



The Lebanese National Convention List, Titles & Biographies of Confirmed Speakers February 23 - 24, 2023

List dated February 22, 2023

Adel Afiouni	Former Minister of State for Investments and Technology, Lebanon
Albert Kostanian	Economist; Chairman, Kulluna Irada
Alexandre Salha	Projects Manager, Fair Trade Lebanon
Alia Moubayed	Managing Director, EEMEA Economics & Strategy, Jefferies
Assaad Eid	Associate Dean for Basic/Translational Research and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Medicine, American University of Beirut
Carine Tohme	President, ALDIC Board of Directors
Carol Ayat	Head of the Large Corporates and Specialized Lending Department, Bank Audi SAL
Christian Dargham	Lawyer, Paris Bar; Teacher, Sciences-Po Paris
Constantin Salameh	Head of Investments, Berytech
Diana Fakhoury	Journalist
Elie Rouhana	Managing Partner-COO, Compost Baladi SAL
Fady Rahmeh	Lecturer, School of Management and Innovation, SciencesPo (Paris); Board Member, Civic Influence Hub (CIH), Beirut
Ibrahim Zahreddine	Entrepreneur; Board Member, The Lebanese National Convention
Jad Akhaoui	Media Figure; Board Member, The Lebanese National Convention
Jad Chaaban	Visiting Professor, Paris-Dauphine PSL University and INSEAD

Participants are listed with the details they provided during the registration process (names, titles, affiliations, description).
The Lebanese National Convention does not assume responsibility for, or endorsement of these details.



Jean Tawilé	Economist; Lecturer, Sciences-Po Paris
Joseph Chalhoub	Expert in Localization
Julien Courson	Executive Director, Transparency International - Lebanon (TI-LB)
Kamal Shehadi	Telecommunications and Tech Expert
Karim Daher	International Business Lawyer; Lecturer on Tax Law and Public Finance
Lama Makarem	Investment Specialist, WE4F Program
Lina Hamdan	Strategic Communications Expert; Board member, The Lebanese National Convention
Marie-Claude Najm	Dean, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Saint Joseph University of Beirut; Former Minister of Justice, Lebanon
Mario Massoud	Executive Manager, CEO, Co-Founding Partner, Biomass Organic
Nabil Barbir	Partnerships & Relations Manager, Live Love Lebanon
Nadine El Khoury	COO, Robinson Agri
Neemat Frem	President, Executive Board of Project Watan; Member of Parliament, Lebanon
Nicolas Boukhater	President, Lebanese Business Leaders Association (RDCL); Chairman, A.N.Boukhater Holding
Nicolas Chikhani	Finance Professor, Saint-Joseph University of Beirut; President, INSEAD alumni, Lebanon; Board Advisory Member, USEK Business School
Patricia Hakmeh	Head of Programmes, Trocaire
Paul Abi Nasr	President, Industrialist Assembly of Kesrouan
Pierre Bou Khalil	Head-Division, Pulmonary Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, American University of Beirut - Medical Center, Beirut

Participants are listed with the details they provided during the registration process (names, titles, affiliations, description).
The Lebanese National Convention does not assume responsibility for, or endorsement of these details.

Pierre Baaklini	Founder and CEO, Lebanon Waste Management (LWM)
Pierre Geara	Civil engineer and Acoustics Expert; Board Member, The Lebanese National Convention
Rafic Helou	Financier; Board Member, The Lebanese National Convention
Rana El Akoum	Judge, Head of Enforcement Court in Jdeidet el Metn, Lebanon
Saad Sabrah	Country Head, IFC (International Finance Corporation – World Bank Group), Lebanon
Sabine Oueiss	President, Association of Economic Journalists; Columnist; and Business and Political Editor, Annahar Newspaper
Salim Char	Banker and Asset Manager; Board Member, The Lebanese National Convention
Samer Abou Arraj	National Expert in Social Responsibility
Sami Atallah	Director, The Policy Initiative Think Tank
Sami Nader	Director, Institute of Political Sciences, Saint Joseph University of Beirut
Simon Kachar	Researcher and Advisor in Public Policy; Lecturer in Political Science
Suha Hallab	Business Development Advisor, Country Manager, WE4F Program
Tania Tabet Sadaka	Lecturer, Saint-Joseph University of Beirut; Consultant in Community Building; Certified International Trainer and Expert in Designing and Organizing Training Programs; Board Member, The Lebanese National Convention

Participants are listed with the details they provided during the registration process (names, titles, affiliations, description).
The Lebanese National Convention does not assume responsibility for, or endorsement of these details.



