



THE GABR FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER



Chairman M. Shafik Gabr welcomes The Gabr Fellows: Hadir Helal (2015), Kemp Gouldin (2015), Bassma Fahim (2015), Maries Meshrequey (2025), Youssef Emam (2025), Abdullah Hussian (2025), Muhammad El Hawary (2018), Amr Seda (2017), Mahmoud Elmakkawe (2025), Amr Hesham (2022), Ahmed Naguib (2014), Mariam Al Sherif (2025), Ibrahim Hammoda (2017), Lydia Kamiel (2025), Dalia Younis (2017), and Nayra Gallah (2016)

At The Shafik Gabr Foundation - Cairo, Egypt

In This Issue

- Australia Page 02
- About the Author Page 06
- Monthly Predictions Page 08
- Fellows' Updates Page 09
- About the Fellowship Page 13
- Support Foundation Page 14
- Chairman's Recommendations Page 15
- December Birthdays Page 16
- Appendix Page 17

Australia

M. SHAFIK GABR

December 2025

I landed in Paris early this morning to meet Rachel and Francois with the purpose of visiting a private gallery, which was showing six show-stopping paintings by Étienne Dinet. Alphonse Étienne Dinet, who was born on 28th March 1861, was a French Orientalist painter and a major founder of the Society of French Painters.

I was first enchanted by Orientalist paintings when I saw a painting through the window of a gallery in Paris in 1992 which reminded me of Old Cairo. It was so real, so detailed and so extremely precise that I walked into the gallery and asked the gallery director there to tell me about the painting. I was shocked when he explained that the painting was over 100 years old. It looked as though it had been painted two weeks ago by a disciplined artist who showed every detail, to the extent that the painting truly spoke to you with light and clarity.

Up until that episode, I had never had an inclination towards paintings. After that visit, I walked into every gallery and museum that I came across and spent three years studying Orientalism. After three years of researching, meeting experts, visiting museums and learning about the paintings, I bought my first painting in 1995 and since then, I have never looked back. As a matter of fact, I funded and shared in the research of a book all about the lives of the Orientalist painters who themselves traveled - not to be confused with the armchair painters who painted exotic paintings while never visiting the region - to Jerusalem, Damascus, Afghanistan, Cairo, Luxor, Tunis, Algeria, Morocco and many more.

Orientalism Lives, a book about the Orientalist traveller painters, inspired me to launch via my Foundation, the East-West: The Art Of Dialogue initiative, bringing together young American professionals who have never travelled to the East, with young professional Egyptians who have never travelled to the West. Building bridges of understanding has always been an objective of mine, truly a mission I deeply believe in is that all problems and conflicts can be solved by personal engagement, except for issues of serious disease and death. Today, according to the Stockholm Peace Institute, 51 nations are experiencing military conflicts, costing death and devastation. 51 nations out of 194 on Earth is a horrifying number that humans are ignoring to their own peril.

Edward Said, the famous Columbia University professor, disparaged Orientalism as he linked it to colonialism and imperialism. He was correct on the political front, however as a close person to the late Edward Said had agreed with me, Said's negativity on Orientalism was in the political sphere and did not extend to the art and cultural field. On the contrary, the art of the Orientalist traveler painters brought cultures closer and found common ground that did not exist in the political realm. Inspired by the Orientalist traveler painters, the East-West: The Art of Dialogue initiative was born and today has touched and continues to touch the lives of young professionals in Egypt and the United States, as well as giving birth to projects in multiple sectors, including health, medicine, sports and more.

Now, it took an hour from Le Bourget airport to my favorite cafe, Brasserie Fouquet's at the crossroads of the Champs-Élysées and Avenue Georges V. The atmosphere was very breathtaking with the decorations for Christmas and New Year on display. Stephan, the manager, met me at the entrance and led me to my usual table. I ordered a double espresso and a croissant. Though it was early, Fouquet's was already busy with many guests enjoying the iconic, stylish and sophisticated brasserie. As I was absorbing the beautifully adorned Christmas tree and enjoying a nice view of the Champs-Elysee, Rachel walked in and we hugged. Rachel was tall, with the body of a model, a sharp nose, brunette hair past her shoulders and dressed to kill with a black coat resting on her shoulders and a crimson skirt matching her briefcase and belt. As we sat down, Rachel ordered an English Breakfast tea, a Saveur du Verger, scrambled eggs and avocado toast. I wondered where she put all of that in order to keep her slim shape.

