



JUSOOR'S 4TH
ANNUAL GLOBAL CONFERENCE

SYRIANS AS GLOBAL CITIZENS:
PATHS TOWARDS SUCCESS IN EUROPE

FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN | JUNE 4TH, 2016



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WELCOME LETTER

Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us at Jusoor's Fourth Annual Global Conference. It is wonderful to be establishing a tradition in which Syrians meet every year in a different city to discuss how we can collectively make a difference for our beloved country. The enthusiasm with which Syrians from around the world have embraced Jusoor's mission is deeply inspiring - our network has grown to over 115,000 individuals; compare that to 4,000 at the time of our first conference in New York in November 2012, 25,000 at our second conference in London in October 2013, and 75,000 at our third conference in Los Angeles in February 2015. Let's continue to build on this momentum today, with a conference full of enriching discussions and new ideas.

We are very proud to be hosting this year's event in Berlin. We carefully select the city for our annual conference each year, looking to bring Jusoor to a new part of the world with every conference. Germany has been a country that has set an example for the rest of the world, opening its doors to Syrian refugees. The innovation around education, employment and social integration for Syrians and other migrants that is underway in Germany today is incredibly heartening and informative. So we are here to learn and build new collaborations as we return home to tackle similar challenges around the world.

Our goal for today's event is that each individual leaves with:

- More hope for the future;
- A rejuvenated energy and inspiration for working collaboratively; and
- A deeper understanding of potential solutions for supporting Syrian education and employment in Europe and around the world.

The teamwork that went into making our Fourth Annual Conference and Philanthropy Dinner possible was deeply inspiring. We would like to thank our Conference and Charity Dinner planning committee for their extraordinary effort to make this gathering a success and by doing so to support the cause of Syrian education: Baylassan Ahmad, Dalia Khalatbari, Dina Masri, Loujaine Kahaleh, Majd Zeidan, Natalie Wei, Omar Shaya, and Soulafa Mamlouk. They have worked tirelessly over the past 3 months. What an inspiring team!

We would also like to thank our partners for today's event: DAAD and Freie Universität Berlin.

Jusoor's hope is that we continue to build on this momentum year after year. Indeed, our hope is that over time the Syrian global community will become the most organized expatriate community in the world. Imagine what we can do for Syria if every Syrian family around the world is involved in some capacity.

We are looking forward to a very inspiring conference and Philanthropy Dinner. A heartfelt thanks to each of you for joining us today and for your commitment to Syria.

Sincerely,
Jusoor Leadership Team

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

As the Syrian conflict enters its 5th year, thousands of Syrians have left their homes as refugees, with many settling in Europe. Jusoor's 2016 global conference focuses on higher education, innovative non-formal education projects, career development, and social integration for Syrians in Europe. Our aim is to provide space for sharing and cultivation of ideas -- engaging corporations, non-profit organizations, community leaders, and established Syrian communities in Europe to scale successes and mobilize support toward them.

The conference focuses on the following themes:

Higher Education for Syrians in Europe

Communities around the world continue to call for a no-lost-generation of Syrian youth, including access to higher education. We seek to shed light on the status of higher education for Syrians in Europe in general and specifically in Germany as a case study, looking at successes and challenges.

Career Development and Economic Opportunities for Syrians in Europe

Thousands of Syrians have moved to Europe in the past year, including students, young and senior professionals, and previous business owners. The conference aims to shed light on how the European market has enabled this human capital through sharing success stories, challenges, and opportunities.

Social integration and thriving for Syrians in Europe

An astounding number of Syrians have moved to Europe recently as refugees or forced migrants. This conference looks at how to foster and accelerate the creation of healthy relationships between Europe's current citizens and their future citizens.

Similar to our last three conferences — New York in 2012, London in 2013, and Los Angeles in 2015 — this conference draws participants from around the world, including Syrian leaders in all fields as well as students. We very much hope you will have a memorable and impactful day!

