

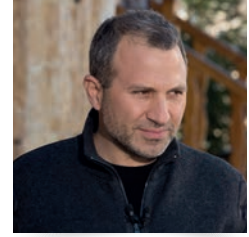
OUR FINGERPRINTS
MARK THE HISTORY
OF THE *Planet.*



Dear Fellow Lebanese
Citizens & Descendants
Honored Guests and Participants

It is time again to meet in Lebanon, the ever beating heart of the Lebanese Diaspora.

I am pleased and honored to launch the fifth edition of the Lebanese Diaspora Energy Conference in Beirut.



Today we further narrow the distances that separate us from one another to renew our vows of love and commitment to our country Lebanon.

The success and potential of LDE following its inception in 2014 prompted us to embark on a unique journey, that of reaching out to every Lebanese abroad. LDE has made the journey to many destinations so far, waving the banner of Lebanity and highlighting the importance and merits of being Lebanese.

We are proud of our accomplishments to include the Lebanese diaspora in the whole spectrum of the Lebanese life. We stand by our commitments to further promote Lebanon not just as a recreation spot but a focal point of interest to all of its citizens.

This year LDE is pleased to raise topics of importance that target a wide range of interests to you and your compatriots in Lebanon. For the very first time this conference deals with topics related to sports, culinary art and public private partnership in an attempt to revamp the Lebanese business opportunities and build the country of our dreams.

In an era of globalization when borders have become less significant, Lebanon has a comparative advantage. Your presence in every country around the globe is a big potential for all of us—Your achievements in different fields combined with an unrestrained endearment to your motherland is essential to protect and defend the interests of Lebanon.

In addition to showcasing the Lebanese success stories and promoting the positive image of Lebanon around the world, this conference will enable you to meet thousands of influential Lebanese key players and decision-makers from Lebanon and the diaspora, and will allow you to network with peers in similar sectors worldwide to seize investment opportunities both in Lebanon and abroad.

I strongly believe that this massive and all-inclusive assembly of compatriots gathering from around the world will initiate a new chapter in the relations between Lebanon and its Diaspora and will continue drawing the story of success this conference has conceived.

Welcome to LDE Beirut 2018, I look forward to meeting you and hearing the outcomes and recommendations from the Forum!

GEBRAN BASSIL

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Bassil'.

OPENING CEREMONY

THURSDAY, 10 MAY, 2018

10:00 - 11:30 OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY



Mrs. Tania Kassis

Granted the Lebanese Accomplishment Medal, crossover singer Tania Kassis reached many countries in Europe and Latin America, and performed on major stages such as the legendary Olympia Hall in Paris, the Sydney Opera House in Australia, the Duomo Square in Milano, the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva and the Cedars International Festival in Lebanon. She was the first Lebanese artist to perform in front of an American President and she received a Murex d'Or as "Lebanese Ambassador on International Stages". Very much appreciated for her Islamo-Christian Ave Maria (Ave Maria mixed with the muslim call for prayer), she was appointed "Honorary Ambassador" of the South Korean Contingent of the UNIFIL and has founded ONE LEBANON, an NGO that gathers thousands of followers who believe in Lebanon's unity.



MASTER OF CEREMONY

Mrs. Elsa Yazbek Charabaty | Senior Journalist, Presenter and Producer at MTV/Head of the Interpretation Department at USJ

Senior Journalist and Presenter, Elsa Yazbek Charabaty works in different media (TV, radio and press). Currently on MTV, she prepares and presents the weekly unique travel show called "Voyage Voyage", as well as "Bi Kell Fakher", special Prime Time Episodes on Famous Lebanese in the world, and the cultural show "Ensemble au Salon". Communication expert and fluent in four languages, she is also Head of the Interpretation section and Professor at USJ (Saint Joseph University) and a lecturer in many local, regional and international conferences. Founder and President of AFEJ (Journalists Association) for 6 years, she works for journalistic rights and ethics in Lebanon.





OPENING SPEECH

H.E. GEBRAN BASSIL

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Honorable Edward Seaga | Fifth Prime Minister of Jamaica

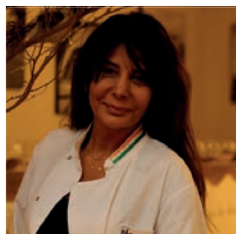
Edward Philip George Seaga was born on 28 May 1930, in Boston, Massachusetts, to Philip George Seaga, of Lebanese Jamaican descent, and Erna (originally Maxwell), who was Jamaican of African, Scottish and Indian descent. He was the fifth Prime Minister of Jamaica, from 1980 to 1989, and the leader of the Jamaica Labor Party from 1974 to 2005. He served as leader of the opposition from 1974 to 1980, and again from 1989 until January 2005. His retirement from political life marked the end of Jamaica's founding generation in active politics. He was the last serving politician to have entered public life before independence in 1962, as he was appointed to the Legislative Council (now the Senate) in 1959. As a record producer and record company owner, Seaga also played a major role in the development of the Jamaican music industry.

OPENING CEREMONY



Mr. Robbie Farah | Professional Rugby League Footballer

Born in Sydney, New South Wales, Mr. Farah is of Lebanese descent and was educated at St. Mel's Primary, Campsie, De La Salle College Ashfield, and the University of Sydney, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Economics in 2010. He is a Lebanese Australian professional rugby league footballer who plays for the South Sydney Rabbitohs in the NRL. He has played as a representative football player for New South Wales, Australia and Lebanon. He has played the majority of his professional career with the Wests Tigers, with whom he won the 2005 NRL Premiership. Between 2006 and 2012, Mr. Farah played for City in six City vs Country representative games, leading the team from 2009 onwards.



Mrs. Suzanne Kabbani | Master of Chocolate, Founder of Les Douceurs de Suzanne

The Grandfather of Suzanne emigrated to the Ivory Coast. In 1957 Suzanne was born in Abidjan. Her passion to run her own business determined her to travel to Belgium where she learned the art of chocolate production and came back to Abidjan with a vision, that of helping and creating employment to the producers of cacao. She founded in 2006 her own company "Les douceurs de Suzanne" which flourished with time and contributed to receiving by Suzanne the title of Master of Chocolate of Ivory Coast in November 2017.





CLOSING SPEECH

H.E. THE PRESIDENT OF THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC
GENERAL MICHEL AOUN

MODERATOR&PANELISTS

11:30 - 13:00

Session 1: Your Call to “Rebranding, Reassessing and Reshaping Lebanity”

OBJECTIVE:

Our Lebanity has translated into a contagious love for life that could be packed and sold to the entire world. Take part and participate in the ever-growing network of Lebanese people and contribute to the launching of a worldwide statistics plan to assess the numbers of Lebanese Diaspora abroad, rebrand the bad image portrayed about Lebanon and improve the way Lebanon is perceived equally by foreigners and by its descents, as well as reshape the concept of Lebanity by focusing and highlighting on its various aspects, the most important of which, is the Lebanese nationality, and how to live one's Lebanity while abroad.





MASTER OF CEREMONY

Mr. Hamza Jammoul | Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

Mr. Hamza Jammoul is a Diplomatic Attaché at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, currently serving at the Directorate of Political and Consular Affairs - European Union Section. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Law from the Lebanese University. He has a Postgraduate Certificate in Peace and Reconciliation Studies from the United Kingdom. Hamza holds a Master's degree in Peace Studies from the United Kingdom and a Ph.D. in International and Diplomatic Studies from France. His interests are focused on International relations, Diaspora Diplomacy and Soft Power phenomenon.



PANELISTS

Mr. Fadi BOU KARAM | Photographer

"Discovering America's Lebanon's and their Cedars"

Mr. Fadi Bou Karam is a photographer who was born and raised in Lebanon. After earning a degree in Electrical Engineering from the Lebanese University and an MBA from San Francisco State University, he worked in the financial sector for close to a decade. In 2016 he switched careers and became a full-time documentary photographer. His work has been featured in publications such as: CNN, the New York Times, and the BBC.

MODERATOR&PANELISTS



Dr. Habib CHAMOUN | University Professor and Author
“Spirituality, resilience and good ethical practices as anthropological basis for Libanity”

Dr. Habib Chamoun-Nicolas is a consultant, author, professor, coach, husband and father of four. He was born and raised in Mexico, got his BS in Chemical Engineering and Business Management at MIT of Mexico, MSc and Ph.D. at the University of Texas in Austin, and a Post-Doctoral work at Elf Aquitaine in France. He lives in the USA and teaches globally cross cultural negotiation and business development in diversified sectors such as oil and gas, pharmaceutical, etc. Dr. Chamoun has trained and coached fortune 500 companies and thousands of professionals on a Phoenician approach to negotiations and business ethics in at least 40 countries on five continents. Author of “Negotiate like a Phoenician”, and the latest book “Transcend Quo Vadis Negotiator” with the forward of Harvard Business School. Dr. Chamoun is the Founding President of PIRC (Phoenician International Research Center), and is known to transmit his Libanity through his family and work.