Suddenly, out of nowhere I got a tap on my shoulder. I turned and surprise was all over my face as I recognised Lachlan Brown. Lachlan, a friend from Down Under, was an Australian, six foot two, in his mid-fifties but looking about thirty and athletic. Lachlan was a founder, majority owner and CEO of a global fund. I introduced Lachlan to Rachel and invited him to sit with us which he gladly accepted, ordering a latte. After nice pleasantries all around, we had some discussion amongst ourselves about Rachel's background as an art historian and Orientalist expert, as well as Lachlan's investment background and his living between Sydney, London and New York. Lachlan also explained to us that the purpose of his visit was that he was considering adding an office in Paris, through creating a subsidiary or purchasing an investment advisory firm.

I presented my sincere condolences to Lachlan about the horrific December 14th terrorist mass shooting which occurred at Bondi Beach in Sydney, in the middle of the afternoon during a Hanukkah celebration. Lachlan explained that it had deeply shaken the Australian government and society

and that the two gunmen had killed fifteen people. Rachel pointed out that the Australian Prime Minister had called it a deliberate attack on Jewish people. She added that the Australian Intelligence had declared it an Islamic State terrorism incident. Lachlan nodded as he sipped his latte. Rachel spoke again and said, "Why when Jews massacre Muslims is it never described by the governments and media as an act by Jewish terrorists?"

Before Lachlan could intervene, Rachel continued, "Do you remember February 25, 1994 when Baruch Goldstein, an Israeli, carried out a mass shooting of Palestinians who were praying in the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron? Baruch killed 29 people, including children, and wounded 125 others." This occurred, Rachel added, during the holy month of Ramadan. In the aftermath, Rachel clarified, the Palestinians started mass protests which ended with the Israeli Defense Forces killing an additional 25 Palestinians and injuring an additional 120. Rachel then asked us both, "Why was Baruch described as insane with not a word about Jewish Terrorism emanating from the far right ultra-Zionist Kach movement, of which Baruch was a prominent member?"

Lachlan's smile disappeared as he said, "Australia has taken many steps to deal with this atrocity." He counted on the fingers of his left hand and listed, "A gun buyback proposal with citizens, tightening our gun laws, providing extra mental health support, cracking down on hate speech and protests.." Lachlan added that Australia was currently discussing a potential permanent memorial on the Bondi Pavilion.

Rachel had a cynical smile on her face and before she responded, I interfered. I said, "Rachel and Lachlan, what happened at Bondi Beach was a massacre, what happened on 11th September was horrific, what occurred on 7th October was ugly terrorism and from October 8th onwards has been genocide. No measures, be it what Australia may do, or Guantánamo or the IDF killing 63,000 Palestinians, wounding and maiming over 150,000 individuals including medical professionals and journalists, will resolve this series of human catastrophes. All that is taking place," I continued explaining, "is nothing more than political spinning, a display of dealing with the symptoms. No one is daring to approach the disease itself to be able to end the ongoing series of human disasters which will only increase with the advancement of AGI and viral biodiversity."

Lachlan placed his latte on the table after taking his last sip and nodded his head in agreement. "Yes," He said quietly, "We continue with patching up the critical problems, rather than solving them." I responded then that the sad news is that political leaders don't spend the time, focus or effort to solve critical problems. In fact, the continuation of particular problems

provides serious benefits to certain parties. Rachel was nodding, saying, "Yes, defense companies cannot survive without conflicts appearing everywhere."

I reminded both Rachel and Lachlan about the Camp David meeting hosted by Jimmy Carter, which produced results after 13 days of serious and relentless negotiation. "No other leader has come close to what Carter has accomplished. Carter spent political and personal capital. Today, political leaders don't want to do that. Any thoughts of Trump locking away Putin and Zelenskyy at Mar-a-Lago?" I suggested. Both Rachel and Lachlan smiled.

Just as I said that, Francois walked in, shivering. It was cold and he was not wearing a coat. After introductions all around, I paid the bill, told Lachlan I was heading to London this evening and was hoping we could catch up in Davos.

Francois, Rachel and I got in my car with Vincent driving. Francois was speaking but I was not listening. My mind was pondering what the Middle East would look like if a two-state solution were to permanently resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that has been persisting and has now become a human catastrophe, lasting since 1947. As we were approaching the gallery, I was convinced that the leadership of Israel and Palestine were failures, even worse, they were - and are until today - the primary reason for the suffering of their people and the destruction of their safety, security and prosperity.