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:15	Welcome Address
9:15 - 9:45	Keynote Address
9:45 - 11:15	Panel on Higher Education for Syrians in Europe: The Example of Germany
11:15 - 11:30	Coffee & Networking Break
11:30 - 11:45	Lightning Talks: Access to Knowledge Beyond the Classroom
11:45 - 12:00	Lightning Talks: Leveraging Technology
12:00 - 13:00	Networking Lunch
13:00 - 13:15	Lightning Talks: Taking it Global
13:15 - 14:45	Panel on Career Development and Economic Opportunities for Syrians in Germany: A Case Study for Europe
14:45 - 15:15	Coffee & Networking Break
15:15 - 15:30	Lightning Talks: Grassroots Response
15:30 - 16:45	Workshops
16:45 - 17:00	Conference Close

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Salman Shaikh

Founder and CEO, The Shaikh Group LTD, #WeCare

Salman Shaikh is the Founder and CEO of The Shaikh Group, a political consultancy established to facilitate dialogue and conflict resolution in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, including Syria. Such dialogues seek to advance practical initiatives that promote peace, tolerance, mutual security, and shared economic prosperity. Before establishing TSG, Shaikh was the Director of the Brookings Doha Centre from 2011 - 2015 where his areas of research included Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, and the Gulf states. Shaikh worked with the United Nations for nearly a decade, including as Special Assistant to the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (2000-3); Special Assistant for the Middle East and Asia in the Office of the UN Undersecretary-General for Political Affairs (2003-2006); and as Political Adviser to the UN Secretary-General's Personal Representative for Lebanon (2006-7). Shaikh also served as the Director for Policy and Research in the private office of HH Sheikha Mozah al-Missned (2007-9).

MASTER OF CEREMONIES



Maya Alkateb-Chami

Director, Jusoor

Maya Alkateb-Chami is the Director of Jusoor, a Syrian-expatriates-based organization working on helping Syria through education. She previously co-founded and led the United World Colleges' Syrian scholarship program, with \$2.5+ million in awarded scholarships. Maya served as a consultant and trainer in the areas of NGO capacity-building and youth engagement, including for UNRWA and the Maastricht School of Management. From 2009-2012, she managed Al Makan Art Association, designing and implementing community-arts programs across Syria. Recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship, Maya's MSc. research at Indiana University Bloomington focused on youth empowerment through the arts. She holds a BA in Political Science from Damascus University and sits on the U.S. National Art Education Association review committee of educational resources focusing on art and social theory. She is the author of *Syrian Silk: Portrait of a Living Cultural Heritage*.

WELCOME ADDRESS SPEAKERS



Prof. Dr. Peter-André Alt

President of Freie Universität Berlin

Prof. Alt has been President of Freie Universität Berlin since 2010 and was re-elected in 2014. He is also the Director of the Dahlem Research School since 2008, President of the German Schiller Society, and Chairperson of German UI5 since 2014. From 2007 to 2010 Prof. Alt was a member of the Academic Senate of Freie Universität Berlin and Spokesperson of the Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School of Literary Studies, for which Freie Universität Berlin raised funding in the German Excellence competition for universities. He has been a full professor of modern German literature since 1995, and from 2007 to 2009, he served as Dean of the Department of Philosophy and Humanities at Freie Universität Berlin. Prof. Alt has published numerous books on German literature of the 17th, 18th, and 20th centuries. The city of Marbach awarded him its Schiller Prize in 2005 in recognition of his two-volume biography of Schiller.



Christian Müller

Director, Department of Strategy at DAAD

Christian Müller directs the Department of Strategy at the German Academic Exchange Services (DAAD), where he has been working since January 2002. He served at DAAD Brazil from 2009 to 2014, heading the DAAD branch office in Rio de Janeiro. Simultaneously, he was President of the Board of the German Center for Science and Innovation (DWIH), São Paulo. Prior to this appointment, he was head of the Division "Communication and Marketing" at the DAAD in Bonn. In this function, he was responsible for the secretariat of the consortium GATE-Germany and for the secretariat of the joint initiative "International Marketing for Education and Research". In former years, he worked as university lecturer for German Language and Literature in Portugal (Aveiro) and Brazil (Campinas, Rio de Janeiro) as well as in the training of experts in development cooperation (German Foundation for International Development). His academic background is in Social Sciences and German Studies at the Universities of Göttingen and Bonn.

PANELS

Panel on Higher Education for Syrians in Europe: The Example of Germany

This panel presents Germany as a case study for solving the crisis of higher education for Syrian youth in Europe. It shares efforts that have been taken so far by governmental and non-governmental organizations alike, and by academic institutions, and challenges, and successes for thought and action.

