Islam and Inclusion
U.S.-Islamic World Forum
June 9–11, 2014
Doha, Qatar
Ahlan Wa Sahlan!

On behalf of the Brookings Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World, housed in the Saban Center for Middle East Policy, we welcome you to the eleventh annual U.S.-Islamic World Forum. In partnership with the State of Qatar, Brookings convenes this Forum annually under the gracious auspices of H.R.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar.

Last year, we discussed the impending withdrawal of the United States from Afghanistan, the interdependence of democracy and development, and shifting politics and identities of the Middle East in the wake of the Arab Spring. This year, we meet as America’s allies question its commitment to the Middle East, the Syria conflict stretches into its third year, and the peace process shows signs of life.

During our three days together, we have arranged a variety of formats for candid dialogue and engagement:

• A series of keynote remarks at our opening session from world leaders, discussing the challenges and opportunities confronting relations between the United States and Muslim communities around the globe;
• Televised and webcast plenary sessions to explore in-depth key developments, transitions and crises affecting our world;
• A set of three targeted working groups bringing together practitioners and experts from specific fields to develop practical partnerships and policy recommendations for our governments. This year we are also adding a new action group to launch a new initiative that will benefit relations between the United States and the Muslim world.

We are grateful to His Highness the Emir for his leadership and generosity in enabling us to come together for these three days of candid discussion. We would also like to thank the Prime Minister and Interior Minister of Qatar, H.E. Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Foreign Minister, H.E. Dr. Khalid bin Mohammad Al Attiyah, H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani, the Minister’s Assistant for International Cooperation, and the entire Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their support. In particular, we would like to recognize H.E. Rashed Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa Minister’s Assistant for Services and Follow-up Head of the Permanent Committee for Organizing Conferences, as well as the Permanent Committee’s Executive Director, Ambassador Abdulla Fakhroo, and the ministry’s entire staff for their support.

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Thank you for joining us and we look forward to welcoming you to Doha.
Your Stay for the 2014 U.S.-Islamic World Forum

Welcome to the 2014 U.S.-Islamic World Forum, held this year at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Doha, Qatar. It is our hope that your time with us is both informative and comfortable. To ensure this, we wanted to outline for you our policies with respect to transportation, hotel, and meals during the forum.

Transportation and Travel
Complimentary transportation will be provided for all international participants from Doha International Airport to the Ritz-Carlton Hotel and from the hotel to the airport for your return.

Bus transportation will also be provided from the Ritz-Carlton to the off-site dinner on Tuesday, June 10th. We request all participants to please be at the entrance of the Ritz-Carlton hotel promptly at 7:00 pm for departure. For special needs only, participants may also request a private car through the concierge desk.

If you have questions or concerns related to your airline travel, a Qatar Airways travel agent will be available onsite to answer any questions that you may have.

Hotel Stay
We are pleased to provide you with a complimentary room at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel for the nights of June 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th. If you would like to extend your stay, you may do so subject to availability and at your own expense. There are no exceptions to this policy.

In addition, during the nights of June 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th, you will receive free internet service in your hotel room.

A valid credit card must be presented during check-in for incidental charges that may be incurred during your stay.

Meals and Translation Services
For all participants and special guests, breakfast, lunch, and dinner are complimentary on behalf of the Forum; however, please note that room service and items from the minibar will be at your own expense.

If you have any special needs or requests, please visit the concierge desk at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. Translation services are also available.

Contact Information
For any special needs or concerns during the forum, please contact Anne Peckham at apeckham@brookings.edu or Elizabeth Pearce at epearce@brookings.edu.

We are delighted you are able to join us for the eleventh annual U.S.-Islamic World Forum, and wish you a pleasant stay.
## Agenda at a Glance

All Sessions will be held in the Al Wosail Ballroom  
*Current to May 27, 2014*

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<td><strong>Sunday, June 8</strong></td>
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<td>6:00PM</td>
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<td><strong>Monday, June 9</strong></td>
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<td>10:00AM–10:50AM</td>
<td>Welcoming Remarks</td>
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<td>10:50AM–11:00AM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>11:00AM–12:30PM</td>
<td>Plenary I: The Future of the United States in the Middle East and South Asia</td>
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<td>12:45PM–2:00PM</td>
<td>Lunch (Al Mukhtar Hall)</td>
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<td>2:00PM–3:30PM</td>
<td>Plenary II: Are Jihadis Winning the Arab Spring?</td>
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<td>3:30PM–4:00PM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>Working and Action Group Sessions</td>
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<td>Gala Dinner</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, June 10</strong></td>
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<td>9:30AM–11:00AM</td>
<td>Plenary III: The Conflict in Syria</td>
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<td>2:15PM–3:45PM</td>
<td>Plenary IV: Defining the Future: Palestinian Voices</td>
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<td>Working and Action Group Sessions</td>
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<td>Offsite Dinner at Mamig Restaurant, Katara</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, June 11</strong></td>
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<td>Working and Action Group Sessions</td>
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<td>10:30AM–12:00PM</td>
<td>Plenary V: Accommodating Religious Diversity</td>
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<td>12:00PM–12:30PM</td>
<td>Closing Remarks and Summary</td>
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<td>12:30PM–2:30PM</td>
<td>Lunch (Al Mukhtar Hall)</td>
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Plenary Sessions

Plenary I
The Future of the United States in the Middle East and South Asia

The United States is ending more than a decade of intensive military engagement in the broader Middle East and approaching domestic energy independence. These two facts raise questions about the trajectory of America’s role in the region. Some question the United States’ commitment to maintaining stability in the region, while others ask how America intends to pursue security interests like counter-terrorism. What effect will America’s relative military drawdown have on U.S. relationships in the region? How do American diplomatic efforts, like negotiations with Iran, shape its approach to the region? What do regional governments, and societies, want to see from the United States as they work for peace, stability, and development?

Plenary II
Are Jihadis Winning the Arab Spring?

People in the Middle East and around the world hailed the Arab uprisings as a positive turning point in the history of the region. But since then, we’ve also seen militants capitalize on political turmoil to expand their reach and impact. What are the prospects for nonviolent political movements in the region as these extremist threats mount? How do governmental security responses—from actors inside and outside the region—affect the chances for peaceful change?

Plenary III
The Conflict in Syria

As violence in Syria continues to escalate, the conflict has embroiled the region and there is no resolution in sight. What are the near-term consequences of the ongoing Syrian war, and what more could international and regional actors do to bring it to an end? How do dynamics amongst the global powers, and regional actors, shape efforts to address the Syrian crisis? And how will non-state actors like refugees or wealthy private donors shift the course of the conflict?

Plenary IV
Defining the Future: Palestinian Voices

While news stories about the Palestinian territories focus almost exclusively on the negotiations with Israel, there is a generational earthquake underway inside the territories itself that will reshape its society, economics, and politics. This panel will offer a variety of Palestinian perspectives on immediate priorities for Palestinian society, prospects for political unity and stability, and the role Palestinians envision for their friends and allies in bringing about positive political change and independent statehood.

Plenary V
A Dialogue on Accommodating Religious Diversity

The United States, similar to many Muslim-majority countries, has diverse religious populations, which can be a source of national strength but also sometimes a focus for social and political tension. Governments face the challenge of protecting the rights of these diverse communities while respecting the preferences of majority communities in social policy and legislation. Community leaders from both majority and minority groups grapple with how to be good citizens and good neighbors, while preserving their community’s religious identity and freedom to worship. Both officials and community leaders must navigate the delicate issue of religion’s role in political life and public policy—an issue especially salient for newly emerging democracies. This panel will bring together government officials and community leaders from the United States and the Muslim world for a candid discussion of how they strike the balance in valuing religious diversity, respecting religious expression, and preserving the unique role of the state.
Pakistan is one of the most strategically important countries for the United States and the Muslim world. Since 9/11, the United States has focused on securing a more stable and democratic Pakistan that is capable of countering violent extremism (CVE); however, despite investing over $30 billion, Pakistan remains a base for numerous U.S.-designated terrorist groups. In lieu of a robust government-led strategy, Pakistan’s civil society has had to take the lead in CVE. Although civil society organizations (CSOs) have developed innovative peacebuilding initiatives at the grassroots level to counter violent extremism, they must overcome numerous obstacles in creating a nationwide movement. With this challenge in mind, how can the United States and the international community adopt a more systematic approach to strengthen Pakistan’s civil society?

This Working Group will address this question by assessing the capacity of existing CVE programs in Pakistan, determining good practices in engaging communities, including Christians and Jews, that have met similar challenges. The issues covered here will include questions of representation and legitimacy, the challenge of creating spaces for intra-Muslim discussion and understanding, intergenerational differences with respect to religious life and understanding, and the role of institutions and leaders.

Empowering Pakistan’s Civil Society to Counter Violent Extremism
Hedieh Mirahmadi, Robert Lamb, Waleed Ziad, and Mehreen Farooq

This Working Group will discuss the nature and significance of a key problem facing Muslim communities in Europe and North America: the challenge of achieving a contextualized understanding of their religion that is suited to the unique circumstances, challenges, and opportunities that face religious minorities in contemporary Western societies. The first part of the discussion will provide a brief comparative overview of Muslim communities on both sides of the Atlantic, identifying both points of similarity and differences with respect to demographics as well as socioeconomic issues (such as employment and education) and political questions surrounding civic engagement, identity, and discrimination. The next part of the discussion will explore the impetus behind recent efforts to develop responses to these practical issues that are based on the Islamic tradition but specific to context, and identifies some of the key figures and major ideas that constitute this debate. Next, analysis will be offered of the major obstacles that have prevented such efforts from advancing—drawing, where appropriate—on the experiences of other faith communities, including Christians and Jews, that have met similar challenges. The issues covered here will include questions of representation and legitimacy, the challenge of creating spaces for intra-Muslim discussion and understanding, intergenerational differences with respect to religious life and understanding, and the role of institutions and leaders.

Muslim Communities in Europe & North America: A Transatlantic Dialogue on Contextualized Religion
Peter Mandaville and Dilwar Hussain

Justice in Postconflict Settings: Islamic Law and Muslim Communities as Stakeholders in Successful Transition
Hamid Khan, M. Cherif Bassiouni, and Corrinne Zoli

Postconflict transition and reconciliation is a major problem today. Recurrent conflicts, civilian deaths outpacing combatant deaths, transnational armed actors destabilizing whole regions, failing states, and the reluctance of strong states to intervene make it difficult to knit societies back together after conflict ends. Despite these challenges, the international community has found effective ways to bring war criminals to justice and reconcile competing factions. Sometimes, however, local actors question the cultural legitimacy of these legal and political tools in light of their own indigenous means of conflict resolution. This is particularly true in Muslim-majority countries, where the Islamic legal tradition is preeminent. Although the Islamic principles of dealing with conflict are largely compatible with international norms of postconflict transition and reconciliation, no one has yet enumerated the cultural legitimacy of these legal and political tools in light of their own indigenous means of conflict resolution. This is particularly true in Muslim-majority countries, where the Islamic legal tradition is preeminent. Although the Islamic principles of dealing with conflict are largely compatible with international norms of postconflict transition and reconciliation, no one has yet enumerated the cultural legitimacy of these legal and political tools in light of their own indigenous means of conflict resolution.

Action Group: The Timbuktu Renaissance
Cynthia Schneider, Christopher Shields, Mohamed Ali Ansar, and Salif Romano Niang

The Timbuktu Renaissance (TR) Action Group addresses the challenges Mali faces in the wake of the 2012 crisis when violent extremists overthrew Timbuktu, the cradle of the Blues music and the historic center of Islamic knowledge in Africa, and brutally divided the country in the process. The TR strategy—–to promote reconciliation and sustainable development in Mali through a revival of its culture and heritage—has broader implications for post-conflict reconstruction and for understanding Islam in its global diversity. Specifically, the TR agenda includes the return of the legendary Festival Au Désert to its home in Timbuktu; and until then, its touring incarnation as a Festival in Exile; an accompanying, academy award produced documentary film; star-infused compilation albums; the restoration and traveling exhibition of the famed manuscripts; and the development of a long-term plan to house these pillars of culture permanently in Timbuktu. To achieve our goals, the TR Action Group will convene in Doha a unique configuration of public and private sector leaders, executives, scholars and artists, as well as high level representatives from the UN, the OIC and the Malian government. Working with a diverse group of regional stakeholders, the TR Action Group hopes to share Mali’s culture with the world by providing a foundation that supports a unified, pluralistic and economically viable future for the country.

Empowering Pakistan’s Civil Society to Counter Violent Extremism
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Dialogue on Contextualized Religion
Peter Mandaville and Dilwar Hussain

Religious minorities in contemporary Western societies, such as Christians and Jews, that have met similar challenges. The issues covered here will include questions of representation and legitimacy, the challenge of creating spaces for intra-Muslim discussion and understanding, intergenerational differences with respect to religious life and understanding, and the role of institutions and leaders.
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<th>List of Participants</th>
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<tr>
<td>As of May 23, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hasan Abbas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor of International Security Affairs</td>
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<td>National Defense University</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
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<td>Jamal Abdullah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Researcher, Gulf Studies Unit</td>
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<td>Al Jazeera Center for Studies</td>
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<td>Qatar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Piotr Adamczyz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Manager, Google Cultural Institute</td>
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<td>United States</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angela Aggeler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Counselor for Public Affairs, Embassy of the United States,</td>
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<td>Islamabad</td>
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<td>Pakistan</td>
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<td>Waheed Ahmad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director, Human Rights and HIV/AIDS Center</td>
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<td>Pakistan Labour Foundation</td>
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<td>Pakistan</td>
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<td>Houriya Ahmed</td>
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<td>Special Projects, Office of the President, Qatar Foundation</td>
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<td>Qatar</td>
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<td>Sughra Ahmed</td>
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<td>Programs Manager, Centre Public Education</td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Abdul Rahman Al Ageli</td>
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<td>Representative, Decision Support Office at the Prime</td>
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<td>Minister's Office</td>
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<td>Libya</td>
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<td>Salah Al-Ansari</td>
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<td>Visiting Lecturer, Islamic Studies at Heythrop College,</td>
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<td>University of London</td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Mohammed S. Dajani Al Daoud</td>
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<td>Director, American Studies Institute, Al Quds University</td>
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<td>Palestine</td>
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<td>Ahmed Al-Dawood</td>
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<td>Assistant Professor, Institute for Islamic World Studies,</td>
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<td>Zayed University</td>
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<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
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<td>Darwish Al Emadi</td>
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<td>Director, Social and Economic Survey Research Institute,</td>
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<td>Qatar University</td>
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<td>Rashid Ali</td>
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<td>Lecturer, Derby University</td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Abdulhadi Alijla</td>
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<td>Executive Director, Institute for Middle East Studies, Italy</td>
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<td>Moaz Al-Khatab</td>
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<td>Former President, National Coalition of Syrian Revolutionary</td>
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<td>Opposition Forces</td>
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<td>Luay Al-Khatteeb</td>
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<td>Visiting Fellow, Brookings Doha Center</td>
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<td>Qatar</td>
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<td>Ibrahim Al-Naimi</td>
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<td>Chairman of Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue</td>
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<td>Qatar</td>
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<td>Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani</td>
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<td>Prime Minister and Minister of Interior</td>
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<td>Rashid Alvi</td>
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<td>Deputy Director, Islamic Legal Studies Program, Harvard Law</td>
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<td>Deborah Amos</td>
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<td>Correspondent, National Public Radio</td>
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<td>Mohamed Ali (Manny) Ansar</td>
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<td>Executive Director, Timbuktu Festival Au Désert</td>
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<td>Mali</td>
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<td>Omar Ashour</td>
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<td>Nonresident Fellow, Brookings Doha Center</td>
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<td>Abdi Ayte</td>
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<td>Founder and Executive Director, Heritage Institute for Policy</td>
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<td>Studies</td>
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<td>Somalia</td>
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<td>Donya Aiz</td>
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<td>Vice Chair, Women’s Parliamentary Network for the Global</td>
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<td>Neven Bondokji</td>
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<td>Abdullah Ba biod</td>
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<td>Director, Gulf Studies Center, Qatar University</td>
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<td>Durriya Badani</td>
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<td>Director of Government Affairs, Dawat-e-Hadybah</td>
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<td>Sultan Barakat</td>
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<td>Mustafa Barghouthi</td>
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<td>Member, Palestinian Parliament Palestine</td>
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<td>Dwight Bashir</td>
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<td>Deputy Director for Policy and Research, U.S. Commission on</td>
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<td>Rocky Dawuni</td>
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<td>Ghanaian International Musician and Humanitarian Activist</td>
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<td>Khaled Daoud</td>
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<td>Consultant for Academic Affairs to the Vice President,</td>
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<td>Chief Academic Officer, Qatar University</td>
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<td>Michael Doran</td>
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<td>Michele Dunne</td>
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Khalid Bin Mohammed Al Attiyah
QATAR

Khalid Bin Mohammed Al Attiyah is the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar. Prior to his appointment, he served as minister of state for foreign affairs and was a member of the Council of Ministers for two years. In 2009, he was chairman of the board of directors of Qatar’s Stock Exchange, vice chairman of the Supreme Council for Information Technology and Communications and Qatar Financial Center Authority, and acting minister of business and trade. He also served as minister of state for international cooperation in 2008. From 1987–95, Al Attiyah was a fighter pilot in Qatar’s Emiri Air Force. Al Attiyah received his bachelor’s in Aviation Studies from King Faisal Air Academy, a degree in Law from Beirut Arab University, a master’s in Public Law, and a doctorate in Law from Cairo University.