Mrs. Hiam Boustani | General Manager of the Maronite Foundation in the World
“The Lebanese Nationality Program”

Graduated with an MA in law, Mrs. Boustani was the first woman in Lebanon and the Middle East with the rank of chief commissioner at the General Security and headed the Foreign Department with high responsibility including handling the file of the Palestinians in Lebanon. Between 1990 and 2005, she worked as a consultant at research and vision of M.E.T.S Sarl Corporation specialized in strategic information. Since 2008, Mrs. Boustani has worked as a General Director of the Maronite Foundation in the World. She founded with the Board of Trustees 17 offices worldwide and participated at the ratification of the law no. 41 by the Lebanese Parliament. Her main objective is to help the Lebanese abroad to register their vital events and regain the Lebanese Citizenship. She works closely with the diplomatic missions all over the world.





Mrs. Ogarit Younan | Founder of the Academic University for Non-Violence and Human Rights (AUNOHR)

“The Lebanese contributions in promotion of International Peace and good will”

Founder of the Academic University for Non-violence and Human Rights (AUNOHR), a first-of-its-kind in Lebanon and the Arab world and unique on the international level. She is an influential figure known as one of the pioneers of the civil society in Lebanon since 1983. Mrs. Younan is a sociologist, researcher and writer in education, sectarianism, personal status & civil marriage, death penalty, and civil rights.



Dr. Jessy Divo de Romero | Lawyer and President of University of Carabobo Venezuela

Dr. Jessy Divo de Romero is President of the University of Carabobo, Venezuela. She is a Lawyer, and specialist in Administrative Law with a Doctorate in Politics Sciences graduated from University of Carabobo. Titular professor retired from Political and Legal Sciences Faculty of University of Carabobo. She has several law publications such as “State Patrimonial accountability in the practice of public function”. Dr. Divo has earned many national and international acknowledgments about the human rights around the world.

MODERATOR&PANELISTS



Mrs. Roula Moussa | Owner and director of Netways
“Connecting the Lebanese Diaspora through Diaspora-ID application”

An Arab Investor and Innovator. Mrs. Moussa started at a very young age right after her graduation from the engineering school as an entrepreneur and turned challenges of being a Woman in Tech into opportunities. She founded Netways the pioneer of internet technologies and innovation in the MENA region and successfully grew the company by acquisitions and joint ventures to achieve global reach. Her contributions have been acknowledged and lauded, repeatedly, with honorary awards including “The Forbes 200 most powerful women in the Arab world” listing in 2014. Her main challenge remains Lebanon’s advancement, to that end she has conceptualized a Digital Platform “Diasporaid” to capitalize on the enormous potential of Lebanese diaspora to contribute to employment and economic growth in Lebanon on a bigger scale.



H.E. Terens Quicks | Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Diaspora – Greece
“The relation between homeland and diaspora: the case of Greece “

H.E. Terens - Nikolaos Quick, a well-known journalist and politician, started his studies at the Thessaloniki’s University of Higher Industrial Studies and at the Panteion University of Political Science. During his parliamentary service (2012 - 2015), he was elected unanimously, Secretary of the Standing Parliamentary Committee on Greeks Abroad and was a member of the Permanent Standing Parliamentary Committee on Defense and Foreign Affairs, and member of the Greek parliamentary group Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Mr. Quicks was Appointed Deputy Minister to the Prime Minister, and was responsible for the coordination of the Government’s work and member of the Committee against Corruption. As from November 2016, he was appointed Deputy Foreign Minister for Greeks Abroad (Diaspora Hellenes), in the coalition cabinet of SYRIZA – INDEPENDENTHELLENES.





H.E. Massimo Marotti | Ambassador of Italy to Lebanon
“Reaching out to Italian communities abroad: the Italian experience in managing state-diaspora relations”

H.E. Massimo Marotti is Ambassador of Italy to Lebanon since June 2015. He graduated from the University of Naples “Federico II” with a Bachelor’s degree in Law. After entering the diplomatic service in 1986, he served in Baghdad, Bastia (France), Esch-Sur-Alzette (Luxemburg), Washington and New York (UN). H.E. served as Vice-Director General for Political Affairs and Security at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Farnesina) in Rome from 2011 to 2015. He is the author of several articles on, inter alia, Middle East politics.



Mr. Mario Hachem | Co-Founder & CEO of Technology - Entertainment - Development - TEDMOB
“Lebanon Connects Lebanese Around the Globe ”

Mr. Hachem is a veteran of creating and managing Digital & Mobile Solutions for Enterprises, Telecom Operators, Startups and Entrepreneurs. Mario is the CEO & Co-founder of TEDMOB, one of the leading Digital Development Agencies in the Middle East. His educational background includes a Master’s degree in Computer & Communication Engineering (CCE), Lebanon 2002. He started his career as a Research & Development Engineer, then CTO in a specialized VAS & Telecom firm working directly with 31 Telecom operators in 14 regional countries. Mr. Hachem is a serial entrepreneur who is continually developing businesses & digital solutions that improve our quality of life via enriched experience, improved productivity, and innovations, recently the “Lebanon Connect App”.

MODERATOR&PANELISTS



LIVE TESTIMONY

MR. Colin Rezek | Director of Vantage and a founder of the Business

“Acquiring the Lebanese Nationality”

Mr. Rezek is a director of Vantage and a founder of the business. He has day-to-day responsibilities for the origination and assessment of mezzanine fund and balance-sheet investments. He is a member of the Vantage Mezzanine Fund’s investment committee. Mr. Rezek has had a wide range of entrepreneurial experiences over the years. The main focus was building and running the Rezek Motor group with his two brothers over a 13-year-period. He then spent 3 years at Venture Motor Holdings, where he played a significant role in various aspects of operations, marketing and new business development. During this period he also established the largest Ultra City in South Africa which employed 230 people. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Commerce from the University of Witwatersrand and an MBA from the Witwatersrand Business School.

13:00 - 14:30

LUNCH



15:00 - 16:30

Session 2: LDE Political Dialogue Forum

OBJECTIVE:

Over the past years the diaspora have increasingly become significant players in the international political arena. Today and with a range of policy areas including foreign affairs, the reshaping of the world political system, the emergence of new technological and economic development, the role of Diaspora increasingly needs to be considered. Many countries such as Greece, Armenia, India and many others regard their Diaspora as strategically vital political assets. This session convenes to set the ground, launch and prepare for the first LDE Political Dialogue Forum that will be held in Lebanon during 2018 with the aim to promote and discuss optimal ways to engage the diaspora communities and politicians in influencing both the domestic politics of Lebanon and the domestic politics of their host states regarding issues that are of interest to Lebanon.



MODERATOR

Ambassador Ghady El Khoury | Director of Political and Consular Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign affairs and Emigrants

Ambassador Ghady El Khoury is a senior career diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants in Lebanon. He was born in Lebanon and holds a Bachelor and Master's degree in Political Sciences from the American University of Beirut (AUB). Ambassador El Khoury served in Beijing, Washington, he served as Chargé d'Affaires a.i. at the Embassy of Lebanon to France and from 2013 till 2017. He has been appointed since October 2017 Director of Political and Consular Affairs, the youngest ever to hold that post. Among his recent activities, Ambassador El Khoury was recently a member of the delegations to the high-level meetings of Rome, CEDRE and Brussels conferences and headed the Lebanese delegation at the Middle East Peace Conference in Paris in January 2017. He was awarded "Officer of the Legion d'honneur" and "Officer of the National Order of Merit" by the French Republic. He is married to Mona Haddad and have two Children Yara and Georges.



PANELISTS

Hon. Shaoquett Moselmane | Member of the Legislative Council, Opposition Whip, Labor Party - Australia Parliament of New South Wales

"About the role of the Whip and the role of the Diaspora and its benefit to the country of birth"

The Honourable Shaoquett Moselmane MLC NSW Parliament – Opposition Whip. Mr. Shaoquett has been a member of the Legislative Council since December 2009. In February 2010, he served as Deputy President of the Legislative Council NSW Parliament. Before that he served as a Local Government representative for 15 years. During that time he was elected Deputy Mayor four times and elected as mayor of the City four times. Shaoquett is a qualified lawyer. He has a Degree in Law - University of New South Wales, Master's Degree in Politics – Macquarie University and an Arts Degree in Politics and Government Administration - University of Sydney. Shaoquett has been involved in the Australian Labor party for 36 years.

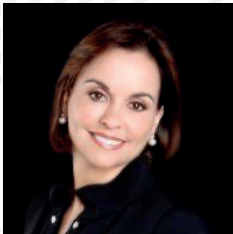




H.E. Roger Haddad | Member of the Parliament of Sweden

“Creating a forum for politicians from Lebanese origin in Europe: The roadmap and challenges”

Mr. Roger Haddad was born in Lebanon. He moved because of the civil war to Sweden in 1984. Mr. Haddad holds a Master's degree in political sciences. In 2006 he was elected as Västerås city councilor covering Education, Labor and Integration issues. In 2010 he was elected as an MP in the Swedish Parliament. Mr. Haddad represents the Liberal Party, Västmanland Constituency, in both positions, Education was the main working topic. In 2014, he was reelected for the Swedish Parliament. He is the spokesperson of the party about Justice and Home Affairs issues. He Leads the Liberal party board in Västmanland and is also a Member of the National Board of the Liberal Party since 2007.