Moderator



Esther Saoub - Journalist, SWR

Esther Saoub is a journalist reporting for German Public TV (ARD) and ARTE TV. She is focused on foreign and European affairs and the Middle East. She has formerly worked as foreign correspondent for ARD-German Public Radio in Cairo, Egypt. Before her training as a TV and radio journalist she studied Comparative Literature, Islamic and Jewish Thoughts at Freie Universität Berlin. She also studied Arabic in Damascus, Syria, with a scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

Panelists



Dr. Bashar Diar Bakerly - DAAD Alumnus

Bashar Diar Bakerly is currently working as senior specialist in the field of flame retardant additives and specialty materials in Bergheim. Originally from Aleppo, Syria, he studied chemistry at the Aleppo University and the University of Bayreuth from 2002-2013. He holds a PhD in the field of inorganic chemistry. During his studies he used to work as a tutor in Syria and Germany. He is Alumni of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) as well as of the Elite Network of Bavaria. Dr. Bakerly volunteers as the Project Manager for Syria at the Kriegskindernothilfe humanitarian organization.



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Edgar Kaade - LfS-Scholar

Edgar Kaade graduated with a bachelor degree as biotechnical engineer from the Aleppo University in 2014. Currently he is enrolled in a Master degree program (Biomedical Science) at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. Since April 2015 he holds a scholarship within the program "Leadership for Syria" (LfS), which aims to support the academic qualification and advancement of young Syrian scholars in Germany. Before Edgar Kaade got the funding within the LfS-Program, he was Erasmus Mundus scholarship holder for one semester. He worked as a volunteer with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and UNHCR in Syria. Since February 2016 he got involved with the German Red Cross.



Dr. Florian Kohstall - Coordinator of Welcome to Freie Universität and Head of Cairo office of Freie Universität Berlin

Florian Kohstall is the head of Freie Universität Berlin Cairo Office. Since October 2015 he is also the Coordinator of Welcome@FU Berlin, a programme to facilitate migrants the access to the university. Kohstall holds a Ph.D. from Freie Universität Berlin and Institut d'Études Politiques d'Aix-en-Provence on Higher Education and Reform Policies in Egypt and Morocco. Prior to joining FU Berlin, he was a research fellow at the French research center CEDEJ. He has been teaching political science in Aix-en-Provence, Lyon and Cairo. He researched and published on political elections, university reform, political change and the role of international donor organizations in the Middle East and North Africa MENA. Since 2013 Kohstall is an elected member of the Arab German Young Academy AGYA.

Panel on Career Development and Economic Opportunities for Syrians in Germany: A Case Study for Europe

This panel sheds light on how the European market has enabled the recently arriving human capital from Syria. The panel specifically looks at potential opportunities capitalizing on skills of the incoming workforce, successful new ventures and models supporting the employment and job training of newly arriving Syrians in Europe piloted by NGOs and the governmental and business sectors, and opportunities for entrepreneurs and building/adapting startups to new markets.

Moderator



Mouaz Al Qudsi - Co-Founder, Refugees on Rails

Mouaz Al Qudsi is a Berlin-based back-end Software Engineer. He is currently studying Computer Science at the Technical University of Berlin, after studying in Damascus University. He is one of the Co-Founders of Refugees on Rails, which offers refugees an opportunity to enrich Europe's culture and empower its economy, by helping them build and expand their qualification as software developers and providing them with skills that improve their chances on the labour market. With the help of volunteer-based organizations, Refugees on Rails allocates donated laptops to refugees and provides them with high quality educational resources, which enable them to learn programming step by step by following clear instructions. IT students and professionals accompany and facilitate the learning process as mentors.

Panelists



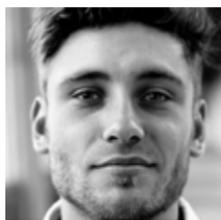
Dr. Anita Renusch - Head of the Employment Agency Berlin Süd

Dr. Anita Renusch is Division Head at the Federal Employment Agency. Since 2015, she has been in charge of the organizational structure and content of services offered for asylum seekers in Berlin where there is a specialized expert team for the labour market integration of asylum seekers as well as an expert team assisting employers who want to engage refugees. Her team members amongst other things conduct initial interviews directly on the premises of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees. Since 2013, Dr. Renusch has also been volunteering at the project Akinda for unaccompanied refugee minors.



