



SIXTH ANNUAL QATAR LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE TAKES PLACE THIS WEEKEND

QF Leadership Event Brings Together Students and Teachers from Around the Globe

Doha, Qatar, October 17, 2017 – The 2017 Qatar Leadership Conference, organized by THIMUN Qatar and Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q), is to take place this weekend, from October 19-21, at the Qatar National Convention Centre.

Now in its sixth year, the highly-anticipated annual event aims to provide individuals with training prior to the annual Model United Nations (MUN) conferences, as well as develop student leaders within schools.

This year, nearly 690 students and teachers from around the world will participate in a range of interactive workshops and conference activities, including: ‘Communicating the SDGs through Comics’, ‘Mastering the Art of Persuasion’, ‘How to Be Your Own NGO’, ‘Arabic MUN? Why Not?’, and ‘Media Hacking: Fake News or Alternative Facts?’.

Lisa Martin, Head of THIMUN Qatar, said: “The Qatar Leadership Conference is one of the biggest professional development conferences in the Middle East. Every year we have a waiting list for this event and this year is no different.

“The conference serves as a leadership incubator for young people around the region. It aims to encourage students to be active and committed global citizens, as, over the course of the three-day event, participants are given the opportunity to analyze global challenges and, in turn, devise potential solutions. Through this conference, we want to help empower tomorrow’s leaders,” Ms. Martin concluded.

This year, the opening remarks will be delivered by Pim Thukral, Chief Operations Officer at NU-Q. Additionally, a number of visiting guest lecturers are to attend, including Ambassador Bahia Tahzib-Lie from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Aryn Paige Thomas, Legal Officer at the United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals; Gilberto Duarte, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; and Kimberly Mann, Chief of the Education Outreach Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information.

Additionally, as part of this year’s conference, a youth and social media survey will be conducted by Dr. Rebecca Nee, a QLC presenter and media professor from San Diego State University. The research aims to look at how young people use both social media and mass media to get news and information.



The THIMUN Qatar regional office was created as a joint partnership between Qatar Academy, a Qatar Foundation (QF) school, and the THIMUN Foundation. The office, under QF's Pre-University Education, supports efforts around the region to develop programs and events for young people to seek solutions to global challenges through discussion, negotiation, debate, and personal action.

Image Captions:

Image1: Student panelists during a 2016 Qatar Leadership Conference discussion.

Image2: A senior presenter at the 2016 Qatar Leadership Conference.

ENDS

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a non-profit organization that supports Qatar on its journey to becoming a diversified and sustainable economy. QF strives to serve the people of Qatar and beyond by providing specialized programs across its innovation-focused ecosystem of education, science and research, and community development.

QF was founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, who shared the vision to provide Qatar with quality education. Today, QF's world-class education system offers lifelong learning opportunities to community members as young as six months through to doctoral level, enabling graduates to thrive in a global environment and contribute to the nation's development.

QF is also creating a multidisciplinary innovation hub in Qatar, where homegrown researchers are working to address local and global challenges. By promoting a culture of lifelong learning and fostering social engagement through programs that embody Qatari culture, QF is committed to empowering the local community and contributing to a better world for all.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>