



Gabr Fellows meeting with Chairman Shafik Gabr in Cairo, November 2023

SUPER ISRAEL

I was exhausted, and my left leg was in pain. I crossed to Fairfax Square because I was tired and hungry.

I stepped up to the receiving desk of a nice, small Italian restaurant, and was greeted by a pleasant, smiling young lady who introduced herself as Sophie and said that she was originally from Naples, as I waited for a table.

The restaurant was busy and loud, but the hunger convinced me to persist.

I was in Virginia because of shopping.

Shopping the day before Christmas is a daredevil's challenge. I had no choice and went to Tyson's Corner in Virginia to the shopping mall to buy some last-minute presents.

I was 90% successful and decided, as a self-reward, that a nice burrata plus a spaghetti Bolognese was well deserved.

I don't usually go to restaurants alone, but on this occasion my family all had separate commitments. As Sophie was seating me, she also seated two young gentlemen at a table to the right.

A server appeared instantly, put some ice water in a tumbler and gave me a menu. Although I knew what I wanted, I glanced at the menu. The mussels looked appealing, but I remained focused on what I wanted.

The recently-seated table beside me ordered calamari, carpaccio, ravioli and grilled salmon, along with a bottle of wine. They indicated that they expected two more guests, but they would wait for 20 minutes for them to arrive and order.

I placed my order, asked for a lemonade and started fiddling with my phone, answering messages and checking emails.

The table on the left was reasonably quiet – a family of five. The father was eating his veal Milanese with a relish, and the mother had a discarded pasta and was supervising as her three children ate their food.

As I put my cell phone on the table, I overheard the two young people on my right discussing Israel and Gaza. I heard one saying: "You should recognise super Israel. Bibi is surviving, the Palestinians are on the run, Gaza is destroyed and not a loud peep from anyone." The same

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voice added: "And with America's unflinching help, whatever Israel does and the amazing statement of Israel's right to defend itself parroted by the White House, the UK and the EU, we are the winners."

I turned, and the two men were sitting across from each other. I noticed for the first time that the person who just spoke had dark hair, a slight beard, and beady eyes. His elbows were on the table and he was leaning forward. Across from

him was a redhead wearing a black leather jacket and resting in his chair. The redhead responded by saying: "So you don't mind the genocide and the deaths... as a matter of fact, the cold-hearted murders of over 20,000 souls, of which half or more are women and children?"

I noticed the person with the dark hair looking my way. I turned my head but kept my ears sharp. He responded to his friend, pointing his finger as I could glimpse sideways: "We will break them, kill them... whatever is needed. There will never be a Palestine."

My burrata and lemonade arrived, and I noticed the redhead responding that such an attitude and objective would make October 7 a walk in the park, as the future would be horrific unless Israel could vanquish over 7 million Palestinians.

Interesting point, I thought, as I have been worried for years that Israel's occupation and horrible treatment of the Palestinians will cause a disaster.

As I started on my burrata, I heard the louder of the two men say: "You have no idea. Israel is super; we can get away with anything... and we will." He added: "We will bend all to our will with many processes, some transparent and many not. You have no idea."

I wanted to respond and say that such an attitude is not in favour of the Israelis that I knew, Israelis who wanted peace for their children and grandchildren, and an end to the occupation. But I remained silent. My appetite was souring.

Moments later, a couple arrived at the two young men's table. The young men got up to greet them, and the man with the dark hair, who seemed to be the host, introduced the couple to the redheaded person with him. I could hear him say: "Connor, these are my friends Ariel and her brother Levi."

They all sat down and the server approached them. My cell phone beeped, and I noted a message and looked at my watch. I fiddled with

my burrata for another moment and placed my knife and fork together on the plate, signalling to the staff that they could remove my appetiser plate.

