H.E. Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabr Al Thani
QATAR
H.E. Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabr Al Thani was born in 1959. From 1982-1989 he was the Director of the Office of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture. In July 1989 he was appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture and in May 1990, he was appointed Deputy Minister of Electricity and Water for two years, along with his post as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture, where he supervised several successful projects and developed the agriculture sector.

His Excellency has, in addition, held the following posts, including Chairman of the Qatar Electricity and Water Company, President of the Central Municipal Council, Director of the Special Emiri Projects Office, Member of Qatar Petroleum Board of Directors, and Member of the Supreme Council for Planning.

On September 1, 1992 His Excellency was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs. On September 16, 2003, Sheikh Hamad was appointed First Deputy Prime Minister while retaining his position of Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Additionally, he has held several other key positions including member of the Supreme Defense Council, which was established in 1996; Head of Qatar’s Permanent Committee for the Support of al Quds; which was formed in 1998; member of the Permanent Constitution Committee, formed in 1999; member of the Ruling Family Council, which was established in 2000; and member of the Supreme Council for the Investment of the Reserves of the State, which was established in 2000.
David Aaron
UNITED STATES
David Aaron is Director of the Center for Middle East Public Policy at the RAND Corporation. He served in government from 1961 to 1981 and 1993 to 2000, beginning in the Foreign Service where he worked with NATO and negotiated nuclear arms reductions. Aaron served as Task Force Director for the Senate Intelligence Committee on the staff of Senator Walter Mondale and was Deputy National Security Advisor to President Jimmy Carter. During the Carter Administration, Aaron set up negotiations for the 1978 Camp David accords between Israel and Egypt. He received a B.A. from Occidental College and an M.S. in public administration from Princeton University.

Ahmed Abdali
UNITED KINGDOM/YEMEN
Ahmed Abdali is a Producer with Felix Films Entertainment. He wrote and produced Inside Out, which won the People’s Choice Award at the Malaysian Film Festival in 2004. Abdali has also produced Shadow Senses, Wishing Well, and Yemen’s first ever feature film, A New Day in the Old Sana’a, which won Best Arab Film Award at the 29th International Cairo Film Festival in 2005. Abdali wrote the soundtrack to the award winning documentary The English Sheikh and the Yemeni Gentleman. He received a degree in sound and studio engineering from Bon Marche Academy for Sound Engineering in London.

Azamat Abdimomunov
KAZAKHSTAN
Azamat Abdimomunov is the Deputy Minister of Science and Education of Kazakhstan. He recently contributed to the renewal of the Bolashak program, of which he is an alumnus, that funds graduate work by Kazakh students in the United States. Among his other contributions include supporting long-term scientific development. He has worked in the Kazakh government as Chief Administrator for Automation and Geo-Information Systems. He also served on the General Staff of the Armed Forces.

Mohammed Abdul Aziz
UNITED KINGDOM
Mohammed Abdul Aziz is Director of Faithwise Ltd., an organization that provides consultancy services to government and statutory agencies on faith-community issues. He is the founding Chief Executive Officer of the Forum Against Islamophobia and Racism and the British Muslim Research Centre. Aziz is an advisor to the Muslim Council of Britain, a member of the UK’s steering group on the Commission for Equality and Human Rights, a board member of the European Network against Racism (ENAR), and trustee of several organizations including the East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre. He earned his LLB and LLM at University College London.

Ahmed Abdul-Malik
QATAR
Ahmed Abdul-Malik is a member of the National Council of Culture, Arts, and Heritage. He is a former Editor-in-Chief of Al-Sharq and Gulf Times, and prior to that, the Head of the news department for Qatar Television. Abdul-Malik received a B.A. in Arabic Literature from Beirut Arab University, an M.A. in instructional communication from State University of New York, and a Ph.D. in journalism from the University of Wales.

Feisal Abdul Rauf
UNITED STATES
Feisal Abdul Rauf is the Imam of Masjid al-Farah in New York City, a mosque twelve blocks from Ground Zero. He is the founder of the American Sufi Muslim Association (ASMA) Society. Abdul Rauf is a member of the board of trustees of the Islamic Center of New York and Islamic advisor to the Interfaith Center of New York. He is the author of Islam: A Search for Meaning, and Islam: A Sacred Law, What Every Muslim Should Know About the Shari‘ah. Abdul Rauf earned a B.A. in physics from Columbia University and a masters degree in plasma physics from Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey.
Abdullah Abdullah
AFGHANISTAN
Abdullah Abdullah is the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan. After serving at the Eye Institute in Kabul, he left Afghanistan in 1985 for Peshawar, Pakistan where he served as the Director of Healthcare for the Resistance Front and worked in the Ophthalmology Hospital for Afghan Refugees in Peshawar, Pakistan. Abdullah then served as Special Advisor and Chief Assistant to Resistance Front Commander Ahmad Shah Massoud from 1986 to 1992. He became Director General in the Ministry of Defense from 1993 to 1996. Abdullah then became the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and spokesman for the Islamic State of Afghanistan from 1996 to 1998, becoming Minister of Foreign Affairs in 1998. Following the Bonn talks in December 2001, Abdullah became the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Afghan Interim Administration of then Chairman Hamid Karzai. Abdullah was again confirmed as the Minister of Foreign Affairs in June 2002 following the national Loya Jirga. He has an M.D. from Kabul University’s Department of Medicine where he studied ophthalmology.

Sevda Abdullayeva
AZERBAIJAN
Sevda Abdullayeva heads the Department of Bionanostructures at the Institute of Physics, the National Academy of Science of Azerbaijan. Her research is focused on studying biological systems at the nano-level. Previously, Abdullayeva served as Visiting Professor at the School of Medicine at Indiana University, and lectured for a decade at the State Medical University of Azerbaijan. She was a Department Head at the Baku-based Institute of Photoelectronics of Soviet Defense Ministry. Abdullayeva received a Ph.D. in physics from Azerbaijan State University.

Saleha M. Abedin
SAUDI ARABIA
Saleha M. Abedin is the Vice-Dean of Academic Affairs and a founding member of Dar Al-Hekma College, one of the first private colleges for women in Saudi Arabia. Abedin has taught in graduate and undergraduate programs at universities and colleges throughout the world. She has been very active among international women’s NGOs, and led an international women’s caucus at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China. Abedin has served as consultant to the Islamic Development Bank for several years and has recently been appointed to an advisory panel of twelve experts to advise the Bank in mainstreaming gender NGO issues in the activities of the Bank. She is Editor of the Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs. She received an M.A. in demography and a Ph.D. in sociology from University of Pennsylvania.

Abdalla Othman Aburrahim
LIBYA
Abdulla Othman Aburrahim is currently Director of the Green Book Center for Studies and Research. Prior to this, he was General Secretary for the student union of Libya. He has lectured at the University of Al-Fatal Hal and Sabha University. Aburrahim has an M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Al-Fatah Hal.

Ziad Abu-Amr
PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES
Ziad Abu-Amr has been a Member of the Palestinian Legislative Council since 1996, representing Gaza City. He was re-elected during the January 2006 legislative elections. He is the former Chairman of the Political Committee of the Palestinian Legislative Council and former Minister of Culture in the Palestinian Authority. Abu-Amr is President of the Palestinian Council on Foreign Relations and a Professor of Political Science at Birzeit University. The author of numerous books and papers, Abu-Amr holds a Ph.D. from Georgetown University.
Muna Abusulayman
SAUDI ARABIA
Muna Abusulayman is the Executive Manager of Strategic Studies and Research Initiatives for Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Abdul Aziz Al Saud at the Kingdom Holdings Company in Saudi Arabia. Her work focuses on increasing understanding between Islam and the West through the establishment of academic centers and programs, both in the Middle East and in the United States. She is an English Literature lecturer at King Saud University and is completing her Ph.D. in Arab-American Literature.

Khurshid Ahmad
PAKISTAN
Khurshid Ahmad is Chairman of the Institute of Policy Studies in Islamabad and a Member of the Senate of Pakistan. He has authored numerous articles on Islamic and Pakistani issues. He also serves as Chairman of the Islamic Foundation (UK) and a Member on the Board of Trustees for International Islamic University in Pakistan. His former appointments include Federal Minister for the Government of Pakistan and Advisor to King Abdul Aziz University in Saudi Arabia. He has an LLB, a masters in economics and a masters in Islamic studies.

Akbar Ahmed
PAKISTAN
Akbar Ahmed is a Visiting Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution as part of Islam in the Age of Globalization, a new joint initiative, of the Saban Center's project on U.S. Policy Towards the Islamic World, American University's School of International Service in Washington DC and the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life. Ahmed is the Principal Investigator for the joint initiative. He also holds the Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies at American University. A former High Commissioner of Pakistan to the United Kingdom, he has advised Prince Charles and has met with President George W. Bush to discuss Islamic issues. He is a prolific writer and broadcaster, with his work translated into numerous languages. He has been a Visiting Professor at Harvard University, Cambridge University, and the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. Ahmed earned his Ph.D. at the University of London. The BBC has said of him “Professor Akbar Ahmed – the world’s leading authority on contemporary Islam.”

