



A Moment of Silence In Memory of All of Whom Have Been Killed in Unnecessary Wars

Wishing that wisdom descends on leaders who support wars and have them stop fueling wars with funds and weapons.

This is 2024

INFORMATION STATEMENT

The Washington DC Gabr Fellows Meeting

April 23rd, 2024

On the 23rd of April 2024, at the invitation of the Chairman of the Shafik Gabr Foundation, Mr. Shafik Gabr, the Gabr Fellows met in Washington D.C. at i Ricchi Restaurant.

The evening commenced with updates from each Fellow, leading to a dynamic exchange of ideas and insights. Mr Gabr addressed questions posed by the Fellows, sparking engaging discussions on the intersection of technology and humanity, as well as relevant present global affairs.



Fellows Updated News

2022 Gabr Fellow Alen Amini

Alen is volunteering to act as director of The Shafik Gabr Foundation's work in the US. He'll be helping plan the 2024 Fellowship, supporting the Foundation's development activities, and leading alumni engagement initiatives.

2015 Gabr Fellow Elizabeth Dent

Liz has recently made her departure from the Pentagon where she was the Director for the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula in the office of the Secretary of Defense.

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2016 Gabr Fellow Thomas Hanna

Thomas, who resides in Washington, D.C., is at the Department of Defense working in Acquisition/Procurement.

2018 Gabr Fellow Allison Feikes

Allison has just started as Legislative Assistant for Senator Susan Collins (R-ME). In this role, she serves as a policy advisor for education, labor, pensions, and trade. Senator Collins is Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Allison is part of the Senator's appropriations team.

Gabr 2022 Fellow Jack Lincoln

Jack is currently a Legislative Director for Congressman Ken Calvert.

2018 Gabr Fellow Charlie Truxal

Charlie is presently the Legislative Director for Congressman Morgan Luttrell and soon to be deployed to Poland as a reservist.

2015 Gabr Fellow Mohamed Ismail

Mohamed is presently a senior analyst investigating investment fraud and corruption.

2013 Gabr Fellow Dan Sullivan

Dan is part of the inaugural teaching fellow class in Cambridge, Massachusetts, focusing on the history of American founders.

2014 Gabr Fellow Nathan Thomas

Nathan is working on education programs with the Clinton Foundation and will soon join the Rockefeller Foundation for philanthropic initiatives.

2017 Gabr Fellow Hunter King

Hunter is a Director of Federal Affairs for the National Association for Gun Rights and will soon be getting married in Italy during September this year.

2022 Gabr Fellow Marielle Becker

Marielle works at the National Gallery of Art with a focus on strategy and relationships with the Hill.

2016 Gabr Fellow John Ryan

John is in his fourth year at the State Department, serving in the investigation council.

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The topics of discussion raised by the Fellows included the following:

1. Opening of 2024 Fellowship applications
2. 2023 Fellowship reunion and the planned 2025 second reunion
3. How are we utilizing AI and any concerns around its implementation
4. Finding common ground amidst global polarization
5. Egypt's role in humanitarian aid supply chains for Sudan and Gaza
6. Addressing investor hesitations, overcoming fears, and cognitive biases
7. Impact of the Gaza occupation on the November 2024 US elections
8. Situation analysis - US campuses

Open Discussion

The 2024 Fellowship was discussed. Ideas were floated for hosting speaking engagements on Capitol Hill, as well as convening forums near university campuses to amplify the Foundation's reach and impact. Among the proposals was Allison Feikes's suggestion to anchor the Fellowship recruitment near a university, harnessing the intellectual vibrancy of academic institutions to enrich the Fellowship experience.