Ted Piccone
UNITED STATES

Ted Piccone is Acting Vice President and Director of the Foreign Policy Program at the Brookings Institution. In that capacity, he manages and oversees the program’s 13 centers and initiatives as well as Brookings’ offices in Beijing, Doha, and New Delhi. Piccone was a senior foreign policy advisor at the State Department, National Security Council, and the Pentagon and led research and advocacy projects for the Open Society Institute and the Club of Madrid. He specializes in U.S.-Latin American relations, global democracy, and human rights policies and multilateral affairs with a focus on the role of rising democracies. His latest book is *Catalysts for Change: How the UN’s Independent Experts Promote Human Rights*. Piccone received his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and J.D. from Columbia University.

Co-conveners of the U.S. Islamic World Forum
Biographies

Hassan Abbas
UNITED STATES

Hassan Abbas is Professor and Chair of the Department of Regional and Analytical Studies at the National Defense University’s College of International Security Affairs in Washington D.C. He also served as the Distinguished Quaid-i-Azam Chair Professor at Columbia University and is author of the forthcoming, *The Taliban Revival*. Earlier, he served as a research fellow at Harvard Law School (2002–04) and Harvard University’s Beloit Centre for Science and International Affairs (2005–2009). Abbas also runs a blog at warandost.blogspot.com. He earned his Ph.D. from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University and an L.L.M. from the School of Law, Nottingham University, United Kingdom as a Britannia Chevening Scholar.

Jamal Abdullah
QATAR

Jamal Abdullah is a Researcher and Head of the Gulf Studies Unit at the Al Jazeera Center for Studies, part of Al Jazeera Media Network. He received training at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in Geneva in 2006, and at the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations in Geneva in 2005. Additionally, Abdullah worked at the Department of Public Relations and Protocol at the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Paris (2009–2010). He is the author of the book, *Qatari Foreign Policy 1993–2013: Niches and Strategies* published in May 2014. He also edited the book, *The Strategic Context in the Gulf*. Abdullah holds three master’s degrees: one from Jean Moulin University, France, one in Political Sociology and the other in Political Science. He received his Ph.D. in International Relations from Avignon University.

Piotr Adamczyk
UNITED STATES

Piotr Adamczyk is a member of the content team at the Google Cultural Institute, where his work is focused on the use of open and linked data in cultural heritage institutions. In addition, Adamczyk has been exploring the possibilities for exchange between practices in the sciences and evaluation techniques from the arts. Previously, he was an analyst at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Additionally, he is a prolific author, has organized workshops on a variety of topics, and served as a program committee member for the Association for Computing Machinery. His research includes residences at Banff New Media Institute, Medialab-Prado, and Eyebeam Art. Adamczyk has a background in Mathematics and Computer Science, and a graduate degree in Human Factors and Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Angela Aggeler
UNITED STATES

Angela Aggeler is the Counselor for Public Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan. Prior to her arrival in Islamabad, Aggeler served as the public affairs officer at the American Embassy in Skopje, Macedonia from 2010 to 2013. From 2006 to 2009, she was the cultural and press attaché of the Embassy in Hanoi, Vietnam. Aggeler’s previous postings include spokesperson for the Bureau of Consular Affairs at the State Department in Washington D.C., consul and the ambassador’s liaison to the American community at the U.S. Embassy in Paris, and as vice consul and deputy press attaché in New Delhi, India. Prior to joining the Foreign Service in 1998, she worked for the State Department at the U.S. Embassies in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso and Budapest, Hungary, as well as the Consulate General in Madras, India. Aggeler worked at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. before joining her husband in their State Department postings, and before that as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Central African Republic. She is the recipient of numerous State Department awards, including Superior Honor and Meritorious Honor Awards, the Assistant Secretary’s Award for Excellence (Consular Affairs 2006), and the Mildred Sinclair Award for Language (Hindi, 2000).

Waheed Ahmad
PAKISTAN

Waheed Ahmad is the Director of the Human Rights and HIV/AIDS Center for the Pakistan Labor Federation. Previously, he worked as the Secretary of the Interfaith Harmony Committee of the Lahore High Court Bar Association. He has dealt with cases of discrimination, stigmatization, and social and professional injustices with vulnerable groups including that of persons diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. Ahmad has dedicated his life to awareness campaigns that he believes are of utmost importance in his community in order to try and change the way society thinks of and treats people living with the HIV/AIDS virus. He focuses on the improvement of their lives and their ability to manage a sustainable livelihood. He has conducted a series of lectures at Islamic centers of education (madrasas) regarding current legislation that addresses HIV/AIDS, occupational health and safety, and the protection of fundamental human rights. Ahmad received both his L.L.B and M.S. from the University of the Punjab, Lahore.

Sughra Ahmed
UNITED KINGDOM

Sughra Ahmed is the Program Manager at the Centre for Public Education, where she is responsible for the design and delivery of research and training on issues such as faith and belief, integration, and cohesion. Previously, she worked as a research fellow in the Policy Research Center where she explored the migratory and settlement experiences of first generation Muslim women and men in the United Kingdom and worked with a number of organizations to consider the issues young people face while growing up in the United Kingdom and the impact of this on wider British communities. She has published a number of papers and a key report, *Seen and Not Heard: Voices of Young British Muslims*. She is active in interfaith work both locally and nationally working with organizations to help build stronger and more effective relationships across faith and beliefs. Ahmed currently serves as the president of the Islamic Society of Britain.

Abdul Rahman Al Ageli
LIBYA

Abdul Rahman Al Ageli is a Security File Coordinator in the Decision Support Office in the Office of the Prime Minister and Deputy Head of the Supreme Committee on Border Security and the National Security Coordination Team. In 2011, he participated in the Libyan revolution and began working with the Stabilization Team of the Prime Minister’s Office, as well as the Supreme Security Council and the Military Council. He is the founder of the Libyan Youth Forum, one of the largest and earliest youth organizations created during the revolution which aims to empower youth in Libya. Additionally, he participated in the World Economic Forum’s Global Shapers Community, and is cofound-
er of the Malta International Crisis Center. Al Ageli graduated from the United Kingdom with a degree in Business and Economics.

Salah Al-Ansari
UNITED KINGDOM

Salah Al-Ansari is Visiting Lecturer in Islamic Studies at Heythrop College, University of London where he is also completing his Ph.D. on Muhammad Abu Zahra and Islamic Modernism. Al-Ansari currently serves as Imam of Margate Mosque, Kent. Al-Ansari became a hasfit of the Qur’an at the age of thirteen, and then went on to study Classical and Modern Islamic Studies from the prestigious Al-Azhar University in Cairo in 2000. Al-Ansari was appointed an Imam and teacher at the Central London Mosque from 2004–2007. Additionally, he worked in a number of mosques run by the Al-Birr Foundation in Margate, Woking, and Basingstoke, where he did extensive inter-faith work in collaboration with Hampshire County Council and at Palmers Green Mosque. Al-Ansari is a Muslim chaplain to the Kent Refugee Action Network, and at Palmers Green Mosque. Al-Ansari is a Muslim advisor to Lord Maurice Glasman, and lim chaplain to the Kent Refugee Action Network, and at Palmers Green Mosque. Al-Ansari is a Muslim advisor to Lord Maurice Glasman, and has taught courses on Islam in the United States and the United Kingdom. His main research areas includes: Islamic international law, Islamic international humanitarian law, conflict resolution in Islam, and Islamic constitutional law. He is the author of The Islamic Law of War: Justifications and Regulations. Al-Dawoody received his Ph.D. from the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom, his M.A. in Islamic Studies from Leiden University, The Netherlands, and a five year B.A. degree in Islamic Studies from Al-Azhar University, Cairo.

Ahmed Al-Dawoody
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Ahmed Al-Dawoody is an Assistant Professor in Islamic Studies at Zayed University in Dubai and Al-Azhar University in Cairo. He was IIWS Assistant Director for Graduate Studies and is currently the coordinator of the master’s program in Contemporary Islamic Studies at Zayed University. He has also taught courses on Islam in the United States and the United Kingdom. His main research areas includes: Islamic international law, Islamic international humanitarian law, conflict resolution in Islam, and Islamic constitutional law. He is the author of The Islamic Law of War: Justifications and Regulations. Al-Dawoody received his Ph.D. from the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom, his M.A. in Islamic Studies from Leiden University, The Netherlands, and a five year B.A. degree in Islamic Studies from Al-Azhar University, Cairo.

Darwish Al Emadi
QATAR

Darwish Al Emadi is currently the Associate Vice President for Research and the Director of the Social and Economic Survey Research Institute at Qatar University. Al Emadi has held several senior administrative posts at Qatar University, including the dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences from 1995 to 2000, and dean of the Graduate School from 2001 to 2003. Between 2003 and 2004, Al Emadi was the director of the Education Institute at the Supreme Education Council (SEC). A sociolinguist by training, his professional interests are in the social function of language in general and in English and Arabic specifically. He is a graduate of the Department of English and Modern European Languages at Qatar University. He received his doctorate in Sociolinguistics from the University of Edinburgh.

Rashad Ali
UNITED KINGDOM

Rashad Ali is an author, counterterrorism practitioner, and an external lecturer for Derby University’s Master Class courses on radicalization and counterterrorism. His most recent book is A Guide to Refusing Jihadism. Ali has given testimony and contributed submissions to the Home Affairs Select Committee on Radicalization, and the Parliamentary Intelligence Select Committee. He has worked with various non-governmental organizations and governments across the European Union. He has written for The Observer, The Guardian, The Telegraph, The Independent, The Times, Dissent Magazine, and given commentary for Newsnight and BBC News. Ali is classically trained in Islamic theology and jurisprudence and modern studies in Islam and read at Markfield Institute. He has also taken courses at al-Azhar University in Cairo.

Moaz al-Khatib
SYRIA

Moaz al-Khatib is a prominent figure of the Syrian opposition to President Bashar al-Assad’s rule. He was elected in November 2012 to serve as president of the National Coalition of Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces but resigned six months later, citing frustration with the coalition’s limited progress toward ending the suffering of the Syrian people. Al-Khatib was a preacher at the Umayyad Mosque in Damascus and chairman of the Islamic Civilization Society until 1995, when he was banned from preaching after openly criticizing the Ba’th regime. Known for his moderation, he has consistently called for social justice and political pluralism in Syria while rejecting sectarianism and violence. Al-Khatib was one of the few prominent anti-Assad clerics who endured government repression to remain in Syria. Two weeks after the start of the uprising in March 2011, al-Khatib called for the establishment of a democratic civil state in Syria. He also exhorted demonstrators to keep their protests peaceful and to move beyond sectarian differences. Al-Khatib was detained four times by security forces during the uprising, most recently in April 2012. He finally left Syria for Cairo in July 2012.

Luay al-Khatteeb
QATAR

Luay al-Khatteeb is a visiting fellow at the Brookings Doha Center, focusing on political research on volunteerism at the United Nations Volunteers in Bonn, Germany and was also a visiting researcher at ICCROM in Rome, Italy. Aljija also worked as a senior lecturer at Al-Azhar University, Gaza and authored the book, Social Movement, Political Party or Armed Militia: Hamas as an Informal Institution. Aljija obtained his master’s degree in Public Policy and Governance from Zeppelin University, Germany and is currently a doctoral researcher at the University of Milan.

Mohammed S. Dajani
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PALESTINE

Mohammed S. Dajani Al Daoudi is a Jerusalem-born scholar and the Founder of Wasatia, a moderate Islamic initiative launched in Palestine in March 2007. He is also the Founder and Director of the American Studies Institute, the Director of Libraries at Al-Quds University, Palestine, and the Founding Director of the Jerusalem Studies and Research Institute. Al Daoudi is the author of numerous books and academic articles both in English and Arabic including Wasatia: The Spirits of Islam. He frequently participates in local, regional, and international conferences. He holds two doctorate degrees, one from the University of Texas at Austin and another from the University of South Carolina.

Abdalhadi Alijla
ITALY

Abdalhadi Alijla is the Executive Director of the Institute for Middle East Studies (IMESC). He is a Palestinian academic, writer, professional blogger, and essayist. In addition, he serves as the Regional Manager of the Varieties of Democracy Institute in Sweden for Gulf countries. He is a fellow at the Soliya network for dialogue and was selected as a junior scientist at the 30th Alternative Noble Prize by Right Livelihood College, and is a German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) fellow for Public Policy and Good Governance. Previously, Alijla participated in...
the geopolitics and political economy of the GCC and Iraq. He is the founder and director of the Iraq Energy Institute and serves as senior advisor to the Federal Parliament of Iraq for energy policy and economic reform. His experiences in the private sector span more than 20 years, and he is a frequent commentator on issues related to energy security, economics, and politics in the Middle East region.