Parvez Ahmed
UNITED STATES
Parvez Ahmed is Chairman of the Board at the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). He teaches finance at the Coggin College of Business, the University of North Florida. He has written numerous op-eds for newspapers about Islam and Muslims. In 2002, he won the Civil Liberties award from the South-Central Pennsylvania chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. Ahmed has a B.S. from Aligarh Muslim University, an M.B.A. from Temple University and a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Salman Ahmed
PAKISTAN
Salman Ahmed is the lead guitarist for Junoon, a popular Pakistan rock band whose eclectic music mixes Sufi poetry and modern sounds. The band’s albums have sold over 25 million copies worldwide. Before founding Junoon, Ahmed was a member of Vital Signs. Ahmed has served as a U.N. Goodwill Ambassador for HIV/AIDS in Pakistan and was featured in two documentaries, “Islamabad: Rock City” and “The Rockstar and the Mullahs,” which appeared on VH1 and PBS respectively. He received his medical degree from King Edward Medical College.

Mobashar Jawed Akbar
INDIA
Mobashar Jawed (“MJ”) Akbar is founder and Editor-in-Chief of The Asian Age, India’s first global newspaper. He has written and edited for important publications in India, including Illustrated Weekly of India and The Telegraph. Akbar has also written books on the Indian political landscape. In addition to his career in journalism, he has served in politics as a member of India’s Parliament and as an advisor in the Ministry of Human Resources, helping policy planning in education and literacy programs. He has a B.A. in English.
Abdulhameed Al Ansari
QATAR
Abdulhameed Al-Ansari is Professor of Islamic Policies at the Faculty of Sharia and Law at the University of Qatar. Formerly a Dean of the College, he has recently focused on research in the field of democracy and human rights, particularly women’s rights from an Islamic perspective. He received a Ph.D. in Islamic policies from Al-Azhar University in Cairo. Al Ansari is the author of many publications including *Role of Women in the Gulf States in National Development from an Islamic Perspective*, and *Towards an Arabic and Islamic Understanding of the Urban Society*.

Hasan M. Al Ansari
QATAR
Hassan M. Al-Ansari is currently the Director of the Gulf Strategic Studies Center in Doha, Qatar. He also teaches Modern History at the University of Qatar. Dr. Al-Ansari served in the Amiri Diwan of the State of Qatar for nearly 20 years, mostly in the research and political departments. He received his B.A. from Cairo University and his Ph.D. in history from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Rokaya Al Ayat
UNITED STATES
Rokaya Al Ayat is the Associate Deputy Director for Science and Technology at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. She began her career as a Research Engineer and Assistant Professor at the University of California, Berkeley. She has also served as Associate Program Leader for the Department of Energy’s Nuclear Safeguards Program. Al Ayat earned her Ph.D in applied mathematics and an M.S. in industrial engineering and operations research from the University of California, Berkeley.

Gamal Al Banna
EGYPT
Gamal Al Banna is an Islamic thinker and author of many books on a wide range of subjects, particularly on contemporary movements within Islam. He lectured at the Cairo Institute of Trades Union Studies from 1963 to 1993. Al-Banna founded and became President of the International Islamic Confederation of Labor in 1981, which includes a number of Trade Unions from the Islamic world. In 1991, with his sister, he established the Fawziyya and Gamal Al-Banna Foundation for Islamic Culture and Information, a foundation that possesses a library with extensive holdings in Islamic culture.

S.M. Hassan Al Banna
BANGLADESH/UNITED KINGDOM
S.M. Hassan Al Banna was born in Bangladesh and raised in the United Kingdom. He is the Co-Founder of *Awakening*, a British based Islamic society. His most recent book is the *Sirah of the Final Prophet*. He is the former President of the Islamic Society at the School of Oriental and African Studies and is currently pursuing a doctorate at al-Azhar University. He earned a B.A. in Arabic and law and from the University of London, and qualified as a lawyer. Al Banna was awarded the Royal Award (MBE) by the Queen of England for services to the community.

Jawad Al Boulani
IRAQ
Jawad Al Boulani is currently a member of the Iraqi Parliament.

Faisal Al Kasim
QATAR
Faisal Al Kasim is host of the popular *Al Jazeera* program, *The Opposite Direction*. Prior to joining *Al Jazeera*, Al Kasim worked with the BBC Arabic Service as a broadcast journalist, producer, and announcer for seven years. He then moved on to the BBC Arabic television station, where he worked as a news presenter and discussion moderator. Al Kasim received a Ph.D in English literature from Hull University.

Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Khalifa
BAHRAIN
Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Khalifa is Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain. Prior to his current position, Shaikh Khalid was Bahrain’s ambassador to the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Sweden, and Ireland. From 1995 to 2000, he was chief liaison officer to the Foreign Minister. Shaikh Khalid joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1985. He holds a B.A. in history and political science from St. Edward’s University in Texas.
Nasser Bin Hamad Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa
QATAR
Nasser Bin Hamad Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa became Ambassador of Qatar to the United States and non-resident Ambassador of the State of Qatar to Mexico on Oct. 3, 2005. He has a LLM in International Law from City University, UK, a MA in International Public Policy from John Hopkins University, and a BA in Political Science from Western Michigan University. He has also served as a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Islamic Studies at Oxford and Princeton University, USA. He has served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Qatar for almost 30 years, including as Ambassador to Korea, Italy, the UN, and most recently as Ambassador to the UK and non-resident Ambassador to Denmark, Sweden, Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands, and Norway. He has represented Qatar at multiple international conferences and is a member of the Royal United Services Institute for Defense and Security Studies and the Arab Thought Forum.

Abdulla Al Kubaisi
QATAR
Abdulla Al Kubaisi is Director of the Office of Her Highness, Consort of the Emir. He is also Chairman of Qatar Science and Technology Park and a member of the board of directors for the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development. Al Kubaisi has had a distinguished career in Qatar’s science and education community, where he served in teaching and administrative positions at the University of Qatar, particularly as Dean of the College of Science in 1995. He has published more than 20 articles in the field of Inorganic Chemistry and has been awarded a Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst scholarship and the Medal for Active Leadership in the Science Field. Al Kubaisi received his B.Sc. from the University of Qatar, M.S. in chemistry from North Carolina’s A&T State University and a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of London.

Al Sadig Al Mahdi
SUDAN
Al Sadig Al Mahdi served as Prime Minister of Sudan during two separate terms and has been active in Sudanese politics for over 40 years. He is the Imam of Alansar Religious Group and President of the Umma Party. Al Mahdi has authored numerous articles on Islamic issues and serves as a member of the Arab Water Council, Club De Madrid, and the National Islamic Conference (Beirut). He received an M.A. in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from Oxford University.

Salam Al Marayati
UNITED STATES
Salam Al Marayati is Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Muslim Public Affairs Council, a non-profit, non-partisan organization that works to disseminate information about Islam and Muslims to elected officials and the media in the United States. He has also served as member of the Executive Committee of the California Democratic Party and Commissioner of the Human Relations Committee of the City of Los Angeles. Al Marayati has made numerous appearances in major U.S. media outlets and spoken at forums on Islam and Muslims at the State Department and on Capitol Hill. His writings have been published in a number of publications, including The Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times, and the Christian Science Monitor.

Sheikha Abdulla Al Misnad
QATAR
Sheikha Abdulla Al Misnad is President of Qatar University and a member of the Board of Directors of the Qatar Foundation. Prior to this, she worked in a number of teaching, administrative, and research positions at the university. She received her B.A. in education from Qatar University and a D.Phil. in education from the University of Durham in the United Kingdom.

Taki Al Mousawi
IRAQ
Taki Al Mousawi is President of the Al Mustansiriya University in Baghdad. He also is a Professor of Medical Physics. Al Mousawi received a M.Sc. and Ph.D. in medical biophysics from the University of Dundee in Scotland. In 1986, he won the prize of the Presidency of the Republic of Iraq, following a scientific book competition. He has published 36 papers on various medical subjects. He also serves as President of the Society of Reconstruction in Iraq.
Sheikha Lubna bint Khaled Al Qasimi
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Sheikha Lubna bint Khaled Al Qasimi is the Minister of Planning and Economy for the United Arab Emirates. Sheikha Lubna is the first woman in her country to hold a cabinet position. Sheikha Lubna is also a board member of Tejari, a Dubai online marketplace. In 2001, Sheikha Lubna headed the Dubai e-government executive team responsible for instituting e-government initiatives throughout the public sector. Prior to managing Tejari, Sheikha Lubna was the Senior Manager of the Information Systems department at the Dubai Ports Authority (DPA), a position she held for more than seven years. Sheikha Lubna holds a Bachelor of Science degree from California State University of Chico, and an Executive M.B.A. from the American University of Sharjah.

Mohammed Abdullah Mutib Al Rumaihi
QATAR
Mohammed Abdullah Mutib Al Rumaihi is Assistant Foreign Minister for Follow Up Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar. He is a former Army officer, serving as commander of the Artillery from 1988-2001. He is a graduate of Saint Cyr Military Academy, the Higher School of Joint Staff, and the French Artillery School. In 2001, he was transferred from the Qatari armed forces on the directive of H.H. the Emir to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has served as Ambassador of Qatar to France and as nonresident ambassador to Belgium, the Swiss Federation, Luxemburg Dukedom and the European Union. In 2003, he was appointed Assistant Foreign Minister for Follow-Up Affairs, representing Qatar on NATO and UN affairs and at international donors’ conferences in Lebanon, Yemen, Afghanistan and Iraq. He also serves as Chairman of the Conference Organizing Committee in Doha.

