



GLOBAL THINKERS FORUM

Accountable Leadership.
Women's Empowerment.
Youth Development.



GLOBAL THINKERS MENTORS

Mentoring
Inspiring.
Empowering.



GLOBAL THINKERS FORUM



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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ABOUT GLOBAL THINKERS FORUM





THE RT. HON. TOBIAS ELLWOOD MP - UK Minister for Defence

"I am delighted to be part of the Global Thinkers Forum, which really does generate more cognitive thinking about the challenges that face us. It is not just governments that can solve the problems of this world, it is societies, it is people and this organisation is bringing goodwill from across the world."



DR MARC VENTRESCA - Fellow & University Lecturer, University of Oxford & GTF Founding Member

"I think that there may be a place for us to become a safe harbour, a curator, nourish people who try to find new forms of citizenry, new forms of participation."



HAITHAM MATTAR - CEO, Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority & GTF Board Member 2017

"If it is global, we must really think and act global. We can deliver the message of what we are chasing through roadshows, events, and roundtables."



SHARON SCHWEITZER, J.D - International Protocol Expert, Access to Culture & GTF Board Member

"The work that the Global Thinkers Forum does is invaluable, especially in the world that we live in today, because we need people who are willing to go out and work on projects globally."



MOHAMMED AMERSI - Founder, Amersi Foundation & GTF Board Member 2017

“What attracts me in this organisation, Global Thinkers Forum, is the diversity of this group of people. We are not constrained by boundaries, by speaking the right thing. We are free, none of that is holding us back”.



AKINWOLE OMOBORIOWO II - Chairman & CEO, Genesis Energy Holdings & GTF Founding Member

“I am grateful for the opportunity to be a mentor on the GTF ‘Telemachus’ programme. As a GTF mentor, I have learned that mentorship is a two-way relationship. The more I speak to my mentees, the more I learn about life, the more I gain from their perspective. And I can only hope that they are also gaining from me.”



DR. REBECCA THOMLEY - Founder, Headwaters Relief Organization & GTF Board Member

“Global Thinkers Forum was instrumental in assisting us, through various connections, to do more mental health work in some of the refugee camps.”



ELIF SHAFAK - World-acclaimed Author & GTF Honorary Board Member

“I honestly don’t think that we have many platforms such as the Global Thinkers Forum, and maybe more and more of us appreciate the importance - and the necessity - of dialogue that goes beyond national, religious, ethnic boundaries and beyond our own cultural ghettos.”



THE RT. HON. THE LORD ALDERDICE - Chairman, The Centre for Democracy & Peace Building & GTF Honorary Board Member

“I think we are at a point in history, when many people have lost their sense of vision. What Global Thinkers Forum is doing is bringing people together to try to take our thinking forward two or three steps. It may not be comfortable because, when you start to think about things in a new way, sometimes it can create awkward questions. But if we don’t move forward, we will slide back.”



STEPHEN COLE - Chairman, Institute of Diplomacy & Business & GTF Founding Member

“When you come across an organisation like the Global Thinkers Forum you know the world has changed. With the mentoring system, the trust this organisation builds up, it is quite a remarkable work in progress and one that I am very happy to be involved with.”



FEMI OKE - International Broadcaster Al Jazeera English & GTF Honorary Board Member

“Being a Global Thinkers Forum mentor has been very rewarding for me, I am learning a lot and, I hope, I am passing on some knowledge to my mentees as well.”

GTF 2017 EVENTS

GTF PANEL IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS - "TRUST IN AN ERA OF 'ALTERNATIVE' FACTS"



On July 17, 2017, Global Thinkers Forum hosted the high-impact panel discussion "Trust in an Era of 'Alternative' Facts" in the House of Lords in London.

Without trust, institutions don't work, societies falter and people lose faith in their leaders. The Edelman Trust Barometer has been tracking trust in institutions for the past 15 years, and the warning signs are now plain to see. For the first time since the Great Recession, half the countries surveyed have fallen into the "distruster" category (their overall level of trust, among the informed public, is below 50%). This is directly linked to the failure of key institutions to provide answers or leadership

in response to events such as the refugee crisis, data breaches, China's stock market downturn, Ebola in West Africa, the invasion of Ukraine, the FIFA bribery scandal, VW's manipulation of emissions data, massive corruption at Petrobras, and exchange-rate manipulation by the world's largest banks.

Points covered included:

- What are the implications of the global trust crisis?
- Can we 'break' this distrust cycle? If so, how?
- Can we increase public demand for quality media and empower citizens through media and information literacy?



Chair and host of the conversation was The Rt Hon. the Lord Alderdice and the audience had the opportunity to listen to world-acclaimed author Elif Shafak, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Tawakkol Karman, and The Rt Hon Tobias Ellwood MP discussing how we can – and must – cultivate relationships of trust in a complex and volatile world.



In order to ensure that the appropriate systems and processes are in place to steer the overall direction, effectiveness, supervision, and accountability of the organisation, the international GTF Board of Advisors and Global Growth Partners have been established, serving as the pillars on which the institutional and financial long-term sustainability of GTF is based.

Our Annual Strategy Session was held on July 18, 2017 in London with Board members flying in from all over the world to attend and contribute their insights and ideas. A dominant theme has been ethics and accountability in leadership, values-based decision making, and how GTF can more actively promote women's empowerment.



MOHAMMED AMERSI - Founder, Amersi Foundation & GTF Board Member 2017

“So this is what a Forum like this, if it really wants to scale up, can come up and say, ‘look, this is a global challenge, here are a few ideas of what we can do with communities, with schools, with sports clubs, with faith establishments, and this is a policy we would like to produce and we would like people to start thinking about it and implement.”



REEM N. BSAISO - Founder & Managing Partner, Global Outreach & GTF Honorary Board Member

“People will rule one day, not governments, and this is what governments feel, more power or rather empowered human capital, this is our real fight ... from ethics to super knowledge.”



CHRISTOPHER GAUNT - Chairman, British Chamber of Commerce Turkey & GTF Founding Member

“I am shocked, as other people are, by the lack of knowledge that many politicians have about the world, about business, about people, they have a very narrow minded, one-dimensional approach to things, and I think that there is a great opportunity now to speak to them.”



DR. ROGER HAYES - Senior Counsellor, Apcoworldwide & GTF Board Member 2017

“We’ve always had curated conversations convening business, government and civil society. We have terrific support in the emerging markets and beyond. So there is a USP in what we do.”



ELIF SHAFAK - World-acclaimed Author & GTF Honorary Board Member

“And that’s why I want to ask, what is it that brings us all together? There must be something, otherwise why are we here, together? I’d like us to go back to the original purpose, the motivation, what is it that motivates us? Also, I feel that we need to find ways to talk to people who are not around this table. How do we differ from other organisations? How do we focus?”



DR MARC VENTRESCA - Fellow & University Lecturer, University of Oxford & GTF Founding Member

“The world is full of enormous problems, there are also lots and lots of people of goodwill and that seems like a community we want to engage with and support. The Forum is really a forum, it’s a chance for curated conversations, it’s a chance for connecting groups that aren’t talking now, this is something that we know how to do.”



MICHAEL E. ECONOMAKIS - Executive Vice Chairman & CEO, A.G. Leventis Group (Nig.) Plc & GTF Founding Member

“We bring enormous values to the lives of young people, and women, around the world. We stand for universal values and for values-based decision-making. We are a unique organisation in its conception, growth and activities. There is tremendous momentum in what we do.”



GERALDINE SHARPE-NEWTON - Senior Communications Advisor & GTF Founding Member

“I feel very privileged to be part of this group, and all of you, and all that you are going to bring to the table. Because it is the future. And it is our legacy.”