It appears that the new guests joining the table on my right ordered, and after some pleasantries, the subject returned to the Israel-Gaza issue. Levi wore a kippah and was supporting the host, saying: "Israel is in control of the media and narrative, regardless of what it does. Moreover," he added, "Bibi wants to extend the war as it serves all his objectives. No more protests, no more legal headaches for him, and he is in control with his dream of vanquishing the Palestinians as he repeatedly declared."

Ariel looked her brother in the eye - I could not help angling my head and peeking - and she said: "Levi, you can't be supportive of what is going on. This is ethnic cleansing. You and Isaac need a wake-up call. What we are doing to the Palestinians is what Hitler and the Nazis did to our grandparents and ancestors. Even Hitler did not massacre so many children in cold blood."

I could not help but admire Ariel's courage and opinion.

Isaac disrupted the server as she was placing the orders and said: "In defence of Levi, we must destroy Hamas and send the Palestinians to Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon... I don't care where. No one will stop us." Levi said: "Yes", as he began on his starter. "Remember October 7 and the atrocities Hamas did." he added as he was munching. "We will break the Palestinians, degrade them, destroy their dignity as we now strip their men naked, and tie them up as animals, and detain them for hours or days."

Connor pushed his plate from in front of him and said: "This genocide and destruction was totally unnecessary, and if you read the Washington Post report of December 23, you would realise how Israel manipulates the facts and gets away with it without blinking an eyelid, feeding the world through its top-notch media machine, social

Internet posts, influencers and paid situation rooms with false claims. How can you justify killing 100 UN workers and over 60 journalists, destroying over a dozen hospitals, and causing mass graves of patients, nurses and doctors?"

My main course arrived but I had lost my appetite.

Isaac, munching his food, pointed to Connor with his knife and said: "You and your Dear Ariel here are innocents... wake up... Israel is super and will achieve its objectives. No one can touch us, whatever we do. If anyone criticises us, we go after them. Remember the poor Secretary General of the UN, Antonio Guterres." Putting his fork and knife down and taking a big gulp of water, Isaac added: "No one can criticise us and get away with it. Moreover," he added, "we have the unassailable weapon of anti-semitism. Any criticism of what we do can be defeated by claiming anti-semitism. Remember our former Minister of Education, Shulamit Aloni, who clearly said* that anti-semitism is a weapon to silence criticism of Israel."

Connor and Ariel looked at each other. Levi said: "Let's change the subject." Isaac smiled.

I had not touched my spaghetti. I waved to the server, asking for the check. My mind and heart had a knot causing a headache, as I saw evidence of what Isaac was saying around me. Students, professors, politicians, journalists, and even protesters not being able to speak their minds in lands that are supposedly free.

I paid the bill and walked to my car. It was cold, rainy and windy. I hoped the sun, wisdom and rationality would rise over the horizon soon.

Shafik Gabr

- Link:
https://www.facebook.com/Moataz.A.Fattah/videos/533924308081385/?extid=CL-UNK-UNK-UNK-AN_GK0T-GK1C&ref=sharing

FELLOWS NEWS AND UPDATES

SUZANNE YOUNGNER, 2014 FELLOW



2014 Gabr Fellow Suzanne Youngner received a promotion and her title is now Specialist in the Safe, Accountable, and Inclusive Programming team at International Medical Corps, a non-governmental organization providing emergency relief to those struck by conflict, disaster and disease—no matter where they are, no matter what the conditions—working with them to recover, rebuild and gain the skills and tools required for self-reliance.

On a personal note, as a survivor of stage 4 cancer, Suzanne is happy to share that her recent biannual MRIs and other scans were clear.

SHEHAB FAROUK, 2014 FELLOW

2014 Gabr Fellow Shehab Farouk is now listed as an arbitrator with the Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), which is the leading arbitration centre in the Middle East.

This position is a significant milestone in Shehab's professional career, as it demonstrates his proficiency in the field of international arbitration amongst the best arbitration practitioners internationally.



MARWA ABDALLA, 2018 FELLOW



2018 Gabr Fellow Marwa Abdalla became a member of the production department of the Egyptian Cinema Profession Syndicate in December 2023.

