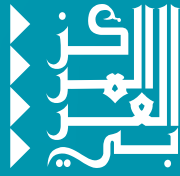


2022

# Activities Report



Arab Center Washington DC  
المركز العربي واشنطن دي سي



## OUR MISSION

# Bringing Arab Perspectives to US Policy Conversations since 2015

**INDEPENDENT RESEARCH • DIVERSE EXPERTISE • IMPACTFUL ANALYSIS**

Arab Center Washington DC (ACW) is a nonprofit, independent, and nonpartisan research organization dedicated to furthering the political, economic, and social understanding of the Arab world in the United States and to providing insight on US policies and interests in the Middle East. As a Washington-based, authoritative research center on the Arab world, ACW addresses fundamental aspects of US-Arab relations through timely and objective academic research, policy analysis, and educational exchange.

## OUR VALUES



Our work is guided by a strong belief in

a respect for  
**HUMAN RIGHTS AND  
CIVIL LIBERTIES**

the importance of  
**DEMOCRACY AND EFFECTIVE  
AND TRANSPARENT  
GOVERNANCE** in the Arab world

a just and peaceful  
**RESOLUTION TO  
CONFLICT**



# Dear Friends,

On behalf of my colleagues at Arab Center Washington DC, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all of you who have supported the center and interacted with us since our inception in 2015.

If you have read a policy paper, attended a public briefing, listened to a podcast episode, watched a video, attended a virtual event, or engaged with us on social media, you already know that ACW believes in the vital importance of democracy in the Arab world, respect for human rights and civil liberties, and a just and peaceful resolution to conflict. These values guide both our work as a policy research center and that of our many resident and non-resident contributors, to whom we are extremely grateful.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented formidable challenges and uncertainty over the past three years, but also new opportunities. With the dedication of ACW's team of creative and skilled staff and fellows and the support of our board members and constituents, we managed to quickly adjust and to utilize online platforms to expand our reach and impact. As an authoritative research center on the Arab world and US-Arab relations, ACW persisted in providing timely, nonpartisan, objective, and evidence-based academic research and policy analysis. It is our hope that you found our papers, events, videos, and podcasts informative and intellectually stimulating, and we trust that you will continue to follow and support our work in 2023 and beyond.

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of private and institutional donors who provide the funds necessary to attract and retain outstanding scholars and maintain our academically rigorous and independent research agenda. I hope that you will consider making a tax-deductible contribution to help us advance this critical work.

We look forward to your continued engagement with our activities in 2023.

Sincerely,



**Khalil E. Jahshan**  
*Executive Director*

*At Arab Center Washington DC, we are committed to providing timely, unparalleled, objective, and evidence-based policy analysis that is viewed by millions of people around the world."*



# YEAR IN REVIEW



## Expanding Areas of Research

In 2022, ACW expanded its areas of focus and identified new thematic priorities covering a range of emerging issues and threats facing the Middle East and North Africa, including climate change, cyber warfare, economic development, food security, and energy crises, while also providing a deep and nuanced understanding of the unique contexts and ever-evolving conditions shaping the region.

ACW continued to focus on producing quality analysis and research publications and expanding its diverse pool of experts who cover various issues pertaining to US foreign policy in the Middle East and contribute to shaping the global agenda and charting a path forward for the MENA region.

## Generating Innovative Policy Insights



## Addressing Challenges in the MENA Region

ACW maintained its excellent reputation for publishing independent, evidence-based research, organizing timely and engaging seminars to discuss the implications of recent developments, ensuring the inclusion of women experts and indigenous voices in all activities, and elevating voices from the Global South.

In 2022, ACW increased its global footprint by producing prompt and incisive analysis, by convening authoritative international experts, and by engaging with senior officials and civil society alike in order to aid decision-making in the United States and around the world and to inform policy choices that prioritize justice, democratic governance, and long-term sustainable development.