The 2023 Reunion was an outstanding success. It took place in Cairo and Luxor. It was decided that the 2025 reunion will take place in the US. Fellows presented different locations. All the Fellows agreed that hosting the event somewhere secluded and exclusive, outside of major cities was preferable as it gave the Fellows better access to the esteemed speakers. Locations such as Montana, Switzerland, South Atlantic, and Florida were all mentioned for consideration. There was also mention of London; however, overall, it was agreed somewhere in the US might be most appropriate due to travel times and the fact that last year's reunion was in Egypt. August is the preferred month for the gathering as it is quietest workwise for most of the Fellows. Mr. Gabr emphasized he was pleased with the suggestions of having the 2025 reunion in the US.

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Mr. Gabr asked each Fellow who suggested a location in the US for the 2025 Reunion to do a one page with proposed details.

The Fellows then moved on to a topic Nathan Thomas had raised - Leveraging Artificial Intelligence: The Fellows delved into the current state of AI utilization across various sectors and discussed its potential to transform industries and societies. There was disagreement regarding whether AI should be involved in decision-making moving forward. Mr. Gabr referred to his recent article in the July 2023 Newsletter which is part fiction part fact in which he tasked two computers with coming up with a resolution to the current Russia-Ukraine conflict. The Fellows argued the pros and cons of taking a computer with no emotion proposing resolutions to global conflicts. The fundamental determiner, it was agreed, was the data that was being fed to the database - this would bias decision-making and was, therefore, something to be mindful of.

The discussion then moved on to Egypt's Role in Humanitarian Aid Supply Chains: An examination was conducted on Egypt's involvement in humanitarian efforts for Sudan and Gaza, assessing its impact on regional stability and welfare. Mr. Gabr referred to aid being available but held at the border by Israel, unable to gain access which sparked an intense debate.

Impact of the War in Gaza on the U.S. Elections: A discussion was conducted on the potential ramifications of the conflict in Gaza on the November 2024 U.S. elections, exploring its influence on domestic and foreign policy agendas.

The Gabr Fellows meeting experienced lively exchanges of ideas and perspectives, fostering a collaborative environment.

Fellows in attendance were:

Alen Amini, 2022 Fellow
Allison Feikes, 2018 Fellow
Charles Truxal, 2018 Fellow
Christina Fallon, 2013 Fellow
Daniel Sullivan, 2013 Fellow
Elizabeth Dent, 2015 Fellow
Hunter King, 2017 Fellow
Jack Lincoln, 2022 Fellow
Jeremy Pesner, 2022 Fellow
John Ryan, 2016 Fellow
Marielle Becker, 2022 Fellow
Mohammed Ismail, 2015 Fellow
Nathan Thomas, 2014 Fellow
Pascal Rathle, 2022 Fellow
Thomas Hanna, 2016 Fellow

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FELLOWS NEWS AND UPDATES

KATHLEEN HAGAN, 2022 FELLOW

As part of its growth strategy, Katie's company, FHG Marine Engineering, Inc. recently moved to a new 2,300M² (25,000 sq. ft) facility in Pompano Beach, Florida, offering enhanced workshop capabilities for future growth. This Spring, FHG also entered into two signed Distribution Agreements with leading international and domestic equipment partners in the maritime and energy markets. FHG is now the USA Distributor for the Dutch company



QuantiParts, offering technical support and OEM parts for classic Wäertsilä engines. FHG also signed in March as the new USA Distributor for Boll Filter Corporation, providing parts and service for fluid management within marine, energy, and industrial applications. FHG anticipates hosting a Grand Opening Event in the coming months.



ZEYAD EL-KELANI, 2014 FELLOW

Zeyad assumes the role of Head of the Data Science and Advanced Analytics Hub at the Central Bank of Egypt. Concurrently, Zeyad's latest publication, "The Technology of AI and Global Power Shift," has been released by the Egyptian Center of Strategic Studies, offering insights into the transformative impact of artificial intelligence on global dynamics.

HARLEY ADSIT, 2022 FELLOW

Harley Adsit 2022 fellow launched her new podcast, Crime in Congress, which covers the shockingly true crimes and scandals of American politicians throughout history.

