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## Amir sends condolences to king of Morocco

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and His Highness the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad al-Thani sent cables of condolences to King Mohammed VI of Morocco over the victims of the floods that struck the city of Safi, wishing the injured a swift recovery. HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani sent a cable of condolences to Prime Minister of Morocco Aziz Akhannouch over the victims of the floods that struck the city of Safi, wishing the injured a swift recovery. **(QNA)**

## Amir congratulates Jose Antonio Kast

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, His Highness the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad al-Thani and HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani sent cables of congratulations to Jose Antonio Kast on his victory in the presidential elections in the Republic of Chile, wishing him success and bilateral relations, further progress and prosperity. **(QNA)**

## December 18 declared National Day holiday

On the occasion of Qatar National Day, observed annually on December 18, the Amiri Diwan has announced that tomorrow, December 18, 2025, will be official holiday. Employees will resume work on Sunday, December 21, 2025. **(QNA)**

## Qatar slams Israeli approval of 19 new settlements in WB

Qatar condemned the Israeli occupation government's approval of the establishment of 19 settlements in the occupied West Bank, considering it a flagrant violation of international legitimacy resolutions, particularly UN Security Council Resolution 2334, and a blatant assault on the rights of the Palestinian people. In a statement yesterday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed the importance of the international community fulfilling its legal and moral responsibilities by compelling Israel to halt its settlement policy in the occupied Palestinian territories. The ministry reaffirmed Qatar's firm and unwavering position in supporting the Palestinian cause and the steadfastness of the Palestinian people, based on international legitimacy resolutions and the two-state solution. **(QNA)**

## Qatar grants 30 buses to Lebanon

Qatar, represented by the Ministry of Transport, has provided the Republic of Lebanon with a grant consisting of 30 buses, in support of the efforts of Lebanon's Ministry of Public Works and Transport in developing the infrastructure of the country's public transport sector. Qatari ambassador Sheikh Saud bin Abdul Rahman al-Thani took part in the official handover ceremony, held in the presence of Lebanese Minister of Public Works and Transport Fayez Rasamny. **Page 12**

## Dembele and Bonmati scoop FIFA Best awards



Dembele is pictured with FIFA President Gianni Infantino.

France and Paris Saint-Germain attacker Ousmane Dembele won the men's FIFA Best award at a ceremony in Qatar yesterday, while Barcelona midfield maestro Aitana Bonmati collected the women's prize. Dembele, 28, won the Ballon d'Or in September, rewarding an exceptional season with PSG, which included the Ligue 1 club's first Champions League title. "I wanted to thank my teammates. Hard work pays off, it's been a fantastic year for me, both individually and collectively," said Dembele after the ceremony. PSG's Spanish coach Luis Enrique was named best coach of a men's team. Bonmati, 27, was crowned women's player of the year for the third time in a row, after also picking up her third consecutive Ballon d'Or in the autumn. "I am grateful to have the honour," she said. She is currently out of action after fracturing her leg in training on the eve of Spain's successful Nations League final second leg win over Germany. England manager Sarina Wiegman picked up the award for coaching a women's side after she

won a third consecutive Euros title in the summer. In the goalkeeping category, Italy's Gianluigi Donnarumma, who joined Manchester City after winning the Champions League with PSG, picked up the men's award, while Chelsea's Euro 2025 winner Hannah Hampton won the trophy in the women's category. Santiago Montiel won the coveted Puskas award for best goal of the year. Lizbeth Ovalle's scorpion kick for Tigres against Guadalajara in a Mexican league match won the Marta award. FIFA President Gianni Infantino thanked the Qatar Football Association (QFA) in appreciation of its efforts in hosting the FIFA Standing Committees, in the presence of representatives from international football federations. Infantino honoured QFA President Jassim bin Rashid al-Buainain on the sidelines of the FIFA Standing Committees meeting held in Doha yesterday. The FIFA's Standing Committees meetings featured a distinguished Qatari presence alongside officials from international football federations during one of FIFA's most important annual gatherings. **(AFP)**



FIFA honours the Qatar Football Association in recognition of its efforts in hosting the meetings of the Standing Committees of the International Federation of Football Associations in the presence of representatives of international federations.

## Qatar's anti-corruption practices can inspire others, says UN official

By Joseph Varghese  
Staff Reporter

Atop official of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) noted that other countries can take inspiration from some of the good practices identified by Qatar against corruption. "We have a review mechanism, which is a peer review mechanism of all the countries who are part of the convention. Basically two countries are selected to look at the record of each country. It is a participatory process, there is no ranking, so it's very difficult for us to compare countries to each other," said Shervin Majlessi, chief of the Implementation Section in the Corruption and Economic Crime



Shervin Majlessi.  
PICTURE: Shaji Kayamkulam

Branch, UNODC, on the sidelines of the ongoing 11th Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The conference completed

## PM meets members of US Senate committee



HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani met in Washington yesterday with members of the United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. The meeting discussed close strategic relations between Qatar and the United States of America and ways to support and develop them. It also discussed a number of topics of common concern. **(QNA)**

## UN centre for combating cybercrimes opens in Doha

QNA  
Doha

HE the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr Ahmed bin Hassan al-Hammadi, and Acting Executive Director of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), John Brandolino, officially inaugurated the new training premises of the UNODC Regional Center for Combating Cybercrime in Doha yesterday. The centre is located at the new headquarters of the Diplomatic Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lusail. The opening ceremony was attended by HE Director of the International Organisations Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sheikhha Hanouf bint Abdulrahman al-Thani, and Director of UNODC Doha Center, Mustafa Artin, alongside a number of officials. Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, HE al-Hammadi stressed that Qatar gives foremost priority to fostering partnerships with UN organisations, stemming from its unflagging commitment to backing global efforts aimed at achieving criminal justice and combating all kinds of cyber crimes. He asserted that the centre represents a substantial en-



John Brandolino (left) and HE Dr Ahmed bin Hassan al-Hammadi at the opening of the centre in Doha yesterday.

hancement to upgrade global capabilities in this domain. For his part, Mustafa Artin emphasised that he is grateful for the support Qatar is providing to establish and operate this centre, stressing the importance of this move following the ratification of the UN Convention against Cybercrime, which was signed in Hanoi, Vietnam, last October. He pointed out that Qatar was among the first countries to sign the convention. The inauguration is the product of the Qatar-UNODC ongoing collaboration and enhancement of shared global efforts to combat cybercrime and support nations' capabilities in confronting this growing global challenge.

## QC pledges \$10mn to Global Islamic Fund for Refugees

Qatar Charity (QC) announced a pledge of \$10mn to the Global Islamic Fund for Refugees (GIFR), reinforcing the vital role of faith-based philanthropy in advancing sustainable solutions for displaced communities. The pledge was announced during the Plenary Session of the Global Refugee Forum Progress Review 2025, held in Geneva, Switzerland. QC said this pledge reaffirms its commitment to supporting UNHCR in delivering innovative and sustainable financial support to displaced communities. With this contribution, QC stressed, it will officially join the UNHCR-Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)'s GIFR Steering Committee, the fund's governance body responsible for reviewing and approving grant-funding allocations to projects and programs to be implemented across the IsDB

member countries. QC's Chief Executive Officer Yousef bin Ahmed al-Kuwari stated: "Qatar Charity is honoured to reaffirm our commitment to supporting displaced communities by pledging \$10mn to the Global Islamic Fund for Refugees. We look forward to working closely with UNHCR and our partners to advance innovative financing solutions and to ensure that our collective efforts make a meaningful difference in the lives of refugees and host communities." For her part, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees Kelly Clements lauded the partnership with Qatar Charity and said: "QC's generous pledge to the GIFR reflects the transformative impact of faith-based philanthropy in addressing humanitarian challenges". **(QNA)**





بِكُمْ تَعْلُو وَمِنْكُمْ تَنْظُرُ  
تَمِيمُ بْنُ حَمَدٍ

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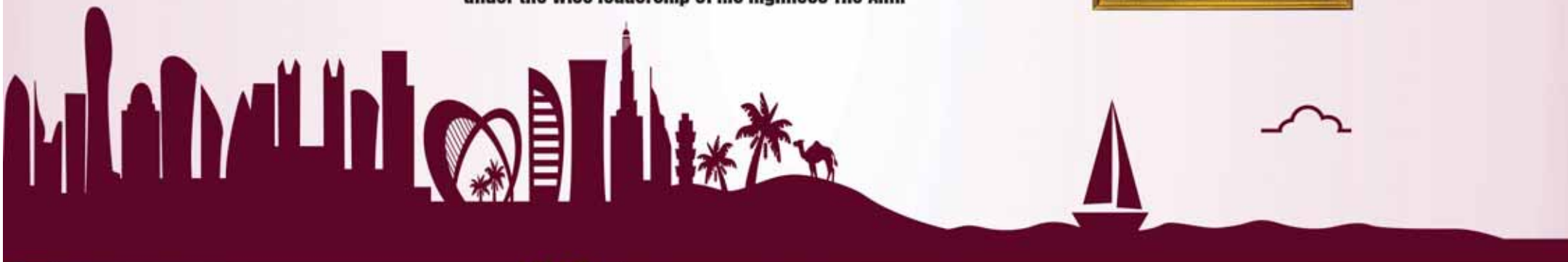
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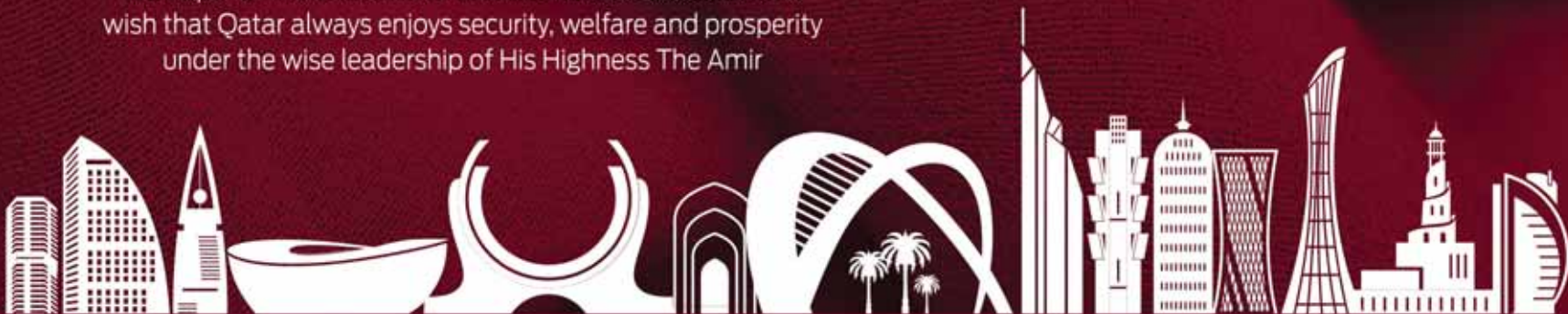
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# Shura Council Speaker meets ambassadors of Iraq, Indonesia and Kazakhstan



HE the Speaker of the Shura Council Hassan bin Abdullah al-Ghanem met separately yesterday with ambassador of Iraq Mohammed Jaafar al-Sadr, ambassador of Indonesia Ridwan Hassan, and ambassador of Kazakhstan Arman Issagaliyev. The meetings discussed bilateral relations between Qatar and each of Iraq, Indonesia, and Kazakhstan, and explored ways to enhance them, particularly in areas related to parliamentary co-operation. (QNA)



## PM congratulates Saint Lucia premier

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani sent a cable of congratulations to Philip Joseph Pierre on his swearing-in as Prime Minister of Saint Lucia, wishing him success in his duties and further progress and prosperity in the relations between the two countries. (QNA)

## Qatar and Ghana keen to bolster parliamentary ties



HE the Shura Council Speaker, Hassan bin Abdullah al-Ghanem, met yesterday with the visiting Speaker of the Ghana Parliament, Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin. HE the Shura Council Speaker underscored the depth of parliamentary relations between the two countries and affirming the Council's keenness to further strengthen co-operation in various parliamentary forums. The meeting reviewed bilateral parliamentary relations and explored ways to enhance them, while reinforcing consultation and co-ordination at the regional and international levels. The two sides also exchanged views on issues of mutual interest. (QNA)

## Qatar, Norway hold political consultations in Doha



The foreign ministries of Qatar and Norway held a round of political consultations in Doha yesterday. HE the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr Ahmed bin Hassan al-Hammadi, and Norwegian State Secretary Stine Renate Haheim chaired the consultations round, which discussed bilateral relations and ways to develop them. (QNA)

# Qatar calls for UN reform as key to global leadership for peace

Qatar has affirmed that effective global leadership for peace requires comprehensive UN reform, emphasising that mediation remains essential for peaceful dispute resolution and conflict prevention.

