

THE GLOBAL DIWAN'S

Newsletter

CONNECTING
EAST AND WEST
LEADERS

EDITORIAL

July 2023

Dear Friends of The Global Diwan,

With the summer issue of our newsletter (No. 16) we would like to confirm to our esteemed audience of more than 3,700 supporters that the 2nd Forum de Nice, entitled "Data Governance & Security", will be held on November 15 and 16, 2023.

Full program with our distinguished speakers and guests from Europe and MENA countries, as well as our Indo-Pacific partners, will be revealed in our next newsletter (No. 17) in October 2023.

Since places are limited we encourage you to reserve your spot by expressing your interest to attend the forum on forum@theglobaldiwan.org.

For all of us at Global Diwan, the second

semester of 2023 will be blessed with initiatives, including the following:

- ◆ Business missions to KSA will be organized from September to December 2023 with an aim of developing the business our partners with reaching new and useful contacts, especially with regards to the MoU recently signed with the Saudi Ministry of Investment (MISA).
- ◆ Business round-tables in Paris in order to promote the mega projects of the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia and the potential of participation for domestic companies.
- ◆ Business Diwaniya in Muscate on mid-October 2023, organized in partnership with the Sultanate of Oman, will present investment opportunities in hydrogen energy, infrastructures, and tourism projects.
- ◆ A COP28 side-event in Dubai in December

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2023 will celebrate the agreements in the fields of water sourcing and oceans biodiversity that have been signed between Saur International, The Living Oceans Foundation and Prince Albert II Foundation in Monaco.

The Global Diwan is honored to welcome as a new member of our distinguished Advisory Board - HH Dr Mona Fahad Mahmoud Al Said, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Sultan Qaboos University (SQU).

We are considering hosting a philanthropy gala dinner in Monaco under the high patronage of H.S.H. Prince Albert II Sovereign Prince of Monaco, with an aim to promote and assist charitable organisations working in the areas of blue environment, children education, and women's mental health care. In reaching

this goal, we are supported by HH Sheikha Intisar AlSabah, Princess Hala and HH Sayyida Mona bint Fahad Al Said, showing us the way forward in connecting leaders from East and West to work on creating a better and more united world.

Please reach out to us in case that you'd like to join and support our non-profit efforts:

philanthropy@theglobaldiwan.org

As a team, we are honoured to have been joined by ambitious, talented, and truly inspiring team members. After introducing our Director General of the Global Diwan and CEO of Intisar Foundation, I'd now like to present Mr Khelil Mehenni, our Secretary General, who is working on enhancing cultural and trans-Mediterranean

exchange. Furthermore, I'd also like to express our appreciation for Mr Redhouane Ouahrani, our newly promoted Director of Operations, and last but not least, I am also grateful to our Middle Eastern advisors, Mr Shathil Nawaf Taqa and Mr Hocine Malkia; plus, here's also a very special mention for Ms Soha AlArbi, our Advisor on Civil Society, who is in charge of Generation 2030 NGO.

