

# **LIBRARY**

**LIBRARY  
OF CONGRESS**  
CAIRO OVERSEAS OFFICE

## **Opportunities & Challenges in Cooperative Acquisitions**

**MELCom International Conference  
May 16th, 2024**

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Field Director  
Cairo Overseas Office**

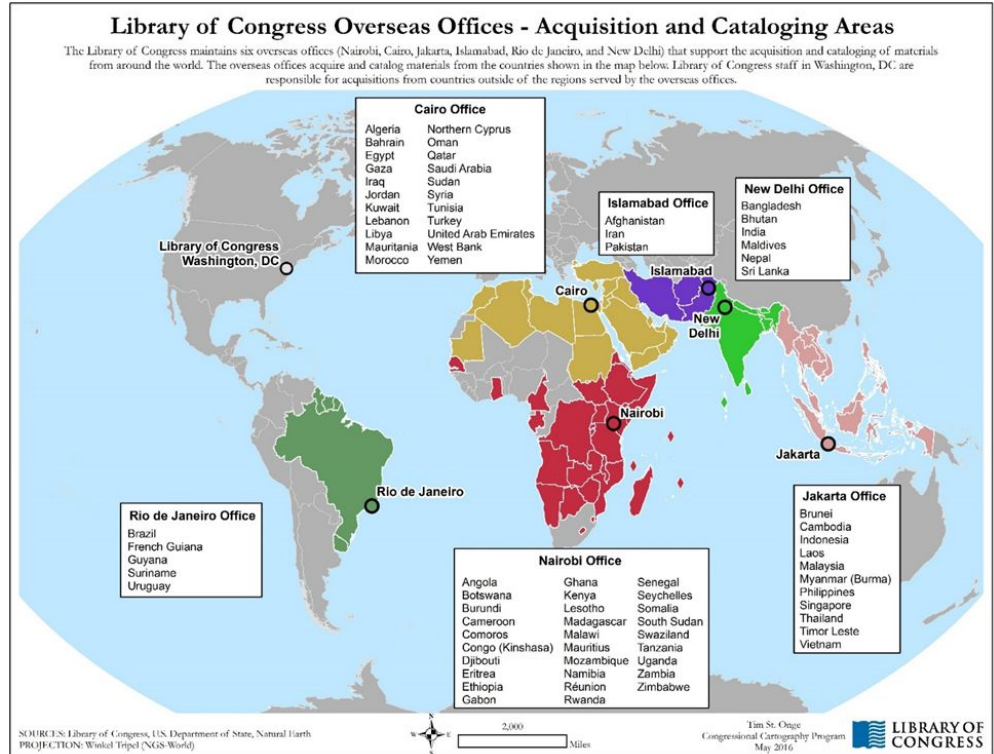


## Overview

Mission: "...to to acquire, catalog, preserve, and distribute library and research materials from countries where such materials are unavailable through conventional acquisitions methods."

Acquiring, cataloging, and processing Arabic, Turkish, Kurdish, Armenian, English, and French materials from over 22 countries.

Materials include monographs, serials, newspapers, & non-commercial materials in traditional and non-traditional formats.



## Middle East Cooperative Acquisitions Program (MECAP)

### Statistics at a Glance (2023)

**45** Active Participants

**10,630** Titles Made Available

**23,850** Monograph Pieces Acquired

**15,569** Serials Issues Acquired

Total: **39,419** Pieces

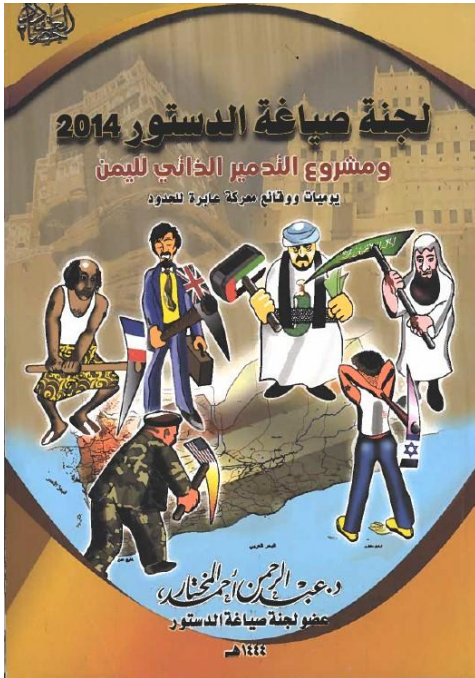


## Main Challenges

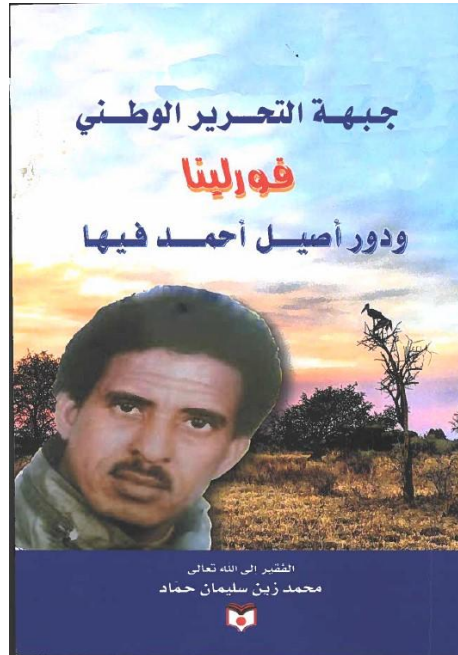
1. Regional Conflict and Instability
2. Publisher Presence at Book Fairs
3. Reduction in Number of Copies
4. Shipping and Logistics Issues
5. Irregularity of Subscriptions Acquisition