The Global Thinkers Forum panel that was hosted in the House of Commons in October 17, 2017 raised questions about hyperconnectivity in a globalised world.

Today people seem to come closer thanks to technology and hyperconnectivity but they are also becoming more estranged. Geographic boundaries become increasingly irrelevant due to technological change, yet people seem more uncertain than ever about the idea of a 'peaceful future, together'.

'Connectivity, not division, is our oldest human impulse. It has unfolded over the millennia through diplomacy, trade and engineering of infrastructures that connect us. So connectivity is the overwhelming and accelerating fact of the world. Sovereignty pales in comparison as a force,' argues author and global expert, Dr Parag Khanna.

UK's Minister for Africa, Rory Stewart OBE MP, was less sanguine, citing the high costs and lack of infrastructure – and particularly low levels of literacy – as factors that would prevent connectivity transforming developing nations. For Baroness Onora O'Neill, cross-bench member of the House of Lords and emeritus professor of philosophy at the University of Cambridge, there were problems even in the developed world: 'Connectivity is an enabler, but what we enabled isn't at all what we imagined' she stated, going on to suggest that greater connectivity has led to less communication.

Global Thinkers Forum Founder, Elizabeth Filippouli, said: 'What if obscure and rogue players out there write their own rules for the use of technology? We cannot trust that there will be a 'moral order' and we need regulations and rules in place to secure trust and best use of technology to the benefit of our societies and to the benefit of the individual'.

Comments from the floor in the discussion, moderated by international broadcaster Stephen Cole, pointed out the wide-ranging impacts of connectivity on today's society. There were concerns about the increase in stress and mental illness seen as directly related to the pressure to be connected at all times, and a warning that the potential to make huge numbers of connections could result in unrealistic expectations of how personal and community relationships can function. Whether it was the connectivity per se, or the way that it was being used, that was the problem identified as deserving its own discussion at a later date.



Jordan hosted the world's biggest science event, which brought together 3,000 scientists from over 100 countries. The 2017 World Science Forum (WSF) focused on "Science for Peace". The event was organised by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and HRH Princess Sumaya and was held under the patronage of His Majesty King Abdullah.

GTF organised 3 panel discussions focussing on:

21st Century Interdisciplinary Science & Technologies

This special session explored how different disciplines and sectors can come together to solve global challenges.

- What are the benefits of interdisciplinary approach in science and technology?
- What are the challenges of interdisciplinary work?
- How can governments, funders and universities encourage researchers to visit the no-man's-land of interdisciplinary work?

Public Engagement: Talking Science to non-Scientists

There are several challenges in communicating science, which include engaging formally with the public about science, the special complexities of communicating science when it is part of a public controversy (science-related controversy) and today's complex, dynamic and competitive communication media environment.



This panel discussed:

- Why and how is it important for scientists to be able to communicate science to public?
- What are the major challenges in science communications and how to overcome them?
- How scientific facts and research results are accessed, understood, shared and discussed with policy makers?
- What are the ethics of science communication?
- How can scientists use the new media (internet, social media etc) for public engagement?

*The session was co-organised with the RSS.

Emerging Concerns in Managing Radicalisation among Youth

This session drew on multi-disciplinary research in Europe and the Middle East with insight from field research with fighters and returnees to addresses crucial questions like:

- How does the spiritual factor enhance or undermine CVE efforts? How the spiritual interacts with the structural in understanding radicalisation and necessary CVE efforts?
- How can policymakers and CVE stakeholders introduce behavioural and ideological transformations that can delegitimise extremist ideologies?
- What are the prospects and challenges for reintegrating returnees in local communities with the current legal and communal infrastructure?
- How can current knowledge and practices on CVE be revised and redesigned for efficient preventive CVE measures?

*The session was co-organised with the Centre for Democracy & Peace Building and the WANA Institute.

GTF AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE 2017

“HONOURING THE TRUST BUILDERS”

Trust - or, too often, the lack of it - is one of the central issues of our time.

This is why at Global Thinkers Forum we selected the issue of 'Trust' as our 2017 overarching theme. What are the implications of the global crisis of trust? How can we 'break' this distrust cycle?

It is critical that we acknowledge the work of individuals and institutions that cultivate and promote trust, integrity and accountability, which means recognising the efforts of accountable leaders, individuals, companies and organisations who lead by example. It is also important to create platforms where good practices are celebrated, so that others learn and are motivated.

This year our Global Thinkers Forum Awards Gala, held on November 30, 2017, in the British Library in London, was dedicated to honouring the 'Trust Builders'.

Quotes from the Global Thinkers Forum AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE 2017



“Without trust, institutions don’t work, societies falter and people lose faith in their leaders. In today’s world it is imperative to cultivate and promote trust, integrity and accountability - which is what our Award Honourees achieved.”

ELIZABETH FILIPPOULI
Global Thinkers Forum Founder & CEO

“When societies go backwards women have more to lose. Perhaps this needs to be a crucial moment not only for global awareness, not only for global activism, but in particular for global feminism and for global sisterhood.”

ELIF SHAFAK
World-acclaimed Author & GTF Honorary Board Member



**GTF 2017 AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN
PEACE & COLLABORATION**



“Everything that happens in this world, and anything that humans do, is because of the thought process. You can have a thought that is not good, you can entertain a good loving thought.”

DR. BHAI SAHIB BHAI MOHINDER SINGH, OBE KSG
Chairman, GNNSJ

GTF 2017 SPECIAL AWARD FOR BRAVERY

“The attack that happened at Westminster last March was terrorism on our doorstep; the doorstep of democracy. I was among the many who stepped forward. Together we stood against terrorism and the violence that we saw intruding our lives that day. It is an honour to receive this award and to be with others, from all over the world, who step forward with their works of life, to try and make our world a better place’



THE RT. HON. TOBIAS ELLWOOD MP
UK Minister for Defence

**GTF 2017 AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN
WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT**



“We are passionate about providing something for women who don’t have the opportunity to raise their voices, so we write for them and we inform them about their rights. It is a great honour for us all to receive this Award from Global Thinkers Forum.”

AWESTA TELYAR AZADA
Journalist, Free Women Writers

**GTF 2017 AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
IN HUMANITARIAN WORK**

"This is a humbling experience and it is an Award that I receive not for me but for all the people that work for us and are in the field supporting migrants and refugees every day."



PANTELIS DIMITRIOU
Managing Director, Iliaktida

**GTF 2017 AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

"When we think about partnering with Global Thinkers Forum and organisations that are Awardees of the Forum we feel that this can certainly impact women and youth globally."



DR. RADHA BASU
Founder, iMerit

**GTF 2017 AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN
POSITIVE CHANGE**

"It is really recognition for the work that I have been doing the last 15 years, primarily in Africa, to acknowledge the important role of grandmothers in families and communities."