Currently, Marwa is working on two feature film projects, one of which is a documentary and the other is fiction.

Marwa is an Egyptian film producer, lecturer, researcher, programmer, and cultural manager. She holds a Ph.D. in film studies and a diploma in Cultural Development from Cairo University.

FELLOWS NEWS AND UPDATES

MOHAMED HASSAN, 2022 FELLOW



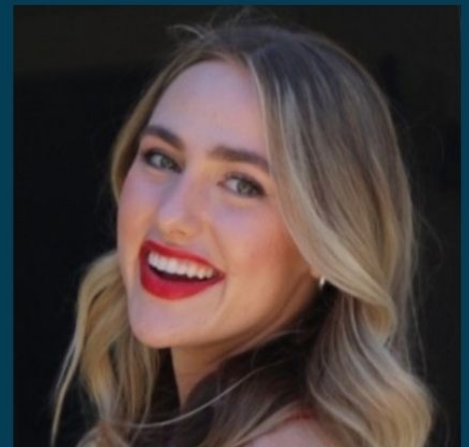
2022 Gabr Fellow Mohamed Hassan recently finished a four-month-long course on “Freedom of religion and beliefs” with the Adyan Foundation in Lebanon, which is the Arabic version of the Norwegian organization Stefanus Alliance International.

The Adyan Foundation works locally, regionally and globally to achieve inclusive citizenship, social responsibility, and advance Freedom of religion and beliefs.

MARIELLE BECKER, 2022 FELLOW

2022 Gabr Fellow Marielle Becker will be starting a new position in February as Museum Business Advisor to the Deputy Director of the National Gallery of Art.

Marielle will represent the Deputy Director’s office in conversations and working groups to support the overall function of the museum, working directly with department heads and staff to problem solve, provide assistance, and manage various programs.



SHERIF SOLIMAN, 2017 FELLOW



2017 Gabr Fellow Sherif Soliman has recently accepted a new job. He will be assuming the position of Global Procurement Manager for Co-manufacturing at Capri Sun Group (a subsidiary of Kraft Foods). Sherif will be relocating to Heidelberg, Germany.

From 2020, Sherif has been Regional Strategic Buyer at Nestlé Egypt. In addition to the supply chain division, Sherif also worked on supporting Nestle’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through green projects approach with Nestle’s sustainability department.

FELLOWS NEWS AND UPDATES

2022 GABR FELLOW KATIE HAGAN AND 2017 GABR FELLOW IBRAHIM HAMMOUDA

2022 Gabr Fellow Katie Hagan and 2017 Gabr Fellow Ibrahim Hammouda have recently returned from the World Economic Forum in Davos, where they were participating at the invitation of Ms Irene Vantaraki, Chair of Greek House Davos.

2022 Gabr Fellow Katie Hagan's company, FHG Marine Engineering, Inc, partnered with Greek House Davos (GHD) during the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting January 15th-19th 2024 in Davos.

On January 18th, Katie joined the Greek House Davos Live Stage to speak on the state of the "Blue Economy" with Journalist, Korina Georgiou, discussing the maritime industry's shift towards decarbonization, IMO's 2050 net-zero GHG emission targets, future fuels, personnel challenges, and the infrastructure advancements required.

2017 Gabr Fellow Ibrahim Hammouda also joined Greek House Davos at the World Economic Forum as a cross-cultural business expert.

To watch a recording of Katie's panel at the WEF,

[CLICK HERE](#)



CHARLES TRUXAL, 2018 FELLOW

2018 Gabr Fellow Charles Truxal has recently been accepted into the Partnership for a Secure America Fellowship.

Partnership for a Secure America (PSA) is a non-profit founded by former U.S. Representative Lee Hamilton and U.S. Senator Warren Rudman to advance bipartisanship on US national security and foreign policy challenges.

