



Council Chronicle

Vol. 6, No. 4 (Fall 2012)

The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations is pleased to provide the *nineteenth* edition of the *Council Chronicle*, the Council's periodic newsletter. The *Chronicle* seeks to keep the Council's alumni, donors, and other supporters informed and updated. One among other efforts to do so on an ongoing basis is achieved by presenting highlights and special reports related to the Council's year-round educational programs, events, and activities. For new readers interested in learning more about the Council's vision and mission, together with the ways and means it utilizes to pursue both objectives, please visit the Council's website at ncusar.org.

Message from the President

This issue of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations' *Council Chronicle* is unique in that it is devoted exclusively to the Council's 21st Annual Arab-U.S. Relations Policymakers Conference. Content-wise, the issue covers highlights of the entire two-day event. Among the record-setting statistics of this most recent yearly forum are 1,250 attendees together with



HRH Prince Turki Al Faisal delivers a keynote address at the 2012 Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference.

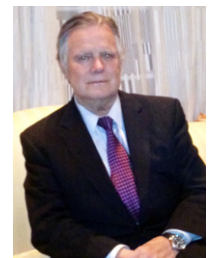
additional record numbers of co-sponsors from the following groups: sixty-one American and Arab corporations and foundations; half a dozen US Government agencies; and nine Arab embassies along with the Office of the League of Arab States. For the third consecutive year, the Conference was covered by C-SPAN, the renowned international television satellite channel, enabling the proceedings to reach and be viewed by additional millions the world over.

In addition to being feted between the sessions to two days of breakfast and lunches with the speakers, chairs, and commentators, Conference attendees were hosted by the Ambassadors of Bahrain and Jordan at their respective countries' embassies and by the U.S.-UAE Business Council for the second day's luncheon. At the Embassy of Bahrain's reception, the National Council was privileged to be able to bestow upon H.E. Ambassador Clovis Maksoud a Distinguished Public Service Award. In keeping with previous years' forums, the plenary sessions at this year's gathering covered virtually all of the major

challenges and opportunities confronting American and Arab leaders tasked with strengthening and expanding the innumerable mutual benefits between their two peoples.

To reserve space for the National Council's 22nd Annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference, be sure to mark your calendar for October 22-23, 2013 at the Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center in Washington, DC.

Dr. John Duke Anthony
Founding President and CEO
National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations



Picture: March 2013

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About the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

Founded in 1983, the National Council is an American educational, non-profit, and non-governmental organization. The Council is dedicated to improving American knowledge and understanding of the Arab world. It endeavors to do this through leadership development. To this end, among other things, it organizes and administers people-to-people exchanges and an annual Arab-U.S. policymakers' conference that brings together many of the foremost American and Arab specialists on the multiple dynamics of the overall relationship between the United States and Arab governments, economies, and societies. For each of the past two years, the conference has drawn more than 1,200 participants. With coverage by C-SPAN, the international satellite television network, additional millions are able to benefit from the proceedings through that medium as well as the Council's website at ncusar.org.

The National Council produces specialized publications, including an electronic newsletter. In addition, from its inception to the present, the Council facilitates the participation of American students and faculty in Arab world study abroad and Arabic language learning experiences as well as intensive year-round and summer university student internships combined with an academic seminar and work-study experience in the nation's capital.

The National Council's *vision* for the U.S.-Arab relationship is anchored in the legitimate needs, concerns, interests, and key foreign policy objectives of the American and Arab peoples. The vision rests on a solid and enduring foundation of strategic, economic, political, commercial, and defense cooperation strengthened continuously by exchanges of present and emerging leaders among Americans and Arabs alike.

The National Council's *mission* is educational. It is committed to building, maintaining, and wherever possible strengthening and expanding the human, institutional, and programmatic bridges between and among the American and Arab peoples. It seeks in particular to enhance American awareness and appreciation of the multi-faceted and innumerable benefits that the United States has long obtained and continues to derive from its relations with the Arab world. A hallmark of the Council's mission is its emphasis on the publication and dissemination of documented facts.