Ibrahim Al-Naı̈mi
QATAR

Ibrahim Al-Naı̈mi is the Chairman of the Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue. Al-Naı̈mi previously served as a professor of Chemistry in Qatar University. His research and doctoral studies were conducted at the University of Southern California and he continues to be very active in his field. As Qatar occupies a leading world position in natural gas production, Al-Naı̈mi became involved in basic—as well as applied research programs—dealing with the conversion of natural gas into liquid hydrocarbon products. A key interest of Al-Naı̈mi is to promote science and technology in Islamic countries by participating in meetings and encouraging initiatives to develop cooperation between Muslim scientists. He has served as president of Qatar University (1994–1999) and as the founding president of CHN-Qatar University (2000–2005). He was also elected as the first president of the newly created Qatar University Senate (2007) to guide its development. He received a medal from the Gulf Cooperation Council for Innovation and Technology. He has served as president of Lehman Brothers and Goldman Sachs. He subsequently joined a privately held start-up company in an executive capacity. He is also a principal at a boutique business advisory firm. In the non-profit sector, Alvi is on the board of directors of Muslim Advocates, a civil rights organization. He holds a J.D. from Columbia Law School and an M.A. from the University of Southern California.

Deborah Amos
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Deborah Amos is the Middle East Correspondent for NPR News. Her reports can be heard on NPR’s award-winning Morning Edition, All Things Considered, and Weekend Edition. Amos travels extensively across the Middle East covering a range of stories including the Syrian uprising, the rise of a market-driven economy in the Middle East and the plight of the Arab world’s youth bulge, a series focusing on the emerging power of Turkey and the crisis of Iraqi refugees. In 2013, Amos won the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, the George Foster Peabody Award, and was honored by the Alliance for Women in Media Foundation for her coverage of the Syrian uprising. In 2010 Amos was awarded the Edward R. Murrow Lifetime Achievement Award by Washington State University. In 2009, Amos won the Edward Weintal Prize for Diplomatic Reporting from Georgetown University. Amos was part of a team of reporters who won a 2004 Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award for coverage of Iraq.

Mohamed Ali
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Mohamed Ali (Manny) Ansar is the Co-convenor of the Timbuktu Renaissance Action Group and a founder of the EFES Charity and Essakane Productions, for which he serves as Executive Director of the world renowned Festival Au Desert of Timbuktu. Ansar now works extensively in cultural development and humanitarian efforts in the Sahara. He has also managed a Tuareg music group, Tinariwen, and oversaw public relations for the AMADER Electricity Company of Mali. His tireless efforts to preserve the rich musical heritage of Mali and West Africa, and to promote international peace and pluralism through the power of cultural engagement, have won him awards and speaking invitations at universities and institutions around the world. Most recently, his collaborative works have been granted the prestigious Womex and Freemuse awards for artistic freedom. Ansar holds a master’s degree in International Public Law from the University of Mali.

Omar Ashour
UNITED KINGDOM

Omar Ashour is a Nonresident Fellow at the Brookings Doha Center and a Senior Lecturer in Security Studies at the University of Exeter. He is the author of The De-Radicalization of Jihadists: Transforming Armed Islamist Movements, the first book on transitions from armed to unarmed activism by several Islamists organizations in North Africa. His recent publications include two Brookings Doha Center – Stanford University papers on security sector reform in Egypt and Libyan Islamists transformations in the aftermath of the Qaddafi era. Ashour specializes in conflict analysis, Islamist movements and ideologies, democratization and security studies, and civil-military relations. He previously served as a consultant for the United Nations on security sector reform, counter-terrorism and de-radicalization issues. Ashour is a regular contributor to media outlets including the BBC, Al Jazeera, Sky News, CNN, Al Arabiya and others. His op-eds are frequently published in Foreign Policy, Guardian, Independent, Al Jazeera, CNN, Project Syndicate and other media outlets. He received his Ph.D. from McGill University and his M.A. and B.Sc. from The American University in Cairo.

Abdi Aynte
SOMALIA

Abdi Aynte is the Founder and Executive Director of the Heritage Institute for Policy Studies (HIPS), Somalia’s first think tank based in Mogadishu, Somalia. Prior to establishing HIPS, Aynte was an award-winning journalist with more than ten years of experience, working for some of the best names in the industry, including, most recently, for Al Jazeera English, where he was a senior news editor and producer. He also worked for the BBC and VOA. Aynte testified before the U.S. Senate on Somalia and has advised the UN and AMISOM on Somalia. He earned his M.A. in Government from the Johns Hopkins University.

Donya Aziz
PAKISTAN

Donya Aziz is the Vice Chair of the Women’s Parliamentary Network for the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC). Previously, she served for ten years as a member of Pakistan’s National Assembly. Additionally, Aziz served as the parliamentarian and secretary for the Ministry of Population Welfare, the chair of the HIV/AIDS Subcommittee, president of the Young Parliamentarians Forum, and a member of the Working Council of the Women’s Parliamentary Caucus. During her parliamentary career she was identified as one of the top three legislators of the National Assembly and moved a number of pieces of legislation including a landmark women’s right’s law, the Prevention of Anti-Women Practices Act, 2011.
Abdullah Baabood
QATAR

Abdullah Baabood is an Assistant Professor and Director of the Gulf Studies Center at Qatar University. Baabood was director of the Gulf Research Centre at Cambridge University for four years. He is interested in the politics and economics of the Gulf. In particular, he researches EU-GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) relations and the political economy of the Gulf. Baabood graduated with a master's in Business Administration, a master's in International Relations from the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Durría Badani
UNITED STATES

Durría Badani is the Director of Government Affairs for Dawat-e-Hadiyya, an institution supporting the global Dawoodi Bohra community in the United States. Badani is also the founder and creator of “Featuring Faith,” an online video platform highlighting the influence of faith in politics, civil society, and U.S. domestic and foreign policy. Badani most recently served as deputy director of the Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World at the Saban Center at Brookings. Prior to her tenure with Brookings, Badani was a presidential management fellow with the U.S. Department of State. In this capacity, she served as a speechwriter for U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and as a public relations group, Bell Pottinger, where he joined Albany, he was chief executive and subsequently deputy chairman of London’s largest public relations group, Bell Pottinger, where he consulted to governments and political figures in Botswana, Iraq, Latvia, Russia, Turkey, the United States, and Yemen. Previously, he worked as a journalist and observed and reported on South Africa’s complex and turbulent transition from apartheid to democracy. During this time he held senior posts on several leading publications, and was a two-time winner of the Mondi Gold, South Africa’s leading award for magazine journalism. In the mid-1990s he served as director of communications for the country’s Independent Electoral Commission, the country’s first non-racial, democratic general election. Bell is a trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award for Young People, which operates in more than 120 countries offering youth development programs to more than 700,000 young people every year. Raised in South Africa, Bell is a graduate in History and Politics of the University of Cape Town.

Jenny Berglund
SWEDEN

Jenny Berglund is an Associate Professor of the Study of Religions at Södertörn University, Sweden. Her particular area of interest is Islam and religious education, which stems from her dissertation research, teaching Islam and Islamic religious education at Muslim schools in Sweden. Berglund has collaborated on the editing of several Swedish books, and has also published widely in Eng-

M. Cherif Bassiouni
UNITED STATES

Cherif Bassiouni is the President of the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences, the Honorary President of the Association Internationale de Droit Pénal (AIDP), and an Emeritus Professor of Law at DePaul University where he has taught for 45 years. He was a member and chair of three UN fact-finding commissions, twice served as a UN-appointed independent expert on topical subjects, chaired one national fact-finding commission, and carried out fact-finding on behalf of one government. He has worked on issues pertaining to Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Libya, Iraq, and Bahrain. He was also co-chair of the Committee of Experts which prepared the UN draft convention on torture and served in various capacities with the UN since 1975, among which he served as chairman of the International Criminal Court’s Drafting Committee. Through the Sarcusa Institute he oversaw educational programs and training for 37,000 jurists from 146 countries. He was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999 for the establishment of the International Criminal Court and has received numerous awards, honorary degrees, and medals. He is the author of 45 books on international criminal law and human rights.

Dwight Bashir
UNITED STATES

Dwight Bashir is the Deputy Director of Policy and Research at the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF). He specializes in human rights and religious freedom in the Middle East/North Africa region, ethnic and sectarian conflict, religion and democracy, and preventive diplomacy. Bashir’s work has been featured in major media outlets and academic journals, including BBC, CNN, PBS Newshour, Washington Post, Foreign Policy, Al Arabiya, Al Jazeera, Al Monitor, Yale Journal of International Affairs, and Cairo Review of Global Affairs. Bashir has lectured globally on an array of foreign policy issues and has lived and traveled in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. Before joining USCIRF, Bashir worked as a consultant with the United Nations and various non-governmental organizations, focusing on human rights and conflict prevention.

Mustafa Barghouthi
PALESTINE

Mustafa Barghouthi is a Member of the Palestinian Parliament. He is a former minister of information under the 2007 National Unity Government and a 2005 presidential candidate. Previously Barghouthi was a member of the Palestinian National Initiative. He is also a physician, and an activist focusing on social, political, human rights and peace. Barghouthi writes extensively for local and international audiences on civil society and democracy issues and the political situation in Palestine, as well as on health development policy in Palestine.

Sultan Barakat
QATAR

Sultan Barakat is a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Doha Center. In addition, he is the founding director of the Post-war Reconstruction and Development Unit at the University of York and a consultant for the United Nations, World Bank, European Union, DFID, ILO, IFRC, Dutch and Norwegian Ministries of Foreign Affairs, United States Institute for Peace, and Higher Education Funding Council for England. Previously, he was the director of PRDU-FCO Senior Chevening Fellows Program on Conflict Resolution. Barakat received his B.Sc. from the University of Jordan, Amman, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of York, United Kingdom.

Paul Bell
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Paul Bell is the Director of Business Development at Albany Associates, a London-based consultancy. He specializes in the development of comprehensive communications campaigns and products in conflict and post-conflict zones. Before joining Albany, he was chief executive and subsequently deputy chairman of London’s largest public relations group, Bell Pottinger, where he consulted to governments and political figures in Botswana, Iraq, Latvia, Russia, Turkey, the United States, and Yemen. Previously, he worked as a journalist and observed and reported on South Africa’s complex and turbulent transition from apartheid to democracy. During this time he held senior posts on several leading publications, and was a two-time winner of the Mondi Gold, South Africa’s leading award for magazine journalism. In the mid-1990s he served as director of communications for the country’s Independent Electoral Commission, the country’s first non-racial, democratic general election. Bell is a trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award for Young People, which operates in more than 120 countries offering youth development programs to more than 700,000 young people every year. Raised in South Africa, Bell is a graduate in History and Politics of the University of Cape Town.

Maryam Barghouthi
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Maryam Barghouthi is an activist focusing on social, political, human rights and peace. Barghouthi writes extensively for local and international audiences on civil society and democracy issues and the political situation in Palestine, as well as on health development policy in Palestine.

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Jenny Bell is the Director of Business Development at Albany Associates, a London-based consultancy. He specializes in the development of comprehensive communications campaigns and products in conflict and post-conflict zones. Before joining Albany, he was chief executive and subsequently deputy chairman of London’s largest public relations group, Bell Pottinger, where he consulted to governments and political figures in Botswana, Iraq, Latvia, Russia, Turkey, the United States, and Yemen. Previously, he worked as a journalist and observed and reported on South Africa’s complex and turbulent transition from apartheid to democracy. During this time he held senior posts on several leading publications, and was a two-time winner of the Mondi Gold, South Africa’s leading award for magazine journalism. In the mid-1990s he served as director of communications for the country’s Independent Electoral Commission, the country’s first non-racial, democratic general election. Bell is a trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award for Young People, which operates in more than 120 countries offering youth development programs to more than 700,000 young people every year. Raised in South Africa, Bell is a graduate in History and Politics of the University of Cape Town.
lish on a range of topics generally dealing with Islam in Sweden. She is currently involved with projects that concern the lives, values, relations, leisure time activities, and religious interests of Sweden’s young Muslim populations. Berglund is a committee member of the European Association for the Study of Religion and is actively involved in the organization’s working group on religious education. She has initiated, and personally participates in, a teacher exchange program with the Center for Women’s Studies at the University of Jordan.

Shahid Javed Burki is the Founder of the Institute of Public Policy in Lahore, Pakistan. Prior to this, Burki was affiliated with the Emerging Markets Partnership, a private equity firm. From 1974–1999, Burki was a prominent leader at the World Bank. Among the positions he held are director of the China Department and Vice President of Latin America and the Caribbean. Burki has held numerous positions in the civil service of Pakistan, including chief economist of West Pakistan and economic advisor at the Ministry of Commerce. From 1996–1997 he served as the finance minister of Pakistan. Burki has written several books on China, Pakistan, and human development, and was a senior research fellow at Harvard’s Center for International Affairs and the Harvard Institute for International Development. He holds graduate degrees in Physics and Economics from Punjab, Oxford, and Harvard Universities.

Lisa Curtis is a Senior Research Fellow on South Asia at the Heritage Foundation, where she specializes in U.S. policy toward India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. Curtis has testified before Congress on more than a dozen occasions and has appeared on major broadcast networks. Before joining Heritage in 2006, Curtis was a professional staff member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, handling the South Asia portfolio for then Commit- tee Chairman, Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN). Curtis also served as senior advisor in the State Department’s South Asia Bureau, a political analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency, and a political officer at the U.S. Embassies in Islamabad and New Delhi.

Innocent Chukwuma serves as a Representative for the Ford Foundation’s office in West Africa. He oversees all grants projects in the sub-region from the Lagos office, where the office’s mission is to ensure that all people have equal access to economic and social opportunities. He is a globally renowned advocate for human rights and good governance. Before joining the Foundation in 2013, he founded and led the CLEEN Foundation to promote public safety, security, and an accessible justice in West Africa. CLEEN was the first African nongovernmental organization to receive the prestigious MacArthur Foundation Creative and Effective Institutions Award. In addition, he has held various posts within the Civil Liberties Organization, one of Nigeria’s first human rights minister of Pakistan. Burki has written several books, and he served as chair of the Atlas Alliance, a global network of nonprofits. He is the recipient of numerous honors, including the Reebok International Human Rights Award. He previously was a visiting lecturer at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government.

Jake Cusack is Managing Partner of CrossBoundary, a frontier market investment advisory firm active in the Middle East, Central Asia, and Africa. Prior to CrossBoundary, Cusack served as a Marine Corps officer, receiving the Bronze Star Medal for actions in Iraq, and worked at Abraaj Capital, an emerging market private equity firm. He has written for the New York Times, Forbes, Harvard Business Review, and Inc. magazine. His work has also appeared on National Public Radio, in the Wall Street Journal, Fortune, and Bloomberg Businessweek. Cusack has an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School, an M.A. in Public Policy from Harvard’s Kennedy School, and a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame.

Sylvain Cypel

France

Sylvain Cypel is Senior Editor at Le Monde. He joined the paper in 1998 as deputy head of the international section, following five-year tenure as editor-in-chief of Courrier International and his position as deputy editor-in-chief at the journal Le Echos. Cypel has worked for the daily Le Matin de Paris and as a free-lance journalist for France 2, Libération, and other media outlets, often covering the Middle East. He is the author of the book Walled, which was originally published in French; the Spanish translation of the book received the 23rd Francisco Cerecedo
Journalism Prize from the Association of European Journalists. Cypel has degrees in Sociology, Contemporary History, and International Relations.