The latest episode transports you back to the summer of 1969 on Chappaquiddick Island, the night that U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy drove his car off a bridge resulting in the tragic death of his 28-year-old passenger Mary Jo Kopechne. You can stream wherever you get your podcasts and follow on Instagram @CrimeinCongress!



FELLOWS NEWS AND UPDATES



SHEHAB FAROUK, 2014 FELLOW

Shehab is thrilled to announce his selection as an Officer in the Arab Regional Forum by the International Bar Association (IBA), where she will proudly represent Oman as its sole representative.

BECCA DOTEN, 2013 FELLOW

2013 fellow Becca has been named as Los Angeles international airport Chief of Staff, Becca will provide strategic counsel to the CEO, oversee key projects, manage executive and Board administration, and lead external affairs functions. With over six years at LAWA, she brings extensive experience, previously serving in roles including Chief Airport Affairs Officer. Becca holds a degree in Film Production from the University of Southern California. Her appointment is effective immediately.



SHADY SALEH EL-SHERIF, 2018 FELLOW

He successfully attained certification as a Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution Trainer from the Cairo Center for Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding (CCCPA) in collaboration with the Canadian Embassy in Egypt.

DALIA IHAB, 2017 FELLOW

Dalia joins forces with the GUC Music Academy to create a special Eid song. Returning to her roots where she initially honed her classical singing skills, Dalia will craft an A Cappella rendition of a beloved childhood Eid melody, to be produced by the German University in Cairo's Music Academy. Notably, she and her ensemble Klaxics have been chosen as the inaugural alumni to be showcased in the revival of the music academy, now under the leadership of Ohoude Khedr, following a period of dormancy. Anticipate the release of Dalia's song on her platforms during the Eid holidays.



FELLOWS NEWS AND UPDATES

DAVID GUHL, 2017 GABR FELLOW

David is co-directing UNESCO International Jazz Day which will take place in Tangier from 27 - 30 April. Anyone interested can learn more about participating [here](#). If any fellows are in Tangier they are welcome to join the free programs and concerts we will be organizing, and can get in touch at David@jazzday.com.



KELLIE QUINN, 2022 FELLOW

2022 fellow Kellie helped organize an event for International Women's Day, where 10 girls from a small community outside Marrakech, had the opportunity to do a presentation at the Institute Francais changes they would like to see in the law about child marriage. The event culminated with an event detailing a scenario of child marriage, demonstrating it's harm.

FABRICE GUERRIER , 2018 FELLOW

On April 3rd, Fabrice Guerrier delivered a captivating lecture at Claremont College in California titled "Worldbuilding as Future: Creolizing the Ruins of Modernity." Focusing on the renowned German historian Golo Mann, Fabrice explored how worldbuilding and science fiction shape future realities. Embracing 'creolization,' attendees examined how blending diverse elements can pave innovative pathways for humanity, addressing environmental, social, and cultural challenges with inclusive and sustainable approaches.



MUHAMMAD NAGI, 2015

During a Ramadan Suhoor, Ahmed Alfi and Muhammad Nagi introduced WRK+ as the unified master brand for The GrEEK Campus and MQR, following their merger in June 2023. Now the largest entrepreneurial community in the MENA region, WRK+ retains the unique identities of its predecessors while offering specialized services and workspace solutions to tenants and partners.

INTERVIEW WITH....

ALEN ALMINI, 2022 GABR FELLOW



Alen Amini is a Management Consultant at Boston Consulting Group. Born in Ohio, Amini was a math teacher and Vice Principal in Arkansas and has experience running a rug business and a food truck. Alen has a passion for geopolitics and is a Council on Foreign Relations term member and was a Fulbright scholar. Amini is an alumnus of Harvard University (where he was a Center for Public Leadership Fellow), earned his MBA at Dartmouth College, and earned a Computer Science degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

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

- Close proximity helps develop stronger ties
- Americans and Egyptians have far more in common than differences
- Egyptian hospitality is unrivalled

2) Would you visit Egypt again?

