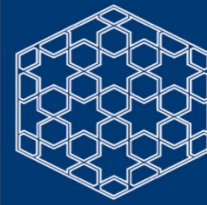




2017 FELLOWS AT THE ARAB LEAGUE



The
SHAFIK GABR
Foundation

The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter

OCTOBER 2017, Issue 3

IN THIS ISSUE

2017 Gabr Fellows have completed the Egypt program *After nine days (22nd – 30th September) of working sessions, high-level meetings with distinguished speakers, but also social events and cultural visits, this year's American Fellows return home with newly established friendships, valuable experiences, and anticipation of the US program starting on 22 October.*

It was a pleasure to host the 2017 Fellows in Egypt. The nine days that they spent in Cairo, Alexandria, Port Said and Ismailia were packed with inspiring meetings, and an impressive array of speakers and topics across the spectrum of business, military, politics, economics, media, entrepreneurship, culture, and technology.

As our previous Fellows know well and the current ones have now learnt, we here at the Foundation like to design a dynamic and busy itinerary which offers deep insights into all aspects of life in Egypt.

However, what is equally important, and what I was very pleased to see this year as well as in the previous ones, are the friendships that developed between the Fellows. I was happy to observe a growing sense of connection between the 2017 Cohort that shall last for years to come.

As we prepare for the upcoming US program, we share with you an insider's look into the Egypt trip and a preview of this month's US visit.

M. Shafik Gabr

▪ Gabr Fellows' News

- Read about the latest news and achievements of our Fellows

-Chairman Gabr receives the Policy Direction and Leadership Award from the London Center for Policy Research

▪ 2017 Fellowship Updates

-With the Egypt part of the 2017 Gabr Fellowship completed, see what our Fellows have been up to!

- Al Masry Al Youm CEO Abdel Latif El Menawy writes about the Gabr Fellowship

Preview of the 2017 US program – take a sneak peak at October's US trip

In Focus...

Basma El Baz (2015 Gabr Fellow) has a new article in the *Huffington Post* on drone strikes – read it here:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/trumps-license-to-kill-will-not-save-american-lives_us_59cc2098e4b0b99ee4a9ca40?ncid=engmodushpmgoooo004

Zeyad Elkelani awarded at Claremont Graduate University



Zeyad Elkelani (2014 Gabr Fellow) has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Outstanding Scholar 2016-17 at the Division of Politics and Economics at Claremont Graduate University. Zeyad won the award after only his first semester, for achieving excellent grades and being selected as Research Assistant for professor Jacek Kugler, a renowned name in the field of international relations at Claremont.

Moreover, Zeyad is the first Egyptian student to be awarded this acknowledgement in the history of CGU.

Ibrahim Hammouda Awarded by the Halaqet Wasl Organisation



Ibrahim Hammouda (2017 Gabr Fellow) has been honoured by the Halaqet Wasl (A ring of linking), a newly founded cultural organisation which honours successful writers and artists who positively represent Egypt abroad. "Without the Shafik Gabr Foundation, which gives me the opportunity to be part of building bridges, I would not have been eligible for this award," said Ibrahim.

Liz and Ismail celebrate their engagement



Having met during the 2015 Gabr Fellowship program, Liz Dent (2015 Gabr Fellow) and Mohamed Ismail (2015 Gabr Fellow) recently celebrated their engagement, and are planning the wedding in a year from now.

Mabrouk / Congratulations!

Chairman Shafik Gabr recognized by the London Center for Policy Research at the Fifth Annual American Liberty Award Dinner in New York



On 13 September, the London Center for Policy Research hosted its Fifth Annual American Liberty Award Dinner, where contributors to America's national security are recognized for their leadership in promoting and protecting the fundamental principles on which the US was founded.