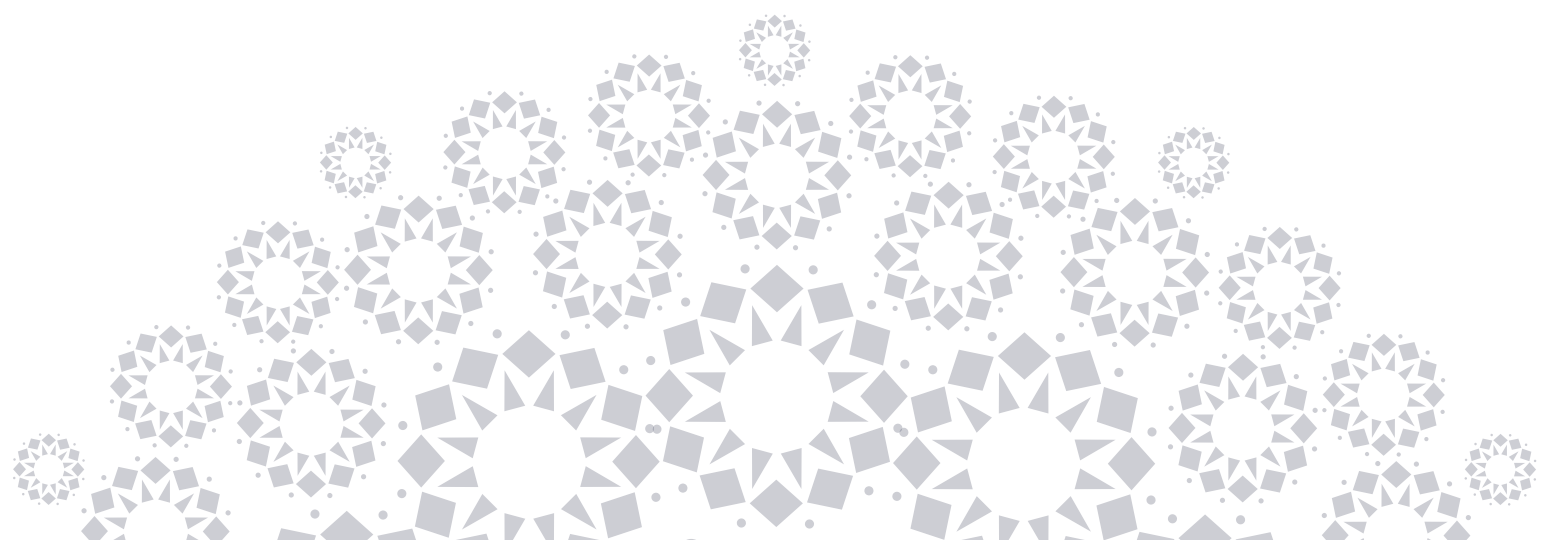
To remain regularly informed about our work, please visit our website:

www.theglobaldiwan.org

I wish you, our members, sponsors, and friends, very happy holidays!

Éric Schell 

Executive Chairman of the Global Diwan



Launch of the Global Diwan Legal



On June 20th, 2023 in Paris, At the initiative of Guillaume Deroubaix(Karnov Group), this kick-off meeting recalled the role and achievements of Paris MENA Legal Club, then The Global Diwan, and finally the creation of Global Diwan Legal, as a dedicated department of our business club.

Eric Schell, the Executive Chairman of the The Global Diwan, explained the mission of our Global Diwan as a platform founded in March 2020, aimed at strengthening economic ,cultural and academic exchanges between Europe and the Arab world. In this context, he recalled the objectives of this legal department aimed at offering its members a privileged space for economic, legal and information meetings, forging a long-term strategic alliance between the European and Arab business communities, supporting the emergence of a new generation of young Euro-Arab leaders and the development of innovative initiatives and projects in all areas, recalling the club's motto "Connecting East and West Leaders", by bringing together decision-makers and personalities from these regions in a framework that promotes networking and informal exchanges, like any business club.

For Guillaume Deroubaix, Global Diwan Legal will respond to the lack of a similar legal platform ensuring meetings between France, Europe, and MENA lawyers. The latter is a continuation of the work initiated by the Paris MENA Legal Club. Indeed, the vocation of this legal platform is not to oppose continental and Anglo-Saxon legal visions.

Moreover, the French lawyer Mathieu Faupin, who used to operate in Qatar insisted on the need to create bridges between these two visions. Our platform will bring together lawyers interested in the region, whether they have civil

law or common law training. Moreover, an event last February was organized by Global Diwan Legal in partnership with the Kuwaiti Law Firm of Khalifa Al Yaqout in Kuwait City on mediation reforms in the GCC countries . During this round table, in the presence of leading Kuwaiti institutions and investors. Arbitration and mediation lawyer , former minister Matthias Fekl , member of our advisory board had a positive feedback of discussion with local colleagues.

Guillaume Deroubaix specified the main initiatives that Global Diwan Legal intends to carry out. First, half-yearly Diwanayas where guests will gather around a business theme related to the region. The Diwanaya will begin with a legal overview of the region, followed by the intervention of the Diwanaya guest and the questions and answers. This role of presenting legal panoramas will be provided by law professors. Secondly, an annual legal forum will take place in which the Global Diwan Legal network will take part. Thirdly, in order to support excellence, the Global Diwan Legal will set up a thesis prize with an endowment to be determined . This prize will reward the best thesis defended in comparative law, in France, in the MENA region or in continental law. Fourthly, part of the Global Diwan Newsletter will be devoted to legal reviews by integrating the points raised in the legal panoramas of Diwanayas Legal. There will also be legal articles related to the MENA region. Finally, this legal club will organize delegations abroad, as the Global Diwan was already able to do in the Gulf.

