



United Nations Alliance Of Civilizations
Fellowship Program 2016

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Participants from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

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Anas Abu Joudah (Jordan) received his B.A. in Applied English and Linguistics from the Department of Linguistics at the University of Jordan in 2010. Since 2007, he has been involved in different voluntary projects and initiatives with several local international organizations like Soliya, East & West Center, and CIEE Study Abroad. Anas participated in two international camps, one in Germany and the other in Latvia; he also took part in international trainings in various fields such as education, conflict resolution, computer, project management and photography. Anas also supervised two international projects; the first project was Homework Village funded by the Danish Youth Council (DUF), and the second project, Freedom of Speech Van, by the American organization Freedom House, and in partnership with East & West Center for Human Resources Development. As of 2010, he has been working as an English teacher at the Jordan Ministry of Education and as a facilitator with Soliya.net since 2015. Anas has a long experience in education. Before teaching English, he began his career as a teacher by teaching Arabic as a foreign language. He currently teaches Arabic as foreign language as a freelancer, and English to Arab students as a fulltime instructor.

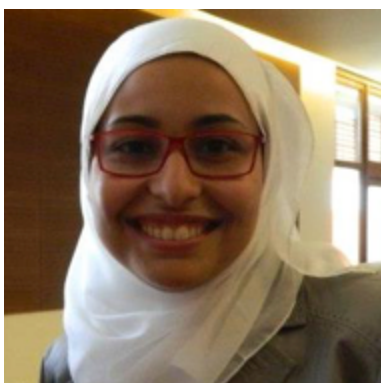


Aziza Benlamoudi (Algeria) earned a bachelor degree in Applied Linguistics and an MA in 'Sciences du Language' from Mohammed Kheidhar University of Biskra, Algeria. She had taught E.S.P for Architecture students before she started working as an ESL high school teacher at the Ministry of Education, Algeria. Aziza is a blogger at “Teach UAE Magazine”, co-founder of “Algerian Youth Voices”, an active member of “Youth Capacity Development Association”, and a social activist who passionately believes in the power of youth to leave a positive impact.



Bouchra Saab (Lebanon) has been for the past eight years pursuing a career in teaching Philosophy and foreign languages in public high-schools and has been engaged in several civil society initiatives concerning culture, civil rights and education. Her career path, as well as her civic engagement has led her to work with a varied population in different parts of the country, from the northernmost area of Akar to the underprivileged neighborhoods of the

capital, Beirut. In addition to her BA in Philosophy, obtained in 2007, she holds a Certificate of Aptitude in Teaching and an MA in Language Industry from the Lebanese University. While her academic work has been focused on attitudes to Language, multilingualism and diglossia in schools, her non-academic interests have varied widely from citizenship education to personal freedom and social justice. She is currently in the preparation phase of a PhD dissertation, focusing on the evolution of mutual linguistic and cultural attitudes of Kurdish and Aramaic minorities and the Arab majority in official and unofficial textbooks in Lebanon, Syria and Iraq during the 20th century.



Hoda Touny (Egypt) has been working in the field of higher education in Egypt for eight years. She comes from a media background that unleashed her passion towards education, social equity and youth development. She worked on a number of scholarship programs that target financially and socially underprivileged youth from all over Egypt. As a mentor and an adviser, she closely interacts with Egyptian and Arab youth in fostering their academic standing, boosting their leadership

competencies and life skills, and advancing their employability attributes. Working on such projects, she dealt with key of international donors, such as USAID and number of local donors, such as Orascom Construction Industries and Misr ElKheir. She participated in the 2012 Leadership Educators Institute sponsored by ACPA, NASPA and the National Clearinghouse for Leadership Programs. The conference took place in Ohio, US. She is also passionate about the use of creative methods in education. In 2015, she completed her MA degree in edutainment from Bristol School of Animation, UK, where she dedicated her research in using animation as tool for education. Today, she is working as Academic Advising and Partnerships Manager at Local Scholarship Program, a USAID funded project managed by Institute of International Education (IIE).



Intisar Aladhi (Yemen) is an alumna Leaders for Democracy Fellows Program from Maxwell School, Syracuse University, United States of America, in 2009. she holds an Associate Degree in Non-Governmental Organizations from the University of Science & Technology, Sana'a. She is the founder of “All Girls Foundation for Development” created in 2003, an organization that aims at empowering youth, especially women, and help them have an active role in social development in Yemen through awareness, capacity building, and advocacy programs. Intisar also participated in Sida ITP 282 "UN Resolution 1325: Women, Peace and Security" training program in Sweden in 2012. She has been a speaker at the global conference on “Security and women's political participation in Egypt, Libya and Yemen” at Chatham House in London (2014). Intisar is carrying out her goal to be an active citizen and strong leader in society to improve the quality of life for Yemeni Women.



Mohammad Bakri (State of Palestine) is a Palestinian Refugee from Lebanon. He holds BA in English Literature and Master Degree in Management. He is working as an Education Officer at the Norwegian Refugee Council- Lebanon in response to the Syrian Crisis where he promotes refugees’ right to education and equal access to opportunities for all children, in a safe educational environment. Mohamad is also a volunteer at the Blue Mission Organization that works on empowering youth abilities and at enhancing their role in building their communities and societies. Mohamad also works on projects that promote Human Rights, Child Protection and Gender Equality. Mohamad has been a member of Think Positive Association, which leads awareness campaigns to fight HIV/AIDS and help people living with HIV. Mohamad is working now on his PhD and would like to focus on refugees’ rights and the promotion of dialogue to help them be part of community building successful.