- Yes, I'd love to and hope to do so in the near future.

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

- Further expanded trade and private-sector investment
- Genuine collaboration in addressing geopolitical events in the MENA region
- Establishing a joint, multi-year strategy to address mutual security, political, and economic interests

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

- I learned a lot more about Egyptian history, culture, and politics, and the experience amplified the importance of economic, security, and cultural cooperation between the two countries.

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

- Educational, transformative, and unforgettable.

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



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) Do you agree that Egypt's economy has taken a positive turnaround after the multi-billion foreign exchange inflows during the last month?

Yes - 22%
No - 29%
I don't know - 49%

2) The US has abstained from a Security Council ceasefire resolution allowing it to pass. Was this the right decision?

Yes - 63%
No - 31%
I don't know - 6%

3) Will Israel respect a ceasefire and negotiate a two-state solution?

Yes - 6%
No - 86%
I don't know - 8%

4) Will global interest rates fall in the second half of 2024?

Yes - 37%
No - 39%
I don't know - 24%

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.

NUSACC's Annual Iftar Dinner: A Celebration of Unity and Compassion



The National U.S. – Arab Chamber of Commerce (NUSACC) recently concluded its annual Iftar dinner with resounding success, thanks to the generous support from Mr Gabr. In a heartfelt letter from David Hamod, President & CEO of NUSACC, Mr Gabr and other sponsors were thanked for their invaluable contributions to the event, which brought together people of different faiths to celebrate the spirit of Ramadan and promote unity, compassion, and empathy.

The NUSACC Iftar, has become a symbol of inclusivity, where individuals from diverse backgrounds gather to "break bread together" and share fellowship. As Ramadan is a month that encourages virtues such as compassion, tolerance, forgiveness, and respect, the event serves as a reminder of the common values shared by Islam and other world religions.

This year's Iftar held a special significance as attendees took a moment of silence to remember the innocent victims across the Middle East and North Africa, particularly those enduring hardships in Gaza. It provided an opportunity for reflection and prayer for those less fortunate, amidst the challenges of wars, migration crises, diseases, hunger, and natural disasters that have affected the MENA region.

NUSACC, marking its 50th anniversary, proudly stands as the premier commercial link between the United States and the 22 countries of the Arab world. With its "50 – 50 – 50 strategy" of serving 50,000 stakeholders across all 50 states for the past 50 years, NUSACC has played a pivotal role in cultivating economic ties and promoting trade relations between the two regions. Notably, NUSACC is the sole recipient of the E-Award for Export Service in the 60-year history of the award, a testament to its commitment to excellence and service.

In his letter, David Hamod expressed sincere gratitude to Mr Gabr for his support, emphasizing the importance of their partnership in fulfilling NUSACC's mission. The Chamber looks forward to further strengthening its relationship with the Gabr Foundation and other partners in the months ahead, as they continue their endeavours to promote mutual understanding and economic prosperity between the United States and the Arab world.

The NUSACC's annual Iftar dinner stands as a beacon of hope and solidarity, reminding us of the power of unity, compassion, and cooperation in overcoming challenges and building a better future for all.

What are the roots of the Israel-Palestine conflict?

*By Chris McGreal, The Guardian
09 April 2024*

As with almost everything to do with this conflict, it depends on whom you ask. Some will begin with the Romans. Others will start with the late 19th-century Jewish migration to what was then the Ottoman Empire – to escape the pogroms and other persecutions in Eastern Europe – and the rise of Zionism. Or the Balfour declaration by the British government in 1917 in support of a “national home for the Jewish people” in Palestine and the ensuing conflicts with Arab communities there.

But the starting point for many people is the United Nations’ vote in 1947 to partition land in the British mandate of Palestine into two states – one Jewish, one Arab – following the destruction of much of European Jewry in the Holocaust.

