



2022 Gabr Fellows at the United Nations headquarters in New York, November 2022

## 2024

“2024 is around the corner,” the speaker said and paused. It must have been thirty or forty seconds before he took two steps forward, stared at the audience and asked: “Will we wake up?”

I was sitting in the third row facing the stage where the renowned historian Ralph Parsons was addressing the audience of no less than 500 students, guests, and educators.

Parsons, walking up and down the stage like a captured tiger, had been speaking for more than forty minutes, using his arms and pointing at the huge screen behind him to emphasize the topics he was addressing. As he asked the question and moved slowly off stage, the audience broke into a loud applause. Many people stood up and the cheering must have gone for at least three to four minutes, no small feat after he had left the stage. He did not return. I was a guest of Mary Butler, the energetic, charismatic, and very sharp Vice President of Development at the University. As we stood up, she motioned me to the side door, and we walked through it to a hall that took us to a sitting room where there were four people, none of which I knew.

Mary introduced me to the others who were also in the audience but left the speakers' room moments ahead of us. Professor James Greenblatt, a political science lecturer that looked out of central casting with white hair and beard, black rimmed glasses, and a rumpled grey suit with a twisted red tie. Matthew (Matt) Stearn, a middle-aged local politician of conservative leaning, introduced himself as a moderate Republican. Stearn was in a navy suit, open white crisp shirt and at least six foot two. Julia Mathews, a doctorate student, explained that her research was utilizing algorithms to predict geopolitical risk. Julia was in a grey dress and sneakers. Finally, sitting somewhat aloof, was a stunning Greta Garbo lookalike who was reading a document. Carol Wright was a University trustee and apparently the person behind inviting Ralph Parsons to address the audience. Mary invited us all to the nicely laid out table with coffee, tea, sodas, fresh juice, and an assortment of biscuits. We all helped ourselves and sat on a sofa and comfortable chairs in a semi-circle. Mary turned to Carol thanking her for bringing Parsons. Professor James Greenblatt, sipping nosily on a mug of hot piping tea, said in a deep voice: “Brilliant, but so depressing.”

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Matt, going back to the buffet table and grabbing more biscuits, said standing up that what Parsons did was an amazing tour de force exposing what is facing us, but we do not recognize the facts laid out in front of us. As Matt was sitting down, he added that Parsons was overwhelming in his research and detail reflecting the state of the world. He continued: “From Zelensky\* in June last year announcing that his people are his priority but leaving them to their disastrous fate till now...”

\* FT 8th June 2022

...to Walt Disney who must be rolling in his grave as he witnessed Disneyland focused on becoming a promoter of LGBTQ to its children visitors, with its website offering rainbow coloured dog leashes, Mickey Mouse pins in the transgender flag colours, cartoons with gays as heroes, and having Gay Days at the theme parks.”

Carol said: “Parsons does not hold back. He is very worried.” Carol spoke in a low voice. I leaned forward as she described how Parsons talked about the state of the world...She described how the war in Iraq, Afghanistan and Ukraine killed, maimed, traumatized and destroyed the lives of millions...the pictures Parsons showed, she said, had some of the audience in tears...then she referred to the refugee crisis worldwide from the Uyghurs in China, to the Rohingya in Myanmar to the Ukrainians flowing all over Europe, to the Iraqis, Syrians, Sudanese and Yemenis, not to mention all of the people trying to cross from Central and South America through Mexico to the United States.

As Carol was speaking about refugees, I remembered that Egypt was presently hosting over nine million refugees from Libya, Sudan, Syria, Iraq and Yemen without one camp, giving them total equality with the 98 million Egyptian citizens. As I was pondering that thought, Carol looked at me and Mary beside me and asked “Do you remember the photograph of the young child alone in a cardboard box labelled ‘France’ being sent from Italy as you would ship an animal to France?”[1] The picture of the little child in the cardboard box, another picture of women and children in a sinking boat off the coast of Italy and freezing families in the Ukraine fleeing to neighbouring countries had many in the audience covering their eyes. Julie, twisting in her chair to face Carol, said that what struck her was the photo

Parsons displayed showing millions of vaccines being destroyed in the US and UK whilst millions of people in Africa and Asia had no access to the proper vaccines. “Worse”, she added, “was that the world failed and continues to fail to come up with a framework to pool medical and scientific research to combat disease and pandemics and establish efficient and effective manufacturing and distribution channels.” Just as Julie was ending her comments, the door opened and an African American gentleman walked in, dressed impeccably in a dark navy double-breasted suit, a blue polka dot tie on a cream French cuffed shirt. He walked in with an unlit pipe in his left hand and greeted Mary who introduced him as Dr. Martin Kirk, an economist at a major think tank in London who was visiting.