DR. JUDI AUBEL
Co-founder, Grandmother Project



Roly Keating, Chief Executive, British Library



Edouard Fernandez, Director of Zebulon Holdings Limited, with Luciana Mende



(L to R) Dr Josef Boehl, Director at Charter for Forgiveness and Reconciliation, Amin Nehme, President, Lebanese Development Network (LDN), and Bhai Sahib Bhai Mohinder Singh, OBE KSG, Chairman of Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha (GNNSJ)



(L to R) Dina Dommett, Director of Student & Programme Services at Saïd Business School, Amy Major, MBA Recruitment Manager at University of Oxford, Saïd Business School, Alyssa Ely, MBA student 2017-18 at University of Oxford, Saïd Business School, Sandra Fisher-Martins, MBA student 2017-18 at University of Oxford, Saïd Business School, Shruthi Vijayakumar, MBA student 2017-18 at University of Oxford, Saïd Business School, Katie-Coral Sicora, MBA student 2017-18 at University of Oxford, Saïd Business School, Taten-da Nyamuda, MBA student 2017-18 at University of Oxford, Saïd Business School, Jane Heywood, Operations Manager at Career Development Centre, Saïd Business School, and Dr Marc Ventresca, Fellow & University Lecturer at University of Oxford



(L to R) Christopher Gaunt, Chairman of British Chamber of Commerce in Turkey, Elizabeth Filippouli, GTF Founder & CEO, with Gülten Süzer Gaunt



Derek Wyatt, Founder & Chair of the Brain Campaign



(L to R) Dr. Martyn Newman, Clinical Psychologist & Managing Director of RocheMartin, Suzy Turkovic, Frederic Hofmann, Managing Director of ING Ventures, Carrie Fermann-Smith, SVP, Strategy & Business Development at Sony Pictures Entertainment, Irina Pasechnik, Founder of Wine Advisory, Elizabeth Filippouli, GTF Founder & CEO, Edouard Fernandez, Director of Zebulon Holdings Limited, Luciana Mende, and Maria Raga, CEO of Depop



(L to R) The Rt. Hon. the Lord Alderdice, Chairman, The Centre for Democracy & Peace Building, with Stephen Cole, Chairman of Institute of Diplomacy & Business



Michael E. Economakis,
Executive Vice Chairman &
CEO of A.G. Leventis Group (Nig) Plc

John Stapleton,
Award Winning Journalist &
Master of Ceremony

(L to R) Pantelis Dimitriou, Managing Director of Iliaktida AMKE, The Rt. Hon. Tobias Ellwood MP, UK Minister for Defence People & Veterans, Awesta Telyar Azada, Freelance Multimedia Journalist at Free Women Writers, Dr. Judi Aubel, Co-founder & Executive Director of Grandmother Project – Change through Culture (GMP), Elizabeth Filippouli, GTF Founder & CEO, Bhai Sahib Bhai Mohinder Singh, OBE KSG, Chairman of Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha (GNNSJ), Dr. Radha Basu, Founder & CEO of iMerit, and Christopher Gaunt, Chairman of British Chamber of Commerce in Turkey

Geraldine Sharpe-Newton,
Senior Communications
Advisor, and Dr. Radha Basu,
Founder & CEO of iMerit



Ljubo Grujic, General Manager Europe for New Growth and Stills Platforms of Coca-Cola, and Christopher Gaunt, Chairman of British Chamber of Commerce in Turkey



Geraldine Sharpe-Newton, Senior Communications Advisor, Stephen Cole, Chairman of Institute of Diplomacy & Business, Elizabeth Filippouli, GTF Founder & CEO, and Patrick Fleming, Director of Development of British Library

The Rt. Hon. Tobias Ellwood MP, UK Minister for Defence People & Veterans, and Sharon Schweitzer, J.D., Cross-Cultural Consultant & Founder of Access to Culture



Rebecca S. Hage Thomley, CEO of Orion Associates, and Pantelis Dimitriou, Managing Director of Iliaktida AMKE



(L to R) Patrick Fleming, Director of Development of British Library, and Awesta Telyar Azada, Freelance Multi-media Journalist at Free Women Writers



Sharon Schweitzer, J.D., Cross-Cultural Consultant & Founder of Access to Culture, and Dr. Judi Aubel, Co-founder & Executive Director of Grandmother Project - Change through Culture (GMP)



(L to R) Lebogang Chaka, CEO of Afro Visionary Legacy, The Rt. Hon. Tobias Ellwood MP, UK Minister for Defence People & Veterans, and Akinwale Omoboriowo II, Chairman & CEO of Genesis Energy Holdings



(L to R) Gareth Quinn, Founder & Managing Director of Digital DNA, Elizabeth Filippouli, GTF Founder & CEO, and Eva Grosman, CEO of the Centre for Democracy & Peace Building

June 2017



Digital DNA is a leading business and technology event held annually in Belfast, Northern Ireland since 2013.

Acknowledging the constant growth in the use of internet and technology as communication and collaboration tools, GTF hosted a timely and exciting discussion on 'Collaboration & Positive Change: The Impact of Technology'. The panel was chaired by Stephen Cole, GTF Board Member and featured: Marc Ventresca, Lecturer University of Oxford; Elizabeth Filippouli, GTF Founder & CEO; Susan Foley Rocco, Founder Women to Watch™ Media; and Eva Grosman, CEO Centre for Democracy & Peace Building. On the same day, Elizabeth Filippouli took the main stage to keynote and open Digital DNA.

GTF SOCIETY LUNCHEON

July 2017



GTF hosted a Luncheon, featuring The Rt. Hon. Tobias Ellwood MP, UK Minister for Defence as guest of honour. The discussion focused on Brexit-related challenges and opportunities for the UK

GTF SOCIETY – 5TH GTF ANNIVERSARY

September 2017



In celebration of the GTF 5th Anniversary, we brought together Members of the GTF network in a special private dinner in New York. Guests had the opportunity to network and discuss ongoing and future GTF initiatives as well as contribute ideas on how to support gender equality and women's empowerment across different industries.

GTF AGORA SESSION - "THE 'ETHICAL' SIDE OF DIGITAL CURRENCIES"

September 2017

The Global Thinkers Forum inaugurated its remote informational sessions, to be offered exclusively to our Board, Partners and Individual Members.

The first Agora session took place on September 28, and discussed the reality of the new digital currencies or 'crypto-currencies'. It featured two global experts, Dr Garrick Hileman, Research Fellow at the Cambridge Centre for Alternative Finance and Researcher at the Centre for Macroeconomics, and Jon Matonis, Vice President of Corporate Strategy for nChain Holdings. The moderator of this first session was Geoffrey Goodell.

GLOBAL THINKERS MENTORS PROGRAMMES



The Global Thinkers Mentors programmes aim to cultivate excellence in leadership, support youth development and empower women.

The programmes pair high level mentors with promising mentees from across the globe.

The 2017 cycle of our **“Telemachus”** mentoring programme for youth welcomed **50 mentees and mentors from over 20 countries** from around the world. From Cameroon to Afghanistan, from Colombia to Finland, and from India to Canada: we are proud of the reach of this rapidly-growing GTF initiative.

“Athena”, our international mentoring programme for women, officially launched in March 2017, with **11 mentors and 11 mentees from 15 countries and 4 continents.**





HELEN ALDERSON

Head of Mission,
International Committee
of the Red Cross Mission
in the United Kingdom and
Ireland

*"It is really about
thinking what kind of
world we are in today,
what are the ways
that each one can
make a difference."*



ANJUM MALIK

Managing Partner, Alhambra
U.S. Chamber

*"This has been a
wonderful year with
the Global Thinkers
Mentors and I've truly
enjoyed this mentoring
process."*



AMIN NEHME

President, Lebanese
Development Network (LDN)

*"For mentors it has
created a special hori-
zon for networking
and exchange; how-
ever, for mentees, it is
a special platform to
learn, to grow and to
get developed."*



SOUAD TALSI MBE

Founder, Al-Hasaniya
Moroccan Women Centre

*"Mentoring Ponelo
has been a pleasure
and having said that,
I am more than happy
to be part of the team
again for the next
programme."*



ATTIYA MAHMOOD

Pakistani Diplomat

*"I enjoyed being useful
to an individual, whom
I got to know through
GTF. It has been a very
enriching experience for
me to correspond with
my mentee and guide
her in what I considered
could be the best
options available
to her."*

OUR MENTEEΣ SAY:



"Where else would I have gained such helpful knowledge and a new perspective of life if not through the Global Thinkers Forum? I have passed a milestone in my career."

