



# THE GABR FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER



*Chairman M. Shafik Gabr, Malak Gabr, and Amb. Motaz Zahran with Lydia Kamiel, Jeremy Pesner, Esraa Ramadan, Erika Witt, Abdallah Hussien, Clara Sherwood, Mariam El Sherif, Crystal Staebell, Jude G Husein, Alphaeus D. Hanson, King Frimpong, George D. Williams, Kristina Arkelyan, Ingy Musallam, Maries Meshrequey, Omar Talaat, Mahmoud Elmakkawe, Ezemudi Redwood, Nick Thomas, Solly Sullivan, and Youssef Emam.*

**At the Shafik Gabr 2025 Reception | Four Seasons, Washington DC, USA**

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# The Twilight Nation

M. SHAFIK GABR

November 2025

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The traditional British afternoon tea is an institution.

Traditional afternoon tea consists of a selection of dainty sandwiches, including, of course, the famous thinly sliced cucumber, and scones served with clotted cream and preserves. Cakes and pastries are also included.

To experience the best of the afternoon tea tradition, indulge yourself with a trip to one of London's finest hotels or visit a quaint tearoom in the West Country. The Devonshire Cream Tea is famous worldwide and consists of scones, strawberry jam, and the vital ingredient—Devon clotted cream—as well as cups of hot, sweet tea served in china teacups. Many of the other counties in England's West Country also claim the best cream teas: Dorset, Cornwall, and Somerset.

There is a wide selection of hotels in London offering the quintessential afternoon tea experience. Notable venues offering traditional afternoon tea include Claridge's, The Dorchester, The Ritz, and The Savoy, as well as Harrods and Fortnum & Mason. I was sitting in a private corner of one of these hotels, sipping my second cup of Darjeeling tea with Rasha, her husband, Antoine, and their son, Claude.

Rasha, a successful businesswoman, and Antoine, a successful surgeon, have been close friends of mine for a long time. Although we seldom met, we kept in touch frequently.

Rasha was born in a historic country characterized by snow-capped mountains and a river running through it, with hot summers and mild winters. She lived her younger life in a coastal city and grew up fully engaged in her father's business. When he passed, she moved her headquarters and main business from the country of her birth to London, with a branch in Switzerland. Antoine was born in the capital of their home country and later moved to London with Rasha. Claude was born in their home country too but grew up in the UK.

Rasha was lamenting her last visit to her country of birth a couple of months ago. You could see her words were heartfelt, tearing at her soul as she described how doing any business in her home country was a nightmare filled with bureaucracy, endless hurdles, and a total lack of investment sense.

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She added that she had no need to continue working in her country of birth, as her business abroad was flourishing; the rules were clear, laws respected, justice rapid, and incentives existed on many fronts.

Knowing that I respected her vision and talents, she talked to me about how her foundation, which helps the homeless and provides food and medical programs, was being taxed in her home country. She described how her letters of credit were delayed by banks that played favorites, and how it was more important to know people in power than to do good.

As I tried to console her, she became angry and asked, "Why are ministers obstructing my country's growth and economic potential due to their lack of executive management? They have minds that reflect paralysis rather than speed and achievement in a framework of accountability."

She added that every responsible person who needs to make immediate decisions simply kicks the can down the road unless the instruction comes from above. "Why," she asked, "is my country regressing whilst countries that don't have a quarter of our potential are progressing like a high-speed bullet train?"

I put my plate back on the table, unable to disagree with her. Claude looked at me and asked, "Why don't we have open skies given our geographic and cross-shipping comparative advantage? Why can't we be the key tax-free warehouse for Europe, Africa, and Asia? Why are all government decisions made in a manner that is costly, slow, unstudied, and with huge debt?"

"I love my country," Rasha interjected, "but not only are we losing our potential, our ethics are losing ground. With over 36 ministers and over 40 governors, the lines of responsibility and accountability are jumbled and need direct orders from the top. It is a system that hurts rather than benefits."

I tried to interrupt, but she would not give me the chance. She added, "I wanted to do a joint venture with a Chinese company and needed an industrial plot of land, only to discover that the approval system involved three ministries and one governorate. It took six months to be approved, and the Chinese company bailed out, noting the slowness of government approvals." As Claude leaned forward to grab his second cucumber sandwich, a gentleman and a lady arrived and were greeted by hugs from Rasha and Antoine, along with remarks of 'You are late.'