Global Diwan Legal members will participate in the next forum in Nice where a round table will be devoted to cybersecurity law. Also, this legal club will organize a specific diwanaya in Paris by the end of this year.

Contact us:

legal@theglobaldiwan.org



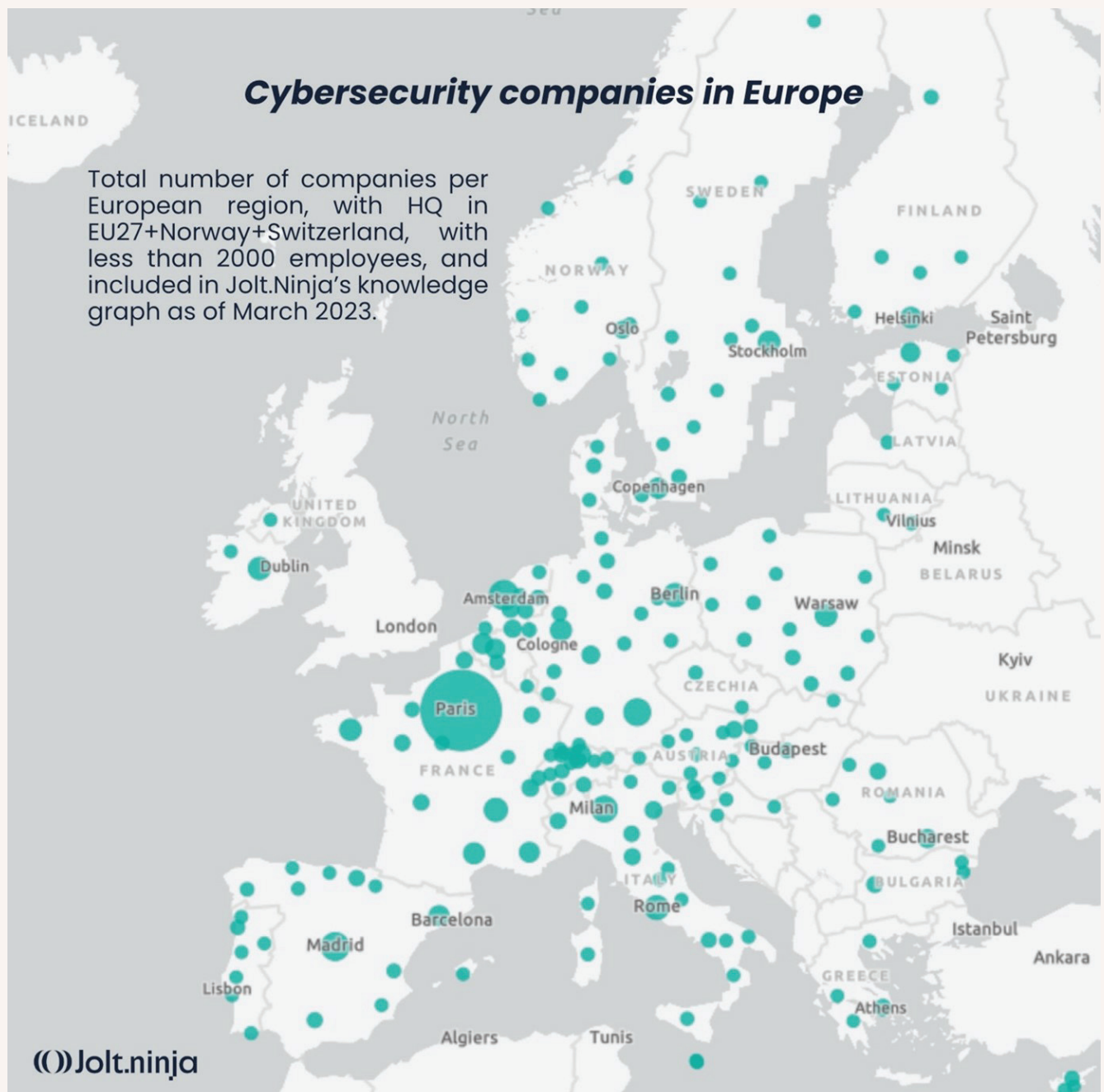
FOCUS ON

Europe

Mapping cybersecurity companies in Europe with AI platform Jolt.Ninja

Cybersecurity companies in Europe

Total number of companies per European region, with HQ in EU27+Norway+Switzerland, with less than 2000 employees, and included in Jolt.Ninja's knowledge graph as of March 2023.



