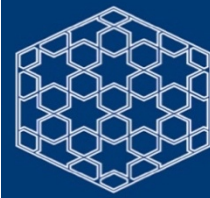




GABR FELLOWS WITH REP. DANA ROHRABACHER AT THE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION 'US-EGYPT BILATERAL RELATIONS' HELD AT ARTOC HQ IN CAIRO ON DECEMBER 10, 2019



The  
SHAFIK GABR  
Foundation

# The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter

December 2019, Issue 29

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## ***2019 has been a year of lost opportunities.***

There is growing evidence that global fragility is on the rise. With the China-US trade war unresolved, Brexit presenting a complex dilemma, and with Israel facing its third election in a year, it is clear the old world order is no longer valid.

Instability has emerged in places like India and Kashmir, Yemen, Libya, Turkey, Hong Kong, Paris, Venezuela, Barcelona, Chile, among others, things are increasingly becoming more vulnerable and will likely continue to go down that trajectory. The world had regained some stability after the fall of the Berlin Wall and collapse of communism.

I've stated for years that peace is a journey and not a destination. That said, there is an opportunity that should be seized in 2020 to achieve what we have failed to achieve this past year. The path to achieving this will be paved with strong dialogue and communication, and the youth will play a critical role in seeing this process through. The East-West: The Art of Dialogue initiative is proof that youth can and will succeed to achieve what yesterday's generations have failed to do. The 120 Gabr Fellows, and growing, from the East and West demonstrate that our similarities are far greater than our differences. This will be our strength going forward. The question is, can it be seized in 2020?

**M. Shafik Gabr**

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## Shafik Gabr Foundation Awards \$10,000 USD Grant to Because Baseball



*Because Baseball coaches with youth in Egypt (April 2019)*

The Shafik Gabr Foundation awarded a \$10,000 grant to **Because Baseball** last month. **2015 Gabr Fellow Kemp Gouldin** started Beyond Baseball as part of his Gabr Fellowship Action Project, which every Fellow is invited to create as part of the program.

Kemp started Because Baseball based on the sport's history of bringing people together. He explained how whether watching TV, listening to the radio, or browsing the Internet, there's a seemingly endless stream of accounts detailing division and conflict across the globe, and particularly along the East-West divide. Kemp saw, in baseball, an opportunity to influence that narrative and change it into one of understanding and unity and a solution through hope.

"Because Baseball was founded to build bridges among families, communities, and cultures; baseball is our vehicle to doing so," says Kemp. Beginning in Egypt, children (and even their parents) are learning to play the game, finding shared purpose and common humanity on and off the playing field."

Historically, baseball has helped bridge the divide that has created animosity amongst different ethnic neighborhoods in the United States. Kemp was founded in his belief that if the late, great Jackie Robinson could play a role in bringing people together throughout the United States, then this great American sport could also work in the Middle East and Africa, where Egypt is located.

Archaeologists have discovered drawings from 2,500 years ago, dating to 400 BC, from the Temple of Philae in Aswan, Egypt, that appear to show the pharaohs holding a bat and ball.

Since 2016, Kemp has made over a dozen trips to Egypt in order to bring organized baseball to children living there. With the help of the Gabr Foundation and some of his friends at Major League Baseball, Kemp is seeing continued and growing success with Because Baseball.

## News and Updates...

### Jeff Walls joins the Khan Academy



**2013 Gabr Fellow Jeff Walls** recently joined Khan Academy as a Senior Product Design. In this role, Jeff is working towards providing a free world-class education for anyone, anywhere. Khan Academy has over 90 million users worldwide, and Jeff will be leading several design efforts to help use data to make online learning personalized for individual learning styles.

### Dalia Ihab spreads Autism Awareness Through Her son



**2017 Gabr Fellow Dalia Ihab's son Anas** is autistic and was diagnosed with ADHD. In honor of his 5th birthday on the 21st of November, Dali has been publishing posts on social media about her journey to inspire Egyptian moms who are going through the same struggle she is, to help them with greater awareness, knowledge and support which she believes God blessed her with.

### Reham Gamal Presents at the World Youth Forum



**2017 Gabr Fellow Reham Gamal** was selected to present at the World Youth Forum in Heidelberg, Germany as part of their First Tour event on October 26, 2019. Reham holds a Master's Degree in Journalism and Mass Communication from the American University in Cairo.

### Liz Trapp Welcomes Another Baby



**2014 Gabr Fellow Liz Trapp** gave birth to a baby girl, Carla Emiliana, on November 25. This is Liz and her husband's second child. They also have a son named Ben who is two-years-old. Liz is a New York native. She achieved holds a BFA in painting, a MA in art history, and an MFA in painting. She is interested in Contemporary Art in the Middle East, particularly art produced by women.

### **Zeyad Elkalani: Senior Fellow at TransResearch**



**2014** Gabr Fellow Zeyad Elkalani becomes a Senior Fellow at the TransResearch Consortium in Portland, Oregon. A chapter of his book is being printed by Rowman and Littlefield Publishing House. Zeyad is also a PhD Candidate in Global Political Economy and Computational Analytics at Claremont Graduate University.

### **New Role for Mike Burgess**



**2015** Gabr Fellow Mike Burgess moved away from his role in British politics and started a new role as a manager at a company called Moonshot CVE that works in countering violent extremism in the UK and internationally. The role is based in London.