Malik Daahan
United Kingdom
Malik bin Rabea Daahan is a multi-jurisdictional qualified lawyer and an international policy consultant. He is a leading law and policy thinker on the Middle East, an expert in negotiation theory, an accredited mediator, an academic and rule of law activist, philanthropist, and regional and transnational political entrepreneur. He is the Principal of the Institution Quraysh for Law & Policy (IQ), a multi-faceted transnational professional service company, with offices in Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and United Kingdom. The institution provides unique professional consultative services that are tailored to each client, whether a leading transnational corporation, family conglomerate, high net worth individual, government, regulator, public entity, or non-governmental organization. The company offers unparalleled regional expertise in law, politics, policy, culture and economics with a dedicated focus on the Arab World. Daahan obtained his B.A. in Public Administration from King Abdul Aziz University, a Higher Diploma in Economics and Administration from the Economic Institute-Colorado University, an M.P.A. in Public Administration from Pepperdine University, and a Ph.D. in Administration and Organizational Theory from Cairo University.

Khaled Daoud
Qatar
Khaled Daoud is a Consultant for Academic Affairs to the Vice President and Chief Academic Officer at Qatar University since 2006. He is heavily involved in policy development, setting academic strategic priorities, academic program development, and providing programmatic and institutional assessment. In addition, he has been involved and chaired a large number of institutional committees including the academic council, academic program and curriculum enhancement committee, the students learning outcomes assessment committee, the university strategic plan, and the university capacity building program. Daoud is a trained historian and archaeologist and served as the managing editor of the Egyptian Supreme Council of Archaeology publication for ten years. He received his doctorate degree from Liverpool University in Egyptology and Ancient History.

Rocky Dawuni
Ghana
Rocky Dawuni is a Ghanaian international musician and humanitarian activist. He is often described as a cross between musical icons Fela Kuti and Bob Marley, and over the course of his career released five critically acclaimed albums as well as performed on some of the biggest stages in the world including the Hollywood Bowl and the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts. He has collaborated and performed with Stevie Wonder, Peter Gabriel, Bono, Jason Mraz, and others. Dawuni’s eloquence and successful melding of music, cultural diplomacy, and humanitarian action have made him a spokesperson for various global causes. He has collaborated with Product (RED), UNICEF, the Carter Center and the UN Foundation. In 2012, Dawuni was appointed the Tourism and Cultural Ambassador by the Ghanaian government and World Ambassador for the Musicians Union of Ghana. The UN Foundation’s Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves named him a Global Ambassador in September 2012, and he was also named to its Leadership Council which is chaired by Secretary Hillary Clinton. On November 20, 2013 he joined UN General Secretary Ban Ki Moon at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference where he performed live and spoke on climate change.

Michele Dunne
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Michele Dunne is a Senior Associate in the Middle East program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, D.C. Her research interests include processes of political, social, and economic change in Arab countries and U.S. policies in the region. A former specialist in the Middle East at the U.S. Department of State and National Security Council, she was also the founding director of the Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East at the Atlantic Council. She holds a Ph.D. from Georgetown University.

Michael Doran
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Michael Doran is a Senior Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, where he specializes in Middle East security issues. Previously, he served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense from 2007 to 2008 and Senior Director for National Security at the National Security Council from 2005 to 2007. He has taught at New York University, Princeton University, and the University of Central Florida. Doran holds a B.A. from Stanford University and his Ph.D. and M.A. from Princeton University.

Issandr El Amrani
Egypt
Issandr El Amrani oversees the International Crisis Group’s North Africa Project. Based in Cairo since 2000, he has worked across the Middle East as a journalist, commentator and consultant and was previously Crisis Group’s North Africa Analyst. His reporting and commentary on the Middle East and North Africa has appeared in The Economist, London Review of Books, The Financial Times, National, Guardian, Time, and many other publications. He is the founder of one of the longest-running blogs in the region, The Arabist, and has contributed to several books on politics and culture in the Middle East.

Tokunboh Durosaro
Nigeria
Tokunboh Durosaro is the Director of Oando Foundation, an indigenous philanthropic organizations in Nigeria focused on educational development. The Oando Foundation supports the Nigerian government in meeting the Millennium Development Goals on achieving access to universal basic education. In her role as director, she provides strategic direction, leadership and promotes collaboration with public and private sector actors. Previously, Durosaro was the chief corporate services officer at Oando PLC, where she managed the performance and service delivery of the following departments: Corporate Communications, Corporate Social Responsibility, Procurement, and Services Departments. She also developed and implemented the Group Shared Service Scheme. She has over 20 years of experience in public relations, advertising and marketing in the telecommunications, information technology and oil and gas sector. She is also a member of the Institute of Directors. Durosaro holds a B.Sc. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin.

Khaleed Daib
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Khaleed Daib is the Director of Aid and International Development at the Qatar Red Crescent. He has been involved with more than eight complex international humanitarian operations, including Syria, South Sudan, and most recently the Central African Republic. His focus is on issues related to humanitarian relief, advocacy, and humanitarian diplomacy. Daib is an architect by training.

Tokunboh Durosaro
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Michele Dunne
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Michele Dunne is a Senior Associate in the Middle East program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, D.C. Her research interests include processes of political, social, and economic change in Arab countries and U.S. policies in the region. A former specialist in the Middle East at the U.S. Department of State and National Security Council, she was also the founding director of the Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East at the Atlantic Council. She holds a Ph.D. from Georgetown University.
Between 1978 and 2009, Elhadje served as the intellectual of Timbuktu. A longtime professor and historian, Elhadje has just published the second of his two-volume work, _Timbuktu_. Following extensive archival work in the famous manuscript libraries and numerous interviews with other northern Malian leaders, his book argues that Timbuktu has always been a multi-ethnic city, and the scholarship of its generations of Islamic intellectuals should not remain isolated. Previously, he was an assistant instructor in Kidal until 1965, after which time he became a high school professor. Between 1978 and 2009, Elhadje served as the secretary general for youth and the regional director for Youth for Sports, Arts and Culture for the region of Timbuktu. It was also during this time that he served as the municipal advisor to the Council of the Circle of Timbuktu.

**Khaled Elgindy**
**UNITED STATES**

Khaled Elgindy is a Fellow with the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at Brookings. He is a founding board member of the Egyptian American Rule of Law Association. He previously served as an advisor to the Palestinian leadership in Ramallah on permanent status negotiations with Israel from 2004 to 2009, and was a key participant in the Annan negotiations held throughout 2008. Prior to that, Elgindy spent nine years in various political and policy-related positions in Washington, D.C., both inside and outside the federal government, including as a professional staff member on the House International Relations Committee in 2002 and as policy analyst for the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom from 2000 to 2002. He served as the political action coordinator for the Arab American Institute from 1998 to 2000 and as Middle East program officer for the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs from 1995 to 1998. Elgindy holds an M.A. in Arab Studies from Georgetown University and a B.A. in Political Science from Indiana University.

**Illili Elmehdi**
**MALI**

Ellehedi is a native of Timbuktu, Mali, and a member of the Festival Au Désert of Timbuktu production team since 2008. He specializes in information technology (IT), multimedia, Internet, and telecommunications. Prior to that, he was responsible for the preventive IT maintenance of Entreprise des Travaux d’Aménagements Urbains et Ruraux (ETAUR) in Bamako. In 2011 and 2012, Elmehedi worked at the Maison des Scribes (House of Knowledge) as an international Francophone volunteer in Vietnam, where he was responsible for creating IT material, managing different social media and staff qualifications, as well as creating and promoting educational technologies. Elmehedi is a member of Essekane Production and SALAM Global Leadership Training. He holds a master’s in Development and Information Technology from the L’Ecole Supérieure de Technologie et de Management (ESTM).

**Salem Ould Elhadj**
**MALI**

Salem Ould Elhadj is one of the most respected and revered intellectuals of Timbuktu. A longtime professor and historian, Elhadj has just published the second of his two-volume work, _Timbuktu_. Following extensive archival work in the famous manuscript libraries and numerous interviews with other northern Malian leaders, his book argues that Timbuktu has always been a multi-ethnic city, and the scholarship of its generations of Islamic intellectuals should not remain isolated. Previously, he was an assistant instructor in Kidal until 1965, after which time he became a high school professor. Between 1978 and 2009, Elhadj served as the secretary general for youth and the regional director for Youth for Sports, Arts and Culture for the region of Timbuktu. It was also during this time that he served as the municipal advisor to the Council of the Circle of Timbuktu.

**Elbaid Ahmed Elbaid**
**QATAR**

Elbaid Ahmed Elbaid is the Head of the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region. Previously, he was an attorney at the Sudanese Foreign Ministry. Additionally, he taught international law of human rights, international protection of minorities, public international law, and Islamic law at McGill University before joining the United Nations. Elbaid was a senior advisor to the United Nations for Good Governance and Human Rights in Yemen and Ethiopia and then joined the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. He holds an LL.B. from the University of Khartoum, an M.A. from the University of Saskatchewan, Canada, and a Ph.D. in International Law of Human Rights from McGill University, Canada. His doctoral thesis focused on the relationship between human rights and cultural diversity in Muslim Africa.

**Saeb Erekat**
**PALESTINE**

Saeb Erekat is the Chief Negotiator of the Palestinian Liberation Organization. Previously, he was the deputy head of the Palestinian delegation to the Madrid Conference in 1991 and the follow-up talks in Washington from 1992 to 1993. In 1994, Erekat was appointed the chairman of the Palestinian negotiation delegation and, in 1995, began serving as chief negotiator for the Palestinians, including at the Camp David meetings in 2000 and the negotiations at Taba in 2001. Erekat was a professor of Political Science at An-Najah National University in the West Bank town of Nablus and has served as secretary general of the Arab Studies Society. He also worked for twelve years on the editorial board of _Al-Quds_ newspaper. Erekat received a bachelor’s and master’s degree in political science from San Francisco State University and completed his Ph.D. in peace and conflict studies at Bradford University.

**Reza Eslami-Somea**
**IRAN**

Reza Eslami-Somea is an Assistant Professor of human rights in the Faculty of Law at the University of Shahid Beheshti in Tehran, Iran. Eslami-Somea’s research and teaching include international human rights law, democratic citizenship education, public freedoms, rights of women and minorities, and Shari’a law. He has numerous publications on human rights, including _Human Rights Activism: Theory and Practice_, _The Comparative Study of the Rights of Afghan Migrant Workers in Iran and Mexican Migrant Workers in the US_, and _Privatization and Development of Human Rights (in Persian)_.

Eslami-Somea has traveled to conferences in the Middle East and the United States, and organizes workshops and training sessions for youth on human rights issues.
Mohammad Fadel
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Mohammad Fadel is an Associate Professor and the Canada Research Chair for Law and Economics of Islamic Law at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. Prior to joining the faculty of law, he practiced with Sullivan & Cromwell LLP in New York and clerked with a federal district court judge and a federal appeals judge. He teaches Business Organizations, the Law of International Business and Finance Transactions, Trusts, and Religion and Liberalism: the Case of Islam. Fadel has published numerous articles on Islamic legal history and Islam and liberalism. He obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia and his J.D. from the University of Chicago.

Carol Christine Fair
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Carol Christine Fair is an Assistant Professor at Georgetown University’s Security Studies Program in the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service. Prior to joining Georgetown University, she served as a senior political scientist with the RAND Corporation, a political officer to the United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan in Kabul, and a senior research associate in the United States Institute for Peace’s Center for Conflict Analysis and Prevention. Her research focuses upon political and security development in the Middle East, focusing on the socio-political development of the broader Middle East.

Adel Gamar
QATAR

Adel Gamar is currently completing a master’s in Public Administration at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. He also served as an Advisor to the Libyan minister of foreign affairs after the fall of Muammar Qaddafi in 2011. He advised on the development of Libya’s foreign diplomatic relations and trade. While in Qatar, Gamar also advised the deputy general counsel at the Qatar Foundation (QF) in establishing a graduate law school in Qatar. During the later stages, he oversaw the partnership of Harvard Law School’s Institute for Global Law and Policy and the QF. He served as an educational specialist for UNESCO (Libya) where he managed the communication and information program and focused on skills development initiatives to enhance youth employment.

Mehreen Farooq
UNITED STATES

Mehreen Farooq is a Senior Fellow with the World Organization for Resource Development and Education (WORDE). Her areas of expertise include countering violent extremism (CVE), Islamic community engagement, and grassroots community development. Since 2011, she has traveled extensively across Afghanistan and Pakistan to interview hundreds of youth activists, religious scholars, and tribal elders to explore their peacebuilding initiatives and has co-authored two monographs on the subject. Farooq is currently working with a State Department funded project to evaluate the efficacy of United States government-funded CVE programs in Bangladesh. Farooq received her B.A. in Political Science and Leadership from Christopher Newport University and her M.A. in International Affairs from American University, focusing on the socio-political development of the broader Middle East.

Justin Gengler
QATAR

Justin Gengler is Senior Researcher at the Social and Economic Survey Research Institute. In 2009, he completed the first-ever mass survey of political attitudes in Bahrain as part of his doctoral dissertation at the University of Michigan, entitled “Ethnic Conflict and Political Mobilization in Bahrain and the Arab Gulf.” This project forms the basis of a forthcoming monograph on group conflict in the rentier state, to be published in the Indiana University Press Series in Arab and Islamic Studies. He is a contributor to the recent volume, *Sectarian Politics in the Persian Gulf*. His work has also appeared in *Middle East Policy*, *The Journal of Arabian Studies*, and *Middle East Law and Governance*, in addition to numerous other policy-oriented publications.

Rachel Gillum
UNITED STATES

Rachel Gillum currently works at RiceHadleyGates LLC, an international strategic consulting firm based in Silicon Valley. She is a principal investigator of the Muslim-American National Opinion Survey (MA-NOS) and a Fellow at the Truman National Security Project. Having recently defended her doctoral dissertation at Stanford University, Gillum’s work primarily focuses on Muslim-American integration and government relations in post-9/11 environment. She is affiliated with the Association for Analytic Learning about Islam and Muslim Societies and with Stanford’s Abbas Program in Islamic Studies. Gillum previously worked at the RAND Corporation’s International Policy Center, and she served as the chief editor of Stanford’s Mapping Militants Project, where she oversaw the design of an online tool for the analysis of terrorist networks. She previously served as a consultant for the Gallup Organization and as a research assistant at the Department of Defense’s Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies.

Ufuk Gokcen
TURKEY

Ambassador Ufuk Gokcen is the Permanent Observer of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to the United Nations. He previously served as political adviser to the OIC Secretary General, where he played active role in initiatives to promote engagement with international partners in the fields of peace building, socio-economic development, human rights, good governance and interfait dialogue. Prior to that, Gokcen was based at the Turkish Embassies in Riyadh, Muscat, and Damascus, and also served at the Middle East Department of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Philip Gordon
UNITED STATES

Philip Gordon is Special Assistant to the President and White House Coordinator for the Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf Region. He assumed his current position on March 11, 2013, and participated in President Obama’s historic trip to Jerusalem, Ramallah, and Amman later that month. As White House Middle East Coordinator he oversees a wide-ranging responsibilities include the challenges and opportunities faced by the United States in Egypt, Libya, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Syria and the Gulf. He is a core member of the President and Secretary of State John Kerry’s teams responsible for Middle East Peace as well as nuclear negotiations with Iran. Prior to joining the White House Staff, Gordon served as Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs under Secretary of State Hillary Clinton from May 2009 through March 2013. Gordon has previously served as a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C.; Director for European Affairs at the National Security Council; and Senior Fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London. He has a Ph.D. and an M.A. from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies and a bachelor’s degree from Ohio State University. Gordon is the author of numerous books and articles on international relations and foreign policy and he has been a frequent contributor on Middle Eastern and other issues to major publications such as *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *International Herald Tribune*, and *The Financial Times*.