In its efforts to strengthen and expand the positive dynamics of the overall U.S.-Arab relationship, and to promote the legitimate interests of Americans and Arabs alike, the National Council seeks to harm no one. It strives instead to do whatever is possible to restore what was once an extraordinarily positive reservoir of Arab goodwill and respect for U.S. policies throughout the Arab world. It endeavors to do so in light of the pervasive region-wide negative reaction among tens of millions of the Arab world's citizens and millions more among the world's 1.4 billion Muslims who in recent years have come to view many of America's policies towards Arabs and Muslims as unfair and unjust.

In pursuit of its mission, the National Council serves as a U.S.-Arab relations programmatic, and human resources clearinghouse. In so doing, it provides cutting edge information and insight to national, state, and local grassroots organizations, media, and public policy research institutes in addition to select community civic, religious, business, and professional associations.

2012's 21st Annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference

"Arab-U.S. Relations Amidst Transition within Constancy: Implications for American and Arab Interests and Policies"

On October 25-26, 2012, more than 1,250 people gathered in Washington, DC for the 21st Annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference convened by the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations and chaired by Council President and CEO, Dr. John Duke Anthony. The theme of the Conference was "Arab-U.S. Relations Amidst Transition within Constancy: Implications for American and Arab Interests and Policies." The Conference featured more than fifty speakers who analyzed, discussed, and debated issues of over-arching importance to the American and Arab people's legitimate needs, concerns, interests, and key foreign policy objectives.

The proceedings were covered by the representatives of more than six dozen print, broadcast, and satellite television media, including C-SPAN, allowing additional millions to benefit. Taking place amidst a period of unprecedented regional change and upheaval along with continuity, much of it with implications for Americans, Arabs, and others the world over, the substance of the Conference could hardly have been more compelling, the atmosphere more receptive, nor the timing more propitious.

Individual speakers included current and former ambassadors from the United States and various Arab countries, key U.S. government officials, leading military officers, and representatives of several non-government organizations. Among them were many distinguished speakers from the Arab world, including: Dr. Abdel Aziz Abu Hamad Aluwaisheg (the Gulf Cooperation Council's Assistant Secretary General for Negotiations and Strategic Dialogue), Dr. Adbulkhalq Abdulla (Professor of Political Science, United Arab Emirates University), Dr. Abdullah K. Shayji (Chairman, Department of Political Science, Kuwait University), Mr. Jamal Kashoggi (General Manager and Editor in Chief, Al Arab News), and Mr. Abdullah Alshammari (Advisor, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Culture and Information).



(left to right) Mr. Danny Sebright, President of the U.S.-UAE Business Council, which sponsored the Conference's Day 2 lunch; Dr. John Duke Anthony, Founding President and CEO of the National Council; and The Hon. Jose Fernandez, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs, a keynote speaker at the Conference.

Ambassador Chas Freeman Jr. opened the Conference with a keynote address on "Change Without Progress in the Middle East." He challenged the audience to focus on how U.S. policies in the Middle East have affected America's position in the region. Also delivering a keynote address, former Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States HRH Prince Turki Al Faisal examined the challenges facing the Kingdom as it seeks to reconcile the seemingly contradictory forces of reform and development with the traditional governmental and political status quo.

Discussing the unprecedented growth of the aviation sector in the Arab world, Mr. Akbar Al Baker, CEO of Qatar Airways, remarked on the continuing unique and

unparalleled success of Qatar Airways. Delivering remarks on the U.S.-Arab economic relationship, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs Jose Fernandez explained how the U.S. Department of State is promoting trade and investment in the Middle East and North Africa. Opening the Conference's second morning, U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia James Smith spoke about the extensive commercial, defense, education, and governmental cooperation between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.

The Conference notably featured remarks by two Arab ambassadors who are relatively new to Washington, DC. H.E Mohamed M. Tawfik delivered a luncheon keynote speech, his first public address as the recently appointed Ambassador of Egypt to the United States representing President Mohamed Morsi's government. H.E Dr. Mohammed Alhussaini Alsharif, Chief Representative of the League of Arab States to the U.S., also delivered remarks on U.S.-Arab relations from the perspective of the Arab League.