Hussain Al Shahristani
IRAQ
Hussain Al Shahristani is a nuclear physicist, an advisor to the Iraqi government and a deputy speaker of the Iraqi parliament. In 1979, he was imprisoned by former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein for refusing to help develop the country’s nuclear capability. He escaped captivity when U.S. bombs fell on the Abu Ghraib prison during the first Gulf War, fleeing to Iran via Kirkuk. Al Shahristani earned a doctorate in nuclear chemistry from the University of Toronto in 1969 before he went back to Iraq, where he became chief of the Iraq Atomic Energy Commission. The story of Al Shahristani’s life has been chronicled in the documentary Fire and Water, directed by Canadian filmmaker Shelley Saywell.

Qaiser Alam
PAKISTAN
Qaiser Alam is the Principal Staff Officer to the Chief Minister of Pakistan’s North West Frontier Province. Qaiser Alam holds the rank of Colonel in the Pakistani army and is Commandant of the Khyber Rifles.

Rabih Alameddine
LEBANON
Rabih Alameddine is a painter and the author of two novels, Koolaid and I, the Divine, and a book of short stories, The Perv. His books have been translated into several languages while his writing has appeared in Zoetrope, The Evening Standard, and Al-Hayat. His paintings have been exhibited in solo shows in San Francisco, New York City, London, and Beirut. A graduate of U.C.L.A. and the University of San Francisco, he has taught at the American University of Beirut and San Francisco State University.

Yusuf bin Alawi bin Abdallah
OMAN
Yusuf bin Alawi bin Abdallah is the Minister Responsible for Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman
Ahmed al-Akhras  
UNITED STATES
Ahmed al-Akhras is currently the vice chairman of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). He also serves as president of CAIR’s Ohio chapter, a position that he has held since 1998. The American Civil Liberties Union recognized CAIR-Ohio with its Liberty Flame award for its contributions to the advancement and protection of civil liberties. Al-Akhras speaks across the country on issues of concern to Muslims. Al-Akhras holds a Ph.D. and a master’s degree from the Ohio State University and a master’s and bachelor’s degree from the University of Jordan.

Syed Hamid Albar  
MALAYSIA
Syed Hamid Albar is Malaysia’s Minister of Foreign Affairs. He has also held the positions of Minister of Defense and Minister of Law. Prior to his government service, Albar was a Magistrate in the Sessions Court. He was called to the Bar at Middle Temple in the United Kingdom, where he established the United Malay National Organization club during his student days.

Jane Alexander  
UNITED STATES
Jane Alexander is an internationally known actress who has won a Tony award and been both an Oscar and Emmy award nominee. She made her Broadway debut in 1969 in The Great White Hope, and subsequently appeared in All the President’s Men and Kramer vs. Kramer. Alexander serves on the boards of the Wildlife Conservation Society, Project Greenhope, the National Stroke Association, and Women’s Action for Nuclear Disarmament. She is a recipient of the Israel Cultural Award and the Helen Caldicott Leadership Award. Alexander was named by President Bill Clinton in 1993 to head the National Endowment for the Arts.

Yasser Ali  
UNITED KINGDOM
Yasser Ali works with Ingram Events, a specialized large-scale event management company based in Dubai. Ingram Events works to facilitate the design planning and management of large scale conferences, forums and events.

Muean Aljabiry  
IRAQ
Muean Aljabiry is the President of Group Jefferson Family of Companies, a consulting and contracting firm with offices in Virginia and Baghdad. The company is currently representing the interests of the government of Iraq, as well as the interests of major US corporations on issues relevant to the reconstruction of the infrastructure. During the past two years, Aljabiry has advised the CPA, the President of Iraq, and senior Iraqi officials on business and political issues.

Abdel Aziz Abu Hamad Aluwaisheg  
SAUDI ARABIA
Abdel Aziz Abu Hamad Aluwaisheg is Director of the Economic Integration Department of the Gulf Cooperation Council. He previously served as a Staff Economist in the U.N. Department of Economic and Social Affairs and an Advisor to the Minister of Labor in Saudi Arabia. Aluwaisheg was also an Adjunct Professor of Econometrics, Development Economics, and International Trade at Columbia University and the New School University. He received a J.S.D. in international trade law from Columbia University and a Ph.D. in economics from New York University.

Hady Amr  
UNITED STATES
Hady Amr is Co-President of the Arab Western Summit of Skills and a Senior Advisor to the World Economic Forum for the C100 for Western-Islamic dialogue. Amr served in the Clinton Administration as an Appointee at the Near East-South Asia Center for Strategic Studies at National Defense University. He was National Director for Ethnic American Outreach for Al Gore’s 2000 presidential campaign. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, he conducted scores of discussion groups in eight Arab countries on the U.S. foreign policy making process. In 2004, Amr authored The Need to Communicate: How to Improve U.S. Public Diplomacy with the Islamic World. Amr has worked at the World Bank. He earned a B.A. in economics from Tufts University and an M.P.A. in economics from Princeton University.
Biographies CONTINUED

M. Syafi’i Anwar
INDONESIA
M. Syafi’i Anwar is the Executive Director of the International Center for Islam and Pluralism. Previously, Anwar was Editor-in-Chief of *Ummat*, an Islamic magazine in Jakarta. He has also written a number of articles for Australian and Indonesian journals. He has a Bachelor of Law degree and an M.A. in political science from the University of Indonesia, Jakarta, and received a Ph.D. in history and political sociology from the University of Melbourne.

Muhammad Nurayn Ashafa
NIGERIA
Muhammad Nurayn Ashafa is Co-Director of the Interfaith Mediation Centre at the Muslim-Christian Dialogue Forum in Kaduna, Nigeria, and the Secretary-General of the National Council of Muslim Youth Organizations. He has worked with the state governments of the Kaduna and Plateau regions to mediate religion-related conflicts. His many efforts led to his receipt of the Search for the Common Ground’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004 and the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding’s Peace Activist Award in 2000. He is co-author of *The Pastor and the Imam: Responding to Conflict*. Ashafa attended a traditional Islamic school in Kaduna and the International University of Africa in Khartoum.

George H. Atkinson
UNITED STATES
George H. Atkinson was named the State Department’s Science and Technology Advisor in September 2003. In August 2001, he joined the State Department as one of the first American Institute of Physics Senior Fellows for Science, Technology, and Diplomacy. He was Professor of Chemistry at Syracuse University until 1983, when he joined the University of Arizona as Professor of Chemistry and Optical Sciences and Chairman of the Chemistry Department. Atkinson has more than 170 publications in scientific journals and books, as well as 66 patents. He founded Innovative Lasers Corporation in 1992. Atkinson received his Ph.D. in chemistry from Indiana University in Bloomington.

Sartaj Aziz
PAKISTAN
Sartaj Aziz, a development economist, is Vice-Chancellor to Beacon House National University. He became a member of the Senate of Pakistan in 1985 and served there until 1999. He began his career as a civil servant, most of which he spent in the National Planning Commission, where he was involved in the formulation and implementation of Pakistan’s Second and Third “Five Year Plans.” Aziz has also written several books and articles. He earned a degree in Commerce from Punjab University and an M.A. in development economics from Harvard University.

Hossam Badrawi
EGYPT
Hossam Badrawi is a Professor at the Medical School of Cairo University and a member of the Policy Committee in the National Democratic Party. He served as a member of the Egyptian Parliament and chaired the committee of Education and Scientific Research for five years. Badrawi is also a member of the newly developed Supreme Council for Human Rights. He is a leader in the private health care sector, supporting major reforms, as well as a member of a number of leading NGOs in Egypt.

Alan R. Batkin
UNITED STATES
Alan R. Batkin has been Vice Chairman of Kissinger Associates, a geopolitical consulting firm that advises multi-national companies, since 1990. Previously, Batkin was an investment banker at Lehman Brothers, Inc., where he was Managing Director of corporate finance. Currently, Batkin is a Director of four New York Stock Exchange-listed companies and is Chairman of the Board of the Merrill Lynch IQ Investment Advisors Fund Complex. He is also Co-Chairman of the Board and Treasurer of the International Rescue Committee, a trustee and member of the Executive Committee of the Brookings Institution, and Chairman of the Brookings Budget and Finance Committee. He is a member of The Trilateral Commission, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Inter-American Dialogue, and the Pacific Council on International Policy. Batkin received his B.S. from the University of Rochester and an M.B.A. from New York University.
Rand Beers  
**UNITED STATES**

Rand Beers is President of the Coalition for American Leadership, Chairman of the Board of the Valley Forge Initiative, and an Adjunct Lecturer at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. During the 2004 presidential campaign, Beers advised the Kerry-Edwards campaign on national security issues. Prior to this, he was the Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Combating Terrorism on the National Security Council staff. From 1998 to 2002, Beers served as Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs. He served much of his career in the State Department’s Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs, including as Office Director and Deputy Assistant Secretary for regional affairs. Beers received a B.A. in history from Dartmouth College and an M.A. in history from the University of Michigan.

Benazir Bhutto  
**PAKISTAN**

Benazir Bhutto is Chairperson of the Pakistan People's Party and former Prime Minister of Pakistan. She was the first woman to lead a modern Islamic nation. Bhutto became Prime Minister in 1988 and held the post until her government was dismissed in August 1990. She returned to power in October 1993 after her party won a majority in elections. She received a B.A from Harvard University and an M.A. from Oxford University.