Jeroen van Marle - Managing Editor Dutch, Secret Escapes

Jeroen van Marle is a travel writer and editor based in Berlin. He's the Dutch editor for Secret Escapes, an international leisure, travel, and tourism company that provides holiday solutions and advice to a network of 25+ million members worldwide. At the Berlin office of Secret Escapes, Jeroen coordinates a team of 10-15 enthusiastic volunteers who help Syrian newcomers write their first German-language CVs and register them on a job search platform. Several of these Syrians have found jobs or internships, and one candidate was employed at the Secret Escapes office for several months as an office assistant, which was a good experience for all involved.



Karl Milos Liebich - Business Developer and Project Manager, Workeer

Workeer is the first training and job market in Germany that is specifically aimed at refugees. Through this platform, a suitable environment is created for businesses to meet job seekers, where numerous job opportunities in different industries and locations in Germany are posted alongside employers' and applicant profiles. The platform strives to facilitate simple and uncomplicated exchange between refugees and employers. Karl Milos Liebich holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Engineering from the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology in Germany and is currently a Project Manager/Business Developer at Workeer, in charge of Brand Establishment, Financial Planning, and Coordinating Volunteers.



Max Klasen - Project Officer, Network of Companies to Integrate Refugees, DIHK Service GmbH

Max Klasen has worked in the field of career guidance since 2011. From 2011 until mid 2013 he worked at the county business development agency pro Wirtschaft GT and from mid 2013 until end of 2014 at the regional development agency OstWestfalenLippe GmbH. Before beginning as project officer with the Network of Companies to Integrate Refugees at the DIHK Service GmbH he was a development worker in Kabul with the German development agency Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH. Max is pursuing a Master's Degree in Sustainable Development from Technische Universität Kaiserslautern and a Master's in History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science from Universität Bielefeld.

LIGHTNING TALKS

We have seen entrepreneurs and organizations around Europe and internationally respond in creative ways to challenges in access to education and work, posed by different aspects of the refugee crisis. A collection of presentations or Lightning Talks - similar to Ted Talks -, highlights some of these successes, ranging from welcoming the newcomers to the host community, to technology solutions, and access to libraries and culture.

Access to Knowledge Beyond the Classroom

Syrian Researchers - Presented by Mouhannad Malek



The Syrian Researchers initiative aims to raise awareness of science in the Arab world. With a team of more than 450 volunteers who identify, translate, and communicate scientific articles through different media, its online platform is the number one Arabic scientific website in the world in terms of visits and content, with over 1.8 million followers on social media channels, and reaching over 2 millions Arabic speakers per week around the world.

Dr. Mouhannad Malek holds a Ph.D. in Cellular Biology and Oncology from Lyon University and works as a scientist at the Cambridge University-affiliated Babraham Institute in the UK. He founded the Syrian Researchers initiative in 2012 and leads it today. In 2014, he created CAMSCREEN LTD, a DNA specialised company that takes advantage of the latest scientific studies to make out of science a tool for better understanding of the human body, preventing diseases and offering solutions to improve health. Starting in 2015, Dr. Malek started to collaborate with the European Commission on the Science4Refugees program, which aims to help integrate refugees in European societies through Science. He dreams of making science a base on which a new dynamic could be built in the Middle East.

Kiron University - Presented by Vincent Zimmer, Managing Director



Kiron is a social start up whose mission is to eliminate barriers for refugees to access higher education by charging no tuition fee and without asking for their legal status.

Vincent Zimmer is the Managing Director and Co-Founder of Kiron. As a serial entrepreneur, he previously co-founded 5 international startups from Shanghai to Sao Paulo across diverse sectors including healthcare and higher education, in addition to working as a consultant for the evaluation of EU programs. Vincent is a scholar of the Friedrich-Naumann Foundation and of the social impact Lab Berlin, a fellow of the Ludwig Erhard Foundation, and was awarded several prizes for social impact by the AKB-foundation. He was selected as a responsible leader of the BMW Foundation and was listed in Forbes 30 under 30 in 2015. Vincent holds a Master in International Economics from Göttingen University and in Public Policy from London School of Economics, and is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Göttingen University.

Leveraging Technology

Ideas Box - Presented by Diana Puyo, Director of Operations, Libraries without Borders



Ideas Box is a comprehensive portable media centre, with an in-built power source. Powerful, standardized, customizable, and easy to use. A project of Libraries Without Borders, the Ideas Box is a major innovation for improving access to information and culture for all, even in crisis situations.