Mohammed Yachoulti (Morocco) graduated from Mohammed Ben Abdellah University, Faculty of Arts & Human Sciences, Fez- Morocco with a BA degree in English literature, a MA in Gender Studies & a Doctorate in Linguistics & Gender Studies. Currently, he is an assistant professor at the Faculty of Arts & Human Sciences, Moulay Ismail University- Mekness. He is interested in gender and politics, social movement studies and migration. His publications in Civil Society, Women's Movement

and the Moroccan State: Addressing the specificities and Assessing the roles (LAP Lambert Academic Publishing 2012), "The Feminist Movement in the Moroccan Spring: Roles, Specificity and Gains" Sociology Study, (December 2015), "Masculinities and violence in the MENA region" (Maroc: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V. 2016), "Women of February 20th Movement in Morocco: a new feminist consciousness" (Trenton. Red Pres 2016). He has also participated in many national and international conferences and workshops on gender, civil society and migration.



Mustafa Al Soufi (Yemen) is internationally educated, highly organized and driven young professional experienced in youth related issues. He graduated in English Literature from Ibb University with more than 5 years experience in youth policy formulation, project management and advocacy. He is experienced in the fields of social policy, politics, education, women empowerment, youth development and vocational educational improvement with a strong background in

coordination of complex crisis situations, both protracted and acute, as well as program oversight. Mustafa worked with different INGOs and UN agencies, such as: Y-PEER, UNDP, German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin and INTERSOS. Mustafa is working now with INTERSOS as a Project Manager for an educational program called DAFI. Also, he is a Global Youth Ambassador at World At School. In addition, Mustafa is the Country Representative for IFA's international program called Cross Cultural. Mustafa has a great interest in intercultural dialogue and believes that dialogue within and among civilizations is the critical challenge of the 21st century. Without authentic exchange our deepening inter-dependencies may lead to greater conflict instead of cooperation.



Rebaz Mohammed (Iraq) has 10 years of experience in non-profit and civil society. He earned a M.A and a Ph.D in Law from Sulaimanyah University and teaches in his alma mater since 2008, and studied Democracy and Leadership in Syracuse University. He worked in IHRLI, as project manager, on documenting Iraq's history of violations of human rights. For 3 years, with Norwegian People's Aid, he advocated for the rights of minorities, trained government authorities on Human Rights principles. Rebaz was one of the first responders to the Yezidi's crisis, during which, and through NPA, he managed to find shelter and food for the first Yezidi families fleeing ISIS. Because of his commitment to helping the IDPs and Refugees, he joined the humanitarian aid field with REACH, and became responsible for managing the IDP camps, and working on establishing peaceful coexistence between them and the host communities. Recently, because of his active participation in women's rights efforts, he was selected by People's Development Organization (PDO) to be their Chairman of the Board of Trustees. And currently serves as program coordinator with International Media Support along with his teaching position, and is nominated to teach at the American University in Iraq as well.



Samar Mezghanni (Tunisia) is a writer with two records in Guinness Book for World Records as the youngest writer in the world in 2000 and the most prolific writer in the world in 2002. She has written over a hundred of short stories for children and published 14 books. Some of her stories were turned into a TV program for children produced in Cairo. Samar received many awards and certifications for her work from different Princes, Presidents, foundations and associations. She was classified as one of the most influential Arab women in 2013 and one of the most important young leaders in the Arab region in 2012. She is a member of various International and Regional NGOs and a member of the Arab Thought Foundation Advisory Board. Samar studied Communication and Culture in England and she worked with the British Council and the United Nations as a consultant on civil society and youth programs. She is now a PhD candidate in Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Cambridge.



Sara Zaini (Saudi Arabia) is a co-founder of Emkan Education and the Managing Director of School and educational Content Development. She is also an education consultant, teacher trainer and independent writer. Her experience includes working as the head of the education department for Hadara Consulting, leading and participating in many projects related to youth empowerment and exchange, curriculum design, and school improvement. Sara is also an educational reform writer specialized in policy change and leadership. She worked as a lecturer at King Abdul-Aziz University in the department of Curriculum and Teaching for four years. Her experience includes leading and managing multiple school evaluation and development projects, International curriculum design and research to support policy making in education. At the school level, Sara worked as a special education specialist serving children with special needs. Her experience includes a wide range of public, private clients and non-profit organizations. Sara holds an M.A. in International Educational Development with a focus on Curriculum and Teaching from Columbia University and a B.A. in special education with a focus on Learning Disabilities from Dar Al-Hekma University in Saudi Arabia.



Zeyad Elkelani (Egypt) is a tenured Assistant Lecturer of Political Science at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science (FEPS), Cairo University. Moreover, he is the political science coordinator at its International Relations Office. Zeyad received a joint MA degree in Comparative Middle East Politics and Society (CMEPS) from both the American University in Cairo (AUC) and Tübingen University in Germany, and BSc in Political Science from Cairo University. Before joining Cairo University, Zeyad worked for AMIDEAST, an American NGO based in MENA and previously as research assistant at the Future Studies Unit in Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Zeyad's research focuses on democratization, mass Arab attitudes, generational change in MENA and US.-Egypt Relations. In addition to his academic interests, he is a frequent media contributor and writes for the Huffington Post.