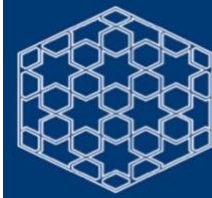




MR. AND MRS. SHAFIK GABR WITH GABR FELLOWS FROM OVER THE YEARS AT THE ANNUAL ART OF DIALOGUE RECEPTION IN WASHINGTON, D.C. IN 2018



The
SHAFIK GABR
Foundation

The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter

February 2020, Issue 31

IN THIS ISSUE

Takeaway from the 2020 World Economic Forum in Davos: we can be cautiously optimistic about the future.

China and the United States have softened the looming blow that was brought by trade tensions, thereby reducing global economic uncertainty. An all-out war was neutralized by America's reactive strike on Iran's highest-ranking military strategist IRGC-Quds Commander Gen. Qassem Soleimani. In Europe, policymakers have put forth greater incentivization for green infrastructure, education and care. Banks have incorporated climate and environment-related financial risks into their corporate and investment infrastructure. And workplaces have seen an uptick in diversity and inclusion.

We've seen the last decade boast of a resurgence and growth for middle-income families, particularly in nations like India and China which lead the world in population statistics and manufacturing. However, this relatively newly-minted digital revolution – which at first presented many opportunities for growth and a pathway out of poverty for micro-entrepreneurs in emerging markets – has the potential to become a trap for middle-income consumers and the next generation who could be blocked from achieving growth by a winner-take-all dynamic. Innovation and creative ingenuity will be key to avoiding this outcome.

Adaptation and growth are non-negotiables in facing the many geopolitical headwinds that have already begun making their way around the globe. And as it's become more apparent that war is not the preferred solution to solving decades-old conflicts, the revival of economic statecraft could be the lynchpin in this equation of achieving peace.

M. Shafik Gabr

In Brief...

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News and Updates...

Hani Elzomor Achieves Master's Degree



2016 Gabr Fellow Hani Elzomor obtained his master's degree in Knowledge-Based Entrepreneurship from the School of Business, Economics, and Law, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, with the highest honors. He currently works as a teaching assistant at the Department of Economics at Cairo University in Sweden.

Michael Matthiesen Makes Dean's List



2017 Gabr Fellow Michael Matthiesen achieved the Dean's List for the Fall 2019 semester at Florida International University's College of Law where he is pursuing his Juris Doctor (JD) degree. Michael's cousin Steve Gleason was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his work in ALS awareness.

Reem Soliman Joins Musical Group



2013 Gabr Fellow Reem Soliman joined the Egyptian Band "Ayamna El Helwa" (which means "Our Good Times" in Arabic). The Cairo-based group was created in 2003 and they perform Egyptian music. Reem has been singing her entire life. She had her first solo performance at the age of six.

Morgan Williams Achieves PhD



2013 Gabr Fellow Morgan Williams received his PhD in Physical Geography from UC Berkeley. In his current role, Morgan works as an earth scientist with the Department of Energy in the Office of Legacy Management, where he helps develop long-term policy documents and technical documents around the longtime burial of radioactive waste throughout the United States.

Anis Issa Gets Assigned to Paris



2016 Gabr Fellow Anis Issa was assigned a journalist mission in the French journal of "La Croix" in Paris, where he has worked on various files related to intercultural dialogue, religion, and politics. He especially focused on the crisis in the Ukrainian church and its impact on the Russian-Ukrainian relations.

Noha Eid Joins Advertising Agency



2013 Gabr Fellow Noha Eid becomes Senior Art Director at award-winning digital advertising agency Kijamii in Egypt. Prior to this, Noha worked as a Graphic Designer for Al Masry Al Youm Newspaper. Noha is also an independent jewelry designer.

Imane Higazy Gets Published



2016 Gabr Fellow Imane Higazy started working as a research consultant for InnoScience, an Asian Pharmaceutical Research Company and Institute which is headquartered in Malaysia. She also had her latest research project published in an international pharmaceutical magazine.

Nayra Gadallah Gets Married and Pursues an MA



2016 Gabr Fellow Nayra Gadallah got married and is pursuing her Masters of International and Comparative Law from the American University in Cairo. She currently works as a Senior Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Assistant at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Meet the Gabr Fellows

Ibrahim Hammouda, 2017 Gabr Fellow, Egypt

Name: Ibrahim Hammouda

Profession: English language Instructor at Berlitz in Egypt

I teach students English at the Berlitz language center in Cairo. Prior to this, I was a Teacher's assistant at Nile University. I also have an eclectic taste of hobbies that I takes seriously, including writing, music as a guitarist, and boxing.

