

الشرق
منتدى

AL SHARQ
FORUM







TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 02** ABOUT AL SHARQ FORUM
- 04** MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
- 05** AL SHARQ CORE BELIEFS
- 06** PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS
- 08** AL SHARQ STRATEGIC RESEARCH

About Al Sharq Forum

Al Sharq Forum is an independent, international non-profit organization that aims at consolidating the values of pluralism and justice, while developing long-term strategies and programmes that contribute to the political development, economic prosperity, and social cohesion for the people of the Al Sharq region and the world.

Established in 2012 by Wadah Khanfar, Al Sharq Forum is registered in Geneva, with three head offices in London, Istanbul & Kuala Lumpur.

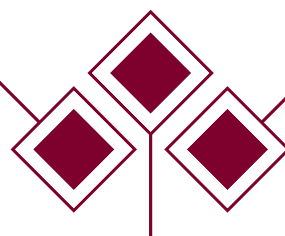


The Forum consists of three pillars working in tandem to ensure the realization of its mission:



Al Sharq Academia:

An online platform offering an eclectic range of academic courses aiming at disseminating knowledge from the social sciences and humanities.



Al Sharq Strategic Research:

A think tank that looks to undertake impartial, rigorous research to promote the ideals of democratic participation, dialogue and social justice.



Al Sharq Youth:

A network of committed and active youth, leading change towards a more inclusive and just world.



Message from the President

“ For a decade now, our region has experienced a difficult transition period to a new future. Throughout this long decade, Al Sharq, with its different pillars and activities, converged with the hopes and worries of the region’s peoples to create a space for dialogue, and to foster knowledge and capabilities that outline practical horizons for the future. This only strengthens our hope that we will reach the dignified life that we all aspire to. Today, ten years after our establishment, we confirm that Al Sharq Forum still carries the same values and message, which we must keep striving towards, and in which we see the embodiment of our aims of stability, prosperity and liberty. ”

Wadah Khanfar

AL SHARQ FORUM CORE BELIEFS

PLURALISM IS A SOCIAL NECESSITY ACHIEVED BY SECURING HUMAN RIGHTS

We believe that diversity is universal, and that the signs of society's psychological well-being lie in its tolerance, vitality, and interaction. We thus call for dialogue to deal with contrasting ideas, perceptions, and visions.

OUR DECISIONS ARE BASED ON OUR COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS

We believe in the right of nations and peoples to self-determination in accordance with their collective conscience and civilizational precepts.

OUR VALUES ARE PREVALENTLY UNIVERSAL AND HUMANE

We believe that the values underpinning our consciousness should be of a universal message, seeking goodness, justice, and ethics, and belong to them everywhere.

KNOWLEDGE HAS INTENDED GOALS AND PURPOSES

We believe that science and knowledge are the pillars upon which the human future will be built. We are thus firm believers in prioritizing scientific research and methodological, epistemological thinking, and in linking them to sublime ethical objectives.

GRASPING LESSONS FROM OUR PAST WHILE CONSCIOUSLY LIVING OUR PRESENT

We are keen to carefully and deeply study the historical experiences of our nations and the world, and believe that our study of history should not make us dwell in the past, nor try to uncritically restore its models, structures, and experiences.

TOWARDS AN INCLUSIVE PUBLIC DISCOURSE

We believe that public affairs should be addressed through a process of negotiation among the constituents of each community.

THE FUTURE IS AUSPICIOUS

We believe that our countries are facing a historical transitional phase, and that we are called upon to build the features of the future with a new spirit.

AN EQUITABLE, VIRTUOUS MORAL ECONOMY

We believe that any economic system that is detached from moral values is a project of enslavement and hegemony, and therefore will achieve neither security nor prosperity for the world.

PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS



LaunchGood

TEDx

JCI



FOREIGN
AFFAIRS



EUROPEAN
COUNCIL
ON FOREIGN
RELATIONS
ecfr.eu



MEMBER INSTITUTION
2020 - 2021



**CHATHAM
HOUSE**



ca
common action forum

NESI



الشرق
للأبحاث الاستراتيجية

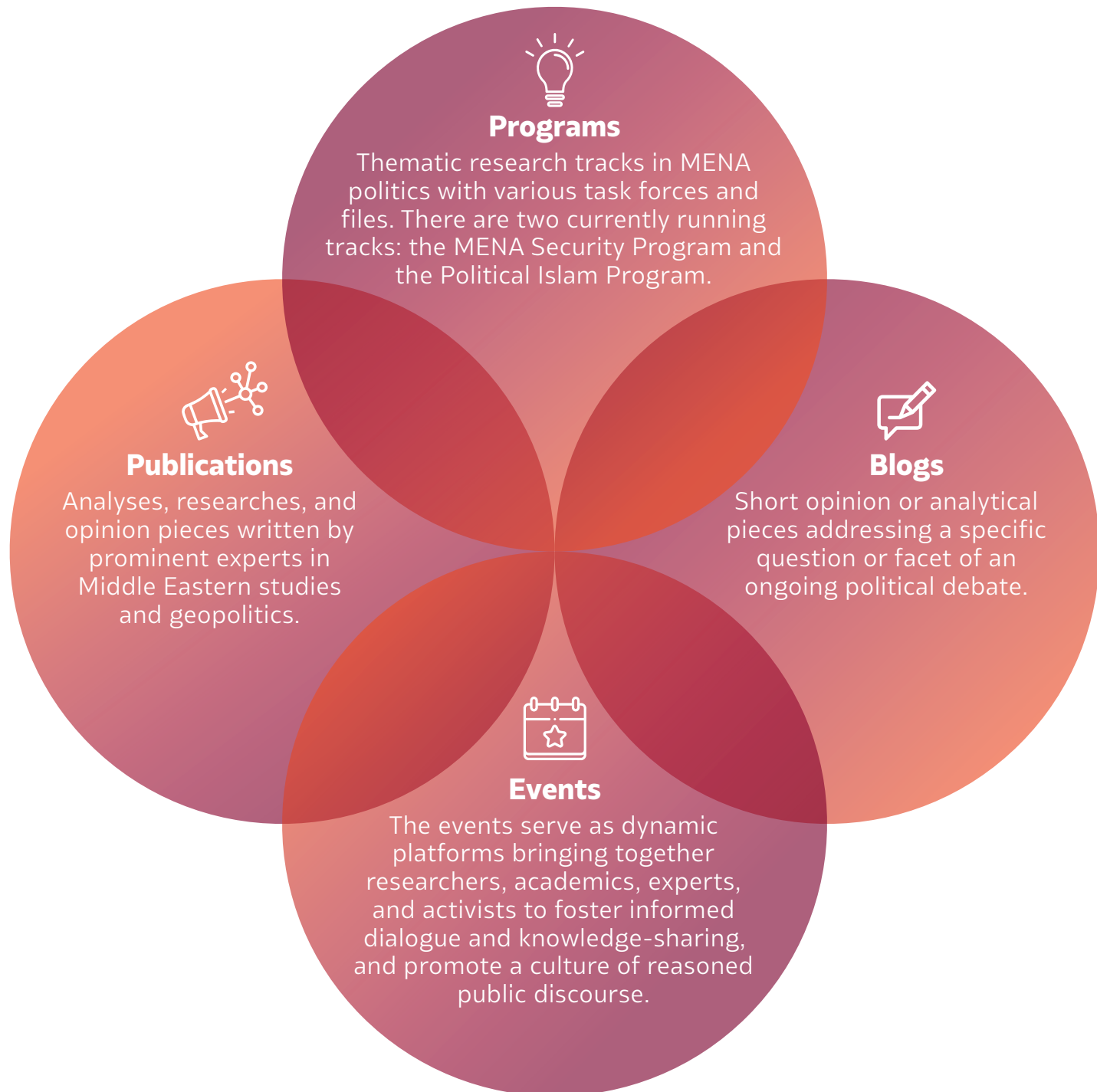
AL SHARQ
STRATEGIC
RESEARCH

RESEARCH.SHARQFORUM.ORG

f t i y SHARQSTRATEGIC

A think tank that looks to undertake impartial, rigorous research to promote the ideals of democratic participation, an informed citizenry, multi-stakeholder dialogue, and social justice.

Through its research programs, conferences, and publications, and in line with the Forum's objectives , Al Sharq Strategic Research carries three central areas of focus: democratization and good governance, regional and international order, and transformation of ideologies and identities.



PROGRAMS

To address the issues and challenges facing the Al-Sharq region, Al Sharq Strategic Research has launched **two programs, namely the MENA Security Program and the Al Sharq Program on Political Islam; and three other programs in progress.** By bringing together experts, academics, policymakers, and researchers from various fields, Al Sharq Strategic Research aims to increase the level of understanding and quality of policy-making concerning the Al Sharq region.