In a statement to the Security Council's open debate on "Leadership for Peace," Qatar's Permanent Representative HE Sheikha Alya Ahmed bin Saif al-Thani underscored the importance of selecting a UN secretary-general capable of confronting unprecedented global challenges amid



HE Sheikha Alya Ahmed bin Saif al-Thani

growing strain on the multilateral system and declining adherence to international law.

She highlighted Qatar's two-decade track record as a trusted mediator, facilitating ceasefires, prisoner exchanges, national dialogues, and peace agreements across regions including Gaza, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Sudan, Chad, Ukraine, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Rwanda.

HE Sheikha Alya emphasised that the next secretary-general must strengthen UN engagement in mediation, lead conflict

prevention efforts through preventive diplomacy, and exercise Article 99 authority to bring threats to the Security Council's attention. She stressed that mediators must operate freely without restrictions or hostile acts, consistent with the UN Charter's call for peaceful solutions.

Qatar welcomed the "UN 80" initiative, calling for the organisation's 80th anniversary and the secretary-general selection to serve as a pivotal moment for comprehensive UN reform and strengthened multilateralism to address future challenges. (QNA)

## Qatar solidarity with flood-hit Morocco

Qatar has expressed its solidarity with Morocco in the face of the devastating floods that struck the coastal city of Safi, resulting in deaths and injuries. In a statement issued yesterday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs extended Qatar's condolences to the families of the victims, and to the government and people of Morocco, wishing a speedy recovery to those injured and safe return of those missing. (QNA)

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**Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani**  
Father Amir

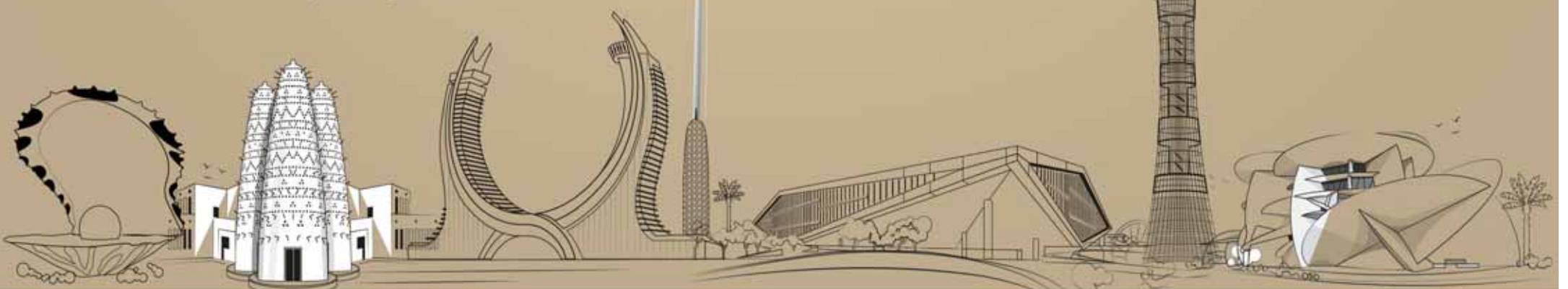
His Highness  
**Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Thani**  
Deputy Amir

and to all the honorable people of Qatar

We hope for more returns of this memorable occasion and  
wish that Qatar always enjoys security, welfare and prosperity  
under the wise leadership of His Highness The Amir



بكم تعلقو ومنكم تهنظر  
تميم بن حمد



On the occasion of  
**Qatar National Day, 18th of December**  
and in remembrance of the historic day in 1878 when  
Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Bin Thani,  
founder of the State of Qatar,  
set up the pillars of the Modern State of Qatar,

We extend our heartiest congratulations and greetings to

His Highness  
**Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani**  
Amir of the State of Qatar

His Highness  
**Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani**  
Father Amir

His Highness  
**Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Thani**  
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# Doha to host Global Security Forum 2026

Under the patronage of HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani, Doha will host the 2026 edition of the Global Security Forum (GSF), scheduled to take place from April 12-14.

The 2026 edition of the forum will be held under the theme ‘Collective Security and the Crisis of Legitimacy,’ positioning GSF as a leading international platform for dialogue on today’s most pressing security challenges and the future of collective action amid a rapidly shifting geopolitical

landscape. The forum aims to convene influential global leaders and decision-makers to address one of the world’s most pressing issues of how states and institutions can rebuild legitimacy and reinforce the co-operative frameworks required to ensure global security.

Over three days of high-level keynotes, candid plenary discussions, and strategically focused side sessions, GSF 2026 will examine how collective security can adapt to an era defined by polarisation, technological upheaval, and mounting pressure on the rules-based international order. **(QNA)**

## Interior minister meets Interpol secretary-general

HE the Minister of Interior and Commander of the Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya) and Chairman of the Security Committee, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, met with Secretary-General of the International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol) Valdecy Urquiza.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed ways to strengthen international security co-operation and to exchange expertise in combating organised crime and transnational crimes, in addition to exploring mechanisms to further enhance joint co-ordination. The meeting also witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding to extend the STADIA Project, which was established within Interpol in 2012 with funding and support from Qatar. The project aims to assist countries seeking to host major sporting events, strengthen police capabilities, transfer expertise and technology to Interpol member states, and promote best security practices.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the Security Committee by Brigadier Jassim al-Buhashim al-Sayed, Secretary to the Minister of Interior for Co-ordination and Follow-up and Member and Secretary of the Security Committee, and on behalf of Interpol by Urquiza, secretary-general of the organisation. **(QNA)**



# Qatar donates 30 buses to Lebanon for public transport

Qatar, represented by the Ministry of Transport, has provided Lebanon with a grant consisting of 30 buses, in support of the efforts of Lebanon’s Ministry of Public Works and Transport in developing the infrastructure of the country’s public transport sector.

Qatar’s ambassador to Lebanon Sheikh Saud bin Abdul Rahman al-Thani took part in the official handover ceremony, held under the patronage and in the presence of Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lebanon Fayez Rasamny, with the participation of a lineup of ambassadors and

diplomats. In a speech during the ceremony, the ambassador affirmed that this step embodies the deep-rooted ties between Qatar and Lebanon and stems from both countries’ sisterly relations.

He added that this initiative falls within the framework of Qatar’s continued support for the efforts of Lebanon’s Ministry of Public Works and Transport in developing the country’s public transport sector’s infrastructure and strengthening its ability to address current challenges.

He stressed the Qatar’s constant commitment to

Lebanon’s stability and prosperity, standing by it across various fields.

Minister of Public Works and Transport of Lebanon Fayez Rasamny expressed his gratitude to Qatar, saying that it did not stop at good intentions, instead Qatar translated them into practical commitments, turning words into action and ideas into reality, as is the case today with the buses entering service on Lebanese soil. Rasamny added that the buses will directly contribute to alleviating citizens’ suffering and activating the role of public transport in Lebanon. **(QNA)**

# Vodafone Qatar named strategic partner for Tattoo Doha 2025

Vodafone Qatar has been announced as a strategic partner for Tattoo Doha 2025, the international military music and marching festival currently taking place until December 20 at the Katara Open Theatre in Katara Cultural Village.

Tattoo Doha 2025 brings together military bands and performers from around the world in a show that combines military discipline with cultural expression.

As a strategic partner, Vodafone Qatar is providing a comprehensive suite of telecom and digital services throughout the festival, including free public Wi-Fi in the arena, ensuring visitors and guests remain connected and enjoy a seamless festival experience.

For organisers, performers and key stake-

holders, Vodafone Qatar will provide dedicated connectivity solutions, push-to-talk services, and devices to support smooth operations across the venue. Event organisers will also receive pre-loaded SIMs.

Vodafone Qatar’s on-ground sales team and advisers are also present during the event to support attendees’ connectivity requirements, offering both prepaid and postpaid SIM options. The collaboration reflects Vodafone Qatar’s ongoing commitment to leveraging technology to support national initiatives that bring communities together, while reinforcing its role as a key contributor to Qatar’s evolving digital landscape.

To find out more about Vodafone Qatar, visit [www.vodafone.qa](http://www.vodafone.qa)

# QIB employees mark Qatar National Day



Hosted at the QIB head office, the celebration highlighted the bank’s commitment to the values that shape the nation’s identity and progress, while recognising the dedication of QIB employees and their role in supporting its achievements and strategic journey.

Qatar Islamic Bank (QIB) has marked National Day with a celebratory event that brought together its employees and executive management in an atmosphere of unity, appreciation, and national pride.

Hosted at the QIB head office, the celebration highlighted the bank’s commitment to the values that shape the nation’s identity and progress, while recognising the dedication of QIB employees and their role in supporting its achievements and strategic journey.

QIB’s Qatar National Day celebration featured a range of activities inspired by local heritage, including national-themed decoration across the premises, a traditional Qatari Ardah

performance, and interactive employee engagement moments that encouraged togetherness and participation, reaffirming the bank’s focus on a positive workplace culture. Bassel Gamal, QIB Group CEO, said: “Qatar National Day is an occasion that is close to the hearts of everyone. At QIB, we are happy to celebrate this national occasion with our employees, who remain the driving force behind our continued success. This celebration reflects our commitment to strengthening unity across our workplace, reinforcing our national identity, and continuing to contribute to the country’s ambitions.

“As we celebrate the Qatar National Day, on behalf of QIB, I would like to

extend our heartfelt congratulations and well wishes to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, and His Highness the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad al-Thani. We wish Qatar continued success and progress in the future.”

QIB remains committed to supporting national occasions and community initiatives that strengthen social ties and reflect the values of Qatar National Vision 2030, while continuing to invest in employee engagement, appreciation, and shared purpose.

For further information, visit [www.qib.com.qa](http://www.qib.com.qa).

# Marza Hypermarket launches Qatar National Day promotions

Marza Hypermarket has announced its special Qatar National Day (QND) 2025 promotions, offering exciting deals and big savings for customers across Qatar. The festive promotions will run until December 31 as part of the celebrations.

As part of the QND campaign, shoppers can enjoy attractive discounts on a wide range of products, including fresh food, groceries, household essentials, electronics, garments, footwear, toys, and fashion items, affordable for every family.

In addition, Marza Hypermarket is offering ‘Buy 2 Get 1 Free’ on selected garments, footwear, giving customers more value during the festive season. Marza Hypermarket currently operates multiple outlets in Qatar, including branches at J Mall Markhiya, Bin Omran, and Musheireb, Abu Hamour, Ain Khaled, and continues to expand its presence to serve customers bet-



ter. Speaking about the promotion, Group general manager Haris Kader said: “Qatar National Day is a special occasion for us to give back to the community that has supported Marza throughout our journey. These promotions are carefully curated to ensure that every family can benefit and celebrate this national occasion.”

Managing director Jafar Kandoth expressed his gratitude to customers

for their continued trust and loyalty, adding that Marza Hypermarket remains committed to delivering quality products at competitive prices with a strong focus on customer satisfaction.

Marza Hypermarket invites shoppers to visit their nearest branch and take advantage of these QND 2025 special offers, celebrating the spirit of Qatar with great savings and quality shopping.

## Saad al-Muhannadi named QF chairperson’s office president

Saad bin Ebrahim al-Muhannadi, a member of Qatar Foundation’s Founding Board and the organisation’s former president, has been appointed as President of the Office of the Chairperson of Qatar Foundation (QF).

A Lifetime Member of QF’s Board of Directors and Board of Trustees, al-Muhannadi was instrumental in the establishment of the organisation 30 years ago, and has played a pivotal role in the evolution of its ecosystem of knowledge and the advancement of its mission over the three decades since.

Having joined QF in 1995, he went on to become assistant director and then director of the organisation’s Capital Projects Directorate, before being appointed vice-president of Capital



Saad bin Ebrahim al-Muhannadi.

Projects and Facilities Management in 2005. He was responsible for the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of the educational, science and research, and community devel-


opment infrastructure required for QF to support the development of Qatar, and ensuring QF’s Education City provided a healthy and safe environment for all. Al-Muhannadi’s lifetime board positions at QF reflect his long, dedicated, and distinguished service to the organisation and its mission. He also serves as chairman of Msheireb Properties.

In his role as president of the Office of the Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, he will provide strategic leadership and strengthen institutional alignment with regard to Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser’s position as Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, Chairperson of Education Above All Foundation, and other initiatives in which Her Highness is engaged.