The Gabr Fellowship has changed the way I view the world, and opened doors to discovering and reading different pages of life. From traveling and meeting the decision makers in both Egypt, and the USA, to discussing different questions with them, has led to a better understanding of politics and how to be impactful within my circle of community. The Gabr Fellowship paved the way for me to be accepted as an Intern for the U.S. Congress, with Rep. Alex Mooney, after a series of successful interviews. This success happened thanks to being part of the Fellowship program, and learning from its founder and leader Mr. Shafik Gabr.

My team and I were also able to finish our action project (We Are One) which is a page on Facebook that has many videos of people, from the US and Egypt, talking about their experiences in each country and their perception of the people there.



Alexis Taylor, 2016 Gabr Fellow, U.S.

Name: Alexis Taylor

Profession: CEO of 3 Day Startup (3DS)

I've worked with 3 Day Startup for six great years. 3DS is a 12-year-old nonprofit that activates the potential of tomorrow's leaders through hands-on, entrepreneurship education. I know all too well that in our rapidly changing world, equipping individuals with the entrepreneurial mindset is key to shaping more inclusive, fair, and prosperous communities.

My hobbies include leader the World Economic Forum Global Shapers Community in Austin, Texas, where I serve the city as an Economic Prosperity Commissioner, traveling, playing chess, and walks and talks about deep topics.

The Gabr Fellowship opened my world up to endless possibilities and trained me in how to be a global public servant and dynamic leader. I owe my work at 3 Day Startup as CEO and the WEF Global Shapers to the training I received during the Gabr Fellowship. It changed my understanding of what she's capable of and inspired me to take bigger risks as a leader.



ECONOMIC AND TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

JANUARY 15, 2020 FACT SHEET



On January 15, 2020, the United States and China signed an historic and enforceable agreement on a Phase One trade deal that requires structural reforms and other changes to China's economic and trade regime in the areas of intellectual property, technology transfer, agriculture, financial services, and currency and foreign exchange. The Phase One agreement also includes a commitment by China that it will make substantial additional purchases of U.S. goods and services in the coming years. Importantly, the agreement establishes a strong dispute resolution system that ensures prompt and effective implementation and enforcement. The United States has agreed to modify its Section 301 tariff actions in a significant way.

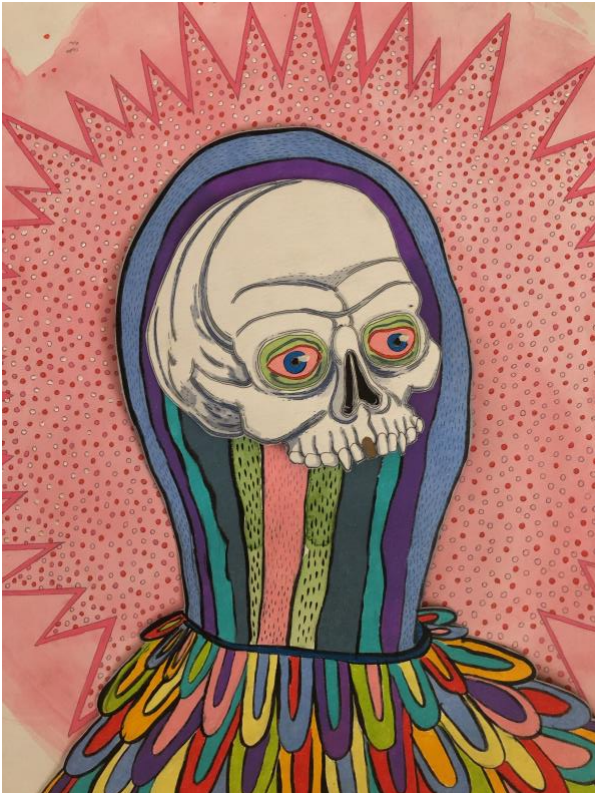
Information on specific chapters of the Phase One agreement is provided below:

- **Intellectual Property:** The Intellectual Property (IP) chapter addresses numerous longstanding concerns in the areas of trade secrets, pharmaceutical-related intellectual property, geographical indications, trademarks, and enforcement against pirated and counterfeit goods.
- **Technology Transfer:** The Technology Transfer chapter sets out binding and enforceable obligations to address several of the unfair technology transfer practices of China that were identified in USTR's Section 301 investigation. For the first time in any trade agreement, China has agreed to end its long-standing practice of forcing or pressuring foreign companies to transfer their technology to Chinese companies as a condition for obtaining market access, administrative approvals, or receiving advantages from the government. China also commits to provide transparency, fairness, and due process in administrative proceedings and to have technology transfer and licensing take place on market terms. Separately, China further commits to refrain from directing or supporting outbound investments aimed at acquiring foreign technology pursuant to industrial plans that create distortion.
- **Agriculture:** The Agriculture chapter addresses structural barriers to trade and will support a dramatic expansion of U.S. food, agriculture and seafood product exports, increasing American farm and fishery income, generating more rural economic activity, and promoting job growth. A multitude of non-tariff barriers to U.S. agriculture and seafood products are addressed, including for meat, poultry, seafood, rice, dairy, infant formula, horticultural products, animal feed and feed additives, pet food, and products of agriculture biotechnology.
- **Financial Services:** The Financial Services chapter addresses a number of longstanding trade and investment barriers to U.S. providers of a wide range of financial services, including banking, insurance, securities, and credit rating services, among others. These barriers include foreign equity limitations and discriminatory regulatory requirements.

Removal of these barriers should allow U.S. financial service providers to compete on a more level playing field and expand their services export offerings in the Chinese market.

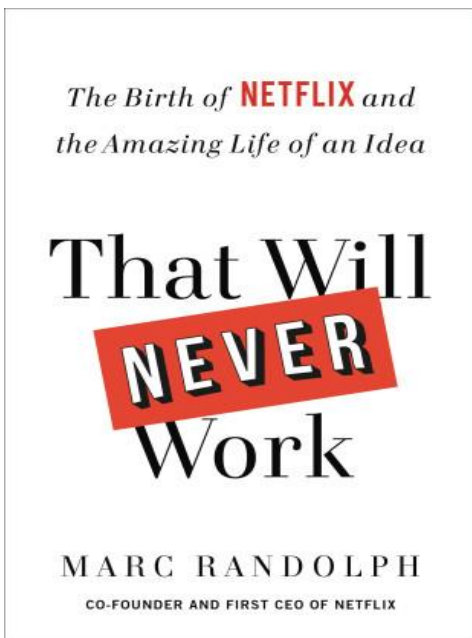
- **Currency:** The chapter on Macroeconomic Policies and Exchange Rate Matters includes policy and transparency commitments related to currency issues. The chapter addresses unfair currency practices by requiring high-standard commitments to refrain from competitive devaluations and targeting of exchange rates, while promoting transparency and providing mechanisms for accountability and enforcement. This approach will help reinforce macroeconomic and exchange rate stability and help ensure that China cannot use currency practices to unfairly compete against U.S. exporters.
- **Expanding Trade:** The Expanding Trade chapter includes commitments from China to import various U.S. goods and services over the next two years in a total amount that exceeds China's annual level of imports for those goods and services in 2017 by no less than \$200 billion. China's commitments cover a variety of U.S. manufactured goods, food, agricultural and seafood products, energy products, and services. China's increased imports of U.S. goods and services are expected to continue on this same trajectory for several years after 2021 and should contribute significantly to the rebalancing of the U.S.-China trade relationship.
- **Dispute Resolution:** The Dispute Resolution chapter sets forth an arrangement to ensure the effective implementation of the agreement and to allow the parties to resolve disputes in a fair and expeditious manner. This arrangement creates regular bilateral consultations at both the principal level and the working level. It also establishes strong procedures for addressing disputes related to the agreement and allows each party to take proportionate responsive actions that it deems appropriate. The United States will vigilantly monitor China's progress in eliminating its unfair trade practices and implementing these obligations.

Gabr Fellows Featured Art



Chase Bowman (2014 Gabr Fellow) had his solo art show opening last month at Gradient Projects in Thomas, West Virginia. The name of the show was “Strange Visitor” and one of his pieces is featured on the left. Chase’s artist name is “Oddy Gumption”. He is a classically-trained draftsman and art-maker who works as a Professor of Design at Concord University in Princeton, West Virginia. Chase has been lauded as “a new voice in Appalachian culture” and recognized for his use of art to showcase a lesser-known side of the culture from which he hails.