ACHINGALE QUEEN ANYIFUET (27) | Cameroon | Telemachus 2017



"My Global Thinkers Forum mentor was an invaluable source of guidance."

ALICE PEASE (25) | UK | Telemachus 2017



"My GTF mentor has taught me the value of being focused and relentless in pursuing my passion while pouring into others."

WILLIAM LEVERETT (27) | USA | Telemachus 2017



"I have learned from my GTF mentor how to empower myself as a young entrepreneur."

LINA RENGIFO (28) | COLOMBIA | Telemachus 2017



"I am very pleased and honoured to have been accepted at the mentorship programme at the Global Thinkers Forum."

MAHA AL SHUHAIL (38) | JORDAN | Athena 2017



"I'm so happy that I had the opportunity to be part of this programme."

YASMEEN SMADI (32) | KUWAIT/ JORDAN | Athena 2017



"I wanted to thank you for all what you have done for me through my mentor. I'm still moving on forward and doing my best to develop my business and leadership. It will take time but the success is certainly under process and I'm well-prepared thanks to all of GTF team."

CAROL WARD SARRAF (49) | FRANCE/ LEBANON | Athena 2017



"It has been a wonderful opportunity for me to expand my experience, gain knowledge, and know my mentor. It was really my pleasure and honour to be among GTM members."

ANAN MAGDY SHENDY (28) | EGYPT | Telemachus 2017

OUR MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES & INITIATIVES

HE REEM ABDEL RAHIM BINKARAM

Director, NAMA Women Advancement Establishment

NAMA Women Advancement Establishment organised the Women's Economic Empowerment Global Summit on December 4-5, 2017 at the Expo Centre Sharjah. An ultra-high-profile global event underlined NAMA's commitment to promoting women's status economically and professionally, and expanding their involvement in all walks of life on an equal footing with their male counterparts.

The first edition of WEEGS was held under the patronage of H.H. Dr. Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah, and his wife, Sheikha Jawaher bint Mohammed Al Qasimi, Chairperson of NAMA Women Advancement Establishment and Honourary Patron for Global Women's Inclusion, to achieve the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015.



AKINWOLE OMOBORIOWO II

Chairman & CEO, Genesis Energy Holdings

Akinwale Omoboriowo II joined the Nor-Shipping Conference held in Oslo, Norway.

Mr. Omoboriowo's speech under the theme "Renewable Energy in Africa – Epidemic Scale Possibilities", focused on the current challenges faced, what can be done better, the various opportunities available and how Africa is facing the energy shift.

The Nor-Shipping conference is a leading maritime event week in the Nordic region.





HAITHAM MATTAR

CEO, Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority

In 2017 Haitham Mattar was selected as the new Middle East representative for the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) affiliate members board.

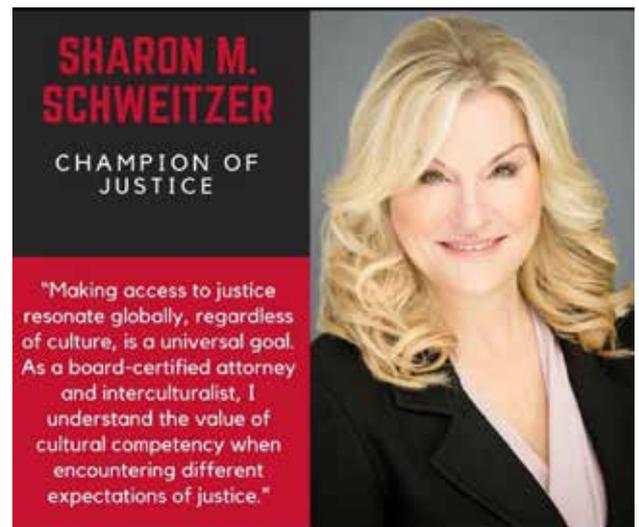
The board appointment closely followed Mattar's 'Tourism Promotion CEO of the Year' achievement at the UK'S Global CEO Excellence Awards 2017, which recognise the outstanding effort and hard work of key captains of industry globally.

SHARON SCHWEITZER JD

Cross-Cultural Consultant, International Protocol Expert, Access to Culture

Sharon Schweitzer was invited to join the Champion of Justice Society by Texas Access to Justice Commission.

The Commission, created by the Supreme Court of Texas in 2001, is charged with developing and implementing initiatives designed to expand access to, and enhance the quality of, justice in civil legal matters for low-income Texans.



LILI HALL

Founder & CEO, KNOCK, inc.

Lili was featured in the Achieve! Awards, honouring outstanding women who are making a difference in business.

The awards were organised by the Minnesota Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO-MN) on December 7.

HRH PRINCESS SUMAYA BINT EL HASSAN

President, The Royal Scientific Society



In October 2017, Her Royal Highness Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan was officially designated as UNESCO's Special Envoy for Science for Peace at a ceremony at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. The honour was bestowed by Mme Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, in recognition of HRH's tireless advocacy for Science as a catalyst for change in Jordan and the wider Middle East. In honouring Princess Sumaya, Mme Bokova emphasised the Princess's commitment to promoting science among young people in the region.

On receiving the designation, HRH Princess Sumaya said that her belief in the power of science was driven by a desire to draw together our collective human intelligence so that acute economic, social and environmental challenges could be tackled in a creative and unified manner.

MICHAEL E. ECONOMAKIS

Executive Vice Chairman & CEO, A.G. Leventis Group (Nig.) Plc

Michael gave awards to young students who won the 2017 cash prize for the successful completion of the annual A.G. Leventis quiz competition for young students, in Lagos Nigeria.



MOHAMED AMERSI

Founder and Chairman, The Amersi Foundation

In June 2017, the Amersi Foundation signed the joint declaration of Religious Leaders against Modern Slavery that took place in Malta. In the photo: Bishop Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo, Chancellor of the Pontifical Academies of Sciences and Social Sciences, Her Excellency Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta and current President of the EU Commission, and Mohamed Amersi, Founder of The Amersi Foundation.



NIKOS KOUMETTIS

President, Coca-Cola Central & Eastern Europe BU

On September 9, the FIFA World Cup Trophy Tour™ by Coca-Cola was launched at the Luzhniki stadium in Moscow. For the first time in the history of the Coca-Cola system in Russia, the president took part in, and officially launched, the event. The kick-off attracted much media attention, with over 200 Russian and international media representatives there. Before his formal presentation on stage, Nikos Koumettis, President of The Coca-Cola Company in Central and Eastern Europe, met FIFA legends and a number of top-tier federal stakeholders. “With the FIFA World Cup Trophy Tour by Coca-Cola, we’re aiming to enable fans to create more memorable experiences across Russia and throughout the world”, said Nikos Koumettis, addressing the audience.



(L to R) DAVID TREZEGUET, 1998 FWC winner with France, NIKOS KOUMETTIS, President, Coca-Cola Central & Eastern Europe BU and BEBETO, 1994 FWC winner with Brazil

DR. REBECCA THOMLEY

Founder, Headwaters Relief Organization - CEO, Orion Associates

Headwaters Relief Organization’s national and international volunteers have contributed their time and energy throughout this very busy year. In early 2017, they assisted in Tennessee following the wildfires, and in Arkansas and Wisconsin in response to flooding events. Their operations in 2017 included clean-up, debris removal and drywall removal in Texas and Florida following Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Their mental health team provided psychosocial support and training in Puerto Rico and Jordan. They also worked in Greece in the refugee camps to provide medical coordination and mental health support as well as training to the camp medical professionals. They distributed their Ebola children’s book, *When the Great Sickness Came*, worked with survivors of Ebola and provided education and training to those working in the field in Liberia and Sierra Leone in partnership with the Healy International Relief Foundation and Caritas-Freetown.