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Stephen Grand
UNITED STATES

Stephen R. Grand is a Non-resident Senior Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy and former director of the Brookings' Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World. He is also the author of the new book, Understanding Tahrir Square: What Transitions Elsewhere Can Teach Us About the Protests for Arab Democracy. Previously, he was director of the Middle East Strategy Group at the Aspen Institute. Prior to that, Grand served as adjunct professor at Syracuse University's Maxwell School and was a scholar-in-residence at American University in Washington, D.C. From 2002 to 2003, he was an International Affairs fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. He has also served as the director of programs at the German Marshall Fund, a professional staff member for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and the founding executive director of the Civic Education Project. He received a B.A. from the University of Virginia and his Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Gwen Griffith-Dickson
UNITED KINGDOM

Gwen Griffith-Dickson is the Vice Principal of Heythrop College, University of Oxford, a specialista college in theology and philosophy. Griffith-Dickson was previously at the University of London's Birkbeck College, where she developed the country's largest continuing education program in Religious Studies, Islamic Studies, Theology, and Philosophy. She was the director of Doctoral Research and Head of School at the School of Arts and Cultural Studies. She was the first woman to hold the Chair in Divinity in 2001 at Gresham College and thereafter was appointed a Gresham Fellow; and is now Professor Emeritus. In 2005, she left Birkbeck to found and to this day still directs the Lokahi Foundation, an independent research organization and social impact charity that works for sustainable, diverse communities. Its focus is on interfaith issues, not merely on dialogue but particularly at the more 'challenging' edge. Lokahi is the only community organization in Britain to have prevented a terrorist attack.

Shadi Hamid
UNITED STATES

Shadi Hamid is a fellow at the Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World at the Brookings Institution's Saban Center and the author of Temptations of Power: Islamists and Illiberal Democracy in the New Middle East. He served as director of research at the Brookings' Project on Middle East Democracy (POMED) and a Hewlett Fellow at Stanford University's Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law. He is currently vice-chair of POMED, a member of the World Bank's MENA Advisory Panel, and a regular contributor to The Atlantic. Hamid's articles have appeared in the New York Times, Washington Post, Foreign Affairs, New Republic, Foreign Policy, National Interest, Washington Quarterly, and many other publications. His writing has been featured on NRC's "Meet the Press," and the Washington Post named him one of the top 25 Twitter accounts "you must follow to understand Egypt." Hamid received his B.S. and M.A. from Georgetown University and Ph.D. in Political Science from Oxford University.

Abdel Kader Haidara
MALI

Abdel Kader Haidara is Heiz. Director and Curator of the Mamma Haidara Memorial Library in Timbuktu, Mali, the largest of 22 private libraries in the City of Timbuktu, and out of the 120 in the Republic of Mali. He is one of Timbuktu’s leading manuscripts experts, and the son of a renowned local collector, Mamma Haidara. He was enlisted to collect manuscripts for the newly established Ahmed Baba Institute for Documentation and Research in Timbuktu, the first concerted efforts to save Mali’s ancient manuscripts that opened in 1970. Haidara has been successful in collecting more than 20,000 manuscripts for the Institute. It was later that he was able to raise enough money to open the Haidara Library, through the help of Henry Louis Gates, Jr. of Harvard University, who visited Timbuktu in 1996. The Andrew Mellon Foundation and other international friends have enabled the library to gain a new permanent home for its collections, which opened to the public in 2000. Today, the library holds over 10,000 ancient manuscripts and many printed books.

Usama Hasan
UNITED KINGDOM

Usama Hasan is a Senior Researcher at Quilliam and was a founding advisor to the the Mamma Haidara Memorial Library in Timbuktu, Mali. During the 2012 London bombings. Fluent in English, Urdu, and Arabic, Hasan has served as a part-time imam since his teens and is a certified transmitter of the Qur’an and Hadith scriptures. He has translated a number of Islamic texts into English, including The Islamic Foundation’s Way of the Prophet. Before joining Quilliam, Hasan was a senior lecturer in engineering at Middlesex University. Hasan is regularly featured on international television channels, including BBC Hardtalk, CNN, Sky News, MBC, ARY, Al Jazeera and has also written various columns for the Times, Guardian, Telegraph and the Washington Post. He holds a Ph.D., M.Sc and M.A. in Physics and Artificial Intelligence from the Universities of Cambridge & London and is a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society.

H.A. Hellyer
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H.A. Hellyer is a Nonresident Fellow with the Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. He is also an associate fellow at the Royal United Services Institute in London, a Research Associate at the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University, and is currently writing a book on the Egyptian revolution. Formerly senior practice consultant at the Gallup Organization and senior research fellow at the University of Warwick, Hellyer’s expertise in Arab politics, pluralism, religion and security issues in the West and the Arab world has been called upon by different governmental and non-governmental actors in Europe, the United States and the Arab world in his capacity as a nonpartisan analyst and specialist in his subject areas. Hellyer served as Deputy Convener of the UK Government’s Taskforce on Tackling Radicalization and Extremism in the aftermath of the London bombings in 2005 and served as the UK Foreign Office’s first Economic and Social Re-
search Council’s Placement fellow, where he provided expert opinion on Muslim communities and counter-terrorism issues. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Warwick in Ethnic Relations and Political Philosophy, his M.A. in International Political Economy, and his B.A. in Law from the University of Sheffield.

William Hickman
UNITED STATES

William Hickman is the Chief Executive Officer at Atlantic CrossBorder LLC. Hickman is also an Expert Advisor at Pegasus Capital Advisors, L.P. Previously, he served as the President and Chief Executive Officer at the Avis Capital Group, Inc. and FreeMarket Global, Inc. Before his career as an investor, Hickman practiced domestic and international law in the United States for 25 years representing leading Fortune 50 corporations including Du Pont, Johnson & Johnson, Lockheed, Bank of America, Chevron, and United Airlines. For his activities as an observer and advisor to the governmental negotiators to the conflict resolution process involving Uganda and the LRA and the conflict in the North Kiva region of the Democratic Republic of Congo, he received the humanitarian award from the Phelophepa Foundation under the patronage of Archbishop Desmond Tutu. He has also served as member of the board of the Interfaith Center of New York, and on the board of trustees of Loyola Marymount University of Los Angeles and St. Marks College of South Africa.

Nicholas Hopton
UNITED KINGDOM

Nicholas Hopton is the United Kingdom’s Ambassador to Qatar. He is a career diplomat who joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) in 1989, after completing his studies at St. Peter’s School, York, and Magdalen College at Cambridge University. Prior to his arrival in Doha, he served as ambassador to Yemen. He has worked on national security issues in the Cabinet Office, led the International Organisations Department in the FCO, and has European policy experience from postings in Paris and Rome and from serving as a private secretary to the Minister for Europe.

Qamar-ul Huda
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Qamar-ul Huda is the Director of Engagement and Collaboration at the International Center of Excellence for Countering Violent Extremism, Hedayah, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Trained as a scholar in Islamic and Middle East Studies, Huda served as senior program officer at the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) in Washington, D.C. At USIP, Huda was the leading expert tasked with the design, implementation, and evaluation of peacebuilding projects related to religious leaders and institutions in the Middle East, South, and South East Asia. He is an adjunct associate professor at Georgetown University’s Conflict Resolution Program where he teaches Religion, Ethnicity, Conflict Resolution to graduate students. He taught Islamic Studies and Comparative Religion at Boston College, College of the Holy Cross, and Brandeis University. Huda’s area of interest is Islamic intellectual history, ethics, comparative religion, violence, conflict resolution, non-violence, and violent extremist groups in contemporary Islam. He is the author of the book, *The Crescent and Dove: Peace and Conflict Resolution in Islam*. He earned his B.A. from Colgate University and his Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles in Islamic and Middle East Studies.

Rahat Husain
UNITED STATES

Rahat Husain is the U.S. Special Envoy to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). In this role, Husain seeks to deepen and expand the partnerships that the United States has pursued with Muslims around the world. Husain worked with the National Security Staff in developing and pursuing the interests of Muslims in the U.S. and around the world.

Eric Herman
UNITED STATES

Eric Herman is the founder and president of Modiba Productions, a New York City-based music production, management, licensing and consulting company dedicated to international artists, social responsibility and heightening awareness of pressing humanitarian issues through music. While a student at Wesleyan University, Herman produced and released a benefit album that raised awareness and significant financial support for the victims of the crisis in Darfur. Since graduating, he has played critical roles in the careers and humanitarian efforts of artists such as Vieux Farka Toure (Mali), Bombino (Niger), Idan Raichel (Israel), Sierra Leone’s Refugee All Stars (Sierra Leone) and Aurelio Martinez (Honduras).

Andrew Hernann
UNITED STATES

Andrew Hernann is an Instructor at the City University of New York and has been working on Africa since 2007. In 2010, Hernann began his anthropological work with various populations from Timbuktu, and he spent 2013 conducting his dissertation fieldwork with them. His research analyzes the roles of militaries, governments, religious institutions, and humanitarian organizations during times of crisis. Previously, Hernann worked as a program coordinator at the Colin Powell Center for Policy Studies at City College (CUNY) and he teaches at various CUNY colleges throughout New York City.

William Hickman
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Hickman has provided expert opinion on Muslim communities and counter-terrorism issues. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Warwick in Ethnic Relations and Political Philosophy, his M.A. in International Political Economy, and his B.A. in Law from the University of Sheffield.

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the New Beginning that President Obama outlined in his June 2009 address in Cairo, Egypt. Hussain previously served as Deputy Associate Counsel to President Obama, focusing on national security, new media, and science and technology issues. He previously served as a Law Clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals. In 2008, Hussain co-authored, with al-Husein N. Madhany, a Brookings Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World analysis paper entitled, “Reformulating the Battle of Ideas: Understanding the Role of Islam in Counterterrorism Policy.” His other academic writings have focused on national security, constitutional law, and civil liberties. Hussain received his J.D. from Yale Law School, where he served as an editor of the Yale Law Journal. Hussain also earned a master’s degree in Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and another master’s degree in Arabic and Islamic Studies from Harvard University. He attended undergraduate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Syed Azhar Hussain
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Syed Azhar Hussain is currently the President and Founder of the Peace and Education Foundation in Islamabad. Previously, he served as the vice president for Preventive Diplomacy at the International Center for Religion and Diplomacy (ICRD). Hussain has been providing educational and intercultural consulting services for numerous multi-national organizations for the past ten years, and has a well-established history of successful training and development initiatives throughout the world, including in India, Pakistan, Britain, the United States, and Mexico. He has served as senior consultant to the government of Mexico’s Ministry of Education and as an adjunct professor at the Tecnologico de Monterrey University in Mexico. He received the 2006 Peace-makers in Action Award by the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding in New York. A native of Pakistan, he holds a master’s in International and Intercultural Management from the School for International Training, Vermont.

Javed Jabbar
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Javed Jabbar is the Chairman of the Board of CITCAP at the University of Southern California. He previously served as a Law Clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals. In 2008, Hussain co-authored, with al-Husein N. Madhany, a Brookings Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World analysis paper entitled, “Reformulating the Battle of Ideas: Understanding the Role of Islam in Counterterrorism Policy.” His other academic writings have focused on national security, constitutional law, and civil liberties. Hussain received his J.D. from Yale Law School, where he served as an editor of the Yale Law Journal. Hussain also earned a master’s degree in Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and another master’s degree in Arabic and Islamic Studies from Harvard University. He attended undergraduate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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Javed Jabbar
PAKISTAN

Javed Jabbar is the Chairman and Chief Executive of J.J. Media, Ltd. He has served as a minister in three federal cabinets of Pakistan and as a senator for six years. His ministerial portfolios have included Information and Broadcasting, Science and Technology, Petroleum and Natural Resources, and National Affairs. He drafted the first-ever legislation in Pakistan regarding independent television and radio channels and freedom of information. He was twice elected (2004–2012) as one of the four global vice presidents of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Switzerland, the world’s largest environment organization. He has represented Pakistan at the United Nations and regularly addresses international conferences, universities and professional institutions around the world. There are numerous grassroots development organizations and research centers in villages throughout Pakistan of which he is the founder or cofounder. He is the author of 14 books that have received laudatory reviews.

Sherman Jackson
UNITED STATES

Sherman Jackson is the King Faisal Chair of Islamic Thought and Culture and Director of the Center for Islamic Thought, Culture and Practice (CITCAP) at the University of Southern California. He is author of Islamic Law and the State: The Constitutional Jurisprudence of Shihâb al-Dîn al-Qârîfî, On the Boundaries of Theological Tolerance in Islam: Abû Hâmid al-Ghazâlî’s Fiqh al-Ta’fîqa, Islam and Blackamerican: Looking Towards the Third Resurrection, Islam and the Problem of Black Suffering, Sufism For Neo-Sufis: Ibn Ata’ Allâh’s Taj al-‘Arûs, and Initiative to Stop the Violence: Sadaqat Assassins and the Renunciation of Political Violence. He is listed by the Religion Newswriters Foundation’s ReligionLink as one of the top ten experts on Islam in America. In 2009, and again in 2012, he was named among the top 50 Most Influential Muslims in the World by The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Center in Amman, Jordan and the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

Asma Jahangir
PAKISTAN

Asma Jahangir is a lawyer by profession and practices in the Supreme and High Courts in Pakistan. She is closely associated with women and human rights organizations in the region. For six years, she served as the chair of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan and president of the Supreme Court Bar Association. She was the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief from August 2004 to July 2010 (first attached to the former Commission on Human Rights, now to the Human Rights Council). Previously, she served as the UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Arbitrary and Summary Executions. She is currently the chairperson of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. She received her LL.B. from Punjab University, her B.A. from Kinnaird College, and an S.J.D. from the University of St. Gallen.

Amil Khan
UNITED KINGDOM

Amil Khan is an independent political communications consultant specializing in the Muslim world. Most recently, he was assigned by the British government to advise the Syrian opposition coalition. Previously, Khan was a correspondent for Reuters and an investigative journalist with the BBC. Khan has written extensively about community engagement, extremism, and political mobilization for outlets including the Guardian, Foreign Policy and the National. His recent paper, Pakistan and the Narratives of Extremism, was published by the United States Institute of Peace.

Hamid M. Khan
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Hamid M. Khan is a Senior Program Officer in Rule of Law at the Center for Governance Law and Society Rule of Law Center with the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) where he works on rule of law issues concerning Islamic legal systems in the Middle East, South and Central Asia, and Africa and is a Professorial Lecturer of Islamic Law at The George Washington University Law School. Previously, Khan worked as a Rule of Law Adviser in USIP’s Kabul office. Khan has lectured on Islamic legal matters in various international, interagency, and educational capacities. Prior to USIP, Khan was a postdoctoral fellow for Stanford Law School’s Afghanistian Legal Education Project where he directed legal education efforts at the American University of Afghanistan. During private legal practice,
Khan served as counsel for five detainees held at Guantanamo Bay, was a former assistant U.S. attorney, and served as a law clerk to the Honorable Terrence L. O’Brien, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Khan received his B.S. in Political Science from the University of Wyoming and his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School.

