

SYRIA 2025 ENGAGES THE COMMUNITY ON SYRIA'S FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Jusoor announces partnerships and pledges of over \$1.3M to support the education of Syrian students

New York 18, Nov 2012 - Over \$1.3 Million committed by over 30 global universities to support Syrian students and scholars as part of the global consortium for syrian higher education announced by Jusoor in partnership with IIE (International Institute of Education), IIT (Illinois Institute of Technology) , and EducationUSA.

The announcement was made at Jusoor's First Annual Gobar Conference and Dinner in New York on November 16th. The event attracted nearly 200 participants over the course of the weekend. Participants attended from across North America and the world, including London, Dubai, Damascus, Jeddah, Kuwait, and Beirut. There was strong participation from highly accomplished Syrian students from around the world, including Germany, the UK, Canada, Syria and the US, who were supported by grants made by the Asfari Foundation.

The dinner included an art auction of 13 works by prominent and emerging Syrian artists that helped raise nearly \$100,000 towards the Jusoor Scholarship For Syrian Advancement partnerships. The conference featured nearly 15 speakers on topics ranging from economic reconstruction, youth development, and diaspora engagement models. The keynote speakers were Ayman Asfari, Group CEO of Petrofac and Kito de Boer, Public Sector Director at McKinsey's Middle East Office. Other prominent speakers included Nasser Rabbat, Professor at MIT; Lara Setrakian, Journalist and Founder of Syria Deeply. The conference ended with three very productive working sessions where participants discussed potential initiatives and vision for Syria in 2025 to support Syrian youth development, engaging the global Syrian community in Syrian development, and building a strong global network of Syrians around the world.

About Jusoor

Jusoor was founded in June of 2011 and is an organization that is focused on bringing together and engaging the global Syrian expatriate community in efforts that will help Syria and its people realize their full potential. Jusoor is working to link the 20 million Syrians outside of Syria with the 20 million Syrians inside Syria. Our programs thus far have been primarily focused on providing scholarships and mentorship to youth in Syria by drawing on the support of the global Syrian community around the world.

Jusoor believes that youth in Syria should have access to profoundly better opportunities in the years to come. In particular, we hope for a nation that embraces democracy, respects human rights and rule of law and encourages free speech and the exchange of ideas. We hope for a country that offers its people high standards of living, underpinned by a strong education system. And we hope for a country that promotes opportunity, in which every young woman and man grows up with hope and dreams for the future and finds opportunities within the country's

borders.

Jusoor is a non-political organization with strictly no ties to any political entity. Jusoor's programs do not differentiate according to political views, ethnicity, religion or gender.

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