JANA COHEN BARBE

Partner and former Global Vice Chair, Dentons

Dentons Real Estate partner and former Global Vice Chair Jana Cohen Barbe received a 2017 Executive Impact Award from Linkage's Women in Leadership. Barbe was honoured during a panel event in Dallas, where she and fellow recipients discussed finding inspiration, the importance of authenticity, overcoming fears, growing from mistakes, the challenges women must overcome and advice for the leaders of tomorrow.

HAIFA FAHOUM AL KAYLANI

Founder Chairman, Arab International Women's Forum

Mrs. Haifa Fahoum Al Kaylani, Founder and Chairman of the Arab International Women's Forum, Fellow at Harvard Advanced Leadership Initiative 2017 and GTF Board Member, presented her Harvard project at a special ceremony in Cambridge.

The project "PLOUGHING New GROUND: Sustainable Agriculture in the Mena Region - Jordan Project" is addressing water and food security in the Mena Region.



SALIM AMIN

Chairman, Camerapix

A documentary titled The Sound Man, in which veteran Kenyan sound engineer Abdul Rahman Ramadhan recounts his extraordinary and often heart-breaking journalism career covering crisis zones throughout East Africa, won the Best Documentary Award at the 2017 Kalasha International Film and TV Awards in Nairobi on December 9.

On accepting the Kalasha Award at the awards ceremony, Camerapix Chairman Salim Amin, paid tribute to Ramadhan's courage and bravery, "Abdul has been a part of the Camerapix family for close to four decades and has risked his life numerous times to tell some the biggest stories on the African continent," Amin said.

GTF 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

SAID BUSINESS SCHOOL AT THE WORLD GOVERNMENT SUMMIT 2017

February 2017



The 5th World Government Summit took place in Dubai in 2017 under the patronage of HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum.

GTF Founder and CEO Elizabeth Filippouli, also SBS alumna, attended the Summit as part of a select delegation representing Saïd Business School, contributing thoughts and experience to this global discussion as to how governments of the future will need to operate to serve our transforming societies efficiently.

GTF AT THE PRINCE'S TRUST INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT FOR YOUTH

March 2017

HRH the Prince of Wales and Prince's Trust International last March welcomed some 80 young people from around the world for the PT's International Leadership Programme Summit. The participants were selected from over 7,000 who applied. Global Thinkers Forum is honoured to have partnered with the Prince's Trust International and to support these programmes in different countries.



GLOBAL THINKERS FORUM AT BATH SPA UNIVERSITY

March 2017



Human Networks and System Building in a Globalised World' was GTF Founder, Elizabeth Filippouli's lecture at Bath Spa University. Elizabeth shared insights and learnings from her career journey and talked about the creation and international growth of Global Thinkers Forum.

GTF SUPPORTING THE EUROMED MEDIA NETWORK

September 2017

The EMMN has its origins in a series of meetings of EuroMed media professionals convened by the EU in 2005.

Over the intervening years, some 600+ media practitioners have examined key aspects of the media landscape and pressing social, economic and political issues in the EuroMed region.

Today EMMN brings information and analysis for media professionals and opportunities for those with interests in its work. GTF supports this initiative, taking it under its wings and facilitating collaboration with Anna Lindh Foundation to provide GTF's expertise coupled with EMMN's media network in fostering understanding between Media, CSO's and international institutions in the Mediterranean region.

GTF AT INC. WOMEN'S SUMMIT

September 2017



Inc. Women's Summit in New York is a gathering of some of the most influential female entrepreneurs, world changers, and company builders. GTF Founder and CEO, Elizabeth Filippouli had the opportunity to meet and discuss with some of the most successful entrepreneurs around, share successes and build relationships with fellow trailblazers, such as Spanx's Founder Sarah Blakely.

GTF'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES' ATHENS DEMOCRACY FORUM

September 2017

GTF partnered for a third year with the New York Times Athens Democracy Forum, which convened an impressive array of speakers to explore democracy in today's challenging world. Endorsed by United Nations Secretary General António Guterres, the Forum featured in Athens influential global leaders dedicated to the idea of preserving and developing democracy.

GTF AT TEDxSTORMONT

November 2017



"Nous is the bridge between the soul, the heart and the intellect" explained Elizabeth Filippouli, GTF Founder & CEO, during her TED talk on 'Bridges of the Mind' at TEDxStormont. Elizabeth spoke about the eternal clash between emotion and reason, humanism, philosophy and mindsets. TEDxStormont is organised and curated by Eva Grosman, CEO of the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building.

GTF AT THE BLUE HEART DINNER UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HM QUEEN NOOR

November 2017



On November 9, GTF attended the Blue Heart Dinner held under the Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, Partner of The Ocean Elders in support of the world's most important asset: The Blue Heart of our Planet. With a focus on protecting, valuing and celebrating the oceans, the seas and their wildlife, this special aquatic-themed event accentuated the need to preserve this vital ecosystem for a sustainable future.

GTF AT THE WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT GLOBAL SUMMIT IN SHARJAH

December 2017

The first Women's Economic Empowerment Global Summit (WEEGS 2017) took place in Sharjah on December 4 & 5, 2017 under the auspices of our partner organisation, NAMA Women's Advancement Establishment (NAMA).

In the context of the Summit, GTF Founder & CEO, Elizabeth Filippouli, gave a power talk on 'Planting Seeds of Inspiration', urging women to embrace the challenges of their life as a chance for self-improvement.

Twenty government and private organisations made a pledge to the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs), among them the Global Thinkers Forum.





GTF attended the Flag Island Dinner on December 4. During the dinner, UN Women and NAMA Women Advancement Establishment gathered with partners to mark the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence in UAE. On this occasion, Sharjah's iconic Flag Island was lit in orange and artists and activists raised awareness about the issue, also urging men to step up their action to prevent and, if needed, report violence against women and girls.

2017 PARTNERSHIPS

GTF SUSTAINING PARTNER



مؤسسة نساء للارتقاء بالمرأة
NAMA WOMEN ADVANCEMENT ESTABLISHMENT

NAMA WOMEN ADVANCEMENT ESTABLISHMENT

Established by His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammad Al Qasimi, Member of the UAE Supreme Council and Ruler of Sharjah. NAMA is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Jawaher bint Mohammed Al Qasimi, Wife of His Highness the Ruler of Sharjah. NAMA's core philosophy is to raise awareness that women are an indispensable human resource for the development of every nation. NAMA was conceived to go beyond the remit of supporting women and ensuring gender equality

to a broader scope that aims to see women become influential key members of society, thereby enabling them to climb the ladder of success.

NAMA encourages policies and legislation to support women. It actively pursues programmes that support gender integration into all sectors and help abolish unjust practices and policies that discriminate against the advancement of women.

Its five affiliates, Sharjah Business Women Council, Irthi Contemporary Crafts Council, NAMA Fund, Badiri Education and Development, and Souq Anwan, fall under the umbrella of NAMA Women Advancement Establishment.

For more information, please visit: namawomen.ae

SAÏD BUSINESS SCHOOL

Saïd Business School at Oxford University blends the best of new and old. It is a young, vibrant, and innovative business school deeply embedded in an 800 year-old world-class university. It delivers cutting-edge education and ground-breaking research that transforms individuals, organisations, business practice, and society. It seeks to be a world-class business school community, embedded in a world-class university, tackling world-scale problems.