Diana has been leading Libraries Without Borders' operations since 2014, driving the program and project implementation teams and the global coordination of LWB's operational strategies regarding the deployment of Ideas Box. With previous experience in profit, non-profit, and international organizations, Diana strives to identify cross cutting and creative approaches with her teams to implement innovative operations addressing educational challenges globally.

NetHope - Presented by Isaac Kwamy, Global Programs Director, Disaster Preparedness and Response



NetHope enables cross-sector collaboration between nonprofits and innovative companies to develop better programs, mitigate risks, and scale benefits for greater impact in areas of crisis, capitalizing on information technology.

As the Director of Global Programs, Disaster Preparedness, and Response at NetHope, Isaac leads NetHope's Humanitarian Operations Programs, including the Emergency Response Working Group. Prior to that, he worked for World Vision International, leading the first NGOs Emergency Telecommunication Cluster Coordinator, a model that has now been adopted as standard for all large scale emergency response. Isaac is an expert on the use and adoption of technologies to enable relief operations over a vast number of contexts.

Taking it Global

Global Platform for Syrian Students - Presented by Helena Barroco, Director of the Platform and Diplomatic Adviser to President Sampaio



The Global Platform for Syrian Students is an emergency scholarship program launched by former President of Portugal, Jorge Sampaio, to support Syrian students struck by the conflict to finalize their university degrees. Its mission includes international advocacy for prioritizing higher education in emergency response.

Helena Barroco is a Portuguese Diplomat. For the past years, she has mainly worked on UN issues as diplomatic adviser to former President of Portugal, Jorge Sampaio, namely on the UN Alliance of Civilizations. She is now focused on the Global Platform for Syrian Students as the Director of the organization.

Syrian Music Lives - Presented by Hannibal Saad, Director



Syrian Music Lives aims to preserve Syrian music despite the current circumstances of the country. It does so through creating a permanent link between Syrian musicians and presenting their latest news, activities, and creative work through forum participations, concerts, release of music albums, and publishing articles and interviews. The organization's project 'Global Week for Syria' recently presented hundreds of Syrian and international artists through performances in 30+ cities around the world.

Hannibal Saad is the director of Syrian Music Lives. A music manager and festival artistic director by trade, he created and ran two renowned international music festivals and music-centered conferences in Syria in multiple editions prior to the crisis. He is passionate about creating international cross-over projects between the Arab world and the rest of the world.

Grassroots Response

Syrisches Haus - Presented by Monis Bukhari



Syrisches Haus focuses on networking, organizing, supporting, and representing the interests of the Syrian Community in Germany. It organizes events that support integration within the German society, such as artistic, music, sport, and cooking activities, plus educational workshops in collaboration with the Migration HUB Network. Syrisches Haus (The Syrian House) also facilitates and supports campaigns to support integration and launch issues into the political discussion of the German society and international community. These include "Danke Deutschland," "Why not Syria," and "Recht auf Uni."

Monis Bukhari is a visual artist, journalist, and blogger. He has studied, practiced, taught, and written about intentional networking and cultivating powerful connections and business referrals for more than 15 years. As a photographer and filmmaker by training, Monis is affiliated with Foto Community Deutschland, Charta der Vielfalt, re:publica, NDI, IWPR, RSF, WDR, SWR, and DW. He fulfills his passion to inspire motivated people to live, work, and connect through the Syrisches Haus.

SINGA - Presented by Vinzenz Himmighofen, Co-Founder



SINGA's mission is to create a collaborative environment in which newcomers and locals connect around common projects and ideas. Thereby, SINGA strengthens local capabilities to include new talents and positively changes the way they are viewed by their host societies. The organization also operates in France, Belgium, Canada, and Australia and has won several awards for its social innovations.

Vinzenz Himmighofen is Co-Founder of SINGA Deutschland. He is a graduate of the Mercator Fellowship on International Affairs and currently Fellow to the Council of Europe's Civic Roundtable. Vinzenz earned his degrees in Political Science and Islamic Studies from Heidelberg University and the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London. Within SINGA, one of his main areas of work is to run a professional mentoring program that brings together local and newly arrived colleagues.