# Ministry recalls Honda models

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), in co-operation with Doha Marketing Services Co (Domasco), has announced the recall of Honda Accord 2023-2025 models, due to the possibility of the engine losing power and the engine indicator illuminating. The ministry said the recall campaign comes within the framework of its ongoing efforts to protect consumers and ensure that car dealers follow up on vehicle defects and repairs. The ministry said it will co-ordinate with the dealer to follow up on the maintenance and repair works and will communicate

with customers to ensure that the necessary repairs are carried out. The ministry urged all consumers to report any violations or breaches by contacting the Consumer Protection and Combating Commercial Fraud Department, which receives complaints, suggestions, and inquiries through the following communication channels: Call Centre: 16001, e-mail: [info@moci.gov.qa](mailto:info@moci.gov.qa), ministry’s accounts on social media: @mociqatar, ministry’s Mobile App: MOCIQATAR (available on iOS and Android devices).



### QatarEnergy LNG Tender Invitation

No.	TENDER NUMBER / DESCRIPTION	TENDER ISSUE PERIOD	TENDER FEE (USD)	TENDER BOND (USD)	TENDER CLOSING DATE
1	SUP/C/OFS/7341/25 PROVISION OF WEB-BASED VESSEL TRACKING & ALERT SYSTEM SERVICES	17/12/2025 to 12/01/2026	N/A	N/A	12/01/2026

**Scope of Work:**  
The brief Scope of this Contract is for the provision of Vessel Tracking system to monitor in realtime all vessel movements within and around COMPANY’s Offshore field and Ras Laffan port area. This includes any other port in Qatar with strong signal strength, to avert collision, ensuring the safety and operational integrity of COMPANY’s offshore assets. The duration of Contract shall be five (05) years with a sole option for COMPANY to extend it further for up to two (02) years.

**Bid Validity:** Bid Offer should be valid for **180** calendar days from the Tender Closing Date.

**Place for Tender Collection and Bid Submission:**  
ITT document for this tender will be available in QatarEnergy LNG website under Suppliers tab >>Current Open Tenders. The bids shall be submitted through the QatarEnergy LNG online platform (SMART by GEP).

**Note:** Local Companies (established under the Laws of State of Qatar with local Commercial Registration) are advised to refer to the tender documentation and In-Country Value (ICV) Digital Portal: - <https://icv.qa/en-US/> for details of ICV compliance that may be applicable.



## Justice minister says Qatar celebrates QND as it advances confidently

HE the Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Ibrahim bin Ali al-Mohannadi (*pictured*) affirmed that Qatar's celebration of this year's National Day comes as the country proceeds confidently in its achievements and remains steadfast in its path of development and progress, guided by the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani.

In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA) on the occasion of the National Day, His Excellency said that the National Day carries a profound significance that highlights the values and principles established by the Founder Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani, which laid the foundations of the modern state, built on willpower and unity. He pointed out that this state continues its humanitarian mission supporting peace, upholding the principles of justice, and defending the rights of peoples to dignified living, freedom, and equality.

He added that the progress achieved in various national sectors, foremost among them the

justice sector and legal services, is the result of His Highness' farsighted vision, which placed serving citizens, facilitating their access to justice, and protecting their rights at the forefront of priorities, embodying the values of justice and the rule of law.

His Excellency explained that this year's National Day slogan, "With you it Rises, From You it Awaits", accurately reflects the idea that the state is built on the efforts of its people, and on the belief that the nation's renaissance is achieved through the dedication and skills of its youth, and that a prosperous future is the fruit of their unity, knowledge, and deep-rooted values.

He pointed out that the ministry has continued this year to achieve qualitative steps in developing the judicial work system and enhancing the competitiveness of legal services through the launch of the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, aligned with the Third National Development Strategy (2024-2030) and Qatar National Vision 2030. The plan includes 100 operational projects derived from seven strategic pillars,



linked to 27 strategic initiatives and 27 performance indicators that allow precise monitoring of implementation and outcomes, thereby strengthening governance and raising performance efficiency.

His Excellency emphasised that the directives of HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani have been a fundamental support for the ministry's institutional development path, ensuring the provision of high-quality and easily accessible judicial services that meet the needs of individuals and government

entities in line with global best practices. He stated that the ministry achieved major progress this year in its comprehensive digital transformation project, with the Real Estate Registration and Authentication sector launching the first phase of the automation of legal services. This is supported by an integrated technological system that includes the upgraded "Sak" application, which has become a unified platform for all real estate registration and authentication services.

He added that the new "Sak" application provides, for the first time, authentication transactions via video communication and services linked to the Digital ID System (QDI). It also offers a unified interface for the "Absher", "Real Estate Valuation" and "Real Estate Bulletin" apps, as well as the ability to display property information directly through QR Code scanning, with the option to obtain printed copies via Qatar Post without the need to visit the ministry. These measures resulted in the completion of 28,064 real estate registration transactions, 75,231 authentication

transactions, and 22,470 fully electronic transactions. He confirmed that the ministry is working according to a plan aimed at achieving 100% digital services during 2025-2026.

His Excellency noted that the Ministry of Justice has this year achieved significant advancements in developing the procedures governing the practice of legal professions, reflecting the state's keenness to elevate legal work, enhance transparency, and regulate the judicial services market, affirming the ministry's commitment to supporting legal practitioners.

He added that more than 400 experts in various specialities have been registered, and around 800 real estate brokers have been licensed under new regulatory frameworks. In addition, more than 300 new lawyers have been registered after meeting qualification and training standards. With regard to arbitration, the number of rulings issued by the Arbitration Affairs Department increased by 34% during the first half of 2025 compared to last year.

His Excellency affirmed that

these figures reflect the growing confidence in the country's legal environment and reinforce the ability of the justice sector to absorb regulatory developments, enhance the quality of professional outputs in line with modern legislation, and underscore the ministry's keenness to build strategic partnerships with legal professionals within the framework of the national initiative to develop justice systems.

His Excellency noted that the ministry is preparing to launch an integrated judicial project to automate legal services, including services related to agreements, international co-operation, lawyers, experts, and arbitration. This initiative will include 100 new electronic services as part of the digital transformation pathway. Preparations are also underway for the first Legal Hackathon next May, in co-operation with the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), in addition to preparations for launching the Doha Legal Forum next January with the participation of legal scholars and decision-makers from around the world. (QNA)

## Occasion embodies connection between leadership and people

HE the Minister of Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs Ghanem bin Shaheen bin Ghanem al-Ghanem (*pictured*) affirmed that Qatar National Day is a deeply rooted national occasion celebrated annually on December 18.

It embodies loyalty to the legacy of the Founder Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani, who established the foundations of the State upon authentic Islamic values and firmly rooted national principles.

In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), His Excellency added that commemorating this occasion reflects the leadership and people's connection to the nation's rich history and underscores their adherence to the constants and moral values that represent the essence of Qatari identity. He explained that the National Day serves as an annual milestone to strengthen belonging and loyalty to the nation and its wise leadership, and to recall the journey of progress and development witnessed by the country,



generation after generation, until it became a model of security, stability, and excellence.

His Excellency said that this year's National Day celebrations, under the slogan "With You It Rises, From You It Awaits", reflect the state's profound understanding that human beings are the cornerstone of development and the foundation of progress, and that genuine citizenship is a continuous contribution and a shared responsibility in the nation's advancement.

He added the Ministry of Endowments and Islamic Affairs embodies these values through its strategic plan (2025-2030),

which focuses on building a cohesive and interdependent society, strengthening national identity and Islamic values, and consolidating the principles of moderation and tolerance while raising religious and moral awareness.

His Excellency pointed out that the National Day also represents an occasion to reaffirm the unity and solidarity that have characterised Qatari society throughout history, preserving the state's stability and prosperity. He added that maintaining this unity is achieved by strengthening social bonds and protecting society from extremism, and fanaticism through high-quality programmes and initiatives that promote the concept of moderation and serve all segments of society.

His Excellency noted that the ministry places great importance on human development and fostering sound religious awareness, stemming from a firm belief that human beings are the cornerstone of any sustainable development. (QNA)

## 'QND an enduring milestone driving sustainable urban development'

HE the Minister of Municipality Abdullah bin Hamad bin Abdullah al-Attayah (*pictured*) affirmed that Qatar's National Day is one of the enduring national milestones in the country's history, as it highlights the developmental journey undertaken by our forefathers and embodies the achievements accomplished under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani.

In an exclusive statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA) on the occasion of National Day 2025, His Excellency said that this occasion invokes a sense of pride in what has been achieved, and a renewed opportunity to re-emphasise the importance of everyone's mission and responsibility to contribute to nation-building and sustainable development. He added that the Ministry of Municipality views this day as a motivation to intensify efforts toward building modern and sustainable cities, achieving a balanced urban environment, and providing municipal services that keep pace with the aspirations of society and the rapid development the state is witnessing.

He explained that National Day is an occasion to deepen the values of loyalty and belonging and to strengthen national identity in the hearts of future generations by promoting a culture of responsible work and unifying efforts in service of the nation. He noted that celebrating this occasion is not merely an annual event, but a practice that reflects the spirit of national unity, strengthens the



close bond between the people and their leadership, and supports the approach of creativity, innovation, and diligent work.

He pointed out that the ministry embodies these national values through institutional excellence programmes, environmental and community initiatives, and activities involving employees and the local community, believing that love of the homeland is expressed through actions, achievement, and commitment.

Highlighting the ministry's most notable efforts, His Excellency affirmed that the ministry continues to implement a set of notable projects that support comprehensive development and enhance quality of life. He prioritised placing people's well-being at the heart of urban planning by developing green spaces and pedestrian-friendly pathways that promote the humanisation of cities and align with the Third National Development Plan (2024-2030), which is based on key pathways including smart and sustainable cities, green build-

ing, environmental sustainability, and strengthening agriculture and food security.

He explained that the ministry is working on implementing the smart cities strategy, developing the municipal services system using modern technologies, and enhancing the efficiency of public facilities, in addition to completing the procedures for obtaining the Smart and Sustainable Cities standard (ISO 37106) in co-operation with the World Council on City Data.

In the field of urban sustainability and green building, he noted the continued role of the Jadara programme in enhancing green building standards and encouraging energy and water-saving technologies. He pointed out that the ministry is also working on preparing the 2025 carbon emissions report in line with the state's goals of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

Regarding efforts to strengthen food security, the Minister of Municipality said that this year witnessed the launch and implementation of many qualitative initiatives, including expanding climate-smart agriculture projects, developing modern irrigation systems, supporting organic production, launching programmes for managing food waste in accordance with circular-economy principles, updating regulations governing agricultural holdings and fisheries, and establishing research and development programmes that support innovation and sustainable production. (QNA)

## QND reflects loyalty and values of unity

HE the Minister of Social Development and Family Buthaina bint Ali al-Jabr al-Nuaimi (*pictured*) affirmed that Qatar National Day (QND) is an occasion that embodies the meanings of loyalty and belonging, and reinforces the values of unity and cohesion that have characterised Qatari society throughout its history.

It is also an occasion to celebrate the nation's achievements across various fields. In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), Her Excellency said that the day provides an opportunity to strengthen Qatari identity and consolidate the values of citizenship and social responsibility, particularly under this year's slogan "With You It Rises, From You It Awaits" which reflects the central role of people in the country's



progress and emphasises the importance of collective efforts in building a cohesive society. She noted that the Qatari family serves as the primary nurturing environment where children are raised with love and loyalty to the homeland, making it a fundamental pillar of comprehensive development. Her Excellency highlighted that the Ministry of Social Development and Family

follows a clear vision that places the family at the centre of social development, working to empower families, enhance their stability, and support their educational and social roles. She further explained that this approach aligns with the ministry's 2025-2030 Strategy (From Care to Empowerment), which aims to invest in human capital, develop programmes that strengthen family cohesion, expand social protection coverage, and empower priority groups to ensure a balanced and stable society. Her Excellency stressed that the family would remain the cornerstone of societal stability and the foundation of national progress, affirming the ministry's continued commitment to implementing social and economic empowerment plans. (QNA)

## 'A day to renew values of authenticity and loyalty'

Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC) managing director Dr Mariam Ali Abdul Malik (*pictured*) has emphasised that Qatar National Day represents an enduring national milestone where the people of Qatar reflect on the history of the state's Founder Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani, and reaffirm their pledge of loyalty and belonging to the nation and its wise leadership. She noted that this year's theme, "With You It Rises, From You It Awaits", embodies the state's clear vision of investing in human capital as the foundation of development and the cornerstone of future, and truly interprets the words of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani.