The couple, Samir and Mona, were introduced to Claude and I. They, too, are from the same country but live in Belfast and apparently have a holding company with interests across a wide and diverse range of sectors.

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Mona is in publishing and cosmetics; Samir is in manufacturing, trade, and real estate. After a few pleasant and non-controversial exchanges about Samir and Mona's arrival from Belfast, the weather, and plans for the New Year, Rasha asked Mona about her business back home.

Mona, sipping her first cup of tea and preparing a scone, announced that she had closed her original publishing company in her country of birth due to censorship and poor readership. She said she was welcomed in Ireland and is doing very well covering all of the EU. As for the cosmetics company, she wanted to invest more, enhance branding, and export. However, she noted complications with the authorities—especially the tax authority—and a lack of action from the Minister of Finance who appears to fear taking a decision without a committee covering him.

“He is great at PR but not there on decisive action; his failure to sign a paper,” Mona added, “has made me close the file on further investment.” Samir, who was on his second cup of tea and chatting to Antoine and Claude about deep-sea fishing in the Red Sea and the Great Barrier Reef, heard Mona's last comment and Rasha's sigh. He looked at me and asked, “Why is our government shooting itself in the foot?”

Before I could answer, Samir continued, “My factory now has state-owned competitors that are being subsidized, making me think about closing down.” The law to shut down requires, he explained, that he pay each employee two months' salary for every year of employment. Samir added that with over 3,000 employees with an average of 25 years of work, “although it is a hefty bill, I am seriously contemplating closing.”

Antoine asked Samir about procedural regulations. Samir smiled, put his teacup down, and described that renewing his passport is a one-day affair with great efficiency, but legalizing a general assembly or board meeting requires patience, and renewing a commercial registration needs an appointment and a ‘Hail Mary’ to get it done in a timely manner.

Claude looked at me and asked, “Why all those impediments?”

My response was brief and to the point. “A great country, a sizable market, diverse economy, unparalleled history, amazing weather, lovely beaches, islands, land, geographic advantage, space, and much more. However, the wrong choice of managers causes a failure to attract local, regional, and global investment, which is much needed to grow the economy. We need to create the environment to bring companies like Tesla, Amazon, Airbus, BP, Unilever, Eli Lilly, Cargill, Siemens, Microsoft, SAP, and Salesforce to establish their regional headquarters.”



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I added that we have a comparative advantage of inexpensive labor and technicians, but we continue to lag behind in building data centers and developing AI capabilities.

Samir reacted by asking, “But what serious work is happening to achieve that?”

“Nothing,” he answered his own question. “Countries in the region,” Samir added, “are receiving foreign investment with open arms, creating a business culture where there was none less than two decades ago.”

Moreover, Samir remarked that in his field of real estate, he is competing with the state, a factor he mentioned while shaking his head, that defeats private-sector investment in real estate. “Moreover,” he added, “the concept of zoning is dead. We contractors and real estate investors follow the law, and here come the state-owned companies and persons of interest with the state who break the law with greater space permits and a higher number of floors with no penalty—or a minor penalty to save face.” Finally, Rasha said, “We are all pouring criticism on Shafik as if he runs the show back home and has a magic wand.” I smiled half a smile and, in a low voice, said, “No problem. We all want what is good for our country of birth. However, it is worthwhile noting that the responsibility does not only fall on the officials. A real transformation demands more than leadership alone.”

I added, “Those who are governed, must also rise to the challenge, if they seek success. Doing so requires special characteristics of discipline, precision, efficiency, teamwork, perseverance, honesty, and trust. Stagnation leads to chaos and corruption. Totally ill-afforded for a country like ours with great potential.”

Claude, the youngest in the group, stood up and said he needed to go watch Liverpool play Manchester City. As I stood up to leave, however, he asked, “What do you see in the coming future?” I thought for a moment and, bidding everyone a good evening, I said, “Presently we are in the twilight zone, and the future will be written based on which path we choose at this crossroad.”