WORKSHOPS

Accessing Higher Education

A lot of organizations and institutes globally have stepped up to help Syrian students continue their higher education. However, there continues to be a gap between that goodwill and having it materialize in actual students on campuses. This workshop particularly aims to raise the following points to inspire connection and discussion:

- What are the key obstacles that stand between university-age Syrian students who are currently in Europe and continuing their university education?
- What have been the most successful efforts to fill these gaps? Whether by academic institutions, student groups, or other organizations.
- And can some of these challenges and successes also benefit institutions looking to have Syrian students who are not currently in Europe as well?
- Also, what role are academic institutions playing in enabling young professionals to adjust their skills to match the European market?

Career Development and Labor Market Integration

Thousands of Syrians have moved to Europe in the past year with different professional and educational backgrounds, including students, young and senior professionals, and previous business owners. This workshop particularly aims to raise the following points to inspire connection and discussion:

- How can Syrians coming to Europe be enabled to develop independent businesses with two large markets in mind, the current European locals, and the newly incoming Syrian community?
- What kind of professional training schemes are needed and currently available to help Syrian young and experienced professionals adjust and improve their skills to match the job market in their new countries of residence?
- What are the areas and practices that characterize successful efforts in the area of labor-market integration, which have been beneficial for both the host community and the newly arriving refugees? And what are the lessons that could be learned?
- Finally, have there been different experiences in the areas of farming and vocational training? What drives success there.

Social Integration

This conference looks at how to foster and accelerate the creation of healthy relationships between the European citizens and resettled Syrians in Europe. This workshop particularly aims to raise the following points to inspire connection and discussion:

- What are the barriers to social integration, and how can they be resolved? What are the key areas that would achieve the most impact?
- What are some activities and programs that have been successful and can be implemented at scale? Have any been more successful for different age groups?
- What can the Syrian diaspora learn from other European-based minorities that have been successful in preserving their cultural identities, while integrating successfully with their host communities? And what lessons could be learned from successful initiatives in this area, coming from the side of the host communities?

ABOUT JUSOOR

Jusoor is an NGO of Syrian expatriates supporting the country's development and helping Syrian youth realize their potential through programs in the fields of education, career development, and global community engagement. Jusoor is a non-political organization with no ties to any political entity.

Jusoor has achieved several notable milestones since its establishment including:

- Engaging a network of 110,000 people across over 40+ countries
- Supporting 74 students with university scholarships and enabling 317 students to work towards university degrees through our partnership with IIE
- Working with over 1,700 children in our Refugee Education Program through three learning centers in Lebanon
- Building a network of over 1000 Syrians interested in Entrepreneurship with over 200 Syrian Entrepreneurs
- Providing mentorship to over 300 individuals seeking academic advice
- Holding events in 8 cities: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Detroit, New York, Toronto, London, Lebanon, Dubai, and now Berlin.

Our Goals

- Supporting Syrian children to continue their education outside of outside Syria
- Helping Syrian students looking to complete their studies abroad attain academic scholarships at top universities across the US, Canada, Europe and the Middle East
- Providing Study Abroad Mentorship to offer advice for students requiring help in their university application process
- Helping Syrians work towards developing their careers with workshops on CV writing, job interviews, and improving their career portfolios
- Enabling young Syrian entrepreneurs to enhance their leadership skills and secure their start-up funding via mentorship, incubators, and competitions
- Connecting the global Syrian community towards the achievement of the goals set above

Our Key Programs

Refugee Education Program

Jusoor has been working with Syrian refugees in Lebanon since June 2013, with the goal of ensuring that Syrian refugees in Lebanon have a holistic, well-rounded primary school education through integration into formal schooling whenever possible, introducing contextual and relevant curricula and teaching methods to deliver informal education, and providing a strong psycho-social support within the framework of community engagement and rehabilitation.

Jusoor's refugee education program in Lebanon supports about 1,300 children annually through three educational centres, where it provides remedial education to children, enabling them to succeed in public schools. This program includes a structured summer volunteer sub-program, where youth from North America, Europe, and the Middle East help at our centres for 3 weeks and get first-hand learning about the refugee crisis. Through a recent partnership with the Varkey Foundation, it will embark on reaching more children in need through teacher-training in the area of informal education in Syria's neighbouring countries.