At one of New York's most prestigious venues, the well-renowned Metropolitan Club on Fifth Avenue, Mr. M. Shafik Gabr was the first non-American to receive the Policy Direction and Leadership Award. In his acceptance speech, Mr. Gabr reiterated the need for face-to-face communication, leadership based on understanding, and the critical importance of America reinforcing relations with its strategic allies as key for proper policy. The evening, attracting over 200 distinguished guests, featured award acceptance speeches from Ms. Carly Fiorina, former CEO of Hewlett-Packard and 2017 Presidential Candidate; Dr. Henry Kissinger, former Secretary of State; Congressman Trent Franks (R-Arizona); and Mr. Robert McFarlane, former National Security Advisor to President Reagan.

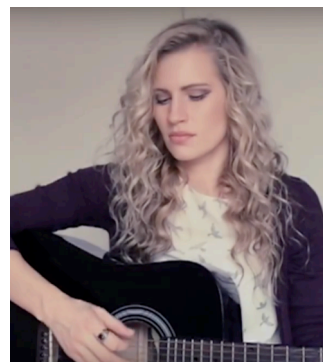
Alex Goldmark (2013 Gabr Fellow) wins Peabody Award

Alex and his team at National Public Radio (NPR) won the prestigious Peabody Award for a special series that exposed retaliatory wrongdoings by Wells Fargo and their sales culture that pushed workers to commit fraud. The Peabody Award honours the most powerful and invigorating stories in television, radio, and online media.

Listen to the award-winning series here:

<http://www.npr.org/series/508986161/investigating-the-wells-fargo-scandal>

Heidi Green (2016 Gabr Fellow) sings a song about politics by the Egyptian band Cairokee in Arabic:



"It has been an opportunity to have a dialogue with more Egyptians online about social issues in both countries", says Heidi. Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgGkhoLMzYE>

2017 Gabr Fellows Complete their Egypt trip – take a look at what they have been up to...



2017 Gabr Fellows with Egypt's Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Minister Sameh Shoukry (left), and with AUC President, Ambassador Francis Ricciardone (right).



The 2017 Gabr Fellows have finished the Egypt part of the Fellowship program, after nine days of intense meetings, roundtables, and discussions with an array of distinguished guests and speakers.

The very first day the Fellows arrived to Cairo, they were treated to a panel discussion entitled *Overview of the Middle East* which featured as its distinguished guest speakers **Dr. Mohamed Kamal**, Professor of Political Science at the American University in Cairo; **Dr. May El Batran**, Member of Parliament and CEO at TMA Education; and **Mr. Karim Darwish**, Member of Parliament and Deputy Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

During the Fellows' stay in Egypt, sessions were held for them on various aspects of politics, security, history, religion and diplomacy, including visiting the Egyptian Ministry of Defense with **Major General Mohamed El Kishky**, Deputy Minister of Defense for Foreign Affairs; a discussion with **Ambassador Karim Haggag**, Former Deputy Director of the Egyptian Institute of Diplomatic Studies; discussion with **Dr. Mona Makram Ebeid**, 2013 Senator and Distinguished Lecturer of Political Science at the AUC; a discussion with **H.E. Ambassador Mohamed Anis Salem**, the Head of Development Works; and a session with **Dr. Dalia Youssef**, Member of Parliament and Foreign Relations Committee. They also had a visit and tour of the Arab League and a discussion with **Ambassador Hussam Zaki**, Assistant Secretary-General of the Arab League; they met with **Ambassador Mohamed El Orabi**, Member of Parliament and Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, **Ambassador Thomas H. Goldberger**, Chargé d' Affaires at the US Embassy in Cairo; and **Dr. Hossam Badrawi**, Politician and former Secretary General of NDP and activist. The Fellows had a special meeting at the General Intelligence Services, where they had a session on Egypt-US Bilateral Relations. They finished the Egypt trip in an impressive way – meeting with Egypt's Minister of Foreign Affairs, **H.E. Minister Sameh Shoukry**, who held a session entitled *Status Quo of the Middle East*.