Kirk helped himself to a coffee and sat beside James, as it was obvious that they both knew each other well. Suddenly the door opened again and in marched Ralph Parsons and a young lady at his side. Carol hugged Parsons and introductions followed easily as he had a warm and approachable attitude. Parsons introduced Amy as his PA. Amy was dressed professionally with her hair in a bun, frameless glasses and carrying a dark brown briefcase matching her shoes and belt. James congratulated Parsons on his in-depth lecture but said: “Ralph, it’s depressing.” Ralph smiled and said: “This was the ‘light version’, I did not want to give you the heavy version.” Julie stood up and interjected: “Prof. Parsons, you spoke about war, refugees, the pandemic, the economic challenges, inflation, poor education, poverty, homelessness, food shortages, civil unrest...” she paused: “what did you leave out?” Parsons flashed a smile but before he could respond, Kirk commented: “Julie, you forgot he spoke about the genocide in Gaza, the conflict in Kashmir, deglobalization, supply chain fractures, systemic dysfunctional

sanctions with unintended consequences and growing interventionist economics, not to mention the complete failure of global institutions that have become expensive, ineffective mouth pieces.” Parsons’ smile grew and he said: “Thank you Martin, you were listening.” I looked around. Amy was taking notes, Mary was on her cell phone in the corner, the rest looked at Parsons awaiting his response to Julie. I sat quietly, listening and learning. Parsons’ smile vanished and he looked straight at Julie and said: “You and Amy are the youngest here.” He paused, took a sip. “In brief,” he added, “the heavy version is that humanity is lost. Look at what Israel is doing to the Palestinians. What is tragic is how the US and Europe are supporting ethnic cleansing, turning a blind eye to what the IDF and the Israeli settlers are doing to the Palestinians. Moreover”, he continued, “we are on a leaderless Earth faced with technological advances that cut both ways, for the better and the worse. More critically, we are approaching 2024 sleepwalking with no moral compass, destroying our basic human values and killing each other.” Parsons continued speaking in a level voice: “Julie, we lost the battle to the wrongs, forgetting our true gender to hallucinations of the mindless, killing human beings for real estate, developing lethal war machines instead of protecting the Earth and dangerously setting aside the wrong to be able to survive instead of facing it to correct our path for your generation and the generations to come.”

Silence gripped the room. Mary came back from her phone call with a broad smile asking cheerfully: “What did I miss?” Ralph said: “Nothing, can I have more coffee?” As Mary obliged, I sat like the Sphinx, wondering what the chances are that 2024 can initiate a corrective path. The question hung in my mind as I thanked Mary and all those present and walked quietly to the exit to find my car.

[1] Washington Post, 26/11/2022.

# FELLOWS NEWS AND UPDATES

## SARAH BADR, 2017 FELLOW

2017 Gabr Fellow Sarah Badr has been officially nominated for the position of UN Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs.

Sarah is the official Spokesperson of the World Youth Forum, as well as a Facilitator at the United Nations Network on Migration.

With over 8 years of experience in the energy sector and the youth movement, Sarah is a passionate geoscientist and youth activist who facilitates dialogues and collaborations on global challenges such as migration, climate change, and sustainable development.



## JEREMY PESNER, 2023 FELLOW

2023 Gabr Fellow Jeremy Pesner gave a talk on spirituality and religious dialogue to Prof. Jonathan Golden and his students of Drew University's Center on Religion, Culture and Conflict. The talk was very well-received and Jeremy will likely return for additional talks.

In addition, Jeremy was accepted as a policy clinic fellow with the Center for AI and Digital Policy.



## NOURHAN MOUSSA, 2014 FELLOW

2014 Gabr Fellow Nourhan Moussa was invited as a speaker in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the "Future Security Summit" that took place in Riyadh between the 3rd and 5th of October 2023. Nourhan contributed to a presentation titled "Strengthening the Global Response to Cyber Threats."



