



Themes and Topics

The 17th Doha Forum

Preface

Doha Forum has proved its international presence throughout its previous sixteen conferences since its inception. It regularly discusses political, economic, regional and international issues. The Forum has become one of the most important international forums which brings together the largest number of experts, academics, politicians, decision-makers, specialists, businessmen and civil society organizations from around the world, to discuss ways to achieve stability, regional and global prosperity, and how to address the challenges hindering stability in the world.

The theme of this seventeenth session of the Doha Forum is entitled:

(Development, Stability and Refugee Crisis)

Undoubtedly, development and stability are the mainstay of state and communities development. They represent the most effective way to confront present crises and future challenges. Equally, the absence of development and stability represents the most important reasons behind the tragic state of affairs and exacerbated conflicts around the world, particularly in the Middle East.

Perhaps, the realization of development and stability does not hinge on the political and the economic aspects only but rather includes the humanitarian, intellectual, religious and social aspects.

The refugee crisis is one of the most pressing issues in our world today, and that substantially affects the development and stability of societies politically, economically, and humanly, and leaves an even more painful effect on the conscience of humanity; the international community today witnesses an unprecedented level of refuge and voluntary or forced immigration. According to reports by the UN High Commission for refugees (UNHCR) the number of international migrants reached, in 2015, (244 million person), (20 million) of them were refugees and asylum seekers, escaping from violence and wars taking place in their countries, or escaping from persecution, or looking for work and safety, discounting other 34 million of internally displaced persons.

Therefore, Doha Forum comes this year to discuss issues of development and stability on the international and regional levels, and focusing on the most serious issues that currently affect the refugees problem. Issues on the table will be discussed throughout the forum's sessions under these themes:

Opening Session of the Forum: International Cooperation and the Importance of Political and Economic Stability.

Speakers: Guests of honor

The main themes:

1st theme; Transformation in the World Political Landscape:

1- Developments of the Gulf - Iranian Relations.

- Gulf Security: dialogue and rapprochement.
- Options of the Gulf Cooperation Council vis-à-vis the Iranian Politics.
- Iranian Military Presence in Iraq, Syria and Yemen.
- Iranian Politics and the future of peace in the Middle East.

2- The United States, the European Union and Russia and a new Political Stage in the Middle East.

- Trends of the new American Policy and the impact thereof on world peace.
- Effects of the withdrawal of Great Britain from the European Union on the Middle East.
- The Russian Military Presence in the Middle East and its repercussions.
- Diminution of the Security Council's role in international conflicts resolution.

3- Political Challenges in the Far East and the Indian Subcontinent.

- Current political situation and issues of conflicts in the Far East.
- Exacerbation of ethnic sectarian conflicts in some states.
- The emergence of some political forces in the Far East.
- The Security Dilemma in Afghanistan.
- Silk Road Economic Belt (Chinese Silk Road) and its impact on foreign policy.
- North Korea's threats.
- The issue of minorities in the light of political changes.

2nd theme; Challenges of Economic Development and Investment in the stage of Global Changes (oil and energy issues):

1. The global Economic situation... Oil and renewable Energy.

- New oil prices and the region's economies.
- OPEC's ability to maintain the stability of oil prices.
- Strategies of dealing with energy alternatives and their impact on regional and international actions.
- Renewable Energy policies and economic transformations.
- Asia's economy and the future of renewable energy.
- The Patterns of alternative energies.. Their fluctuations and impact on the economy.

2. The future of international trade agreements and investment.

- Challenges facing the World Trade Organization.
- The protective measures.. The most important obstacle hindering the growth of the global economy.
- Investment Opportunities and technology transfer.
- Free Trade Agreements and realities of the global economy.
- International financial institutions, the International Monetary Fund and opportunities for development and investment.

3. Recession of the global economy and ways to build a strong one.

- The International Economic System impact on Sustainable Development.
- Evaluation of the global economic performance and future prospects.
- The developmental role of women and youth.
- Civil society, private sector's role in promoting Economic Development.
- Labor markets policies and associated challenges.

3rd Theme; Political and Economic Aspect in Refugees Issues:

1. Refuge issue and states' policies.

- Disparity of international reactions to wars and refugee issues.
- Varying modes of reception for of refugees in accordance with the objectives, policies and economic capabilities of hosting countries.
- Unilateral deterrent actions to curb the increasing flow of refugees.
- The impact of refugee crisis on international relations.
- The division among the European Union on refugees.
- Consequences of reluctance of some countries to receive refugees.
- Imposition of social isolation on refugees in some countries and failure to integrate them in local communities.

2. Refuge problems and economic, educational and health conditions of refugees.

- Deficient food and drinking water in refugee camps.
- Lack of medical treatment and basic medicines for refugees.
- Difficulty in obtaining residence or work permits.
- Deteriorating economic situation and less job opportunities that. May force refugees to deviate and resort to criminal acts.
- Denying the children their most basic educational rights.
- Employing the minors.
- Violations committed against some female and children refugees (including sexual harassment, assaults, kidnapping and trafficking).

3. The effects of refuge on the refugee hosting countries.

- Economic growth in some refugee receiving countries due to the market's rebound.
- Refugees are a huge burden on the public budgets of developing countries impeding their economic growth.
- Increasing economic, political, and social pressures on some poor countries due to hosting the refugees.
- Some countries have limited refugee- reception capacities.
- Competition of refugees in the labor market against the nationals of refugee hosting countries.

4th theme; The legal and Humane Dimension of dealing with the Refugee Crisis:

1- The role of the international community and Human Rights organizations in dealing with the Refugee Crisis.

- The way that international organizations deal with refugee issues.
- Promote the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.
- The right of refugees to return to their homeland.
- The non-implementation of the United Nations resolutions on refugees' return to their homelands.
- Demand on international tribunals to bring to justice those responsible for the refugee crisis.
- Amending International law and restrictions limiting cross of borders based on the scale of the crisis.
- Financial support to refugee hosting countries.

2 - The role of charity organizations and civil society in helping refugees.

- Engaging international relief organizations (The Red Cross and Red Crescent).
- Addressing the worsening conditions of the camps and the inadequacy or low standard of services provided therein.
- The inability of organizations to access areas of conflict.
- The need to support charity organizations carry out their missions.
- Improve systems and measures of protecting vulnerable groups including women, children, the elderly and persons with special needs.
- Providing education and training for the children of the refugees.
- Providing medical field services to the refugees.

3 - Journalism, and the issues of development, stability and the refugee crisis.

- The role of media in establishing the foundations for development and stability.
- Media restrictions and the challenges of media work.
- The impact of cyberspace on the system of moral values and freedom.
- The growing impact of e-commerce on development.
- Arab media between professionalism and political subordination.
- Familiarizing the international community on the human rights violations against refugees.
- Social media networks and issues of refugees.