Neither the Palestinians nor the neighbouring Arab countries accepted the founding of modern Israel. Fighting between Jewish armed groups, some of which the British regarded as terrorist organisations, and Palestinians escalated until the armies of Egypt, Iraq, Transjordan and Syria invaded after Israel declared independence in May 1948.

With Israel’s new army gaining ground, an armistice agreement in 1949 saw new de facto borders that gave the fledgling Jewish state considerably more territory than it was awarded under the UN partition plan.

About 700,000 Palestinians were expelled or fled – about 85% of the Arab population of the territory captured by Israel – and were never allowed to return. Palestinians called the exodus and eradication of much of their society inside Israel the Nakba, or “catastrophe”, and it remains the traumatic event at the heart of their modern history.

Arabs who remained in Israel as citizens were subject to official discrimination. They were placed under military rule for nearly two decades, which deprived them of many basic civil rights. Much of their land was expropriated and Arab Israeli communities were deliberately kept poor and underfunded.

What is the Palestine Liberation Organisation?

In 1964, a coalition of Palestinian groups founded the Palestine Liberation Organisation under the leadership of Yasser Arafat to pursue armed struggle and establish an Arab state in place of Israel. The PLO drew international attention to its cause with high profile attacks and hijackings.

How did the occupied Palestinian territories become occupied?

In 1967 Israel launched what it said was a pre-emptive defensive war against Jordan, Egypt and Syria, as they appeared to be preparing to invade. The attack caught Arab governments by surprise and saw Israel achieve rapid victories

including seizing the Sinai peninsula and the Gaza Strip from Egypt, the Golan Heights from Syria, and the West Bank and East Jerusalem from Jordan.

The six-day war was a spectacular military success for Israel. Its capture of all of Jerusalem and newly acquired control over the biblical lands called Judea and Samaria opened the way to the construction of Jewish settlements in the West Bank, which became central to the conflict. Israel placed the Arab population of the West Bank under military rule, which is enforced to this day.

When did Hamas enter the picture?

The PLO was a generally secular organisation modelled on other leftwing guerrilla movements of the time, although most of its supporters were Muslim.

Islamist groups such as the Muslim Brotherhood had previously avoided armed conflict and were largely dedicated to working for a more religious society. But that position shifted under the leadership of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, a charismatic quadriplegic living in Gaza who helped found several Islamist organisations in Gaza including Mujama al-Islamiya, which won support by establishing a network of social services including schools, clinics and a library. Shortly after the outbreak of the first intifada, Yassin used support for Mujama al-Islamiya as the foundation for the formation of Hamas in 1987

in alliance with other Islamists.

Israel has always denied encouraging the rise of the Islamist movement in Gaza but it saw the groups as a way of undermining support for the PLO and recognised Mujama al-Islamiya as a charity, allowing it to operate freely and build support. Israel also approved the creation of the Islamic University of Gaza, which became a breeding ground of support for Hamas.

What was the first intifada?

Israel regarded the Palestinian population under its control as largely quiescent even as it went on expanding Jewish settlements in Gaza and the West Bank and expropriating Arab land. Palestinians were also treated as a cheap source of largely manual labour inside Israel.

That illusion was shattered in 1987 as young Palestinians rose. The uprising was marked by mass stone-throwing. The Israeli army responded with large-scale arrests and collective punishments.

The intifada is largely recognised as a success for the Palestinians, helping to solidify their identity independently of neighbouring Arab states and forcing Israel into negotiations. It also strengthened Arafat's hand to make compromises with Israel, including adopting the principle of a two-state solution.

Whatever happened to the peace process?

As the first intifada wound down in 1993, the Oslo peace process started with secret talks between Israel and the PLO.

Israel's prime minister at the time, Yitzhak Rabin, signed an agreement with Arafat aimed at fulfilling the "right of the Palestinian people to self-determination" although Rabin did not accept the principle of a Palestinian state.