Jusoor Scholarship Program

We have supported close to 400 students to date in enrolling in universities in North America, Europe and the Middle East. This has happened through different partnerships, including ones where we fund students directly, and others where we facilitate recruitment and/or selections. Our key partnerships have been with the Institute of International Education, Illinois Institute of Technology, Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, London School of Economics, EducationUSA, Monmouth College, and most recently Laurier University. We also fund students to continue their education at universities in Lebanon and Jordan.

We recently launched two new scholarship programs, “100 Syrian Women, 10,000 Syrian Lives,” which aims to address the gap of Syrian women having access to higher education, and the “Jusoor Hardship Fund,” which provides much needed financial assistance to students who have been already enrolled at university outside Syria, but are at risk of dropping out due to financial need. This program has been designed with a loan structure, where the returned funds will support new students in the future.

Entrepreneurship Program

The Entrepreneurship Program aims to create a strong collaborative community for Syrian entrepreneurs to learn from successful businesses, peers and role models. It highlights the challenges for start-ups and helps guide entrepreneurs through their business development. This program is composed of training bootcamps in entrepreneurship, an entrepreneurship competition whose winners get seed-funding for their projects, and online advice sessions for entrepreneurs.

Now running for two years, it has significantly grown in size in terms of participants and partner organizations and companies, including Boeing, ArabNet, StartupNext, Beirut Digital District, MIT Enterprise Forum, the Asfari Foundation, and Step Conference. Young professionals interested in getting Jusoor’s training and financial support compete in the entrepreneurship competition’s startup and social tracks.

Academic and Career Mentorship Programs

Jusoor offers academic advice through the Study Abroad Mentorship Program for students requiring help in their university application process and seeking more information on academic choices and studying abroad. The program is focused on connecting expatriate Syrians and other volunteers with highly ambitious students in Syria. Mentees and Mentors are matched based on the country or region that the student is interested in applying to, the field of study the student is pursuing, or a specific university the student is looking to enroll at.

Jusoor Career Development program was launched to support Syrian youth in finding work opportunities outside of Syria that align with their talent and skills. It provides mentorship through public sessions held in different locations, where participants improve their CV writing and other professional development skills.

Annual Global Conference

The conference brings together primarily Syrian but also other communities from around the world to exchange and cultivate ideas and build partnerships in the area of helping Syria and Syrian communities around the world through education. Previous conferences have taken place in New York, London, and Los Angeles. For the fourth edition of this conference, we chose Berlin as the host city after recognizing the importance and leadership of Germany’s political administration, and equally its civil society and local communities, in supporting Syrian students and young professionals.

CONFERENCE PARTNERS

DAAD

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is a joint Organisation of German institutions of higher education and their student bodies, devoted to internationalizing the academic and scientific research system. With the scholarship programmes, the DAAD enables students, researchers and university lecturers to take advantage of the best study and research opportunities available. It promotes transnational cooperation and university partnerships, and is the German national agency for EU higher education cooperation.

The DAAD actively supports Germany’s foreign cultural and educational policy goals, national scientific policies and development cooperation efforts. In addition to overseeing the International DAAD Academy (iDA), the DAAD operates a network of 71 Regional Offices and Information Centres worldwide.

Since it was founded in 1925, about 2 million scholars in Germany and abroad have received DAAD funding. It is a registered association and its members are German institutions of higher education and student bodies. Its activities go far beyond simply awarding grants and scholarships. The DAAD supports the internationalization of German universities, promotes German studies and the German language abroad, assists developing countries in establishing effective universities and advises decision makers on matters of cultural, education and development policy.

www.daad.de

FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN

Freie Universität Berlin is a young, international university with a unique history. Founded in 1948 on the principles of truth, justice, and freedom, the university stands for cosmopolitan, international research and teaching activities that transcend boundaries and embody social and ethical responsibility.

As a leading research institution, Freie Universität is one of the German universities successful in all three funding lines in the federal and state Excellence Initiative, thereby receiving additional funding for its institutional future development strategy. It can thus take its place as an international network university in the global competition among universities. Development and assessment of research projects takes place within various focus areas, research networks, and platforms for interdisciplinary collaborative research.

