



Egyptian Program of Gabr Fellowship Concludes in Cairo (Information Statement 5)

After two weeks of an intensive program of discussions with leaders, seminars, debates and site visits in Cairo, Alexandria and Luxor, the Egyptian portion of the Gabr Fellowship concluded in Cairo on June 16, 2013.

The Gabr Fellowship, “East-West: The Art of Dialogue,” is an innovative global educational exchange for Egyptian and American early- and mid-career professionals. The initiative seeks to increase understanding and collaboration between Egyptian and American leaders in the areas of art, media, law, science and both social and business entrepreneurship.

The Egyptian program of the Gabr Fellowship took place from June 2-16 in Cairo, Alexandria and Luxor. The Gabr Fellows addressed a broad range of issues with Egyptian leaders in business, science, policy and law media and the arts, including former Minister of Antiquities Dr. Zahi Hawass, actor Hussein Fahmy, Egyptian fashion designer Amina Khalil, former Minister of Finance Dr. Samir Radwan, Interfaith Scholar Dr. Ali El Samman, as well as Muslim Brotherhood Members Dr. Osama Soliman and Dr. Mohamed Saad Tag El Din. The American program of the Gabr Fellowship will take place from October 19 – November 2 in Atlanta, Washington DC, New York, Yale University in New Haven and the Berkshires.

“The Gabr Fellowship has been an impactful and insightful experience that has not only opened a window into Egyptian life and politics but also a window into the special qualities that make for strong leaders in the time of turbulence,” said Leslie Lang, an American Gabr Fellow and Senior Vice President of Strategic Development at Microclinic International, a global health nonprofit.

Gabr Fellows from both countries have found common challenges and opportunities facing both the United States and Egypt. “I’m struck by the extent to which our two nations’ respective problems are similar, albeit to differing degrees,” remarked Christina Fallon, an American Gabr Fellow and an analyst at the Science Applications International Corporation in Washington DC. “In the same manner, there seems to be a common set of core values that the fellows bring to the dialogue.”

Moataz Hussein, an Egyptian Gabr Fellow and Senior Corporate Lawyer at Damac Properties Egypt, agrees: “After spending those amazing days with the American fellows, I can say now that the east is definitely meeting the west, not only physically, but through surprisingly common challenges as well. What we have to do now is to make this meeting fruitful through sustaining creative mutual action projects.”

The East-West: The Art of Dialogue initiative includes collaborative action projects by the Fellows to bring the experience of their bridge building program to their peers, communities and societies. The Action Projects are joint projects between two or more Egyptian and American fellows. The projects address issues facing Egypt and the United States while promoting further East-West dialogue. These projects will expand the impact of this visionary initiative. The Gabr Fellows will present their action projects at a special event in Washington DC in October.

For more information about the Fellowship please click [here](#). For full details of the Egyptian Program Schedule please follow this [link](#). The Gabr Fellowship is generously funded by the Shafik Gabr Foundation and organized by Humanity in Action.