I walked back in the grey, drizzling and cold London evening, remembering the supernatural TV show *The Twilight Zone*, thinking: Will my country need supernatural ministers to cross the Rubicon to success?

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# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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M. Shafik Gabr is a renowned leader in international business, innovation, and investment, and is one of the world's premier collectors of Orientalist art, and an accomplished philanthropist.

During his career, Gabr established over 25 companies, plus three investment holding companies, including ARTOC Group for Investment and Development, which is a multidisciplinary investment holding company with businesses in infrastructure, automotive, engineering, construction, and real estate. Over the past three years, he has focused on investment in technology and artificial intelligence.

Gabr is the Chairman and founding member of Egypt's International Economic Forum (EIEF), a member of the International Business Council of the World Economic Forum, a Board Member of Stanhope Capital, International Chairman of the Sadat Congressional Gold Medal Committee, and a Member of the Steering Committee of Parliamentary Intelligence Security Forum.

Gabr is on the Advisory Board of the Centre for Financial Stability, the Advisory Board of The Middle East Institute, and the Global Advisory Council of the Mayo Clinic. He is also a former Member of the Metropolitan Museum's International Council and a former member of the Business Council of the World Economic Forum.

In his capacity as Chairman of EIEF, Gabr has hosted global leaders from the worlds of politics, economics, business, media, technology, and culture. These include President Vaclav Klaus, President Atifete Jahjaga, President Boris Tadić, President Zlatko Lagumdžija, Prime Minister Tony Blair; Secretaries James Mattis, John Kelly, and Rex Tillerson; H.E. Amr Moussa, members of Congress, business leaders in technology, academics, and media figures from CNN, Fox, and CNBC. Gabr has also hosted six CNBC programs on 'World Business' and 'Peer to Peer.'

Moreover, as Chairman of the Shafik Gabr Foundation, Gabr regularly hosts his interactive 'Expecting the Unexpected' working dinners in Cairo, Davos, London, Munich, and Washington, DC. The dinners are off the record and engage leaders across the board in timely predictions of geopolitical and geoeconomic issues. The most recent dinners were held in Davos on January 16th, 2025, during the World Economic Forum, and on February 16th, 2025, at the Munich Security Conference. The guests included former Presidents, Ministers, Ambassadors, members of Congress, international organization chairs, heads of think tanks, business leaders, and distinguished scholars from Europe, the Middle East, the United States, and Asia.

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Gabr has previously served as the Chairman of the COMESA (Common Market for East and South Africa) Business Council and a member of the Executive Board of the International Chamber of Commerce (Paris). He also served on the advisory boards of Zurich Financial Services and The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Furthermore, Gabr was a founder of the American Chamber of Commerce in Egypt in 1982, serving as its first Egyptian President from 1995 until 1997, and was a Founding Member of the Wilson Global Advisory Council.

Gabr has been recognized among the “Most Influential Arabs” and “Top 50 Business Leaders in the Arab World.” In 2009, Mr. Gabr was presented with the Foreign Policy Association’s (FPA) award for Corporate Responsibility. In June 2014, Mr. Gabr was awarded the Meridian Global Citizen Award, and in November 2014, the Middle East Institute’s Visionary Award. In March 2015, Gabr received the American University in Cairo’s Global Impact Award in New York. In May 2016, Gabr was awarded the College of Mount Saint Vincent’s Saint Vincent de Paul Award and Drew University’s Peacebuilder Award. In September 2017, Gabr received the Policy Direction and Leadership Award from the London Centre for Policy Research. Most recently, in November 2024, Gabr was awarded the highest honor conferred upon foreign nationals by the President of Italy: the ‘Grande Ufficiale’ (Grand Officer) of the ‘Ordine della Stella d’Italia’ (Order of the Star of Italy) for his extraordinary achievements and merit.

Since 2016, Gabr has focused his attention on innovation and investment in technology, as well as his Foundations. Gabr has invested in a wide spectrum of technology companies, ranging from startups to fully mature companies, and across a wide variety of sectors. Gabr’s focus is multidimensional in a world of technology, which is reflected in his personal approach to the sector through its multifaceted applications, including Ai, machine learning, data mining, mobility, and business.