H.E Maria Eugenia Tabush | Congresswoman at the Parliament of Guatemala

“About the role of the Diaspora in serving Lebanese interests in the host country and domestically”

Mrs. Maria Eugenia Tabush, is a Congresswoman in the Republic of Guatemala (2016-2020). As a Legislator, she is now a member of the Finance, the Economy and Exterior Commerce, the Infrastructure and Communications and the Human Rights Committees. Previously she had a successful career as an entrepreneur. She led her consumer distribution family company through a regional expansion to 12 Central American and Caribbean countries. Becoming the only technology solution integration business with regional coverage and multiplying its revenues exponentially. She helped divest this company for her shareholders and decided to move into politics in 2015.



Prof. Hassan Ghaziri | Professor of Machine Learning

“Dialogue, best practices and European Experience in embracing diversity for a better management of our sociopolitical life”

Prof. Hassan Ghaziri is a professor of Machine Learning. He taught and conducted his research at AUB, Kyoto University, INSEAD and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (Lausanne). He was President of Makassed University between 2008 and 2009. Prof. Ghaziri is co-founder and Director of the Beirut Research and innovation Center (BRIC), a social and technological incubator. Prof. Ghaziri is the President of FOMP (formerly ASDEAM - Association Suisse pour le Dialogue Euro-Arabo-Musulman). Between 2007-2009, a series of inter-Lebanese dialogues were organized in collaboration with Swiss Federal Ministry of External Affairs which brought Lebanese political and intellectual figures together to discuss the deep-rooted causes of the recurrent Lebanese crisis. Between 2010 and 2012, the Foundation conducted a thorough investigation into the legal issues relating to gas discoveries off the coast of Lebanon. He is author or co-author of more than 50 scientific papers, and a book on knowledge management adopted by many universities in the world.



Mr. César Halum | Deputy at the Chamber of Deputies of Brazil

Mr. César Hanna Halum was born in Annapolis, he is a Brazilian politician and veterinarian from Lebanese origin. He has been a Federal Deputy for the State of Tocantins since 2011, and was reelected for the second time in 2014. On February 2, 2017, he was elected as an Alternate Member of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Deputies. He graduated in Veterinary Medicine from the Federal University of Goiás (1975-1979). Mr. Halum is the President of the Arab-Brazilian parliamentary group numbering over than 240 Federal Deputies.





H.E. Emmanuelle Lamoureux | Ambassador of Canada to Lebanon

Mrs. Emmanuelle Lamoureux , joined the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in 2002. She has worked in the United Nations Affairs Division, and has been Deputy Director responsible for Media Relations and Deputy Director responsible for Communications within the Afghanistan Task Force. Prior to her nomination as Ambassador to the Lebanese Republic, she served as Director of the Gulf States Relations Division. In addition, she has served on two diplomatic postings at the Embassies of Canada in France and in Switzerland. Mrs. Lamoureux holds an MA in International Affairs, from Carleton University, and a BA in Communications from University of Quebec in Montreal.

MODERATOR&PANELISTS

16:30 - 18:00

Session 3: LDEY- Lebanese Diaspora Energy Youth

OBJECTIVE:

From being challenged at leading universities to engaging with innovative peers and influencers, youth are redefining leadership and generating impact. Therefore, among those entitled to decide on how to reshape our future, the youth, shall be an integral part of the dialogue. Young people have the potential to become the ambassadors for innovative projects and can offer much from their wit and experience. LDEY convenes to unveil the boundless opportunities that Lebanon can offer and the potential fields upon which the youth can enact to induce change and bring developments back home, as well as to allow them to question and challenge current leaders, minding the unrivalled passion they can lend to the process of change.





MODERATORS

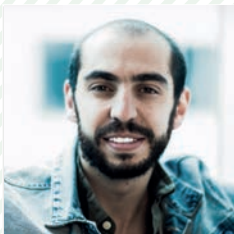
Mrs. Lara Daou | Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mrs. Lara Daou is currently Diplomatic Attachée at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants since June 1st, 2016. She had a previous experience working at the Italian Development Cooperation Office of the Embassy of Italy in Beirut. She holds a BA in Political Sciences and International Affairs. Mrs. Daou has been involved in a number of International Conferences and seminars mainly in Rome – Italy.



Mrs. Oula Khodr | Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mrs. Oula Khodr is a Diplomatic Attachée at the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, born and raised in Melbourne Australia, she moved back to Lebanon in 2000, tried to work hard to achieve her dreams. In 2015 she succeeded to hold her diploma in public international Law from the Lebanese University with high distinction, and later in 2016 she entered the diplomatic corps as the youngest diplomat of her delegation.



PANELISTS

Mr. Nicolás Helou | General Manager, Preo Colombia
“Innovation for the hospitality industry, changing the way people enjoy life”

Mr. Nicolás Helou was born in Bogotá, Colombia. During his career, he has co-founded several companies in Colombia. Nicolás’s main areas of focus are innovation, technology, and education, he is currently the General Manager of Preo Colombia, a game changer mobile app acquired by ABInbev in 2015.

MODERATOR&PANELISTS



Mr. Marco Rahme | Lebanese Romanian Student with outstanding skills in mental calculations
“About his Participation in Romania Got Talent TV program and live mental calculation performance”

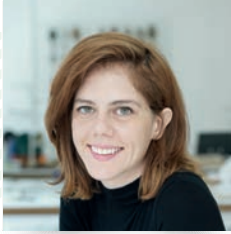
Marco Rahme was born in Lebanon to a Romanian mother and a Lebanese father. He is currently pursuing his studies at Rosaire School Byblos (EB4). To enhance his mental calculation skills, he is enrolling in special courses to achieve this end. Marco is also a student at the Lebanese national conservatory in Batroun, where he joins efforts and pleasure to learn Piano and Saxophone. He participated in too many competitions of mental calculation, recently in “Romania Got Talent”, where he was qualified to the next level with four “yes” from the jury and a lot of public admiration.



Mr. Wassim El Hariri | Inventor of Robot SASHA, Winner of GIST global competition, International Project Manager at InSystems Automation GmbH in, Berlin Germany
“Robot SASHA, new robotics products that will be in the market of the middle east and the gulf by the end of 2018”

Mr. Wassim El Hariri is currently working as an International Project Manager at InSystems Automation GmbH in Berlin Germany, he is responsible for all international robotics projects used in logistics. He holds a Master’s degree in Robotics from Polytechnic University of Turin, Italy and an MBA from University of California, Irvine. He contributed in more than 15 logistics mobile robots that are now in action in the market for top leading companies such as P&G, Continental, SAA and German government within Europe and Asia. He is also the inventor of a robot called SASHA “Smart Autonomous System for Hospital Assistance” which is a fully autonomous mobile robot that automates food distribution in hospitals giving each patient the correct meal on time. With this invention, he won the Global Innovation through Science and Technology (GIST) which is a global competition worldwide initiated by ex-president Barak Obama with innovators from all over the world and was held in Istanbul this year. He is currently working on 2 new robotics products that will be in the market of the middle east and the gulf by the end of 2018.





Mrs. Sara Hermez | Founder and director of Creative Space, Beirut

Fashion designer, free school, and bridging the social and the creative industries

Mrs. Sarah Hermez is currently the founder and director of Creative Space Beirut. She is a Lebanese fashion designer, born and raised in Kuwait. She pursued dual degrees in fashion design at Parsons the New School for Design and media/cultural studies at Eugene Lang the New School for Liberal Arts in New York. She moved to Beirut in 2010 and launched Creative Space Beirut, a non-profit free school for fashion design in 2011, merging the two worlds she is passionate about, and bridging the social and the creative industries. She is also the co-founder of SECOND St., a socially conscious brand with a progressive take on the classic shirt.



Mrs. Nagham Wehbe | Managing Director of Arab Film & Media Institute - L.A.'s Arab Film Festival

Showcasing Lebanese stories, arts, and culture through theater and cinema in Hollywood-L.A.

Mrs. Nagham Wehbe is currently the Managing Director of the Arab Film & Media Institute in Los Angeles. She is also an award-winning playwright, producer, and director. Her recent production was the hit play Confessions of an Arab Woman adapted from Joumana Haddad's memoir. The play won the Encore Producers' Award and was one of the nominees of The Duende Distinction Award and The Beyond Brechtel Award. The play was extended at the Hollywood Fringe Festival last year. She currently is one of the selected directors for The Blossoming Directors program at the Vagrancy Theater. Her achievements shed the light on Lebanon's culture and history and showcase powerful stories of or by Lebanese people.

MODERATOR&PANELISTS



Mr. Sebastian Rezek | Business Relationship Manager at Enigma Property Group South Africa

Lebanese Youth in the field of businesses and property deal around the world

Mr. Sebastian Rezek is currently the Business Relationship Manager at Enigma Property Group. His career spans over three years in the Property Development, Investment and Advisory sector in South Africa. He holds a BCom Finance degree and his role entails on supporting the deal team in all respects, including financial modelling, deal structuring and deal administration. Sebastian has been involved in a number of large scale transactions over the years primarily in South Africa and is looking forward to do property deals all over the world in the near future.