## ASSEM BOLBOL, 2023 FELLOW

2023 Gabr Fellow Assem Bolbol recently delivered an extensive address at Egypt's Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, highlighting the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its myriad benefits for the advancement of society, with a particular focus on Egypt.

Spearheading pivotal initiatives within the data analytics enterprise, "Hyve Technology Consulting," Assem successfully orchestrated multiple projects, solidifying his role as a driver of innovation and change across government bodies, financial institutions, and private enterprises.



# FELLOWS NEWS AND UPDATES

## LIZ TRAPP, 2014 FELLOW

2014 Gabr Fellow Liz Trapp is delivering a presentation titled *Pharaohs on the Runway: Examining the Ancient Past and Political Present in Egyptian Fashion* at the Costume Society of America Conference in Cleveland, Ohio. Below is part of the abstract:

*In May 2023, in the shadow of the great Archeological Museum in Cairo - Egypt held its first-ever fashion week in an exuberant display of innovative design steeped in centuries-old tradition. In a culture which is most often perceived in the past tense, Egypt asserted its vision for the future in a gold and glittering spectacle as grand as the city of Cairo itself. From the glittering gold of Marie Louis' designs which play off the pharaonic age, to the reimagined and restructured sleek and geometric menswear from Moaaz El Behairy, Egyptian designers are reinventing fashion. This paper will situate Egyptian fashion designers at the exciting crosshairs of a culture both entrenched in history, and predicated on renewal as it enters its Post-Arab Spring Era and redefines what Egyptian fashion means to the world. At its core, is a reclamation of Egyptian identity.*



## 2015 GABR FELLOWS AHMAD RADWAN AND MUHAMMAD NAGI



2015 Gabr Fellow Ahmad Radwan recently created his own improvisation troupe and worked on creating a new improvisational theatre format - a completely improvised play which is interactive with the audience.

Ahmad reached out to Fellow Muhammad Nagi (also 2015 Gabr Fellow), who provided a theatre space at the GrEEK Campus for Ahmad to do his first show.

The collaboration proved to be highly successful – there were 250 attendees and the tickets sold out 48 hours after the announcement.

## KELLIE QUINN, 2023 GABR FELLOW

2023 Gabr Fellow Kellie Quinn has recently been working on several emergency response and relief efforts throughout the Marrakech-Safi region as a result of the September 8, earthquake. Project Soar's Emergency Relief efforts have been focused on menstrual health and hygiene products. To date, they have distributed over 40,000 hygiene and menstrual items.

In addition, the IMF/World Bank Group will be hosting their annual meetings in Marrakech. Kellie has been working on coordinating a large scale relief volunteer event to pack and deliver additional menstrual health and hygiene kits to rural areas affected by the earthquake.



# FELLOWS NEWS AND UPDATES

## FABRICE GUERRIER, 2018 FELLOW



2018 Gabr Fellow Fabrice Guerrier was asked to serve as a moderator for a panel conversation for The Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association ongoing Nebula Conference on "Genre Benders and Blenders: Storytelling Beyond The Tropes And Conventions" facilitating a conversation with Novelists Nicole Glover and Victor Manibo.

In addition, in his Fabrice Guerrier Show Podcast's 25th episode, Fabrice spoke with Judith Goldstein and Caroline James on power, history and creating possible futures.

To listen to the podcast



## ERIKA WITT, 2014 FELLOW

2014 Gabr Fellow Erika Witt has been awarded the Frontier Award from the Tusculum University Alumni Association.

The Frontier Award, created in 1995, goes to an outstanding alumnus or alumna in recognition of outstanding or meritorious advancement in that person's career. The former student must have graduated between five and 15 years ago to be eligible, and judges take into account continuing and loyal service to Tusculum.



Erica graduated from Tusculum in 2012 with a bachelor's degree in museum studies and a minor in history and then earned a master's degree in museum studies and cultural preservation from Southern University in New Orleans. She is now pursuing a doctorate from Louisiana State University. She serves as director and chief curator of the Southern University at New Orleans Museum of Art.



## WESSAM BAHER (2023 GABR FELLOW), IBRAHIM HAMMOUDA (2017 GABR FELLOW) AND SHADY ELSEHERIF (2018 GABR FELLOW)

Gabr Fellows Wessam Baher, Ibrahim Hammouda and Shady Elseherif were invited by the Turkish Ambassador to Egypt, Salih Mutlu Sen, to attend the reception of the Centennial of the founding of the Republic of Türkiye and the 500th Anniversary of the Foreign Service of Türkiye.