Transformation of Political Islam
in a Changing Regional Order



Political Islam in the Second Wave
of the Arab Uprisings Task Force

Armed
Non-States
Actors File

**MENA
Security
Program**

The Eastern
Mediterranean
File

New Security Arrangements for
the MENA Region Task Force

Al Sharq Strategic research is currently
working on 3 new programs on:

- **Palestine**
- **Regional Economic Development**
- **Governance & Democratization**

MENA Security Program

State failures, violent extremism, the emergence of militia groups as regional forces, chemical warfare, and the arms race call for the development of new security arrangements for the Al Sharq region. This dire need has led Al Sharq Strategic Research to launch its MENA Security program to address the security problems of the region from a regional perspective, and offer recommendations for security alternatives.

New Security Arrangements for the MENA Region Task Force

This task force aims to take stock of the architecture of regional security in the MENA region with a view to propose tangible recommendations for future steps.

The Eastern Mediterranean File

This specialised file examines the different facets of the geopolitical contest over the new security and energy order in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Armed Non-States Actors File

The COVID-19 pandemic and the collapse of oil prices have affected the (mis)fortune of the armed non-state actors. This file examines their future prospects in light of these dynamics.

Related Publications

Expert Brief



The GCC and the Evolving Notion of Gulf Energy Security

Nikolay Kozhanov

Related Publications

Expert Brief

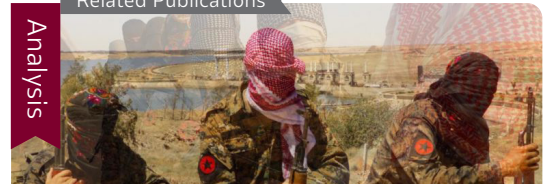


Eastern Mediterranean: Conflict or Compromise?

Mitat Çelikpala

Related Publications

Analysis



The Transformation Struggle of the PYD: Localization Tendency as a Method of Gaining Legitimacy?

Mehmet Emin Cengiz

Al Sharq Program on Political Islam

The Arab uprisings and their aftermath unleashed deep and ongoing processes of transformation within political Islam movements (PIMs). In light of this, Al Sharq Strategic Research launched the Political Islam program as a renewed effort to understand these movements and develop novel conceptual frameworks suited to the new and shifting terrains.

Political Islam in the Second Wave of the Arab Uprisings Task Force

This taskforce aimed to examine the popular uprisings that intensified during 2019 and spread to four Arab states (Algeria, Sudan, Iraq, and Lebanon) in what came to be known as the second wave of the Arab uprisings, which seems to be deepening the crisis of political Islam movements in the MENA region.

Related Publications

Research Paper



Islamist Movements and Parties in the Algerian Uprising

İsmail Yaylacı, Muhammad Amasha

Transformation of Political Islam in a Changing Regional Order Task Force

This task force examined and analysed the ongoing transformation of PIMs in the wake of the Arab uprisings. Composed of thirteen research fellows and research assistants, it worked from February to December 2018 on seven countries where the Arab uprisings phenomenon took different forms.

Related Publications

Analysis



Is there a Morsi Effect? An Overview of Political Islamists' Electoral Performances Since 2013

Nicholas Gjorvad

EXPERTS



Mohammad Affan

Ph.D. from the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter

Research Director of Al Sharq Strategic Research



Mehmet Emin Cengiz

MA Degree from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology of the Middle East, Marmara University

Research Fellow



Yilmaz Ensaroğlu

Advisor at the Ministry of Justice/ Turkey

Senior Research Fellow



Sinan Hatahet

Co-founder of Workiom

Senior Research Fellow



Osama El-Mourabit

MA in International Relations, University of Humboldt-Berlin

Research Fellow



Basheer Nafi

Senior Research Fellow at Al Jazeera Centre for Studies

Senior Research Fellow



Rawan Hammoud

MA from the Department of Religious Studies, New York University

Research Fellow



Galip Dalay

the Richard von Weizsäcker Robert Bosch Academy

Senior Research Fellow



Ömer Aslan

Assistant Professor of at Yıldırım Beyazıt University

Senior Research Fellow



İsmail Yaylaci

Assistant Professor and
Department Chair at Fatih
Sultan Mehmet University

Senior Research Fellow



Larbi Sadiki

Professor of Arab
Democratization at Qatar
University

Senior Research Fellow



Kamaran M. Palani

International Relations
Lecturer

Associate Fellow



Tamer Badawi

Associate Research
Fellow

Associate Fellow



Betül Doğan Akkaş

Non-resident fellow at the
Atlantic Council

Associate Fellow



Inga Kristina Trauthig

Research Fellow at the
International Centre for the
Study of Radicalisation (ICSR)

Associate Fellow



Fırat Kimya

Ph.D. Candidate in the
Department of Politics at
the University of Virginia

Associate Fellow



M. Nurullah Gulec

Ph.D. Candidate in
Economics at Duke
University

Associate Fellow



Thembisa Fakude

Deputy Chairperson of
Common Action Forum

Associate Fellow

PUBLICATIONS

Al Sharq Strategic Research has published over **1,400 pieces** on issues ranging from regional politics and security to regional economics and world politics.