There was also room for talks about business and economics, with **Dr. Noha Bakr**, Political Science Professor at the American University in Cairo (AUC) and former Deputy Minister of International Cooperation; **Mr. Hisham El Khazindar**, the Co-Founder and Managing Director of Qalaa Holdings; **Mr. Hisham Ezz El Arab**, the Chairman and Managing Director of CIB Bank and the Chairman of the Banking Federation; **Mr. Ahmed El Alfi**, Founder and Chairman of Flat6Labs; and **Mr. Youssef AL Shorafy**, CEO of Omega Capital.



2017 Fellows with Mr. Hussein Fahmy (left) and at the Roman Theatre in Alexandria (right).

Since education and culture are foundations of our society, we have not forgotten their role and importance, so the team visited The American University in Cairo (AUC), where they met **Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone**, President of the University, and **Dr. Hafez El Mirazi**, Professor of Practice at the Department of Journalism & Mass Communications. The Fellows went to the Library of Alexandria, where they met **Dr. Moustafa El Feki**, Bibliotheca Alexandrina Executive Director. Their sessions with **Dr. Ismail Serageldin**, former Bibliotheca Alexandrina Executive Director, and **Mr. Hussein Fahmy**, famous actor and Global Ambassador to the Special Olympics, were very interactive. The 2017 Gabr Fellows have visited Al Azhar, where they met with **Ambassador Abderahman Mousa**, the Advisor of the Grand Imam, and **His Grace Anba Youannes**, Bishop of Assiut, Selim Coast, Elbadary and all its belongings at the Saint Mark Cathedral premises.

In addition to these intense meetings, the 2017 Gabr Fellows had the opportunity to visit the Giza Pyramids, the Religious Complex of Old Cairo, and they also enjoyed a tour of Alexandria. The Fellows had a Felucca dinner on the river Nile, and they visited the Suez Canal Authority, where they were treated to an afternoon of guided tours and lectures on the various aspects of the Suez Canal and its importance.

The Fellows were specially honoured at the Fifth Annual *East-West: the Art of Dialogue* Dinner Reception hosted by **Mr. M. Shafik Gabr**. Mr Gabr introduced the Fellows to a number of distinguished guests, ranging from politicians and Members of Parliament, to businesspeople, economists, and leading figures in culture, media and technology.

After the intense but rewarding Egypt program, the 2017 Gabr Fellows are actively preparing for the US portion of the Fellowship, which shall take place 21st – 28th October in New York, New Jersey and Washington, DC.



2017 Gabr Fellows at the Giza Pyramids



Gabr Fellows with Mr M. Shafik Gabr at the Fifth Annual East-West: the Art of Dialogue Dinner Reception



Gabr Fellows with Mr Ahmed El Alfi

A Serious Attempt to Address the lost “Art of Dialogue” Between the East and the West

by Abdel Latif El Menawy, CEO of *Al Masry Al Youm*

Mr Abdel Latif El Menawy, CEO of one of the most read newspapers in Egypt, unfortunately had to cancel his session with the 2017 Gabr Fellows due to last-minute business travel plans, but he made sure that his support for the Shafik Gabr Foundation and its *East-West: the Art of Dialogue* Initiative is publicly known. The following article was published on 28th September in *Al Masry Al Youm*:

Building bridges of communication and dialogue between the East and the West remain one of the most pressing human challenges. Numerous times in history, one side tried to dominate the other. However, certain individuals also tried to practice globalization even before the invention of the term. The Orientalists were the “first globalists” and the real bridges of understanding.

Before I proceed, I restore the rights of the term “First Globalists” to its owner! Shafik Gabr, a well-known businessman, who not only followed the work of the Orientalists and collected them but also tried to follow their own path. Hence his important and interesting adventure, which, despite its importance, unfortunately did not receive sufficient official Egyptian attention.

The *East-West: Art of Dialogue* Initiative may not be all that is required to build the dialogue between the East and the West, but it is a courageous step in starting and developing this dialogue.