Supplementary to the Conference's substantive sessions were book sales by the American Educational Trust, publisher of the *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*, as well as a display of paintings by refugee Iraqi artist Ahmad Alkarkhi. There were also two evening receptions hosted by H.E. Ambassador Hoda Ezra Noonoo of Bahrain and H.E. Ambassador Alia Hatoug-Bouran of Jordan at their respective embassies. During the reception at the Bahrain embassy, the National Council honored former Arab League Ambassador Clovis Maksoud by presenting him with the Council's "Arab-U.S. Relations Lifetime Achievement Award."

In keeping with their inception in 1991, this year's National Council Annual Policymakers Conference comprised speakers presenting challenging and controversial views. Through its two-days of shared ideas, intense discussions and debate, and extensive networking, the Conference furthered the Council's educational mission of enhancing American awareness, knowledge, and understanding of the Arab and Islamic worlds. The Conference's entire transcripts and audio-recorded proceedings are available via the Council's website at ncusar.org.

Read, Watch, or Listen to the 2012 Policymakers Conference Proceedings



Transcripts, MP3 audio, and links to video recordings are available on the National Council's website, ncusar.org, at:

<http://ncusar.org/pubs/category/policymakers-conference/> as well as

<http://ncusar.org/auspc/2012>



MP3 audio podcasts of the conference are available through iTunes:

<http://bit.ly/itunes-ncusar>



Video of most Conference sessions is available through C-Span's Video Library, along with video from previous years' Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conferences and other Council programs:

<http://www.c-spanvideo.org/videoLibrary/organization.php?id=24031>



**HRH Prince Turki
Al Faisal Al Sa'ud**



Dr. Mody AlKhalaf



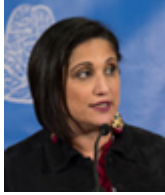
VADM Robert Harward



Dr. Judith Yaphe



**Dr. Abdel Aziz Abu
Hamad Aluwaisheg**



Ms. Randa Fahmy Hudome



Mr. Jamal Khashoggi



Ms. Nadia Bilbassy



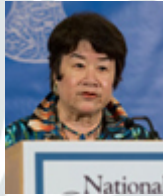
H.E. Mohamed M. Tawfik



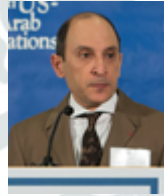
Dr. Tamara Sonn



Dr. Abdulkhaleq Abdulla



**The Hon.
Molly Williamson**



Mr. Akbar Al Baker



Ms. Mona Yacoubian



Ambassador James Smith



Ms. Barbara Ferguson



**H.E. Dr. Mohammed
Alhussaini Alsharif**



Ms. Hillary Mann Leverett



**The Hon.
Jose W. Fernandez**



Ms. Elizabeth Wossen



H.E. Ali Aujali



Ms. Alexis Arief



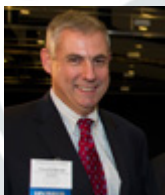
**H.E. Mohamed Bin Abdulla
Al-Rumaihi**



Dr. Sara Roy



Dr. Abdullah K. Al-Shayji



Mr. Danny Sebright



**Ambassador Clovis
Maksoud**



**H.E. Dr. Alia
Hatoug-Bouran**



H.E. Houda Ezra Nonoo



**Ambassador (Ret.)
Chas Freeman**

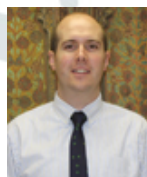
Policymakers Conference Secretariat:



**Dr. John Duke
Anthony**



**Mr. Patrick
Mancino**



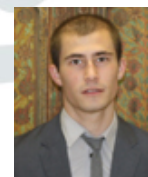
**Mr. Mark
Morozink**



**Ms. Megan
Geissler**



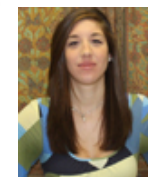
**Mr. Josh
Hilbrand**



**Mr. Byron
Lewis**



**Ms. Mariam
Klait**



**Ms. Maria
Pantelis**

Speakers & Sessions

Thursday, October 25, 2012

KEYNOTE ADDRESS – “Change Without Progress In The Middle East”