Dossier



The Arab Uprisings: A Decade On

The Arab Uprisings have proved to be one of the most transformative developments in the MENA region. This dossier scrutinizes the democratization processes, the fate of the uprisings, and their formative impact on the region's societies and states.

Leonid M. Issaev, Kristian Coates Ulrichsen, Larbi Sadiki, Ezzeddine Abdelmoula, Ferhat Polat, & Sinan Hatahet. Mehmet Alaca, Nesibe Hicret Battaloglu, Aya Hossam, Ferit Belder, Hamdallah Baycar, & Umit Seven.

Dossier



Iranian Foreign Policy under 'Raisi'

This dossier explains how Ebrahim Raisi's political leanings may introduce fundamental differences to Iranian foreign policy and regional strategy toward the Middle East, Afghanistan, the EU and US.

Hassan Ahmadian, Fatima Al Smadi, Nicole Grajewski, Valentina Pegolo, Mohsen Shariatnia.

Research paper



Turkish-Emirati Relations in Iraq After 2003: A Contained Competition?

This paper attempts to construct a picture from scratch about the relations and competition between Turkey and Gulf Arab countries in trade and politics in Iraq, primarily relying on US diplomatic cables sourced from WikiLeaks from 2003 to around 2010/2011.

Tamer Badawi

Expert Brief



Peace-Making in the Middle-East: 'Normalization' With.. Without Palestine?

Under the "Trump Deal", the recent normalization of Arab states with Israel has neglected issues of Palestinian justice and right to statehood. This paper argues that this normalization, solely beneficial to Israel, has inherent negative implications on peace-making. Thus, the 'Trump Deal' signifies a manifestation of a visibly uneven foreign policy in the Arab-Israeli Conflict.

Larbi Sadiki

PUBLICATIONS

Analysis



Democracy and the Great Pestilence

Amidst the pain and panic, people naturally want to make sense of things, so what can we say about the causes, effects, and historical significance of this new Great Pestilence? What were the implications of the coronavirus pandemic on global democracy?

John Keane

Analysis



Tunisia's 25th of July: The End of a Crisis or the Start of a New one

This paper attempts to review the root causes that led to the 25th of July constitutional crisis. It also addresses the possible impact and prospects of this exceptional situation on Tunisia's democracy and democratization process.

Nedra Cherif

Expert Brief

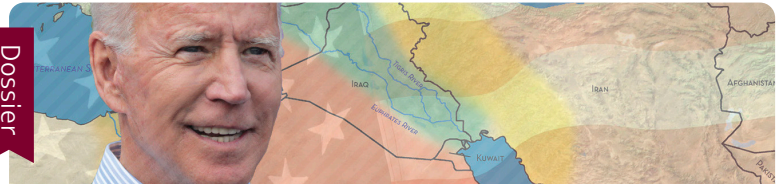


Russia's "Return" to the Middle East and the Arab Uprisings

This expert brief examines several factors that shape Russian foreign policy in the Middle East, including: Moscow's geopolitical interests as well as the domestic changes in the region since the onset of the Arab Spring, Middle East, Afghanistan, the EU and US.

Leonid M. Issaev

Dossier



Biden Administration's policies towards the Middle East: A Paradigm Shift?

This dossier addresses the massive changes to U.S. foreign policy under the Biden Administration, specifically toward key regional actors, such as: Turkey, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Israel.

Hassan Ahmadian, Sinan Hatahet, Mohammad Affan, Ozgur Unluhisarcikli, Fatih Şemsettin Işık, Amjad Ahmad Jebreel.

EVENTS

EUROPE AND GREAT POWER COMPETITION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

March 3, 2021



The panel explored Europe's relationships with the United States, China and Russia in the context of the Middle East. What does Europe's struggle for influence in the region mean for its geopolitical and geo-security interests?

CHATHAM HOUSE
The Royal Institute of International Affairs

THE ARAB SPRING: 10 YEARS ON

January 27, 2021



The webinar explored the fortunes of the countries at the centre of the Arab Spring and the challenges for reform that have since been compounded by more recent events including the COVID-19 pandemic.

