



2017 GABR FELLOWS WITH MS. FRANCES TOWNSEND IN WASHINGTON, DC

The American Fellows will arrive in Egypt on August 31st for the start of a life-changing opportunity. They will not only cement friendships and working partnerships with their Egyptian peers, but they will also have the chance to explore the state of the US-Egypt bilateral relationship, the role that both countries can play in facilitating peace in the region, and the key areas of mutual cooperation. These young leaders from both countries represent the best of what the future holds for the East and West. Regardless of differences in educational background or industry, all members of the 2018 cohort are committed to building a more equitable and peaceful world that celebrates difference and advances common ground.

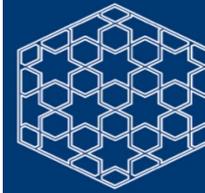
During the Egyptian portion of the 2018 Fellowship, the Fellows will engage not only with Fellows from past years who are in the process of advancing their careers and becoming leaders in their field, but also meet with key stakeholders in government, business, finance, tech and more.

The 2018 Fellows will be addressed by a number of impressive leaders, including but not limited to, the Deputy Minister of Defense for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Tourism, the President of the American University in Cairo, members of Parliament, and the Assistant Secretary General of the Arab League.

I am looking forward to welcoming this latest cohort to Egypt as they begin their journey to become intercultural ambassadors for dialogue and engagement. I am confident that each and every one of these Fellows will make the world a better place for us all.

I am pleased to share with you the latest edition of the Gabr Foundation Newsletter, which highlights the remarkable achievements of the Fellowship community. I hope you enjoy and continue to stay engaged as we launch the 2018 program.

M. Shafik Gabr



The
SHAFIK GABR
Foundation

The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter

September 2018, Issue 14

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News and Updates...

Sarah Hesham Meets with Petroleum Sector Officials



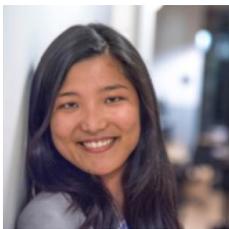
Sarah Hesham (2017 Gabr Fellow) received an invitation to meet with Egypt's Petroleum Minister and other petroleum sector officials. The meeting was held to review the Ministry's vision on modernizing the sector. Young professionals in attendance who also participated in the Presidential Leadership Program took part in an open discussion with the Minister and touched on ways they could help modernize the sector in order to facilitate greater investment and development in the industry. Congratulations Sarah on this recognition and achievement.

Jack Gordon Launches Radio Show



Jack Gordon (2017 Gabr Fellow) has launched a new radio show *Interfaith-ish*, which features conversations about what people believe, how they believe, and how to navigate common ground and differences between religious traditions. The show airs bi-weekly on Wednesdays from 9am-10am EST and can be accessed on Takoma Radio (WOWD 94.3FM). Listeners can also stream online at takomaradio.org and other streaming sites like iTunes, SoundCloud, and Stitcher.

Katherine Tan Transitions to New Job



Katherine Tan (2016 Gabr Fellow) has accepted a new role as a Program Officer for Development Banking Solutions at the Gates Foundation in Washington, DC. Katherine has worked at the Millennium Challenge Corporation since 2015, focusing on finance investment and trade. Katherine will begin her new role in September.

Abdelrahman Amr Joins the 18th Asian Games



Abdelrahman Amr (2017 Gabr Fellow) is currently in Jakarta, Indonesia working with the Indonesian Asian Games 2018 Organizing Committee as part of the research and data analysis team for the 18th Asian Games. The games are held from August 18th- September 2nd in Jakarta and Palembang. The first Asian Games were held in India in 1951. Athletes compete in 48 different type of sports and 46 countries are represented.

Jeff Walls Welcomes a Daughter



Jeff Walls (2013 Gabr Fellow) and his wife welcomed their first child, a daughter named Lucy, on August 11th. He also recently finished a project with PATH, a global health non-governmental organization to redesign their identity, website, and user experience strategy. The Foundation is happy to welcome the newest member of the Gabr Fellowship community.