Mrs. Priscilla Sharuk | Co-Founder & COO of Cyber Security company Myki

Mrs. Priscilla Elora Sharuk is the Co-Founder & COO of Cyber Security company Myki, the first MENA-based company to be shortlisted for the most prestigious Tech competition in the world: TechCrunch Disrupt in San Francisco. Myki has been named "Top Password Manager 2018" by PCMag and "Forbes Top 100 most innovative Arab Companies" for 2017. Priscilla was named: "Forbes Top 7 Entrepreneurs in MENA" for 2017, Finalist for "Stars of Business Leadership Awards" 2017, Finalist for the "Brilliant Lebanese Awards" 2017 by BLC Bank, "Game Changer 2016" by Women's Health Magazine, and "Leader of Innovation 2016" by the American University of Beirut. Before taking a leap into her ultimate passion: Technology, Priscilla was a Landscape Architect and has worked on numerous regional projects of Zaha Hadid.





GALADINNER

20:30

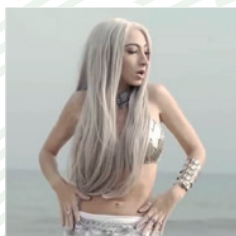
LDE OFFICIAL GALA DINNER | Trainstation



Shaun Agostine | The Internationally Renowned and Award Winning Pianist and Composer

Shaun Agostine, The Young Award Winning Pianist and Composer. He composed his first piece of music at the age of eight and has performed his compositions at a number of prestigious events including, The Julliard School in New York, The Natural History Museum in London, and recorded at Abbey Road Studios in London. Critics and the international media consider him a stunning composer with superior talent. Tonight, Shaun, will finish his performance by releasing his newest piano piece especially composed and dedicated to H.E. Minister Gebran Bassil.





Mrs. Widy (Widad Cure) | Colombian Lebanese Emerging singer

Mrs. Widy is a Colombian of Lebanese origin artist whose passion for music can be traced back to her childhood. As the years went by, SHE HAS developed and perfected her talent in order to transmit her unique style to the world. Her music genre is pop and it is a fusion of electronic sounds with Middle East and Caribbean influences. She can be considered a versatile artist since her creativity extends to design and acting. The songs of this young artist are composed using English and Spanish lyrics since she is interested in reaching people from all parts of the world for music.



Mr. Elie Joe Saade | U18 Levante UD Football Player

Mr. Elie Joe Saade is currently a U18 football player in La Liga Team Levante UD. He is a talented football player since he was a kid. His football career started since he had 6 years old in BFA Football Academy and competed in all age categories teams till he reached 17 Years Old. During these years, he participated in many Tournaments and Camps in Europe and his outstanding performance was always prized by the best European Football Experts. In April 2016, Mr. Saade had his first professional experience through a tryout in the Spanish Levante Team. In which he was selected among hundreds of talented players to have a full year development experience for the Season 2017/2018. In September 2017, he left his family and friends in Lebanon to join La Liga Academy in Spain. His hard work and great improvements through the development program led to the signing of his first professional contract with the U18 Levante Team. He is the first young Lebanese player to accomplish professional levels in Europe. This is just the beginning for him as he aims at playing in the Elite Football in Europe.

MODERATOR&PANELISTS

FRIDAY, 11 MAY, 2018

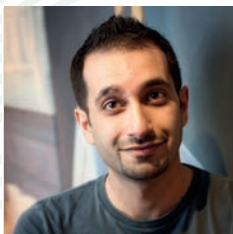
10:00 - 14:00 | ROOM B

Session 4: Future Economic Vibes of Lebanon

PANEL 1: The Fourth Industrial Revolution; Prospects for Development

The importance of this panel lies in the fact that it discusses the leading world innovations. The internet of things, mobile supercomputing, biotechnology in its RGBW colors, drones, self-driving cars, nanotechnology are all ushering to a new era and at an exponential speed. Lebanese have proved over the time to be the mastermind behind several inventions. This panel aims at joining efforts to build the necessary educational and functional infrastructure to put Lebanon on the map of the fourth technological revolution and bring about development and prosperity, minding the abundance of brainpowers seeking opportunities in this field.





MODERATOR

Mr. Fawzi Rahal | Managing Director of Flat6Labs Beirut

Mr. Fawzi Rahal is the Managing Director at Flat6Labs Beirut, a seed program and early stage fund investing in Lebanese technology startups. He has gathered over 15 years of digital creative, marketing and strategic expertise by working with multinational brands and local startups across a variety of verticals. Heading the regional digital advertising business at Grey in the Middle East & North Africa, Mr. Rahal worked closely with brands to create innovative digital products and services. He has a passion for typography and a love for tinkering with gadgets.



PANELISTS

Mr. Edgard Helou | Director of Google Cloud in Colombia
"10X thinking: the right mindset required to aboard digital transformation"

Mr. Edgard Helou, Director of Google Cloud in Colombia, has a Physicist Science degree and Electrical Engineering degree from the University of the Andes in Colombia and has a Master's degree in Geographic Information Science from École Nationale des Sciences Géographiques In France. He has more than 15 years of international experience supporting public and private companies to understand how technology can become a competitive advantage and accompany them in the process of change. Its mission is to imagine, build and transform.

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Mr. Maan Barazy | CEO of Fintech, Leader in SME's Development and Business Analysis

"Lebanon Entrepreneurship: Road Map for Competitiveness and Positioning"

Mr. Maan Barazy is working on his Ph.D. on Shariah Standards for Cryptocurrencies. He holds an MA in Philosophy, an MA in Economics from the American University of Beirut (AUB) and New York State University respectively and an MA in Islamic Comparative Jurisprudence, he is also a certified advisor for the AAOIFI, the Association for Islamic banks and Financial Institutions. Mr. Barazy is the president and Co-founder of Entrepreneurs Ventures Network Holding, a newly formed accelerator in Beirut and has launched the Fintech Immersion Program and the entrepreneurs' Academy which offers soft skills and professional technical training for venture development. He has published tens of researches and working papers in economic journals on macro simulations and he has authored seven books on the Lebanese economy, Employment and economic growth in Lebanon on a bigger scale.



Mr. Rabih Nassar | Founder and CEO of Scriptr.io

"The role of IoT in Enterprise Digital Transformation"

Mr. Rabih Nassar is the founder and CEO of Scriptr.io, an enterprise platform & marketplace that enable Internet of Things stack interoperability & Applications. Mr. Nassar has been a serial entrepreneur for 25 years with experience in enterprise software, media, consumer products, cloud & the Internet of Things. He has co-founded and exited a number of startups in the Middle East, Latin America, Europe and the United States. Mr. Nassar earned a B.S. in Telecommunications from the Saint Joseph University and an MBA from the École Supérieure des Affaires in Beirut (ESA).





Mr. Fadi Makki | Founder and President of Nudge Lebanon

“The World Economic Forum’s perspective on the fourth industrial revolution; Founder QBIU & Nudge Lebanon”

Dr. Fadi Makki is founder and President of Nudge Lebanon. He set up and currently leads the first nudge unit in the Arab region, the Qatar Behavioral Insights Unit. He is member of the World Economic Forum’s Council for the Future of Behavioral Sciences. He served as Director General of the Lebanese Ministry of Economy & Trade, and then worked at Booz & Company and Cisco. He holds a Ph.D. from Cambridge University and Master’s degree from LSE.

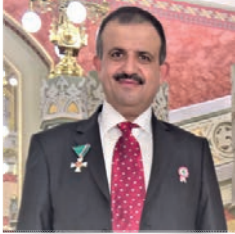


Mr. Spiro Azkoul | Founder and CEO of myTV Inc.

“Why is the “Internet of Things” sector so important to Lebanon and how can the Lebanese technologists in the Diaspora help jumpstart the development of this sector locally”

Mr. Spiro Azkoul has spent the last 20 years of his career at the forefront of content technologies. During his time in the Solution Architecture team of industry leading companies such as Mirror Image, Net Lightning and Akamai Technologies, Mr. Azkoul played a key role in the content delivery strategies of organizations like My Space (www.myspace.com), UFC (ufc.com), Facebook, Department of Defense (DoD), Netflix, FOX broadcasting, Disney, NASA and in many of the Fortune 1,000 companies content initiatives. He was born in Beirut and emigrated to the USA where he graduated from California State University, with a Bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering, and joined Epoch Internet, subsidiary of WorldCom in 1998 at the eve of the “dot-come bubble”.

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Prof. Hassan Charaf | Head of the Department of Automation and Applied Informatics at the Budapest University of Technology

“What was yesterday’s vision is today’s reality, as The Industry 4.0 (digitalization) is revolutionizing the way the world works, and thus the way businesses interact with their products and customers”

Prof. Hassan Charaf was born in Machghara (Lebanon). He is a university Professor and the Head of the Department of Automation and Applied Informatics at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME). As an outstanding figure in teaching, research and development, he occupies key positions at several organizations. Additionally, he is the author of more than 320 papers and books. He is extensively active in the following fields: Software technology, Multiplatform mobile software development methodologies, IoT, Digitalization and Industry 4.0.



Mr. Hassan Kabbani | Telecom Expert in the Middle East

Mr. Hassan Kabbani is a six times CEO of multi-billion dollar revenue telecom companies, for multi-national large groups in the Middle East and Africa. From September 2013 till December 2016, Mr. Kabbani was the CEO of Zain Saudi Arabia, a public listed mobile telecommunication operator, offering services to more than 10 million customers, generating approximately \$2 billion dollars of annual revenue. Turned around the financial and operational performance of a heavily loss making business. He grew EBITDA by 102% in three years from \$237M to \$479M, resulting in the Company reporting net profit for the first time since its inception.