M. Shafik Gabr’s contributions and insights have been the subject of numerous articles, including some published in Egypt Independent. Additionally, his perspectives on international business, investment trends, and cultural diplomacy have been featured in interviews with global media outlets such as Bloomberg, CNBC, BBC, Al-Horra and many more. Through these platforms, Gabr has highlighted his extensive work on cross-cultural dialogue and offered perspective on world markets and geopolitics.

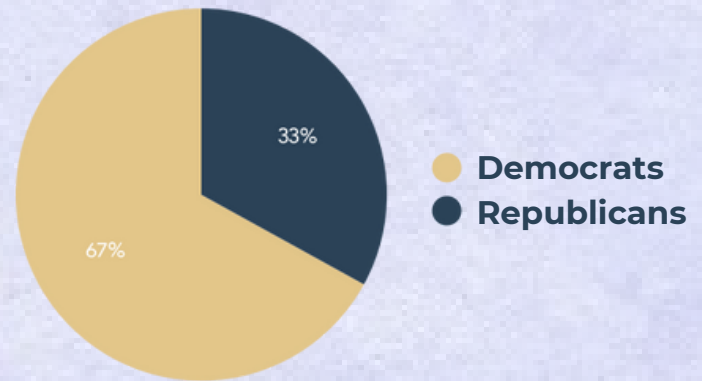
Through The Mohamed Shafik Gabr Foundation for Social Development, Gabr is helping to improve elementary-school education in Egypt, introducing students to arts and culture, and promoting sports and physical fitness for youth. In the area of higher education, Gabr is a major supporter of the American University in Cairo. The Foundation also developed a free medical-care system by providing “Medical Caravans” for residents of underprivileged areas of Greater Cairo. The Foundation established its first Medical and Social Development Centre in Mokattam, Cairo, offering free medical and health services. In 2012, Gabr established the Shafik Gabr Foundation in the U.S., which supports educational and medical initiatives and, in November 2012, launched the ‘East-West: The Art of Dialogue’ initiative (see [www.eastwestdialogue.org](http://www.eastwestdialogue.org)), promoting exchanges between young emerging leaders from the U.S. and Egypt with the purpose of cultural dialogue and bridge-building. At present, the Foundation’s Fellowship program has over 140 Fellows.

Gabr is recognized as one of the world’s largest collectors of Orientalist art, amassing a unique and extensive collection that captures the beauty, culture, and history of the Middle East and North Africa. His collection showcases masterpieces from the 19th and early 20th centuries, reflecting the works of prominent Orientalist painters who were captivated by the region’s vibrant landscapes, traditions, and people. Through his dedication and passion for preserving and sharing these historical artworks, Gabr has significantly contributed to fostering cultural appreciation and understanding of the Orientalist movement on a global scale.

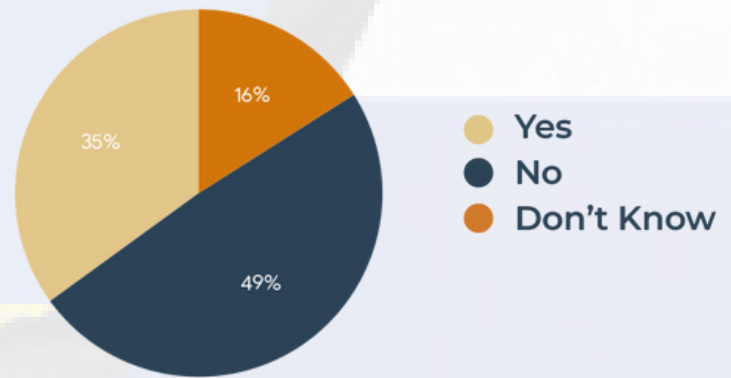
Gabr holds a BA in Economics and Management from the American University in Cairo and an MA in Economics from the University of London.