Founded in 2009, the PSA's Congressional staff foreign policy and national security program runs two times each year. This opportunity provides professional development and networking to Democratic and Republican staff members on Capitol Hill to advance bipartisanship on national security and foreign policy. Through off-the-record events, policy seminars, and skills training, this program aims to equip Congressional foreign policy and security advisers to assess global challenges, build common ground, and achieve U.S. national interests.

INTERVIEW WITH....

KARIM SHARKAWY, 2018 GABR FELLOW



2018 Gabr Fellow Karim Sharkawy is currently working at Egypt's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, serving at the Policy Planning and Crisis Management Department.

Karim has worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2017, and focused on regional and international security, globalization and trade, and sustainable development.

He holds a Master's Degree in Global Affairs with a focus on International Security from the American University in Cairo,

- 1) **What are the 3 most important takeaways of your Gabr Fellowship experience?**
 - The opportunity to network with high-level officials and the exposure to experiencing this environment both in Egypt and the US.
 - The opportunity to network with other Fellows and seeing their perspectives on Egypt and the US.
 - The ongoing engagement with Mr. Gabr and the Fellows.
- 2) **Would you visit the US again?**
 - Yes!
- 3) **What can make Egypt-US bilateral relations stronger?**
 - More understanding of the cultures from officials.
 - Much more people-to-people engagement and interaction via cross-cultural visits.
 - More engagement from the US government in Egypt for promotion.
- 4) **Did the program in Egypt and the US bring new knowledge to you?**
 - Yes, definitely.
- 4) **How would you describe the Gabr Fellowship program in three words?**
 - Global, multidisciplinary and motivational.

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



Expecting the Unexpected: 2024 and Beyond

Shafik Gabr Foundation Annual Davos Opening Dinner



Prof Sergey Radchenko, Dr Benedikt Franke, Chairman Shafik Gabr and guests at the annual Davos dinner discussion

For several years, Chairman Shafik Gabr and the Shafik Gabr Foundation have held their *Expected the Unexpected* opening dinner during the World Economic Forum in Davos.

Under strict Chatham House rules, international experts in fields of politics, business, security, economy, media and the arts gathered to forecast and provide their insights for the future, in a friendly, insightful and deeply thought-provoking environment.

This year, the dinner was held on Monday 15th January, at the Central Sporthotel in Davos.

Among the 100 distinguished dinner guests were members of the Liechtenstein Royal Family, a former President, Members of the US Congress, a Member of UK Parliament, Ministers, Ambassadors, government officials, international organization leaders, business leaders and scholars from Europe, the Middle East, the United States and Asia. Katie Hagan, a 2022 Gabr Fellow and COO of FHG Marine Engineering Inc, was also present.

The dinner discussion was moderated by Chairman Shafik Gabr and the renowned international broadcaster Nik Gowing.

The main predictions for the year ahead were as follows:

GLOBAL CONFLICTS INCLUDING RUSSIA-UKRAINE

- When it comes to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, there will be no solution in 2024... there will be an increase in volatility with several human, economic, military and financial costs.
- The Ukraine-Russia war is really between the US and Russia, with Ukraine being a US proxy.
- In fact, no conflict (Ukraine-Russia, Israel-Palestine, Sudan, Libya, Congo, Myanmar, Ethiopia, Armenia-Azerbaijan) will be solved if the parties do not negotiate – only then can some sort of a solution be achieved.
- There is no global leadership nor any serious light at the end of the tunnel about peace nor willingness for negotiation. This is not expected to change in 2024.