ROYAL SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY OF JORDAN

Born out of the great hearts and spirit of His Majesty the Late King Hussein and HRH Prince Hassan in 1970, the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) has, since day one, aimed high to be the local and regional reference point of knowledge for science and technology, using modern engineering research as a base to power economic development and social progress. HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan serves as the President of the Royal Scientific Society and is widely recognized for her work in promoting various scientific endeavours at local and international levels.



الجمعية العلمية الملكية
Royal Scientific Society

BRITISH LIBRARY

The British Library was formally opened by HM The Queen in June 1998. Since then it has become firmly established as a major addition to London's library, intellectual and cultural scene. GTF hosted its annual Awards for Excellence Gala in the British Library in 2017.



WORLD SCIENCE FORUM (WSF) 2017 JORDAN

Held every two years, the WSF aims to provide a unique global platform for fruitful dialogue on new emerging issues affecting science, policy and society. It brings together scientists, policymakers, industry, representatives of civil society and the media to set out the common tasks ahead in tackling these issues. In 2017, the event was organised by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and held under the patronage of His Majesty King Abdullah.



WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT GLOBAL SUMMIT (WEEGS)

The Summit, held every two years, focuses on women's achievements in various economic sectors, gives women access to the market and emerging economic sectors, and provides a platform to share best practices and commitment to action to creating and enabling an economy for women.



DIGITAL DNA

Digital DNA is a leading business and technology event held annually in Belfast, Northern Ireland since 2013. It aims to give businesses the skills, knowledge and understanding to implement digital technology into their operations. Digital DNA does this by showcasing digital leaders and what actions they have taken to help them grow and engage with their audience.



ATHENS DEMOCRACY FORUM

The Athens Democracy Forum explores the state of liberal democracy across the world. The event features diplomats, scholars, corporate executives, politicians and intellectuals from around the world.



WOVEN INK

Woven Ink is an independent visual minute and animation studio, existing to help people and organisations tell their stories in compelling and beautiful ways.



HEADWATERS RELIEF ORGANIZATION

Headwaters Relief Organization is a disaster relief collaboration of volunteers that supports the emotional and housing needs of families and communities ravaged by disaster. Since the organization's inception, Headwaters Relief volunteers have provided disaster relief across Minnesota, throughout the United States and around the world, including the Philippines, Haiti, New Orleans, and many other areas affected by disaster. Headwaters Relief's mission is to react with agility and compassion when disasters strike.



WOMEN TO WATCH™ MEDIA

Women to Watch™ Media, LLC is a multi-media platform spotlighting women leaders globally. Its mission is "To inspire and encourage more women to pursue leadership roles worldwide." Through a live weekly radio show, digital platform and podcast, Women to Watch hosts intimate one-on-one interviews with female CEO's, thought leaders and entrepreneurs to share the real story behind the name.



LEBANESE DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

The Lebanese Development Network (LDN), a national non-profit organisation dedicated to assisting individuals, communities and institutions to build their capacities. LDN's vision is to be recognized as a pioneer organization in the creation of a productive social environment.



CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY AND PEACE BUILDING

The purpose of the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building is to uphold and share the values and principles of democracy in order to build peace, stability and reconciliation. Its vision is to remove fear from, and offer hope to, divided communities and to create a society with a shared sense of responsibility, opportunity, community and, above all, a shared sense of humanity, based on respect for and tolerance of diversity.



ALLIANCE MAGAZINE

Alliance magazine is the leading magazine for philanthropy and social investment worldwide. Since 1996 it has provided news and analysis of what is happening in the philanthropy and social investment sectors across the world. It also acts as a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences among practitioners.



GTF ADVISORY BOARD 2017



The Rt. Hon. the Lord Alderdice
Chairman, The Centre for Democracy
& Peace Building, Belfast

As Leader of the Alliance Party of Northern Ireland, Lord Alderdice played a significant role in the Talks on Northern Ireland including negotiation of the 1998 Good Friday Agreement. He was the first Speaker of the new Northern Ireland Assembly and on retirement in 2004 was appointed to the Independent Monitoring Commission, tasked with closing down terrorist operations and overseeing normalization of security in Northern Ireland.



Greg Beitchman
Vice President , CNN International

Greg Beitchman is VP Content Sales and Partnerships, CNN International. In this capacity, he is responsible for overseeing and developing the network's content sales business internationally, with a focus on leveraging its broadcast and digital assets.



Mrs Haifa Fahoum Al Kaylani
Founder Chairman, Arab International
Women's Forum, Fellow, Harvard
Advanced Leadership Initiative 2017

Mrs Haifa Fahoum Al Kaylani, Founder Chairman, Arab International Women's Forum is well known in international government and business circles as a high-impact change agent focusing on leadership in cultural and gender issues. In January 2017, Haifa was invited to become a Fellow of the Advanced Leadership Initiative at Harvard University to join 45 global leaders for an intensive, multi-disciplinary year long Fellowship to address significant social problems.



Mohamed Amersi
Founder & Chairman,
Amersi Foundation

Mohamed Amersi is actively engaged in the full spectrum of activities ranging from for-profit, responsible-profit and non-profit. He is the Founder & CEO of Emergent Telecom Ventures, an entrepreneurial Emerging Markets Consulting, Advisory and Asset Management firm specialising in Telecoms, Media & Technology. The nonprofit activities are directed through The Amersi Foundation, which actively supports causes and charities in Education, Poverty, Conflict and Religion in Africa, Middle East and Asia.



Sir Dirk Brossé
Music Director, The Chamber Orchestra
of Philadelphia

Sir Dirk Brossé is a multi-faceted composer and a respected conductor on the international music scene. He is currently Music Director of 'The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia', Music Director of the Filmfestival Ghent and Music Director and Principal Conductor of the 'Star Wars in Concert World Tour'.



Reem N. Bsaiso
Founder & Managing Partner, Global
Outreach/ Consultant

Reem is a Senior Consultant specializing in knowledge economy policies and public reform; her focus is on merging ICT in Education and national training schemes, working with international agencies on ICT in Education in the MENA region, such as World Bank, UNESCO and EU Investment Bank.



Victoria A. Budson

Executive Director, WAPPP Harvard
Kennedy School

Victoria A. Budson is a founder and the Executive Director of the Women and Public Policy Program (WAPPP) at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. WAPPP is the preeminent institution for advancing interdisciplinary research on approaches to closing gender gaps, educating students and leaders on gender policy, and implementing policy changes at local, state, and national levels.



Maxime Chaya

Corporate Ambassador, Sportsman
& Climber

Lebanon's foremost sportsman and climber, Maxime Chaya was the first person from his home country to hoist its flag atop Everest. He did so at the climax of his challenge to ascend the highest mountain on every continent – the Seven Summits – while also skiing to the North and South Poles.



Jana Cohen Barbe

Partner & former Global Vice Chair,
Dentons

Jana Cohen Barbe is a Partner and the former Global Vice Chair of Dentons, the largest law firm in the world. Since its inception, Jana has been integrally involved in the development and implementation of a strategic vision that created a top-tier global legal business with 149 locations in 61 countries.



Michael E. Economakis

Executive Vice Chairman & CEO, A.G.
Leventis Group (Nig.) Plc

Michael E. Economakis started his career in Coca-Cola Hellenic the 2nd biggest bottler of The Coca-Cola Company in the world, operating in 28 countries. Over the first years he worked in Sales, holding a variety of Sales Field and Commercial positions. He is currently Executive Vice Chairman and CEO of A.G. Leventis Group (Nig.) Plc a listed Conglomerate with operations in Automotive, Logistics, Food, Real Estate, Retail.