Max Boot  
**UNITED STATES**

Max Boot is Senior Fellow with Council on Foreign Relations, a columnist with *The Los Angeles Times* and a Contributing Editor to *The Weekly Standard*. From 1997 to 2002, Boot served as Editorial Features Editor at *The Wall Street Journal*. Prior to this, he was a writer and editor for the *Journal* and *The Christian Science Monitor*. Boot is author of *Savage Wars of Peace*, which was awarded the 2003 Wallace M. Greene Award for best nonfiction book on the Marine Corps. In 2004, he was named by the World Affairs Councils of America as one of “the 500 most influential people in the United States in the field of foreign policy.” Boot received a B.A. in history from the University of California at Berkeley and an M.A. in history from Yale University.

John P. Boright  
**UNITED STATES**

John P. Boright is the Executive Director of the Office of International Affairs of the U.S. National Academies. From 1994 to 1995, he served as deputy to the Associate Director for National Security and International Affairs at the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President. From 1989 to 1994 he served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Science and Technology Affairs at the Department of State, overseeing U.S. science and technology agreements with other countries and international space policy. He received a B.A. and a Ph.D. in physics from Cornell University.

Mahmoud Bounéb  
**TUNISIA**

Mahmoud Bounéb serves as the Executive General Manager of *Al Jazeera Children’s Channel*. Bounéb is a veteran Tunisian journalist who has worked in Europe, North America, and the Middle East for 30 years.

Mahdi Bray  
**UNITED STATES**

Mahdi Bray is the Executive Director of the Muslim American Society (MAS) Freedom Foundation. Previously, he served as President of the Coordinating Council of Muslim Organizations (CCMO). He currently serves on the board of directors of the National Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice and Interfaith Alliance, a large interfaith organization. He is also a main organizer for the “No War on Iraq” movement. Bray has served as a liaison between the President’s White House Faith-Based Initiative Program and congressional affairs on behalf of the Muslim community.
David Brooks
UNITED STATES

David Brooks has been a Columnist for the *The New York Times* since 2003. Before this, Brooks was a Senior Editor at *The Weekly Standard* after having worked for *The Wall Street Journal* for nine years. At *The Wall Street Journal*, Brooks was Op-Ed Editor from 1994 to 1995, Foreign Correspondent in Brussels from 1990 to 1994, and Editor of the book review section from 1986 to 1990. Brooks is a commentator on *The Newshour with Jim Lehrer*, and a frequent analyst on NPR’s *All Things Considered* and the *Diane Rehm Show*. He is the author of *Bobos in Paradise: The New Upper Class and How They Got There* and *On Paradise Drive: How We Live Now (And Always Have) in the Future Tense*. Brooks has a B.A. from the University of Chicago.

Ronald Bruder
UNITED STATES

Ronald Bruder is the Chairman of The Brookhill Group, a real estate owner/management firm and the founder of the Education for Employment Foundation (EFE) that seeks to create job opportunities for young people through career training in vocational, technical and managerial skills, thereby helping Muslim countries address the growing problem of youth unemployment. Bruder is a contributing author to numerous publications including *The New York Times*, *The New York Law Journal*, *The American Banker*, and *The CPA Journal*. He received a B.A. in economics and a M.A. in finance from New York University.

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Usman Muhammad Bugaje is currently a member of the Nigerian Parliament. Prior to this, Bugaje served as Founding Chairman of the Network for Justice, an advocacy group concerned with promoting civil education, consumer, and human rights. He has also served as a political advisor to the Nigerian Vice President. Bugaje earned a bachelor's degree in Pharmacy from Ahmadu Bello University, as well as a masters degree in African studies and a Ph.D. in intellectual history from the University of Khartoum.

Muhammadu Buhari
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Muhammadu Buhari was the leader of Nigeria from 1983-1985. In 2003, Buhari competed in the Nigerian presidential election as a candidate from the All Nigeria People’s Party. From 1995-1999, Buhari served as Executive Chairman of Nigeria’s Petroleum Trust Fund. He has studied at the U.S. Army War College.

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Dorothea Burke, a Colonel, is Chief at the Division for Joint Psychological Operations at United States Special Operations Command. Burke has earned a number of awards and decorations during her service. Her military training and education includes the Military Police Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Psychological Operations Officer’s Course, Joint Psychological Operations Officer’s Staff Planning Course, Airborne Course, Air Assault Course, Jumpmaster Course, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and Defense Strategy Course. She received a B.A. in history from Gonzaga University and an M.A. in international relations from Troy State University.

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Akram Khan Durrani  
PAKISTAN  
Akram Khan Durrani is Chief Minister of the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) of Pakistan, a position he has held since 2002. He was elected on the ticket of the Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal, a coalition of Islamic parties. His previous posts include Provincial Minister in the NWFP and advisor to the Provincial Government of the NWFP. He received a J.D. from Karachi University.

Asad Durrani  
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Asad Durrani, a Lieutenant General, joined the Pakistani Army in 1959. He has been an Instructor at the Military Academy and the Command and Staff College, the Pakistani Defense Attaché in Germany; Director of General Military Intelligence and of Inter-Services Intelligence, Inspector of General Training and Evaluation at the Army Headquarters, and Commandant of National Defense College. He is on the board of governors of the Islamabad Policy Research Institute and on the advisory board of the German Institute for Transnational Studies. After his retirement from the Army in 1993, Durani was appointed Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany and later to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Durani is a graduate of the German General Staff Academy.

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Hany El-Banna is one of Britain’s most experienced international development professionals. He is the president of Islamic Relief, which he founded as a student in 1984. In addition to responding to humanitarian emergencies, Islamic Relief promotes sustainable economic and social development in partnership with local communities, regardless of race, religion or gender, across the world. Islamic Relief has 29 offices throughout the world and has Non-Governmental Organization status at the United Nations. El-Banna is also a member of the Three Faiths Forum which promotes dialogue between Muslims, Jews and Christians. He has been actively involved in the peace process in southern Sudan and has been awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE).

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Rached Ghannouchi is a member of the European Council for Fatwa and Research. He has written notable articles, essays, and books since the 1970’s, and has been a contributor to many Arab and foreign academic journals. He was also one of the founders of the World Assembly of Muslim Youth in 1971, the Islamic-Nationalist Conference, and the Circle for Tradition and Progress, which focuses on Muslim-Christian dialogue between Muslim, European and American thinkers. Ghannouchi has been living in London since 1991.

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Rafia Obaid Ghubash is President of the Arabian Gulf University in Bahrain, in addition to being an Associate Professor and Consultant Psychiatrist. Previously, Ghubash was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Services at United Arab Emirates University. She is a member of various university committees, medical associations, and has authored numerous articles on Psychiatry. She received a Ph.D. in community and epidemiological psychiatry from the University of London.
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Bader Ben Hirsi is an award-winning director and member of Felix Films Entertainment, a London-based production group responsible for numerous film and television projects focused on the Islamic world. Ben Hirsi’s films include the award-winning feature documentary *The English Sheikh and The Yemeni Gentleman*, which is currently being screened extensively around the world, and Yemen’s first ever feature film *A New Day in the Old Sanaa* which won best Arab film award at the 29th International Cairo Film Festival. He received his M.A in Drama Production from Goldsmith’s College, London University, a drama certificate from Central School of Speech and Drama and a producer’s diploma from the Hollywood Film Institute.

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Shamil Idriss
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Shamil Idriss is Deputy Director of the Alliance of Civilizations, an initiative launched by the U.N. Secretary-General in September 2005 with the co-sponsorship of the Turkish and Spanish governments. The mandate of the Alliance is to generate an action-plan involving multilateral organizations, U.N. member states, and civil society organizations with the goal of improving Islamic-Western relations. Idriss serves on the boards of several non-profit organizations and has published articles on international conflict resolution, media and social change, and Islamic-Western relations in German, South African, Middle Eastern, and American journals and newspapers.

Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu
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Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu is the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). He also currently serves as Founder and Chairman of the Turkish Society for History of Science and Vice Chairman of the Al Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation, London. He is the author of numerous books, articles, and papers on the history of science, Islamic culture, Turkish culture, relations between the Muslim and Western worlds, and Turkish-Arab relations. He has held a number of academic positions and has been Director-General of the OIC Research Center for Islamic History, Art, and Culture. Ihsanoglu received a B.Sc. and an M.Sc. from Ain Shams University, and a Ph.D. from Ankara University.

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Martin Indyk is the Director of the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, co-convenor of the Brookings Project on U.S. Policy Towards the Islamic World, and a Brookings Senior Fellow. He served as U.S. Ambassador to Israel from 1995-97 and 2000-01. Before his first posting to Israel, Indyk was Special Assistant to President Clinton and Senior Director for Near East and South Asian Affairs at the National Security Council. He also served as Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs from 1997-2000. Before entering the U.S. government, Indyk was Founding Executive Director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy for eight years. He currently serves as Vice President of the American Friends of Yitzhak Rabin Center and Chairman of the International Council of the New Israel Fund. Indyk received a B.Econ from Sydney University and a Ph.D. from the Australian National University.

