee for Global Thought.

O GLOBO

['Vitória da paz é catástrofe para a al-Qaeda'](#)

February 14, 2011 - O historiador e cientista político francês **Jean-Pierre Filiu, professor visitante na Universidade de Columbia**, em Nova York, afirma que vitória de revoluções pacíficas e democráticas em países árabes como Egito e Tunísia é a derrota da al-Qaeda e do

movimento jihadista. ... Todas as coisas pelas quais os manifestantes lutam são anátema para os jihadistas: eleições livres, transparência, poder para o povo”, diz **Filiu**, autor dos livros “O apocalipse do Islã” e “As fronteiras da Jihad” ... “Ser minoria faz muito bem à cabeça e ao coração de gente que é um pouco rígida”, diz. **Professor do Instituto de Estudos Políticos de Paris**, Filiu, de 49 anos, viveu durante 20 anos no Oriente Médio. ... Filiu acredita que a “pedagogia do pluralismo” de uma coalizão será benéfica para a Irmandade Muçulmana. ... “O problema do debate sobre o Islã no Ocidente é ser tão marcado por clichês e preconceitos” ... “A comparação com a queda do Muro de Berlim não é válida; ali havia um comando central, a URSS”

PODCAST BUNKER

[For Your Ears Only - Podcast](#) – [text from the [University of California Press Blog](#)]

January 31, 2011 – Jean-Pierre Filiu, author of *Apocalypse in Islam*, was interviewed by For Your Ears Only on the ideology, technology, and diplomacy at play in the current demonstrations in Egypt. Filiu, a historian and Arab expert at the **Institute of Political Studies in Paris** and **currently a visiting professor at Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs**, speaks about the escalating conflict in Cairo and the potential for Facebook and other modern technologies to spur on the popular movement.

COLUMBIA NEWS

[Featured Experts](#)

Filiu, a historian and an arabist, is associate professor for Middle East Studies at Sciences Po (Paris) and **Alliance visiting professor at Columbia (SIPA)**. His *Apocalypse in Islam* (University of California Press, 2011) was awarded the main prize by the yearly French History Convention. His works and articles about contemporary Islam and the Arab world have been published in a dozen languages.

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