Ambassador (Ret.) Chas Freeman - Chairman of the Board, Projects International, Inc., a Washington, D.C.-based development firm specializing in international joint ventures, acquisitions, and other business operations for its American and foreign clients; former President, Middle East Policy Council; former Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs (1993-94), earning the Department of Defense’s highest public service awards for his roles in designing a NATO-centered post-Cold War security system and in reestablishing defense and military relations with China; former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia (during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm); Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs during the U.S. mediation of Namibian independence from South Africa and Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola; and author, *America’s Misadventures in the Middle East* as well as *The Diplomat’s Dictionary (Revised Edition)* and *Arts of Power: Statecraft and Diplomacy*.

THE UNPRECEDENTED EMERGENCE OF THE AVIATION SECTOR IN THE GCC

Mr. Akbar Al Baker – CEO, Qatar Airways and Doha International Airport.



DEFENSE COOPERATION DYNAMICS: ENHANCING REGIONAL SECURITY



VADM Robert Harward – Deputy Commander, U.S. Central Command; former Commander, Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 in Afghanistan; former Deputy Commander, U.S. Joint Forces Command; and former Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff Representative to the National Counterterrorism Center.



VADM Harward noted that “USCENTCOM’s vision is a region where improved security leads to the greater stability and where regional cooperation helps to isolate and counter those who would use violence in pursuit of their goals.”



The Hon. Molly Williamson - Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations; Adjunct Scholar, Middle East Institute; former Senior Foreign Policy Adviser to the Secretary of Energy (2005-2008); former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for the Middle East, South Asia, Oceania and Africa (1999-2004); former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia (1993-1995).



Dr. Anthony Cordesman - Arleigh A. Burke Chair in Strategy, Center for Strategic and International Studies; Consultant to the U.S. State Department, Defense Department, and intelligence community; former Director of Intelligence Assessment, Office of the Secretary of Defense.



Mr. Robert Sharp - Associate Professor, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University, U.S. Department of Defense.



Mr. David Des Roches – Associate Professor, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University, U.S. Department of Defense; National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations Malone Fellow in Arab and Islamic Studies.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY HRH PRINCE TURKI AL-FAISAL

HRH Prince Turki Al Faisal - Chairman, King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; former Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United Kingdom and to the United States of America; former Director General, General Intelligence Directorate, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



ENERGY: POLICYMAKING DYNAMICS OF SOURCES, SUPPLY, AND SECURITY



(left) **Ms. Randa Fahmy Hudome** - President, Fahmy Hudome International; former Associate Deputy Secretary of Energy; Member, Board of Directors, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations.



(right) **H.E. Ambassador Mohamed Bin Abdulla Al-Rumaihi** - Ambassador of Qatar to the United States.



Mr. Frank Verrastro – Senior Vice President and Director, Energy and National Security Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies.



Mr. James LeJeune – President, Chevron Middle East North Africa Inc.



Mr. John Hofmeister – Founder and Chief Executive, Citizens for Affordable Energy; former President, Shell Oil Company.

POLICYMAKING CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING REGIONAL GEO-POLITICAL DYNAMICS: IRAQ AND SYRIA



Dr. John L. Iskander - Chair, Near East and North Africa Area Studies, Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of State.



Dr. David Lesch - Professor of Middle East History, Trinity University; author, *The Fall of the House of Assad*, *The Arab – Israeli Conflict: A History*, and *The New Lion of Damascus: Bashar al-Asad and Modern Syria*.



Dr. Judith Yaphe – Distinguished Research Fellow for the Middle East, Institute for National Strategic Studies; former Senior Analyst in the Office of Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis, Directorate of Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency.



Ms. Mona Yacoubian – Senior Advisor, Middle East and Project Director, Pathways to Progress, Stimson Center; former Special Advisor and Senior Program Officer on the Middle East, U.S. Institute of Peace; former North Africa Analyst, U.S. Department of State.