10:00 - 14:00

PANEL 2: Strategies for Banking and Public Private Partnership

Diaspora is more than just sending money home; the relatively stable Lebanese banking sector should not underestimate the importance of attracting the inflows of new Diaspora members. The first part of this panel seeks to create the development of Lebanon by offering the platform for the banking and investment sectors to create proper coordination mechanism and to envision the importance of the diaspora beyond remittances. The second part of this panel has the aim to activate the model of Public Private Partnership and the engagement of experienced Diaspora corporations in the pressing potential investments such as Electricity, Water, Education, Transportation, state buildings, and e-government etc.

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MODERATOR

Mr. Marwan Khaled | Deputy General Manager – Head of Commercial Lending at Cedrus Bank

Mr. Khaled's seasoned career in the banking industry began in 1995, with Byblos Bank, serving as a Member of the Core Risk Team that included credit risk and the full assessment of potential acquisitions. Subsequently, he shifted his focus on corporate lending, within three major Lebanese banks, playing a major role in the development of the corporate lending activities of the bank. He was then appointed as Assistant General Manager - Corporate Banking, at Credit Bank, from 2012 till March 2018.



PANELISTS

Mr. Karim Khalife | Managing Partner of Y2 Consulting
"Preserving the Lebanese interests in Africa by strengthening the export of services & products through promoting the Lebanese African relationships"

Mr. Karim Khalife is currently the Managing Partner of Y2 Consulting, a boutique Hospitality & Tourism consultancy as well as a Business Investment Advisory company with a focus on the African Markets. Mr. Khalife has a long history of entrepreneurship and involvement in the field. With more than 18 years of experience with industry leaders, he has worked in every facet of the hospitality sector with world-class companies. Being an active member in several organizations, he serves as a Board Member of the Egyptian Lebanese Businessmen Association (Egypt) in which he contributed to accentuating the potential of Lebanese services.





Mr. Fouad Zmokhol | President of the Association of Lebanese Business People in the World

“Each Lebanese has succeeded independently... It is time to synergize, cooperate, collaborate and succeed interdependently, as unified group”

Dr. Fouad Zmokhol is the President of the Association of Lebanese Business People in the World (RDCL World), CEO of Zimco Group (ME) and SAPDIB (Africa), and Professor at USJ and LAU. Dr. Zmokhol holds a Ph.D. in Business Administration from the USA. He is a keynote speaker at national and international conferences, and a published author of various articles and research papers. Known for his outstanding diplomatic skills and ability to build bridges and fruitful alliances at home and in the diaspora, Dr. Zmokhol has received several national and international awards for his achievements.



Mr. Nabil Itani | Chairman and General Manager of the Investment Development Authority of Lebanon (IDAL)

“Potential for business development and PPP in Lebanon”

Mr. Nabil A. Itani is Chairman and General Manager of the Investment Development Authority of Lebanon (IDAL). His career spans over three decades of professional achievement, including significant contributions to the architectural profession and diligent service to his native Lebanon. An accomplished architect and architectural consultant, his professional experience is wide-ranging and far-reaching, encompassing the design and supervision of landmark projects in Lebanon and around the Arab world.

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Mr. Adel Afiouni | Managing Director of Credit Suisse Investment Bank

“How to attract Foreign Direct Investments and the Importance of Institutional Investors in funding and supporting future economic growth in Lebanon”

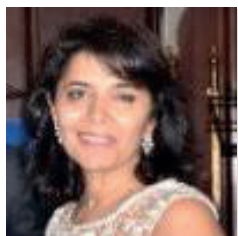
Mr. Adel Afiouni, is the Managing Director of Credit Suisse Investment Bank in the Fixed Income Division, based in London. He is Head of Global Emerging Markets Group Origination and Sales in EMEA.



Mr. Michael Chahine | CEO of Asia Electro-Mechanical Co.LTD

“Sharing experience and highlighting prospects of business development in Lebanon”

Mr. Michael Shaheen is the CEO of Asia Electro Mechanical Company Ltd in Kuwait and UAE. Asia EM was founded in 1977 and is a market leader and stockist of pipes & fittings, valves, flanges, water meters, hangers, gaskets, bolts & nuts, air conditioner spare parts, water, oil & gas, sewage, plumbing, firefighting and HVAC works.



Dr. Christiane Abou-Lehaf | Manager for International Cooperation at the African Export-Import Bank

The role of Banks in creating and enhancing partnership with international institutions and entities And how to leverage offshore financing to expand non-traditional exports.

Dr. Christiane Abou-Lehaf is Manager for International Cooperation at the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) undertaking the responsibility of assisting the Bank in creating and enhancing partnership with international institutions/entities. Dr. Abou-Lehaf has teaching experience at The American University in Cairo (AUC), Université Française de l’Egypte (UFE), and the Arab Academy.



10:00 - 14:00 | ROOM A

Session 5: Lebanon a Unique Mosaic of Diversity

OBJECTIVE:

Lebanon is a mosaic consisting of a diversity of cultures, traditions and religions. Due to its geographical location at the crossroads of Asia, Europe, and Africa; many civilizations have left their marks through its long history and shaped Lebanon into its present state, embracing many religions and blossoming into a land of unprecedented cultural riches, diversity and opportunities. President Michel Aoun has recently ushered to the possibility of making Lebanon an international center for dialogue of religions, civilizations and races. This session strives to narrowing distances between Lebanon and its Diaspora, spotlighting its culinary, religious and cultural riches and finding ways to capitalize on this diversity for future projects.

10:00 - 11:30

PANEL 1: Lebanon, a Melting Pot of Religious and Cultural Diversity

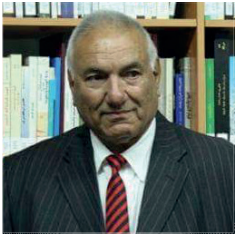
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MODERATOR

Dr. Josephine Daher | TV journalist and Director of Noursat

Dr. Josephine Elias Daher is the manager of Nour El Shabab from Noursat Télé Lumière, and a TV host for various programs related to religion, culture and the Lebanese Diaspora. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Journalism from the Lebanese University and a Ph.D. in Social and Communication Sciences from the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK). Her passion about the religious and cultural diversity of Lebanon and the importance of spreading it around the world, especially among the Lebanese Diaspora was the driving force behind carrying numerous visits and media coverage in several countries like Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil Argentina, and Kuwait. Dr. Daher is married to father Valentino da Silva el Ghouel and have together three children.



PANELISTS

Mr. Kenneth Hannah | Hon. Editor of the "Cedar Leaf"
"People of the Cedars" The Inheritance

Mr. Kenneth Hanna is the Hon. Editor of the "Cedar Leaf" serving the Lebanese South African Community. He is President of "People of the Cedars". He has written two books "People of the Cedars" a 20th Century insight into the Lebanese South African Community and "People of the Cedars, The Inheritance". Mr. Hanna has received awards in the field of sports, Lebanese world, and the Pharmaceutical Profession.





Mrs. Laure d'Hauteville | Founder of Beirut Art Fair
"Beirut as the capital of culture in the Arab World"

Mrs. Laure d'Hauteville has graduated with a degree in Art History from the Sorbonne University, and is a member of AICA (International Association of Art Critics). She arrived to Lebanon in 1991, the country she adopted immediately. As a journalist, responsible for the culture section in many Lebanese newspapers, this dynamic businesswoman has also organized major artistic events in the Middle East and in the West, such as the Beirut Art Fair.



Mr. Keysar Trad | Founder of the Islamic Friendship Association of Australia Inc.

"The Topic of Discussion is: Defending "Lebanese" in the Diaspora"

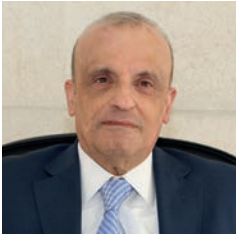
Mr. Keysar Trad was born in Tripoli and has worked for 14 years in the Australian public as servant prior to being elected to numerous community leadership positions including President of the Lebanese Muslim Association and President of the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils. He established the Islamic Friendship Association of Australia to build bridges and promote better understanding within Australian societies. He is a former broadcaster and has published opinion articles in various Australian newspapers and some books, including a book of romantic poems called Forays of the Heart. Mr. Trad has also worked with the most senior religious leaders and jointly convened numerous interfaith events. He has given thousands of interviews to television, radio and print news.

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Dr. Tarek Chidiac | President of Gibran National committee
“Gibran Khalil Gibran abroad, the story of success between a difficult beginning and a sad ending”

Dr. Tarek Chidiac was born in Bcharreh, the hometown of Gibran Khalil Gibran. He is a Dental Surgeon and has been the president of Gibran National Committee since 2010. He wrote many studies about the Renaissance Pioneers and their era and lectured about Gibran Khalil Gibran in Lebanon and many other countries such as Australia, France, the USA. His researches encompass focused studies on Gibran Khalil Gibran’s life and works.



Mr. Antoine Saad | Member of the Board of Directors and General Secretary of “Télé Lumière”
“The role of Télé Lumière in developing the cultural and religious tourism in Lebanon”

Lawyer Antoine A. Saad was born in Ramhala, Mount Lebanon. He is the General Secretary of Sagesse University – Furn el Chebak. Mr. Saad is Member of the Board of Directors and General Secretary of “Télé Lumière” since 1991, and Chairman of “Noursat” since 2003. The Satellite TV Network of Télé Lumière, the terrestrial station and Noursat the satellite station, is directed by a group of laics supervised by the Assembly of Catholic Patriarchs and Bishops in Lebanon. Its goal is to spread love, peace and human values.