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 “That Will Never Work: The Birth of Netflix and the Amazing Life of an Idea,” by Marc Randolph, the iconic multi-billion dollar streaming company’s founder and first CEO. Randolph’s story inspires to follow your dreams and is a tell-tale example of taking a big leap of faith in both business and in life. The book is full of concepts that are counter-intuitive and while it doesn’t always prove successful, in his case, the choice to go big or go home with the creation of Netflix garnered massively positive results.

Making fun of men or emboldening sex pests? Egyptian song spurs debate



By: Menna A. Farouk

CAIRO, Jan 8 (Thomson Reuters Foundation) - An Egyptian pop song where a man threatens a woman to force her to give him her phone number has caused a storm as it was released the day after a video emerged of a woman being sexually assaulted by a mob - a common crime during the Arab Spring.

Singer Tameem Youness has defended the track "Salmonella" - where he prays for the woman he is wooing to become sick with salmonella - as a satire on men's reactions to being spurned in the conservative Arab country.

"I was making fun of the men who appear very romantic but when they get rejected, they go nuts and start to treat the woman badly or curse her or say things that are not true about her," he said in a video on his Facebook page.

Egypt is the Arab world's most populous country and its pop music is listened to across the Middle East. "Salmonella" has been viewed more than 7.5 million times on YouTube since its release on Jan. 1.

Women's rights advocates say many men will not see the joke and the catchy tune risks encouraging harassment in Egypt, where sexual assault was rife during and after the 2011 uprising that ousted veteran president Hosni Mubarak.

Youness, who is shown with blood splattered around his mouth at one point in the video, sings, "I will not go away until I get your number so do not refuse".

More than 60% of Egyptian men said they have sexually harassed a woman or girl in a 2017 survey by UN Women and the gender equality group Promundo, which also found that most men believe women sometimes deserve to be beaten.

"This (kind of song) can really incite young people to practice violence against women and violate their rights without giving them the freedom to say no," said Nehad Abu El Komsan, head of the Egyptian Center for Women's Rights.

The timing of the song's release - a day after footage emerged of a woman being groped by a mob during New Year's Eve celebrations in Mansoura, about 130km northeast of Cairo - was insensitive, she said.

Authorities have said they are investigating the incident.

President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi ordered a crackdown on sexual harassment after a woman was assaulted in Cairo's Tahrir Square during his 2014 inauguration, with a law introduced that year prescribing a minimum of six months in jail or a fine.

Not everyone is worried about the song.

"The song is insulting and humiliating to women but I am against banning it," Maggie Mamdouh, a 25-year-old engineer, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

"This will be a violation of freedom of expression."

Disclaimer: The views presented in this article are the authors' alone and do not represent the opinion of the Foundation. This article was originally published in the [Thomson Reuters Foundation](#).

Menna A. Farouk is 2017 Gabr Fellow and a journalist for four years and is currently Front-page Editor of The Egyptian Gazette.

Stay tuned for more articles and thoughts from Gabr Fellows in the next newsletter

A year after the Ukrainian schism, the Orthodox world continues to be divided

The creation of an independent Ukrainian Church a year ago profoundly divided the Orthodox world and revealed political alliances within the Churches.



By Anis Issa

A year ago, on January 5, 2019 in Istanbul, the Patriarch of Constantinople signed a decree formally confirming the creation of a Ukrainian Orthodox church, independent of the Patriarchate of Moscow. By this decree, Bartholomeus I invited all the Orthodox Churches of the world to recognize it as an autocephalous Church.

Twelve months later, it appears that this independence, recognized by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Moscow, deeply disturbs the classic game of spheres of influence. Indeed, the Orthodox Churches of the world reacted differently and were divided into three camps: the pro-autocephaly, the anti-autocephaly and the neutrals.

For Ukraine, or for Greece?

Among the pro-autocephaly, the Church of Athens, which is very close to Constantinople, was the first to show its support on October 12, 2019. The following month, two bishops from the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Ukraine concelebrated the mass with the Assistant Bishop of the Archbishop of Athens, Hieronymus. The position of the Greek Orthodox Church in Alexandria, on the other hand, was more ambiguous at first.