HE President Vaclav Klaus
(2003 - 2013)

ISRAEL-PALESTINE

- The International Court of Justice is a political court and shall not condemn Israel as undertaking genocide against the Palestinians. Israel shall control the narrative and escape condemnation. Already Israel has clinically cleansed the possibility of the media actually reporting freely and safely inside Gaza – over 100 journalists have been killed by the IDF, and there is no media outrage.
- It is expected that Netanyahu will prolong the one-sided war against the Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank to survive politically and achieve his objective of vanquishing the Palestinians. One-sided support of Israel by the US, UK, and some European countries like Germany and Italy will allow Netanyahu to achieve part of his plan.
- One potential scenario for ending the Israel-Palestinian conflict was presented, which would achieve Israeli security, release of hostages, dewatering of Hamas, relocating the settlers in the West Bank (not removing them from the West Bank), creation of a Palestinian transition team overseeing the Palestinian Authority, and an

agreement to create a Palestinian state. The solution must be a one-step grand design peace plan, and not a political step-by-step which would be derailed.

- Saudi Arabia and the UAE will continue to deal with Iran on their own, rather than rely on the US to prevent Houthi attacks on them.
- Israel has a military base in the UAE poised on Iran that would be used in case of heightened tensions which has a 30% chance of occurring this year.
- The outbreak of the Houthis is instigated by Iran. Israel-Iran direct conflict could occur in 2024 if the war expands beyond Gaza, which would entangle America in a regional war.
- Pacifying the Houthis, Hezbollah and other militias can only occur by de-escalating the IDF's bombing and de-escalating the war against the Palestinians. The reverse shall cause a widening of the conflict. However, it is predicted that no de-escalation will take place.
- Although engagement with Iran is imperative to achieve a workable security architecture, it is not expected to happen on a regional scale, only possibly on a bilateral basis.

EGYPT

- Egypt is facing multiple challenges: high debt, poor grain supply, over 9 million immigrants and refugees, high-intensity borders (Libya, Gaza, Sudan), Red Sea and Suez Canal are negatively impacted, poor FX. However, contrary to common knowledge, the Egyptian economy is ticking along with major investment opportunities that need improved economic management to see the light. This is expected to occur after the forthcoming government changes.

UNITED STATES

- It is expected that there are going to be challenges for the upcoming US elections in terms of keeping the rule of law, and ensuring there is no misperception of the results.
- Some believe that Trump may not survive to run. If that happens, it may ignite violence.

- Within 15 years, the United States will be a majority minority country – which is fearful for a lot of people, and this will attract populism, nationalism, protectionism, and isolationism of the US.
- It is expected that internal US politics will lead to loss of global leadership and potential internal extremism and paralysis.

CHINA

- China played a role between Saudi Arabia and Iran and is quietly working at Israeli-Palestinian and Russian-Ukrainian dialogue. China is expected to continue to focus on enhancing its global role.
- The Chinese economy will recover in the long run, but big Chinese companies will not reach their potential in 2024. Do not buy China now.

UK

- Labour shall win the next UK elections. Sunak has depressed UK global leadership and basically follows US leadership.

GLOBAL ECONOMY

- The global economy may not experience serious interest rate cuts in 2024. As a matter of fact, interest rates in the short term may rise again to deal with inflation.
- Defence, energy and technology companies shall lead in value in 2024. The US and the EU will escape recession but face inflation. The UK economy will struggle.

TECHNOLOGY

- 2024 for medicine is a year of optimism, but the underlying architecture of medical care needs to change. The future of medical care is theragnostics – a combination of diagnostics and therapy in the same delivery system.
- A serious issue in 2024 will increasingly be how to validate data and how to battle disinformation and misinformation. The learning curve for AI will get worse before it gets better. Expectation of misinformation impacting security and market stability in targeted countries.



The Honourable Kwasi Kwarteng MP



Chairman Shafik Gabr

CONCLUSIONS

- There still needs to be more political will to solve global conflicts and reduce risks of more outbreaks. This political will is expected to remain absent in 2024.
- The human cost in different conflicts can potentially ignite terror in 2024 outside the physical areas of the conflict.
- No matter the dinner participants' different political opinions, most people agreed that it will take courage, wisdom, determination, negotiation and dialogue if we are to make the world a better place in 2024, and with no global leadership, it is predicted that this will not happen in 2024.
- The majority of the attendees expressed their interest to find common ground, and shared interest in finding a just and sustainable solution for a Palestinian state, peace between Ukraine and Russia, an alternative to decoupling with China, reducing interest rates, and in general making our world a safer place for our children and grandchildren. However, the majority felt that this is not attainable in 2024.

