

**An Arab Marshall Plan:
A Partnership and Cooperation
for the Future of the Middle East
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Rapport**

Session III: Towards a Global Partnership for the Middle East: A Comparative Geo-Strategic Discussion.

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Talking about the revival of the Arab world with the cooperation of international partners, leads us to wonder about the existence of a sole Arab world today, and where is it? In fact, the prevalent state of things propels us to talk from now on about different Arab worlds instead of a single Arab world. Therefore, we can sort out different regions within the existing Arab geographic reality, and each one of those constitutes by itself an isolated Arab world. These regions are:

- The Maghreb region, (Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria), which is witnessing the ascendance of a “Maghrebian” awareness exceeding the national boundaries and seeks to connect with the European countries instead of the Arab world.
- The second is Egypt and its regional surrounding, currently focused on pursuing its national interests, in addition to the geopolitical factors that push Egypt towards Sudan and up to Ethiopia.
- The third Arab world is the Gulf, essentially connected to Asia. This region is stable and cannot be disintegrated
- The fourth Arab world is the Levant (Mashriq), which includes Iraq and the Levant: Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan and Israel

Indeed, when we talk about the decay and collapse and war-ravaged area, we are actually designating the Levant. Allow me to emphasize on the importance of this area of the Arab: should the Levant fail, this would inevitably lead to the failure of the other Arab worlds as well as the entire world, a fact that was politically and ethically neglected by the American administration.

Lebanon remains, however, immune to what is happening in the region, despite having an army affiliated with Iran. This immunity to the civil war that prevailed in Lebanon and that led Lebanese to give priority to their national interests

I completely agree with President Amine Gemayel on the suggestions he made to promote development and stability in the region. We need to uphold the humanitarian reference, beyond any other political or religious references and to overcome the crisis of cultural flattening, and the Islamization of sciences. Furthermore, we are facing decadence on the cultural level along with the spoke of hollow education, which is also at the heart of the crisis in the region, stressing the need to introduce reforms in the education sector throughout the Arab worlds.

Finally, to achieve this endeavor the Arab world and particularly the Levant have optional international, which include the US, China, India and Russia, while Europe has no other choice but to be involved in what is going on in the Arab world, as part of the “Mediterranean partnership and alliance.