### **Fabrice Guerrier's Syllble Publishes First Book**



**2018** Gabr Fellow Fabrice Guerrier's startup Syllble recently published its first children's book. The mother-daughter collaboration called "Aminah in Nicaragua" recounts the duo's journey across the world as they explore new cultures, while making new friends.

### **Nourhan Moussa Recognized**



**2014** Gabr Fellow Nourhan Moussa received recognition as a contributing leader in the Legal Community at the sixth annual Knowledge Summit powered by the Mohamed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation at the Dubai World Trade Center in the United Arab Emirates.

# Meet the Gabr Fellows

## Alex Goldmark, 2013 Gabr Fellow, U.S.

**Name:** Alex Goldmark

**Profession:** Supervising Senior producer of NPR's "Planet Money"

Planet Money is a radio program and podcast unit that gets about three million downloads a week and reaches millions more on NPR radio stations. Planet Money uses the style of narrative storytelling to make complex economic concepts simple and even fun to learn about. For instance, to explain how automated stock trading works behind the scenes, I created a stock trading Twitter bot that made trades based on Donald Trump's tweets. It was named @BOTUS and gained tens of thousands of followers in the first week it existed. (Spoiler: it lost money). The contacts and context from the Gabr fellowship have helped me find stories and contacts for my reporting on international economics.



## Muhammed Nagi, 2015 Gabr Fellow, Egypt

**Name:** Muhammad Nagi

**Profession:** Cofounder & Managing Director of AlMaqarr; one of Egypt's leading coworking management enterprises.

I know what it takes to start something from scratch, and I always promote collaboration as I believe that working together creates exceptions. In my free time I am an autodidact, football geek, and a regular seeker of balanced approaches to wellness. Back in 2015, when I was a Gabr Fellow, my company had only one location in Cairo and I was hoping that such an elite fellowship could be an eye opener for a whole different world that would contribute to personal maturity and the way I look at things. I am grateful for being surrounded by growth-minded people who always encouraged me to elevate my standards and expectations and I am also so grateful for Mr. Shafik's ongoing support and numerous pieces of business advice that really make a difference.

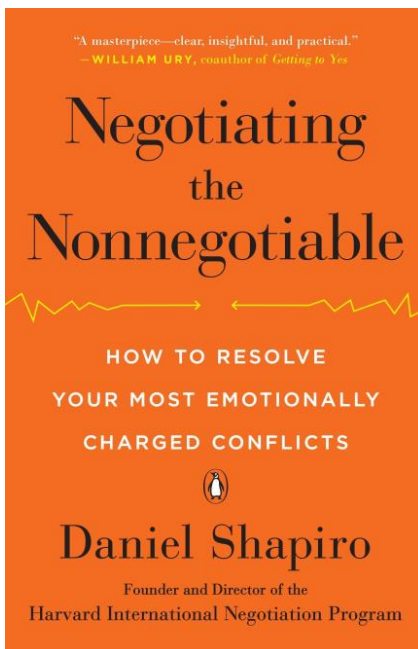


## Chairman Gabr meets with Fellows in Washington, D.C.



Chairman Shafik Gabr meets with the Gabr Fellows in Washington, D.C. on November 22 at I Ricchi where the group discussed pressing political issues including President Donald Trump's 2020 re-election campaign, the situation in the Middle East, and how U.S.-Egypt relations could be affected if Egypt decides to purchase Russian fighter jets despite U.S. warnings to the contrary. Fellows who attended the dinner were Allison Feikes (2018), Charles Truxal (2018), Courtney Joline (2017), Daniel Lansberg-Rodriguez (2013), Dan "Sully" Sullivan (2013), Fabrice Guerrier (2018), Hayley Rose (2018), Jean Kwon (2017), Kemp Gouldin (2015), Kristina Ryan (2017), Sarah Walker (2018), Stephanie Cate Lord (2014), Thomas Hanna (2018), and Wes Rogerson (2018).

## Gabr Foundation Reading Corner



The Foundation Reading Corner encourages Fellows to critique the books that have been recommended to them in each issue. For this issue, Mr. Gabr recommends "Negotiating the Nonnegotiable: How to Resolve Your Most Emotionally Charged Conflicts" by Daniel Shapiro. This empowering book delves into a method that Shapiro, a Harvard negotiation expert, developed to identify where and how conflict is fueled. He then presents a framework with which to bridge the toughest divides people face around the world and reconcile the most difficult and contentious situations; whether with family members, colleagues or in the highly-polarized world of politics.

## Question 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 with the Trump Administration's unprecedented decision to "no longer recognize Israeli settlements as per se inconsistent with international law"?**

Yes: 16%

No: 78%

I don't know: 6%

### **2. In light of the ongoing impeachment process, do you think Donald Trump will win reelection in 2020?**

Yes: 54%

No: 32%

I don't know: 14%

### **3. Do you think Egypt will cancel its purchase of Su-35 warplanes from Russia over potential U.S. sanctions?**

Yes: 8%

No: 62%

I don't know: 30%

*Stay tuned for next month's question of the month and the Gabr Fellows' takes on current events, as our community of future leaders grapple with the most pressing challenges of today and tomorrow.*

# The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter

For more information on the ShafikGabr Foundation and its *East-West: The Art of Dialogue* Initiative, please visit the website <https://eastwestdialogue.org/>.

For earlier itineraries of the US program, please see the previous years' reports at <https://eastwestdialogue.org/fellowship/brochures/>



Edouard Verschaefelt – Old Man and Young Girl, The ShafikGabr Collection

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