During his visit to Ukraine in September 2018, Patriarch Theodore II initially expressed his support for the primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, attached to the Patriarchate of Moscow, Metropolitan Onufriy. However, undoubtedly under pressure from Athens, Theodore II finally commemorated, in the liturgy of November 8, Metropolitan Epiphany, thus recognizing the autocephalous status of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine. This prompted the Russian

Orthodox Church to sever ties with the Patriarchate of Alexandria.

"It was not a step back!", however, Mgr Narkissos, Metropolitan of Naucratis and Patriarchal Vicar of Alexandria, explained to *La Croix*. *"The visit to the Church of Ukraine took place before the act of Patriarch Bartholomeus. And then, this decision should not be seen as a hostile position towards anyone. His Holiness Patriarch Theodore II continues to commemorate Patriarch Kirill in all liturgies and, for our part, we consider Moscow as a sister Church."*

In solidarity with the Church and the Russian State!

Among the anti-autocephaly groups, most of the Orthodox Churches with historical ties to the Moscow Patriarchate - the Serbian, Polish, Albanian and Czechoslovakian Churches - have aligned themselves with Russia.

Although it has not positioned itself so explicitly, the Church of Jerusalem (which, as the *"first Church"*, has global influence) has also taken several measures towards the Russian Church, which has a considerable presence in Israel. Thus, in April, it introduced strict measures against priests from Ukraine, to verify that they belong to the *"canonical Church"*. And in October, Patriarch Theophile III of Jerusalem reaffirmed his support for *"the only canonical Church (which he) knows, presided over by the Metropolitan Onufriy."*

Explicit neutrality...

Finally, in the neutral camp, we find the Church of Cyprus, which is divided internally on the question.

The patriarch of Antioch Jean X also took care not to pronounce officially in favor of one or the other camp. However, he had affirmed, in a press release published before the Constantinople decision, during the Holy Synod in October 2018, that the subject of Ukrainian autocephaly could only be discussed collegially (within a council for example), and certainly not unilaterally.

It is clear that Antioch did not want to get angry with Constantinople, but could not give up its privileged relations with Moscow, in the context of the war in Syria. The Orthodox Church of Antioch being known for being close to the regime of Bashar Al Assad, a great ally of Russia.

Disclaimer: *The views presented in this article are the authors' alone and do not represent the opinion of the Foundation. This article was originally published in [La Croix](#) in French and translated into English.*

Anis Issa is a 2016 Gabr Fellow and a journalist for the Paris, France-based Roman Catholic daily newspaper *La Croix*.

Stay tuned for more articles and thoughts from Gabr Fellows in the next newsletter.

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. Will President Trump win re-election?

Yes: 59%

No: 23%

I don't know: 18%

2. Will there be an Iranian-U.S. political rapprochement in 2020?

Yes: 24%

No: 49%

I don't know: 27%

3. Will there be a war breaking out in Libya in 2020?

Yes: 26%

No: 37%

I don't know: 37%

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.

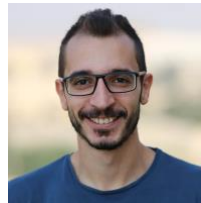
HAPPY BIRTHDAY



February 1: **Kevin DeWar**, 2016 Gabr Fellow, U.S.



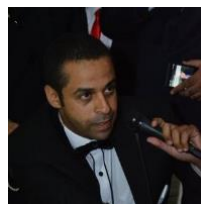
February 8: **Julie Yang**, 2018 Gabr Fellow, U.S.



February 12: **Muhammad Nagi**, 2015 Gabr Fellow, Egypt



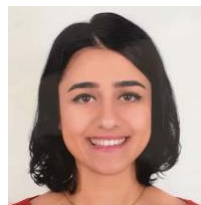
February 18: **Thomas Stein**, 2017 Gabr Fellow, U.S.



February 26: **Mohamed Abdel-Meguid**, 2015 Gabr Fellow, Egypt



February 26: **Robert "Kemp" Gouldin**, 2015 Gabr Fellow, U.S.



February 28: **Reham Gamal**, 2017 Gabr Fellow, Egypt

The Gabr Fellowship Newsletter

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



Jean-Léon Gérôme – La Mosquée Bleue, 1878, The Shafik Gabr Collection

Connect with us



<https://eastwestdialogue.org/>

info@shafikgabrfoundation.org

The ShafikGabr Foundation (US)
400 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 585
Washington, DC 20001

The ShafikGabr Foundation (Egypt)
7 Hassan Al-Akbar Street
Cairo, Egypt, 11571