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As global challenges mount, the race to innovate new solutions to longstanding problems is similarly accelerating

As global challenges mount, the race to innovate new solutions to longstanding problems is similarly accelerating. Underpinning this technological shift will be a raft of pioneering deeptech companies that have engineered novel methods and solutions to design invaluable new drugs, help mitigate climate change, produce and store cleaner energy, feed an ever-growing population, and provide digital security.

Since 2011, Jolt Capital has built its investment strategy around European deeptech players, supporting their global scaling. Tilted towards later-stage companies where impact can be more immediate, Jolt Capital has tirelessly promoted this thesis and the value of deeptech companies to Europe's future.

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The AI-driven platform Jolt.Ninja has been developed since 2017 to provide new insights on innovation ecosystems, to more accurately identify the best companies to support, and to serve as a tool for customized portfolio monitoring, deal flow management, and much more. The large quality deal flow provided by Jolt.Ninja offers a high degree of selectivity without competitive pressure, thereby continually enabling attractive entry prices. Jolt.Ninja's continuously updated knowledge graph covers more than 2.5 million companies, 3 million patents and 3 million key executives, as of March 2023. This real-time enrichment includes data on

markets, financials, people, patents, investors, and more, while also learning from each investments partners' preferences to suggest the specific deals, and building sets of comparable companies that can serve as possible M&A targets. Half of Jolt Capital's current portfolio has been sourced by Jolt.Ninja.

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This real-time enrichment includes data on markets, financials, people, patents, investors, and more, while also learning from each investments partners' preferences to suggest the specific deals, and building sets of comparable companies that can serve as possible M&A targets.

Jolt.Ninja can also be used to quickly map an overview of the European landscape in terms of a specific deeptech sector, detailing the geographic distribution, number of patents filed, and number of employees. The map below shows an example of the geographic distribution of the 2800 companies fitting Jolt.Ninja's "cybersecurity" taxonomy, with <2000 employees, and with headquarters in EU27, Norway, or Switzerland.

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As the large dot on Paris demonstrates, the Ile-de-France region (339 companies) is by far the n°1 regional cybersecurity cluster in Europe, with the Amsterdam metropolis as the runner-up (84).

Countrywise, France tops the ranking with close to 700 companies, followed

by a distant trio comprising Germany (301), the Netherlands (285), and Italy (257). This French leadership is in good part the result of a series of coordinated public policies including the enforcement of a national cybersecurity strategy, the appointment of a deputy minister in charge of the topic, and the creation of a cyber-campus to fuel the cluster effect. As the large dot on Paris demonstrates, the Ile-de-France region (339 companies) is by far the n°1 regional cybersecurity cluster in Europe, with the Amsterdam metropolis as the runner-up (84). In less centralized countries, the network of cyber hubs is more evenly distributed across the national territory.

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With escalating threats on digital assets, cybersecurity will continue to be an important part of European sovereignty. This is why Jolt Capital, with 2 scaleups currently in its portfolio (DNS protection and XDR platform), will continue observing closely the dynamic landscape of cyber innovation across Europe.

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Official partner and sponsor for The Global Diwan

The Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation: A Global Leader in Ocean Conservation

By Elizabeth Thompson 



©Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation/Phil Renaud

With their groundbreaking initiatives and a commitment to conducting Science Without Borders®, the Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation is at the forefront of global efforts to protect and restore the world's oceans. By collaborating with scientists, conservation organizations, governments, indigenous leaders, businesses, and local communities, the Foundation develops innovative conservation strategies that promote sustainable practices and community engagement. This collaboration has been a key to their success, helping them cross borders and boundaries to protect, preserve, and restore marine ecosystems for current and future generations.

Since its founding in 2000, the Living Oceans Foundation has become a global

leader in ocean conservation. The Foundation has completed many large-scale research missions, including the largest coral reef survey and mapping research mission in history—the Global Reef Expedition. This research mission circumnavigated the globe, studying more than 1,000 reefs in the Caribbean, South Pacific, Indian Ocean, and the Red Sea in an effort to address the coral reef crisis. This research mission not only resulted in scientific discovery and conservation success, but it also raised awareness about the need for ocean conservation through award-winning documentary films and improved ocean literacy in schools around the world.