The Oslo Accords established the Palestinian National Authority, granting limited self-governance over patches of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Further negotiations were intended to resolve issues such as the status of Jerusalem, the future of the Israeli settlements and the right of return for the millions of Palestinians still classified as refugees after their forebears were never permitted to return to their homes.

Some prominent Palestinians regarded the accords as a form of surrender while rightwing Israelis opposed giving up settlements or territory.

Among Israelis, the political charge against Oslo was led by the future prime ministers Ariel Sharon and Benjamin Netanyahu, who fronted rallies at which Rabin was portrayed as a Nazi. Rabin's widow blamed the two men for her husband's assassination by an ultranationalist Israeli in 1995.

What caused the second intifada?

Peace negotiations sputtered along until the failure of Bill Clinton's attempts to broker a final deal at Camp David in 2000, which contributed to the outbreak of the second intifada.

The uprising was markedly different from the first intifada because of widespread suicide bombings against Israeli civilians launched by Hamas and other groups, and the scale of Israeli military retaliation.

By the time the uprising ended in 2005, more than 3,000 Palestinians and 1,000 Israelis were dead.

The political ramifications of the intifada were significant. It led to a hardening of attitudes among ordinary Israelis and the construction of the West Bank barrier. But it also prompted the prime minister Ariel Sharon to say that Israel could not go on occupying the Palestinians' territory – although he did not say that the alternative was an independent Palestinian state.

Is Gaza still occupied?

One consequence of the second intifada was Sharon's decision to "disengage" from the Palestinians beginning in 2005 with the closing of Israeli settlements in Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank. It is not clear how much further Sharon would have gone with this policy as he had a stroke and went into a coma the following year.

The status of Gaza since the disengagement remains disputed. Israel says it is no longer occupied. The United Nations says otherwise because of Israel's continued control of airspace and territorial waters, and also access into the territory, along with Egypt. Israeli has also blockaded the enclave since Hamas came to power in 2006.

In addition, many Palestinians in Gaza do not see themselves as a separate entity from the rest of their territories in the West Bank and East Jerusalem and so argue that as a whole they remain occupied.

Why does Hamas control Gaza?

Hamas won the 2006 Palestinian legislative elections in part because of a backlash against the corruption and political stagnation of the ruling Fatah party.

The Hamas leader Ismail Haniya was appointed prime minister. Israel began arresting Hamas members of the Palestinian parliament and imposed sanctions against Gaza.

Deteriorating relations between Hamas and Fatah resulted in violence. An agreement to form a national unity government fell apart and Hamas led an armed takeover of Gaza while Fatah continued to control the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank. There have been no elections since.

Hamas has continued to attack Israel from Gaza, mostly using rockets until the latest ground incursion. Israel has maintained a tight blockade of the territory which has contributed to deteriorating living conditions and deepening poverty.

Where are we now?

Although Western governments still pay lip service to a two-state solution, there has been no progress toward an agreement under Israel's longest-serving prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, who has repeatedly said he will never accept a Palestinian state.

His present government includes far-right parties that openly advocate the annexation of all or part of the West Bank to Israel and the continued governance of the Palestinians without full rights or the vote. Israeli and foreign human rights groups say Israel has increasingly carved out a form of apartheid in the occupied territories.

The killing by Hamas of more than 1,200 people in Israel, and retaliatory Israeli airstrikes on the Gaza Strip that have killed thousands, have moved the conflict into uncharted territory.