Dr Abdul Malik added that PHCC takes pride in its role in promoting community health and building individuals capable of giving and innovation, through integrated health services, preventive programmes, and



renews its pledge to the wise leadership and people of Qatar to continue exerting every effort and harnessing all its capabilities to support the national health strategy and move towards achieving its ambitious objectives. This stems from its vision of providing comprehensive, integrated and person-centred primary healthcare and strengthening partnerships with individuals, families and communities, which will reflect on the wellbeing of all and contribute to advancing Qatar's standing among developed nations in this field, while shaping a pioneering healthy future that inspires future generations to serve the nation and humanity.

ambitious strategies aimed at enhancing the quality of life for everyone living in Qatar. Dr Mariam stressed that, on this cherished day, PHCC

## QND an occasion to reaffirm loyalty to nation, leadership

HE the Minister of Transport Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah bin Mohammed al-Thani (*pictured*) affirmed that Qatar National Day represents an annual milestone to reaffirm the values of loyalty to the homeland and its wise leadership, which is steadily progressing in the journey of development and renaissance while consolidating the principles of unity and solidarity that were instilled by the Founder Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani. His Excellency said that this year's National Day slogan, inspired by the words of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, "With You It Rises, From You It Awaits" reflects a renewed message to continue working and building, based on the firm belief that the development of the nation is linked to the development of the human being, and that the elevation of Qatar is achieved through the sincerity of its people and their efforts to serve society.

On this occasion, His Excellency extended his warmest congratulations to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin



Hamad al-Thani, His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, His Highness the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad al-Thani, and to the esteemed government and the generous Qatari people.

The National Day celebrations reinforce the Ministry of Transport's firm commitment to continuing to implement its national vision and mission, and to achieving the goals of its strategy through the development of an integrated, safe, flexible and sustainable transport system that adopts the latest smart systems and technologies, which contributes to strengthening the transport infrastructure and serving various economic, service and environmental sectors, and consolidating the role of Qatar as an effective link in the regional

and global economies, in support of achieving Qatar National Vision 2030, he added.

Regarding the achievements of the Ministry of Transport, the minister emphasised that on September 7, 2025, HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani launched the Ministry of Transport's Strategy 2025-2030 under the slogan "Reaching Beyond Horizons". Indeed, this is one of the most prominent achievements of the ministry during the year 2025, heralding a new phase of institutional work aimed at developing the transport sector in the State of Qatar and enhancing its role as a pillar of economic growth, sustainability and innovation.

The strategy represents a comprehensive roadmap based on a vision for an integrated, safe, flexible and sustainable transportation system, and a mission aimed at improving logistical efficiency in support of the objectives of Qatar National Vision 2030. It includes 125 projects stemming from 42 initiatives, with active

participation from the private sector at a rate of up to 40%, which enhances economic diversification, deepens development partnerships and contributes to raising the efficiency of implementing future projects, His Excellency said.

The strategy focuses on improving the public transport system through 17 quality initiatives that contribute to providing reliable and environmentally friendly services that serve different segments of society and give priority to innovation and building national capabilities through specialised training programmes and technology development projects that include smart control centres and advanced digital applications that enhance the quality of services and the speed of operational response.

As part of its efforts to accelerate digital transformation and enhance accessibility to its services, His Excellency said that the Ministry of Transport has launched its official mobile application, "Darb", for smartphones and tablets. (QNA)





## Secretary-general of Ministry of Foreign Affairs meets state secretary of Mongolian foreign ministry



HE the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Ahmed bin Hassan al-Hammadi yesterday met with the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Mongolia Lkhanaajav Munkhtushig, who is visiting the country. The meeting reviewed bilateral co-operation and explored ways to further strengthen and advance it. (QNA)

## Special envoy of Minister of Foreign Affairs meets UNOCT acting under-secretary-general



HE the Special Envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs ambassador Faisal bin Abdullah al-Hanzab, met yesterday with the Acting Under-Secretary-General for the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) Alexandre Zouev, who is visiting the country. During the meeting, they discussed co-operation and strategic partnership between Qatar and the UNOCT, in addition to issues of common interest. (QNA)

# Qatar Academy Al Wakra highlights Qatar's past and present in National Day celebrations

Qatar Academy Al Wakra (QAW), part of Qatar Foundation (QF)'s Pre-University Education, marked Qatar National Day (QND) with a school-wide celebration that highlighted the country's journey from the past to the present, while showcasing its progress in education, sustainability, and sports.

The celebration was planned as a three-day learning experience and included interactive activities held inside classrooms. These activities helped students learn about Qatar's cultural heritage and understand how it connects to the country's modern vision. Students took part in activities such as wearing traditional clothing, playing heritage games, and preparing traditional foods, alongside creative and educational activities that encouraged pride in national identity and a sense of belonging.

Student participation played a central role in the programme. Students performed the traditional



Qatari Arda in a display that reflected pride in heritage and loyalty to the nation. They are also preparing to take part in the military parade during Qatar National Day celebrations, reinforcing their sense of responsibility and pride in representing their school and QF.

"QND celebrations are among the events we look forward to each year at QAW, as they carry deep meaning beyond celebration by reinforcing national identity among students," said Kholoud al-Malki, elementary school principal at QAW.

"They also provide students with the opportunity to express pride in Qatar's history and achievements, within an educational setting that promotes awareness and appreciation of national identity."

"Each year, we are keen to ensure that QND is an experience students fully engage in, where they learn about their country's history and take part in activities that reflect values of co-operation and commitment, contributing to their personal development and strengthening their connection to



their homeland," al-Malki added.

Fatin Shabana, an Arabic language teacher at QAW, said: "Students' participation in national events deepens their connection to Qatar's history and authentic values, and helps them understand the pivotal role education has played in the country's transition from the past to the present with confidence and ambition." Shabana added that the cel-

ebrations engaged the entire school community, explaining: "Teachers from across different educational stages collaborated in organising and delivering the activities, which strengthened teamwork and reinforced the concept of national identity as a shared responsibility."

Fatima Gazagheh, an Arabic language teacher at the Academy, explained that national celebrations are not presented merely as

symbolic events, but are designed as educational projects with lasting impact.

"Students engage in this experience as active partners, expressing their understanding of their national identity and applying what they learn theoretically in real-life contexts, which strengthens their awareness of their role and responsibility toward their country and its future," she added.

## QNB hosts 'exclusive' events during Paris Saint-Germain's winter tour in Doha



QNB, the largest financial institution in the Middle East and Africa, hosted two special events in Doha as part of its premium partnership with the French football club, Paris Saint-Germain, during the team's annual winter tour in Qatar.

The tour presents an exciting opportunity for fans and customers to engage with the celebrated Paris Saint-Germain team, who are still riding the wave of their historic 2024-2025 Treble.

As a prominent component of its sponsorship activities, QNB organised activities in the ICI C'EST PARIS Park Doha, an immersive fan event held at Hotel Park. QNB's football activation within the park, named "Speed Park", challenged guests to achieve

the fastest ball-shooting speed.

Furthermore, QNB hosted a private Paris Saint-Germain Meet and Greet workshop at the Swissôtel Corniche Park Towers Doha exclusively for a limited number of clients. This private session offered unique opportunities for the bank's customers to meet some of the players, take photographs, and receive signatures.

The bank's continued engagement in high-profile sports events highlights its strategy regarding community and wellness.

Sports is one of QNB's most recognised sponsorship activities, as it helps promote a healthy lifestyle and highlights the importance of physical well-being.

This support also aligns with QNB's commitment to Qatar Na-



tional Vision 2030 to work towards a dynamic society. QNB supports various sports events and teams at both local and international levels, with efforts focused on driving in-

terest, awareness, and participation in traditional sports like camel races, as well as popular sports in the country such as football, basketball, handball, and volleyball.

## QNB main sponsor of 'Al Majlis' during FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2025



QNB Group continues its participation as a main sponsor of 'Al Majlis', a sports programme broadcasted on Al Kass Sports Channels, during the FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2025, hosted by Qatar across six world-class stadiums with the final due to be held on December 18, which also is Qatar National Day.

This partnership reflects QNB's commitment to sponsoring major events hosted by the nation, confirming its status as the Arab and global sporting capital. The exceptional hosting of the Arab Cup is another significant occasion.

This step highlights the bank's role as a strategic partner in promoting global and regional championships in line with Qatar's sustainability strategy and its National Vision 2030, supporting sports tourism sector to drive economic diversification.

The sponsorship provides a unique opportunity to showcase QNB brand during this exceptional football event through Al Majlis programme, which attracts millions of viewers and enjoys great popularity throughout the Arab world.

Al Majlis provides an interactive platform, which brings together prominent media personalities who engage in passionate match analyses and discussions in a unique TV show which combines traditional Arabic style hospitality and football passion.

Within this sponsorship, the bank organised 'Guess the Winner' contest via its social media platforms offering eight iPhone 17 Pro max for the lucky winners who successfully predict the result of the games for the Arab Cup quarter-finals, semi-finals, third place playoff, and the final.

## Art Basel Qatar unveils new details of inaugural 2026 edition

Art Basel Qatar unveiled new details of the artworks and programming that will define its inaugural edition scheduled in February 2026, presented in partnership with Qatar Sports Investment (QSI) and QC+.

Alongside its core presentation of 84 artists and 87 galleries, Art Basel Qatar will showcase a unique Special Projects programme - a wide-ranging series of nine large-scale, site-specific sculptures, installations, and performances unfolding across key cultural venues and public spaces at Msheireb Downtown Doha (MDD).

Curated by Art Basel Qatar artistic director Wael Shawky, in

collaboration with Vincenzo de Bellis, Chief Artistic Officer and Global Director Art Basel Fairs, these landmark projects respond to the fair's central theme, 'Becoming', and together form the most extensive group of public works ever realised for an Art Basel show.

In conversation with the artworks in the Galleries sector, the Special Projects deepen the fair's exploration of Becoming. Across both sectors, artists consider transformation in material and conceptual terms - examining metamorphosis, transition, upheaval, and the thresholds in between.

Works presented through the Special Projects engage directly with the seismic environmental, economic, and social shifts shaping our world, grounding the programme in urgent regional and global realities. Visitors can expect an immersive, narrative-rich journey in which each work contributes to a wider reflection on transformation and identity across the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia (Menasa) region.

Featuring monumental architectural and mixed-media interventions, the Special Projects programme underscores Art Basel's commitment to staging fairs that are locally grounded and globally

resonant, developed in close collaboration with host cities and their artistic ecosystems.

De Bellis said: "Together with the main Galleries sector of the show, these works present a narrative of transformation that offers audiences the chance to experience the region's widest range of artistic practices."

Shawky said: "Each presentation brings a practice that is deeply rooted in the cultural fabric of the Gulf and its extended geographies, while also pushing conversations forward in bold and unexpected ways."

The fair brings together galleries from 31 countries and territories,

including 16 making their Art Basel debut.

Art Basel Qatar, with Visit Qatar as the fair's Lead Partner, will be held from February 5-7, 2026 (with preview days from February 3-4), across MDD venues, including M7 and Doha Design District, as well as other locations and venues in the area.

The nine selected projects by Abraham Cruzvillegas; Bruce Nauman; Hasan Khan; Khalil Rabah; Nalini Malani; Nour Jaouda; Rayyane Tabet; Sumayya Vally; and Sweat Variant (Okwui Okpokwasili and Peter Born); will debut groundbreaking works that respond to and expand on the fair's

overarching theme, Becoming.

Alongside celebrated public artworks such as Richard Serra's East-West/East and Olafur Eliasson's Shadows Travelling on the Sea of the Day, the exhibitions programme includes two major exhibitions marking the 15th anniversary of Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art; two landmark presentations dedicated to the life and work of the renowned architect behind the Museum of Islamic Art, I M Pei; and a groundbreaking exhibition co-curated architects Rem Koolhaas and Samir Bantal that reimagines the rural landscape as a space for sustainability, innovation, and future living.