Michael Goff is Getting Married



Michael Goff (2014 Gabr Fellows) is getting married on August 30th to Viktoria Utkina. Michael currently serves as an Energy Analyst at the Breakthrough Institute in Oakland, California, where he focuses on the quantitative analysis of energy. He previously served as a cofounder of Urban Cruise Ship, a research and consulting firm that worked on projects related to energy systems, and as an Assistant Professor and researcher at Vanderbilt University.

Egyptian Fellows Gather for a Meeting in Cairo



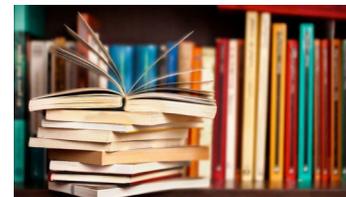
On Wednesday August 15th, **Chairman M. Shafik Gabr** met with new and previous Gabr Fellows. During the meeting he spoke about the importance of building bridges between cultures, the power of knowledge, and the values of success. Meeting attendees also discussed the importance of supporting and advocating for a stronger US-Egypt bilateral relationship, and how the incoming class of Fellows can make the most of their experience, by using this Fellowship as a platform for ongoing personal and professional development. Mr. Gabr reiterated the importance of networking and building sustained relationships among the Fellowship cohorts and beyond. Fellows from previous years also shared their recent success stories and how they have used the Fellowship opportunity to grow as intercultural ambassadors for dialogue and exchange. This was a great opportunity for past and present Fellowship cohorts to meet and engage with one another before the start of the program.

The Foundation Makes its Egypt Fellows Selection



With the launch of the first portion of the Fellowship program, the Foundation is pleased to announce the selection of the Egyptian Fellows. These Fellows are all passionate about building a more equitable and peaceful world and look forward to building lasting friendships with their peers from the United States. The Fellows represent a variety of industries and institutions, including Ashoka, the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNICEF, the National Center for Middle East Studies, USAID SEED, and more. The interview process was intensive and included interviews and action project proposals. The Fellows' profiles are presented in this newsletter in greater detail. Please visit the website for more details on their biographies, areas of interest, and the Fellowship schedule!

Gabr Foundation Reading Corner



The Foundation Reading Corner is encouraging Fellows to critique the books that have been recommended over the past many issues. For this issue, Mr. Gabr recommends *World Order* by former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and *Startup Rising: The Entrepreneurial Revolution Remaking the Middle East* by Chris Schroeder, a US-based entrepreneur and venture investor.

Question of the Month: A Pulse of the Gabr Fellowship Community



As the Gabr Fellows enter into leadership roles — in business, diplomacy, government, finance, and more— they will continue to grapple with significant challenges, magnified by an increased pace in technological advancement, the potential for ramped up global inequalities, and changes in governance and economic structures.

To better understand the pulse of the Gabr Fellowship community and to begin to articulate substantive dialogue, the Foundation polls the Fellows each month on the key issues facing their respective countries and the global community at large.

Question 1: Do you agree with President Trump’s decision to revoke security clearances from people tied to the Mueller investigation?

Yes: 0% of respondents

No: 100% of respondents

I don’t know: 0% of respondents

Question 2: Do you think the tariffs on aluminum and steel from Turkey will lead to a positive or negative outcome?

Positive: 0% of respondents

Negative: 68% of respondents

I don’t know: 32% of respondents

Question 3: Do you think Tesla should make the move to become a private company?

Yes 25% of respondents

No: 32% of respondents

I don’t know: 43% of respondents

Stay tuned for next month’s question of the month and the Gabr Fellows’ takes on current events, as our community of future leaders grapple with the most pressing challenges of today and tomorrow.

In Focus...

A Long Overdue Step to Advance the Force Nourhan Moussa, 2014 Gabr Fellow

Disclaimer: The views presented in this article are the author's alone and do not represent the opinion of the Foundation.

