



ملتقى الشرق والغرب
East-West Initiatives



STUDENT LEADERSHIP FORUM PROGRAM OUTLINE & GOALS

East-West Initiatives is launching its pilot project in Jordan, the Student Leadership Forum, on 15-17th. It will bring together 140 university students from the U.S and Jordan to dialogue and be exposed to another culture, to build friendships and be equipped with leadership skills and a global perspective.

East-West Initiatives

East-West Initiatives is an independent grassroots-level project that aims to build understanding between ordinary people. In line with the vision of Her Majesty Queen Rania, as expressed in her recent YouTube posts, it aims to bridge the East-West divide by bringing people together to build relationships and break down stereotypes.

Objectives of East-West Initiatives are:

- to build cross-cultural and inter-religious relationships that lead to true friendship and understanding.
- to raise awareness in the West of Arab life, culture and belief and vice versa.
- to promote Jordan and the opportunities that exist here for cultural-exchange, networking, tourism and business.
- to invest in young people – equipping the leaders of tomorrow with a global perspective and cross-cultural leadership skills.

Student Leadership Forum

This intensive 3-day experience offers Jordanian students the opportunity to be exposed to a world-view, and a chance to gain essential skills which complement the education available in Jordanian universities.

The subjects addressed at the 2 pre-event Training Days, as well as the Forum itself,

Listening Skills
Public Speaking
Teamwork
Understanding Cultural Differences
Presenting Jordan

Activities are being conducted by professional educators from both the U.S and Jordan, and our

hope is that eventually these courses could be accredited by universities.

Jordanian students will have the opportunity to develop their English language, to represent their country, and to make a difference through ongoing relationship with the U.S students.

We will be measuring the success of this program through the students themselves. Thorough feedback is essential for us to study the impact of this event on the Jordanian and U.S participants, and we hope that their feedback will help us shape the future direction of East-West Initiatives.

Our Partners

KAFD: We are grateful to the King Abdullah II Fund for Development for sponsoring the Jordanian participants at this event.

SLU: The U.S students are coming through the Student Leadership University – a Christian leadership summer program that has shown interest in sending students to this part of the world. We view their willingness to visit and learn about Jordan as a positive opportunity for both the Jordanian and American students, where a true exchange of knowledge, skills and cultural interaction can take place. The potential difference that the event could make on the attitudes and stereotypes present in both the U.S and Jordanian students is enhanced by the fact that these students come from a different religious background, which could impact the way they view Arabs or Muslims. SLU have shown a willingness to engage in a meaningful dialogue and to learn about Jordan and Islam, thus EWI has welcomed this partnership.

The mission and vision of SLU does not necessarily reflect that of the East-West Initiatives. Should this pilot prove successful, EWI is aiming to partner with a diverse range of organizations or institutions from the West, which are of benefit to the Jordanian students, and which demonstrate interest in the region.

We would appreciate receiving any feedback, comments, questions or speculations which participants might have, and feel they need to be addressed.

Contact Us

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