

Access to Knowledge in Egypt:

New Research on Intellectual Property,
Innovation and Development

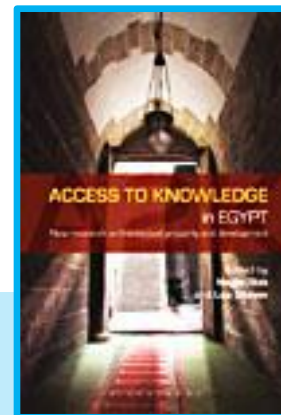
Edited by **NAGLA RIZK & LEA SHAVER**

'This is a "must read" for scholars and practitioners interested in economic development, cultural production, and access to knowledge.' - *Susan K. Sell, The George Washington University, USA*

THE EDITORS | Nagla Rizk is Associate Professor of Economics at the American University in Cairo, Egypt.

Lea Shaver is an Associate Research Scholar and Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School, USA.

THE BOOK | This book provides an overview of the challenges and opportunities facing efforts to promote access to knowledge. Combining both theoretical and empirical approaches, the work will be of interest to scholars and practitioners dealing with intellectual property and innovation the world over.



CONTENTS | Foreword | Access to Knowledge: Economic, Global and Local Perspectives | Egypt's Role in the A2K Movement: An Analysis of Positions and Policies | Access to Medicines In Egypt: A Human Rights Approach to IP, Trade and Health | Stories from Egypt's Music Industry: De Facto Commons as Alternatives to Copyright | The Software Industry In Egypt: What Role For Open Source? | Information and Communications Technology for Development: Building the Knowledge Society in Egypt

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'This volume is an important contribution to recovering a nuanced, contextually aware view of access to knowledge and global knowledge governance. Its detailed, careful studies provide a much more refined window on the world of innovation and creativity in Egypt than the standard models would permit. The essays Rizk and Shaver collect and author here contribute to our recovery of a deeper understanding of how the production of information, innovation, culture, and knowledge affects the core of human development and human rights.'

Yochai Benkler Jack N. and Lillian R. Berkman Professor of Entrepreneurial Legal Studies, Harvard Law School and faculty co-director, Berkman Center for Internet and Society

'Though its immediate focus is Egypt this book has a much wider relevance. It is essential reading for all those interested in the Access to Knowledge movement and the current debate about intellectual property rights and development worldwide. With chapters covering everything from the diplomatic history of the intellectual property "development agenda" to open source software, pharmaceutical innovation and the Egyptian music industry, the authors provide an indispensable guide to the questions facing intellectual property policy and economic development and do so with concrete examples in a particular, and fascinating, national context. The authors of each chapter are leaders in the field and the introduction is clear and comprehensive. Highly recommended.'

James Boyle William Neal Reynolds Professor of Law and co-founder of the Center for the Study of the Public Domain at Duke Law School

'This exceptional volume is an important new addition to the literature on access to knowledge. In each carefully researched and well-written chapter, it reveals Egypt's essential role in the global movement as well as the importance of access to knowledge in its culture and technology sectors.'

Michael Geist Canada Research Chair in Internet and E-Commerce Law at the University of Ottawa, faculty of law

'This book represents a critical first step in opening a multi-dimensional policy dialogue in Egypt on a subject of pivotal importance to social and economic development - enhancing access of citizens to information and the fruits of technical progress.'

Frederick M. Abbott Edward Ball Eminent Scholar Professor of International Law, Florida State University College of Law

'Access to Knowledge in Egypt is an outstanding example of the empirical, granular, multidisciplinary study of local laws, industries, and conditions required to understand how best to promote development and access to knowledge in the global South. The authors present lucid and illuminating analyses of Egypt's leading role in promoting a development agenda in the international intellectual property treaty regime and of Egypt's policies and markets in the areas of pharmaceuticals, the music industry, open source software, and information and communications technology. In so doing, this book at once cogently presents a cautionary tale against onesize-fits-all solutions and highlights the centrality of access to knowledge for economic well-being, innovation, and human liberty.'

Neil Netanel Professor of Law, UCLA School of Law