Daniel Kimmage
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Daniel Kimmage is the Group Director for Digital Presence at the U.S. Department of State’s Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications (CSCC). From 2003 to 2008, Kimmage was a regional analyst at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. From 2008–2010, Kimmage was a senior fellow at the Homeland Security Policy Institute. Kimmage has published reports on extremist media strategies, including co-authoring Iraqi Insurgent Media: The War of Images and Ideas. He received his B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Wyoming and his M.A. in Russian and Islamic history from Cornell University.

Prem Kumar
UNITED STATES

Prem Kumar is the Senior Director for the Middle East and North Africa on the National Security Staff (NSS) at the White House. He joined the White House in early 2009, serving first as director for Israeli and Palestinian Affairs and later as director for Egypt, before becoming senior director. Before joining the NSS, Kumar was a fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, where he focused on the Middle East. Earlier in his career, he served in a variety of positions at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, the State Department, and the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem. Kumar was educated at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and the London School of Economics.

Peter Knobel
UNITED STATES

Peter Knobel was the Senior Rabbi of the Beth Emet Free Synagogue from 1980–2010. Knobel serves in leadership roles in the Reform movement on a national level as well as in the Chicago-area community. He is a past president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and chaired its Siddur Editorial Committee and is a past chair of the Liturgy and Reform Practice Committee. He also was an officer of the ARZA, and was a member of the board of trustees of both the Union for Reform Judaism and the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion. He was a member of the board of the Council for a Parliament of the World Religions and is a member of the National Interreligious Leadership Initiative on Peace in the Middle East. Knobel has taught at a number of colleges, authored and edited numerous articles and publications. A graduate of Hamilton College, he was ordained by the Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion and earned his Ph.D. from Yale University.

Sara Khan
UNITED KINGDOM

Sara Khan is Director and Co-founder of Inspire, a counter-extremism and human rights organization which seeks to address the inequalities facing British Muslim women by challenging ultra-conservative interpretations of Islam. Inspire empowers women to counter hatred, extremism, and gender discrimination and has frequently been featured in the media. Khan has written a chapter for the forthcoming book, Streetwise Religion entitled, “The Reclaiming the Equilibrium and Restoring Justice: Using Islam’s Egalitarian Teachings to Reclaim Women’s Right.”

Robert D. Lamb
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Robert Lamb is a Senior Fellow and Director of the Program on Crisis, Conflict, and Cooperation at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and a Research Scholar at the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland (CISSM). His current research focuses on complex violence, hybrid political orders, non-state-controlled territories, political transitions, international intervention, absorptive capacity, and alternatives to state building. Lamb lived for nearly a year in Medellin, Colombia, studying gang governance and legitimacy, and joined CSIS as a visiting scholar after returning to Washington, D.C. in late 2009. As a strategist in the Department of Defense’s Strategy office in 2006 and 2007, he advised defense policymakers on terrorist, criminal, and insurgent networks. He earned his Ph.D. in Policy Studies in early 2010 from the University of Maryland School of Public Policy in a program combining security, economics, and ethics. He received his B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Gettysburg College in 1993, spent half a year in Nicaragua with a micro-development project, then worked for nine years as an editor and journalist, winning a National Press Club award in 2001, before changing careers after September 11th.

Farhan Latif
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Farhan Latif is currently serving as Interim Executive Director at the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding. He assumed this leadership role after serving as the chief operating officer and director of Policy Impact. Latif holds a B.B.A. in Business Management and Marketing from the University of Michigan Dearborn and an M.A. from Harvard University.

Jonathan Laurence
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Jonathan Laurence is an Associate Professor of Political Science at Boston College and a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, specializing in European politics, transatlantic relations, and Islam in the West. He is the author of The Emancipation of Europe’s Muslims: The State’s Role in Minority Integration which received the American Political Science Association’s Award for Best Book in Migration and Citizenship. From 2008–2009, Laurence was a senior fellow in residence of the Transatlantic Academy at the German Marshall Fund in Washington, D.C., and during summer 2010 he was a visiting researcher at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin. Before joining the Boston College faculty in 2005, Laurence served as a visiting fellow with the Center on the United States and Europe at Brookings, a visiting scholar at New York University’s Center for European Studies, a doctoral fellow at the Kennedy School’s Hauser Center, an affiliate at Harvard University’s Center for European Studies, a guest researcher at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin, and a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, specializing in European politics, transatlantic relations, and Islam in the West. He is the author of The Emancipation of Europe’s Muslims: The State’s Role in Minority Integration which received the American Political Science Association’s Award for Best Book in Migration and Citizenship. From 2008–2009, Laurence was a senior fellow in residence of the Transatlantic Academy at the German Marshall Fund in Washington, D.C., and during summer 2010 he was a visiting researcher at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin. Before joining the Boston College faculty in 2005, Laurence served as a visiting fellow with the Center on the United States and Europe at Brookings, a visiting scholar at New York University’s Center for European Studies, a doctoral fellow at the Kennedy School’s Hauser Center, an affiliate at Harvard University’s Center for European Studies, a guest researcher at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin.

Lena Larsen
NORWAY

Lena Larsen is the Director of the Oslo Coalition on Freedom of Religion or Belief, at the Center for Human Rights at the University of Oslo. She is also a member of the advisory committee for a continuing education program for religious leaders with a foreign background at the Faculty of Theology at the University of Oslo. Larsen is the coeditor of Gender and Equality in Muslim Family Law: Justice and Ethics in the Islamic Legal Tradition and New Directions in Islamic Thought and Practice: Exploring Muslim Reform and Tradition. She was also assistant editor of Facilitating Freedom of Religion or Belief: A Deskbook. Larsen served as the president of the Islamic Council of Norway from 2000 through 2003, and in 2008 she was awarded the Science and Arts Medal from the State of Egypt.

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Charles Lister
UNITED STATES

Charles Lister is a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Doha Center. He was formerly the head Middle East North Africa analyst at IHS Jane’s Terrorism and Insurgency Centre in London, where he managed the assessment of sub-state security threats in the Middle East. Lister’s current research focuses on analyzing the state of the anti-government insurgency in Syria, particularly the growth and evolution of Salafist and jihadist groups. He recently published a Policy Briefing for the Brookings Doha Center, “Grasping Complexity: A Policy-Oriented Assessment of Syria’s Conflict,” and is currently authoring a book, entitled The Jihadist Insurgency in Syria.

Mohamed Magid
UNITED STATES

Mohamed Magid is the Imam of the All Dulles Area Islamic Society (ADAMS) Center in Sterling, Virginia, the President of the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), and the Vice Chairman of Muflehun, a think tank focused on confronting violent extremist thought through research-driven preventative programs within a religious paradigm. Magid has a long history of commitment to public service through organizations, such as The Peaceful Families Project, Annual Twinning of Mosques and Synagogues, Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington Assembly, and the Buxton Interfaith Initiative. He has written for the Washington Post and has been profiled in Time. In May 2005, he won the Fairfax County Human Rights Commission Human Rights Award, and in 2006 received a Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation. In 2009, Magid received the Washingtonian of the Year award.

Tanvi Madan
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Tanvi Madan is a Fellow in the Foreign Policy program and Director of the India Project at the Brookings Institution. Madan’s research focuses on Indian foreign policy. Her work also explores the intersection between Indian energy policies and its foreign and security policies. Previously, she was a Harrington doctoral fellow and teaching assistant at the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to that, she was a research analyst at Brookings, working with James B. Steinberg and Stephen P. Cohen. She has authored publications on India’s foreign policy, as well as its energy security policies, and is currently working on a book on the U.S.-India relationship and China. Madan received her B.A. (Hons.) in History from Lady Shri Ram College, India, an M.A. in International Relations from Yale University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Texas, Austin.

Irfan Malik
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Irfan Malik is the President of US Pak Foundation, an organization that focuses on improving U.S.-Pakistan relations. Previously, he was a founding employee of the telecommunication equipment manufacturer Ciena and worked in the telecommunications industry for 23 years. Since leaving Ciena in 2001, he has dedicated his time to working with Pakistani-American youth and improving U.S.-Pakistan relations. Malik has held various positions at non-profits and local boards and commissions dealing with issues such as civil rights, religious freedom, minority representation, and voting rights. He received his degree in Engineering from Monash University, Australia.

Suzanne Maloney
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Suzanne Maloney is a Senior Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, where her research focuses on Iran and Persian Gulf energy. She is the editor of Iran’s Long Reach, as well as a forthcoming book on Iran’s political economy since the revolution. Her Brookings Essay, “Iran Surprises Itself And The World,” was published in September 2013. Previously, she served as an external advisor to senior State Department officials and on the Secretary of State’s Policy Planning Staff. Maloney served as Middle East Advisor at ExxonMobil Corporation and directed the 2004 Council on Foreign Relations Task Force on U.S. policy toward Iran. She holds a Ph.D. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

Peter Mandaville
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Peter Mandaville is a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World and Director of the Ali Vural Ak Center for Global Islamic Studies at George Mason University. From 2011–12, he served as a member of Hillary Clinton’s Policy Planning Staff at the U.S. Department of State where his portfolio focused on U.S. policy in the Middle East during the Arab uprisings. Mandaville’s visiting affiliations have included the Center for Strategic and International Studies and the Pew Research Center. His books include Islam and Politics and Transnational Muslim Politics: Reimagining the Umma. He has testified before the U.S. Congress on political Islam, authored numerous book chapters and journal articles, and contributed to publications such as Foreignpolicy.com, the International Herald Tribune and the Guardian.

Abdul-Rehman Malik
UNITED KINGDOM

Abdul-Rehman Malik is a Programs Manager for the Radical Middle Way (RMW), which works alongside grassroots partners—in the UK and around the world—to provide powerful, faith-inspired guidance and innovative tools to enable change, promote social justice and combat exclusion and violence. An experienced journalist and commentator, Malik is a regular contributor to BBC Radio 2 and BBC World Service. His radio essay Faith and 9/11, broadcast on the 10th anniversary of the attacks, was awarded second prize at the prestigious Sandford St. Martin Awards for excellence in broadcasting about religion. Malik’s most recent documentary, Islam Without God, was broadcast on BBC Radio 4.

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Hillel Levine
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Hillel Levine is a Professor of Sociology and Religion at Boston University. For more than 25 years, Levine has been devoted to undergraduate, graduate, professional, and adult non-professional education at Harvard, Yale, and now Boston University. He has held visiting professorships in Japan, China, Poland, the Soviet Union, Brazil, and Israel. Levine is the president of the International Center for Conciliation, an organization that aspires to create enduring peace in conflict-torn communities. Levine has written five books and many articles on ethnic violence, normative conflict, and how they may be resolved. His research provided the basis for an Oscar winning documentary and two of his books are being made into documentaries and a feature-length dramatization. He is a popular lecturer, a guest columnist in newspapers, and makes frequent radio and television appearances. Levine received his Ph.D. from Harvard University.

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from Antiquity to Islam and is currently working on a second book about the scriptural history of the Qur’an. McCants has a Ph.D. from Princeton University and has lived in Israel, Egypt, and Lebanon.

Shafqat Mehmood
PAKISTAN

Shafqat Mehmood is the founder and chairperson of PAIMAN Alumni Trust. Mehmood served in the defense forces for 33 years and retired as Brigadier-General in 2001. With the initiation of extremist movements in Pakistan in 2007, he launched the program “Let’s Live in Peace” to counter and contain the swell of radicalization. He is a highly experienced resource person and peace practitioner with expertise in designing, planning, and directly implementing peace interventions in Pakistan and in the region. Mehmood holds a master’s of Strategic Studies, and as is a graduate from the Armed Forces Defense College, Toronto, Canada and the National Defense University, Islamabad.

Hisham Melhem
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Hisham Melhem is the Bureau Chief of Al Arabiya News Channel in Washington, D.C. Melhem has interviewed many American and international public figures, including Presidents Barack Obama and George W. Bush, Secretaries of State Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen, among others. Melhem speaks regularly at college campuses, think tanks, and interest groups on U.S.-Arab relations, political Islam, intra-Arab relations, Arab-Israeli issues, media in the Arab World, Arab images in American media, U.S. public policies and other related topics.

Mohammad Habibi Mojandeh
IRAN

Mohammad Habibi Mojandeh is a Professor at Modif University, Iran since 2005, where he teaches courses on international law, human rights law, and international arbitration. He has written and translated several books and articles. He has also edited the proceedings of the Mofid International Human Rights Conference. He received his B.A. from Tehran University, his M.A. from Allameh Tabatabaati University, and his Ph.D. from Shahid Beheshti University.

Michael Meredith
UNITED STATES

Michael Meredith is the Founder of Maximon Pictures, a New York based independent film company. He wrote and directed the award-winning feature film, Three Days of Rain, featuring Peter Falk, Blythe Danner, Jason Patric and Lyle Lovett. Following a rough cut screening, acclaimed German filmmaker Wim Wenders offered to produce the film and since then the two have frequently collaborated. Meredith and Wenders went on to cowrite and collaborate on the film, Land of Plenty, with three-time Oscar nominee Michelle Williams and John Diehl. Meredith then wrote, produced, and directed The Open Road starring Oscar winner Jeff Bridges, Mary Steenburgen, Justin Timberlake, Kate Mara, and Ted Danson. As a filmmaker and photojournalist, he has covered topics ranging from theater arts in Havana to the war in Afghanistan. He is currently directing the feature documentary, Return to Timbuktu, in collaboration with the Academy Award-winning producer Alex Gibney.

William McCants
UNITED STATES

William McCants is a Fellow in the Saban Center for Middle East Policy and Director of its Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World. He is also adjunct faculty at Johns Hopkins University and has held various government and think tank positions related to Islam, the Middle East, and terrorism. From 2009-2011, McCants served as a U.S. State Department senior adviser for countering violent extremism. He has also held positions as program manager of the Minerva Initiative for the Department of Defense; an analyst for the Institute for Defense Analyses, the Center for Naval Analyses and SAIC; and a fellow at West Point’s Combating Terrorism Center. He is the founder of Jshadica.com, an academic group blog focused on the global jihadi movement. The blog has been featured on the cover of the New York Times, and described by Wired magazine’s Danger Room as “the gold standard in militant studies.” In 2011 and 2012, he was named by Foreign Policy magazine as one of FP’s Top 10 “Twitterati.” He is the author of Founding Gods: Inventing Nations: Conquest and Culture Myths from Antiquity to Islam and is currently working on a second book about the scriptural history of the Qur’an. McCants has a Ph.D. from Princeton University and has lived in Israel, Egypt, and Lebanon.

He is also the correspondent for Annahar, the leading Lebanese daily. For four years he hosted Across the Ocean, a weekly current affairs program on U.S.-Arab relations for Al Arabiya.

Mouaz Moustafa
UNITED STATES

Mouaz Moustafa is the Political Director for the Syrian Emergency Task Force and United for a Free Syria, and is a board member of the Coalition for Democratic Syria. He advocates on behalf of the pro-democracy movement in his native Syria by working closely with Free Syrian Army commanders and prominent activists inside of Syria. A former staffer for Congressman Vic Snyder and Senator Blanche Lincoln, Moustafa spent four and a half years working in Congress before leaving to work briefly with the Egyptian U.S.-based opposition and the Libyan U.S.-based opposition. During this period, Moustafa was the executive director of the Libyan Council of North America and political director of the Libyan Emergency Task Force and worked closely with top officials within the Transitional National Council. Moustafa has been featured prominently in several media outlets for his work regarding the Civilian Administrative Councils, including NPR and USA Today.