# MONTHLY WORLD PREDICTIONS

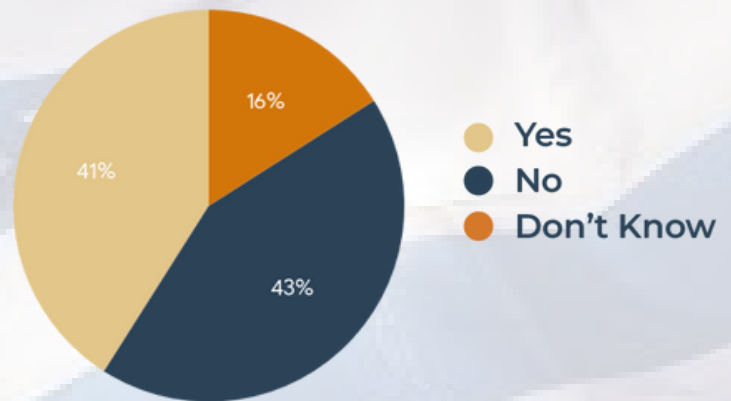
Will the midterm elections in the US Congress give the Democrats or Republicans the majority ?



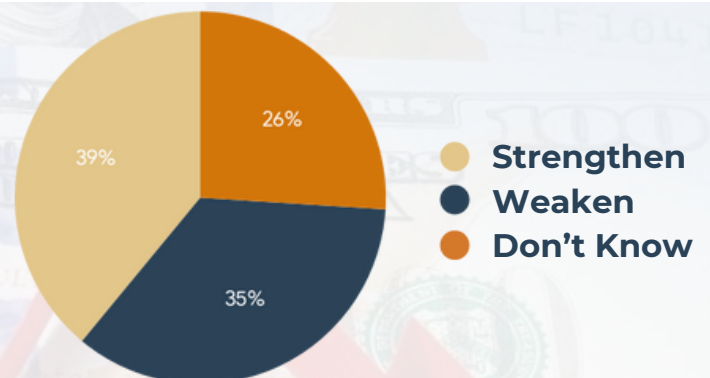
Will President Trump achieve a ceasefire between Ukraine and Russia before September 2026 ?



Will Benjamin Netanyahu be re-elected in the 2026 election as Israel's Prime Minister?



Will the Egyptian Pound weaken or strengthen against the US Dollar by November 2026 ?







# FELLOWS' UPDATES



## **Alen Amini, 2022 Fellow**

Alen Amini, 2022 Gabr Fellow, was recently named one of Ten Outstanding Young Americans (TOYA) by the U.S. Junior Chamber, an honor previously received by Bill Clinton, Elvis Presley, and the Gabr Fellowship's own Daniel Sullivan. He was also recognized among Cincinnati's 40 Under 40 for his leadership in advancing social inclusion and innovation. Most recently, Alen joined C3 AI as Head of AI Solutions Delivery, Maritime, where he leads efforts to deploy artificial intelligence across critical national defense and industrial programs.

## **Dalia Younis, 2017 Fellow**

Dalia Younis, 2017 Gabr Fellow, was selected for a stretch assignment to support UNICEF Gulf office in Riyadh's communication team for four months starting January.



## **Esraa Ramadan, 2022 Fellow**

Esraa Ramadan, 2022 Gabr Fellow, shares her experience as part of The Shafik Gabr Fellowship, describing it as one of the most remarkable journeys of her life and one for which she feels deeply grateful. She joined the Fellowship in 2022 and is now honored to return as a Coordinator, working closely with Mr. Shafik Gabr. Through his guidance, Mr. Gabr helped her recognize strengths and possibilities within herself that she had never realized before, an empowerment that continues to inspire her every day.



# FELLOWS' UPDATES

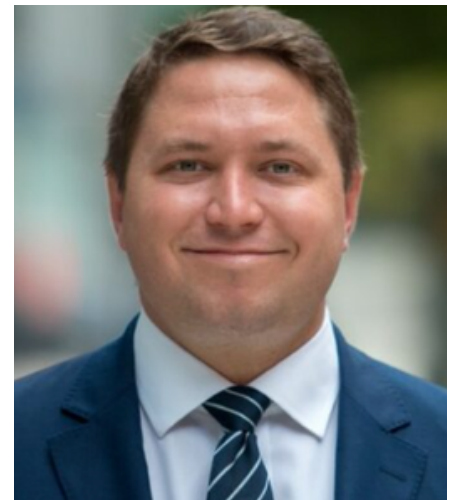


## **Ibrahim Hammouda, 2017 Fellow**

Ibrahim Hammouda, 2017 Gabr Fellow recently celebrated Day of the Dead with the Mexican Ambassador at her residence, and attended a concert with the Greek Ambassador.

