



East-West: The Art of Dialogue

An Initiative of the Shafk Gabr Foundation

The *East-West: The Art of Dialogue* initiative organizes an annual exchange program, the Gabr Fellowship, for young emerging leaders from the East and West to join forces to develop and implement projects addressing critical issues in their countries. The mission of the Fellowship is to promote greater mutual understanding by building bridges between the two cultures by instigating dialogue and the exchange of ideas between emerging leaders from the United States and Egypt. Together, they explore one another's cultures, political realities, business trends, and their goals for the future.

Launched in 2012, the Fellowship helps to connect and build constructive relationships between future leaders between the ages of 24 and 35. Each year, the Fellowship consists of 20-24 Fellows, half of which 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.

In addition to engaging in deep discussions with key stakeholders from both countries in business, government, academia, religion, science, tech, and finance, all Fellows are invited to form multinational teams to complete an action project. These projects empower the Fellows as inter-cultural ambassadors, amplifying the Fellowship's reach and impact.

The Fellows have already made an impact through their projects, including:

- The launch of an Egyptian Little League Baseball Network
- The creation of music that combines lyrics from American and Egyptian traditional songs
- The publication of opinion pieces that address areas of cooperation between the two countries
- The launch of videos that share perceptions of the other country and a change in opinion

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.

FELLOWS MEET WITH OFFICIALS AT:

- The World Bank
- The United Nations
- Al Azhar University
- The Egyptian Parliament
- The Arab League
- The White House
- The Pentagon
- Egypt's Central Bank
- Goldman Sachs



2017 Fellows at the Arab League



2017 Fellows at Capitol Hill

Partner with the Foundation



A key element for a better world is for leaders from the East and West to get to know one another by learning about the other's culture, business, politics, and arts. If emerging leaders rely only on digital communication and media, the dangers stemming from a lack of understanding will be insurmountable.

The Shafik Gabr Foundation invites you to invest in the future and partner with the Foundation using one or more of the following means:

1. 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.

2. CORPORATE PATRON

Corporations can nominate Fellows for participation in the Fellowship 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.

3. 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.

PAST FELLOWS HAVE REPRESENTED THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS:

- The State Department
- The Senate and House of Representatives
- The International Organization for Migration
- The British University of Egypt
- UNICEF Egypt
- The Egyptian Gazette
- The Millennium Challenge Corporation
- UNHCR

"I was deeply moved by the Fellows and our honest, open conversations. Despite our differences, we all listened, learned, and grew."

- Jean Kwon, 2017 Fellow

"The Gabr Foundation is an excellent tool for understanding the world around you."

- Sarah Hesham Badr, 2017 Fellow

Through an investment in the Foundation, sponsors support the enduring legacy of the Gabr Fellowship, an international cohort dedicated to pursuing cooperative solutions to the most pressing issues of today and tomorrow.

Connect with the Foundation

To support the Foundation, please visit: <https://eastwestdialogue.org/fellowship/how-to-support/>.

To learn more about the Foundation and the Fellowship, please visit the Initiative's website at: <https://eastwestdialogue.org/> or contact Courtney Joline, the Foundation's Executive Director, at courtney.joline@shafikgabrfoundation.org.