Mohammad Munir
PAKISTAN

Mohammad Munir is an Associate Professor and Chairman of the Department of Law, Faculty of Shariah and Law at the International Islamic University, Islamabad and a Visiting Professor at the University College of Law, Islamia University and Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad. Munir is the recipient of the Higher Education Commission’s Best University Teacher Award for the year 2003 and the Outstanding Research Paper Award for the year 2005–2006 and 2011. He has published over 25 papers on a variety of topics and has presented papers at many conferences and lectured in dozens of workshops and training courses around the world. His areas of interest include the Islamic law of war and peace, non-state Islamic actors, Muslim personal law, human rights, women and children’s rights, and jurisprudence and legal theory. Munir received his
Eiman Mustafawi
QATAR

Eiman Mustafawi is the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and an Assistant Professor at the Department of English Literature and Linguistics. Previously, she served as Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Academic Affairs at the College of Arts and Sciences. From 2000-2006, Mustafawi served as a research assistant and a teaching assistant at the Department of linguistics at the University of Ottawa. She holds a B.A. in English/Education from the University of Ottawa, Canada. She specializes in Theoretical Phonology and her dissertation was nominated for two awards, the Governor General’s Gold Medal and the Pierre Laporte Prize for outstanding doctoral dissertations.

David Nassar
UNITED STATES

David Nassar is the Vice President for Communications at the Brookings Institution. A digital media and social media specialist, he has 20 years of experience in the United States and internationally developing effective public affairs, political and non-profit campaigns that create impact. He has run nationally recognized initiatives for the Service Employees International Union, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Open Society Foundation. Internationally, Nassar has designed and helped implement programs to promote policies and behaviors that have improved elections, strengthened political parties, and developed civil society in the Middle East and Africa. Nassar is recognized as a member of the National Journal’s 50 Political Insiders and is polled weekly for his opinions on hot political topics. He has been published in Foreign Policy, Christian Science Monitor, Chicago Tribune and the Baltimore Sun, among others.

Rami Nashashibi
UNITED STATES

Rami Nashashibi is Executive Director of the Inner City Muslim Action Network (IMAN), and a Visiting Professor at the Chicago Theological Seminary. He has served as an adjunct professor at various universities across the Chicagoland area, where he has taught a range of sociology, anthropology, and other social science courses. He has worked with several leading scholars in the area of globalization, African American studies, and urban sociology and has contributed chapters to edited volumes by Manning Marable and Saskia Sassen. Nashashibi was named a White House Champion of Change in 2011 as well as one of the 500 Most Influential Muslims in the World by The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Center in concert with Georgetown’s Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding. Nashashibi received his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Chicago.

Salif Romano Niang
MALI

Salif Romano Niang is a Co-convenor of the Timbuktu Renaissance Action Group. In 2011, Niang put his Ph.D. studies at Purdue University on hold to launch Malô, a Malian social enterprise with the mission of combating farmer poverty and chronic malnutrition in Mali. A key component of Malô’s model consists of building efficient processing and fortification facilities that transforms rice grown by smallholder farmers into high quality, branded rice fortified with life-saving vitamins and minerals. Niang believes strongly in the power of entrepreneurship and technology to solve development challenges. Other entrepreneurial endeavors Niang has been involved with include Tambaroua Business Farming, a solar-powered, precision farm in Mali and helping to launch Matternet Inc., a Silicon Valley startup developing drone technology to enhance last-mile distribution in the developing world. Niang is the recipient of fellowships from the Aspen Institute, Echoing Green, and Singularity University. Niang has a bachelor’s degree in Political Science and French with a minor in Economics and master’s degree in International Relations from Purdue University.

Amit Nizan
UNITED STATES

Amit Nizan is currently the Supervising Producer on the documentary, Return to Timbuktu. She has extensive history in advertising and independent film, is the recipient of creative and effectiveness awards in the advertising industry, and produced commercials and videos for the Martha Graham Dance Company, A&E, and most recently for NBC News. Nizan produced her first independent film, Con Los Ojos Cerrados, in Havana, Cuba, working alongside an entirely Cuban cast and crew. Most recently, she produced documentary interviews and archival footage for the forthcoming feature film, The Ice Bowl. She works on story development, production and marketing for Maximon Pictures’ feature, short, television and branded content initiatives.

Iqbal Noor Ali
UNITED STATES

Iqbal Noor Ali is a Senior Advisor at the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), a group of development agencies, institutions, and programs in over thirty countries that work on issues related to the environment, health, education, architecture, culture, microfinance, rural development, disaster reduction, the promotion of private-sector enter-
Meredith Ogilvie-Thompson
UNITED STATES

Meredith Ogilvie-Thompson is the Development Director of the Africa Center in New York, a cultural, policy and business institution aligned with the United Nations, the Mo Ibrahim Foundation and the Clinton Global Initiative. Since her undergraduate studies, Ogilvie-Thompson has lived back and forth between the United States and Africa, working alongside conservationists and scientists. In 1991, after two years at Time, Inc, Meredith returned to Africa where she reported on financial and environmental stories for Business Day in Johannesburg. During her years in South Africa, she was involved with various organizations that focused on rural development and wildlife management. Her conservation experience brought her to Tusk Trust in 1999. From 2005–2010, she served as a Trustee of Tusk USA, and in 2011 stepped off the board to serve as its executive director through 2013. Meredith has worked in both documentary as well as feature films, is a director of the Big Life Foundation, and has been a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society since 2003. Ogilvie-Thompson completed her studies in Political Science at Columbia University in 2005 setting up operations in Iraq. She launched her career as a journalist in the Middle East in 1996. In addition, UNESCO recruited her to work on one of her first lead assignments in Iraq from 1997–1998. Omar also spent more than three years with the World Bank’s development economics group. She has carried out training programs in Yemen, Bahrain, Afghani-
stan, Sudan, Lebanon, Palestinian Territories, Kenya, and many other countries.

Fadimata Walet Oumar
MALI

Fadimata Walet Oumar is cofounder and leader of the music group Tartit, the first Touareg group to receive international recognition. After receiving training in local development in Italy, she led several women’s rights organizations to promote human and economic rights. Currently, as head of a Malian female refuge group in Burkina Faso, she represents their interests at conferences and forums in Mali and internationally. She is originally from Timbuktu.

Tarif Parvez
PAKISTAN

Tarif Parvez is the Head of the Initiative for Public Security (IPSEC) an effort to mobilize the community for countering violent extremism. Parvez headed the Counter Terrorism Department in the Province of Punjab, from 1997–2004, which provided him a rare opportunity to study terrorist organizations. On the basis of his performance in this role, he was awarded Sitara e Imtiaj by the President of Pakistan in 2004. He was then posted as head of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), leading the counterterrorism policy at the national level. Parvez retired as director general of the FIA in 2008. After retirement, he established the National Counter Terrorism Authority and was appointed its first national coordinator. He completed two master’s degrees, one in Physics and the other in Criminology from the University of Wales, United Kingdom.

Noor-ul-Haq Qadri
PAKISTAN

Noor-ul-Haq Qadri is an elected Member of the National Assembly, representing the Khyber Agency, located in Pakistan’s Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). He previously served as the federal minister for Hajj and Awqaf. Qadri is also chairman of the Junaidi Foundation, providing social welfare and education in the FATA and the KP province. He is also a member of the Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF) of Pakistan. A businessman by profession, his educational background includes completing Shahadat-ul-alamia from Tanzeem-ul-Madaris Ahle Sunnat, as well as a Ph.D. from Peshawar University.

Sherry Rehman
PAKISTAN

Sherry Rehman is the President of the Jinnah Institute, an organization that actively seeks to articulate independent national security strategies for Pakistan which incorporate the country’s strategic imperatives while providing room for constructive engagement with the international community. Rehman has served as Pakistan’s Ambassador to the United States, as the Minister for Information and Broadcasting, as well as the Minister for Women, Health, and Culture. As a parliamentarian, she introduced and passed landmark legislation focused on women’s empowerment, human rights, and media freedoms. Rehman was the architect and presenter of Pakistan’s first National Security Policy Resolutions in 2009 presented to both houses of Parliament. An award-winning journalist with 20 years of experience in broadcast and print media, she is also a former editor of Herald newspaper. Rehman is the recipient of several awards including the International Republican Institute’s Democracy’s Hero: The Freedom Award, the International Peace Award for Democrats, and the Jeane Kirkpatrick Award for Women. She was rated Pakistan’s Most Important Woman by Newsweek Pakistan and ranked among 2011’s Top Global Thinkers by Foreign Policy magazine. Pakistan most recently awarded her the state’s highest civil award, the Nishan-i-Imtiaz.

Manal Omar
UNITED STATES

Manal Omar is the Associate Vice President for the Middle East and Africa Center at the United States Institute of Peace. Previously, she was regional program manager for the Middle East for Oxfam, Great Britain, where she responded to humanitarian crises in Palestine and Lebanon. Omar has extensive experience in the Middle East. She worked with Women for Women International as the regional coordinator for Afghanistan, Iraq, and Sudan and she lived in Baghdad from 2003 to 2005 setting up operations in Iraq. She launched her career as a journalist in the Middle East in 1996. In addition, UNESCO recruited her to work on one of her first lead assignments in Iraq from 1997–1998. Omar also spent more than three years with the World Bank’s development economics group. She has carried out training programs in Yemen, Bahrain, Afghanistan, Sudan, Lebanon, Palestinian Territories, Kenya, and many other countries.

Bruce Riedel
UNITED STATES

Bruce Riedel is Director of the Intelligence Project at the Brookings Institution. Riedel just released his latest book, What We Won: America’s Secret War in Afghanistan, 1979–1989. He retired from the Central Intelligence Agency in 2006 after 30 years of service including postings abroad. He was a senior advisor on South Asia and the Middle East to the last four Presidents of the United States, as part of the National Security Council staff at the White House. Riedel was also Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Near East and South Asia at the Pentagon and a senior advisor to NATO in Brussels. In January 2009 President Barack Obama asked him to chair a review of U.S. policies towards Afghanistan and Pakistan, and in 2011 he served as an expert advisor to the prosecution of al-Qa’ida terrorist Omar Farooq Abdulmutallab in Detroit. Riedel received his M.A. from Harvard University and his B.A. from Brown University. He also studied at the Royal College of Defense Studies in London, and he is a recipient of the Intelligence Medal of Merit and the Distinguished Intelligence Career Medal.

Charles Robertson
UNITED STATES

Charles Robertson is the Canon to the Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church and Distinguished Visiting Professor at the General Theological Seminary in New York. Robertson has served on several boards including the Governing Board of the National Council of Churches and the Anglican-Roman Catholic Theological Consulta-
Donald Sampler, Jr. UNITED STATES

Donald Sampler serves as the Assistant to the Administrator in the Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs (OAPA) leading USAID’s efforts for the agency’s two largest country programs. More recently, he served as a senior official in the U.S. government focused on a whole-of-government approach to reconstruction and stabilization. Previously, Sampler was senior deputy assistant to the administrator in Washington on Afghanistan and management issues. Prior to that, Sampler was the vice president and director of the Communities in Transition Division of Creative Associates International.

Cynthia Schneider UNITED STATES

Cynthia Schneider is a Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy at Georgetown University and a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World at the Brookings Institution. She has co-founded Georgetown’s Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics. Schneider also teaches at the Australian National University, the Institute of Cultural Diplomacy (Berlin), and Dubrovnik International University, where she is dean of the School of Diplomacy. Schneider co-directs Muslims on Screen and Television (MOST). Schneider publishes and speaks on arts, culture, media, cultural diplomacy, and international affairs. Talks include a TED presentation on the global impact of American Idol. From 1998–2001, Schneider served as U.S. ambassador to the Netherlands. She received her B.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Farid Senzai UNITED STATES

Farid Senzai is a Fellow at the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU). He is also an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Santa Clara University where he teaches courses on U.S. foreign policy and Middle East politics. Senzai was previously a research associate at the Brookings Institution and a research analyst at the Council on Foreign Relations. Senzai is currently on the board directors at the Central Asian Institute and the advisory board of the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life where he has contributed to several national and global surveys on Muslim attitudes.

Mark Schroeder UNITED STATES

Mark Schroeder is an expert on political and security affairs in Africa. He leads the development of Stratfor's geopolitical analysis and forecasts for the region. Schroeder is regularly featured in the world’s top media, including Reuters, the Associated Press, CTV, CBC, BBC, Radio France International, and United Press International, Al Jazeera English, and the Guardian. Schroeder plays a leading role in analyzing counterterrorism and insurgency operations in the Maghreb region of North Africa, the Sahel and the Horn of Africa, most notably in relation to the conflicts in Mali and Somalia. He also covers geopolitical developments in central and southern Africa, including dynamics within and between Angola, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique. Schroeder works closely with Stratfor’s client solutions team, overseeing custom analysis and research about sub-Saharan Africa. Before his time at Stratfor, Schroeder worked for several years in west and southern Africa for the non-profit relief and development sector and traveled extensively throughout the continent while on assignment. He has a master's degree in Diplomacy and International Commerce from the Patterson School of Diplomacy at the University of Kentucky.

Omar Shaban PALESTINE

Omar Shaban is the Founder and main driver of Tal-Think for Strategic Studies, a Gaza-based think tank. Shaban is knowledgeable on the socio-economic issues and politics of the Middle East. He is entirely independent from any political affiliation, which enables him to enjoy excellent relationships with all

Josh Regin UNITED STATES

Josh Regin is a Senior Correspondent for National Security and Politics at The Daily Beast. He covers the State Department, the Defense Department, the National Security Council, Congress, and the diplomatic and think tank communities, writing breaking news, enterprise, and long-form articles on a wide range of national security and foreign affairs issues. His reporting has been featured on CNN, FOX, MSNBC, NPR, and several other outlets. He has also written for Newsweek, Foreign Policy magazine, Washington Post, Congressional Quarterly, Federal Computer Week magazine, and the Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun. From 2001 to 2003, Josh lived in Yokohama, Japan, and worked for the Aeon East Japan Corporation. Previously, he interned at the House International Relations Committee, the Embassy of Japan, and the Brookings Institution.

Lutforahman Saeed AFGHANISTAN

Lutforahman Saeed is a Professor at Kabul University, Afghanistan. Saeed is also the country director of Legal Education Support Program – Afghanistan (LESPA) and a member of the Independent Commission for Übersee the Implementation of the Constitution (ICOIC). Previously, he worked at the Afghanistan Supreme Court. His work has been published in the Religious Affairs Sector Strategy, Kabul Sharia Journal, and Kabul University Magazine. He studied Islamic Law at Kabul University Sharia Faculty and received his L.L.M. from the University of Washington School of Law.
Ibrahim Sharqieh
QATAR

Ibrahim Sharqieh is a Fellow and Deputy Director of the Brookings Doha Center, and an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University in Qatar. Sharqieh previously taught international conflict resolution at the George Washington University and George Mason University. He has published extensively on conflict resolution in the MENA region, with articles appearing in the New York Times, The Financial Times, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, CNN, Christian Science Monitor, Al Jazeera, Al Arabiya, and the Philadelphia Inquirer. Widely quoted on Middle East politics in Reuters and the Associated Press, he is a frequent commentator on news channels, including NPR, CNN, Al Jazeera (English and Arabic), and the BBC. He is the author of “Lasting Peace? Yemen’s Long Journey to National Reconciliation” and “Reconstructing Libya, Stability through National Reconciliation.” Sharqieh received his Ph.D. in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University.