Mrs. Roula Ajouz | Project Director of Cultural Religious Tourism (CRT)

“CRT project to put Lebanon on the global map for Cultural Religious Destinations”

Mrs. Roula Ajouz Sidani was born in Beirut, she is the Project Director of CRT, an active unit at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers in Lebanon whose mission is to highlight the historical richness of the religious diversity in Lebanon under the title: “Celebrating Our Diversity”. She is the Previous Publisher of Cedar Wings Magazine (The Inflight Magazine of MEA) 2000 - 2018. Mrs. Sidani was a member of Beirut City Council 1998 - 2004, and 2004 - 2010 and a Board Member of Makassed Islamic Philanthropic Association



Mrs. Rana Hadid | Member of the Baalbeck International Festival Executive Committee

“The festival’s contribution in carrying out the name of Lebanon to the International World”

Mrs. Rana Hadid was born in Beirut. She studied architecture at the American University of Beirut (AUB) and at the Architectural Association in London. She has been working in architecture for the last 30 years, both locally and internationally. Mrs. Rana Hadid has been involved in a number of architectural projects. Mrs. Hadid is also Executor, Trustee and Director of the Zaha Hadid Estate and Foundation. She has been an active member of the Baalbeck International Festival Executive Committee for the last 15 years, of which her grandmother was one of the founding members. She is also a member of the National Heritage Foundation Committee, responsible for the National Museum gift shop.

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Dr. Jean Torbey | Director of the Maronite Center for Research and Strategic Studies in Sydney, Australia
“Saint Paul’s Road, an initiative by Australians who are passionate about their Lebanese heritage”

Dr. Jean Torbey is the Director of the Maronite Center for Research and Strategic Studies in Sydney, Australia. His career spans over 15 years of professional religious and historical studies. Dr. Torbey worked for local Arabic newspapers in Australia. His latest book is “From the land of Canaan to the life in Australia”. He is now preparing two books “Jesus in the Quran” & “Eastern Denominations”.



Mrs. Martine Btaich | Executive Director of the Lebanon Mountain Trail Association

Mrs. Btaich is a professional in community and sustainable tourism development. She is currently the Executive Director of the Lebanon Mountain Trail Association.



12:30 - 14:00

PANEL 2: The Lebanese Gastrodiplomacy: The Launching



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H.E. Gebran Bassil | Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants



MODERATOR

Mrs. Rasha G. El Haddad | Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mrs. Rasha G. El Haddad is a Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants since 2016. In November 2017, she introduced the Lebanese Gastrodiplomacy concept in LDE Cancun, thus was put in charge of the file by H.E Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants Gebran Bassil. Her educational background includes a Master's degree in Private Law from the Lebanese University – Beirut (2015) and a Bachelor of Laws from La Sagesse University – Beirut (2011). She also attended an inter-university program on International Criminal Law and Procedure with Asser Institute (2012). Before joining the Ministry, Rasha worked on a UNDP regional project on Anti-Corruption and Integrity in the Arab Countries (ACIAC).





SPEAKERS

Chef Maroun Chedid | Chef Entrepreneur

Mr. Maroun Chedid is a chef entrepreneur, TV personality and founder of Maroun Chedid SAL. With over twenty-five years of experience, Mr. Chedid combines the authenticity of Lebanese cooking with the joie de vivre of modern living. Awarded in 2013 the prestigious title of “Chef de l’Année a l’international” by the Toques Blanches du Monde, his cuisine celebrates the authenticity of Lebanese food and its traditions, enriching it with spices and surprising combinations to appeal to a modern palate. Mr. Chedid has gained success through a variety of business ventures, encompassing culinary consulting, catering, retail, cooking schools and restaurants.



Mrs. May Traboulsi | Chairperson of Rural Delights Cooperative

Mrs. May Traboulsi is the current Chairperson of Rural Delights Cooperative which is also known as Atayeb Al Rif Cooperative. Established in 2002 as a non-profit organization, Atayeb Al Rif Cooperative acts as a hub of a large network of more than 40 agricultural, food processing and artisanal cooperatives and SMEs in rural Lebanon, with focus on women-led businesses. Mrs. Traboulsi manages the team to engage in local and international marketing of the cooperatives’ products under the safety regulated and accredited brand: Lebanese Village Products. A wide variety of more than 120 “Mouneh” products fall under the umbrella of the brand-name including jams, preserved pickles, oil preserved foods, herbs, syrups, distilleries, dried fruits, molasses and others. Mrs. Traboulsi strives to maintain the exquisite traditional footprint of Lebanon ensuring high quality and production standard level.

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Mr. Ramez Bou Nader | Vice President of the Syndicate of Lebanese Food Industries

Mr. Ramez Bou Nader, Co-Owner of Nader Distilleries Co., Producer of alcohol, wine and alcoholic beverages in Lebanon. Mr. Bou Nader is Vice President of Syndicate of Lebanese Food Industries since 2014, Secretary General of Syndicate of alcohol, wine and alcoholic beverages in Lebanon since 1987. He previously was board member of Association of Lebanese Industrial (2006 – 2014), advisor to the Minister of Industry (2009 – 2011), and advisor to the Minister of Tourism (2009 – 2014).



Mr. Kamal Mouzawwak | Founder of Souk el Tayeb

Mr. Kamal Mouzawak, son of a farmer and culinary activist, set up Beirut's first Farmer's Market in 2004. Called Souk El Tayeb, the farmers market is a celebration of food and its traditions and aims at assisting local small scale producers to become sustainable businesses. After majoring in graphic design, Mr. Mouzawak followed the path of food and travel writing, macrobiotic cooking teaching and hosted healthy cooking shows on TV, earning him a seat at the Slow Food foundation for biodiversity board and New Hero distinction by Monocle Magazine. Today Souk El Tayeb is an institution that includes weekly farmers market, "Tawlet" the farmers' kitchen, "Beit" or guest houses, "Food & Feast" the regional festivals and "CBP" or capacity building program.





Mrs. Maya Noun | General Secretary of the Syndicate

Mrs. Maya Bekhazi Noun Grew up between Lebanon, KSA and the UK. She started a career in banking, with a double major Bachelor in Science and an Executive MBA. Ventured in the food and beverage business in 2000, a hobby which quickly turned into victory with a number of success stories in Lebanon and the Gulf region. She is devoted to a full time regional business, creating, owning, developing and managing food and beverage concepts with new brands opening in Lebanon and the Gulf region in 2018. She was elected Member of the Board of the Syndicate of Restaurant owners In Lebanon in 2014, and General Secretary in 2016.



Mr. Dany Chaccour | Owner of Lebanese Restaurants Franchised Abroad

Mr. Dany Chacour is the C.E.O of SGR offshore Lebanon, covering the franchises activities of fine and casual dining restaurants such as Em Sherif, Em Sherif Café, Em Sherif Samak, La Parrilla and Numero 6, also existing in KSA, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, and under development projects in Syria, Iran, Iraq, Oman, London and Bahrein. Mr. Chacour holds a Master's degree in Economics from Saint Joseph University (USJ). He also chairs Afriways and Africard, well known on the African continent in the field of Business development and the acquisition of telecom and biometric concessions, with track record in 34 sub Saharan African countries.

**14:00 - 15:30
LUNCH**

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15:30 - 16:30 | ROOM A

Session 6: Diaspora and the Universal Language of Sports

OBJECTIVE:

In its recent past, Lebanon witnessed an unprecedented development in its basketball capacities allowing it to win the FIBA Asia Championship Cup and the Arab Basketball Cup for various consecutive terms. This is not to overlook the personal achievements registered by many Lebanese champions in various sports domains like boxing, MMA, weightlifting etc. This panel serves as a platform to pay tribute for our Lebanese and Diaspora champions and attempt to promote joint efforts to contribute to the development of the sports sector, hence allowing more champions to compete on the international arena while contributing in parallel to better the lives of youth, families and Lebanese communities.





MODERATOR

Mr. Ward Abdallah | TV production and Marketing in the Sports Industry

Mr. Ward Abdallah has extensive experience in media & communications, TV production and marketing in the sports industry, on local, regional and international levels. For more than 26 years, Mr. Abdallah has been a TV sport anchor and producer. He spent the last 12 years with Al Kass Sport Channel, one of the leading sport channels in Qatar and the region, where he won several international awards for his work, and also led the news department for a certain time. Before arriving to Qatar, Mr. Abdallah spent eight years at Abu Dhabi Sport Channel after having led two different TV sports department at his country Lebanon. Mr. Abdallah is also the Executive Director of ASPIRE4SPORT Congress & Exhibition, which was inaugurated in 2010 in Aspire Dome and outside Qatar until now. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration (Marketing).