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Robert Kagan
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Robert Kagan is a Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He served in the State Department from 1984 to 1988 as a member of the Policy Planning Staff, as principal speechwriter for Secretary of State George P. Shultz, and as deputy for policy in the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs. Kagan received his B.A. from Yale University, his M.P.P. from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and his Ph.D. from American University.
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Abdelelah Al-Khatib
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Abdelelah Al-Khatib is the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Jordan. He previously served as Foreign Minister from August 1998 to January 2002. Khatib was Managing Director of the Jordan Cement Company from 1996 to 1998 and as Chairman of the Board from January 2004 to November 2005. His work at the Jordan Cement Company was preceded by service as Minister of Tourism and Antiquities from 1995 to 1996. He was also Coordinator for Jordan’s Negotiating Team during the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations that commenced at the Madrid Peace Conference in 1991. Earlier assignments included, Head of the Special Bureau of the Foreign Ministry and Political Officer at the Embassy of Jordan in Washington D.C. Al-Khatib received a B.A. in Political Science from the Panteion University in Athens, an M.A. in International Economics and Development from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, and an M.A. in International Communication from American University.

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Peter Khalil
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Peter Khalil is a Middle East and Africa Analyst at the Eurasia Group. Prior to this he was a Visiting Research Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution. In 2004, Khalil served as Assistant Director for Iraq Policy at the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Khalil was Director of National Security Policy at the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) in Baghdad and has served as an International Strategic Policy Analyst at the Australian Department of Defense. Khalil received a Bachelor of law and a BA at the University of Melbourne and a Masters of International Law and International Relations from the Australian National University.

Nasser D. Khalili
UNITED KINGDOM
Nasser D. Khalili was born in Iran and is a scholar, collector and benefactor of international standing who has often been called the “Cultural Ambassador of Islam.” After completing his schooling and national service in Iran, he left in 1967 for the United States where he continued his education. In 1978 he settled in the United Kingdom. Khalili is the Co-Founder and Chairman of the Maimonides Foundation, which promotes peace and understanding between Jews and Muslims, and the Founder of the Khalili Collections, a collection of 20,000 pieces of Islamic art, the world’s largest collection. His most recent publication is The Timeline History of Islamic Art and Architecture (November 2005). Khalili is a Graduate Associate Research Professor and member of the governing board at the School of Oriental and African Studies. He received his Ph.D. from the School of Oriental and African Studies and holds an honorary degree from Boston University.

Muqtedar Khan
UNITED STATES
Muqtedar Khan is a Nonresident Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution and Professor at the University of Delaware. Khan has been a visiting faculty member at Washington College and American University, as well as Adjunct Faculty at Georgetown University and Florida International University. He is the author of American Muslims: Bridging Faith and Freedom (2002) and Jihad for Jerusalem: Identity and Strategy in International Relations (2004). His latest book, is Beyond Jihad and Crusade: Rethinking U.S. Policy in the Muslim World. Khan received a B.E. from Osmania University, an M.B.A. from Bombay University, an M.A. from Florida International University, and a Ph.D. from Georgetown University.
Riaz Khokhar  
Pakistan

Riaz Khokhar is one of Pakistan’s longest serving and most experienced diplomats. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1966. During his career he has served as High Commissioner to India and Pakistani Ambassador to the United States and China. He was appointed Foreign Secretary of Pakistan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs in July 2002 and was involved in top-level meetings between India and Pakistan. He served as Foreign Secretary until February 2005. Khokhar is active in promoting dialogue between the Muslim and non-Muslim worlds.

Rami G. Khouri  
Lebanon

Rami G. Khouri is the Editor-at-Large of the Daily Star newspaper in Beirut, Lebanon. A Palestinian-Jordanian national, Khouri is an internationally syndicated columnist and author. Previously, he was Editor-in-Chief of the Jordan Times. He spent the 2001-2002 academic year as a Nieman Journalism Fellow at Harvard University and was appointed a member of the Brookings Institution Task Force on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World. Khouri received a B.A. in political science and an M.Sc. in Mass Communications from Syracuse University.

Sheikh Salah Al-Deen Kuftaro  
Syria

Sheikh Salah Al-Deen Kuftaro is the General Director of the Sheikh Ahmad Kuftaro Foundation and the Head Master of the Law College of Abu Nour. He is also a member of the General Assembly of Abu Nour Charities, Chairman of the Inter-Religious Deliagou Board, and member of the Assembly for Jerusalem Secretariat. Kuftaro has written a book entitled The Fruits of Dialogue.

Patrick Lachem  
United Kingdom

Patrick Lachem is the Managing Director of Ingram Events, a specialized large-scale event management company based in Dubai. Ingram Events works to facilitate the design planning and management of large scale conferences, forums and events.

Javaid R. Laghari  
Pakistan

Javaid R. Laghari is the Vice President and Project Director of SZABIST. He specializes in Leadership Skills, Higher Education, Information Technology, High Voltage Systems and Space Power Technology and has published over 120 research papers and presented over 70 papers at international conferences. Before joining SZABIST, he was Director of Graduate Studies and a Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Eric Larson  
United States

Eric Larson is a Senior Policy Analyst at the RAND Corporation. Larson has two decades of practical and research experience, primarily in national security and foreign affairs. Before joining RAND, Larson served as a research staff member at the Institute for Defense Analysis, Policy and Systems Analyst at the National Security Council Staff from 1983-88, and as a Policy Analyst for the White House’s Office of Planning and Evaluation from 1982-83. Larson received his B.A. in political science from the University of Michigan, and his M.Phil. and Ph.D. in policy analysis from RAND Graduate School.

Ron Lehman  
United States

Ron Lehman is Director of Center for Global Security Research, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He chairs the governing board of the International Science and Technology Center, an intergovernmental organization headquartered in Moscow, Russia. He has served three U.S. Presidents, three Secretaries of State, three Secretaries of Defense, and three National Security Advisors in a variety of senior executive and advisory positions to promote peace through international disarmament and nonproliferation policymaking. He is a graduate of Claremont McKenna College (B.S., 1968) and earned his Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate School in 1975.
Aaron Lobel
UNITED STATES
Aaron Lobel is President and Chairman of the Board at America Abroad Media, a non-partisan, independent media organization dedicated to informing Americans on international issues and America’s role in the world. Previously, Lobel was a Research Fellow at the Brookings Institution and National Security Fellow at the John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies at Harvard University. Lobel received an A.B. from the University of Toronto and a Ph.D. in Government from Harvard University.

Abdeslam Maghraoui
UNITED STATES
Abdeslam Maghraoui is the Director for the Muslim World Initiative at the U.S. Institute for Peace. His research focuses on political power, authority, and legitimacy in contemporary Muslim societies. Prior to joining the Institute, Maghraoui was Visiting Lecturer and Resident Scholar at Princeton University’s Department of Politics and the Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia. He has served as Director of Al Madina, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting accountable governance in the Arab world. Maghraoui received a Ph.D. in comparative politics from Princeton University.

Soumia Belaidi Malinbaum
ALGERIA/FRANCE
Soumia Belaidi Malinbaum is Chief Executive Officer of Specimen, a corporate consulting firm based in Paris that specializes in technology, integration of ERP, in-sourcing, and data. At Specimen, Malinbaum developed a recruitment policy that protects applicants’ from possible bias by removing candidates’ names and addresses from their resumes. Malinbaum holds a law degree.

Elmar Mammadyarov
AZERBAIJAN
Elmar Mammadyarov is Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Mammadyarov is a career diplomat who rose through the ranks of the ministry he now heads. He has served as the Azerbaijani Mission to United Nations and as the Deputy Chief of Mission in Washington. He is a graduate of the Kyiv Institute of Internal Relations in Ukraine.

Jennifer Mincin
UNITED STATES
Jennifer Mincin is the Executive Director of Families of September 11. Mincin has an extensive background in human services and public relations. Previously, she was the Deputy Commissioner of Human Services and Public Relations at Nassau County Office of Emergency Management; and was Manager of the September 11 crisis-counseling program, Project Liberty. She received a B.A. from Barnard College, Columbia University, and a Masters in Public Affairs from the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs, and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in social policy.

Marwan Muasher
JORDAN
Marwan Muasher is a Senator in Jordan’s Parliament. He is the former Deputy Prime Minister of Jordan, where he led the National Agenda Committee, which brought together various leaders across Jordan to identify necessary social, political, and economic reforms. Prior to his position as Deputy Prime Minister, Muasher was Deputy Chief of the Hashemite Royal Court. Muasher has served terms as Jordanian Foreign Minister and Jordanian Ambassador to the United States. He was also Jordan’s first ambassador to Israel. Muasher received a B.S. and a Ph.D. in engineering from Purdue University.

Hadia Mubarak
UNITED STATES
Hadia Mubarak is the Research Assistant for the Islam in the Age of Globalization Project sponsored by the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, American University’s School of International Service and the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life. She was recently the first woman to be elected as President of the Muslim Students Association since its establishment in 1963. Mubarak received a B.A. from Florida State University and an M.A. from Georgetown University.
Ali Shaheed Muhammad  
UNITED STATES
Ali Shaheed Muhammad is an entrepreneur, musician, and producer. He is the founder of Garden Seeker Productions, a hip-hop music production company. As a soloist he is a four time Grammy award nominee and a two time winner of the ASCAP Songwriter Award for Best R&B Song. He was one of the founding members of the groundbreaking hip-hop group *A Tribe Called Quest*, which is a “multi-platinum” recording group. Its second record, *The Low End Theory*, was named album of the year for *Spex* magazine, number 10 on *Spex*’s “100 Albums of the Century”, *Rolling Stone* “500 Greatest Albums of All Time” and “Essential Recordings of the 90s”, *Spin* magazine “90 Greatest Albums of the ‘90s”, *The Source* “Top 100 Best Rap Albums of All Time”, and *Vibe* magazine “100 Essential Albums of the 20th Century.” His recent credits include a stint with the band *Lucy Pearl*, and a solo project entitled *Shaheedullah and Stereotypes*.