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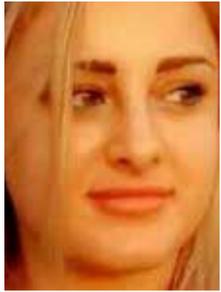
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PR and Marketing



Dalia Khalatbari
Logistics



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Logistics



Majd Zeidan
Logistics



Natalie Wei
PR and Marketing



Omar Shaya
Content Development



Soulafa Mamlouk
Content Development



JUSOOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Aziza Osman, Board Member

Aziza is a social entrepreneur and startup advisor. She started a social enterprise in health and well-being across Dubai and holds idea cultivation workshops for startups in the region. Prior to pursuing entrepreneurship, she worked in marketing intelligence and strategy for Philips Electronics Middle East. At Jusoor, she runs the Career Development Program and works closely with the Entrepreneurship Program, mentoring social startups on scaling, and measuring impact in Syria.



Dania Ismail, Board Member

Dania is the co-founder of Third Eye Agency, a performing arts-focused company based in Dubai. Prior to starting her own company, she held the position of Strategy and Business Development Manager at MBC Group for ten years. Dania is passionate about working with Syrian communities on projects that accelerate the growth and realize the potential of the country. She directs Jusoor's Entrepreneurship Program.



Fadi Salem, Board Member

Fadi is a Ph.D. Candidate in Public Policy at Oxford University. Prior to that he was the Director of the Governance and Innovation Program at the Dubai School of Government, Fellow with the I+I Policy Research Centre at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore, and Associate with the Belfer Center at Harvard Kennedy School for Public Policy. His areas of expertise include new models of governance and citizen engagement and their impact on social development.



Iyad Duwaji, Board Member

Iyad is a business entrepreneur and managing partner of different investments vehicles. Prior to that, he was the CEO of SHUAA Capital, a publicly listed company in Dubai that won many distinctions. Iyad holds an MBA in Finance from the University of Texas at Arlington and has served as a director of different public and private companies in Europe and the UAE. He is a passionate supporter of community activities, education, and self-help initiatives.



JP Chilazi, Board Member

JP is an MBA Candidate at Harvard Business School. Prior to that, he worked as a Private Equity Associate at Bain Capital in Boston and as a Business Analyst at McKinsey & Company in the New Jersey and Dubai offices. JP holds an A.B. in Economics from Harvard College. At Jusoor, he oversees the organization's financial operations.



Maya Malas, Board Member

Maya serves as Development Manager at Majid Al Futtaim Properties in Dubai and her area of expertise is real-estate development contributing to the contemporary urban transformation in the Middle East. She holds a BSc in Architecture from Damascus University and a Master's in Urban Planning from the Bartlett. Maya is engaged in philanthropic activities and passionate about progressive transformation through effective civic engagement.



Leen Al Zaibak, Board Member

Leen is a Senior Manager for Donor Engagement at Free the Children, an international development organization focusing on removing barriers to education. Previously, she served as a policy advisor to the Ontario Minister of Children and Youth Services. Leen holds an Honorary BA from the University of Toronto, Trinity College and an MA in International Relations from the University of Manchester. She is a leader in supporting Syrian refugees resettled in Canada to succeed, and directs Jusoor's partnerships and programs in Canada.



Rami Zayat, Board Member

Rami serves as Senior Legal Consultant to DLA Piper and is based in Abu Dhabi. He specializes in private equity and mergers and acquisitions' transactions, government contracting along with IT outsourcing, and other IT related transactions. Rami also advises clients on general IT, intellectual property, and general corporate matters. Rami is passionate about preserving Syrian cultural traditions while developing an educational system and economic forum that provides the structural basis for the development of youth.



Rania Succar, Board Member

Rania recently joined Intuit to lead QuickBooks Financing. Prior to that, she held several roles at Google over the course of five years, most recently serving as the Director of Brand Solutions for North America at Google. Before joining Google, Rania worked with McKinsey & Company in the US and Dubai. Now based in San Francisco, Rania co-founded the Harvard Arab Alumni Association in 2001 and served as President until 2008. She received an MBA from the Harvard Business School, an MPA in International Development from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and an BA in economics from Harvard College.



Maya Alkateb-Chami, Director

Before joining Jusoor, Maya co-founded and led the United World Colleges scholarship program for Syria for six years, and directed admissions at the UWC U.S. campus. Prior to that she served as a consultant and trainer for Maastricht School of Management and UNRWA in the areas of NGO capacity building and youth engagement. Maya has a BA in Political Science from Damascus University and her Fulbright-supported research at Indiana University Bloomington focused on program design and evaluation in the area of youth empowerment through the arts.



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