## Creating a Lasting Positive Impact





# Independent. Timely. Evidence-Based Research.



# 20060

Audiovisual Analyses

24 Public Seminars and Conferences

including:  
ACW Seventh Annual Conference, "Security and Securitization in the Middle East and North Africa"

Two-day conference, "The Conflict in Yemen: The Current Situation and Future Prospects"

Policy Analysis and Research Papers



*"In 2022, ACW's research department focused on diversifying the topics we cover, moving away from predominantly political and strategic issues toward a greater number of economic, social, and environmental concerns in the Middle East and North Africa, and also adding several experts from diverse backgrounds."*

**Imad K. Harb**  
Director of Research and Analysis

# Arab Perspectives. Inclusive Discussions. Diverse Expertise.

*"As US policy conversations have traditionally excluded both women and people from the Arab world, our policy at ACW is to ensure equal representation of women in our programs and to include contributions by experts from the region and by those of Middle Eastern background. In 2022, we continued to make this a priority, and were able to maintain a ratio of at least 50% women experts and 70% native scholars participating in ACW events."*



**Tamara Kharroub**  
Deputy Executive Director and Senior Fellow

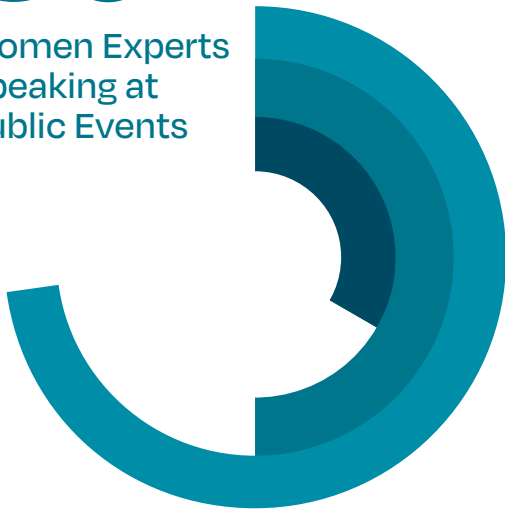


Over  
**300**

Scholars  
Contributing  
Content

**50%**

Women Experts  
Speaking at  
Public Events



**35**

Research Fellows  
and Academic  
Board Members

**15**

Interns and  
Trainees

**73%**

Native Experts  
Covering  
Pressing Issues

**33%**

Young Scholars

*"ACW continued to invest in young talents in 2022 through our paid internship program, providing opportunities to students from diverse backgrounds and assigning a dedicated and committed team of mentors that support our interns throughout their internship and in their future professional careers."*

**Marvin Perry**  
Operations and Human  
Resources Manager



# Growth and Outreach



*"We significantly expanded our online presence in 2022 with a nearly 40% increase in web traffic, much of which came from new readers. Our continuous efforts to increase the visibility and accessibility of our content made us one of the highest-ranked online search results for topics in Middle East policy."*

**Nabil Sharaf**  
Communications Director

People Directly Engaged with Our Content

675,000

Event Attendees

6,000

Newsletter Subscribers

7,750



Over

2.5 MILLION

Reached on Social Media



35,000

Views on YouTube



↑ 22%

Twitter Followers



↑ 37%

Web Traffic

## Audiovisual Analyses

*"I'm excited to join ACW and to lead our new multimedia initiatives, designing and producing short, dynamic audiovisual analyses specifically designed for social media and for reaching larger audiences and diverse demographics online."*



**Bahraa Hijazi**  
Multimedia Specialist

Infographics  
Expert Interviews

Video Series

Podcast



ACW Experts Respond to the News



# Information. Education. Impact.

Over

# 150

Expert Media Interviews

# 10

Op-eds Published in US  
and Global Media Outlets



ACW experts spoke at **SEVERAL CONFERENCES** around the world.

**PRESENTED LECTURES** to academic classrooms, seminars, and community groups.

**HOSTED PROMINENT LEADERS**, UN officials, US State Department representatives, and scholars from academic institutions in the US and the MENA region.

**REACHED THOUSANDS OF POLICYMAKERS AND PRACTITIONERS** in the executive and legislative branches of the US government, as well as in policy establishments, academic institutions, Arab and European officialdom, human rights and development organizations, and both the US and international media.