*HRH Princess Sumaya bint
El Hassan of Jordan*

President, The Royal Scientific Society

Her Royal Highness Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan is President of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Princess Sumaya University for Technology (PSUT). The Princess is the Chair of the World Science Forum 2017, which was held in Jordan, she is also Director and Chair of the National Campaign for Public Awareness of the Drivers of Change.



Elizabeth Filippouli

Founder & CEO, Global Thinkers
& Global Thinkers Forum

In 2016, Elizabeth was named among Oxford University's Said Business School's 42 top graduate entrepreneurs. In 2015, Filippouli and Global Thinkers Forum launched an international mentoring programme, Global Thinkers Mentors, pairing youth and women from all over the world with accomplished individuals. Elizabeth's background is in journalism.



Lili Hall

Founder & CEO, KNOCK, inc

Lili Hall is founder & CEO of KNOCK, inc, leading with acute insight into brand development on a global scale. She founded KNOCK in 2001 with a commitment to impeccable client service and nimble response to new opportunities. In conjunction with two sister companies—TREAT & COMPANY and Neighbor—Hall’s teams create impactful, effective work for national and international brands.



Dr Roger Hayes

Senior Counsellor, APCO worldwide

Dr. Roger Hayes (FCIPR, Member Emeritus IPRA) is a leading international public relations and public affairs professional with 30 years experience in trade associations, corporations and consultancies and has also advised governments.



Gary Horsley

Strategic Communications Consultant

For more than 30 years Gary has been a consultant on international communications issues, helping to shape strategies that reach out to client audiences, markets and partners across the globe.



Roya Mahboob

Founder & CEO, Digital Citizen Fund

Roya Mahboob is a serial entrepreneur President and co-Founder of Citadel Software Company, EdyEdy, DeFelora. She is also CEO of the Digital Citizen Fund, a non-profit organization focused on #DigitalLiteracy to empower women and children in developing countries. Roya is famous as a leader for being among the first female tech CEOs in Afghanistan, being among the time 100 most influential people in the world for 2013 by TIME magazine.



Haitham Mattar

CEO, Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority

Haitham Mattar, CEO of the Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority, was appointed in May 2015 to drive the economic growth of Ras Al Khaimah by positioning the Emirate as a world-class destination for business and leisure tourism. With over 25 years of experience in global destination and hospitality management and marketing, Mattar has held senior roles with leading global brands including Marriott, InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG), and most recently Hilton Worldwide.



HRH Queen Sylvia Nagginda Luswata

Buganda Kingdom, Uganda, Founder & Patron, Nnabagereka Development Foundation

Her Royal Highness the Nnabagereka Sylvia Nagginda is the wife of the King of Buganda, King Ronald Muwenda Mutebi II. Her Royal Highness is the first Nnabagereka (Queen) in the history of the Buganda Kingdom to set up a fully-fledged Office, a very crucial phenomenon that has greatly complemented the ongoing development work in the Kingdom and in Uganda at large.



Femi Oke

Senior Journalist, Al Jazeera English

Femi Oke is an international journalist, broadcaster and moderator. She is currently based in Washington, D.C., where she hosts the interactive current affairs show “The Stream” for Al Jazeera English. Oke’s reporting has been recognised by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Communications Agency, InterAction and the Radio and Television Academy of Uganda.



Akinwale Omoboriowo II

Chairman & CEO, Genesis Energy Holdings

Akinwale Omoboriowo II (AOII) is a 1993 graduate of Economics from University of Jos, Alumni of the London Business School, from where he acquired specialist training in Electricity Pricing & Modelling course in 2006, and a 2011 Post-Graduate Diploma Alumni in Strategy & Innovation from the Prestigious Oxford University’s SAID Business School, U.K. AOII has over 20 years of experience in the Oil & Gas and Power Sectors in Africa.



HRH Prince Pavlos

Crown Prince of Greece, Prince to Denmark (Chairman)

Crown Prince Pavlos is an investment consultant, being co-founder of numerous investment groups including Brigantine, Ortelius Capital Partners, Ivory Capital Group and Griphon Asset Management.



Saskia Sassen

Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology & Co-Chair, The Committee on Global Thought, Columbia University

Saskia Sassen is the Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology and Co-Chair, The Committee on Global Thought, Columbia University (www.saskiasassen.com). Her recent books are *Territory, Authority, Rights: From Medieval to Global Assemblages* (Princeton University Press 2008), *A Sociology of Globalization* (W.W.Norton 2007), and the 4th fully updated edition of *Cities in a World Economy* (Sage 2011).



Sharon Schweitzer, J.D

Cross-Cultural Consultant, International Protocol Expert, Access to Culture

Sharon Schweitzer is a cross-cultural trainer, international business etiquette expert, award-winning author, and the founder of Access to Culture. As a third culture kid, she has lived, studied, worked, and travelled to more than 70 countries on 7 continents. Along with tenures at renowned Austin and Dallas-based law firms, she served several years as an assistant attorney general. Sharon has a depth of experience assisting clientele from Fortune 500 companies to start-up firms.



Elif Shafak

Author, Columnist, Speaker & Academic

Elif Shafak is an award-winning novelist and the most widely read female writer in Turkey. She is also a political commentator and an inspirational public speaker. She writes in both Turkish and English, and has published 15 books, 10 of which are novels, including the best-selling *The Bastard of Istanbul*, *The Forty Rules of Love* and her most recent, *Three Daughters of Eve*. Her books have been published in 48 languages.



Geraldine Sharpe-Newton
Senior Communications Advisor

As a Public Relations Executive, Journalist and TV Producer, on both sides of the Atlantic, Geraldine Sharpe-Newton has worked at the heart of media relations and corporate communications for more than three decades. She has been head of communications for three of the world's major news organisations, CBS News in the US, ITN in the UK and CNN International.



Muna AbuSulayman
Partner, Directions Consulting

Muna AbuSulayman is continuously chosen as one of the Most Influential Arabs in the World in various publications due to a unique and diverse cross-sector 20 year work experience. Internationally recognized as an expert in Management, education, Sustainable Development, Female Empowerment, she has spoken at the World Economic Forum, UN, and The World Bank on Development, using innovation to alleviate poverty, Gender, and building communities.



Marc Ventresca
Fellow & University Lecturer,
University of Oxford

Dr. Marc Ventresca is an organisational and economic sociologist who teaches strategy, leadership and organisation theory at Said Business School with a focus on innovation and on how new markets get built.



Derek Wyatt
Founder & Chair, The Brain Campaign

Derek is just stepping down as Chair of Royal Trinity Hospice, the oldest hospice in the world, after nearly seven years at the helm. He is chair of FISP, a think tank which examines how our digital world will look after 2020 and chair of the Major Stanley's Trust at Oxford University RFC.

GTF GLOBAL GROWTH PARTNERS 2017



Salim Amin
Chairman, Camerapix

Salim Amin is Chairman of Camerapix, founder and Chairman of The Mohamed Amin Foundation and co-founder and Chairman of A24 Media. As Executive Producer and Presenter, Salim finished a documentary chronicling his father's life in March 2006 entitled "MO & ME" which has to date won ten Awards for Best Documentary in the United States, Canada, India and on the African Continent, including the Grand Jury Award at the New York International Film Festival.



Deema Bibi
CEO, Injaz

Deema Bibi is currently the CEO of INJAZ, a non-profit organization established in 2001 with a mission to inspire and prepare youth to become productive members of their society and accelerate the development of the national economy.



