



Under the Patronage of HRH Prince El Hassan Bin Talal

**Thinking and Advising in a Time of Protracted
Conflict and Sustained Instability:**

**The Role of Think Tanks in Shaping the Future of
MENA**

Program

**Dead Sea- Jordan
19-21 September, 2017**

**REGIONAL
THINK TANK
SUMMIT**

**MIDDLE
EAST**

Day 1: September 19, 2017

4:30-5:00PM

Registration

5:15-5:30PM

Welcome Host and Organizers

Azmi Mahafzah, Ph.D
President
University of Jordan
Amman, Jordan

James G. McGann, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer, International Studies
Lauder Institute for Management and International Studies
Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program
Wharton School and School of Arts and Sciences
Senior Fellow, Fels Institute of Government
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA USA

5:45-6:15PM

Official Welcome and Keynote Address

HRH Prince El Hasan Bin Talal Speech, *Delivered by H.R Dr. Adnan Badran, Former Prime Minister of Jordan*

6:15-7:30PM

Opening Session

This session will provide an overview of the security, political and economic issues and challenges facing the region from the perspective of thought leaders from the private sector, Media, and Policymakers.

Chair: Musa Shteivi, Director, Center for Strategic Studies

Panelists 3-4 with 6-8 minutes each:

**Amani El Taweel, Director, International Relations Unit and the African Program
Al Ahram Centre for Political and Strategic Studies**

**Hillary Wiesner, Carnegie Corporation of New York, Program Director,
Transnational Movements and the Arab Region**

**H.E. Dr. Jawad Anani, Former Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs and
CEO Amman Stock Exchange**

**Paolo Magri, Executive Vice President and Director of the Italian Institute for
International Political Studies (ISPI)**

**Rana Sabbagh, Executive Director, Arab Reporters for Investigative Reporting
(ARIJ)**

7:30-9:00PM

Dinner

Day 2: September 20, 2017

8:30-9:00AM

Think Tank Publication Bazaar and Networking

The Summit is conducted in a Roundtable Format with panels that are intended to frame the key issues and provide constructively provocative questions to stimulate the discussion that follows each Session.

9:00-10:15AM

Session One (Plenary)

Meeting the Challenge of Extremism and Radicalization in the MENA Region

This session will address the major developments in this area, implications for the region, and efforts to combat it. What programs and policies have think tanks developed to counter these movements in MENA and beyond.

Chair: Ebtesam Al Ketbi, President, Emirates Policy Center

Panelists 3-4 with 6-8 minutes each:

**Elcano Royal Institute, Haizam Amirah Fernández, Senior Analyst
Center for Strategic Studies, Mohammad Abu Rumman, Director of Studies
Centre of Mediterranean and International Studies (CEMI), Ahmed Driss,
Director
Moroccan Institute of International Relations (IMRI), Jawad Kerdoudi, President**

10:15-10:30AM

Coffee/Tea Break

10:30-11:30AM

Morning Break Out Sessions

4 Concurrent Working Groups

Break out session that will include an assessment of critical policy issues as well as the challenges facing the challenges facing think tank scholars and executives. These sessions are intended to be inactive and focused on sharing best practices and the transfer of strategies, best practices and innovate approaches. Participants can select one of the four concurrent sessions listed below. The same sessions will be repeated in PM to give everyone the opportunity to participate in at least one session on policy and on think tank issues:

1. Post Conflict Inclusive State Building (policy)

Chair: Oraib Al Rantawi, Director General, Al Quds Center for Political Studies

Panelists 3-4 with 4-5 minutes each:

**Middle East Studies Center, Dlawer Ala'Aldeen, President
Egyptian Center for Public Policy Studies, Ahmed Ragab, Executive Director
Arab Reform Initiative, Hana Jaber, Senior Fellow Senior Fellow
African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), Larry Gbevlo-Lartey, Director**

2. Is Anyone Listening?: Strategic Communications and Marketing for Think Tanks

Chair: Marlos Lima, Director, Latin America Policy Center, FGV

Panelists 3-4 with 4-5 minutes each:

Decision Support Center - Royal Court, Saleh Alshumrani, Supervisor of Data and Information Center

**TRT World Research Centre, Jamal Abdullah, Senior Researcher
Egyptian Center for Public Policy Studies, Ahmed Aboueldahab, Advocacy & Outreach Officer**

Dubai Public Policy Research Centre, Rama Al Jayyousi, Resident Fellow

3. The Role of Youth in Creating A Prosperous, Secure and Stable Future for the MENA Region

Chair: Mohamed Elagati, Director, Arab Forum for Alternatives

Panelists: 3-4 with 4-5 minutes each:

Sadeq Institute, Anas El Gomati, Director General/Research Director, Governance and Security

Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies, Renee Hattar, Head of International Studies

Center for Studies and Research in Social Sciences, Abdelhak Saaf, General Secretary

Al Sharq Forum, Galip Daly, Director of Research

4. Strategies for Building a Sustainable Future for MENA Think Tanks

Chair: Khalid AlDakkan, Head of Research and Analysis Decision Support Center - Royal Court

Panelists 3-4 with 4-5 minutes each:

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Foundation, Annette Ranko Resident Representative Jordan

**Brookings Doha Center, AlHasan Zwayne, Development Manager
OCP Policy Center, Mohamed Loulichki, Research Fellow**

11:30-12:45AM

Session Two (plenary)

Economic Development and Cooperation (plenary)

This session is hoped to discuss the major global and regional economic and developmental issues and to explore future regional and international cooperation.

Chair: Nader S. Kabbani, Director of Research, Brookings Doha Center

Panelists 3-4 with 6-8 minutes each:

**King Abdullah Studies and Research Center, David Hobbs, Head of Research
Cercle dAction et de Reflexion Autour de l'Entreprise (CARE), Amel Belaid, Vice**

**President
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Matthes Buhbe, Resident Director Jordan & Iraq**

12:45-2:45PM

Lunch and Keynote Address

**Ideas into Action Formulating an Effective Response to the Refugee Crisis: The
Role of Think Tanks**

Shaden Khallaf, Senior Policy Advisor, UNHCR MENA

3:00-4:15PM

Session Three (plenary)

Why Think Tanks Matter More Than Ever Before in MENA

A panel of think tanks, donors and policymakers will discuss why supporting and nurturing think tanks to help policymakers and the public meet the challenges and seize the opportunities in the MENA region.

**Chair: *James G. McGann*, Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program,
University of Pennsylvania**

Panelists 2-3 with 5-6 minutes each:

**Arabian Gulf Centre for Iranian Studies, *Mohammed Alsulami*, Chairman
Future for Advances Research and Studies, *Amal Saker*, Deputy Director of
Executive Affairs**

Center for Applied Policy Research, LMU Munich, *Christine Strassmaier*, Analyst

Concurrent Strategy Sessions (note sessions repeated from AM)

Break out session that will include an assessment of critical policy issues as well as the challenges facing the challenges facing think tank scholars and executives. These sessions are intended to be inactive and focused on sharing best practices and the transfer of strategies, best practices and innovate approaches. Participants can select one of the four concurrent sessions listed below:

1. Post Conflict Inclusive State Building (policy)

Chair: Orab Al Rantawi, Director General, Al Quds Center for Political Studies

Panelists 3-4 with 4-5 minutes each:

**Middle East Studies Center, Dlawer Ala'Aldeen, President
Egyptian Center for Public Policy Studies, Ahmed Ragab, Executive Director
African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), Larry Gbevlo-
Lartey, Director
Arab Reform Initiative, Hana Jaber, Senior Fellow Senior Fellow**

**2. Is Anyone Listening?: Strategic Communications and Marketing for Think
Tanks**

Chair: Marlos Lima, Director, Latin America Policy Center, FGV

Panelists 3-4 with 4-5 minutes each:

**Decision Support Center - Royal Court, Saleh Alshumrani, Supervisor of Data
and Information Center
TRT World Research Centre, Jamal Abdullah, Senior Researcher
Egyptian Center for Public Policy Studies, Ahmed Aboueldahab, Advocacy &
Outreach Officer
Dubai Public Policy Research Centre, Rama Al Jayyousi, Resident Fellow**

**3. The Role of Youth in Creating A Prosperous, Secure and Stable Future for the
MENA Region**

Chair: Mohamed Elagati, Director, Arab Forum for Alternatives

Panelists: 3-4 with 4-5 minutes each:

**Sadeq Institute, Anas El Gomati, Director General/Research Director,
Governance and Security
Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies, Renee Hattar, Head of International
Studies
Center for Studies and Research in Social Sciences, Abdelhak Saaf, General
Secretary
Al Sharq Forum, Galip Daly, Director of Research**

4. Strategies for Building a Sustainable Future for MENA Think Tanks

**Chair: Khalid AlDakkan, Head of Research and Analysis Decision Support
Center - Royal Court**

Panelists 3-4 with 4-5 minutes each:

**Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Foundation, Annette Ranko Resident Representative
Jordan
Brookings Doha Center, AlHasan Zwayne, Development Manager
OCP Policy Center, Mohamed Loulichki, Research Fellow**

6:30-9:00PM

Dinner, Networking and Keynote Address

6:45PM

Dinner & Greeting: Giovanni Brauzzi, Italian Ambassador to Jordan

7:00PM

Keynote Address: Abdelelah AIKhatib, Former Foreign Minister, Jordan and the First UN Envoy to Libya Minister (TBC)

Day 3: September 21, 2017

8:30-10:00AM

Session Four: Regional Security (plenary)

Making Peace and Prosperity Possible: Meeting Traditional and Non-Traditional Security Challenges in the MENA Region

This session is supposed to discuss the most important security issues in the region both traditional and no-traditional.