Ibrahim and Wessam also attended the Reception on the occasion of the 58th National Day of the Republic of Singapore, hosted by Ambassador Dominic Goh.

# SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION

The Shafik Gabr Foundation invites you to invest in the future and partner with the Foundation using one or more of the following means:

**Sponsor a Fellow** - Individuals have the opportunity to nominate a Fellow and if selected, sponsor their participation in the Gabr Fellowship. Sponsors will be recognised in all Foundation publications, marketing materials, and at all events.

**Corporate patron** - Corporations can nominate Fellows for participation in the Fellowship Foundation and sponsor their participation on a company-wide level. The company will be listed in all publications, the logo will be presented on the Foundation's homepage and be given visibility at all events in the United States and Egypt.

**Unrestricted support** - A general operating grant can empower the Foundation to continue to invest in innovative platforms to facilitate ongoing dialogue between the East and West. From new technologies to expanding the programme to more countries and a greater number of participants, the Fellowship can create a broader multiregional impact.

To support the Foundation, visit

<https://www.eastwestdialogue.org/fellowship/how-to-support/> or

CLICK HERE



## INTERVIEW WITH....



### THOMAS HANNA, 2016 GABR FELLOW

2016 Gabr Fellow Thomas Hanna currently works for the US Department of Defense as Project Manager. He previously worked at the US Department of Commerce as an International Trade Analyst with the International Trade Administration, and as a Research Analyst at the Institute of International Finance. Thomas received his Master of Arts Degree in Diplomacy and International Commerce at the Patterson School.

1) **What are the 3 most important takeaways of your Gabr Fellowship experience?**

- Understanding the views and vision of those outside of your own is vital.
- The ability to absorb, understand, and respect differing ideas is pivotal in navigating the modern world.
- Dialogue is a necessary step on the path to creating a more cohesive and stable global environment.

2) **Would you visit Egypt again?**

- Yes, and I look forward to the next occasion that takes me to Egypt.

3) **What can make Egypt-US bilateral relations stronger?**

- Working to ensure Egypt and the US see eye-to-eye on security concerns.
- Developing programs such as the Gabr Fellowship to bridge the gap between the nations.
- Governments and industry creating opportunities to encourage development and foreign investment.

4) **Did the program in Egypt and the US bring new knowledge to you?**

- Yes, I learned a great deal and enhanced my understanding of the political climate in both countries.

4) **How would you describe the Gabr Fellowship program in three words?**

- Inspiring, Collaborative, Engaging

## *The Renaissance Weekend*

By: Jeremy Pesner, 2023 Gabr Fellow

The Renaissance Weekend is, as the Wikipedia page describes, an “invite-only American retreat for leaders in business and finance, government, the media, religion, medicine, science, technology, and the arts. Conversations are off-the-record and subject matter ranges widely, tending to focus heavily on policy and business issues.” Its mission is “to build bridges among innovative leaders with exceptionally diverse perspectives.” This description intrigued me, as in my opinion, it aligned with the aims of the Gabr Fellowship.

The weekend was founded by Philip Lader (former U.S. Ambassador to the Court of St. James’s and current advisor at Morgan Stanley) and his wife Linda in 1981 as a gathering of their friends. These friends were encouraged to invite their friends, and the community grew into what it is today. The weekend maintains this model by being invite-only.

I was invited to the weekend by a woman whom I met during Drew University’s New Jersey Institute for Emerging Leaders, run by a longtime Gabr Fellowship speaker Dr. Jonathan Golden. Apart from the similarities in mission, the fact that I was invited by someone I met because of the Gabr Fellowship cemented my feelings of kismet. The Shafik Gabr Foundation sponsored my attendance.

There are three or four Renaissance Weekends a year over holiday weekends in various locations around the United States, and I attended the one in Tarrytown, NY, just a short distance north of New York City, in early October. It was hosted at the Tarrytown House Estate, with about 200 attendees.