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 connect and build constructive relationships between future leaders aged 24 and 35. Each year, the Fellowship consists of 20-24 Fellows, half of whom 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 take on the Pyramids

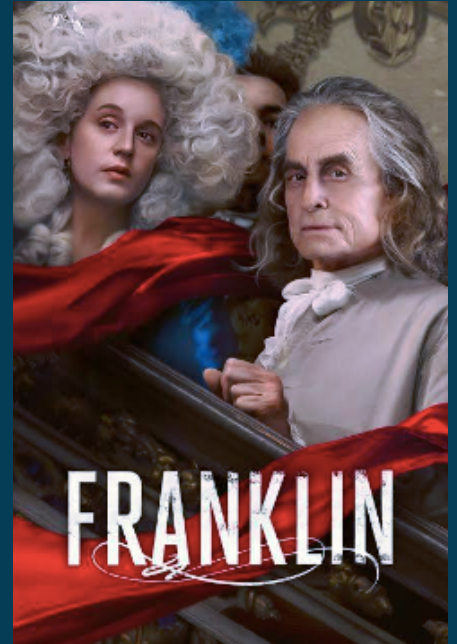


Gabr Fellows with Major General Mohamed El Keshky, Egypt's Former Assistant Minister of Defense

Gabr Foundation Movie Corner

This April Mr Gabr recommends the movie:
Benjamin Franklin: (2019)

"The Report" is a 2019 political drama film directed by Scott Z. Burns. The film follows Senate staffer Daniel J. Jones (played by Adam Driver) as he investigates and exposes the CIA's use of torture tactics in the post-9/11 era. Jones meticulously compiles a comprehensive report detailing the CIA's controversial Enhanced Interrogation Techniques program, facing obstacles and pushback from government officials along the way. Through Jones's relentless pursuit of the truth, the film explores themes of government accountability, moral integrity, and the ethical implications of national security practices.

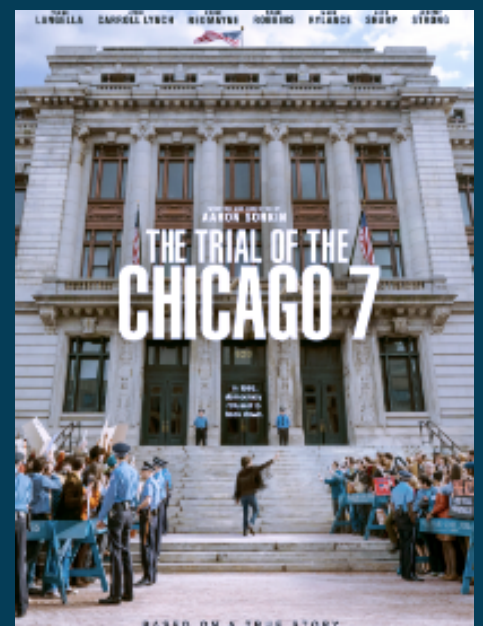


Mr Gabr recommends the movie:

The Trial of The Chicago 7 (2024)
Directed and written by Aron Sorkin

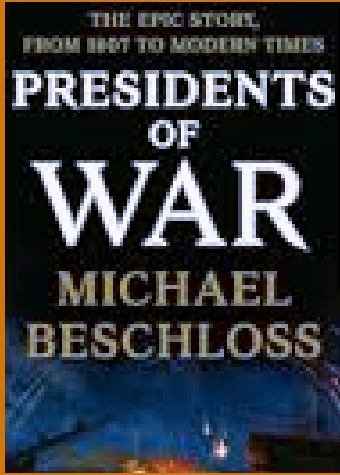
"The Trial of the Chicago 7," directed and written by Aaron Sorkin, is a gripping portrayal of the infamous 1969 trial that captivates audiences with its intensity. Delving into the trial of seven defendants charged by the federal government following countercultural protests at the 1968 Democratic National Convention, the film not only mesmerizes the nation but also sparks a fervent debate about civil unrest and government authority.

As the U.S. elections approach, Sorkin's film gains added significance, shedding light on themes of police brutality and racial injustice at the forefront of national discourse. With stellar performances from an ensemble cast, including Sasha Cohen, "The Trial of the Chicago 7" emerges as a timely exploration of a pivotal moment in American history, resonating with audiences as they grapple with contemporary political realities.