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.) Will the Israel-Hamas war trigger a full-blown regional conflict?

Yes - 52%

No - 37%

I don't know - 11%

2.) Will the US and EU continue to fund Ukraine?

Yes - 72%

No - 21%

I don't know - 7%

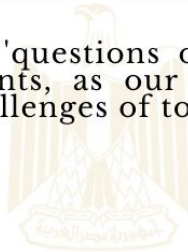
3.) Will Donald Trump be President again?

Yes - 34%

No - 41%

I don't know - 25%

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.



Please connect with the Foundation via email on newsletter@shafikgabrfoundation.org with your feedback, opinions and suggestions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Davos Dispatch: The case for optimism amid global upheaval

By Fred Kempe, Atlantic Council President and CEO

21 January 2024

DAVOS—Amid the geopolitical gloom that pervaded the World Economic Forum here this past week—with intractable wars in Europe and the Mideast and unsettling tensions in Asia—International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva made a case for optimism, quoting the legendary economist John Maynard Keynes.

Georgieva reminded a select group of global political, business, and civil society leaders of Keynes' words from a 1930 essay, written against the backdrop of the Great Depression, the rise of communism and fascism, and national and international despair (the meeting was off-record, but Georgieva approved this to be shared publicly):

“I predict that both of the two opposed errors of pessimism which now make so much noise in the world will be proved wrong over time: the pessimism of the revolutionaries who think that things are so bad that nothing can save us but violent change, and the pessimism of the reactionaries who consider the balance of our economic and social life so precarious that we must risk no experiments.”

For argument's sake, let's consider as today's “revolutionary pessimists” Russian President Vladimir Putin, his enablers in Beijing, and his authoritarian brethren in North Korea and Iran—plus Tehran's Mideast proxies Hamas, the Houthis, and Hezbollah. Pursuing violent change is their calling card.

Standing opposite them are countries Keynes might classify as the risk-averse “pessimistic reactionaries”: the United States, Europe, and other global forces for good. Fearing Russian escalation, they haven't been sufficiently bold in providing Ukraine the scale or nature of military support it needs to win. In the Mideast and beyond, they have thus failed to develop concepts or marshal coalitions equal to what European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen called “the greatest risk to global order” since World War II.

My own case for geopolitical optimism, drawn from my week in Davos, starts with US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan's statement here that “we're in the early years of a new era,” and that the United States and its global partners have all the tools to shape it, if only they can summon common cause and political will.

At such times of shifting geopolitical tectonic plates, levels of volatility are typically matched by the potential to leverage unfolding crises and challenges to steer history. Our times are no exception. It's leadership that makes the difference—and it will be so again. On that score, it's worth reflecting on the first years of a new era that became known as the Cold War, from the end of World War II in 1945 to the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. It was relative US consistency of action alongside allies, and prudent but bold action, that allowed the United States and United Kingdom to break the Soviet blockade of Berlin in 1948, to keep West Berlin free despite the Berlin Wall's construction in 1961, and finally to avoid nuclear war over Cuba in 1962.

In those same years, Washington alongside its partners built the transatlantic, European, and global institutions that would bring the world decades of expanding democracy and prosperity, as well as nearly eighty years without major-power conflict.

Sullivan defined our now-unfolding, post-Cold War era as one that is “marked by a simple thing to say but a very complex reality, which is strategic competition in an age of interdependence.” It's not as catchy as “the Cold War,” and it's far more complex, but it will be no less decisive.

“We're at the start of something new,” said Sullivan. “We have the capacity to shape what it looks like. . . We have the tools to do it. The question is, are we prepared to put those to work? That is a question of political will within our countries and then across our countries. And those who are working to summon that political will need to band together to produce a common, coherent response to the great challenges that we face in 2024.”