*"As part of our mission to bridge the gap between academic research and the policy world, in 2022, we continued our outreach to like-minded academic and research institutions, sharing our work with them and collaborating in organizing seminars and conferences and publishing papers."*

**Lana Kattan**

Director of Partnerships and Strategy



# Op-Ed Highlights

## NBC NEWS

"The ISIS leader killed in a U.S. special forces raid will be replaced. ISIS is reviving."

Charles Dunne, February 3

## THE NATION

"On Watching Ukraine Through Palestinian Eyes"

Yousef Munayyer, March 4

## THE WASHINGTON POST

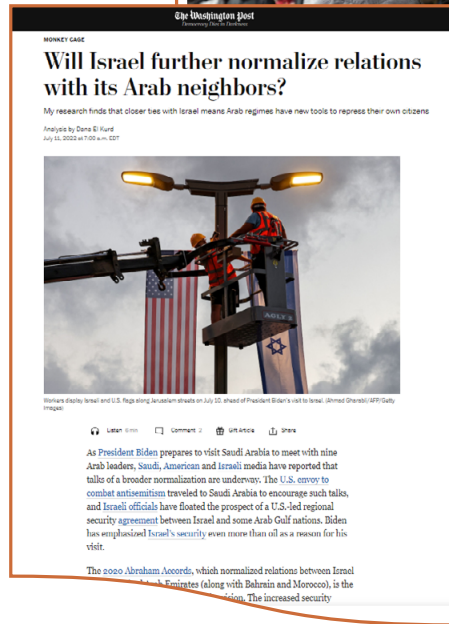
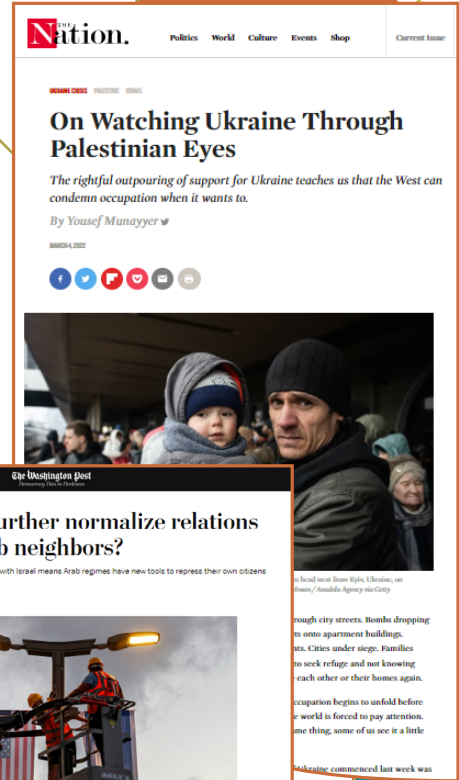
"Will Israel further normalize relations with its Arab neighbors?"

Dana El Kurd, July 11

## MIDDLE EAST EYE

"Why Egypt is not too big to fail"

Khalil al-Anani, May 30



# Media Contributions



# Policy Engagements

## BRIEFING TO US STATE DEPARTMENT

"The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam:  
Limited Options for a Resolution

*Khalil al-Anani, September 22*

## AMERICAN DIPLOMACY

"Fighting Corruption in the Arab World  
Should Be a U.S. Priority"

*Imad Harb, November 1*

## ROME MED CONFERENCE 2022

"Struggling with Disinformation"

*Tamara Kharroub, December 1*



# Washington Policy Weekly

Arab Center Washington DC produces a comprehensive weekly report outlining and analyzing developments in US policy related to the Middle East and covering activities in all three branches of the US government.



*"This year, ACW expanded its outreach to congressional and executive branch staff working on Middle East policy issues, establishing relations and keeping staffers informed through the distribution of both relevant ACW policy analysis and event announcements."*

**Douglas Christensen**

Liaison for US Government Affairs





# Invest in Evidence-Based Research

ACW relies on contributions from individual supporters, organizations, foundations, and corporations. Contributions to ACW—a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization—are deductible under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Donations provide critical support for our important work, helping ACW attract and retain outstanding scholars to maintain our academically rigorous and independent research agenda.