Qatar attorney general holds talks with Iranian, Kyrgyz officials



HE the Attorney General of Qatar, Dr Issa Saad al-Jafali al-Nuaimi, held separate meetings in Doha with senior legal officials from Iran and Kyrgyzstan. HE Dr al-Nuaimi met yesterday with Iran's Minister of Justice Dr Amin Hossein Rahimi, and with the Prosecutor General of the Kyrgyz Republic, Maksat Asanaliev. The discussions focused on a range of issues of mutual interest, including ways to strengthen co-operation in the field of public prosecution and legal affairs. The meetings come as Qatar continues to expand judicial and legal co-operation with regional and international partners. (QNA)

Lusail International Circuit gets FIA Three-Star Environmental Accreditation

Lusail International Circuit (LIC) received Three-Star Environmental Accreditation from the FIA – its highest level of recognition for environmental performance. LIC stands out as the world's only venue to hold FIA Three-Star Environmental Accreditation that hosts Formula 1, MotoGP, and the FIA World Endurance Championship. Leading up to this achievement, the fourth edition of the Formula 1 Qatar Airways Qatar Grand Prix prominently featured sustainability, accessibility, and community engagement. The circuit showcased its dedication to environmental stewardship, fan welfare, and local economic growth through impactful and measurable initiatives. These efforts are consistent with both Qatar's National Vision 2030 and FI's overarching global sustainability commitments. This dedication was further acknowledged with a certificate from Earthna, recognising LIC's support and partnership in the 10th edition of Qatar Sustainability Week 2025. Preparations began months before with the QatarGP Educational Tour, introducing more than 1,000 students from schools and universities across Qatar to



Lusail International Circuit

motorsport operations. LIC staff also planted mangroves at Al Thakhira to boost coastal biodiversity, while partnerships with institutions such as the University of Doha for Science and Technology provided additional internship opportunities in key areas. Carrying forward with the same theme, LIC integrated eco-friendly landscape and design, featuring 2,500 native trees, 30,000 drought resistant plants and shrubs, 20,000sq m of ground coverage and 10,000sq m of roof top coverage. The circuit continued the expansion of green spaces and the total green cover-

by predominantly using electric vehicles, including buggies, fan shuttles, operational vehicles, waste trucks, and forklifts, supported by four EV charging stations. Additionally, 100% of the shuttles operating between the Metro station and the circuit were electric. The circuit implemented advanced waste management measures to reduce the environmental impact of waste generation at source and throughout handling processes. This was achieved by digitalising 90% of tickets, avoiding 2.5 metric tonnes of CO2. Event banners were recycled into tote bags, food waste was turned into compost via BioBins, and a 100% recycled paper option was offered for printing. Through these measures, LIC reduced its environmental impact while enhancing fan experiences. Post-event data indicates a significant increase in fan uptake of public transport – up to a 15% rise compared to last year – alongside higher waste diversion rates and increased use of renewable and low-carbon energy sources. Together, these improvements contributed to a measurable reduction in the per-capita carbon footprint of the event.

QF, George Mason University to launch cultural immersion programme

Students from one of the leading universities in the US are to gain a deeper understanding of Qatar's history, cultural heritage, and journey of development through a partnership between Qatar Foundation (QF) and the Costello College of Business at George Mason University (GMU). According to QF, such collaboration will also give the students an experiential taste of life in the country that supports their future academic and professional journey. An agreement signed at the recent WISE 12 Summit hosted by QF's global education initiative WISE will bring 18 GMU students travel to Qatar during the 2026 spring term for an intercultural experience designed to broaden their academic and life horizons. During their 10-day, QF-coordinated stay in Qatar, the students from GMU – which has the largest Qatari student body in the US – will participate in interactive learning opportunities, explore the nation's cultural sites, strengthen their Arabic language skills, and engage with Qatar-based students and members of the country's community. The programme is also designed

to build lasting relationships between GMU and academic and cultural institutions in Qatar, creating pathways for future cross-cultural collaborations. "This agreement with George Mason University reflects Qatar Foundation's commitment to building meaningful global partnerships that expand learning beyond the classroom," said Francisco Marmolejo, president of Higher Education and Education Advisor, QF. "By welcoming GMU students and faculty to Qatar for this cultural immersion programme, we create meaningful exchange of ideas and perspectives that directly benefit students across our partner universities. At the same time, such partnerships strengthen Qatar's role as a global education hub and allows our guests to experience firsthand the country's rich culture, traditions, and warm, well-known hospitality." Ajay Vinzé, dean and interim provost of George Mason University's Costello College of Business, said: "Global partnerships like the one we've initiated with QF are a critical part of Costello College of



QF and GMU officials at the signing ceremony.

Business' long-term growth strategy, and are helping to make global learning and research opportunities accessible to increasing numbers of students and faculty from both sides." The Costello College of Business prioritises enhancing student experience and career readiness through global academic partnerships, which aligns with its mission of preparing a diverse student body to succeed in a global business environment. The college also contributes to the human development pillar of Qatar's development vision, which focuses on developing a well-educated population and highly skilled workforce for the country's future. "QF and the Costello College

of Business share a common belief that unlocking human potential is the primary purpose of educational institutions," said JK Aier, senior associate dean, Academic Affairs and Global Engagement, and Associate Professor of Accounting, at Costello College of Business. "This agreement is the start of a meaningful partnership to provide experiential learning opportunities for students and prepare them to successfully navigate the challenges of an increasingly complex world. Exposure to different cultures, languages, and business practices through exchange programmes and study-abroad pathways offer hands-on lessons that cannot be replicated inside a classroom."

Exhibitors' registration open for QF's BilAraby Gathering 2026

Qatar Foundation's (QF) BilAraby initiative has announced the opening of registration for institutions and organisations to exhibit their innovative experiences and solutions at the BilAraby Gathering 2026. The event is scheduled to take place in Education City, Doha, in April, under the theme 'With Our Ideas, We Build.' Through a partnership with BilAraby, organisations have the opportunity to join as exhibitors at the 2026 gathering or host BilAraby activities within their own spaces for Arabic-speaking communities. The partnership spans several areas, including strategic, cultural, educational, media, and institutional collaborations, as well as opportunities for exhibitors in interactive spaces, a statement explained. Habes Howail, government partnerships manager at QF's CEO office, said: "We believe that partnerships are the bridge between thought and action, and between language and innovation. What sets the BilAraby Gathering apart is its ability to embody the values we believe in, empowering youth, nurturing creativity, and building bridges between generations." Saad al-Tami, president of the Diwan Organization, one of BilAraby's regional partners, said: "Our partnership with BilAraby in its first edition was a significant milestone in our efforts to promote the Arabic language and empower youth across the region. This collaboration serves as a practical example of how institutional co-operation can create a tangible impact, bringing together knowl-

edge, identity, and innovation in one initiative that broadens reach and strengthens the role of youth in the cultural and developmental landscape." Fatema al-Malki, director of Qatar Reads and a local partner of BilAraby, said: "Collaborating with BilAraby on their first edition was an exciting opportunity to explore our common goal of providing platforms that elevate ideas from within Arabic-speaking communities. "This year's choice of Maqamat Al Hariri was the ideal canonical piece to connect different Arab countries and creatives together, with the final display being a series of digital artworks by eight Arab artists from around the world each representing Maqamat Al Hariri in a way that connects with their identity and heritage." Dr Mohammed Ahmed Yassin ElTabakh, principal scientist at Qatar Computing Research Institute at Hamad Bin Khalifa University, said: "The BilAraby Initiative is an excellent platform for showcasing Arabic language technologies and innovations for showcasing ideas and innovations in Arabic, including the Fanar Large Language Model, Qatar's flagship Gen AI technology." The BilAraby Gathering 2026 is set to be the largest and most prominent event of its kind, attracting over 1,000 innovators, entrepreneurs, and academics from more than 22 countries. The gathering's programme will feature over 20 keynote speeches, 15 workshops and discussion sessions, as well as 50 activities, exhibitions, and various interactive spaces.



UDST secures CIPD accreditation in human resource management programme

The University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) has announced that its Master of Science in Human Resource Management has been accredited by the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), the world's leading professional body for HR and people development. This prestigious recognition underscores the programme's academic rigour, industry relevance, and alignment with global standards in human resource management. This accreditation affirms UDST's commitment to delivering high-quality applied education that supports national workforce development and prepares graduates to excel in a rapidly evolving global labour market. It also strengthens the standing of the programme within the region, enhancing UDST's reputation as Qatar's national leader in applied learning and professional advancement. Through the CIPD accreditation, graduates of the programme will automatically receive associate CIPD status, providing them with a direct pathway to professional membership.

In celebration of the milestone, UDST acknowledges the collective efforts of faculty, administrative teams, and strategic partners who contributed to this achievement. Dr Salem Al-Naemi, president UDST, stated: "This accreditation represents a significant step forward in our mission to deliver world-class, practice-focused graduate education. The recognition from CIPD reinforces the academic strength and industry relevance of our Human Resource Management programme and underscores our commitment to preparing future HR leaders who can contribute meaningfully to Qatar's socioeconomic development. We are proud to provide our students with advanced qualifications that enhance their professional opportunities and support national goals in developing human capital aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030." The accreditation opens new opportunities for continued programme development, research collaboration, and engagement with the professional HR community, benefiting students, alumni, and employers across the public and private sectors.

Ministry of Public Health organises ICOPE programme

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) recently organised the Regional Forum for Capacity Building for the Integrated Care for Older People (ICOPE) programme. The programme was conducted in collaboration with the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Ageing and Dementia at Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC). The forum was dedicated to training a number of specialised healthcare professionals from Egypt, Jordan, and Pakistan on integrated care for older persons, as part of the WHO Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021-2030). The forum aimed to strengthen countries' capacities to integrate care for older persons at the level of primary healthcare, through implementing early screening and comprehensive assessment to detect any decline in intrinsic



capacity and developing individual care plans centred on their needs. This contributes to ensuring that intrinsic capacity and quality of life remain at the heart of ageing policies across the region. A multidisciplinary team participated in the forum, comprising doctors, nurses, and social workers, to promote healthy ageing and quality of life. The participants received practical

training on Qatar's evidence-based model for implementing the Integrated Care Programme for Older Persons, which has demonstrated strong positive outcomes across all domains of intrinsic capacity, including cognition, mobility, nutrition, vision, hearing, social and family support, and mental health for older persons and their families. Field visits were also organised

for the forum participants to observe Qatar's experience, where the national performance of the Integrated Care Programme for Older Persons in Qatar demonstrates high referral completion rates, improved follow-up outcomes, and strengthened continuity of care, supported by multidisciplinary intervention pathways. Dr Hanadi al-Hamad, head of the

WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Ageing at HMC, said: "The regional forum contributes to strengthening Qatar's efforts to support the capacities of countries in the Eastern Mediterranean Region in the field of integrated care for older persons, in collaboration with the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean. The Integrated Care Programme for Older Persons

in Qatar has proven that systematic assessment of older persons and linking them to timely therapeutic and service interventions through specialised clinics and recovery clinics help achieve tangible improvements in health and quality of life." Dr Riana Bouhaqa, WHO representative in Qatar, noted that the forum reflects the ongoing commitment of Qatar, the Ministry of Public Health, and the WHO Collaborating Centre to supporting the organisation's efforts in capacity building and knowledge exchange across the region. The forum is the second to be organised in collaboration with the WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Ageing and Dementia at HMC, following the success of the first forum held last year, which was dedicated to training healthcare professionals from Iraq.





# Qatar’s anti-corruption practices can inspire others: UN official

From Page 1

“So it is quite significant because we have people from all different sectors, not only governmental representatives, but from the private sector, civil society, academia, and it is an opportunity for them to really engage in a conversation at different levels,” Majlessi said.  
He said that one new topic this year is

transparency in political financing and corruption that affects other types of crimes like migrant smuggling or environment.  
“There are also bilateral meetings where countries sit together to discuss case-related work on anti-corruption cases where they need international co-operation from each other. So there is a range of activities happening under one roof, which is really a

rare opportunity,” he continued.  
Majlessi said that one of the crucial outcomes expected from this conference is a decision on the next phase of the implementation of the review mechanism of the convention and there is a range of 11 resolutions that are expected to come out of this conference.  
“This is very important to continue the process of monitoring mechanism or

rather the peer review process continuing in the years ahead,” he said. “There are also a number of resolutions on issues like artificial intelligence (AI), use of AI in the fight against corruption, on political finance and election campaign transparency, on the link between corruption and other forms of crime, on education, law of youth and the children.”  
Majlessi noted that the government-

level corruption and corruption at private sector are the two sides of the same coin.  
“It is impossible to separate private sector corruption from government corruption,” he stated. “They are very much related. So we need to tackle it from both sides and that is why it is important for us to have governments and private sector and civil society in this space together.”