Adel Afiouni is a former Minister of state for Investments and Technology in Lebanon (2019-2020) and a seasoned investment banker with more than 25 years' career in global finance, global banking and capital markets in London and New York. During his tenure as Minister of state, he launched a detailed plan for the digital transformation of the Lebanese economy and passed several reform laws to support the growth of the knowledge economy before he resigned in Oct 2019. Adel spent 19 years at Credit Suisse in London where he held several senior managerial positions in the investment banking division, with a strong expertise in global markets, corporate finance, global banking and emerging markets. During his longstanding career at Credit Suisse, Adel led a number of large investment banking transactions in the Middle East and in Emerging Markets in particular in sovereign debt crisis and banks restructuring. Adel is currently a partner at Exos Financial, a “challenger” fully tech enabled institutional finance platform founded in 2019 in New York by a group of senior banking and tech executives, using modern technology, data science and data analytics, artificial intelligence and automation to improve exponentially the delivery of B2B financial services to institutional clients worldwide. Adel holds a Master's in engineering from Ecole Polytechnique, Paris. He also holds a Master's in Telecom Engineering from Sup Telecom Paris, and he holds a Master's in Finance from Université Paris I Pantheon Sorbonne

Albert Kostanian is an economist and an expert in strategy. He is the Executive Chairman of Kulluna Irada and the content producer and host of “Vision 2030”, a leading TV show on LBCI. Albert has founded and headed the Beirut office of Arthur D. Little, the world premier strategy consulting firm, after having spent years with the firm in France. Albert has also established a boutique consultancy “Levant Consult”. Albert is a Senior Fellow for economy in Issam Fares Institute for Public Policies at the American University of Beirut. He is committed to promoting reforms in Lebanon and regularly publishes articles and studies in various domains in addition to having been active in politics and policy making. He is the co-founder of “Les Plus Beaux Villages du Liban”, an NGO aiming at the preservation of rural heritage in Lebanon. He holds an MSc from the HEC School in Paris and a BA in Economics from the Saint-Joseph University of Beirut.

Alexandre Salha is the Projects Manager at Fair Trade Lebanon, an organization supporting small farmers and producers to have a decent life. He has managed projects and initiatives in support to rural communities with the collaboration of local stakeholders, public authorities and international donors. He focuses on local economic development and sustainable opportunities. He is a steering committee member at the Lebanon Humanitarian & Development NGOs Forum (LHDF) and a member of the Livelihoods Core Group under the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP).

Alia Moubayed is an experienced economist and policy practitioner with more than 25 years of experience in government, international financial institutions, think tanks and financial markets. She is currently the Chief Economist and strategist for the Middle East, North Africa, Pakistan at Jefferies, an investment bank based in Paris. Prior to that, she was the Director of the Geo-economics and Strategy Program at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (2017-18), after spending 8 years as MENA Chief Economist at Barclays (2008-2016) focusing on economics and geopolitics of the Middle East. Before that, she joined the Young Professionals Program at the World Bank and worked as senior economist covering Indonesia and countries in the Western Balkans (2002-2008). She also held various research and policy responsibilities in Lebanon (1994-2002). Alia holds a BA in Economics and an MBA from the American University of Beirut, as well as a Master equivalent in Public Policy and Public Administration from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) in France. She is also the founder of AWEAMENA – the Association of Women in Economics Across the Middle East and North Africa aimed at promoting the role of women in economic policy making in the region.

Assaad Eid is the Associate Dean for Basic/Translational Research and Graduate Studies at the Faculty of Medicine - American University of Beirut. He is Also, the I/Chairperson of the Department of Anatomy Cell Biology and Physiological Sciences at the same faculty and the director of the “AUB Diabetes” at the American University of Beirut Medical Center. Dr. Assaad Eid graduated with a Doctorate in Metabolism and Endocrinology from Laennec Faculty of Medicine, Claude Bernard University, Lyon 1, France in 2006. He then completed four years of postdoctoral training in the department of Medicine/Nephrology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in Texas, USA. Dr. Eid also holds a master’s degree in Biomedical Engineering from Claude Bernard University, and an Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) from Olayan School of Business at the American University of Beirut. Dr. Assaad Eid is an internationally renowned investigator; he oversees cutting-edge research and an international network of collaborations with a focus on several complications of diabetes. As an investigator, Dr. Eid publishes in top-tier journals, and has successfully secured extramural and intramural research grants. His research contributed to identifying several signaling pathways involved in the development of diabetic complications and contributed to the designing and testing of a non-invasive glucose-monitoring device for diabetic patients (eDiamond). Besides, and as part of his entrepreneurial endeavors and multidisciplinary collaborations, Dr. Eid and his AUB colleagues co-founded two USA based startups Teucer Biotech and VitaeMD. Dr. Eid's scientific background has motivated him to apply scientific reasoning in order to challenge and change the political