It's expected to find reactions from the Arab world objecting to the decision of moving the Embassy of the United States to Jerusalem. This not strange; the strange thing comes when we read headlines stating that this step is considered "a long overdue step to advance the peace process."

I don't wish to ask about what peace they are talking about, however, I want to talk about the peace process itself. Do they mean the process to pillage and dispossession the Palestinian's rights over their lands and their country? In other words can we say it's actually a long overdue step to advance and deepen Israel's existence in Palestine?

This step is considered one more score in America's record of breaching international law. On December 6, 2017 came the American President's announcement regarding the move of the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, based on this announcement a big wave of anger was raised within the Arab world, while all expectations went that this wouldn't take place before 2020. Surprisingly, on January 2018 before the Knesset, Mr. Mike Benz announced the

opening of the new embassy in Jerusalem will be held before the end of 2018. It was much more of a tease to celebrate the opening of the embassy on May 13, 2018, which met the Nakba date.

Some international analysis saw this step as a personal revenge or personal interest like increase Netanyahu's popularity and with no doubt, President Trump wants to keep his friend in power. Also maybe we can translate what happened as a quick reaction from President Trump towards the Palestinian refusal for American mediation interference. According to International Law, International Custom and conventions and UN bodies, Jerusalem is considered an occupied city, and as per what we clearly observe now, the Israeli existence is not more than military occupation. This decision made by the American Administration is not more than an internal decision, which cannot change the situation of Jerusalem as the Capital of Palestine or legitimize the existence of Israel in the city.

Any country that follows the US, moving their embassies to Jerusalem falls under two violations. First, breaching international law and second, contributing in giving legitimization of Israeli existence in occupied Jerusalem. This is a

clear attempt to change the legal or the geography of Jerusalem.

Consider the facts taken by the US and Israel on May 24, 2018. Israel advances to settle 3,900 people in the West Bank. This was clearly mentioned in the *Jerusalem Post*.

Forced settlements in occupied land is a war crime as we all know. On the other side, Benjamin Netanyahu said "We are continuing the momentum to develop settlements in Judea and Samaria by authorizing thousands of new homes. In the near future we will approve additional units."

As per Martin Indyk's statement, "Five years from now, we'll look back and see that this decision represented the last nail of many nails that have been put in the coffin of the peace process. And I see that there is no peace, but there is a process. A process of imposing force real-fact policy."

Stay tuned for more articles and thoughts from Gabr Fellows in the next newsletter.

2018 Gabr Fellows - Egypt



Ahmed Mostafa

Political Researcher
National Center for Middle East Studies
Hometown: Cairo, Egypt
Age: 27



Muhammad El Hawary

Business Analyst, Pocket Solutions.
Hometown: Cairo, Egypt
Age: 26



Hanan Khayal

Gender and Youth Program Assistant
USAID SEED Project
Hometown: Cairo, Egypt
Age: 25



Sara Nada

Personal Assistant, ARTOC
Hometown: Cairo, Egypt
Age: 32



Karim El Sharkawy

Diplomatic Attaché, Ministry
of Foreign Affairs
Hometown: Cairo, Egypt
Age: 27



Shady Saleh

Education Officer, IDP Education
Hometown: Cairo, Egypt
Age: 24



Maram Osama

Communication for Development Officer
UNICEF
Hometown: Cairo, Egypt
Age: 28



Soad Hossam

Prosecutor
Hometown: Giza, Egypt
Age: 31



Marwa Abdalla Elsayed

Mass Communication Lecturer
Hometown: Cairo, Egypt
Age: 35



Yara El-Braidy

Media and Marketing Representative, Ashoka
Arab World International
Hometown: Cairo, Egypt
Age: 24

Introducing one more addition to the US 2018 Fellowship Class



Katie Applebaum

Policy Associate, Business Executives for National Security (BENS)
Hometown: Syracuse, New York
Age: 25

The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter

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 Snake Charmer, Paul Joanovitch

Connect with us



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