Recognizing the urgent need for ocean conservation, His Royal Highness Prince

Khaled bin Sultan of Saudi Arabia founded the Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation to provide science-based solutions to protect and preserve ocean health. Using a combination of scientific research, outreach, and education, the Foundation works to conserve some of the most vulnerable marine ecosystems on the planet. Their tireless efforts span the globe, working to conserve coral reefs and other tropical marine ecosystems in order to ensure the long-term health and sustainability of our oceans.

The Living Oceans Foundation recently embarked on a new chapter of its work. Last month, H.R.H. Princess Hala bint Khaled bin Sultan, a member of the Advisory Board of The Global Diwan, was appointed President of the Living Oceans Foundation.



© Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation/Ken Marks

Under her leadership, the Foundation is now using the knowledge gained on the Global Reef Expedition to conserve coral reefs and promote sustainable use of coastal marine resources to benefit both people and the environment.

Shortly after her appointment, Princess Hala gave a speech at the opening session at the Third Foundations Dialogue Meeting in Monaco, where philanthropic organizations met to align their forces for marine conservation. Her speech focused on the power of collaboration and working with a broad collation of international partners, local scientists, community members, and traditional leaders to make a meaningful impact on marine conservation. **Taking this to heart, the Foundation signed an agreement with the host of this year's conference, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, pledging to work together for ocean conservation. The Global Diwan introduced these two foundations and helped the Living Oceans Foundation connect with other philanthropic organizations at the**

conference to forge partnerships for future projects.

In their latest project, Science Without Borders®: Conserving the Tropics, the Living Oceans Foundation is making significant strides towards a sustainable future. This groundbreaking initiative addresses the urgent challenges needed to conserve coral reefs, mangrove forests, and seagrass meadows. Endorsed by the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, this project is a testament to the Foundation's commitment to global collaboration and innovation.

Conserving the Tropics aims to develop science-based solutions that can be implemented with coastal communities, so they can actively safeguard their coastal marine resources. One of the key aspects of this project is the emphasis on capacity building. Through training programs and workshops, the Foundation is empowering local communities and researchers with the tools and knowledge necessary to become active

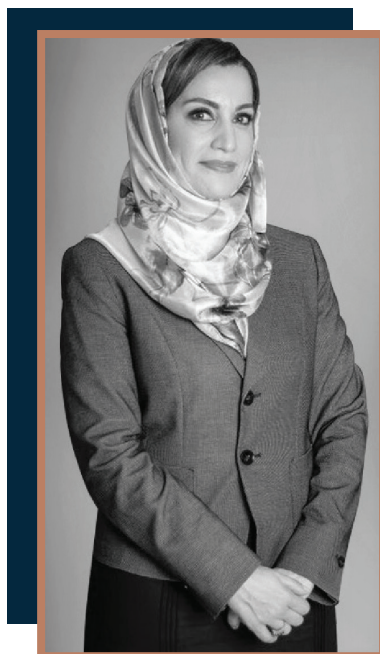
participants in conservation efforts. By fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange, this project is paving the way for long-term sustainability, so communities can continue to rely on their coastal marine resources for generations to come.

If you would like to help the **Living Oceans Foundation** make an impact by supporting their efforts to protect coral reefs, partnering with them on their Science Without Borders®: Conserving the Tropics project, or getting involved in one of the Foundation's many ocean outreach and education initiatives, contact them at info@lof.org.





FOCUS ON

Oman

Welcoming Our New Advisory Board Member

HH Dr Sayyeda Mona bint Fahad Al Said

HH. Dr. Mona holds a PhD degree in Philosophy from King's College London. She obtained her Bachelor and Master Degrees in English Language and Literature, and Curriculum and Instruction from Sultan Qaboos University. HH. Dr. Mona has active contributions with UNICEF, and she has won many awards in the international cooperation and humanitarian fields.

Her Highness Dr. Mona Al Said was appointed as the Assistant Vice Chancellor for International Cooperation at Sultan Qaboos University, and the supervisor of SQU projects of the Tenth Five-Year Plan 2021-2025.

HH. Dr. Mona was one of the Children First Association founders in 2009 and she is now the Chairman of its Board of Directors. She is also the Honorary President of Children's Public Library, Oman Cancer Association, Oman Association for the Hearing Impaired, and Association of Early Intervention for Children with Special Needs.