## **Luke Wenz, 2022 Fellow**

After more than seven years with the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, Luke Wenz, 2022 Gabr Fellow, is starting a new role as the Vice President of Government Relations for the Platte Institute, an Omaha-based think tank that focuses on everything from tax and regulatory policy to immigration and trade, and everything in-between.



## **Muhammad Nagi, 2015 Fellow**

Muhammad Nagi, 2015 Gabr Fellow, continues to push WRK+ into its next growth chapter. As part of his leadership journey after merging MQR and The GrEEK Campus, he has successfully expanded The GrEEK Campus into East Cairo for the first time - in partnership with Tameer.

**[Click for link](#)**



# FELLOWS' UPDATES



## **Pascal Rathle, 2022 Fellow**

Pascal Rathle, 2022 Gabr Fellow, was honored as one of 29 representing 23 countries at the 2025 Global Young Leaders Dialogue and Center for China and Globalization's 10th Annual Think Tank & Innovation Forum in Beijing, China. He presented on the theme of AI+ and Track II Diplomacy. Thank you Mr. Gabr.

**[Click for link](#)**

## **Shehab Farouk, 2014 Fellow**

Shehab Farouk, 2014 Gabr Fellow, recently joined the Partnership of Dr. Khalid Al Saidi Office for Advocacy & Legal Consultancy, an esteemed Omani firm founded by Dr. Khalid Al Saidi in 2021.



## **Yasser El Zahhar, 2016 Fellow**

Yasser El Zahhar, 2016 Gabr Fellow, successfully led an innovative initiative that enabled his company to produce the first Arabic audiobook narrated in the voice of its late author using AI voice cloning technology. They launched the debut project featuring the recreated voice of Dr. Mostafa Mahmoud after successfully negotiate the rights with his family and the publisher, oversaw the contract drafting, and directed the creative and technical process of voice generation to deliver high-quality production that honors his legacy.



# ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIP



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

Launched in 2012, the Gabr Fellowship program helps connect and build constructive relationships between future leaders aged 24 and 35. Each year, the Fellowship consists of 16-24 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 facilitating 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.

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 intercultural 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.



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

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 region's most pressing issues.



**Gabr Fellows at the Pyramids**





# THE FOUNDATION EFFECT

## A REFLECTION ON THE 2025 FELLOWSHIP: UNLOCKING “THE GABR MENTALITY”

BY CLARA SHERWOOD

NOVEMBER 2025

Cross-cultural exchanges challenge stereotypes, build relationships between foreign nationals, and provide forums for discussion. They are perhaps the most authentic, unfiltered avenue to transcend superficial narratives perpetuated by social media. Exchanges counterbalance polarization and disinformation and provide a basis for negotiation and conflict resolution by creating channels of communication and mutual understanding.

These cross-cultural exchanges catalyze developing the frame of mind necessary to navigate complex, high-stakes environments. During our fellowship in Egypt and the United States, we were continually encouraged to embrace what I coin as the “Gabr Mentality,” a mindset that fosters the confidence (and in some cases, the audacity) to assert one’s presence in spaces where critical decisions are made, ideas are contested, and meaningful impact is realized.

Exercising this philosophy consisted of working through fatigue and while still remaining present, curious, and engaged. After all, it is in moments of exhaustion and uncertainty that one can discover the depth of their resilience. Every meeting, engagement, and late night demanded not just endurance, but attentiveness. Prior to each day, we reviewed speakers’ backgrounds, taking note of their achievements and motivations. During our sessions, we discovered areas of common ground, participated in meaningful dialogue, and gathered insights that could inform our growth as individuals and professionals.

This fellowship gave us a rare glimpse into Mr. Gabr’s world– which I came to understand is defined by relentless meetings, strategic relationship-building, a perpetual sense of curiosity, and a deep understanding of how economics, politics, art, and business all intertwine.