Dr. Abdullah Alshammari – Advisor, Saudi Arabian Ministry of Culture and Information.



Ambassador (Ret.) Theodore Kattouf – President and CEO, AMIDEAST; former U.S. Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates and Syria.

POLICYMAKING CONCERNS RELATED TO REGIONAL GEO-POLITICAL DYNAMICS: ARAB NORTH AFRICA



Mr. Christopher Blanchard - Middle East Policy Analyst, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.



H.E. Ambassador Ali Aujali – Ambassador of Libya to the United States.



Dr. David Ottaway – Senior Scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center; former *Washington Post* Foreign Correspondent in the Middle East, Africa, and Southern Europe; author, *The King’s Messenger: Prince Bandar bin Sultan and America’s Tangled Relationship with Saudi Arabia*.



Ms. Alexis Arieff – Analyst on Africa and the Maghreb, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.



Mr. Karim Haggag – Visiting Professor, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University; former Director, Egyptian Press and Information Office in Washington, DC.



Dr. Néjib Ayachi - Founder and President, Maghreb Center.



Professor Paul Sullivan - Professor of Economics, Eisenhower School, National Defense University, U.S. Department of Defense; Adjunct Professor, Security Studies, Georgetown University; Columnist, *Turkiye Gazetesi*, Istanbul, Turkey.



At the conclusion of the first day of the Conference, **H.E. Ambassador Dr. Alia Hatoug-Bouran**, Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United States, hosted a reception for Conference registrants, speakers, VIPs, and the Arab diplomatic community at the Embassy of Jordan. At the reception H.E. Ambassador Hatoug-Bouran (above with National Council Founding President & CEO Dr. John Duke Anthony) was recognized by the Council for her work to promote and expand Arab-U.S. relations.

Friday, October 26, 2012

SAUDI ARABIAN – U.S. RELATIONS: A VIEW FROM RIYADH



Ambassador James Smith - U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

ARAB-U.S. RELATIONS: A VIEW FROM THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES



H.E. Ambassador Dr. Mohammed Alhussaini Alsharif - Chief Representative of the League of Arab States to the United States; former Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Canada and Turkey; former Head of the Saudi Arabian Consulate in Houston.

POLICY CHALLENGES PERTAINING TO REGIONAL GEO-POLITICAL DYNAMICS: THE PALESTINIAN FUTURE



Ms. Alison Weir – President, Council for the National Interest; Executive Director, If Americans Knew.



Mr. Jeff Steinberg – Editor, *Executive Intelligence Review*.



Dr. Sara Roy – Senior Research Scholar, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University; Board Member, American Near East Refugee Agency (ANERA) and the Center for American Jewish Studies, Baylor University; author, *The Gaza Strip: Political Economy of De-development* and *Hamas and Civil Society in Gaza: Engaging the Islamist Social Sector*.



Mr. Mark Perry – Author, *Conceived in Liberty*, *The Last Days of the CIA*, and *Talking to Terrorists: Why America Must Engage its Enemies*.



Dr. Tamara Sonn – Wm. R. Kenan Distinguished Professor of Humanities, College of William and Mary; author, *Interpreting Islam: Bandali Jawzi's Islamic Intellectual History*, *Religions through Law: Judaism and Islam*, *Islam: A Brief History*, and *The Religion Toolkit: A Complete Guide to Religious Studies*.

POLICYMAKING OPPORTUNITIES AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM REGIONAL GEO-POLITICAL DYNAMICS: THE ARABIAN PENINSULA (GCC COUNTRIES AND YEMEN)



Dr. John Duke Anthony - Founding President and CEO, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, and author, *inter alia*, of *Arab States of the Lower Gulf: People, Politics, Petroleum*; *Historical and Cultural Dictionary of the Sultanate of Oman and the Emirates of Eastern Arabia*; and *The United Arab Emirates: Dynamics of State Formation*.