Chair: Jamal Madaien, Major General (Retired)

Panelists 3-4 with 6-8 minutes each:

Institute for Iran-Eurasia Studies, Davood Kiani, President

Al Jazeera Centre for Studies, Ezzeddine Abdelmoula, President

**European Union Institute for Security Studies, Florence Gaub, Senior Analyst
Egyptian Council For Foreign Affairs (ECFA), Ezzat Saad, Executive Director**

10:15-10:30AM

Coffee/Tea Break

10:30-11:45PM

Session Five

Helping Build a Better Tomorrow: The Role of MENA's Think Tanks

The key findings, recommendations and future plans will be presented by the Plenary Session Chairs From Day 1 and Day 2 who share the key take home points from each session.

Chair: Maha Yahya, Director Carnegie Middle East Center

Session Chairs: 7-8 Chairs with 3-5 minutes each to present key comments and conclusions from each session

Musa Shteivi, Director, Center for Strategic Studies,

Ebtesam Al Ketbi, President, Emirates Policy Center

Jamal Madaien, Major General (Retired)

Mohamed Elagati, Director, Arab Forum for Alternatives

Nader S. Kabbani, Director of Research, Brookings Doha Center

James G. McGann, Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania

11:45-12:00PM

Concluding Remarks 2017 MENA Think Tank Summit

Thanks, Closing Comments from Hosts and Organizers and a Word From Next Year's Host

Prof. Dr. Musa Shteivi

Director

Center for Strategic Studies

Director, Jordan Scenarios: 2030 Project

University of Jordan

Amman, Jordan

James G. McGann, Ph.D.

Senior Lecturer, International Studies

Lauder Institute for Management and International Studies Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program Wharton School and School of Arts and Sciences

Senior Fellow, Fels Institute of Government

University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, PA USA

2018 MENA SUMMIT HOST To Be Announced

12.00-14.00PM

Lunch

MENA Think Tank Summit Planning Committee

- **Al Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies (ACPSS) (Egypt)**
- **Carnegie Middle East Center, (Lebanon)**
- **Center for Strategic Studies, (Jordan)**
- **Decision Support Center - Royal Court (Saudi Arabia)**
- **Future for Advances Research and Studies (United Arab Emirates)**
- **Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI) (Italy)**
- **OCP Policy Center, (Morocco)**
- **Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania (United States)**

List of Confirmed and Registered Think Tanks MENA Think Tank Summit Amman, Jordan

September 19-21, 2017

- **African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT)**
- **Al Ahram Centre for Political and Strategic Studies**
- **Al Jazeera Center for Studies**
- **Al Quds Center for Political Studies**
- **Arab Forum for Alternatives**
- **Arab Thought Forum (ATF)**
- **Arab Reform Initiative**
- **Arabian Gulf Centre for Iranian Studies (AGCIS)**
- **Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)**
- **Brookings Doha Center**
- **Carnegie Corporation of New York**
- **Carnegie Middle East Center**
- **Center of Mediterranean and International Studies**
- **Center for Strategic Studies (CSS)**
- **Center for Studies and Research in Social Sciences**
- **Cercle d'Action et de Reflexion Autour de l'Entreprise (CARE)**
- **Decision Support Center - Royal Court**
- **Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS)**
- **Dubai Public Policy Research Centre**
- **Egyptian Center for Public Policy Studies - ECPPS**
- **Egyptian Council For Foreign Affairs (ECFA)**
- **Elcano Royal Institute**
- **Emirates Policy Center (EPC)**
- **European Union Institute for Security Studies**
- **Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung**
- **Future for Advances Research and Studies**
- **Gulf Studies Center Qatar University (Qatar)**

- **IFRI (French Institute of International Relations)**
- **Institut national d'études de stratégie globale (Inesg)**
- **Institute for Iran-Eurasia Studies (IRAS)**
- **Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI)**
- **King Abdullah Studies and Research Center**
- **King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies (KFCRIS)**
- **Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Foundation**
- **Lebanese Center for Policy Studies (LCPS)**
- **Latin American Center for Public Policy (FGV)**
- **Middle East Research Institute (MERI Research Munich)**
- **Moroccan Institute of International Relations (IMRI)**
- **OCP Policy Center**
- **Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies**
- **Sadeq Institute**
- **Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Middle East and North Africa**
- **Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania**
- **TRT World Research Center**