

LIST OF SPEAKERS

Dr. Karim Emile Bitar



Dr. Karim Bitar is currently the Director of the Institute of Political Science at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut, a Senior Fellow at the Institute for International and Strategic Relations in Paris (IRIS) and Editor of French monthly public affairs magazine L'ENA hors les murs. He is an Associate Professor of International Relations at Lebanon's Université Saint-Joseph (USJ), an Associate Fellow at the Geneva Center for Security Policy (GCSP) and a Research Associate at Brussels' Institut Medea. He is a Professor of International Relations and of History of Political Thought at several French Grandes Ecoles.

He gave conferences and keynote addresses in more than 20 countries, and he frequently testifies before the Foreign Affairs Committees of the French and European Parliaments. Besides his academic and research activities, Dr. Bitar is a consultant in management, communication and public affairs (KB Consulting Group).

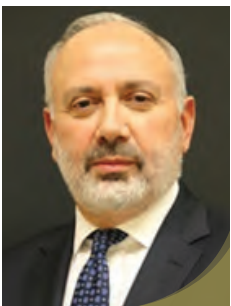
He graduated from France's National School of Administration (ENA) and from the Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po). He also studied Law at the University of Paris Sorbonne and obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and International Relations from McGill University. He spent his senior year at Harvard where he studied Government and specialized in Middle East Studies

Ms. Lina Moukheiber



Ms. Lina Moukheiber is the President of EMIL and was a candidate for a parliamentary seat in the 2018 elections. She is also Director of Development at Saint George Hospital University Medical Center. She previously served as the Middle East Program Executive for the World Council of Churches and as Regional Health Coordinator at the Middle East Council of Churches. She worked for the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene on various maternal and child health programs. Lina taught public health at the Faculty of Health Sciences at the American University of Beirut and sits on the Executive Board of the Chronic Care Center. She holds a Master's degree in Public Health and a BA in Biology from the University of Tennessee – Knoxville.

Mr. Ziad Hayek



Mr. Ziad Hayek is Secretary General of the Higher Council for Privatization of the Republic of Lebanon. Mr. Hayek has worked on reforming the country's power and telecoms sectors and has championed the enactment of Private-Public Privatization (PPP) legislation, and is currently negotiating with the United Nations to establish an International Center for PPP Excellence in Lebanon. Mr. Hayek is the Chairman of Alephbet Foundation. He is a partner of Hayek Associates, a boutique investment banking advisory firm.

Mr. Hayek serves on the boards of CAT International Ltd., and of Sté. des eaux de Tarshish SAL, a bottler of mineral water. He is the representative of the Fundación Carlos Slim in Lebanon and is a member on the boards of numerous NGOs financed by the Foundation. He was a consultant for the US State Department and was a member of the Council on Foreign relations from 1995 to 2010.

He holds an MA in International Management from the University of Texas at Dallas, a BBA from the University of Houston, and has studied business administration at the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, in Mexico.

H.E. Neemat Frem



H.E. Neemat Frem is a member of the Lebanese parliament and the President and CEO of INDEVCO Group, a Lebanese-owned and based multinational manufacturing group, managing 70 companies and employing over 10,400 people worldwide. From 2010 to 2014, he presided over the Association of Lebanese Industrialists (ALI) working on developing, promoting and nurturing the industrial sector and creating job opportunities. In 2013, he launched “A Better Lebanon”, a constructive initiative to generate public policies and to empower national public, private and civil society institutions and promote productive coexistence in the country.

Today, he is the President of the Maronite Foundation in the World, a Member of the Civic Influence Hub (CIH) Board of Councilors and Directors, President of PHELLIPOLIS, President of the Friends of Public Schools Association, an Advisory Council Member of the International Crisis Group, and a Board Member of the Islamic-Christian Dialogue.