People attend the 'Light Over Darkness' vigil on Sunday 21st of December, honoring victims and survivors of the deadly mass shooting during a Hanukkah celebration at Bondi Beach on December 14th, in Sydney, Australia.
Hollie Adams/Reuters

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



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 multidisciplined 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 Lagumdzija, 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.

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.

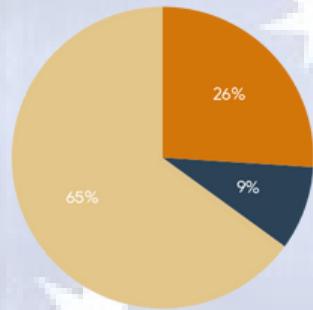
Through The Mohamed Shafik Gabr Foundation for Social Development, Gabr is helping to improve elementary-school education in Egypt, introducing students to arts and culture, and promoting sports and physical fitness for youth. In the area of higher education, Gabr is a major supporter of the American 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), 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.

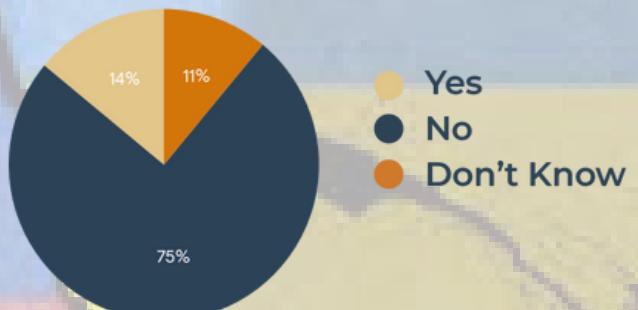
Gabr holds a BA in Economics and Management from the American University in Cairo and an MA in Economics from the University of London.

MONTHLY WORLD PREDICTIONS

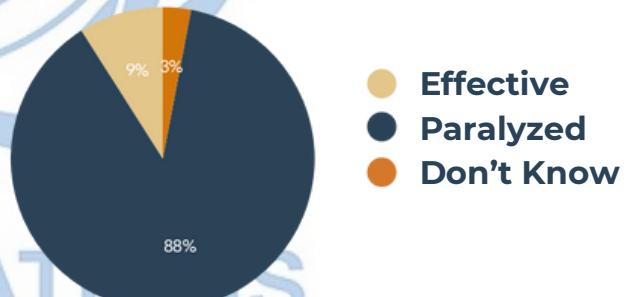
According to the K-12 School Shooting Database, at least 209 school shooting incidents were reported in the United States in 2025. Do you expect this number to increase or decrease in 2026?



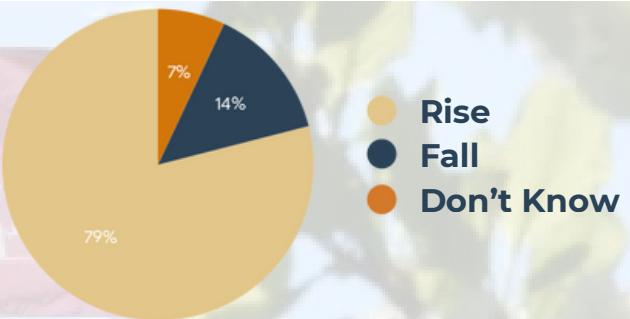
Will a ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine take place before March 30, 2026?



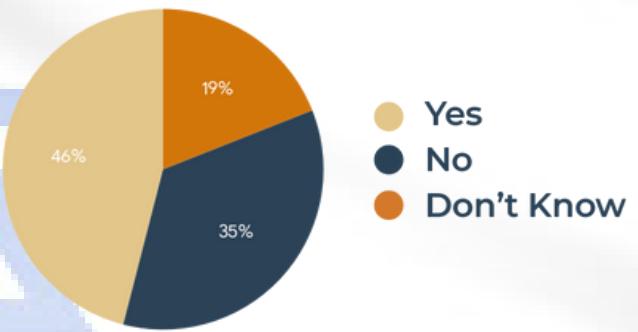
Is the United Nations currently an effective organization, or is it paralyzed by the veto power of the permanent members of the Security Council?



According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), there are 50 ongoing global armed conflicts in 2025. Do you expect this number to rise or fall in 2026?



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faces two major legal challenges: an ongoing domestic corruption trial for bribery, fraud, and breach of trust (active since 2020), and a November 2024 International Criminal Court (ICC) arrest warrant for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity. He has recently sought a presidential pardon for the corruption charges, citing the trial's incompatibility with his duties. Do you believe he will receive the pardon?