Abdul Karim Muhammadawi  
IRAQ
Abdul Karim Muhammadawi is the Secretary General of the Iraqi Hizbollah, an Iraqi political party. He led a military struggle in the marshes of southern Iraq against the Ba’thist dictatorship for over 20 years, earning him the title “Lord of the Marshes.” Muhammadawi has been a member of the Iraqi Governing Council, the Transitional National Assembly, and the current Parliament.

Omar Naim  
UNITED STATES
Omar Naim is a film director who lives and works in Los Angeles. In 2004, he wrote and directed his first feature film, *The Final Cut*, which starred Robin Williams. The film won the best screenplay award at the Deauville Film Festival and was an official selection of the Berlin Film Festival. His thesis documentary, *Grand Theater: A Tale of Beirut*, was a finalist for the Student Oscar given by the AMPAS in 2000. Naim was raised in Jordan, Cyprus and Lebanon and attended Emerson College in Boston.

Norman P. Neureiter  
UNITED STATES
Norman P. Neureiter is the Director at the Center for Science, Technology, and Security Policy at the American Association for Advancement of Science. He also serves as Distinguished Presidential Fellow for International Affairs. He continues to serve as the Co-Chair of the Indo-U.S. Science and Technology Forum, a consultant position to the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. He received a B.A. in chemistry from the University of Rochester and a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Northwestern University.

Farhan Nizami  
INDIA/UNITED KINGDOM
Farhan Nizami is the Director of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies and the Prince of Wales Fellow in the Study of the Islamic World at Magdalen College, Oxford. He was educated at the Aligarh Muslim University and at Wadham College, Oxford. He has been a fellow of St. Cross College, Oxford and Rothman’s Fellow in Muslim History, and subsequently a fellow in Islamic Studies. Nizami is a member of the faculties of Modern History and Oriental Studies at the University of Oxford. He is the Editor and founder of the *Journal of Islamic Studies*.

Casey Noga  
UNITED STATES
Casey Noga is a Research Analyst at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, where he specializes in political analysis of Syria and Lebanon. He earned his B.A. from Dartmouth College and his M.A. from the American University of Beirut in Lebanon. Noga is currently working to enhance his Arabic language skills as a student at the Center for Advanced Proficiency in Arabic at Georgetown University.
Elina Noor  
MALAYSIA
Elina Noor is the Research Assistant for the Project on U.S. Policy towards the Islamic World at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution. Previously, she was an Analyst at the Bureau of Security and Foreign Policy at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies in Malaysia. Noor’s publications include a chapter in *Terrorism in the Asia-Pacific: Threat and Response* and chapters on Malaysia in the *Asia-Pacific Security Outlook* 2002 to 2005 series. Noor earned an M.A. in Jurisprudence from Oxford University, an LL.M in Public International Law from the London School of Economics, and an M.A. in Security Studies from Georgetown University.

Michael Nozik  
UNITED STATES
Michael Nozik recently produced the film *Syriana* and is the founding partner of the newly formed company, Serenade Films. A veteran of 16 years of producing, he received an Academy Award nomination for his work as the producer of the film *Quiz Show*. Among the other films that he has produced are *The Motorcycle Diaries*, about the Latin American revolutionary, Che Guevara; *How to Kill Your Neighbor’s Dog*; and the Academy Award nominated *Salaam Bombay*.

Ömür Orhun  
TURKEY
Ambassador Ömür Orhun is the Coordinator of the Broader Middle East Initiative for Turkey’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Orhun is also the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination Against Muslims.

Carlos Pascual  
UNITED STATES
Carlos Pascual recently joined the Brookings Institution as the Vice President and Director of Foreign Policy Studies. Previously, he was Director of the State Department’s Office of Reconstruction and Stabilization. Pascual served as U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine from 2000 to 2003. From 1998 to 2000, he served as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia in the U.S. Department of State. In this role, he advised the President on U.S. policy to advance security interests with Russia and reduce proliferation risks. Pascual received a B.A. in international relations from Stanford University and an M.A. in public policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Surin Pitsuwan  
THAILAND
Surin Pitsuwan has been a member of the Thai Parliament since 1986 and has served the same constituency for seven consecutive terms. He was the Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1992 to 2001, and served as Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister and Assistant Secretary to the Minister of the Interior. Pitsuwan has taught at Thammasart University and worked as a Columnist for the *Nation Review* and *Bangkok Post*. He is a member of the International Advisory Board of the Council on Foreign Relations and is a Co-Chair of the Commission on Human Security.

Kenneth M. Pollack  
UNITED STATES
Kenneth Pollack is the Director of Research and a Senior Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution. Previously he served as Director of Persian Gulf Affairs and Near East and South Asian Affairs at the National Security Council, Senior Research Professor at the National Defense University, and Iran-Iraq Military Analyst for the Central Intelligence Agency. Pollack’s most recent book, *The Persian Puzzle: The Conflict between Iran and America* was published in 2004. He is also the author of *The Threatening Storm: The Case for Invading Iraq* and *Arabs at War: Military Effectiveness, 1948-1991* (both published in 2002). Pollack received his B.A. from Yale University and Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Arif Rafiq
UNITED STATES
Arif Rafiq is an Intern with Project on U.S. Policy towards the Islamic World at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution. He previously worked at the public relations firms Ruder Finn and Burson-Marsteller, and on the Hillary Rodham Clinton 2000 U.S. Senate campaign. He is a second-year student in the M.A. in Arab studies program at Georgetown University, concentrating in politics. Rafiq received a B.A. in political science from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Atif Rafiq
UNITED STATES
Atif Rafiq is a Senior Advisor to AIC Associates, a consulting firm with offices in Washington, D.C., Dubai, and Kuala Lumpur. Before this, he served as Co-Founder and CEO of Covigna, an enterprise contract management software company. Rafiq was a founding member of the Business Affairs Group at AOL Time Warner and directed business development for Audible, a digital content/rights software company. He also worked at Goldman Sachs, where he advised numerous Fortune 500 executives on key financial management issues. Rafiq holds a B.S. in mathematics-economics from Wesleyan University and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago. He was named M.B.A. of the year in 2000.

Amina Rasul-Bernardo
PHILIPPINES
Amina Rasul-Bernardo is the Director of the Philippine Council for Islam and Democracy and a Trustee of the Magbassa Kita Foundation. She was a member of the Philippine Cabinet as Presidential Advisor on Youth Affairs under former President Fidel V. Ramos. Rasul-Bernardo has a distinguished record in business and finance, having served as Director of the Philippine National Oil Corporation and Director of the Development Bank of the Philippines. She is a founding member of the Muslim Professional and Business Women Association of the Philippines. Rasul-Bernardo holds a masters degree from the Asian Institute of Management in the Philippines and a masters degree from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Guy Raz
UNITED STATES
Guy Raz is a Correspondent for CNN. He covers a wide range of issues and events across Europe and the Middle East. Prior to this, Raz was based in London as a Foreign Correspondent for National Public Radio. Raz holds an M.A. in Modern History from Cambridge University.

Jeff Richardson
UNITED STATES
Jeff Richardson has been Principal Deputy Program Leader for the Proliferation Prevention and Arms Control (PPAC) program at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory since 1997. Effective April 25, 2004, Richardson was selected as the Division Leader for the newly organized P Division/Proliferation and Terrorism Prevention Program which supersedes the PPAC. Richardson received his B.S. in chemistry at the California Institute of Technology and his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Stanford University.

Imran Riffat
UNITED STATES
Imran Riffat, Financial Controller, joined Synergos in 2005. As a member of the management team, Riffat heads a group of professionals responsible for finance, strategic and annual planning functions of the organization. Prior to joining Synergos, Riffat completed twenty-five years with J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. where, from 1995-2003, he worked for the Investment Bank covering international client management activities for the Europe, Africa and Middle East Group. Riffat completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Punjab in Lahore and later obtained an MBA from Pace University in New York.

Iqbal Sacranie
UNITED KINGDOM
Sir Iqbal AKM Sacranie is the Secretary-General for the Muslim Council of Britain (MCB). He was the founding Secretary-General when the MCB was established in 1997. He also currently serves as a Fellow of the Institute of Financial Accountants, an Associate of the Institute of Administrative Management, and as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Balham Mosque and Tooting Islamic Centre. Sacranie was knighted in June 2005 for his service to charities and community relations.
Biographies Continued

Nabeel Sadoun
UNITED STATES
Nabil Sadoun is currently a member of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) board of directors and president of CAIR-Texas. Prior to his current position, Sadoun served as the director of the Islamic textbook project in Dallas, Texas. He has been a teacher and principal across the United States for the past twenty years. Sadoun holds an Ed.D. in educational administration, an M.A. in educational administration, and a B.A. in Islamic Studies.

