# Contents

## Preface by the Publisher

## WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

- 1 Faith and Reason in Islam: Strategies in the Education of Muslim Communities
- 2 Jihad
- 3 The Takfir Syllogism
- 4 What is Islamism?
- 5 Sharia from a Secular Perspective

## SELF-IMAGE, THE OTHER AND BORDER-CROSSING

- 6 Owning the Future: Modern Arabs and Hamlet
- 7 Translation, Arabic and the Postmodern
- 8 Crossing Borders: Orientalism, Islamism and Postmodernism
- 9 What's in a Name?

### CIVIL SOCIETY AND ARAB REVOLT

- 10 The Concept of Civil Society in Relation to the 'Arab Spring'
- 11 Arab Nationalism, Islamism and the Arab Spring
- 12 Syria in Revolt

### SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER

- 13 Statement by 99 Syrian Intellectuals ("Charta 99")
- 14 Saving the Nonviolent Revolution in Syria: For a Credible Strategy
- 15 Syrian Writers, Artists, and Journalists Speak Out Against US and Russian Policy

### **CLOSING WORDS**

16 Goethe Medal 2015 Acceptance Speech