Stephen Cole

Chairman, Institute of Diplomacy
& Business

Stephen Cole is one of the most experienced and versatile faces of International Television News. He has anchored 24-hour news since 1989 from the studio and from some of the world's major trouble spots.



Robert Davidson

President, Arundel Consulting Inc

Robert is the President of Arundel Consulting Inc. Arundel Consulting develops business and tax strategies, marketing and communications for entrepreneurs with international ambitions.



Susan Foley Rocco

Founder, Producer & Host, Women
to Watch™ Media, LLC

Susan Foley Rocco is Founder, Producer and Host of Women to Watch™ Media, LLC – the premier global media platform for women leaders. With a long-standing, professional background in marketing, communications, sales and advertising, Susan quickly identified the need for a stand-alone multimedia platform to inspire and encourage women to pursue leadership roles worldwide.



Dr. Daniel Fung

Vice Chairman, Salzburg Global
Seminar

Daniel R. Fung, SBS, SC, QC, JP, is the first person of Chinese extraction who served as Solicitor General of Hong Kong (1994-8) under Chris Patten, the last Governor of the British Crown Colony of Hong Kong and the Honorable C H Tung, the first Chief Executive of the Hong Kong SAR, is a specialist in complex commercial litigation and in public law.



Christopher Gaunt

Chairman, British Chamber
of Commerce Turkey

Christopher Gaunt is a highly accomplished and respected businessman with invaluable international experience across a number of key business sectors. Having graduated in UK with a degree in Modern History, he began his career in 1973 in the Wine and Spirit Division of the Whitbread Brewery Group.



Valerie Keller

Global Leader, EY Beacon Institute/
Executive Director, Markets

Valerie Keller has deep expertise in leadership, purpose-driven transformation and innovation. She is global head of the EY Beacon Institute and an executive director of Ernst & Young LLP in its Global Markets group. As a former chief executive officer, she has established healthcare facilities, housing developments and social enterprises.



Nikos Koumettis

President, Coca-Cola Central
& Eastern Europe BU

Nikos Koumettis was appointed President, Central & Eastern Europe Business Unit of The Coca-Cola Company, based in Athens, effective August 1st, 2016. The Unit comprises 26 diverse countries, with new additions, Russia, Belarus & Ukraine.



Attiya Mahmood

Pakistani Diplomat

Attiya Mahmood has served as a Pakistani diplomat for over 35 years. Her credentials include Ambassadorial posts to the Kingdom of Morocco, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Republic of Indonesia. Most significantly, during her tenure in Jordan from 2010-13, she witnessed the transformative events unfolding in the region.



Hani Masri

President Tomorrow's Youth
Organization (TYO)

A long time advocate for Middle East peace and children's issues, Mr. Masri founded Tomorrow's Youth Organization. This non-profit organization provides programs in Technology (IT), Arts, Sports and Health for impoverished children aged 4-8, as well as social and economic development programs for women.



George Mavrelis

Senior Executive, Insurance,
Coach & Leadership Mentor

George Mavrelis is a senior business executive in Greek insurance industry since the 1990s, holding diversified positions in the Commercial and Operational sectors of Insurance Companies. George currently serves as an International Consultant in the Insurance Industry.



Dr. Rita Rakus

Aesthetic Medical Practitioner

Dr Rita Rakus MBBS FBCAM Cosmetic Doctor To The Stars – 'A' list of celebrity patients includes Amanda Holden, Karen Brady, Lisa Butcher and Annabelle Bond OBE.



David Rodin

Carnegie-Uehiro Senior Fellow,
Global Ethics Fellow

David Rodin is a leading authority on the ethics of war and conflict. He is a Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs in New York and Senior Research Fellow at the University of Oxford. His publications include War and Self-Defense (OUP 2002), which was awarded the American Philosophical Association Sharp Prize, articles in leading philosophy and law journals and a number of edited books.



Fernando Salvetti

Founder & Managing Partner, Logosnet

As an “edupreneur”, Fernando is a pioneer in the fields of immersive simulation, augmented and virtual reality, knowledge dissemination, communication of science and technology, international and cross-cultural communication, soft-skills development.



Lucian Sarb

Chief Content Officer, Euronews

Lucian Sarb serves as the Editorial Director and Member of the Board of the global news channel, Euronews. Since 2009 Lucian has been in charge with the editorial strategy of the most viewed news broadcaster in Europe, a multiplex of 24-hour news with 450 journalists from more than 35 different nationalities.



Souad Talsi MBE

Founder, Al-Hasaniya Moroccan Women Centre

Born in Morocco, Souad came to the UK as a young child and has lived and worked here in London ever since. As an active member of her local community, she saw the need for a centre to serve women of Arab origin and founded Al-Hasaniya Moroccan Women’s Centre.



Dr. Rebecca Thomley

CEO, Orion Associates - Founder, Headwaters Relief Organization

Dr. Rebecca Thomley is an entrepreneur and a licensed psychologist. She is the CEO of Orion Associates and its related companies. Orion Associates provides services for related and unrelated companies, including profit and non-profit organizations. Orion Associates has been recognized for the last three years as one of the top ten fastest growing woman-owned businesses nationally.



Achilles Tsaltas

Vice President International Conferences, The New York Times

With more than 26 years of experience in the media, Achilles Tsaltas is currently the Vice President of The New York Times’ successful International Conferences division based in London.



Alireza Zaimi

Executive Director, Public Investment Fund (PIF)

Alireza is an Executive Director, member of the Management Committee at the Public Investment Fund (PIF). Prior to joining PIF, Alireza was a Managing Director at Bank of America Merrill Lynch where he was head of the Asset Owners Group within the Equities Division of the firm in London. Alireza was previously a Managing Director at Goldman Sachs where he was co-head of the Corporate Equity Derivatives in Europe, Middle-East and Africa.

SPONSORS & PARTNERS



ABOUT THE GLOBAL THINKERS FORUM



The Global Thinkers Forum (GTF) is a global platform bringing together a diverse network of thought leaders and creating meaningful networking and conversations around global challenges and trends. GTF's mission focuses on three areas: fostering accountability in leadership, promoting women's empowerment and creating opportunities for young people to develop. GTF is also a bridge-builder, and an organisation that promotes public-private sector partnerships and opens conduits for collaboration and stakeholder engagement.

The Forum is London-based and was incubated at Oxford University's Saïd Business School in 2011. It has been created with the vision to help our societies and leaders navigate a very complex world.

GTF launched officially in 2012 in Amman (Jordan) under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah. We have since partnered with some of the world's top brands, organisations and foundations. It features a prestigious Advisory Board with thought leaders and decision makers from over 20 countries. The Global Thinkers Forum organises a wide range of activities including meetings, seminars, fora, roundtable discussions, workshops, networking events, and its not for profit initiatives such as the mentoring programmes and Awards for Excellence.

The Global Thinkers Forum network comprises pioneering minds and values-driven thought leaders who are passionate about creating a better world.

Our work has introduced an arena of open-mindedness, inspiration, collaboration and accountable leadership. Women have an influential role in this ecosystem, shaping a new reality for social progress and excellence. Our world needs women forerunners who can understand that collaboration is key for progress and sustainable development and will seek partnerships with unanticipated stakeholders. GTF invites like-minded individuals and organisations to partner and create Global Thinkers Forum events that advance and expand its initiatives, three-fold mission and nurture positive change in the world.

✉ info@globalthinkersforum.org



GLOBAL
THINKERS
FORUM

Accountable Leadership.
Women's Empowerment.
Youth Development.

Global Thinkers Forum
8, St James's Square
SW1Y 4JU London UK
globalthinkersforum.org
globalthinkersmentors.org
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