## QND ‘strengthens bonds between citizens, residents’

Qatar National Day (QND) stands as an enduring national milestone in which the legacy of founder Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani, who laid the powerful, sovereign foundations of the nation, underpin the principles of honour, dignity, and independence, HE the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Dr Abdullah bin Abdulaziz bin Turki al-Subaie told the Qatar News Agency (QNA).  
He added that the National Day embodies the values of belonging and pride in the Qatari identity, deep-rooted in the -honoured heritage and loyalty, demonstrating the path of building and development led by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani within Qatar National Vision 2030, which has made sustainable development a core pillar for progress in a variety of sectors.  
This day, HE Dr al-Subaie said, represents a national occasion to deepen values of patriotism and loyalty to the nation and leadership, as well as an opportunity to reflect on the comprehensive development accomplishments that have been achieved.  
The minister further noted that the environmental and climatic resurgence the nation is witnessing comes as an extension of this balanced development approach, which preserves the heritage of Qatari society and its future aspirations.  
HE Dr al-Subaie said that this day is a symbol of the unity of the Qatari national fabric that embodies the meanings of patriotism and strengthens bonds among community members, both citizens and residents, united by their commitment to Qatar and determination for its advancement.  
The minister spoke about the key milestones the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC) has accomplished during 2025, emphasising that the tremendous support the leadership gives to issues of environment and climate has cast Qatar in an outstanding position as an active mem-



ber in regional and international organisations.  
He said that the ministry is moving ahead to execute the National Strategy for Environment and Climate Change (2024-2030), which represents the holistic framework for environmental action in the nation.  
The MoECC worked, HE Dr al-Subaie continued, to advance a comprehensive National Environmental Monitoring Network covering ambient air and water-quality monitoring, terrestrial and marine environment surveillance, as well as noise and environmental radiation monitoring, providing accurate environmental data to support policy and decision-making.  
The system, he added, incorporates early-warning mechanisms and advances toward the digital transformation of environmental services, delivered via integrated digital platforms.  
The ministry has made a breakthrough in protecting the natural environment and biodiversity through executing desertification control programmes, developing vegetation cover, and safeguarding endangered species, in addition to coral reef and marine habitats restoration.  
HE Dr al-Subaie noted that a breakthrough has also been made in terms of boosting national co-operation to support the circular economy and waste management through pursuing sustainable solutions that encourage environmental innovation.  
As for future plans, the minister said that the ministry is diligently executing the programmes of the 2024-2030 strategy, in addition to advancing AI-powered environmental monitoring and early warning systems, expanding programmes for protecting natural habitats and developing vegetation cover, as well as bolstering national and international co-operation in support of the circular economy and scientific research in environment and climate fields. - QNA

## National Day reflects Qatar’s many achievements, says Egypt envoy

Egypt's ambassador to Qatar Walid Fahmy al-Faqi has affirmed that Qatar National Day (QND) represents a prominent national occasion in which Qatar proudly recalls the journey of its founders and their achievements and reflects its firmly established values of progress and continuous development.  
In a statement to the Qatar News Agency (QNA), the envoy explained that this occasion represents an opportunity to appreciate the political, economic and developmental achievements made possible by the vision of the country's leadership.  
It also embodies, al-Faqi added, the spirit of cohesion between the Qatari people and residents on the land of Qatar, which reflects the values of respect and coexistence that



characterise society in Qatar.  
The envoy affirmed that Egypt shares the joy of its brothers in Qatar on this occasion, and is keen to continue strengthening the bonds of brotherhood and co-operation for the good of the two countries and brotherly people.  
He also emphasised the great role of the Egyptian community in Qatar, which contributes to the development process and forms a strong bridge for cultural and human communication between the two peoples.  
Al-Faqi pointed out that the relations between Egypt and Qatar are deeply rooted fraternal relations, extending through decades of joint co-operation.  
The envoy noted Qatar's distinguished record at the regional and international levels as a centre for dialogue, diplomacy, sports and culture.  
In particular he cited Qatar's foreign policy, which is based on respect for international law, encouraging dialogue, and supporting peace and development efforts.  
Qatar has, the envoy said, become a model of quiet and effective diplomacy based on dialogue and mutual respect, and an influential country that possesses a humanitarian vision and advanced regional and international responsibility. - QNA

## Qatar ‘has secured a prominent position on global political map’

Morocco's ambassador to Qatar Mohamed Setri has said that thanks to the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, Qatar has succeeded in securing a prominent position on the international political map as a key, credible, and trusted partner.  
Speaking to the Qatar News Agency (QNA), the envoy said that Qatar has managed to achieve the highest global standards in economic, social, environmental, and human development by adopting and implementing innovative strategies and initiatives that have helped accelerate reaching goals and realising pioneering projects, including extensive urban development, a comprehensive modernisation of facilities, and a modern infrastructure of airports, ports, and advanced road networks, among other things.  
He said that the same level of success and excellence was achieved socially, by preserving cultural identity, empowering women, strengthening the role of the family, fostering a spirit of participation and solidarity, and enhancing healthcare, education, and cultural life, manifested in hospitals, educational institutions, libraries, museums, and others.



Setri added that celebrating the Qatar National Day (QND) carries layers of meaning, being first and foremost a continuous tribute and commemoration of founder Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani and a recognition of his role in unifying the country, in addition to being an occasion to recall the country's achievements, which are a source of pride for all.  
On this happy occasion, the envoy extended his sincere congratulations and best wishes to Qatar, its leadership, government, and people, wishing the country continued growth, prosperity, and well-being under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir.  
He noted that Qatar has succeeded in managing complex and sensitive dossiers and has mediated between parties to conflicts and wars in various regions of the world, leveraging its diplomatic and humanitarian capabilities to establish peace and reach ceasefire agreements, exchange prisoners and detainees, restore diplomatic relations, as well as support national dialogues and resolve border disputes.  
He also affirmed that Morocco and Qatar share firmly established and deeply rooted sisterly relations, thanks to the profound and sincere bonds between King Mohammed VI and His Highness the Amir. - QNA

## Justice minister in Doha meetings

HE the Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Ibrahim bin Ali al-Mohannadi met separately with Justice Minister Radu Marinescu of Romania, Justice Minister Dr Amin Hossein Rahimi of Iran, and the policy adviser for anti-corruption at the Netherlands's ministry of justice and security, Carlijn Spijkers, on the sidelines of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Doha (COSP11). The meetings discussed areas of legal co-operation and ways to enhance and develop them, in addition to a number of topics included on the conference agenda. - QNA



## Role of artificial intelligence amid evolving financial crime discussed

Participants at a private sector forum held alongside the UN conference on anti-corruption in Doha have warned that financial crime is becoming more complex and harder to detect, calling for greater use of artificial intelligence (AI) and advanced data analytics.  
The forum is part of the 11th Conference of the States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption (COSP11), which is taking place in Doha on December 15-19.  
Speaking at the event, Alexandra Bobylkova from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)'s Global Programme against Money Laundering said that traditional detection and early-warning systems were no longer sufficient in the face of rapidly evolving financial crimes.  
She said financial institutions, companies and financial intelligence units must adapt by adopting advanced data analysis, AI and machine learning to detect and prevent illicit financial flows and to build sustainable anti-corruption systems.  
Bobylkova noted that AI can analyse vast amounts of data, create dynamic risk indicators and identify unusual patterns, enabling authorities to detect suspicious activities linked to money laundering, corruption and terrorist financing more proactively and efficiently.  
However, she also highlighted challenges, including data preparation and protection, accurate interpretation of AI model results, and the risk of bias in intelligent systems.  
The expert warned of the potential misuse of AI by criminals, such as document forgery, automated phishing attacks and complex money-laundering schemes, stressing the need for practical solutions to counter these threats.  
Meanwhile, LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation president Ian McDougall outlined the private sector's role in using technology to strengthen the rule of law.  
He emphasised the importance of grounding discussions on AI in fundamental principles, saying that despite rapid advances, technology remains a tool with clear limitations.  
McDougall said the global community now faces a critical moment in balancing technological innovation with efforts to combat corruption and uphold the rule of law.  
He said that AI could be one of the most positive developments of recent decades if used responsibly to support the rule of law, adding that new technologies have transformed the ability to detect patterns within vast datasets, enabling financial institutions and regulatory bodies to identify suspicious transactions with greater speed and accuracy.  
However, McDougall warned that the same technologies are being used to develop increasingly

sophisticated methods of financial evasion.  
He described the current landscape as a “technological arms race” between law enforcement authorities and criminal networks, with the resources required to develop advanced AI systems enormous and beyond the reach of many countries, making international co-operation essential-particularly for developing nations and regions with limited resources.  
South Africa's experience in using AI to combat illicit financial flows was highlighted by Andy Mothibi, head of the country's Special Investigating Unit, which is responsible for recovering stolen state assets and prosecuting those involved.  
He said that AI has become central to South Africa's strategy, which is built on close co-operation between government agencies.  
Mothibi explained that the South African Revenue Service has widely deployed AI-based technologies capable of tracking income and modelling financial trends predictively, allowing authorities to detect cases of non-disclosure or under-reporting and to flag suspicious transactions in real time.  
These predictive analytics, he said, enable officials to engage directly with individuals or companies under scrutiny, trace income streams and determine whether funds have been moved the country. - QNA

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## Qatar ‘plays pivotal role in combating corruption’

South Africa's Justice and Constitutional Development Minister Mmamoloko Kubayi has affirmed Qatar's pivotal role in combating corruption both through hosting the 11th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (COSP11) and through its use of technology in fighting crime and corruption.  
She commended the existing level of co-operation and the excellent bilateral relations between Qatar and South Africa for many years.  
In remarks to the Qatar News

Agency (QNA) on the sidelines of the COSP11, Kubayi thanked Qatar for the warm welcome and excellent organisation, saying that it reflects Qatar's deep commitment to promoting integrity and transparency at the international level and its leading role in combating corruption.  
Highlighting the COSP11's in-depth discussions and positive outcomes, particularly regarding proposals aimed at reviewing conventions and strengthening the capacity of states to confront corruption globally, she stated that launching new tools to sup-



port countries, particularly those experiencing conflicts, to combat corruption within conflict zones is a crucial step.  
Kubayi noted that addressing illicit financial flows, from an African perspective, aligns with the goals of Agenda 2063 and contributes to supporting development and stability efforts. - QNA

## Controlling graft ‘essential to boost taxation, govt efficiency globally’

Controlling corruption is essential to bolster taxation and government efficiency, as corruption undermines tax revenues, reduces compliance, and distorts the fiscal space, officials and experts emphasised during a panel discussion on “Corruption, Taxation, and Illicit Financial Flows” as part of the 11th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (COSP11) currently underway in Doha.  
They noted that addressing corruption in tax systems has a dual benefit: strengthening revenue generation by curbing economic crimes, such as tax evasion, and ensuring that public funds are directed toward their intended purposes, including social development and infrastructure.  
Corruption in tax expenditure, they underlined, distorts the allocation of government resources, prioritising projects that offer opportunities for kickbacks – such as major investment initiatives or defence spending – over essential sectors like education and healthcare, especially in emerging economies where tax revenues are relatively low.  
Therefore, the experts said, enhancing tax efficiency is critical to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Officials from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Tax and Corruption Team stressed the importance of ensuring strong anti-corruption measures in tax systems and inter-agency collaboration on the national, regional, and global stages.  
They added that their office supports authorities through activities that include helping countries strengthen integrity and accountability, establishing co-operation frameworks, providing platforms for global collaboration, and knowledge and capacity building through knowledge products and reference materials.  
Additionally, they pointed out that support is extended to regional centres for anti-corruption and economic crimes in Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America, as well as to regional platforms for responding to technical assistance requests in target countries, ensuring consistent and effective delivery, and promoting synergy, knowledge sharing, and best practices.  
The panellists affirmed their commitment to supporting countries through various tools, including establishing forums for international co-operation to combat corruption and strengthen tax institutions, and building knowledge through discussions, policy briefs, and papers. - QNA



# Sixth Arab Ministerial Forum on Housing ends with adoption of Doha Declaration

The Sixth Arab Ministerial Forum on Housing and Urban Development concluded yesterday with the adoption of the Doha Declaration, which outlines a set of recommendations aimed at strengthening national housing strategies and enhancing community participation in planning processes across the Arab region.

The declaration calls for updating and developing comprehensive, actionable national housing and population policies that address the needs of all social groups in Arab countries.

It emphasises strengthening smart urban and housing data systems, including the establishment of national and local urban observatories to improve data production and evidence-based policymaking, and stresses the importance of adopting integrated urban and regional planning

approaches by linking housing policies with urban development, land use, transport, infrastructure, and logistics services to support sustainable growth.

The declaration further highlights the need to accelerate innovative housing finance solutions, promote public-private partnerships, and enhance investment in smart housing.

The Doha Declaration underlines support for sustainable and resilient reconstruction efforts in countries affected by crises, alongside strengthening local governance and decentralisation.

It calls for empowering cities and municipalities to play a more active role in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), expanding community participation in planning, developing risk management and early warning systems,

and encouraging the exchange of expertise.

It also urges Arab donor organisations to support recovery and reconstruction efforts in countries impacted by conflicts and crises, while calling on the international community to provide humanitarian and development assistance to affected states, as well as support refugees and displaced persons in Arab countries in line with international law until lasting solutions are achieved.