Gabr Foundation Book Corner

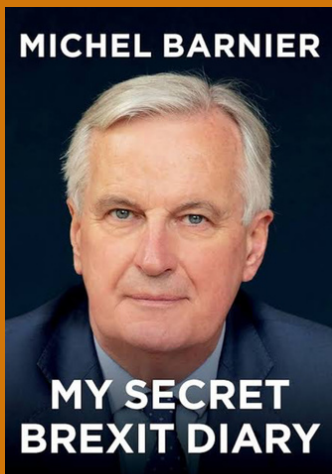
The Foundation Book Corner encourages Fellows to critique the books that have been recommended to them in each issue. For this issue, Mr. Gabr recommends:



Presidents of War (2018) by Michael Beschloss

"Presidents of War" by Michael Beschloss explores the critical role of American presidents during times of conflict, spanning from the War of 1812 to the Vietnam War. Beschloss delves into the personal and political decisions made by these leaders, revealing the complex dynamics of wartime leadership. Through meticulous research and compelling storytelling, the book offers insight into how these presidents navigated the challenges of war, shaped history, and influenced the nation's trajectory.

My Secret Brexit Diary (2021) by Michel Barnier



"My Secret Brexit Diary" is a firsthand account by Michel Barnier, the European Union's chief Brexit negotiator, chronicling the intricate negotiations leading up to the UK's departure from the EU. In this candid memoir, Barnier offers insights into the challenges, strategies, and personal reflections throughout the tumultuous Brexit process. The book provides readers with a behind-the-scenes look at the complex political manoeuvring, the frustrations of stalled negotiations, and the high-stakes decisions that ultimately shaped the future relationship between the UK and the EU. Through his diary entries, Barnier offers a unique perspective on one of the most significant geopolitical events of recent times, providing valuable context and analysis for those seeking to understand the Brexit saga from an insider's point of view.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR APRIL FELLOWS!



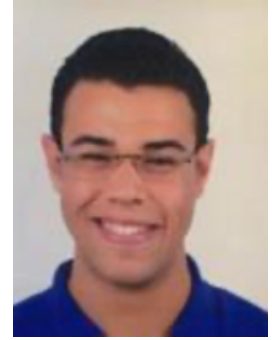
Christi Fallon
2018 Gabr Fellow
April 4



David Guhl
2022 Gabr Fellow
April 5



Maram Osama
2018 Gabr Fellow
April 6



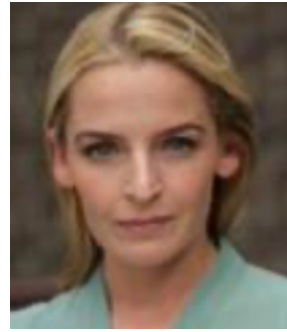
Ahmed Abounaga
2016 Gabr Fellow
April 10



Casey Smith
2015 Gabr Fellow
April 10



Heidi Green
2016 Gabr Fellow
April 10



Kate Chiuccini
2016 Gabr Fellow
April 10



Yomna El-Awamri
2022 Gabr Fellow
April 11



Mohamed El Hawary
2018 Gabr Fellow
April 12



Alen Amini
2022 Gabr Fellow
April 13



Pascal Rathle
2022 Gabr Fellow
April 15



Mohamed Elattar
2016 Gabr Fellow
April 18



Sarah Walker
2018 Gabr Fellow
April 24



Basma Elbaz
2015 Gabr Fellow
April 22



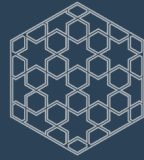
Jeremy Pesner
2022 Gabr Fellow
April 26



Eze Redwood
2015 Gabr Fellow
April 30

THE GABR FELLOWSHIP

Monthly Newsletter



The
SHAFIK GABR
Foundation

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/>



Gustav Bauernfeind, *A Street Scene, Damascus*

Oil on panel

The Shafik Gabr Collection

Connect with us



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