## Regional Conflict & Instability



Yemen

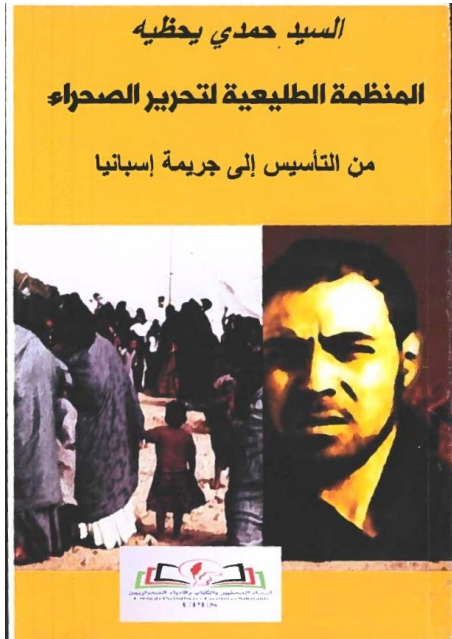


Sudan

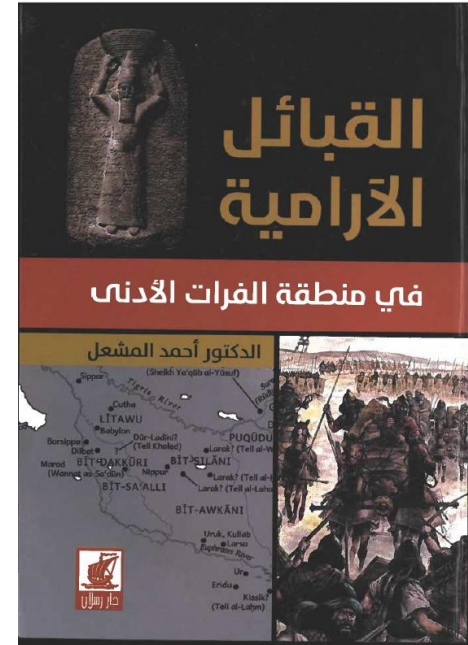


Palestine

## Publisher Presence at Books Fairs



Sahrawi books published in Algeria



Syria

# Reduction in Number of Copies



Kurdish Newspapers & Serials

**ԵՐԳԵՆԵԱ ԱՐԻՄՍԱԿԵԱՆ**

**ՅՈՒՇԵՐ ԳԱՂՈՒԹԱՀԱՅ ԿԵԱՆՔԻՑ**

Տեքստի կազմող, առաջաբանի և ծանօթագրությունների հեղինակ՝ ԱՐՇՈՒԻ ԲԱՄԶԻՆԵԱՆ

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**ՋԱՆԱԿԻ ՇԱԲԱԹԱԹԵՐ ԳԱԵՆՈՒՄՈՒԷ.**

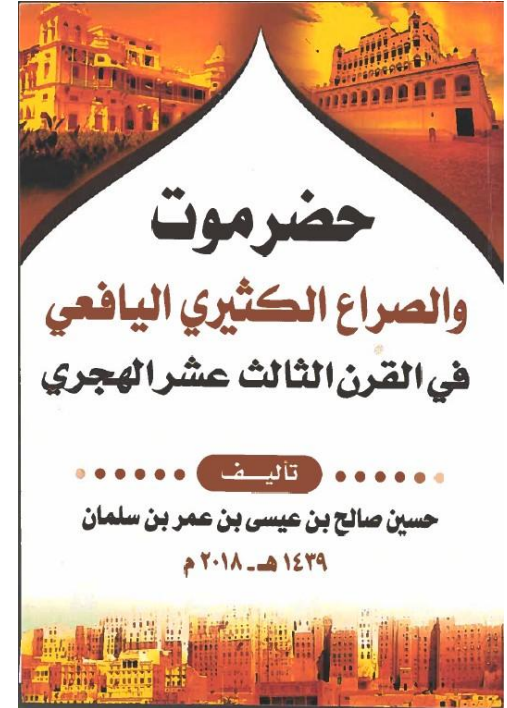
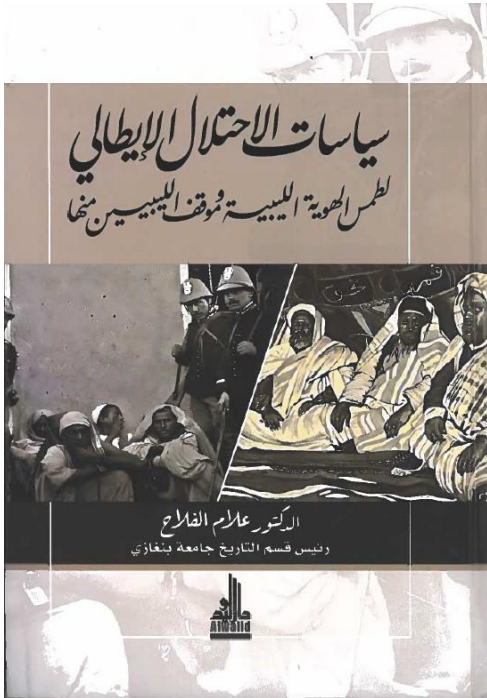
**ԳԱԶԻՐԷ**  
2019

Armenian Diaspora



Mauritania

## Shipping and Logistics





# Irregularities in Serial Subscriptions



2600 Active Serial titles  
acquired by LC

2340 Commercial  
260 Exchange

933 MECAP Serials  
subscriptions

2059 LC-only Serial titles

Selective list of 670  
commercial new and  
continuing titles



Yemeni Newspapers & Serials

## Conclusion: Benefits of Cooperative Acquisitions

1. Indicator of Availability
2. Reliability in Securing Copies
3. Building (Inter)National Collections and Consortia
4. Lower Costs Overall