This Initiative was inspired by the Orientalist painters to whom Shafik Gabr was attracted, and the Initiative came in response to the growing awareness of the great importance of strengthening East-West relations and focusing on building bridges of understanding and cooperation.

I like the name of the Initiative *East and West: the Art of Dialogue*. Indeed, what we lack is not only the dialogue, but basically the absence of “art” in managing this dialogue as well.

The *East-West: Art of Dialogue* aims at rebuilding bridges between East and West through a continuous exchange program that targets linking and building constructive relationships between future leaders from the Arab world and the West. The Initiative’s program - known as the Gabr Fellowship - aims to build stronger US-Egypt relations through intercultural dialogue and collaborative project development, which is the result of shared visions of young people involved in the Initiative.

Each year, the Initiative consists of 20-24 participants of which 10 Americans and 10 Egyptians, with equal distribution of men and women. Participants spend one week in Egypt, followed by one more week in the United States, and continue to build lasting relationships through hands-on activities, participation in discussions, web-based interaction

and, most importantly, their collaborative work projects.

When Shafik Gabr launched his initiative about five years ago in Washington, DC, I was there, in the famous Metropolitan Museum on a spectacular Egyptian night, and with high-level Americans in attendance, and great cultural and diplomatic presence. The idea was very positive and well-received. Gabr’s enthusiasm for the Initiative did not stop since he started, but he treated it all the time as a major priority among his work, his connections, and even his struggles.

It was thoroughly deserving and not surprising that Shafik Gabr was honored last month by the London Center for Policy Research, a well-known think tank on foreign policy and US national security. The London Center has over the past five years recognized contributors who promote understanding and Shafik Gabr received the prestigious American Liberty Award (for the first time granted to a non-American) for his efforts to build bridges on the basis of mutual benefit with countries of critical importance to the United States.

Circumstances prevented me from participating in this important initiative twice, and I am saddened by that, but I intend not to miss this opportunity again.

A brief look into what awaits the 2017 Fellows in the US....

Coexistence and Tolerance in Turbulent Times

with **Dr. Jonathan Golden**, CRCC
Director at Drew University

Building a Stronger Strategic US-Egypt Relationship

with **Ambassador David Satterfield**, Principal Deputy
Assistant Secretary of State for the
Middle East

Today's Financial World: What Comes Next?

with **Mr. Brian Pfeifler**, Managing
Director at Morgan Stanley

Art as an Engine for Innovation and Progress

with **Mr. Keith Lieberthal**, Senior
Director, Lincoln Center
International

Financial Journalism in the United States

with **Mr. Brian Sullivan**, Co-Host at
NBC

Advanced US-Egypt Military Relations Under the Current Administration

with **Brigadier General Joseph Rank**, Principal Director to the
Deputy Assistant Secretary of
Defense for Middle East Policy

Discussion on Iran, 2017 US Elections, US MENA Policy and US Economy

with **Mr. Herb London**, President of
the London Center for Policy
Research

Recurring Motifs in Orientalist Art and Intercultural Understanding Through Art

with **Dr. Mary Morton**, Curator of
French Paintings, National Gallery
of Art

Meeting with **Ambassador Thomas Pickering**, Chair of
US/Middle East Project

Communicating Across National and Cultural Divides

with **Dr. Aaron Lobel**, Founder and
President of America Abroad Media

The Dawn of Egyptian Art and Ancient Artifacts

with **Dr. Diana Patch**, Curator of
Egypt at the Metropolitan Museum
of Art

Plus meetings with various
Members of Senate and
Representatives of the House, and
other high-level speakers

For more information on the Shafik Gabr Foundation and its *East-West: the Art of Dialogue* Initiative, please visit the website <https://eastwestdialogue.org/>. For earlier itineraries of the US program, please see the previous years' reports at <https://eastwestdialogue.org/fellowship/brochures/>

The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter



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