Mr. Charles Arbid



Mr. Charles Arbid is the President of the Economic and Social Council of Lebanon. He was President of the Lebanese Franchise Association, member of the Lebanese Economic Bodies, Chairman of the Mediterranean Franchise Association, Vice President of the Association of Lebanese Industrialists, Founding and board member of BADER – Entrepreneurship Support Program, former member of the Board of Directors of Industrial Research Institute, President of Renouveau Grec Catholique, members of the Board of Directors of the Chambre de Commerce Franco-Libanaise, and member of MERE – Mouvement des Entreprises et Représentations Economiques Françaises au Liban. He holds a BA in Economics from the American University of Beirut.

Ms. Sahar Al-Attar



Ms Al-Attar is Chief Editor of Le Commerce du Levant, the only monthly economic magazine published in French in the Middle-East and writes for L'Orient-Le Jour. Her articles focus on financial, banking, commercial, industry, and economic matters, with special attention to the Lebanese Economy. In addition, she has published extensively on the CEDRE conference as well as on the McKinsey report.

Dr. Samir Nasr



Dr. Samir Nasr is the Founder and chairman of ECE Group, and ECE Capital. Dr. Nasr previously held a number of executive senior positions including: consultant and advisor at the OECD, Chairman of the economics department at the Lebanese University. He was also the financial advisor of the Qatari government covering multiple economic and business initiatives. He was appointed chairman of the National Investment Guarantee Corporation in Lebanon since 1993 for 5 consecutive mandates. Dr. Nasr serves as Member of Advisory Board at Phoenician Funds.

In October 2010, he received the World Quality Commitment International Star Award by an International Selection Committee of the Business Initiative Directions. This award was delivered in recognition of outstanding commitment to Quality and Excellence in the realm of Customer Satisfaction, leadership innovation and Technology. Dr. Nasr earned MA in Economics from American University of Beirut in 1976 and PhD in Economics from Sorbonne University in 1980.

Dr. Fouad Zmokhol



Dr. Fouad Zmokhol holds a doctorate in business administration from Newport University, USA. He was the president of the Lebanese Businessmen Association (RDCL) from 2011 until 2016. He is founder and president of the Association of Lebanese Business People in the World (RDCL World), established in 2017. He is the CEO and Co-owner of Zimco Group, a holding that integrates a printing press, leather factory, diary publishing house, and advertising agency. Dr. Zmokhol continues to share his secrets to success and motivational insights as Professor of Managerial Strategies and Entrepreneurship at Saint Joseph University (USJ) and the Lebanese American University (LAU).

H.E. Adel Afioni



H.E. Adel Afioni is the current Minister of State for Information Technology in Lebanon. He is a board member of the Lebanese International Finance Executives (LIFE) since 2013 and a founding member of LIFE, a worldwide membership organization that currently boasts over 1000 Lebanese finance professionals around the world.

He spent more than 25 years in major international investment banks in Paris, New York and London. Over his 17 years' career at Credit Suisse Investment Bank, Adel held a number of senior positions in Emerging Markets across both Global Markets and Investment Banking. He has also Participated in several economic conferences in Lebanon and is the author of several articles on ways to deal with the economic crisis, reform, and growth.

Adel is an engineering graduate of Ecole Polytechnique in Paris. He also holds a Master's degree in Economics and Finance from the University of Paris I Pantheon- Sorbonne in Paris, and a Master's degree in Telecommunications Engineering from ENST Paris.

Dr. Youssef El Khalil



Dr. Youssef El Khalil is the director of the Financial Operations Department at Banque du Liban (BDL) and an advisor to the Lebanese NGO Association for the Development of Rural Capacities (ADR).

He is also a part-time lecturer in the Economics department at the American University of Beirut. He holds a doctorate from the University Clermont Auvergne in France.

Dr. Mona Fawaz



Dr. Mona Fawaz is an associate professor of urban planning and studies in the Department of Architecture and Design at the American University of Beirut. Based on an interdisciplinary approach that looks at actor strategies, legal/informal regulatory frameworks, and property regimes, her work investigates the social production of city spaces in a series of empirical case studies taken in informal settlements as well as in large-scale public and private urban developments.

Dr. Fawaz completed her graduate studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) after earning a bachelor of architecture at the American University of Beirut.