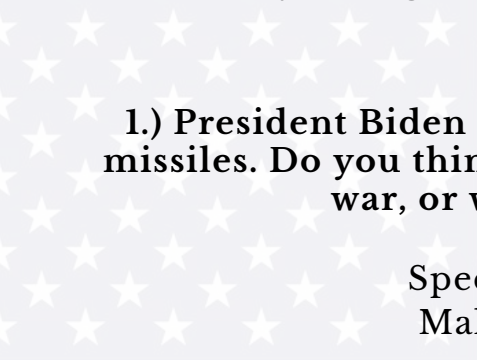
During the initial registration, I shared my background and knowledge in both technology policy and spiritual development. I was assigned panels on spirituality, religion and mental health. Most panels were relatively informal, with a moderator inviting each panelist to speak for a couple of minutes before opening up a group discussion.

For all of the intellectual discussion and exploration of diverse and exciting topics, what stood out to me most was the deeply personal nature of some of these brief talks. There were prompts like “My biggest failure”, “Something you wouldn’t guess about me” and “My last words would be”. Some of these talks really surprised me, and others helped me feel more connected to someone I hadn’t even met yet. This broke down any presumptions of divide across age, field or experience with the weekend. Even within the first 24 hours, I began to feel like I was understanding the particular culture of this community, and what helps it to stand out among the innumerable other conferences, fellowships and groups dedicated to positive global change. This could be a potential home for me throughout the next several decades.

The experience was enriching on a personal and professional level, and helped bolster my confidence in stepping into spaces with people older and wiser, and feeling like I have as much to offer as they do.

# QUESTIONS 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.



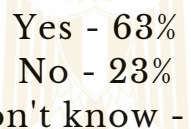
**1.) President Biden approved giving Ukraine long-range missiles. Do you think this will bring a speedier end to the war, or will it make things worse?**

Speedier end to war - 31%  
Make things worse - 52%  
I don't know - 17%

**2.) The last round of negotiations between Egypt and Ethiopia on the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam have failed. Do you see a chance for successful negotiations before the end of 2023?**

Yes - 8%  
No - 71%  
I don't know - 21%

**3.) Given the continued interest rate rises and inflationary forces, do you expect a global recession in 2024?**



Yes - 63%  
No - 23%  
I don't know - 14%

Stay tuned for next month's 'questions of the month' where the Gabr Fellows' take on current events, as our community of future leaders consider the most pressing challenges of today and tomorrow.



# Will there be a World War Three? Israel-Hamas war risks escalation

By Niall Ferguson  
The Sunday Times, 15 October 2023

If history at its worst is “one damned thing after another”, then the news can sometimes feel like the same damned thing, every hour on the hour. We have all now seen at least some of the hideous images of the worst attack on Israel since 1973. Most of us understand that, in its reaction to the terrorist atrocities perpetrated by Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad against Israeli civilians — including children and even babies — Israel risks being sucked into Gaza and then hit from the north by Hezbollah. The more thoughtful analysts see that the Israel Defence Forces’ nightmare of a “unification of the arenas” — including also the West Bank — could stretch the IDF to breaking point. The less reflective ones focus on what is now conventionally described as a “colossal intelligence failure” by the once omniscient Mossad and Shin Bet.

The obvious (but stupid) question is how big a role Iran has played in orchestrating this assault on Israel. The less obvious question is why the United States has sent not only two aircraft-carrier strike groups but also two cabinet secretaries (of state and defence) to the region if, as administration officials have stated, it lacks evidence of direct Iranian involvement. So much for the news. The difference between the news and history is that, as historic events happen, it is easy to fixate on the first-order consequences of any action, and much harder to discern the second and third-order consequences — even though these are sometimes far larger. Nowhere in the world does this apply more than in the Middle East. And my guess is that future historians will be

more interested in the genuine intelligence failure in Washington than in the largely imagined one in Jerusalem. Fifty years ago, almost to the day, Egyptian and Syrian forces, backed and armed by the Soviet Union, launched the 1973 “Yom Kippur” war against Israel. The news at the time was dominated by the dramatic ebb and flow of events on the principal battlefields along the Suez Canal and in the Golan Heights, closely followed by the frenetic efforts of Henry Kissinger, newly promoted to the post of secretary of state, to negotiate a ceasefire. Yet the second-order consequences became clear only later — namely that the Egyptian leader Anwar Sadat’s true motive was to achieve a lasting peace with Israel based on respect, rather than disdain, for its Arab neighbours; and that Kissinger’s main objective was to terminate the influence of the Soviet Union in the Middle East. It took two weeks after the initial Arab offensive for the third-order consequences to manifest themselves. Kissinger had underestimated the readiness of the Saudi ruler, King Faisal, to impose an oil embargo on the US and other countries that supported Israel, including Canada, Japan and the Netherlands. The resulting fourfold increase in the price of crude oil dealt a hammer blow to the world economy, greatly exacerbating the already serious problem of inflation and turning it into stagflation. The oil producers, suddenly awash with dollars, discovered the true extent of their power. The hubris this produced in Tehran led in just five years to the Shah’s downfall in the Islamic Revolution, the disastrous consequences of which we all — but especially Israelis — continue to endure. To discern the second and third-order effects of this crisis, half a century later, is not easy. One way to grasp their potential magnitude is to ask whether the former US defence secretary, Robert Gates, writing in Foreign Affairs before the onslaught on Israel, is right that:

“The United States now confronts graver threats to its security than it has in decades, perhaps ever. Never before has it faced four allied antagonists at the same time — Russia, China, North Korea and Iran — whose collective nuclear arsenal could within a few years be nearly double the size of its own.”

The problem, Gates argued, is that at the very moment events demand a strong and coherent response from America, “the country cannot provide one”.

I have argued for five years that the United States and its allies already find themselves in a new cold war, this time with the People’s Republic of China. I have argued for a year and a half that the war in Ukraine is roughly equivalent to the Korean War during the first Cold War, revealing an ideological as well as geopolitical division between the countries of the “Rimland” (the Anglosphere, western Europe and Japan) and those of the Eurasian “Heartland” (China, Russia and Iran plus North Korea).

And I have warned since January that a war in the Middle East might be the next crisis in a cascade of conflict that has the potential to escalate to a Third World War, especially if China seizes the moment — perhaps as early as next year — to impose a blockade on Taiwan. Now that the Middle Eastern war has indeed broken out, what course will history take?

To read the full article,

[CLICK HERE](#)



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

# ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIP

Launched in 2012, the Gabr Fellowship programme helps to connect and build constructive relationships between future leaders between the ages of 24 and 35. Each year, the Fellowship consists of 20-24 Fellows, half of which are men and the other half women, with an equal distribution between participants from the United States and Egypt. The Fellowship also accepts applicants from Jordan, Lebanon, France and the United Kingdom. Fellows represent a variety of sectors, including the arts, law, finance, tech, non- profits, and entrepreneurship – both business and social.

The mission of the Fellowship is to promote greater mutual understanding by building bridges between the two cultures by instigating dialogue and the exchange of ideas between emerging leaders from the United States and Egypt. Together, they explore one another's cultures, political realities, business trends and their goals for the future.



2022 Gabr Fellows at the National Defense University with the NDU's President, Lt Gen Michel Plehn

In addition to engaging in deep discussions with key stakeholders from both countries in business, government, academia, religion, science, tech and finance, all Fellows are invited to form multinational teams to complete an action project. These projects empower the Fellows as inter-cultural ambassadors, amplifying the Fellowship's reach and impact.

Ultimately, through hands-on activities, rigorous discussions, cultural site visits, and the collaborative action projects, the Fellows have a greater understanding of both countries and become part of an international cohort dedicated to building a more equitable and peaceful world.

The Gabr Fellows have acquired a greater understanding of both Egypt and the United States and the challenges faced by both communities. Having served as cultural as well as linguistic ambassadors to one another, they then return home to play the role of diplomat, introducing Egyptians and Americans to a people, a culture and a future never before explored in this way.

Together, they are creating the legacy of 'The Gabr Fellowship': an international cohort dedicated to pursuing cooperative, collective solutions to their regions' most pressing issues.

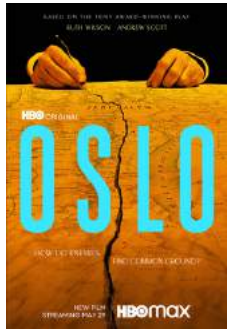


Gabr Fellows with Major General Mohamed El Keshky, Egypt's Former Assistant Minister of Defense



Gabr Fellows take on the Pyramids

# Gabr Foundation Movie and Documentary Corner



This October, Mr Gabr recommends two movies: *Oslo*, directed by Bartlett Sher, and *JFK*, directed by Oliver Stone.

Adapted from the Tony Award-winning play of the same name, *Oslo* is based on a true story of negotiations between implacable enemies - the secret back-channel talks, unlikely friendships and quiet heroics of a small but committed group of Israelis, Palestinians and one Norwegian couple that led to the pivotal 1990s Oslo Peace Accords between Israel and the Palestinian Liberation Organization.