Arab Center Washington DC is extremely grateful to each of you for engaging with us this past year through our events, publications, podcasts, and other initiatives. As we work to expand and upgrade our programming, we increasingly rely on the commitment and support of private and institutional donors who share our vision. We hope that you will make ACW a giving priority and that you will continue to engage with us and support our work in 2023 and beyond.

## DONATE NOW



[ARABCENTERDC.ORG/  
SUPPORT-ACW](https://arabcenterdc.org/support-acw)

## A Global Research Network

ACW is affiliated with the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies (ACRPS) and its network of research centers around the world. Headquartered in Doha, Qatar, ACRPS is one of the premier independent research institutes in the Arab region.



# Leadership and Experts

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*Note: Names of institutions are mentioned for affiliation purposes only*

## RESEARCH FELLOWS

**Gregory Aftandilian**  
*Non-resident Fellow*

**Khalil al-Anani**  
*Senior Fellow*

**Zeidon Alkinani**  
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**Abdulwahab Al-Qassab**  
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**Dana El Kurd**  
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**Mustafa Gurbuz**  
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**Imad K. Harb**  
*Director of Research*

**Khalil E. Jahshan**  
*Executive Director*

**Tamara Kharroub**  
*Deputy Executive Director and Senior Fellow*

**Nabeel A. Khoury**  
*Non-resident Senior Fellow*

**Jonathan Kuttab**  
*Non-resident Fellow*

**Yousef Munayyer**  
*Non-resident Senior Fellow*

**Afrah Nasser**  
*Non-resident Fellow*

**Halim Shebaya**  
*Non-resident Fellow*

**Kristian Coates Ulrichsen**  
*Non-resident Senior Fellow*

**Radwan Ziadeh**  
*Senior Fellow*

## STAFF



**Khalil E. Jahshan**  
*Executive Director*



**Tamara Kharroub**  
*Deputy Executive Director  
and Senior Fellow*



**Imad K. Harb**  
*Director of Research  
and Analysis*



**Marvin Perry**  
*Operations and Human  
Resources Manager*



**Lana Kattan**  
*Director of Partnerships  
and Strategy*



**Nabil Sharaf**  
*Communications Director*



**David Kanbergs**  
*Publications Editor*



**Douglas Christensen**  
*Liaison for  
US Government Affairs*



**Bahraa Hijazi**  
*Multimedia Specialist*







## Assessing the Impacts of Regional Relations and Geopolitics

- ▶ Biden Fails to Counter Russia and China in the Middle East
- ▶ Lebanon Will Not Benefit from Its Maritime Agreement with Israel
- ▶ A Developing Authoritarian-Israeli Nexus in the Middle East
- ▶ Turkey-Brokered Grain Deal Bolsters Erdoğan-Putin Partnership
- ▶ Implications of the War in Ukraine for the Middle East

## Exploring the Future of Energy and Economic Development

- ▶ US-Saudi Relations after OPEC+ Production Cuts
- ▶ Egypt and the IMF: Greater Foreign Debt and Deeper Economic Decline
- ▶ International Aid to Palestinians: Between Politicization and Development
- ▶ Horn of Africa: Security Concerns and Economic Crises
- ▶ The Need for an International Development Fund for Lebanon




## Informing Peacemaking Efforts and Regional Conflicts

- ▶ Yemen's Prospects for Unity are Uncertain after Many Years of War
- ▶ The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam: Limited Options for a Resolution
- ▶ Political Paralysis and Continued Uncertainty in Libya
- ▶ Governance and Territorial Fragmentation in Syria: Assessing the Humanitarian and Political Challenges
- ▶ The Muddled Diplomacy of Sudan's Tripartite Mechanism

## Forging a Constructive US Foreign Policy in the Middle East

- ▶ What Lies Ahead for Saudi Arabia in the 118th Congress
- ▶ Biden's Trip to the Middle East: Embrace of Arab Autocrats Ends Hope for Democracy
- ▶ The US Midterm Elections Spell Further Trouble for the JCPOA
- ▶ Congress Versus Biden on Foreign Assistance to Egypt
- ▶ US Silence Enables Israel's Crackdown on Civil Society Organizations

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