Dr. Abdel Aziz Abu Hamad Aluwaisheg - Assistant Secretary General for Negotiations and Strategic Dialogue, Gulf Cooperation Council.



Dr. Abdulkhaleq Abdulla - Professor of Political Science, United Arab Emirates University (Abu Dhabi); lead author, 2008 *Arab Knowledge Report*.



Dr. Abdullah K. Al-Shayji - Chairman, Department of Political Science, Kuwait University; author, *Kuwait's Ceaseless Quest for Survival in a Hostile Environment*.

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The U.S.-U.A.E. Business Council is a progressive business advocacy organization solely committed to the advancement of the trade and commercial relationship between the United States and the United Arab Emirates.



ARAB-U.S. ECONOMIC RELATIONS: A VIEW FROM WASHINGTON

The Hon. Jose W. Fernandez – Assistant Secretary, Economic and Business Affairs, U.S. Department of State.



EGYPTIAN-U.S. RELATIONS: A VIEW FROM CAIRO



H.E. Ambassador Mohamed M. Tawfik – Ambassador of Egypt to the United States.

POLICYMAKING OPPORTUNITIES IN BUSINESS, FINANCE, AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT



Ms. Elizabeth Wossen – Principal and Lead Consultant, Energy Links Group LLC; former Coordinator, Congressional and Government Relations, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation; Member, Board of Directors, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations.



Ambassador (Ret.) Ford Fraker - Senior Adviser and Chairman for the Middle East and North Africa Group, Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. L.P.; former U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



Mr. Khush Choksy – Senior Director, Middle East Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce; former Director, Chemonics International.



Dr. Mody AlKhalaf – Director of Social and Cultural Affairs, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia; Editor-in-Chief, *Al-Mubtaath* (“The Scholar”).



Mr. Ken Close – Founder and CEO, Quincy International; former Senior Policy Advisor to HRH Prince Turki Al Faisal.



Mr. Hisham Fahmy – CEO, American Chamber of Commerce in Egypt; Founder, Egyptian Association of Executives; former Acting Director, Egyptian Center for Economic Studies.

AMERICAN AND ARAB POLICY SUCCESSES AND SHORTCOMINGS REGARDING THE REGIONAL GEO-POLITICAL DYNAMICS OF IRAN



Dr. Thomas Mattair - Executive Director, Middle East Policy Council; former Research Scholar, Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research; author, *The Three Occupied UAE Islands: The Tunbs and Abu Musa* and *Global Security Watch — Iran: A Reference Handbook*.



Dr. Trita Parsi - Founder and President, National Iranian American Council; author *A Single Roll of the Dice - Obama's Diplomacy with Iran* and *Treacherous Alliance: The Secret Dealings of Iran, Israel and the United States*.



Ms. Hillary Mann Leverett - Senior Professorial Lecturer of U.S. foreign policy, American University's School of International Service; Visiting Scholar, Peking University's School of International Studies; CEO, STRATEGA; co-author, *The Race for Iran Blog*; co-author, *Going to Tehran: Why the United States Needs to Come to Terms with the Islamic Republic* (forthcoming).



Dr. Kenneth Katzman - Specialist in Middle East Affairs in the Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade Division, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress.



Mr. Alireza Nader – Senior Policy Analyst, RAND Corporation; author, *Israel and Iran: A Dangerous Rivalry*, *The Next Supreme Leader: Succession in the Islamic Republic of Iran*, and lead co-author, *Coping with a Nuclearizing Iran*.

ARAB-U.S. RELATIONS: VIEWS FROM THE ARAB MEDIA



Ms. Barbara Ferguson – Consultant, United States Marine Corps’ Center for Advanced Operational Culture; former Washington Correspondent, *Arab News*; former embedded war correspondent in Iraq.



Mr. Jamal Khashoggi – General Manager and Editor-in-Chief, Al Arab News Channel; former Editor-in-Chief, *Al-Watan*.



Ms. Nadia Bilbassy – Chief U.S. Correspondent, Middle East Broadcasting Center Television.

