

# Review of: "State-led Development and Youth Unemployment in the Arab and non-Arab Countries"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

Youth unemployment is a significant topic in the Arab and non-Arab worlds and this study attempts to make a useful empirical contribution.

I believe the model and findings would be considerably enhanced if the following two modifications are made:

First, replace SLEAD with PUBINV, i.e. public investment as percentage of total investment, a better measure of state-led growth.

Second, add in a new independent variable FWTE, foreign workers as percentage of total employment.

I believe these modifications in the multiple regression model used would yield more robust findings, as they are better fit of the actual realities in the Arab, especially the Gulf, countries. The omission of foreign workers is a serious omission in the study in its present format.

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