dogma in Lebanon. As a founding member of the board of Project Watan, Lead by MP Neemat Frem, which is focused on building a country that prioritizes the happiness and well-being of Lebanese citizens, Dr. Eid may be using his scientific training to analyze and address the issues facing the country in a systematic and evidence-based manner. By applying scientific reasoning, he may be seeking to identify effective strategies and policies that can bring about positive change in Lebanon's political landscape. Dr. Eid has been acknowledged with several national and international awards, the last being the Lebanese national order of Merit.

Carine Tohme is an attorney at law and the managing partner of Tohme Law Firm. She handles corporate matters and commercial litigation and has significant experience in estate planning and in advising individuals on how to structure their assets locally and internationally. She has a law degree from Saint-Joseph University of Beirut and an MBA and a higher master's degree in international cooperation, humanitarian, and development policy, and she is a certified mediator. Carine is involved in various associations and initiatives tackling fight against corruption, asset recovery, community support, preservation of Lebanese heritage, support to micro-businesses and the rule of law. Her memberships include the Beirut Bar Association, the International Bar Association, the House of Christmas, Together Libeirut and Legal Action Worldwide.

Carol Ayat is an investment banker and energy finance expert. She currently heads the large corporates and specialized lending department at Bank Audi SAL. Carol is involved in public policy discussions regarding the financial sector restructuring and energy sector reforms. She is a senior fellow with the Issam Fares Institute covering both the Energy Policy and Security, and the Political Economy and Development of the Middle East. She also sits on the board of the Lebanese Oil and Gas Initiative "LOGI". Before returning to Lebanon, Carol worked with Goldman Sachs in New York, London and Dubai in the financing group. She holds a Master's degree in Financial Economics and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the American University of Beirut. She is also a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charter holder.

Christian Dargham is a lawyer in Paris. He heads the Disputes and Business Ethics team of Norton Rose Fulbright in Paris. He is a recognized expert in anti-corruption and sanctions, that he teaches at Sciences-Po Paris.

Constantin Salameh is currently the Head of Investments at WE4F MENA with Berytech, providing financial and management advisory services to several companies in Lebanon. He has a 35-year track record in funding, developing and transforming corporations, SMEs and startups

across the world. He was previously CEO of HP Financial Services in EMEA and Asia Pacific and the CEO of global investment groups such as Safinvest, AMS Group and Al-Ghurair Investments. He joined Stanford's Graduate School of Business SEED Program in 2015 and provides advisory services to social SMEs in both East and West Africa. He has invested in several high potential and high social impact startups and SMEs in Africa, Lebanon and Europe, while providing them with mentoring, advisory and coaching services to scale effectively with a solid governance foundation. He sits on the board of more than 15 companies – active in the EMEA region in the healthcare, technology, renewable energy, FMCG, pharmaceuticals and FinTech sectors. Constantin holds engineering degrees from King's College London and MIT, together with an MBA from Stanford's Graduate School of Business with a focus on international finance.

Diana Fakhoury is a journalist since more than 17 years. Diana is graduated from the Faculty of Information and Documentation at the Lebanese University. She holds a diploma in journalism, written, and audiovisual. She has worked as a writer for Al-Liwaa newspaper since 2002, covering the pages of Economy, Politics and Youth, and as a news reporter for Future TV for four years. Currently she is a program presenter and news anchor on the Lebanese MTV channel since 2009, and programs Director and General Coordinator of the Voice of Beirut International platform.

Elie Rouhana is a Managing Partner-COO of Compost Baladi SAL. He is a holder of a MBA from ESSEC Business School in Paris and a MSc in Economics from Saint Joseph University in Beirut. Throughout his academic and professional career in consulting, private equity investments and start-ups, Elie has gained business management and business development experience ranging from project design, implementation, research, business/financial modeling and stakeholders' coordination.