PANELISTS

Mrs. May El Khalil | Founder and President of Beirut Marathon Association
“Beirut Marathon: Uniting Lebanon through Running”

Mrs. May El Khalil is currently the Founder and President of the “Beirut Marathon Association”, a non-profit organization that oversees the annual Beirut International Marathon, which has been held every autumn since 2003 and was accredited the silver label by the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) in 2015. In 2017, the race and social movement attracted over 48,000 runners from 108 countries. In 2014, Mrs. El Khalil was invited as a speaker at the European Innovation Convention. In August 2016, she was invited as a keynote speaker at the Global Risk Forum in Davos Switzerland. She speaks at different Universities and organizations about the power of sport, perseverance, unity, and making the impossible dream of peace happen through running.

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Ms. Ray Bassil | Lebanese and World Champion in Trapshooting

“Breaking the Stereotype of practicing some types of sports by women, considered for men in the Middle East”

Shooting to Ray Bassil is an instinct, her story began with an idea fostered by her father and which propelled the discovery of her talent in pulling the gun and becoming an expert markswoman. In a male dominated sports, an 8-year-old started her journey of shaping and forming her marks in trap-shooting. Despite being a graduate and holder of a Bachelor's degree in Food & Beverage Management from a top-ranking Lebanese University – NDU, she could not quiet her fascination with the sport. All her achievements are a reflection of her perseverant character which dedicated long hours and days into perfecting her sport and ultimately being a recognized champion whether on a local, regional or world level. She continuously strives to be a first, first among Arab Woman, first among Asian Woman and First as a World Champion and Olympic medalist. She has set all her ambitions now towards wining the Olympic medal in Tokyo in 2020 for Lebanon.



Dr. Rim Houmani | Master sport in Kettlebell Lifting

“Reestablishing a New Lebanese Women Identity Through Sports”

Dr. Rim Afif Houmany is a Master sport in Kettlebell lifting and currently a pediatric dentist. She graduated, with distinction, from O.O. Bogomolets Medical University in Kiev, Ukraine. She is also enrolled in postgraduate studies. Dr. Houmany was the first Lebanese to introduce the Kettlebell lifting sports to Lebanese Sports clubs as she was the first Lebanese to participate in Ukraine and world championships that took place in Hungary (Pecs) and in Greece (Loutraki). She also received many distinctions and recognitions in Ukraine and worldwide. Her contributions in Kettlebell lifting world championship and her sincere dedication, have had positive ramification on introducing this sport to Lebanon.





Mr. Georges Bardawil | Mixed Martial Arts Champion

“Benefits of Mixed Martial Arts, why Lebanon should support this kind of sport”

Mr. Georges Bardawil is Currently holding the CFC (Cedar Fighting Championship), and EFC (Evolution Fighting Championship) bantamweight titles. His fighting career spans over 8 years, in multiple organizations from around the world including Brave Combat Federation which is ranked as one of the best in the business across the world. He is currently serving as a trainer in Antonine Fitness Center Ajaltoun. Mr. Bardawil represented Lebanon in the Desert Force organization that aired on MBC Action, where he competed against 32 fighters from the Arab world, and was ranked first by winning the title in the season’s finale.



Mr. Zaher Ziadeh | Professional athlete, Founder and CEO of Team Adrenaline

“Mind and Body control, limitless abilities”

Mr. Zaher Ziadeh, a Lebanese Freerunner, Athlete and Physical Trainer.

Founder and CEO of Team Adrenaline, a sports community that was originally created in 2011 and has expanded to become a freerunning, gymnastics and fitness Academy, that mainly attracts adrenaline addicts and aspires athletes of all ages and backgrounds. Coaching and gathering new generations of athletes/freerunners in a safe environment, was his main aim. Being one of the pioneers who introduced freerunning to the Lebanese sports scene, Mr. Ziadeh travelled many countries to represent Lebanon in the world’s most famous jams and competitions as a professional Freerunner. And one of the most memorable awards was earning the 3rd place in Wild Khaleeji competition in 2015 for MENA region.

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Mrs. Dareen Barbar | Motivational Speaker and Athlete *“The impact of Sports on a person’s character, Society and Business”*

Mrs. Dareen Barbar is a motivational speaker and an aspiring Athlete. She won first place in Transformation division at The World Beauty Fitness and Fashion show London in November 2017 and is the first Arab amputee to take part in such a pageant. She is an ambassador of inclusion for people of determination aka the disabled in the UAE. Lost her leg to cancer at the age of 15, which turned her life around. But that didn’t stop her from living her life to the full and overcoming the hardships. Her passion for sports was revived after her broken hip that lead her to adopt a healthy life style of exercising and eating healthy and earned her fitness instructor and nutritionist qualification, Dareen’s message to the world is that disability is an extra-ordinary ability that makes the impossible possible.



Mr. Karim Salaam | President of the Lebanese Golf Federation *“Golf and Diaspora: a road to success”*

Mr. Karim Salaam was appointed President of the Lebanese Golf Federation in 2016. He works for one of the leading mobile operators in Lebanon. Mr. Salaam has launched two major initiatives to help promote the sports in Lebanon, with the goal of participating under the Lebanese flag at the summer Olympics in 2020, to be held in Tokyo Japan. The Golf in Schools initiative aims at promoting the game and “democratize” it by making it accessible to the youth, The “Swing for Lebanon” Initiative aims at reaching a large number of golfers of Lebanese origin playing in different countries around the world, and have them represent Lebanon in regional and international tournaments.





Mr. Lebos Chaguri | Formula 1 Powerboat Pilot

“Major challenges ahead of making achievements in the sports field”

Mr. Lebos Chaguri got involved in the field of sports at the age of 12, where he participated over the years in various activities like Ski surf, Motorcycle Racing, Sailing and Powerboat, conquering several national and international titles. In 2013, he won the Bronze Medal for Lebanon’s Team in the Formula 1 H2O Nations Cup. His last international achievements were a silver medal and a bronze medal at the World Endurance Championship in 2017.



Mr. Silvio Chiha | Professional Athlete

“Sports, Beauty of Lebanon”

Every generation has its great champions. Mr. Silvio Chiha is undoubtedly the champion of his generation, winning competitions in alpine skiing, waterskiing, swimming, sailing, judo, MMA etc. Mr. Silvio holds a Bachelor’s degree in Economics and Master’s degree in Business. He has proudly raised the Lebanese flag on numerous occasions on the international scene. He is an ambassador for many NGO’s dedicating most of his efforts into fighting drugs addiction, families in need. He was elected member of the council of Jounieh municipality.

MODERATOR&PANELISTS

15:30 - 16:30 | ROOM B

Session 7: Lebanon, an Oasis of Health

OBJECTIVE:

As many successes were unfolded recently regarding Lebanese elites working in medical and pharmaceutical fields, it is the right time to address the opportunity of making Lebanon a center for the Middle East for medical services ranging from health related to pure aesthetic ones. Adding to the continuously improving field, Lebanon enjoys a massive number of prominent Lebanese doctors and researchers among its Diaspora and many of them have expressed repetitively their will to practice their experiences in Lebanon, hence transferring medical technology to their Lebanese counterparts and creating new bonds for their mutual benefits and consequently making Lebanon a leader in this field.





MODERATOR

Mrs. Rita Rahbany | Director of the Syndicate of Hospitals in Lebanon

Mrs. Rita Rahbany Saad is currently the director of the Syndicate of Hospitals in Lebanon. She holds a Master's degree in Public Health from the American University of Beirut and a Master's degree in Science from the Lebanese University. She has been working in the healthcare sector for over 15 years, specifically in healthcare management, health communication and capacity building programs. She is involved academically in the healthcare field by teaching at the Lebanese University, within the Healthcare Management and Quality Master's Program, among others. She has bridged between the healthcare and media sectors by hosting health related radio and TV programs.

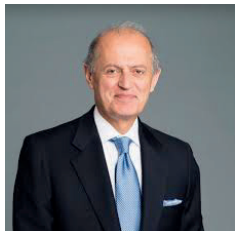


PANELISTS

Dr. Rana Hajjeh | Director of the Department of Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control at WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO)

Dr. Hajjeh is a senior public health leader with extensive experience in global health, health policy and diplomacy, especially in the Middle East region. Dr. Hajjeh is currently the Director of the Department of Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control at WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO). In this capacity, she played a major role in supporting emergency response in the region, and in accelerating the agenda for prevention and control of vaccine preventable diseases, HIV, hepatitis, malaria, tuberculosis, neglected tropical diseases, and antimicrobial resistance. Prior to joining WHO EMRO in 2016, Dr. Hajjeh was with the US Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC) for 23 years. Dr. Hajjeh holds a Medical Doctor (M.D.) degree from the American University of Beirut. She has received many awards, including the prestigious Federal Employee of the Year Award in 2014 for her global vaccine work. Dr. Hajjeh has published over 150 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters and is a Professor of medicine and public health at Emory and Johns Hopkins universities.

MODERATOR&PANELISTS



Dr. George Ferzli | Bariatric Surgeon NYC

Dr. George Ferzli, MD, FACS, is a surgeon in Staten Island, New York and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including NYU Langone Medical Center and Staten Island University Hospital. He received his medical degree from Saint Joseph's University Medical School and has been in practice for more than 20 years in the field of Minimally Invasive Surgery including obesity, colon conditions, hernia, breast cancer and thyroid/parathyroid conditions. He is one of 78 doctors at NYU Langone Medical Center and one of 32 at Staten Island University Hospital who specialize in Surgery. Dr. Ferzli has lectured in universities and medical schools as well as operated in hospitals all over the world.