The declaration invites Arab countries to submit voluntary reports on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and to participate actively in the 13th session of the World Urban Forum, scheduled for 2026 in Baku, Azerbaijan, as a key global platform for monitoring and reviewing urban development commitments.

It also calls on Arab ministers concerned with housing and urban development to strengthen their participation in the Fifth Ministerial Meeting on Urbanisation and Climate Change, set to be held in Antalya, Türkiye.

The Doha Declaration was issued following three days of intensive discussions and specialised dialogue sessions, attended by senior officials, experts, and decision-makers from across the Arab world.

The final day of the forum opened with a session on shaping the future of cities, with participation from Qatar and Jordan, focusing on social justice, social cohesion in urban policies, and the role of smart cities in supporting vulnerable groups and improving social services.

Other sessions addressed demographic challenges in Arab cities, featuring expe-

periences from Yemen, Iraq, and Morocco, highlighting the need to align urban planning with demographic shifts and enhance cities' capacity to respond to rapid population changes.

Additional discussions showcased Arab experiences in urban development and quality of life improvement, with contributions from Libya, Egypt, and the United Arab Emirates, presenting successful models for urban regeneration and partnership-driven sustainable development.

In the housing, land, and basic services track, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia, alongside experiences from Sudan and Lebanon, presented innovative solutions to address emerging challenges and promote more inclusive and sustainable urban environments that balance urban growth with social considerations. - QNA

# Inaugural Doha Tattoo opens at Katara

## The Doha International Music and Marching Festival (Doha Tattoo) gathers military bands for a global celebration

The Doha International Music and Marching Festival (Doha Tattoo) made its debut yesterday at Katara Cultural Village, bringing together renowned military bands for a global celebration of music and marching traditions.

The event, under the patronage of HE the Minister of Interior and Commander of Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya) Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, and organised by the Ministry of Interior (MoI) in collaboration with Visit Qatar, will run until December 20.

The opening ceremony was attended by HE Lieutenant-General (Pilot) Jassim bin Mohammed al-Mannai, Chief of Staff of the Qatar Armed Forces, alongside senior state officials.

Organisers stressed that the opening marked a notable Qatari evening, as Doha added a new chapter to its cultural and artistic journey, highlighting military music as a shared cultural language that brings nations together.

The programme features military band performances in a visually engaging setting that combines military discipline with artistic expression, uniting sound and movement as Eastern and Western cultures converge at Katara.

Participating bands include Qatari ensembles from the Ministry of Defence, the MoI, the Amiri Guard and Lekhwiya, alongside bands from Oman, Jordan, the UK, the US, Türkiye, and Kazakhstan.

The bands performed pieces inspired by global military music traditions, celebrating rhythm, culture, and unity in a setting that fosters cultural exchange and honours long-standing military customs, reflecting the warmth, peace, and security that characterise events hosted in Doha.

The festival opened with a performance by the Lekhwiya Band, presenting a programme of national military compositions delivered



Snapshots from the opening ceremony.

through co-ordinated rhythms and structured formations.

It reflected the band's strong collective cohesion and was met with positive audience engagement for its celebratory character and national significance.

The Jordanian Armed Forces Band, joined by the Silent Drill Team of the Royal Jordanian Guard and the Jordanian Circassian Guard, presented a performance rooted in long-standing military tradition.

The Omani Royal Guard Military Band delivered a performance that showcased the Sultanate's military musical identity through a selection of national and military compositions.

Representing the UK, the Central Band of the Royal Air Force performed alongside the King's Colour Squadron and the Royal Air Force Pipes and Drums.

The programme included classical military compositions and national pieces, presented through carefully co-ordinated musical arrangements and ceremonial movement, reflecting the United Kingdom's established military music tradition.

The Qatar Armed Forces Band presented a programme of national and military compositions performed through structured formations and co-ordinated brass arrangements.

A joint pipes and drums performance brought together ensembles from Qatar, Oman, Jordan and the UK.



Featuring 140 pipers performing in a unified formation, the presentation highlighted the collective nature of military music and its ability to convey messages of co-operation and shared purpose.

The US Air Force Honour Guard Band presented a performance combining musical elements with silent drill movements.

The presentation focused on co-ordinated formations and ceremonial precision, offering a distinctive display that was met with strong audience appreciation.

The Turkish Gendarmerie Band and the Mehter Band presented a programme that reflected one of the oldest military music traditions in the world.

Featuring traditional and contemporary compositions performed

with brass instruments and structured formations, the presentation highlighted the historical depth of Türkiye's military musical heritage.

The Band of the Irish Guards delivered a performance combining traditional and modern musical selections.

The programme featured brass and woodwind arrangements supported by organised marching formations, creating a refined presentation that resonated well with the audience.

The Honour Guard of the Ministry of Defence of Kazakhstan and the Central Military Band of the Armed Forces of Kazakhstan presented a programme that blended traditional and modern musical elements.

The first day of the festival concluded with a performance by the



MoI Band, represented by the Police Academy Drill Team.

The festival featured a theatrical Qatari narrative titled *The*

*Tale of Jassim*, depicting the evolution of life in Qatar from the desert to the sea and onward to modern Doha.

## Alfardan Sports Motors named world's top Ferrari showroom

Alfardan Sports Motors, the official Ferrari importer in Qatar, has been recognised with the world's "Top Showroom Award 2024", a landmark achievement that celebrates a historic first for Qatar and marks the very first time a Ferrari showroom in the Middle East region has received this global distinction.

The prestigious accolade is a testament to Alfardan Sports Motors' ongoing efforts in delivering exceptional performance, including customer service, enhanced operations to meet global industry-leading standards and retail excellence.

Located in the heart of the Pearl Island, Alfardan Sports Motors - Ferrari Qatar is a prime state-of-

the-art showroom with a world-class service centre that has been serving Ferrari's customers in the country since 1999.

Throughout its 26-year-journey, it has delivered ownership experiences centred around a customer-first approach, helping build and elevate relationships while providing exceptional after-sales services.

Its showroom is part of an immersive environment that celebrates the Prancing Horse at every touchpoint.

By creating luxury-driven experiences for customers, Alfardan Sports Motors consolidates its position as a trusted partner for automotive enthusiasts in the Qatari market, which continues to go from strength to strength and remains a key location in Ferrari's global operations.

"This recognition represents far more than an award; it is the realisation of a long-term vision rooted in the values of the Alfardan Corporation, building institutions defined by excellence, integrity, and enduring relationships," said Alfardan Automotive president Omar Alfardan. "From the outset, our ambition was to establish a world-class Ferrari presence in Qatar, guided by a deep respect for the brand and a principled commitment to delivering exceptional value to our clients."

"To see this vision recognised on a global stage, for the first time in Qatar and the Middle East, is both a moment of great pride and a responsibility we carry forward

as we continue to elevate standards and shape the future of luxury automotive experiences in the State of Qatar," he said.

"It is a privilege to receive the world's Best Showroom Award 2024," said Alfardan Sports Motors general manager Tarek al-Hammoud. "This is a distinguished accolade that would not have been possible without the remarkable efforts of our passionate and highly-trained team at Alfardan Sports Motors, who have been instrumental in our successes."

"More importantly, we also express our sincere gratitude to the Alfardan family, as their long-standing support and investment have enhanced the Ferrari brand in Qatar, helping attract new and regular customers," he said. "Their dedication has opened new opportunities for individuals to experience the best of Ferrari, which continues to be an iconic brand thanks to its unmatched performance, exquisite designs and heritage and legacy."

"Alfardan Sports Motors continues to raise the bar when it comes to luxury customer experiences, and this award is a milestone achievement that celebrates the team's hard work and commitment," said Ferrari Middle East managing director Giorgio Turri. "Alfardan Sports Motors has not only delivered outstanding sales during 2024 but its team consistently go above and beyond to carefully look after customers and create meaningful connections that differentiate Ferrari."



Alfardan Automotive president Omar Alfardan said the recognition is the realisation of a long-term vision rooted in the values of the Alfardan Corporation.



The accolade is a testament to Alfardan Sports Motors' ongoing efforts in delivering exceptional performance.



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GULF TIMES

Winners and losers:  
Oil market equilibrium  
calls for stable prices

Global oil benchmarks have been falling as the market faces the prospect of a growing surplus. Brent is estimated to have declined some 18% in 2025 so far, while WTI is down close to 20%, as the market has steadily priced out the war driven risk premium of the early 2020s and refocused on swelling supply. The International Energy Agency forecast in November that global supply will outweigh demand by 2.4mn barrels per day (bpd), and expects the gap to expand to a record 4mn bpd next year. On the other hand, the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) strongly disputes the idea of a huge oversupply. In its latest monthly report, the group says Opec+ produced 43.06mn bpd in November. It forecasts that demand for Opec+ crude will average 43mn bpd in 2026, almost exactly matching current production. Opec+ has also said it will pause further production increases in the first quarter of 2026, citing widespread predictions of oversupply and signalling that it is prepared to defend prices if needed. The Middle Eastern oil market has also weakened in recent weeks on concern that regional supplies will outstrip demand. Among widely watched metrics, the premium of Abu Dhabi's flagship Murban over Brent has declined to the narrowest since early October. The shift signals concern too much crude is being offered in the Middle East than can readily be bought by refiners in Asia at a time of higher, competing worldwide output, according to a Bloomberg report. A low-oil-price environment is good for buyers, especially large net importers such as China, which has been filling up its strategic reserves, and India, which has faced US pressure to stop buying Russian crude.

Brent is estimated to have declined some 18% in 2025 so far, while WTI is down close to 20%, as the market faces the prospect of a growing surplus

Cheaper oil can translate into lower fuel prices. US President Donald Trump likes to use the price of gasoline as an economic barometer and during last year's election pledged to bring it below \$2 a gallon. But here's other side of the narrative. For oil exporters whose economies are heavily dependent on the oil industry, subdued prices could weigh on their revenue and put pressure on fiscal budgets. Saudi Arabia, the world's second-largest oil producer after the US, is seeking to diversify its economy through the Vision 2030 programme. However, the massive investments being made in mega projects have arguably left the kingdom even more dependent on oil revenue. Western sanctions have made Russian oil exporters heavily dependent on buyers in China and India, who have demanded discounts to keep importing this seaborne crude. The US shale industry has been the world's engine for oil-production growth in recent years, but the momentum is now slowing. Many producers need an oil price of around \$65 a barrel to turn a profit and have been looking to increase their output at less than 5% annually as crude prices hover near the break-even threshold. Looking forward, Wall Street investment banks see low \$60s, or even lower, for oil prices in 2026. A Reuters poll of 35 economists and analysts, published late November projects Brent averaging about \$62.23 in 2026 and WTI around \$59, with "swelling supplies" expected to keep prices under pressure. Goldman Sachs recently forecast Brent at \$56 and WTI at \$52 in 2026, warning of a roughly 2mn bpd surplus. The latest US Energy Information Administration Short Term Energy Outlook released on December 9 projects Brent averaging about \$69 per barrel in 2025, then dropping steeply to around \$55 per barrel in 2026, staying near that level all year. Weaker prices could translate into major oil producing countries losing money, regardless of the market share they enjoy. Also, lower-for-longer oil can cut investments to develop new oil and gas fields. But oil companies say global energy future envisages rising demand and population growth, making oil an important fuel for decades to come.