Fady J. Rahme is a seasoned consultant with an in-depth expertise in Regulatory and Political Risk management (Corporate Affairs), Compliance, Governance, Enterprise Risk Management (ERM), Sustainability and Strategic Communication. After a long career with Multinational firms and mid-size corporations and family businesses, he holds currently an advisory role in a Private Equity firm operating in the US and the UK and in start-ups and family businesses on Compliance and Governance and Sustainability (ESG) issues. He sits on the board of directors of mid-size family businesses operating in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Graduated in Law from Saint Joseph University of Beirut, he achieved his Post graduate (DEA) and Doctoral studies at SciencesPo (Paris) and has attended the IEP Program of INSEAD. He is a Lecturer at the school of

management and Innovation at SciencesPo (Paris) and the author of a reference book titled: *EnvOping or interacting with the operating environment during the “age of Regulation”*

Ibrahim Zahreddine is an entrepreneur, who founded NGO “Public Interest Design - Levant” to support communities through cluster development. He also founded IZEM, a design and manufacturing agency, specialized in interiors and digital fabrication, metal work, wood work, and high-end finishing. He also founded Innovation Factory, an incubator and prototyping space for product designers. After closing all these projects due to the Lebanese crisis, Zahreddine currently manages custom-made interior projects and furniture products in high-end metal and wood finishing.

Jad Akhawi is a seasoned media figure who has extensively reported from war zones, and covered Middle Eastern leaders and events. In addition to leading corporate communications, he consulted for LBC TV and Al Hayat newspaper, headed Al Arabiya’s office in Lebanon, and served as Vice President and Head of programming and News at CNBC Arabia. Akhawi offered counsel to ministries of communications and interior in Bahrain, Kuwait, and Lebanon, and supported revamping efforts of TV stations, such as Dubai TV. A close associate of late-journalist Samir Kassir, Akhawi sits on the board of the Samir Kassir Foundation, and actively participated in the October 17 uprising.

Jad Chaaban is an economist and public policy expert, and currently a visiting scholar at INSEAD and Paris-Dauphine PSL University in France. He was an associate professor of economics and coordinator of the Applied Economics and Development Research Group at the American University of Beirut (AUB). He also worked as an economist with the World Bank, and served as an international consultant for various UN agencies (UNDP, UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF and WHO). He was the Lead Author of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Arab Human Development Report 2016, and a member of the Advisory Board of UNDP’s Global Human Development Report (HDR). His research focuses on sustainable human development, political economy and public economics.

Jean Tawilé is an economist and lecturer at Sciences-Po Paris delivering a course in Public governance in the MENA region. In his other capacities, he is a board member with the Lebanese Businessmen Association (RDCL) and the Lebanese Association for Taxpayers' Rights (ALDIC), and a former advisor to Lebanon's minister of economy and trade (2014-2017).

Joseph Chalhoub has been working with locally-led responses in the Middle East for the past 12 years, focusing on capacity strengthening, coordination, and implementation of humanitarian projects with local actors in conflict-affected and high-risk locations. He had recently completed the localization framework for Lebanon and has an in-depth insight on the challenges and opportunities facing local actors in the country.

Julien Courson is a professional in the nonprofit sector with over 15 years of experience. He holds a MSc in Economics from Saint Joseph University of Beirut (USJ) and a professional certificate in mediation from the Center for Professional Mediation at USJ & Université Catholique de Paris. He holds since 2018 the position of Executive Director at Transparency International - Lebanon (TI-LB).

Kamal Shehadi is a seasoned telecommunications and tech leader. He holds leadership positions in strategy and regulation. Kamal Shehadi has many years of experience in public service in Lebanon and in advising policy makers in the region. He was the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Lebanon from 2007 to 2010. Before that, he was the Managing Director of Connexus Consulting, which he established as the leading consultancy in the Middle East and North Africa in infrastructure strategy, policy, and regulation. He advised governments, regulatory authorities, operators, and investors in several MENA countries, as well as the World Bank and the European Commission on public private partnerships in infrastructure. Kamal Shehadi serves on the board of various companies and on the investment committee of a tech angel investing group. He has published widely on privatization, public-private partnerships, public finance, and strategy. He has a BA (Hons) in economics from Harvard University and a PhD from Columbia University in international political economy.

Karim Daher is an international business lawyer and lecturer on Tax Law and Public Economy at Saint-Joseph University of Beirut. He has represented the Beirut Bar Association at the Parliament for the drafting and adoption of several anti-corruption & financial laws and rules. He is currently the president-in-office of the BBA Commission for the protection of Depositors' rights and a member of the AML/CFT Compliance Committee. Karim Daher is also a member of the United Nations' High-Level Panel on International Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity for achieving the 2030 Agenda (FACTI Panel). He is the founder of the Lebanese Association for Taxpayers' Rights (ALDIC), a non-governmental organization aimed at enhancing tax ethics and compliance.