The fellowship evolved into far more than your typical cultural exchange program or academic exercise; it was an intellectual bootcamp. Fellows weren’t relegated to be spectators in an elite ecosystem, we were now temporary participants. We earned the opportunity to step into circles of influence, converse with highly successful individuals, and envision ourselves as contributors to that same global dialogue.

Equally transformative was the element of cultural exchange. I understood that recognizing one’s version of history isn’t absolute and finding common ground with people from different cultures, professions, religions, and communities is crucial for leaders who wish to craft effective policy. My priority as a Gabr Fellow was obtaining a nuanced understanding of the dynamic interplay between sectors influencing the U.S.-Egyptian relationship (I learned that arguably, engaging in cross-sector dialogue within one country can be akin to engaging in a “cross-cultural” exchange itself).



# THE FOUNDATION EFFECT

I knew that relying exclusively on textbooks and Washington D.C.-based experts to formulate and coordinate policy simplifies the complexities of Egyptian history, politics, and society. Given the spectrum of Gabr Fellows' expertise, I aimed to engage colleagues unencumbered by bureaucratic constraints about how they would address sharpening geopolitical crises and how they think the shift from government to private sector-led advancements impacts national security and the government's role in policy-making.

Traveling to Egypt offered me an opportunity to see the world through a different lens and glimpse the inner workings of the Middle East's historic diplomatic center. I developed close relationships with Egyptian counterparts, from whom I learned more about Egyptian negotiation strategies, bureaucratic and diplomatic standards, and youth concerns. I witnessed unmatched Egyptian hospitality driven by warmth and relationship-building, and always generously complimented with food. Conversely, in the United States, our conversations typically start with professional roles and aim to accomplish objectives efficiently...and on occasion there are complimentary snacks. In Egypt, a handshake serves as a gesture of cordiality and respect. In the United States, handshakes are often interpreted as indicators of confidence and establish professional authority. In both countries, people love to dance.

These subtle cultural similarities and contrasts reveal deeper truths about how societies define success and connection. Engaging with my Egyptian counterparts encouraged reflection on our shared ambitions, our differences, and how our unique perspectives can support each other's success.

I've internalized that being a "Gabr Fellow" isn't just a title or achievement; it's a mindset. We think globally, engage empathetically, and push our intellectual boundaries. With fresh perspectives, broadened networks, and renewed purpose, we emerge from the experience even more equipped to author innovative solutions and drive progress within our respective fields.

Ultimately, the Fellowship teaches that in an increasingly interconnected and digitized world, emerging leaders must not only navigate cultural boundaries but also recognize the humanity that binds us on a global scale. It is in this shared recognition that truly lasting partnerships and solutions to our world's problems are formed.



**Clara Sherwood, 2025 Gabr Fellow**, is a Program Analyst at the U.S. Department of Energy and a foreign affairs specialist with experience across U.S. government agencies, think tanks, and international programs. She previously worked at the U.S. Department of State and is a 2025 CSIS Project on Nuclear Issues Scholar, a former Fulbright Scholar in Morocco, and a two-time recipient of the State Department's Critical Language Scholarship in Arabic. Clara earned her graduate degree in international affairs from George Washington University and graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a bachelor's degree from Washington & Jefferson College. Outside of her professional work, she is a trained multi-genre vocalist and former collegiate lacrosse player.



# 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 recognized 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 program to more countries and a greater number of participants, the Fellowship can create a broader multiregional impact.



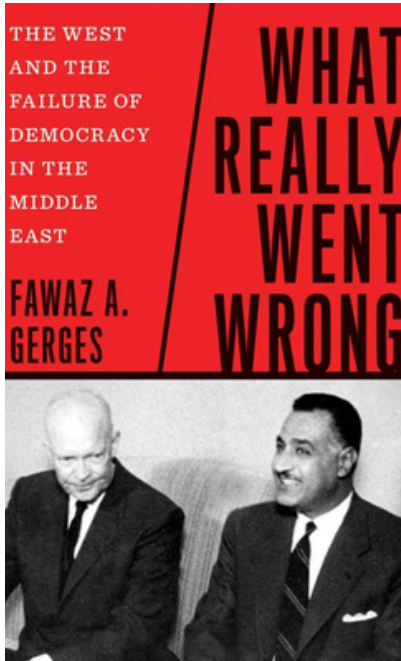
**TO SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION VISIT <https://www.eastwestdialogue.org/fellowship/how-to-support/>**