ARAB-U.S. RELATIONS: CONCLUDING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

Dr. John Duke Anthony – Founding President and CEO of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations.



The 2012 Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference was broadcast live on the C-Span Television Network. Video copies of the remarks are available online in the C-Span Video Library and links to the online videos are available on the National Council’s website: ncusar.org.

Thanks are owed to Kaveh Sardari for photographing the Conference; to Ms. Delinda C. Hanley and the American Educational Trust, publisher of the *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*, for facilitating book sales during the Conference; and to the following volunteers who donated their time and effort: Laura Lombard, Paola DeLaTorre, Muhammad Korany, Michael Dashner, Catherine Kosse, Derek Smith, Brad Bergman, Manal Bougazzoul, Bart Kassel, Amy Peele, Bradley Bixler, Emily Trapuzzano, Simone Oberschmied, Sam Knight, Ashley Sollars, Sean Hurd, Mark Tucci, and Joseph Frazier.



2012 Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference Sponsors



National Council Honors Ambassador Clovis Maksoud with “Arab-U.S. Relations Lifetime Achievement Award”

The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations periodically honors individuals whose achievements are phenomenal. In the Council's 29-year history, it has presented an award for excellence only half a dozen times. On the occasion of the 21st Annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference, the Council presented Ambassador Clovis Maksoud with an “Arab-U.S. Relations Lifetime Achievement Award.” Ambassador Maksoud was honored for his many contributions as an Ambassador, a journalist, an author, a visionary, a strategic thinker, and an educator. In all of these roles, Ambassador Maksoud personified what the Council has sought to achieve since its inception, namely enhancing American awareness, knowledge, and understanding of the Arab and Islamic worlds.

Ambassador Maksoud is currently Professor of International Relations and Director of the Center for the Global South at American University in Washington, DC. He teaches classes on the Middle East, Global South issues, international organizations, and preventive diplomacy at both American University's School of International Service and Washington College of Law. Ambassador Maksoud is the author of several books on the Middle East and the Global South, including *The Meaning of Nonalignment*, *The Crisis of the Arab Left*, *Reflections on Afro-Asianism*, and *The Arab Image*.



Ambassador Clovis Maksoud (center) accepts his “Arab-U.S. Relations Lifetime Achievement Award” from Dr. John Duke Anthony (right) at a reception hosted by H.E. Ambassador Houda Ezra Ebrahim Nonoo (left).

A Lebanese national, Ambassador Maksoud was the Chief Representative of the League of Arab States in India from 1961-1966. From 1967-1979, he served as Senior Editor of the daily *Al-Ahram* in Cairo, Egypt, and Editor-in-Chief of *Al-Nahar*, an Arabic-language weekly published in Beirut, Lebanon. Ambassador Maksoud was appointed the League of Arab States' Chief Representative to the United States and the United Nations on September 1, 1979. On August 15, 1990, he submitted his resignation from the League in the aftermath of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Ambassador Maksoud has contributed to the understanding of world affairs as a member of the United Nations Development Program Advisory Board on Arab Human Development Reports. These reports identified the five most glaring deficits the world had to -- and still has to -- overcome: creating opportunities for future generations (2002); building a knowledge society (2003); working towards freedom (2004); promoting the rise of women (2005); and addressing challenges to human security (2009).

Ambassador Maksoud played a seminal role in conceptualizing the Georgetown University Graduate School of Foreign Service's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, known often by its acronym of CCAS. From that educational establishment literally hundreds of diplomats, national security specialists, and numerous other foreign affairs practitioners have graduated and gone on to serve their countries' interests in ways that involve the Arab world.

Ambassador Maksoud, together with Howard University's Dr. Michael Nwanze, was also a co-founder of the National Council's Model Arab League program. This program, now in its fourth decade, has graduated more than 35,000 young Americans, Arabs, and students of other nationalities. It is the Council's foremost leadership development program for the generation of American and Arab leaders of tomorrow.

A more extensive appreciation of Ambassador Clovis Maksoud by Dr. John Duke Anthony is available on the National Council's website: ncusar.org

Help Support the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

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