Lama Makarem has over 15 years of experience in banking, risk management and strategy & management consulting in Lebanon and the GCC. Currently, Lama is an investment specialist for the WE4F MENA program. She works closely with SMEs on their investment readiness, helping them map growth opportunities, providing support on financial model development and company valuation and advising them on the whole capital raising process from mapping funding sources to capital structure and pitch preparation. Lama obtained her MBA from the London Business School (LBS) in 2013 and her BA in Economics from the American University of Beirut (AUB) in 2007. She is also a CFA charterholder and the holder of the FRM (Financial Risk Manager) certification.

Lina Hamdan is a strategic communications expert with over 20 years in public and international institutions. She has served Lebanon's Presidency of the Council of Ministers, UN agencies, NGOs, CSOs, and media outlets. Sworn Translator and member of the Lebanese Women Council, she supported the participation of women in the political decision-making process, the EU-GCC dialogue, rural development, youth employment, disinformation issues, and transparency efforts. Hamdan currently operates EU-funded projects in the MENA region as part of the Sofreco program of the Agence Française de Développement (AFD). She also lectures and trains in academic and professional spaces, and serves on delegations for international conferences and seminars. Hamdan ran as independent candidate in the 2018 and 2022 legislative elections.

Marie-Claude Najm is Agrégée des facultés françaises de droit, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Political Science of Saint-Joseph University (Beirut). She has served for many years as Visiting Professor at Panthéon-Assas University (Paris II) and Panthéon-Sorbonne University (Paris I), and Director of the "Centre of Legal Studies and Research for the Arab World" (CEDROMA- USJ). She is also a member of the Beirut Bar and works as a legal consultant. Marie-Claude Najm has contributed in numerous civil society projects, and has been actively engaged in the 2019 non-sectarian intifada of the Lebanese people seeking a positive change in the political culture in Lebanon. She was appointed Minister of Justice on 21 January 2020 and resigned on 10 August 2020. She served as caretaker minister until the formation of a new government on 10 September 2021. During her tenure she has actively supported the adoption of the law on the independence of the judiciary, fought the sectarian allocation of judicial positions, and participated in the drafting and/or adoption of anti-corruption laws and administrative measures as well as laws enhancing human rights.

Mario Massoud is the managing partner and co-founder of Biomass Organic / Biomass SAL, a leading grower, aggregator, packer, trader distributor and exporter of organic certified and premium food products in Lebanon. The company has been promoting the organic sector in the region, working with landowners, farming partners, processing, packers and commercial partners (export / import, suppliers, clients) to establish the organic segment in Lebanon and the in export markets, globally. Mario currently leads the strategic and operational development of the company, focusing on the business transformation and the turnaround activities, including financing, capacity build-up and the expansion and brand presence in export markets. His previous experience is in management consulting and in start-ups with projects in the telecommunication and agri-food sectors, across the Middle East and West Africa. Mario holds a bachelor degree in business administration from the American University of Beirut (AUB), with an emphasis in marketing and finance.

Nabil Barbir has degrees in Political Science, Public Administrations and Diplomacy & Strategy. After graduating, Nabil worked at UNESCO Headquarters (Paris) for 5 years as a diplomat. He is now in charge of Partnerships & Relations at Live Love Lebanon handling CSO and Government relations as well as other strategic partnerships. He is an active member of the Coordination Committee for Lebanon's Localization Task Force.

Nadine El Khoury Holds a Bachelor degree in Agriculture Engineering from the American University of Beirut in 1995. Nadine is currently COO at Robinson Agri, the company founded by her father Mr. Sami El Khoury in 1970. In addition, she is the Business Development manager at Elysee WISE a factory for irrigation, potable water, energy and sewage PE pipes in joint venture with Elysee-Cyprus. Her focus on innovation projected Khoury Group to the forefront of advancing agriculture in Lebanon and branded as the only social Responsible Agricultural Company following SDGs. Mrs. Khoury is also president of the board of QOOT cluster (first Agri food innovation cluster in Lebanon).