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BBC in Trump's sights



People walk outside the BBC Broadcasting House, after US President Donald Trump sued the BBC for up to \$10bn in damages over edited clips of a speech, in London, Britain, yesterday. (Reuters)

A new framework for  
financing global security

By Nilima Gulrajani  
London

Intensifying great-power rivalries have made increased defence spending a priority that few states dare to question. This growing sense of insecurity propelled global military spending, which increased by 37% from 2015-2024, when it reached \$2.7tn – a sum almost equivalent to Africa's entire GDP. The Nato alliance accounted for over 50% of this spending, with most of its members investing more in defence at the expense of other public spending. In Canada, the United Kingdom, and Germany, foreign aid has taken a hit. Tepid public support for such programming makes it politically expendable, while security anxieties and the search for a defence-industrial boom fuel military spending. Yet surging military budgets have not improved global security. Instead, military investment increases instability, destroys ecosystems, fuels arms races, and heightens conflict risks. It can also indirectly crowd out public investment in a guns-versus-butter tradeoff. The financing gap for the non-climate-related Sustainable Development Goals would have easily been closed in 2024 if the increases in defence spending had been redirected for that purpose. And since sectoral investments in health, education, and energy infrastructure have larger "fiscal multipliers" than military spending, these investments would likely have boosted GDP by more than we can expect defence spending to. Public investment in human capital and infrastructure builds resilience and makes it more likely that societies will resolve disputes without violence and displacement. Most countries' biggest security risks are not territorial; they are threats like pandemics, climate change, and

cyberterrorism. An aid-for-defence swap may be politically rational, but it amounts to robbing Peter (a resilience-based multidimensional understanding of security) to pay Paul (a narrow, militarised understanding). The development-finance gaps resulting from this swap are unlikely to be funded by private sources. Fragile countries tend to be more dependent on grants and highly concessional loans, and social sectors generally do not generate the kinds of returns that private investors seek. That is why countries like Haiti and Sudan have long struggled to attract foreign direct investment, and why infrastructure projects in larger and less risky emerging markets appeal to private investors. Now, pension funds, insurance companies, and banks are rushing to seize opportunities created by increased public-sector investments in defence, some of which are being directed by new multilateral entities like the Defence, Security and Resilience Bank. Stimulating such capital flows raises questions about the future of global ESG (environmental, social, and governance) investment frameworks, which have typically assigned defence industries a higher risk, owing to uncertainties about their business ethics, product use, governance, and environmental impact. Security financing does not have to be a zero-sum game. An improved defence financing framework could help us address the complexities of today's collective security challenges. A better approach would have three pillars. First, it would embrace a more multidimensional perspective on security. In June, Nato members agreed to spend 5% of their GDP on defence by 2035, with 3.5% of GDP focused on core defence and 1.5% on security-

related spending to "protect our critical infrastructure, defend our networks, ensure our civil preparedness and resilience, unleash innovation, and strengthen our defence industrial base." For now, at least, the 1.5% is more focused on civilian defence than a holistic understanding of security. We have already seen creative accounting practices to minimise the fiscal burden of the higher target, as in the case of Italy's effort to include a €13.5bn (\$15.8bn) suspension bridge. Moreover, direct contributions toward Ukraine's defence will count toward the 5% target, providing a template for funding future military operations elsewhere in the world. In a promising sign, some Nato members are now exploring whether development spending in security-adjacent areas like international peacekeeping missions, early-warning systems for climate shocks, and resilient supply chains for essential medicines and vaccines might count toward the 1.5% target. But while shoehorning these budget lines into Nato's accounting framework could protect them from cuts, it might also jeopardise the integrity of standardised defence accounting if the boundaries of "security-related" remain unclear. It also raises the likelihood of "securitising" aid and politicising engagement in ways that will endanger lives. A better approach, then, is to measure the full spectrum of national inputs for global security and assess their value in terms of military defence and deterrence, as well as economic growth and resilience. As the 2030 deadline for achieving the SDGs approaches, a multidimensional perspective on security could be a good starting point for discussing its successor framework. The second pillar is a modern security financing framework

featuring more transparent estimates of defence investment needs. In Nato's case, these are classified, even though transparent national estimates of minimum defence-investment requirements are key to preventing waste and ensuring that spending deters legitimate threats without raising the likelihood of conflict. Setting military-spending targets as a share of GDP assumes that countries should spend whatever they can afford on defence, rather than focusing on what they (or their allies) actually need to contain genuine threats. Such a crude formula for burden-sharing inevitably militarises economies by turning weapons proliferation and global conflict into industrial and commercial advantages. Input spending targets incentivise quick disbursements that can jeopardise procurement processes intended to ensure value for money. Releasing aggregate estimates of true defence needs should be possible without compromising national security. Doing so would ensure accountability for defence outlays and allow for multidimensional security investment that targets both military and non-military threats. The third pillar comprises stronger fiscal safeguards for key spending priorities. Global defence spending now outpaces development aid by 13 to one, a trend that is already generating ripple effects – from diplomatic layoffs to the collapse of global health investment. The opportunity cost of such massive defence investments could well be global cooperation itself. But some countries are seeking a better way. "We are building weapons, when we should be building social infrastructure," warned South African President Cyril Ramaphosa at this year's United Nations General Assembly, echoing concerns made by Brazil, Kazakhstan, and Nepal (among others). For her part, Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum, recognising the symbiotic relationship between diplomacy, defence, and development, has proposed that G20 members earmark 1% of their military spending for sustainable development. International co-operation is at a turning point, with the Global North far more committed to funding defence than defending development. A 21st-century approach to financing security threats should ensure that defence and development pull in the same direction. – Project Syndicate

• Nilima Gulrajani is Principal Research Fellow at ODI Global, where she leads the Donors in a Post-Aid World programme, and an associate at Trinity College, University of Toronto.





# AI and education: How QF is shaping the future of learning

By Noor Al-rawi  
Doha

Artificial intelligence (AI) is no longer a concept of the future or a tool limited to specific industries. It has become deeply integrated across sectors, including education, where it is increasingly influencing teaching and learning environments. As this transformation accelerates, the need to adopt AI in a thoughtful and responsible manner becomes essential, particularly when it comes to supporting teachers and safeguarding students in K-12 learning environments.

In this context, Qatar Foundation (QF) is committed to integrating artificial intelligence into education in the right way, ensuring safe, ethical, and effective use by teachers while keeping human values at the core of the learning process. Through research, policy, and innovation, Qatar Foundation aims to leverage AI as a tool that supports and strengthens education without undermining trust, equity, or the central role of educators.

In this exclusive interview with *Gulf Times*, Reem al-Sulaiti, Manager of Research and Policy at the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE), shares insights into how AI is being integrated into K-12 classrooms, teachers' readiness to adopt these tools, the ethical considerations involved, and the role of WISE and Qatar Foundation in shaping a responsible, human-centred future for AI in education.

**Q: AI is rapidly reshaping multiple sectors. From your perspective at WISE, how is AI beginning to influence K-12 teaching and learning environments today?**

**A:** AI is moving rapidly from an abstract idea to something teachers are using in real classrooms. At WISE, we are already seeing AI help personalise learning, support foundational skills, and simplify the planning process for teachers. Through our AI Testbed programme with Qatar Foundation schools and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in government schools, we are observing pilots where AI tools assist with adaptive learning, formative assessment, and inclusion, while teachers remain fully in control. Globally, teachers are using AI to generate content, adjust materials to different levels, and support multilingual and accessible learning. The biggest shift is that AI is becoming part of daily teaching practice, but always as a tool that enhances human-led education.

**Q: Based on your research, how prepared do teachers feel to adopt AI tools in their classrooms?**

**A:** Our studies with MIT and University of Southern California (USC) show that teachers are generally curious and open to AI, but their readiness differs significantly. Many feel unprepared because they have not yet received enough training, because policies remain unclear, or because they have not had structured opportunities to practice using AI safely.

When teachers do receive hands-on professional development that is directly connected to classroom needs, their confidence grows quickly. In Qatar, our readiness surveys show that support from school leadership, access to tools, and national policy clarity play a major role in helping teachers feel ready to adopt AI meaningfully.

**Q: What are some of the most common misconceptions**



Reem al-Sulaiti, Manager of Research and Policy at the World Innovation Summit for Education.

**teachers have about AI, and how can the education sector address them?**

**A:** A common misconception is the belief that AI will replace teachers. At WISE, we stress that AI can automate routine tasks, but it can never replicate the relationships, judgment, and contextual understanding that teachers provide. Another misconception is the belief that AI is neutral or objective. In reality, AI systems can reflect social and cultural biases unless they are designed and used responsibly.

Teachers sometimes assume that AI only works in well-equipped schools, even though many effective tools run on basic devices or in low-connectivity environments. These misunderstandings can be addressed through honest professional development, clear school policies, and safe spaces for teachers to explore AI without fear.

**Q: Can you share examples of how teachers in Qatar or globally are already integrating AI into their daily practice? What tools or approaches are gaining the most attraction?**

**A:** Teachers in Qatar participating in the WISE Testbed are using AI to power adaptive learning platforms, rapid feedback tools, and classroom insights based on student performance. Internationally, several solutions supported by WISE provide strong examples. TUMO Path, 1st place winner of the WISE Prize for Education, helps students design personalised learning journeys supported by AI. Darsel, the 3rd place winner of the WISE Prize for Education, uses AI through messaging applications to improve math learning in public schools. Nyansapo, a member of WISE's EdTech Accelerator cohort, uses AI to help teachers conduct quick literacy and numeracy assessments. These solutions are gaining attention because they integrate smoothly into existing teaching routines rather than requiring complete system changes.

**Q: In practical terms, how is AI helping teachers, whether in lesson planning, assessment, personalisation, or classroom management?**

**A:** AI is helping teachers with some of their most time-consuming tasks. It can generate lesson plans, create differentiated materials, and translate or adapt resources to match students' needs. AI-powered assessment platforms help teachers quickly identify learning gaps and respond with targeted support. Personalisation tools enable students to progress at their own pace while providing teachers with detailed insights

**“At WISE, we stress that AI can automate routine tasks, but it can never replicate the relationships, judgment, and contextual understanding that teachers provide**

into their progress.

In Qatar, we also see AI and related technologies supporting inclusion, such as tools designed for visually impaired learners. Overall, AI is freeing teachers to spend more time on meaningful interactions with their students.

**Q: One of the major global concerns is the ethical use of AI. What are the key risks schools need to consider when introducing AI to young learners?**

**A:** Schools must take issues of fairness, privacy, and safety seriously. AI systems can amplify existing biases if they are not monitored carefully. Children's data is especially sensitive and must be protected through strong policies and transparent procedures.

There is also the risk that students may encounter inaccurate or misleading information generated by AI. Beyond the technical concerns, an overreliance on AI may reduce opportunities for students to think critically or engage deeply with teachers. Ethical adoption requires clear governance, strong safeguards, and continuous human oversight.

**Q: How can we ensure that AI adoption in education remains equitable, especially for schools with limited resources or varying levels of digital readiness?**

**A:** Equity must guide all AI-related decisions. Many WISE-supported innovations are designed specifically for low-resource environments, showing that AI can benefit all learners when solutions are built with accessibility in mind. Our research highlights the importance of planning at the systems level by aligning infrastructure, teacher training, and policy support.



We are also piloting the WISE Education Index to help countries measure enabling conditions for equitable innovation, not only academic outcomes. With careful planning, AI can narrow digital and learning gaps rather than widen them.

**Q: You often emphasise the importance of ensuring that AI supports rather**

**than replaces the human role in teaching. How can educators maintain this balance?**

**A:** The guiding principle is to start with values and learning goals, not technology. Teachers should define the learning experience they want students to have and then use AI selectively to support that vision. Humans must remain central in the decision-making loop. Teachers should interpret AI outputs, provide context, and make the final judgments. When AI reduces administrative tasks, the saved time should be reinvested in personal interaction, mentorship, and student well-being. This keeps teaching human-centred even as technology evolves.

**Q: What new skills will teachers need to work effectively alongside AI, and how can institutions support them in developing these competencies?**

**A:** Teachers will need a strong understanding of AI's capabilities and limitations, as well as the ability to evaluate AI-generated content. They also need awareness of ethical issues such as data privacy and bias. Skills in prompting, digital collaboration, and managing change will become increasingly important. Institutions can support teachers by offering practical professional development, building communities of practice, and integrating AI literacy into teacher preparation programmes. When teachers receive structured training, they tend to adopt AI more confidently and creatively.

**Q: What role will WISE and Qatar Foundation play in promoting responsible and innovative adoption of AI in education?**

**A:** Qatar Foundation has identified AI as a central pillar of its future strategy, and WISE plays a key role in advancing this work globally. Through research, policy development, innovation programmes, and global convening, we aim to shape the responsible, human-centred adoption of AI in education. Our research partnerships produce evidence-based insights for governments and institutions. The WISE Prize, Accelerator, and AI Testbed identify and test high-impact solutions that reflect inclusive and ethical principles.

Through the WISE Summits and other WISE convenings, we bring together ministers, educators, innovators, and youth to shape the future of AI in learning. Our long-term vision is to ensure that AI expands access to high-quality education and strengthens human potential everywhere.







بكم تعالو ومنكم تنتظر  
تمير بن حمد

On the occasion of  
**Qatar National Day, 18th of December**  
and in remembrance of the historic day in 1878 when  
Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Bin Thani,  
founder of the State of Qatar,  
set up the pillars of the Modern State of Qatar,

We extend our heartiest congratulations and greetings to

His Highness  
**Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani**  
Amir of the State of Qatar

His Highness  
**Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani**  
Father Amir

His Highness  
**Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Thani**  
Deputy Amir

and to all the honorable people of Qatar

We hope for more returns of this memorable occasion and  
wish that Qatar always enjoys security, welfare and prosperity  
under the wise leadership of His Highness The Amir



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