Albar Sheikh
UNITED STATES

Albar Sheikh is a Counterterrorism Violent Extremism (CVE) Program Advisor at the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Counterterrorism. Previously, Sheikh was a senior analyst and deputy program manager at the Navanti Group focusing on counterterrorism issues in South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Prior to Navanti, Sheikh worked in the private sector and multiple foreign policy think tanks on security issues in South Asia and the Middle East. He received an M.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and B.A. High Honors in Political Science and Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies from Emory University.

Christopher Shields
UNITED STATES

Christopher Shields is a Co-convenor of the Timbuktu Renaissance Action Group, a Partner at En-Tech Holdings, a media and technology incubator, and a Partner at Fn.org, charitable trust focused on disrupting sectarianism. FN utilizes En-Tech’s networks and tools to promote cultural exchange through educational, sustainable development, and countering violent extremism initiatives. His serial-entrepreneurial work includes the founding and investment in such companies as Shoreline Media, Zroll and the Festival Network, where he oversaw the largest global portfolio of music festivals from the Paris, Newport, and New York City Jazz Festivals to the Olympic Games. Shields is an advisor and board member to the International Economic Alliance and Oando Foundation, and a frequent panelist on the topic of media, technology, and culture at the United Nations, Billboard conferences, the Africa Festival, and the U.S. Islamic World Forum. He received a B.A. from Columbia University and studied Jazz Theory at the Berklee College of Music.

Jawwant Singh
INDIA

Jawwant Singh is a nine-term Member of Parliament. Not only has he headed six core ministries of the government of India, he has also served simultaneously as the minister of external affairs and defense during a period when multiple challenges confronted the country. Uniquely again, he was the minister of finance. As foreign minister, Singh’s initiatives contributed to the Lahore-Delhi Bus Journey, 1999 and to the unfreezing of relations with People’s Republic of China and the launching of bilateral security dialogues with that country. He helped steer the 50-day Indo-Pak Kargil War to a successful conclusion. He also handled the Indian Airlines hijack to Kandahar in 1999 (then a Taliban ruled city), an action for which he still receives both great encomiums and searing criticism. Singh is a senior fellow at Harvard and a visiting professor at Oxford and Warwick universities.

Ramesh Srinivasan
UNITED STATES

Ramesh Srinivasan is an Associate Professor at the University of California, Los Angeles where he is a scholar of technology, society, and policy and studies the modes by which new media technologies shape and are shaped by social, cultural, economic, and political dynamics. He has worked with a variety of communities ranging from politically inclined bloggers to rural Indian communities and peoples across the Islamic and developing world. He has actively collaborated with the RAND Corporation on such research. Srinivasan’s media appearances include several TEDx talks, National Public Radio, Al Jazeera, The Young Turks, and Public Radio International. He received a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Stanford University, an M.S. in Media Arts and Sciences from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a Ph.D. in Design Studies from Harvard University.

Stephen Tankel
UNITED STATES

Stephen Tankel is an Assistant Professor at American University and a Nonresident Scholar in the South Asia Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. His research focuses on terror-
Shibley Telhami
UNITED STATES

Shibley Telhami is the Anwar Sadat Professor for Peace and Development at the University of Maryland, College Park, and a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Saban Center at the Brookings Institution. He has taught at a number of universities, including Princeton, Ohio State University, and Cornell University. Among numerous publications is his best-selling book, *The Struggle: America and the Middle East.* Recent publications include The Peace Puzzle: America’s Quest for Arab-Israeli Peace: 1989–2011 (2012), co-authored with Daniel Kurtzer, and *The World Through Arab Eyes: Arab Public Opinion and the Reshaping of the Middle East* (2013). He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and serves on the board of several educational and non-governmental organizations. He was selected by the Carnegie Corporation of New York with the New York Times as one of the “Great Immigrants” for 2013. Telhami received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley.

Vieux Farka Touré
MALI

Vieux Farka Touré, the “Hendrix of the Sahara”, is the son of the legendary bluesman Ali Farka Touré. Toure quickly emerged from his father’s shadow and established himself as a world-class musician and activist in his own right. In his young career he has released seven critically acclaimed albums, toured the world many times over, and collaborated with some of the world’s biggest musical stars. In 2010, he was invited to represent Mali at the World Cup in South Africa, where he performed to a cumulative global audience of over one billion people. In 2012, his collaboration with Israeli musician Idan Raichel was celebrated across the world as a cross-cultural masterpiece. Vieux has worked diligently to assist his fellow Malians through his “Fight Malaria” campaign and by raising money on tour for the refugees of the recent conflict in northern Mali. Most recently he founded AMAHREC-Sahel, a charitable organization providing crucial resources to those in need in Mali.

Haroon K. Ullah
UNITED STATES

Haroon K. Ullah currently serves on Secretary Kerry’s Policy Planning Staff at the U.S. Department of State, where he focuses on public diplomacy and countering violent extremism. He is a scholar, a U.S. diplomat, and field researcher specializing in South Asia and the Middle East. Ullah is the author of *Vying for Allah’s Vote and Bargain from The Bazaar.* He served as a senior Belfer fellow at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, where he also completed his M.P.A. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and was a William J. Fulbright Fellow, a Harvard University Presidential Scholar, a National Security Education Program Fellow, and a Woodrow Wilson Public Service Fellow.

Karin von Hippel
UNITED STATES

Karin von Hippel is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Operations in the Bureau for Conflict and Stabilization Operations (CSO). Prior to that, she led the transition planning process for the creation of CSO, and was also a senior advisor in the State Department’s Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism. Before coming to State, she spent five years as co-director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies Post-Conflict Reconstruction Project. She was also a senior research fellow at the Center for Defence Studies, King’s College London, and spent several years working for the United Nations and the European Union in Somalia and Kosovo. She has advised the UN on peacekeeping, peacebuilding and its humanitar- ian system; USAID on the development potential of Somali remittances; and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development on the role of development cooperation in discover- ing the root causes of terrorism. She has been a member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Fragile States and has direct experience in over two dozen conflict zones. Her numerous publications cover the full conflict spectrum, and include *Democracy by Force*, which was short-listed for the Westminster Medal in Military History. She received her Ph.D. in International Relations from the London School of Economics, her M.St. from Oxford University, and her B.A. from Yale University.

Amina Wadud
UNITED STATES

Amina Wadud is a Visiting Scholar at the Starr King School of the Ministry of the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. She is also Professor Emeritus of Islamic Studies, and has taught at the Virginia Commonwealth University, Harvard Divinity School, International Islamic University in Malaysia, Gadja Madhu University in Indonesia, and the University of Melbourne. Wadud is author of the ground breaking book, *Queen and Woman: Re-Reading the Sacred Text from a Woman’s Perspective,* and, more recently, *Inside the Gender Jihad: Women’s Reform in Islam,* along with numerous articles and blogs. She is an international consultant on Islam, gender and human rights, and most importantly is a resource connected with the Global Movement for Reform in Muslim Family Law.

Frederic Wehrey
UNITED STATES

Frederic Wehrey is a Senior Associate in the Middle East Program at the
Tamara Cofman Wittes

Tamara Cofman Wittes is a Senior Fellow and the Director of the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at Brookings. Wittes served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern affairs from November 2009 to January 2012, coordinating U.S. policy on democracy and human rights in the Middle East for the State Department. Wittes also oversaw the Middle East Partnership Initiative and served as Deputy Special Coordinator for Middle East transitions, helping to organize the U.S. government’s initial response to the Arab awakening. Before joining the State Department, Wittes was a Senior Fellow at the Saban Center at Brookings, where she directed the Middle East Democracy and Development (MEDD) Project. In that capacity, Wittes conducted research into political and economic reform in the Middle East region as well as U.S. efforts to promote democracy there. Before joining the Sahab Center in December 2003, Wittes served as Middle East specialist at the U.S. Institute of Peace and previously as director of programs at the Middle East Institute in Washington. She also taught courses in international relations and security studies at Georgetown University. Wittes was one of the first recipients of the Rabin-Peres Peace Award, established by President Bill Clinton in 1997. Wittes is the author of Freedom’s Unsteady March: America’s Role in Building Arab Democracy. She is also editor of How Israelis and Palestinians Negotiate: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of the Oslo Peace Process. She holds a B.A. in Judaic and Near Eastern studies from Oberlin College, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Government from Georgetown University.

Waled Ziad

Waled Ziad is the Director of South and Central Asia projects at the World Organization for Resource Development and Education (WORDE). At WORDE, Ziad has led fieldwork in 75 cities and villages across Afghanistan and Pakistan to explore local efforts to counter violent extremism. His articles and commentary have appeared in New York Times, Washington Post, Atlantic Monthly, The Financial Times, Survival, Foreign Affairs and Foreign Policy. He has testified before the Senate and the House on U.S. security policy toward Libya. He is the author of several books on the Middle East, including Iraq, where in earned the Bronze Star in 2003. He holds a doctorate in international relations from St. Antony’s College, Oxford University and a master’s in Near Eastern studies from Princeton University.

Bilawal Bhatto Zardari

Bilawal Bhatto Zardari is the Co-Chairman of the Pakistan People’s Party, along with his father, former President Asif Ali Zardari, since December 2007. Zardari studied history at the University of Oxford’s Christ Church College and returned to Pakistan in 2007 when his mother, Benazir, was assassinated. After going back to London to resume his studies, he once again returned to Pakistan in September 2008 to witness his father being sworn in as president of Pakistan. After completing his education in 2010, Zardari returned to Pakistan and became actively involved in politics, notably when his father went for medical care to Dubai in December 2011. In 2013 Bilawal turned 25, thus becoming eligible to run for the National Assembly, as the Pakistan Constitution requires the minimum age of lawmakers to be 25.

Syed Zia ul Noor

Syed Zia ul Noor is the Muslim Hands Pakistan Country Manager since 1993. He has been instrumental in positioning the organization as one of the leading nongovernmental organizations in Pakistan in the fields of emergency relief, education, and healthcare. Syed Zia ul Noor has always stressed on the need to do more for the less privileged. Under his leadership, the organization has achieved consistent growth in Pakistan and has earned a good reputation among all stakeholders. He has appeared in a number of television talk shows and also provides his insight in the print media in Pakistan.

Husam Zomlot

Husam Zomlot is a Palestinian Senior Diplomat. Zomlot served as a PLO representative to the United Kingdom from 2003 to 2008. He has served in positions at the United Nations, Oxford Research Group, the London School of Economics, and the Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute. He is the author of the upcoming, Building a Palestinian State Under Occupation, and he has co-authored several UN reports and contributed to published volumes, including the book, State Formation in Palestine: Viability and Governance during a Social Transformation. Zomlot holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of London and has held teaching and research positions at the University of London and Harvard University.

Mahmoud Zuober

Mahmoud Zuober is the Counselor for Religious Affairs for the President of Mali. Prior to that, he was Mali’s Ambassador to Saudi Arabia. Previously, he was the founder and director of the Ahmed Baba Center of Timbuktu. Zuober graduated from Ain Shams University in Cairo, and earned his Ph.D. in history from the University of Sorbonne.

Mahjoob Zweiri

Mahjoob Zweiri is an Associate Professor in Contemporary History and Politics at Shams University in Cairo, and earned his Ph.D. in international norms, empirical conflict studies, and the changing nature of armed conflict globally, including the role of technology. Zoli received her Ph.D. at Syracuse University in Cultural Studies and International Relations.

Syed Ali Zardari

Syed Ali Zardari is a Senior Fellow and the Director of the Saban Center for Middle East Policy.
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Special Thanks

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The Brookings Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World is a research initiative housed in the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution. The Project’s mission is to engage and inform policymakers, practitioners, and the broader public on the changing dynamics in Muslim-majority countries and to advance relations between Americans and Muslim societies around the world.

To fulfill this mission, the Project sponsors a range of activities, research projects, and publications designed to educate, encourage frank dialogue, and build positive partnerships between the United States and Muslim states and communities all over the world. The broader goals of the Project include:

- Exploring the multi-faceted nature of the United States’ relationship with Muslim states and communities, including issues related to mutual misperceptions;
- Analyzing the social, economic, and political dynamics underway in Muslim states and communities;
- Identifying areas for shared endeavors between the United States and Muslim communities around the world on issues of common concern.

To achieve these goals, the Project has several interlocking components:

- The U.S.-Islamic World Forum, which brings together leaders in politics, business, media, academia, and civil society from the United States and from Muslim societies in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. The Forum also serves as a focal point for the Project’s ongoing research and initiatives, providing the foundation for a range of complementary activities designed to enhance dialogue and impact;
- An Analysis Paper Series that provides high-quality research and publications on key questions facing Muslim states and communities;
- Workshops, symposia, and public and private discussions with government officials and other key stakeholders focused on critical issues affecting the relationship;
- Special initiatives in targeted areas of demand. In the past these have included Arts and Culture, Science and Technology, and Religion and Diplomacy.

The Project’s Steering Committee consists of Ted Piccone, Acting Vice President and Director of Foreign Policy Studies; Tamara Cofman Wittes, Senior Fellow and Director of the Saban Center; William McCants, Fellow and Director of the Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World; Bruce Riedel, Senior Fellow; Shibley Telhami, Nonresident Senior Fellow in the Saban Center and Amwar Sadat Chair for Peace and Development at the University of Maryland; and Salman Shaikh, Fellow and Director of the Brookings Doha Center.

The Saban Center for Middle East Policy

Charting the path to a Middle East at peace with itself and the world

Founded in 2002, the Saban Center for Middle East Policy brings together the most experienced policy minds working on the region, and provides policymakers and the public with objective, in-depth, and timely research and analysis. Our mission is to chart the path—political, economic, and social—to a Middle East at peace with itself and the world. Current research in the Center includes:

- Making Two States Possible
- U.S. Strategy in a Changing Middle East
- Politics and Security in the Persian Gulf
- The Future of Counterterrorism
- U.S. Relations with the Islamic World
- Natural Resources and Conflict in the Middle East
- The Future of Energy and Security in the Middle East
- The Future of Water and Security in the Middle East
- The Future of Technology and Security in the Middle East
- The Future of Education and Security in the Middle East
- The Future of Religion and Security in the Middle East

The Saban Center was established on May 13, 2002 with an inaugural address by His Majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan. The Center was made possible by a generous grant from Haim and Cheryl Saban of Los Angeles, and is part of the Foreign Policy Studies Program at Brookings. The Center upholds the Brookings values of Quality, Independence, and Impact.

The Center is home to the Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World, which convenes a major international conference each year and a range of activities to educate, foster frank dialogue, and build positive partnerships among U.S. and Muslim communities around the world. The Center also houses the Brookings Doha Center in Doha, Qatar—home to three permanent scholars, visiting fellows, and a full range of policy-relevant conferences and meetings.

Our team includes knowledgeable scholars, collectively offering decades of experience in government and in the field. Within the Center, a core group of experts conduct original research, bringing keen insight and fresh perspectives to bear on the critical challenges facing the Middle East today and on the choices facing American and regional decision makers. Their work is supplemented by nonresident scholars across the Middle East and around the world.