*JFK* is a 1991 American political thriller written and directed by Oliver Stone. The film examines the investigation into the assassination of John F. Kennedy by New Orleans district attorney Jim Garrison, who came to believe there was a conspiracy to assassinate Kennedy and that Lee Harvey Oswald did not act alone.

## Gabr Foundation Book Corner

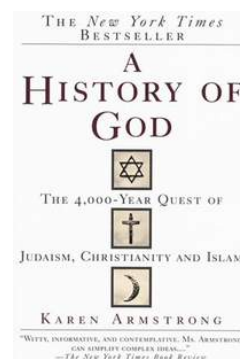
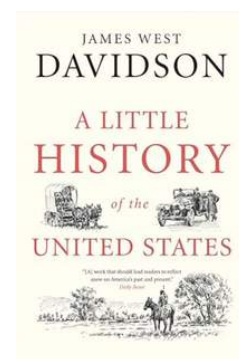
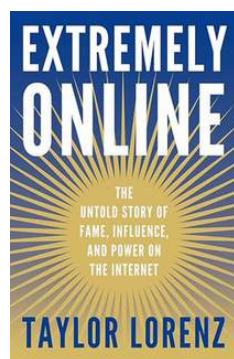
The Foundation Book Corner encourages Fellows to critique the books that have been recommended to them in each issue. For this issue, Mr. Gabr recommends:

*Elon Musk* by Walter Isaacson, an authorized biography of American business magnate and SpaceX/Tesla CEO Elon Musk. For two years, Isaacson shadowed Musk, attended his meetings, walked his factories with him, and spent hours interviewing him, his family, friends, coworkers, and adversaries. The result is the revealing inside story, filled with tales of triumphs and turmoil, that addresses the question: are the demons that drive Musk also what it takes to drive innovation and progress?

*Extremely Online: The Untold Story of Fame, Influence, and Power on the Internet* by Taylor Lorenz, a social history of the internet - revealing how online influence and the creators who amass it have reshaped our world, online and off. Lorenz profiles the motley collection of figures who have had arguably more influence on the landscape of the modern Internet than most Silicon Valley executives.

In *A Little History of the United States*, James West Davidson guides his readers through 500 years, from the first contact between the two halves of the world to the rise of America as a superpower in an era of atomic perils and diminishing resources.

*A History of God*, a book by Karen Armstrong, details the history of the three major monotheistic traditions - Judaism, Christianity and Islam - along with some details on Buddhism and Hinduism. Armstrong traces the history of how men and women have perceived and experienced God, from the time of Abraham to the present.



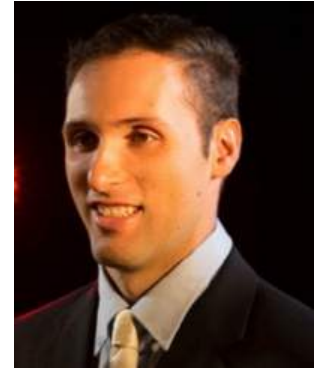
# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR OCTOBER FELLOWS!



**Hadeel Hassan**  
2016 Gabr Fellow  
October 1



**Esraa El Zokem**  
2022 Gabr Fellow  
October 1



**Michael Matthiesen**  
2017 Gabr Fellow  
October 4



**John Ryan**  
2016 Gabr Fellow  
October 5



**Allison Feikes**  
2018 Gabr Fellow  
October 9



**Amr Hesham**  
2022 Gabr Fellow  
October 10



**Ibrahim Hammouda**  
2017 Gabr Fellow  
October 14



**Hayley Rose**  
2018 Gabr Fellow  
October 15



**Magda Kura**  
2015 Gabr Fellow  
October 24



**Thomas Hanna**  
2016 Gabr Fellow  
October 25



**Stephanie Cate**  
2014 Gabr Fellow  
October 29



**Leah Moschella**  
2015 Gabr Fellow  
October 31

# THE GABR FELLOWSHIP

*Monthly 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 program, please see the previous years' reports at  
<https://eastwestdialogue.org/fellowship/brochures/>



**Henri-Guillaume Schlesinger, *Egyptian Girl***  
Oil on canvas  
The Shafik Gabr Collection

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