Neemat Frem is a Lebanese politician, businessman and a Member of the Lebanese Parliament. On May 2022, he was elected on behalf of Keserwan-Jbeil constituency for the second time. In his 2018 parliamentary tenure, he served as the Chair of the National Economy, Trade, Industry and Planning Parliamentary Commission. In order to avert the financial and economic meltdown he had foreseen and warned about as early as in 2015, he and the commission he chaired developed a 5 years plan to reach a zero deficit budget which went ignored by the establishment, with dire consequences for the country. He is also an active member in the Foreign Affairs and Emigrants



Parliamentary Commission. Shortly after the 2020 Beirut explosion, Frem announced his resignation from parliament as a protest against the corruption and the failure of the Lebanese political system that led to the financial collapse and the destruction of Beirut. He is currently the president of the executive board of "Project Watan", a national political movement that aims to ensure the happiness and dignity of the Lebanese people and build a state of freedom, prosperity and sovereignty. Neemat Frem is also the chief executive officer of the multinational company INDEVCO Group employing over 10.000 people worldwide. He is founder and president of Phoenix Group and former president of the Association of Lebanese Industrialists. He presided The Maronite Foundation in the World from 2016 to 2018. In 2013, he launched "Better Lebanon" initiative, a national, holistic, and visionary approach to boost Lebanon's economic, social and governance reforms. In 2019, the initiative was institutionalized as an NGO, which coordinates with other organizations and the Diaspora to provide sustainable development, humanitarian aid and social support. In July 2018, Frem received a Doctorate Honoris Causa from Holy Spirit University of Kaslik. He holds two US patents. His first patent, registered in 2007, is an automated sandwich-making dispenser. His second patent, registered in 2017, the Solar Mill Fluid Expansion Engine. Neemat Frem is the founder & Board Member of many associations promoting inter-religious (Christian-Islamic) dialogue.

Nicolas Boukhatier is the Chairman of A.N.Boukather Holding with activities in Lebanon and the UAE into the fields of mobility, real estate and agriculture. President of the Lebanese Business Leaders Association (RDCL), member of the board of HEC Alumni-Paris, the Children Cancer Center of Lebanon. Nicolas is Alumus of Harvard Business School OPM, holds an Entrepreneurship Masters from HEC- Paris, a BA in Economics from the American University of Beirut, and an alumni of the college Notre-Dame de Jamhour. When he rejoined the family business in 2004, Nicolas with his twin brother Anthony took the leadership of the company and succeeded in implementing new strategies leading to growth and innovation in Lebanon and the U.A.E while sustaining the family driven enterprise culture and core values of integrity and transparency.

Nicolas Chikhani is born in 1969, he holds an Executive Degrees in Business & Finance from both the INSEAD and the HARVARD Business Schools. He is an Engineer in Computer Science with a specialization in Cryptocurrency from the London School of Economics (LSE). Nicolas is a seasoned banker with deep knowledge in Finance and Economy and is certified anti-corruption Manager by the American anti-corruption institute (AACI). He worked in the banking sector in Paris, London, Singapore, Dubai, Beirut and Geneva. Throughout his 29 years of international

professional experience, he held Executive level positions as CFO, COO and lately as CEO for a blue-chip regional Bank in Switzerland. He also held Board positions in international Banks, global NGOs and Fintech companies. Currently Nicolas serves as Knight in the Order of Malta. He is also member of the Swiss Forum of International Politics, of the Crypto Valley Association in Switzerland, and of the SICTIC Swiss Investor Club and LIFE. Nicolas was a former advisory Board member of Offre-Joie (Fara7 el 3ata2) as well as former advisory board at World Vision International in Lebanon. Nicolas is not member of any Political Party. He advocates Ethics and Integrity as core values in his life.

Patricia Hakmeh is the Head of Programmes at Trocaire, an Irish Humanitarian organization with offices around the world including in Lebanon. Patricia has more than 10 years of experience working with international humanitarian organizations leading on the design and implementation of response projects to Syrian, Iraqi and Palestinian refugees and other vulnerable communities in Lebanon. Patricia has a degree in Law and has worked as a lawyer before joining the humanitarian field.

Paul Abi Nasr is an industrial executive occupying various managerial positions since 2003. He now sits on the board of directors of N.A.N group as vice chair and C.E.O. The group spans over industrial, commercial and touristic operations. He is the C.E.O of Polytextile industrial complex. He is a member of the board of directors at the Association of Lebanese Industrialists He is the President of the Industrialist Assembly of Kesrouan He helped establish the National Taskforce for Technical Vocational Education which he currently leads, he also sits on the Higher Council for Vocational Education in Lebanon. He holds a Bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering from the American University of Beirut.