جامعة السلطان قابوس
Sultan Qaboos University



Qatar's National Cyber Security Agency

By Shathil Nawaf Taqa 



The State of Qatar has been bolstering efforts since one the most vicious cybercrimes in the Gulf region occurred in Doha in 2017, which saw the official Qatar News Agency hacked by foreign agents. The State of Qatar is constantly working to update its cybersecurity legislations in accordance with latest developments in the world, in an effort to protect the country's cyberspace and citizens.

The National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA) in Qatar was established by Emiri Decree No. 1 of year 2021. The agency's vision is to build trust in Qatar's national information security and personal data privacy ecosystems.

The agency's missions are to establish and develop an ecosystem promoting the protection of personal data and individual rights, to ensure the application of laws and regulations on the confidentiality of personal data, to ensure compliance with national and international security principles. and best practices and to improve the quality of information security supply chain services through accreditation programs.

In Qatar, the public authorities follow several principles. They consider that National e-Governance and Assurance Affairs should operate with openness and transparency, providing access to

relevant information. These impartial decisions of National e-Governance and Assurance Affairs are based on defined and transparent criteria with complete objectivity, without bias, conflict of interest or undue influence of others. Also, the members, committees and boards of directors of National Cyber Governance and Assurance Affairs are professionals with a strong business ethics, of impeccable honesty and integrity and that the members, committees and boards of national e-governance and insurance affairs are independent and capable of exercising objectivity and professional skepticism.



In May 2023, Qatar's cyber security agency Qatar's National Cyber Security Agency expressed its intention to introduce a National Data Classification Policy, which will serve as the foundation for data governance within government institutions and organizations across the country. This policy aspires to facilitate the establishment of a unified data classification system for the exchange of information, to standardize data classification definitions and to create a unified concept and methodology among Qatari institutions and agencies.

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This project aims to facilitate the adoption

and implementation of projects and initiatives at institutional and national levels, guiding the parties involved in understanding the basic principles of data classification and applying them in accordance with national policies. These developments are part of ongoing efforts by government authorities to improve cybersecurity in Qatar by developing and implementing updated policies, governance mechanisms, standards, controls and guidelines.

This innovative arsenal will also serve as an essential part of National Information Assurance (NIA) standards and other national policies, standards and guidelines, and regulate and regulate the level of data classification used by relevant agencies in Qatar. Under the new policy, agencies will have a single point of reference, classifying data into high, medium and low categories based on the risk they may face. This classification helps determine the technical and administrative controls that need to be considered when handling the data assets that are used. The policy also provides labels to facilitate the processing and sharing of data and determine the level of protection required from a procedural or

technical perspective. It also defines the set of controls that must be considered to protect data, and the roles and responsibilities that institutions must follow.

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Under the new policy, agencies will have a single point of reference, classifying data into high, medium and low categories based on the risk they may face.

Qatari authorities are working to update their cybersecurity laws with the latest developments in the industry to protect the country's cyberspace. The government in Qatar has scrutinized state efforts since what experts say is one of the region's biggest cybercrimes in 2017.

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INTERVIEW

Khelil Mehenni, Secretary General of The Global Diwan

Khelil Mehenni is the Secretary General of The Global Diwan. Born and raised in the South of France in a family of Algerian descent, Khelil is currently in charge of developing the partnerships of a world-leading French business school in Morocco and Africa. He has previously worked in diverse sectors from diplomacy to finance while giving a lot of his time for a good cause: equal opportunities, Euro-Arab dialogue & arts and culture.

Could you tell us about your background? Why did you choose to join The Global Diwan?

I grew up in Hyères, a beautiful town on the French Riviera famous for its three islands and 7000 palm trees where my mother's family settled when they moved to France. I studied Middle Eastern studies, economics and urban governance at Sciences Po, a fulfilling period in which I had the opportunity to travel throughout the Arab world to take summer classes of Arabic or to do some volunteering or tourism. Professionally speaking, I had the chance to work alongside top notch professionals in very different sectors (diplomacy, finance, communications and PR, academia) where I have contributed to important projects and initiatives. This experience allowed me to gain a good deal of expertise of Arab, Mediterranean and African countries. As regards my personal commitments, I have been a board member in several nonprofit organizations including ATLAS, a network of the Algerian diaspora that advocates for equal opportunities, and the OPI-Paris, a "UNESCO Artist for Peace" international professional orchestra which has developed innovative collaborations in GCC countries.