Dr. Khoder Fakih | Oral, Orthodontics and Maxillofacial Surgeon

Dr. Khoder Fakih, Professor and head of the Post Graduate students at the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery at the Medical University of Sofia in Bulgaria. He was born in 1961 in Lebanon. In 1986 he got his Master's degree in Stomatology medical University – Sofia. He has three specialties in Oral Surgery, Orthodontics and Maxillofacial Surgery. Dr. Fakih is an Author of 40 publications and Co-author of 6 Oral surgery and Maxillofacial books.





Mr. Sleiman Haroun | President of the Syndicate of Hospitals in Lebanon

Mr. Sleiman Haroun was born in 1950. He is currently the President of the Board and Director General of Haroun Hospital in Lebanon. He has been the President of the Syndicate of Hospitals in Lebanon since 2003. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Engineering from the American University of Beirut and a Master's degree in Operations Research from Strathclyde University in Glasgow. His career spans over five decades of professional achievements, contribution to the Engineering profession, and the Healthcare sector in Lebanon. He worked as a civil engineer and engineering consultant for over 15 years after which he started his journey in the health sector. His academic background has provided him with an innovative outlook at healthcare management where he has made important contributions to the healthcare sector in Lebanon.



Mr. George Cherfan | Founder and Managing Director of CCM Group

Mr. George Cherfan is the founder and Managing Director of CCM Group. Mr. Cherfan started his career in Sales and Marketing at the age of 23 by joining the global pharmaceutical company ER Squibb and Sons in Beirut, Lebanon. After fourteen years of employment with Squibb, he was promoted to senior level management positions, and was offered the position of Managing Director of the Squibb manufacturing plant in Egypt. However, George made the move to start his own business, and CCM Middle East was born in 1979 in Beirut, Lebanon and Athens, Greece.

MODERATOR&PANELISTS



Prof. Carlos Khairallah | President of the Lebanese Dental Association

Prof. Carlos Khairallah is a Professor at Saint Joseph University of Beirut since 1983 in the restorative and Aesthetic Department, and he has a private practice in Beirut. He is also a member of the Lebanese Economical and Social Council, his professional experience includes academic posts, publications and conference presentations. He is currently the President of the Lebanese Dental Association.



Dr. Elie Abdelhak | President of the Lebanese Society of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

Dr. Elie Abdelhak is a Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon. He studied at Saint Joseph University, Beirut, Lebanon and done his residency at Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Montpellier. Dr. Abdelhak is one of the top facial plastic surgeons and has helped thousands of patients achieve a more youthful, natural looking appearance with the wide range of surgical procedures he provides. He is currently the President of the Lebanese Society of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (LSPRAS).





Dr. Tony Tannoury | Chief of Spine Surgery at Boston University & Founding President of International Musculoskeletal Society

“Chief of Spine Surgery at Boston University & Founding President of International Musculoskeletal Society”

Dr. Tannoury patented many cutting-edge inventions and techniques in the field of Spine Surgery that are now helping millions of patients worldwide, particularly in the field of Minimally Invasive Surgery. Dr. Tannoury is frequent visitor and lecturer in most major scientific events and his techniques are being taught worldwide. Dr. Tannoury is the recipient of many prestigious awards but the dearest to his heart is the Lebanese Cultural Union since “No place is like home”. Dr. Tannoury’s dream and mission is to bring his innovation to his country and the entire ME region through different initiatives.

CLOSING CEREMONY

17:00 - 18:00 OFFICIAL CLOSING CEREMONY



MASTER OF CEREMONY

Mrs. Elsa Yazbek Charabaty | Senior Journalist, Presenter and Producer at MTV/Head of the Interpretation Department at USJ

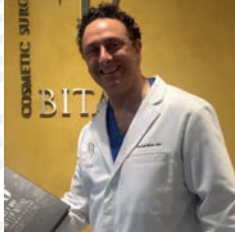


KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Cezar Hallum | Deputy at the Chamber of Deputies of Brazil

César Hanna Halum was born in Annapolis, is a Brazilian politician and veterinarian from Lebanese origin. He has been a Federal Deputy for the state of Tocantins since 2011, and was reelected for the second time in 2014. On February 2, 2017, he was elected as an Alternate Member of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Deputies. He graduated in Veterinary Medicine from the Federal University of Goiás (1975-1979). Mr. Halum is the President of the Arab-Brazilian parliamentary group numbering over than 240 Federal Deputies.





Dr. George Bitar | Founder of Bitar Cosmetic Surgery Institute in Washington DC

“From the Outside Looking in: How to Make Cosmetic Surgery in Lebanon Safer and more Attractive for Patients in the Region”

Dr. George Bitar, MD, FACS is an award-winning, fellowship-trained board certified plastic surgeon who has performed over 10,000 cosmetic facial and body procedures. He has been named among the best plastic surgeons in America by US Airways, United Airlines, Delta Airlines and Continental Airlines and Newsweek magazines, and one of the top doctors in America by Plastic Surgery Practice Magazine. He has also been voted by his peers as one of the top plastic surgeons in both Washingtonian and Northern Virginia Magazine for several years, and has been featured as an expert in cosmetic surgery on many TV and radio shows, as well as in numerous national and international magazines. He was recently honored in the book, “The 100” Meet 100 Influential Lebanese Figures Around the Globe. He is the founder and medical director of the Bitar Cosmetic Surgery Institute with offices in Washington D.C. serving a sophisticated national and international patient base, offering the state-of-the-art skin care, laser treatments, injectables, and cosmetic surgery.

20:30

LEBANESE RYTHMS NIGHT | The Village Dbayeh

SATURDAY, 12 MAY, 2018

Discover “The Holy Land of Lebanon” and live the message and spirit of Dialogue

8:30 - 9:00 Gathering at Al Amin Mosque

9:00 - 9:30 Visiting Al Amin Mosque

9:30 - 11:30 Departure from Al Amin Mosque to Saydet El Nouriyé

11:30 - 13:00 Visit to Saydet El Nouriyé

13:0 - 13:30 Departure from Saydet El Nouriyé to Diaspora Houses

13:30 - 15:00 Inauguration of the Diaspora Houses and Diaspora Museum

15:00 - 17:30 Lunch at Batrouniyat

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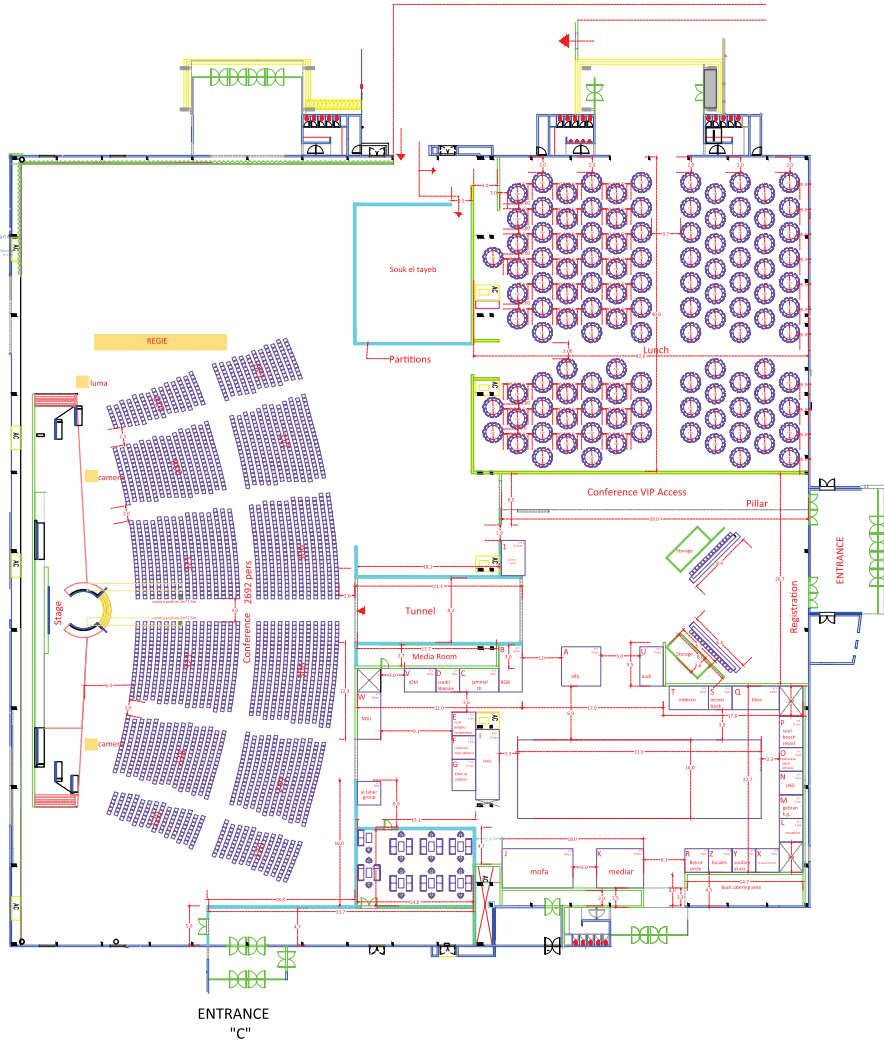
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