Those 2024 geopolitical challenges are to head off the political threats to US and European military and economic support for Ukraine; to rapidly return the Mideast from war to “regionalizing” security efforts and expanding normalization with Israel; and to further stabilize relations with China so as to allow a fierce competition for the global future, but one that is free of violent conflict.

In Davos, another geopolitical uncertainty dominated a great many conversations, given the crucial nature of US leadership, and that was how elections this November will contribute to the United States' appetite and capability to galvanize common cause—as it did after World War II but failed to do after World War I (with disastrous consequences).

To read the entire 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 January, Mr Gabr recommends two movies: *Echoes Of A Lost Gaza: Shattered Dreams* and *Unknown: Killer Robots*

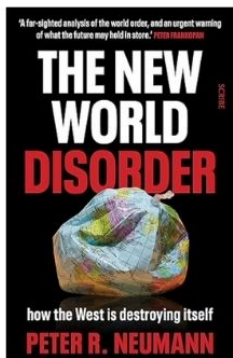
In *Echoes Of A Lost Gaza*, documentary filmmaker Mariam Shahin looks back at how the blockade and successive conflicts have reduced the hopes and dreams of people in Gaza to rubble.



Artificial intelligence is infiltrating every level of the armed forces, from infantry on the front lines to command centers conducting global-scale operations. *Unknown: Killer Robots* is a behind-the-scenes look at this high-stakes issue, following military-funded scientists racing to build this technology and ethicists scrambling to awaken the world to its dangerous potential.

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:

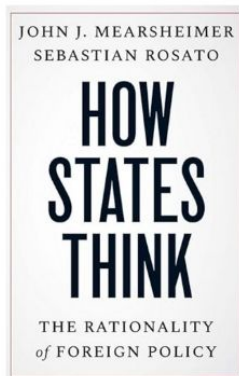


The New World Disorder: how the West is destroying itself
by Peter R. Neumann

Over the last thirty years, through a mixture of naivety and arrogance, the West has lost its global advantage. Today's challenges are profound: climate change, polarisation in society, and tensions with Russia and China. Instead of a liberal world order, a new world disorder has emerged.

Peter R. Neumann, an internationally acclaimed expert on terrorism and geopolitics, uncovers the mistakes that led to our present situation and sets out the dangers the world will face if the West fails to reinvent itself.

How States Think: The Rationality of Foreign Policy
by John J. Mearsheimer and Sebastian Rosato



John J. Mearsheimer and Sebastian Rosato argue that rational decisions in international politics rest on credible theories about how the world works and emerge from deliberative decision-making processes. Using these criteria, they conclude that most states are rational most of the time, even if they are not always successful. Mearsheimer and Rosato make the case for their position, examining whether past and present world leaders, including George W. Bush and Vladimir Putin, have acted rationally in the context of momentous historical events, including both world wars, the Cold War, and the post-Cold War era.

By examining this fundamental concept in a novel and comprehensive manner, Mearsheimer and Rosato show how leaders think, and how to make policy for dealing with other states.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR JANUARY FELLOWS!



Sherif Soliman
2014 Fellow
January 1st



Shehab Farouk
2014 Fellow
January 1st



Wessam Baher
2022 Fellow
January 9th



Bassma Fahim
2015 Fellow
January 11th



Reem Soliman
2013 Fellow
January 12th



**Daniel Lansberg-
Rodriguez**
2013 Fellow
January 14th



Jack Lincoln
2022 Fellow
January 22nd



**Mohammed
Mubarak**
2013 Fellow
January 26th



Katie Applebaum
2018 Fellow
January 27th



Alexis Taylor
2016 Fellow
January 29th

January

THE GABR FELLOWSHIP

Monthly Newsletter



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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/>



Felix Auguste Clement, *The Water Merchant*

Oil on canvas

The Shafik Gabr Collection

Connect with us



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