Pierre Bou Khalil, MD, FCCP, FACP is the Head of the Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine division at the American University of Beirut (AUB). He is also the Program Director of Internal Medicine and a Professor of Clinical Medicine. He graduated with a degree in medicine from AUB in 1989, and then continued his specialization in the United States of America, namely at The Ohio State University Hospitals and at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation. He is currently certified by the American Board in Sleep Medicine, Pulmonary Medicine and Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Bou Khalil is an active member of several local and international scientific societies, and is a Global Governor for the American College of Chest Physicians. He is a founding member and the former president of the Lebanese Critical Care Society, as well as a previous Lebanese Order of Physicians board member and a previous president of the Lebanese

Scientific Committee. He was a board member of RHUH, and is the president elect of the Lebanese pulmonary society. He has published a number of studies and articles in peer reviewed journals, with a focus on respiratory care, ventilation and sleep medicine.

Pierre Baaklini is an entrepreneur who believes in saving the environment in Lebanon. He holds a bachelor's degree in advertising and marketing and currently is continuing his studies in law. He was very active in the movements bringing together hundreds of young men and women demanding a solution to the waste crisis in Lebanon. He founded "Lebanon Waste Management" LWM in 2019, and is managing it since then. While other businesses were closing down because of the multiple crisis that plagued Lebanon, Pierre and his company team were able to thrive, grow and expand. Today LWM is a family of 30 team member working together to save the environment of Lebanon.

Pierre Geara is a civil engineer and acoustics expert. He developed the concept "Box in the Box" to control and reduce vibrations caused by trains and metros, and authored the practical guide "Acoustic Manual for Architects and Engineers" to support architects and engineers improve acoustic frameworks. Chairman of Acoustair Offshore, he has contributed to numerous international construction projects, and is an active member of Rotary International.

Rafic Helou is a financier with experience in portfolio management, financial analysis, and private banking. He began his career at Banque de Gestion Privée Indosuez in Paris, then moved to Stratford Capital in France, before he joined LIBANK in 2012, where he serves now as Secretary General. Helou holds a bachelor's degree in Applied Economics, and a master's degree in Financial and Economic Engineering from Université Paris-Dauphine, as well as an MBA in Strategy and Economic Intelligence from École de Guerre Économique in Paris.

Rana El Akoum is a judge who holds a Bachelor's degree in Law from the Lebanese University, a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration from the American University of Beirut, a Diploma in Business Law from the Lebanese University, and a PhD in Law from the Lebanese University. She is the Head of Enforcement Court (the Execution Department) in Jdeidet El-Metn, the Anti-corruption liaison officer at the Ministry of Justice with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) since 2015, and the Head of the International Cooperation and Mutual Legal Assistance Office at the Ministry of Justice since 2021. Judge Akoum is author of two books in Arabic: "المدير الموقت في المصارف المتعثرة: مقارنة بين القانونين اللبناني والفرنسي" and "The Temporary manager in troubled banks: a comparison between the Lebanese and French laws", and تسجيل اللبنانيين مكتومي

Registration of unregistered Lebanese: between legislation, doctrine and jurisprudence”.

Saad Sabrah is a Senior Official at the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector arm of the World Bank Group. Saad is currently assigned as IFC Country Head and Resident Representative for Lebanon. Saad brings in over 20 years of visible career achievements in Finance, International Business Development, Investment Promotion, Strategic Business Consulting, Policy Reform, and Public Private Partnerships. Prior to joining the IFC in 2004, Saad worked in Management Consultant at the strategy practice of KPMG Consulting as well as at NDC Group Advisory Services practice in the USA. In that capacity he advised senior management of multinational corporations in a wide range of industries on business strategy and investment decisions as well as advised government client and public agencies on business process and foreign investment development and competitiveness. Saad holds a master’s degree in Business Management from Strayer University in the USA. He also holds a dual bachelor’s degree, in Accounting and in Decision Science/ Management from George Mason University in the USA.

Sabine Oueiss is Columnist, and Business and political Editor at Annahar Newspaper since 1997. Talk show host for 7 years (2005-2012) at Future Television. Instructor at Annahar Academy among several other media institutions. Contributor to the Arabic edition of global media outlets including the "Independent Arabia" (till 2018). Author of several books on the dynamics of the local banking and industrial sector. Communications and PR consultant for leading Lebanon-based companies and presenter and moderator of seminars and workshops for local and international institutions. President of the Association of Economic Journalists.