Carol R. Saivetz
UNITED STATES
Carol R. Saivetz is a Research Associate at Harvard University’s Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, and a member of the Government Department, where she teaches courses on Russia and the Middle East. Saivetz serves as Director of Harvard Research for a new project entitled “Global Media Challenge: Six Views of One Event.” She is the author of numerous publications that deal with Russian policy toward the Middle East. She did her undergraduate work at Brandeis University and her graduate work at Columbia University.

Güven Sak
TURKEY
Güven Sak is the executive director of TEPAV Economic Policy Research Institute. A columnist for Radikal newspaper, for which he writes on economic issues, he is also Professor of Public Economics at the Faculty of Political Sciences at Ankara University, and a founding member of TOBB Economics and Technology University. His past policy-making experience includes prominent positions working on Turkish social security reform and capital market modernization. He was also a founding member of the Monetary Policy Council of the Central Bank of Turkey. Sak received an M.A. from the University of East Anglia and a Ph.D. in economics from the Middle East Technical University.

Samer Salty
UNITED KINGDOM
Samer Salty is the founder and CEO of Zouk Ventures Ltd. in London, a leading European venture capital firms that focuses on technology. Previously, he was a Vice President at JP Morgan in the firm’s Mergers and Global Markets division. Before investment banking, Salty designed and managed air traffic control systems for seven years while working directly as a consultant to Martin Marietta, Lockhead, Hughes Aircraft, AT&T and the U.S. Government. He helped start ARISE for Ashoka (Arab Region Initiative for Social Entrepreneurship). Salty earned degrees in electronic engineering and finance from California Polytechnic State University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Ahmed Samerai
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Ahmed Samerai works with Ingram Events, a specialized large-scale event management company based in Dubai. Ingram Events works to facilitate the design planning and management of large scale conferences Forums and events.

Eyad Sarraj
PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES
Eyad Sarraj is the leading human rights advocate in the Gaza Strip. A Palestinian psychiatrist, and founder and medical director of the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme (GCMHP), he chairs the Palestinian Independent Commission of Citizens’ Rights. He is a member of the International Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims and sits on the co-coordinating committee of the Campaign against Torture Victims. Sarraj has been jailed and tortured for criticizing the Palestinian Authority. He recently ran in the elections for the Palestinian Legislative Council. He has a Ph.D. in psychology from Harvard University.

Robert Satloff
UNITED STATES
Robert Satloff is Executive Director for the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. An expert on Arab and Islamic politics as well as U.S. Middle East policies, Satloff has written widely on the Arab-Israeli peace process and the political repercussions of Islamic politics on regional stability. His comments on Middle East issues have appeared in major newspapers such as the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, and Los Angeles Times. He also appears regularly on television and radio. He received a B.A. from Duke University, an M.A. from Harvard University, and a D.Phil. from Oxford University.
Cynthia P. Schneider
UNITED STATES
Cynthia P. Schneider is Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy and Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative Scholar-in-Residence at Georgetown University. Schneider taught art history for twenty years before changing direction to initiate a Life Science policy center, and writing and researching on cultural diplomacy. She is the former U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands. Schneider received a B.A. and a Ph.D. in Fine Arts from Harvard University.

Jillian Schwedler
UNITED STATES
Jillian Schwedler is Assistant Professor of Government and Politics at the University of Maryland, College Park. Schwedler is currently Chair of the Board of Directors of the Middle East Research and Information Project (MERIP), publishers of the quarterly journal Middle East Report. In 2002, she was elected Secretary of the Palestinian American Research Center (PARC). From 1991 to 1995, Schwedler was Program Officer for the Civil Society in the Middle East Project at New York University. She received her Ph.D. in politics from New York University.

Chris Seiple
UNITED STATES
Chris Seiple is President of the Institute for Global Engagement (IGE). He previously held the position of Executive Vice President of IGE. Before coming to the Institute, Seiple was an Earhart Fellow at the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy at Tufts University. From 1990 to 1999, he served as an Infantry Officer in the Marine Corps and served in the Pentagon’s Strategic Initiatives Group, an internal “think tank” for the Commandant of the Marine Corps. Seiple received a B.A. in international relations from Stanford University and an M.A. in National Security Affairs from the Navy Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Farid Senzai
UNITED STATES
Farid Senzai is a Fellow of Research at the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding, and an Adjunct Professor of Political Science at both California State University and Santa Clara University. Prior to joining ISPU, Senzai was a Research Associate at the Brookings Institution where he researched U.S. foreign policy towards the Middle East. His work has focused on the promotion of democracy in the Middle East. He also served as a Consultant to the World Bank. Senzai received his MA in international affairs from Columbia University and is a Ph.D. candidate in political science at Oxford University.

Raja Nazrin Shah
MALAYSIA
Raja Nazrin Shah is the Crown Prince of the state of Perak, Malaysia. He is also President of the Perak Council on Islam and Malay Custom and the Perak State Islamic Development Corp. He has written articles and spoken on a wide range of issues, including the role of constitutional monarchy in Malaysia, education, Islam and economic development. Shah received a B.A. in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from Oxford University, a Masters in Public Administration from the JFK Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in political economy and Government from Harvard University.

Christopher Shields
UNITED STATES
Shields is the President and founder of Shoreline Media, a leading entertainment, lifestyle, marketing and production firm. Shoreline Media acquires and develops unique festival properties and has been involved in events with leading sports organizations such as the International Olympic Committee, NASCAR, FIFA, and the Grand Prix. Formerly President of Paradise Entertainment’s (PDSE) entertainment division, Shields produced events including Garth Brooks in Central Park, and Madonna and Janet Jackson HBO specials. He began his career at Festival Productions, which produces the Newport Jazz and Folk Festivals, the New Orleans Jazz Festival, and the global JVC Jazz Festivals. Shields received his B.A. from Columbia University and studied jazz theory and harmony at the Berklee College of Music.
Khalil Shikaki
PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES
Khalil Shikaki is Director of the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research in Ramallah. Shikaki served as Director and Project Director at the Center for Palestine Research and Studies, and was the Editor of its Quarterly Journal of Palestine Policy. He was both Associate Professor of Political Science and Dean of Scientific Research at Al-Najah National University in Nablus. Shikaki has also been a Visiting Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the University of South Florida, and Columbia University. He has conducted numerous public opinion polls and published many articles about Palestinian politics and the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Zafar Siddiqi
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Zafar Siddiqi is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of CNBC Arabiya. He also serves as Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. Siddiqi previously spent eighteen years with KPMG. Having extensive experience in the Middle East and South Asia, he left the profession in 1996 and established a television production company in South Asia. Siddiqi then established Middle East Business News in 2001, the company that owns CNBC Arabiya. Siddiqi also is a Director on the board of the Academy of Science and Arts of New York.

Peter W. Singer
UNITED STATES
Peter W. Singer is a Senior Fellow of Foreign Policy Studies, and Director of the Project on U.S. Policy towards the Islamic World in the Saban Center at the Brookings Institution. He previously served as an Action Officer on the Balkans Task Force, Office of the Secretary of Defense. His book, Corporate Warriors: The Rise of the Privatized Military Industry, won an American Political Science Association award for the best political science publication in the field of U.S. national policy. His second book, Children at War, is presently being made into an A&E/History Channel documentary. He is presently working on a third book, Digital Warriors: Science Fiction, Science Reality and the 21st Century Battlefield. He received an A.B. from Princeton University and a Ph.D. from Harvard University. In 2005, CNN named him to their “New Guard” list of next generation newsmakers.

Joan E. Spero
UNITED STATES
Joan E. Spero is President of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF), which supports national grant making programs in the performing arts, environmental preservation, medical research and prevention of child abuse. She also serves as President of several operating foundations created by Doris Duke, including the Duke Farms Foundation in New Jersey and the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art in Hawaii. Spero served in the Clinton Administration as Undersecretary of State for Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs from 1993 to 1997. During the Carter Administration, she served as U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Economic and Social Council. Spero has also served as Executive Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Communications of American Express, Assistant Professor at Columbia University, and is the author of several books on international economics and banking. She earned a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin, and an M.I.A. and Ph.D. from Columbia University.

Awais Sufi
UNITED STATES
Awais Sufi is Director of Business Development at the International Youth Foundation. He previously served as Managing Director and General Counsel of the Education for Employment Foundation, and as an Associate Attorney with Arnold & Porter, a Washington, DC law firm. Sufi has held positions at Amnesty International, the United Nations War Crimes Commission for the Former Yugoslavia, and Advocates for Basic Legal Equality. He received a B.A. in political science and near eastern languages and civilizations from the University of Chicago and a J.D. from the University Of Texas School Of Law, where he served as an Associate Editor of the Texas Law Review.

