

Saturday, May 30, 2015  
Maison du Futur, Serail Bikfaya

## **AN ARAB MARSHALL PLAN: A Partnership and Cooperation for the Future of the Middle East**

This conference will address the future of the geopolitical order in the Middle East in the midst of upheavals of states and societies, the clashes within political Islam, the outcome of the so-called Arab Spring as well as the changes that occurred within the regional balance of power.

The discussions will focus on Germany's post World War II experience which has achieved stability and development in Europe, and its suitability for Lebanon and the Arab countries through an Arab Marshall Plan.

Other issues of concern will handle the question of energy and its contribution to development, and the role of education and good governance in shaping the future of civil society in the Middle East.

Above all, the debate should lead to guidelines for the re-emergence of the notion of the modern state in the region, a new social contract, and an Arab "Marshall Plan."

The meeting will feature 3 sessions. Lunch and cocktail will be served.

### **CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

- 09:00 – 09:30 Registration of participants and light breakfast
- 09:30 – 10:00 Welcome Address: Introduction to MDF, its mission and objectives  
President Amine Gemayel
- Opening Remarks  
Peter Rimmele, Resident Representative of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Lebanon

#### **10:00 – 12:00 Session I**

The aptness of Germany's post World War II experience on the region's future in the wake of the Arab Spring

Moderator: Joe Khoury, Professor of social psychology in charge of post graduate courses in social psychology at the Lebanese University

Lebanon's Resiliency, Myth or Reality? The Lebanese Quest for A Common Space and Citizenship  
Selim Sayegh, former Minister of Social Affairs in Lebanon

In Defense of Lebanese Liberalism: Religious Ideologies at a Deadlock Within the Chaos of the Arab spring?  
Sami Aoun, Professor at the School of Applied Politics, University of Sherbrooke, Canada

The Marshall Plan and the Social Market Economy in Post-WWII Germany  
Günther Beckstein, former Prime Minister of the State of Bavaria, Germany

12:00 – 14:00

**Session II:**

Beyond Turbulence: The Region's Future

Moderator: John Bell, Director, Middle East and Mediterranean Program, Tolido Centre, Madrid

From Oslo to ISIL to Iran: Competing American Policies and Narratives in the Middle East  
Philip J. Crowley, former US Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs

Beyond Turbulence: The Region's Future  
Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman, Gulf Research Center

Tectonic Shifts in the Middle East's Strategic Environment  
S.Enders Wimbush, Managing Partner of State Various LLC, a global strategy consultancy

14:00 – 15:30

**Lunch**

Keynote Speaker: Bader Al Humaidi, Former Minister of Oil and Finance, Kuwait

15:30 – 17:00

**Session III:**

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

Moderator: Raouf Abou Zaki, CEO, Al-Iqtisadwal-'AmalGroup  
Amine Gemayel, former President of the Lebanese Republic (1982 – 1988)  
Naguib Sawiris, Executive Chairman of Orascom Telecom Media and Technology Holding S.A.E.  
Hassan Mneimneh, Principal at Middle East Alternatives in Washington, D.C.

17:00 – 17:30

**Wrap-up & Conclusion**

17:30–19:30

**Cocktail**