

## **Information Statement**

## Gabr Fellows Dinner - 21 December 2023

On Thursday, 21 December 2023, at the invitation of the Chairman of the Shafik Gabr Foundation, M. Shafik Gabr, the Gabr Fellows met in Washington DC, for dinner at iRicchi restaurant.



Gabr Fellows with Shafik Gabr, Gehan Gabr, Malak Gabr, Mohamed Ramzi and Moon Sulfab

M. Shafik Gabr and the Shafik Gabr Foundation have regularly held smaller and bigger events, dinners and receptions, in Washington DC and in Cairo, as a means to enable the Gabr Fellows to connect with one another, and to strengthen their network.

On 21 December 2023, The Shafik Gabr Foundation Christmas dinner took place at at the iRicchi restaurant in Washington, DC, in a friendly, insightful and deeply thought-provoking environment, hosted by Chairman Shafik Gabr, his wife Mrs Gehan Gabr, and their daughter Malak Gabr.

Apart from some Fellows getting to meet each other for the first time, this was an opportunity for Fellows that already know each other, to reconnect and stay up-to-date with their personal and professional updates and achievements.

There were sixteen Fellows in attendance from all previous Fellowship years, who travelled from all over the United States. A special guest in attendance was Mr Moon Sulfab, Administrator of Information Technology at the office of Senator Mitch McConnell.

After the Chariman's welcome remarks, and a brief introduction from each of the Fellows, a discussion was opened about the Fellows' experience at the 2023 Gabr Fellowship Reunion that took place 28 April – 1 May 2023 in Cairo and Luxor, Egypt.

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The Fellows that attended the Reunion expressed the rich experience of the Reunion, especially commending the fact that they had an opportunity to network with a large number of Fellows from other years (total of 61 Fellows in attendance), and were able to engage in deep and meaningful discussions during the trip. They also expressed significant admiration for the discussions that they had with, and insights gained from, the two Reunion speakers, Mr. Dale Buxton, a global investor and technology expert; and Mr. Sean Cleary, a seasoned diplomat who is Chairman of Strategic Concepts and Executive Vice-Chairman of the FutureWorld Foundation.

The word was then given to 2022 Fellow Jeremy Pesner, who presented his and 2022 Fellow Pascal Rathle's suggested action plan and ideas for the expansion of the Foundation. This was followed by a lively and insightful discussion on the future of the Fellowship, the different possible paths to follow for greater engagement of the Fellows, as well as future Reunion plans plus the 2024 US Presidential elections.

The meeting concluded with a broader geopolitical discussion on the present Israel-Palestine conflict and its political, economic and historic implications.

The Fellows also had the honour and great pleasure to meet the new-born baby of 2014 Gabr Fellow Stephanie Cate Lord and her husband Winston.

Overall, the evening was a great success for the Gabr Fellowship family, and, in the words of one of the Fellows, the energy in the room was electric, people were excited, and even challenging conversations were a testament of the Art of Dialogue in practice. Lastly, special thanks to Aleks Medic who organized the event.

## Fellows in attendance were:

| Name           | Year |
|----------------|------|
| Alen Amini     | 2022 |
| Alex Goldmark  | 2013 |
| Allison Feikes | 2018 |
| Charles Truxal | 2018 |
| Christi Fallon | 2013 |
| Dan Sullivan   | 2013 |
| Harley Adsit   | 2022 |
| Hunter King    | 2017 |
| Jeremy Pesner  | 2022 |
| John Ryan      | 2016 |
| Kathleen Hagan | 2022 |
| Leisel Bogan   | 2016 |
| Michael Goff   | 2014 |
| Mohamed Ismail | 2015 |
| Murray Abeles  | 2015 |
| Stephanie Lord | 2014 |

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2013 Gabr Fellows Dan Sullivan, Christi Fallon and Alex Goldmark



2014 Gabr Fellow Stephanie Lord with her son Alvin and Chairman Shafik Gabr

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