FELLOWS' UPDATES



Clara Sherwood, 2025 Fellow

Clara Sherwood, 2025 Gabr Fellow, recently published an article titled: "A Nuclear Iran: Exploring Saudi Arabia's Courses of Action and U.S. Response Strategies" in the 2025 CSIS Nuclear Scholars Initiative Journal. The piece can be read here: <https://www.csis.org/analysis/horizon-vol-8>

Dalia Younis, 2017 Fellow

Dalia Younis, 2017 Gabr Fellow, was a guest soloist during Cairo Steps (One of Egypt's most renowned oriental jazz ensembles) concert in the German University in Cairo. She was one of two members of the GUC music ensemble who were selected to perform solo following a 2-day workshop with Bassem Darwish (Cairo Steps lead).



Jude Husien, 2022 Fellow

Jude Husien, a 2025 Gabr Fellow, continues to drive social impact. She is a featured speaker at the 5th Annual Philadelphia Palestine Day. Notably, she has been invited back for a second term with TED's Ignite Global Social Changemakers cohort for the annual TED Conference.



FELLOWS' UPDATES



Hani Elzoumor, 2016 Gabr Fellow

Hani Elzoumor, 2016 Gabr Fellow, has recently been awarded a PhD in innovation economics from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. In his doctoral research, conducted in one of the world's leading innovation-driven economies, Elzoumor analyzed nationwide Swedish firm-level data on innovation and technology collaborations, as well as intellectual property strategies across regions and industries, with a particular focus on environmental technologies and their implications for firms' economic performance. Elzoumor will begin a postdoctoral position in technology entrepreneurship at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU), one of Europe's leading technical universities. His postdoctoral research will examine how Danish deep-tech start-ups scale advanced technological solutions while collaborating within innovation ecosystems.

Ibrahim Hammouda, 2017 Fellow

Ibrahim Hammouda, a 2017 Gabr Fellow, recently began his new role as the Egyptian Correspondent for Levantintel (Intelligence Connect Market) based in Cyprus. To launch his first interview for the platform, he sat down with Mariam Al Sherif, 2025 Gabr Fellow, for a deep dive into the current state of Egypt's economy and the strategic future of its creative industries. This collaboration highlights the continued strength and networking of the Gabr Fellowship across different cohorts.





FELLOWS' UPDATES



Nick Thomas, 2022 Fellow

Huge **congratulations** to Nick Thomas, 2016 Gabr Fellow, who just took home another Best Actor award from Sweden Film Festival, for his role in The Egypt Affair. He has also accepted another acting role in Abu Dhabi, solidifying his move to the front of the camera, as well as behind it.

Sarah Badr, 2017 Fellow

Sarah Badr, 2017 Gabr Fellow, recently marked a significant milestone in the energy sector, delivering the first SLB Introduction to AI training for the BHGR Group in Hassi Messaoud, Algeria. As the industry evolves, AI has shifted from a luxury to a "value-extending" necessity within the oil and gas asset lifecycle. Sarah's initiative focused on several key areas of digital transformation: Subsurface & Drilling, production, and upscaling.



Erika Witt, 2014 Gabr Fellow

Erika Witt, 2014 Gabr Fellow, recently received her second Above and Beyond Award during the Bayou Classic, honoring her exceptional contributions to the Southern University System and operational excellence at the SUNO Museum of Art. Erika is also set to make history with her upcoming exhibition, "From the Nile to the Mississippi: King Tutankhamun and the Giovanni Amin Collection," marking the first major ancient Egyptian exhibition held at an HBCU, on 26th of February, 2026.



FELLOWS' UPDATES



Yasser El Zahhar, 2016 Gabr Fellow

Yasser El Zahhar, 2016 Gabr Fellow, is revolutionizing Arabic literature at Abjjad by using AI to transform audiobooks into "audio films." Key achievements include producing the first Arabic audiobook using voice cloning for Dr. Mostafa Mahmoud's works and launching Hybrid AI (HAI) technology for immersive sound design. Yasser plans to produce 10,000 audiobooks over the next three years, effectively doubling the current global library of Arabic audio titles.

Youssef Emam, 2025 Gabr Fellow

Youssef Emam, a 2025 Gabr Fellow, recently achieved two significant professional milestones. He was accepted as an Affiliate Member of the American Chamber of Commerce, joining a premier network of global business leaders. Additionally, Youssef was selected as a Legal Mentor at the AUC Venture Lab, where he provides pro bono guidance to emerging startups and young entrepreneurs, fostering the next generation of innovation in the region.