Salim Chaar is a seasoned banker and asset manager with a practice expanding over forty years in Paris, Hong Kong, Riyadh, and Bermuda. Chaar held executive positions in Paris with Banque Indosuez, Union Financière de France, and Indosuez-Chevreux de Virieu Gestion, also serving as CEO of Bowen Capital Management, and Deputy Managing Director of W.P. Stewart & Co. He co-founded Beirut-based investment bank LIBANK S.A.L. in 2012, and served as its CEO for five years. Chaar sits on the board of the Lebanese Association for Taxpayers’ Rights (ALDIC), and serves as vice-chair. He holds a law degree from the University of Lyon II in France.

Samer Abou Arraj has a multi-faceted business experience in both for-profit and non-profit organizations. He holds Masters Degrees in Economics and in Business Administration and a BA

in Philosophy. Samer founded and managed his Independent Management Consultancy and joined the Intl Standardization Organization (ISO) as a “National Expert in Social Responsibility” where he coached few local organizations in developing and implementing Sustainability Strategies. Samer developed and has managed the Fundraising Dpt. of Telelumiere/Noursat Group.

Sami Atallah is the Founding Director of The Policy Initiative. He is trained in economics and political science, and was the director of the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies from January 2011 till December 2020. He led several policy studies on political and social sectarianism, the performance of parliament, government monitoring, electoral behavior, the role of municipalities in dealing with the Syrian refugee crisis, municipal finance, economic diversification and industrial policy, and oil and gas governance. He has several policy and academic publications. He is the editor of Towards Achieving a Transparent and Accountable National Budget in Lebanon (Beirut: LCPS 2013), co-editor of Local Governments and Public Goods: Assessing Decentralization in the Arab World (with Mona Harb, Beirut: LCPS 2015), co-editor of Hollowing out the Lebanese Parliament (2009-2017) (with Nayla Geagea, Beirut: LCPS 2018), and co-editor of The Future of Oil in Lebanon: Energy, Politics, and Economic Growth (with Bassam Fattouh, I.B. Tauris 2020). In addition to his research, Atallah served on the committee established by the Lebanese prime minister to draft a decentralization law and participated in the deliberations of the parliamentary committee which reviewed the draft law. He holds an MA in International and Development Economics from Yale University, an MA in Quantitative Methods from Columbia University, and a PhD in Politics from New York University.

Sami Nader is the Director of the Institute of Political Sciences in Saint Joseph University of Beirut. He is also a columnist for AL-Monitor's Lebanon Pulse, an economist, a Middle Eastern affairs analyst and communications expert with extensive expertise in corporate strategy and risk management. He directed the Levant Institute for Strategic Affairs, focusing on the economics and geopolitics of the Levant. A former advisor to Lebanon's minister of labor, he has led international assistance efforts in Iraq as part of the Local Area Development Programme and other initiatives.

Simon Kachar is a researcher and advisor in public policy. He is a fellow of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut and a lecturer in political science at the American University of Beirut. He has published analytical articles on public administration reform and contributed scholarly and practically on governmental policy development, strategy design and operational excellence in his capacity as

an expert in public governance efficiency and public administration reform. He serves on the administrative committee of the Fouad Chehab Foundation as an elected member, and has a BA and MA in Public Administration, and a PhD in Political Science.

Suha Hallab has over 14 years of experience in experience in the banking sector; the last position she held was Credit Analysis Manager, leading a team of analysts and relationship officers, handling a large credit portfolio of SMEs in Lebanon. Currently Suha is the Business Development Advisor and the country manager of the WE4F MENA RIH program for Lebanon. She manages impactful innovators and social enterprises, coaches them on their growth journey, identifies their needs, assists them raising funds and supports them through linkages with suitable opportunities. She is a Certified Management Accountant, holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from LAU and an MBA with a published thesis in the field of behavioral economics. Suha is also the co-founder of the "Lebanon Readers Society", a passionate runner and a mountaineer.

Tania Tabet Sadaka is a community building specialist. She is a Certified International Trainer and Expert in designing and organizing training programs. Inspired by Gordon Model, the Leadership and communication tool that is based on social and emotional intelligence, Mrs Sadaka became the Thomas Gordon institute sole representative in Lebanon as well as a certified instructor. She is a social researcher and has a Masters' degree in "Social Psychology". She is currently teaching two courses at Saint-Joseph University of Beirut: "Communication and Negotiation Skills" and "Leadership" for masters' students. She is Co-founder of "Believe" association. She offers consultancy in community building and trainings in leadership, communication, emotional intelligence, collective memory healing, civic education and conflicts resolution.