Elin Suleymanov
AZERBAIJAN
Elin Suleymanov was recently appointed as Azerbaijan’s first Consul General to Los Angeles, California. Prior to that, he served as Senior Counselor at the Foreign Relations Department, Office of the President in Baku, Azerbaijan and as Press Officer for the Embassy of Azerbaijan in Washington, D.C. Before joining diplomatic service, Suleymanov worked with UNHCR in Azerbaijan and with the Open Media Research Institute in Prague, Czech Republic. A graduate of the Political Geography department of the Moscow State University, Suleymanov also holds graduate degrees from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and the University of Toledo, Ohio.
El Hassan bin Talal
JORDAN
Prince El Hassan bin Talal is a leading figure in Jordanian and Middle Eastern politics, a key figure in the search for Middle East peace and a leader in inter-religious dialogue. He was Crown Prince of Jordan to his brother, the late King Hussein, from April 1965 to January 1999, serving as the late king’s closest political advisor, confidant and deputy, and as acting as Regent in the king’s absence from the country. In addition to his many other activities, he has been a keen sponsor of youth projects, founding the Forum Humanum in 1982 (renamed, in 1988, the Arab Youth Forum); the Crown Prince Award in 1984 (renamed the El Hassan Youth Award in 1999), and its affiliate programme, the Sabilat El Hassan in 1988. The author of seven books he is also a qualified helicopter pilot. He has a BA from Christ Church, Oxford in Oriental Studies.

Puneet Talwar
UNITED STATES
Puneet Talwar currently serves as a Senior Staff Member on the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Prior to his current position, he was a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow. He served on the Policy Planning Staff of the U.S. Department of State from 1999 to 2001.

Amy Tan
UNITED STATES
Amy Tan is a Chinese-American writer best known for her novel, The Joy Luck Club, which later became a feature film. Her other notable books include The Kitchen God’s Wife, The Hundred Secret Senses and The Bonesetter’s Daughter. Tan has also written a collection of non-fiction essays entitled The Opposite of Fate: A Book of Musings.

Shibley Telhami
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Shibley Telhami is a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, a co-convenor of the Brookings Project on U.S. Policy Towards the Islamic World and the Anwar Sadat Professor for Peace and Development at the University of Maryland, College Park. Previously, he was an Associate Professor at Cornell University, and has held professorships at a number of other institutions. As a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow, he served as advisor to the United States delegation to the United Nations during the Iraq-Kuwait crisis. Telhami authored a report on Persian Gulf security for the Council on Foreign Relations, and co-drafted another Council report on the Arab-Israeli peace process. His most recent book is The Stakes: America and the Middle East. Telhami received a B.A. from Queens College, City University of New York and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley.

Chase Untermeyer
UNITED STATES
Chase Untermeyer is the U.S. Ambassador to Qatar. Prior to his appointment, Untermeyer was Vice President for Government Affairs and Professor of Public Policy at the University of Texas Health Science Center. In 1981, Untermeyer was appointed Executive Assistant to then-Vice President George H.W. Bush. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War as a Destroyer Officer in the Pacific and as an aide to the Commander of U.S. naval forces in the Philippines. Untermeyer began his career as a political reporter for the Houston Chronicle and as a member of the Texas House of Representatives, to which he was elected in 1976 from a district in Houston. He received a B.A. in Government from Harvard University.

Toni G. Verstandig
UNITED STATES
Toni G. Verstandig is a Senior Policy Advisor at the Center for Middle East Peace and Economic Cooperation. She previously served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Near Eastern Affairs at the State Department. In this capacity, Verstandig directed and coordinated U.S. bilateral relations and overall policy developments concerning Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinian Authority, as well as U.S. economic and commercial policies in the Middle East. She served for 17 years as senior staff to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the U.S. House of Representatives. Verstandig is a graduate of Boston University and Stephens College.
Amina Wadud
UNITED STATES
Amina Wadud is an Associate Professor of Islamic Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University and author of Qur’an and Woman: Rereading the Sacred Text from a Woman’s Perspective, the forthcoming Inside the Gender Jihad: Reform in Islam. An internationally known scholar on the subject of Islam and women, Wadud is also an expert on the influences of Islam in America. Her former appointments include professorships at the School of Divinity at Harvard University, the International Islamic University in Malaysia and the University of Qar Younis in Libya. She received a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, and an M.A. in near eastern studies and a Ph.D. in Islamic studies and Arabic from the University of Michigan.

Margaret Warner
UNITED STATES
Margaret Warner is a Senior Correspondent and substitute anchor for the PBS nightly news program, The Newshour with Jim Lehrer. Additionally, she is one of four co-anchors of America Abroad, an hour-long radio program devoted to foreign affairs aired on 90 public radio stations through Public Radio International. Warner joined The Newshour in 1993 after an award-winning career in print journalism. She spent ten years at Newsweek magazine, beginning as a Political and Campaign Correspondent, then serving as a White House Reporter, and finally as Chief Diplomatic Correspondent. Previously, she was a reporter for The Wall Street Journal, The San Diego Union, and The Concord (N.H.) Monitor. Warner received a B.A. from Yale University.

Lucas Welch
UNITED STATES
Lucas Welch is the President of Soliya, a nonprofit organization that uses new media technology to connect students at universities in the United States, Europe and predominantly Muslim countries, providing young adults with the cross-cultural knowledge, communication skills and international connections to improve relations between the West and the Muslim world. Welch previously worked for several years at ABC News on multiple documentaries for Peter Jennings. He has taught new media production at Birzeit University in the Palestinian Territories and spent considerable time working for ABC News in the Middle East.

Muna Wassef
SYRIA
Muna Wassef is a noted Syrian actress and a UN goodwill ambassador to Syria. Her career was launched in 1960 when she held the lead role in the Armed Forces Theater production of Green Perfume. She married film director Mohammad Chahin in 1963 and a year later joined the National Theater in such productions as Moliere’s Don Juan. Wassef gained international recognition after Syrian-American director Mustafa Akkad cast her as the leading female role, Hind, in The Message.

Anne Wexler
UNITED STATES
Anne Wexler is Chair of the Executive Committee for Wexler and Walker Public Policy Associates, which specializes in strategic development, lobbying, coalition development and management, communications and grassroots activities. She founded the firm’s predecessor, Wexler, Reynolds, Fuller, Harrison, and Schule in 1981 when she left the Carter White House, where she was Assistant to the President for Public Liaison. Wexler is also a Director of the Dreyfus Family of Funds, Wilshire Mutual Funds and the Methanex Corporation. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and the Boards of the Washington Economic Club and WETA. In 1989, Wexler received the Bryce Harlow Award, presented annually to the government relations professional who represents the highest standards of integrity and excellence. She holds a B.A in history from Skidmore College.
Tamara Cofman Wittes
UNITED STATES
Tamara Cofman Wittes is a Research Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution. Previously, she was Director of Programs at the Middle East Institute and Middle East Specialist at the U.S. Institute of Peace. Her work has addressed a wide range of topics, including Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations, humanitarian intervention, and ethnic conflict. Her current research concerns U.S. policy towards democratization in the Arab world and the challenge of regional economic and political reform. She is the editor and a contributor to How Israelis and Palestinians Negotiate: A Cross Cultural Analysis of the Oslo Peace Process (2005). Wittes received a B.A. from Oberlin College, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Georgetown University.

Robin Wright
UNITED STATES
Robin Wright, The Washington Post’s Diplomatic Correspondent, is a Visiting Fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution. During her time at the Saban Center, Wright will work on a book on the transformation of the Middle East. A veteran journalist who has reported from more than 130 countries, Wright has written books on Iran and militant Islam and won the United Nations correspondents’ Gold Medal in 2003, the Edward Weintal Prize for Diplomatic Reporting in 2001, the National Magazine Award in 1989 for reportage from Iran in The New Yorker and the Overseas Press Club Award for her coverage of African wars.

Daniel Yankelovich
UNITED STATES
Daniel Yankelovich is Founder and Chair of three organizations: Public Agenda, DYG Inc., and Viewpoint Learning. He is also Director of Loral Space and Communications Inc. and Director Emeritus of CBS, US West, the Meredith Corporation, Diversified Energies, and ARKLA. He has authored ten books, including Coming to Public Judgment, New Rules, and The Magic of Dialogue. Yankelovich was a founding President of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was educated at Harvard College, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Harvard College and the Sorbonne in Paris.

Sami Yusuf
UNITED KINGDOM
Sami Yusuf is an artist and composer whose music has been released by Awakening Records. His debut album, Al-Mu’allim, sold over 1 million copies world-wide, and BBC has described him as “the UK’s best Islamic singer.” Yusuf has performed to sold out crowds in the United Kingdom, United States, France, Germany, Sweden, Canada, Egypt, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. He studied music at the Royal Academy of Music in London.

Ian Zaider
UNITED STATES
Ian Zaider is President of IZ Management, Inc., a New York-based artist management firm. His clients have included such musicians as Madonna, Rod Stewart, Blondie and Junior Senior and multi-platinum producer Thomas Troelsen. Before IZ Management he was Director of Finance and Operations at Paradise Music and Entertainment. A member of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, he began his career at Triage International, a radio and retail marketing company promoting international artists and record labels in the United States. He has a B.A. in economics from Columbia University.

Mohd Annuar Bin Zaini
MALAYSIA
Mohd Annuar Bin Zaini is Chairman of the Malaysian National News Agency (BERNAMA). He is also a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia, Fellow of the Social Institute of Malaysia, and member of the Accreditation Privy Council Institute of Public Relations. He began his career in the government service as an Administrative and Diplomatic Officer in 1977, serving the Malaysian Government at various ministries and departments and was the Senior Private Secretary to the Minister of Home Affairs. He received a B.A. in economics from the National University of Malaysia and an M.A. in law and diplomacy from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

Biographies continued