Given this background, it was very natural for me to join the Global Diwan in November 2020. I basically discovered its existence on LinkedIn. By the time, the team just started its reflections on setting up a business forum in the South of France. My previous experience on the Sommet des deux rives, an initiative of the President of the Republic to launch a new dynamic in the Western Mediterranean, was deemed helpful to this end. More importantly, I have been very pleased and honored to rub shoulders with

the brilliant people who make the Global Diwan from colleagues, partners and friends to our esteemed and benevolent advisory board members.

You have grown up in the South of France. According to you, what the Global Diwan and this region have in common?

So many things. First of all, the Mediterranean has always been a territory in which people, goods and civilizations have transited. Such a track record can only accustom each and every Mediterranean to be in touch with other languages, traditions and religions. Likewise, Nice, Monaco, the Riviera as well as the other parts of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region proudly carry on the tradition of hosting visitors from the whole world to attend iconic events such as the Cannes Film Festival, the Nice Carnival, the Avignon and Aix-en-Provence Festivals, the Monaco Grand Prix or the Voiles de Saint-Tropez. According to me, this openness is at the very core of the Global Diwan's purpose.

We are grateful to the local authorities (City of Nice, Nice Côte d'Azur Metropole, Princely Government of Monaco) for their staunch and unwavering support to our projects and ambitions, including the one which consists in creating an annual forum to bring closer together the leaders of the East and the West. We hope to pursue and deepen our collaboration in the future. As this gorgeous region is also my native country, you can imagine how much I have rejoiced of all these connections at the crossroads of the various tributaries which constitute my identity.

You are very involved with the arts and culture. How has this passion been nurtured?

It all started by accident when I convinced the director general of the Villa Noailles, a leading art centre in France, to hire me for a summer internship. I started in the middle of a festival dedicated to design and architecture and I was dazzled by the abundance of creativity and liberty which spread from all these artists and art people. I really felt like entering a new world in which I felt good. This founding experience led me to come back the following year as a museum attendant before flying to Bocconi University in Milan to study management for the arts and culture. I remember taking classes that led me to study the correspondence between Theo and Vincent van Gogh, to go on a private tour of La Scala, and to get acquainted with the inner works of the art market. It was also my first experience in a metropolis where I discovered the delights provided by a rich cultural environment. Back in Paris, I took a very exciting art history class at the Musée d'Orsay and worked on the creation of a cultural center in Abidjan as part of a capstone project for a French NGO.

Then, in fall 2020, one of my mentors with whom I worked extensively at ATLAS asked me if I was willing to lend a hand to a prominent French-Algerian music conductor in drafting a project. I said yes but I did not know by then that we would spend the next three years working altogether on developing the OPI-Paris. It is thanks to the OPI-Paris that I visited Saudi Arabia and the Gulf for the first time as we came to give two concerts in Riyadh and Jeddah with the Saudi National Music Band and Choir. And I am happy to announce that the OPI-Paris will collaborate soon with the Global Diwan.



THE GLOBAL DIWAN

CONNECTING EAST AND WEST LEADERS

The Global Diwan
2nd Annual Forum in Nice

Data Security & Governance

15th and 16th of November, 2023

DAY 1

15 NOVEMBER, 2023

2:30 p.m.

Startup Challenge: Women & Youth in Tech by The Global Diwan

Location: Centre Universitaire Méditerranéen, Nice

Topics : FinTech, Cybersecurity & AI, Data apps, Digital culture

7:30 p.m.

Welcome buffet with Global Diwan advisory board

Location: Villa Masséna, Nice

By invitation only



DAY 2

16 NOVEMBER, 2023

9:00 a.m.	Official opening speeches (30') With a short introduction video on "Forum de Nice- Data Security & Governance "
9:30 a.m.	AI and Cyber issues in the MENA region Keynote speaker interview TBD (15') Roundtable with sponsors and partners (30')
10:15 a.m.	Coffee Break (45')
11:00 a.m.	Data to challenge a sustainable urbanism Keynote speaker interview TBD (15') Roundtable with sponsors and partners (30')
11:45 a.m.	Securing strategic communications Keynote speaker interview TBD (15') Roundtable with sponsors and partners (30')
12:30 p.m.	Lunch <i>Location: Villa Masséna</i> By invitation only