Dr. Jad Chaaban



Dr. Jad Chaaban is an Associate Professor of Economics at the American University of Beirut (AUB). His primary research interests are in development economics and industrial organization, and his extended interests include public economics of health, education and labor policies, in addition to agricultural and environmental economics.

Dr. Chaaban has served as an economic policy advisor to various Lebanese ministries and public agencies. Prior to joining AUB in September 2006 he was an economist in the World Bank's Middle East regional office. He was also the president and one of the founding members of the Lebanese Economic Association (LEA) from 2007 until 2014.

He holds a BA in Economics from the American University of Beirut, an MBA from the European School of Management, a master's in Agricultural, Environmental and Natural Resources Economics, and a PhD in Economics from the Toulouse School of Economics in France.

H.E. Dr. Georges Corm



H.E. Dr. Georges Corm is a Lebanese economist and a former Minister of Finance in Lebanon. In this capacity, he designed and began to implement a Five Year Fiscal Stabilization Plan (1999-2004), prepared the Privatization law adopted in spring 2000, paid all State arrears to the private sector and prepared the introduction of VAT (law, implementation regulations and training).

He previously worked as an independent Economic and Financial Consultant for International institutions like the World Bank, ESCWA, FAO, AFD, the European Commission and Arab and Lebanese institutions, as well as for private companies and banks in more than 15 countries.

Dr. Corm studied at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (1958-1961) where he graduated in Public Finance and has also a PhD from Paris University in Constitutional Law (1969). His books have been translated into several languages. In 2018, he was the recipient of the Prix de l'Essai for his work *La Nouvelle Question d'Orient*.

Mr. Samir El Daher



Mr. Samir El Daher has been Advisor for Economic Affairs and Development to the Prime Minister of Lebanon from 2011 to 2014.

He has 32 years of experience in the World Bank, from which he retired as Senior Regional Advisor for the Middle East and North Africa. He worked on public policies related to economic development and reform. His experience, gathered in developing and emerging economies in MENA, Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia, covers: public finance, fiscal policy and debt management; decentralization and local government finance; banking sector restructuring and privatization; infrastructure and project finance; risk and asset management; and pension system and social protection reform. Prior to joining the World Bank, he had worked in France in research, management consulting, and structural engineering.

Mr. Samir El Daher is a graduate of the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Paris, and holds degrees in mathematical sciences

Ms. Alia Moubayed



Ms. Alia Moubayed is a Managing Director at Jefferies. She is an experienced economist and public policy practitioner with a demonstrated history of working in investment banks, international financial institutions, government and think tanks. She is the former director of Geo-economics and Strategy at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London. She previously served as director and head of research at Barclays Investment Bank, senior economist at the World Bank, managing director – Economic and Social Fund for Development at the Council for Development and Reconstruction, and the advisor to the Ministry of Economy and Trade.

She holds a diploma in Public Administration from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration, as well as an MBA and a BA in Economics from the American University of Beirut (AUB).

Dr. Sami Nader



Dr. Sami Nader is the director of the Levant Institute for Strategic Affairs (LISA), focusing on the economics and geopolitics of the Levant. He is a columnist for Al-Monitor's Lebanon Pulse, an economist, a Middle Eastern affairs analyst and communications expert with extensive expertise in corporate strategy and risk management. As a professor at the Saint Joseph University in Beirut, he is also involved in the academic field.

Mrs. Catherine Moukheibir



Mrs. Catherine Moukheibir started her career as a strategy consultant and investment banker in NY, Boston and London. Twenty years ago, she transferred her capital markets and corporate strategy skills to the real economy, specializing in the European biotech sector. She has chaired or been a board member and chair of the audit committees of more than a dozen private and public biotech companies, accompanying them from the venture capital stage to NASDAQ or M&A. In addition, she serves on the advisory board of Imperial College Business School and aims to spend as much time as possible in Lebanon.

Mrs. Moukheibir holds an MA degree in Economics and an MBA from Yale University.