**We also invite our community to contribute thoughts, stories, and recommendations for the newsletter!**  
**Please write to [chairman@shafikgabrfoundation.org](mailto:chairman@shafikgabrfoundation.org)**



# CHAIRMAN'S RECOMMENDATIONS

## BOOKS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS



### What Really Went Wrong

**Fawaz A. Gerges's** book, argues that Western interventionist foreign policy, rather than inherent cultural or religious factors, is the primary cause of the Middle East's persistent instability and the failure of democracy.



### The Big Nine

This book written by the futurist **Amy Webb** that examines how a handful of powerful US and Chinese tech companies are shaping the future of artificial intelligence (Ai) and its profound implications for society.

## MOVIES & DOCUMENTARIES



### Just Mercy (2019)

**Just Mercy** is a 2019 biographical legal drama film based on the true story of young defense attorney Bryan Stevenson and his fight to free a wrongly convicted man, Walter McMillian, from death row in Alabama.



### The Wrong Man (1956)

This is an American docudrama film noir directed by Alfred Hitchcock and starring Henry Fonda and Vera Miles. It is unique among Hitchcock's films for being a near-documentary-style presentation that strictly adheres to a real-life case of mistaken identity.



# November 2025

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR NOVEMBER FELLOWS!



**Afnan Khalil**  
2015 Fellow  
November 1<sup>st</sup>



**Heba Safwat**  
2013 Fellow  
November 1<sup>st</sup>



**Amr Ismaeil**  
2013 Fellow  
November 3<sup>rd</sup>



**Elizabeth Trapp**  
2014 Fellow  
November 7<sup>th</sup>



**Amr Seda**  
2017 Fellow  
November 8<sup>th</sup>



**Suzanne Younger**  
2014 Fellow  
November 9<sup>th</sup>



**Samer Kirolos**  
2022 Fellow  
November 9<sup>th</sup>



**Harley Adsit**  
2022 Fellow  
November 12<sup>th</sup>



**Jeff Walls**  
2013 Fellow  
November 13<sup>th</sup>



**Fabrice Guerrier**  
2018 Fellow  
November 14<sup>th</sup>



**Morgan Williams**  
2013 Fellow  
November 14<sup>th</sup>



**Ibrahim Hammouda**  
2017 Fellow  
November 14<sup>th</sup>



**Jeremiah Bowden**  
2014 Fellow  
November 15<sup>th</sup>



**Yara Albraidy**  
2018 Fellow  
November 22<sup>nd</sup>



**Moataz Hussein**  
2013 Fellow  
November 30<sup>th</sup>

# Reception 2025 GALLERY

*At The Shafik Gabr Foundation 2025 Reception | Four Seasons, Washington DC, USA*



*Mr. M. Shafik Gabr with Nick Thomas 2015 Fellow, and Daniel Sullivan 2013 Fellow*



*Daniel Sullivan 2013 Fellow, Nick Thomas 2015 Fellow, Kemp Gouldin 2015 Fellow, Mohamed Ismail Fellow 2015 Fellow, & Ezemudi Redwood 2015 Fellow*



*Ambassador Motaz Zahran, Mrs Hala Zahran, Mrs Gigi Gabr, & Mr. M. Shafik Gabr*



*Congressman Darrell Issa, Mr. Mohamed Ramzi, & Dr Lara Ramzi*



*Mrs Gigi Gabr & Malak Gabr*



*Mr. M. Shafik Gabr with Nick Thomas 2015 Fellow*



# Reception 2025 GALLERY

At The Shafik Gabr Foundation 2025 Reception | Four Seasons, Washington DC, USA



*Lilita Infante & Kristina Arakelyan 2025 Fellow*



*Mr. David Dumke & Congressman Nick Rahall*



*Congressman Darrell Issa & Mr. M. Shafik Gabr*



*Mr. Jim Frangenberg & Dr. De Kai*





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/>



*Carl Haag, The Artist's Studio in Cairo  
Graphite, watercolor and bodycolor*

**THE SHAFIK GABR COLLECTION**

Connect with us



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