DAY 2

16 NOVEMBER, 2023

2:00 p.m.	High level conversation on geo-economic world challenges (45') Q&A with the audience
2:45 p.m.	Key tools for a sustainable finance Keynote speaker interview TBD (15') Roundtable with sponsors and partners (30')
3:30 p.m.	Empowering legal data Roundtable with sponsors and partners (30')
4:00 p.m.	Coffee Break (30')
4:30 p.m.	Digitalisation for culture and heritage: Roundtable with sponsors and partners (30')
5:00 p.m.	Conversation closing remarks by a high-level keynote speaker (45') Q&A with the audience
6:00 p.m.	Official closing of the 2nd Global Diwan Forum in Nice

*The official program will be published in the next newsletter N°17 that will be issued in October 2023



FOCUS ON

Saudi Arabia

Paving the Way for Sustainable Transformation of the Saudi agri-food system

By Dr. Anne Le More 



Saudi Arabia recognizes the urgent need to achieve sustainable food security. However, the challenges faced by both the Kingdom and the global food system indicate that without systemic transformation, long-term food security will remain elusive.

Recognizing the need for collaboration across disciplines, sectors, and borders, the **Center for Desert Agriculture (CDA)** at **King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST)**, in partnership with the **Ministry of Environment,**

Water and Agriculture (MEWA) of Saudi Arabia, and other organizations such as **AEON Collective** and **NEOM Food Company** is launching an ambitious policy and innovation platform: **Saudi Food Futures**.

The **KAUST Workshop for Saudi Food Futures** will be held in Riyadh on 22nd October 2023 at the **MEWA** premises to engage key stakeholders from across the national and regional food system. Building on the success of the 2022 **KAUST Workshop for Sustainable Food**

Security, the 2023 workshop will take a comprehensive approach to address the challenges of a sustainable transformation in the Saudi food system. The workshop will focus on both short-term and long-term targets, covering research, policy development, and innovation.

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The workshop will focus on both short-term and long-term targets.



FOCUS ON

Saudi Arabia

The primary objectives of the KAUST Workshop for Saudi Food Futures are twofold. First, it aims to facilitate discussions among key stakeholders on strategic priorities and policy options for achieving sustainable transformation in the Saudi food system. Second, participants will delve deeper into smart technical solutions to tackle the identified challenges, looking also at agri-food tech investment trends.

At the workshop, the Saudi Food Futures Initiative will officially be launched. In support of the Kingdom's Vision 2030, National Aspirations and Priorities for Research, Development and Innovation (RDIs) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), this initiative will serve as a platform to integrate knowledge, data, and innovation to accelerate the sustainable transformation of the Saudi food system.

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Saudi Arabia recognizes the urgent need to achieve sustainable food security.

The Saudi Food Futures Initiative will bring together key stakeholders, including academia, government bodies, international organizations, civil society, and the industry. By leveraging this diverse expertise, the initiative will support forward-looking policies and regulatory frameworks as well as the exchange of international best practices and successful strategies to catalyze action in the Kingdom, the region, and other hot-climate countries and regions.

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The Saudi Food Futures Initiative will bring together key stakeholders, including academia, government bodies, international organizations, civil society, and the industry.

Recognizing the importance of tech and innovation, KAUST Center for Desert Agriculture and KAUST Entrepreneurship Center, will also launch the Saudi Food Futures Innovation Challenge, a global

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While the initial focus of the Saudi Food Futures Initiative is on Saudi Arabia, its ambitions extend beyond national borders.

competition to identify and engage with the most innovative solutions in the agri-food tech from Saudi Arabia, the region, and the world.

While the initial focus of the Saudi Food Futures Initiative is on Saudi Arabia, its ambitions extend beyond national borders. By sharing knowledge and insights gained from addressing the unique challenges of desert climates, the initiative aims to inform policymakers in the Middle East and other parts of the world, thereby positioning Saudi Arabia as a regional and global leadership hub for agricultural and food tech and innovation.

CALL FOR

papers

For more details

contact@theglobaldiwan.org

Besides being a business club, intellectual work and curiosity – the gate to understanding other cultures – hold a distinct place in our Diwan. We welcome people from different horizons and nothing interests us more than to have contributors sharing their insightful and challenging views in our columns.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with us if you wish to share your work with our audience.



THE GLOBAL
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