Kemp Gouldin, 2015 Gabr Fellow

A project rooted in the Gabr Fellowship continues to make international headlines as Because Baseball, founded by Kemp Gouldin (2015 Gabr Fellow), bridges cultures through the power of sport.

A recent [MLB.com feature](#) highlights the organization's mission to foster friendship between the U.S. and Egypt on the baseball diamond. What began as a Gabr Fellowship Action Project has grown into a thriving nonprofit that recently hosted its "Play Ball Weekend" in Cairo, featuring Major League stars like two-time World Series Champion Hunter Pence and Yankees outfielder Giancarlo Stanton.

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



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 readers to contribute thoughts, stories, and recommendations for the newsletter!
Please write to chairman@shafikgabrfoundation.org



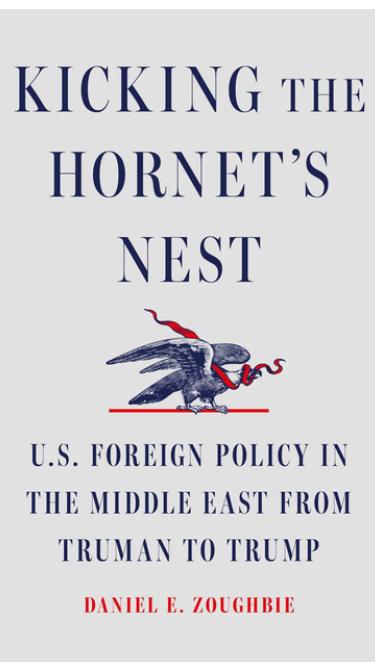
CHAIRMAN'S RECOMMENDATIONS

BOOKS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS



Prophets Without Honour

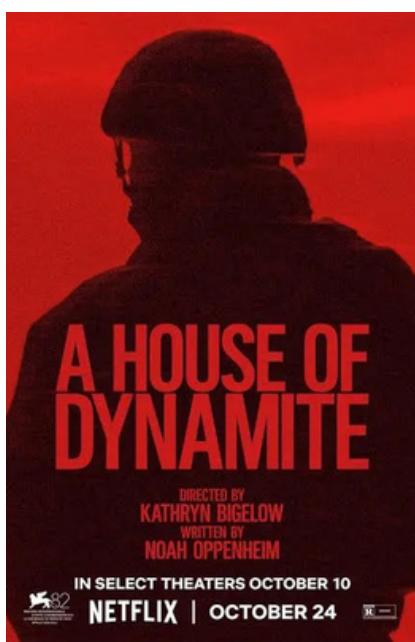
The 2000 Camp David Summit and the End of the Two-State Solution written by **Shlomo Ben-Ami**. It provides a detailed, insider's account and analysis of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.



Kicking the Hornet's Nest: U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East from Truman to Trump

This book, authored by **Daniel E. Zoughbie**, published October 2025, is a non-fiction analysis of eight decades of U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East.

MOVIES & DOCUMENTARIES



A House of Dynamite (2025)
Apocalyptic political thriller directed by **Kathryn Bigelow**. The film explores the tense 18 minutes after a single, unattributed nuclear missile is launched at Chicago, forcing U.S. officials to determine a response under immense pressure.



Palestine 36 (2025)

A historical drama directed by **Annemarie Jacir**, depicting the 1936-1939 Arab revolt against British rule in Palestine during the Mandate period. It is the Palestinian entry for the Best International Feature Film at the 98th Academy Awards.

December 2025

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR DECEMBER FELLOWS!



Nancy Habib
2014 Fellow
December 1st



Alex Goldmark
2013 Fellow
December 9th



Leisel Bogan
2016 Fellow
December 11th



Menna Farouk
2017 Fellow
December 14th



Ahmed El Assal
2014 Fellow
December 15th



Beth Cartier
2013 Fellow
December 16th



Zeyad El Kelani
2014 Fellow
December 17th



Nick Thomas
2015 Fellow
December 22nd



Becca Doten
2018 Fellow
December 23rd



Omar Raafat
2022 Fellow
December 25th



Soaad Hossam
2018 Fellow
December 26th



Clara Sherwood
2025 Fellow
December 31st



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/>



Edward Lear, Sheikh Abadeh on the Nile
Oil on Canvas

THE SHAFIK GABR COLLECTION

Connect with us



The Shafik Gabr Foundation
444 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 840, Washington, DC 20001
7 Hassan Al-Akbar Street Cairo, Egypt, 11571