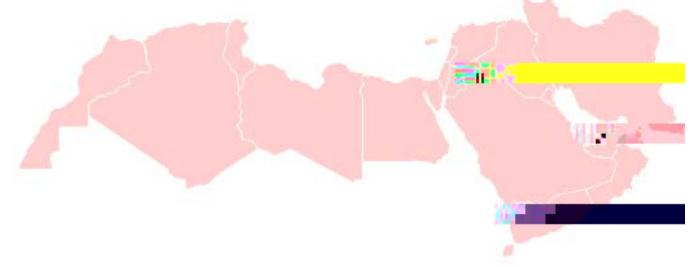
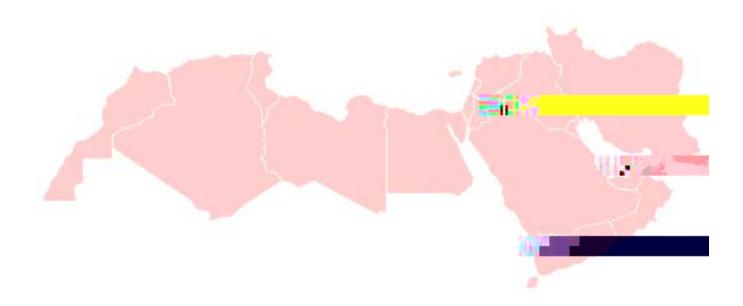
"An Egyptian court has upheld an earlier ruling to freeze the assets of three prominent rights activists, the latest chapter in a widening government crackdown against civil society groups. The verdict targeted Mozn Hassan and her organisation, Nazra for Feminist Studies, as well as Mohammed Zaraa and Atef Hafez, both of the Arab Organisation for Criminal Reform." (The Guardian)

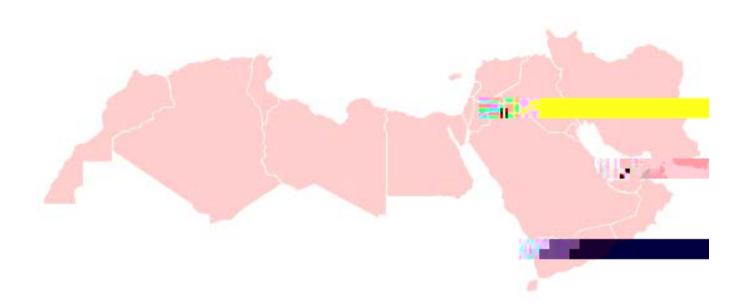
"...Despite the presence of such provisions, 99.3 percent of women in Egypt are reported to have been sexually harassed. Civil society has stepped in, encouraging women to speak up and urging men to take a stance. 'Even if we have the most progressive law and the most progressive policy in the world and people do not think of sexual harassment as a crime, then we are not really doing anything,' said





<sup>&</sup>quot;Near continuous violence, absence of government assistance and a social fabric that is spiralling out of control has made Iraq's women face some of the highest divorce rates in the world, as a frightening

"Despite the intense and sustained suffering experienced by Libyan people, political interests continue to be prioritized over their well-being and security. Libyan women and local communities are particularly at risk, but their involvement has been effectively excluded at almost every level, meaning decisions made at meetings like this one are unlikely to be effective. Individuals and front-line groups have repeatedly stated that they will not accept 'top-down solutions' 22p



Cairo. 'The initiative began with the intention of helping [women] find work opportunities. The idea was to teach [them] a dignified profession that could become a source of income for them in Egypt,' Hood told Al-Monitor." (Al-Monitor)

"A senior Tunisian official has strongly criticised French presidential candidate and former Prime Minister Manuel Valls for his remarks about the status of women in Tunisia. Anouar Gharbi warned of the 'growing French intervention in Tunisia's internal affairs' after Valls was reported as saying that women in the North African state 'are forced to wear hijab, like in Iran.'" (Middle East Monitor)