CHATHAM HOUSE
The Royal Institute of International Affairs

Seminar on Political Islam Movements in the Second Wave of Arab Uprisings

October 13, 2020



The panel discussed the outcomes of the year-long research by the "Political Islam in the Second Wave of the Arab Uprisings" task force that examined the political positions and behavior of Islamist movements during the 2019 protest wave.

جامعة
حمد بن خليفة
HAMAD BIN KHALIFA
UNIVERSITY



Europe and Its Neighbourhood 2019

December 10, 2019



The 5th annual conference, titled “Europe and its Neighbourhood: Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management in the 21st Century,” focused on how Europe and its leaders can respond to the challenges of conflict management and prevention.

**CHATHAM
HOUSE**
The Royal Institute of
International Affairs

Political Islam Movements in the post-Arab Uprisings Period

July 4, 2019



The panel looked at how ‘Political Islam’ movements and parties acted and reacted in response to the different challenges and opportunities created by the Arab uprisings, including leadership changes, reformist agendas, and bloody civil wars.

AUB
American University of Beirut
المعهد العالي للدراسات
السياسية والاجتماعية

Political Trends in The Al Sharq Region After the Arab Uprisings: The Transformation of Political Islam in a Changing Regional Order

February, 2018



The event discussed the variety of ways in which the Arab uprisings, despite all its shortcomings, have changed the dynamics of inclusion/exclusion of political Islam movements in the Al Sharq region.

**INTERNATIONAL
CRISIS
GROUP**

BLOGS



Breakthrough in the Gulf Crisis Will Shape Regional Geopolitics

This piece discusses how the Al-Ula Agreement, that ended the most protracted intra-Gulf dispute in recent memory, will shape the geopolitical future of the Persian Gulf region.

Samuel Ramani



What Does the Breakthrough in the GCC Crisis Mean for Turkey?

This blog argues that while challenging, the most realistic path to peace in Yemen is a power-sharing agreement that enables all the major actors in the country to have a seat at the table and address their grievances and legitimate security concerns.

Giorgio Cafiero



The Blatant Nature of Post-Arab Spring Authoritarianism

This piece lays out the features of the resurgent authoritarianism in the MENA region, which triumphed at high costs years after the Arab Spring, and how this new authoritarianism is notably different from that of the pre-Arab Spring era.

Mohammad Affan



'Cyber Protest': The Hidden Face-book of Tunisia's July 25

This piece analytically tackles the under-examined cyber dimensions of Tunisia's July 25 protests, hours before Kais Saied announced his "exceptional measures."

Larbi Sadiki



Israel's Dangerous Shadow War with Iran

This blog explains the dual Israeli strategy that aims to eventually reverse any U.S. willingness to re-enter the nuclear deal by undermining Iranian economic resilience and diplomatic leverage.

Ali Akbar Dareini



The Second Berlin Conference on Libya: What Changed, What Didn't?

This piece assesses the success and the shortcomings of the International Libya Conference that was originally held to discuss the progress of and the ongoing challenges to a stable, peaceful Libya.

Inga Kristina Trauthig

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Al Sharq Internship Program is a 6-month paid internship that has been running since March 2016, and consists of two stages. The program aims at cultivating critical thinking, reading, and analytical writing skills, and encouraging interns to produce research papers under the guidance of their assigned mentors.



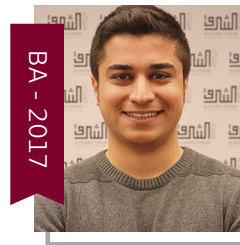
Jaefer Kedir

Political Science and
International Relations



Isra Sakipi

Political Science and
International Relations



Saman Madadi

Political Science and
International Relations



Marc Martorell Junyent

Middle East Politics and
Society



Muhammad Amasha

Sociology



Tuğba Kalem

Political Science and
International Relations



Selman Büyükkara

Political Science and
International Relations



Rahaf Almomani

Ottoman International
Studies



Meryem Ülker

African Studies

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IN NUMBERS



Cohorts
6



Nationalities
10+



Interns
25+



Phases internship
2



Training hours
5000+

AL SHARQ STRATEGIC RESEARCH IN NUMBERS

Publications
in 3
Languages

1400



Publications
download

86,600



Newsletters

172



Website Visits
(Dec2020-
Dec2021)

101,200



Social media
(Dec2020-Dec2021)



Reach

1.42M

Impressions

696K



Followers

10.2K

Average
monthly
interactions

84.450



Reach

736K



subscribers

6.75K



AL SHARQ
FORUM



Geneva Office:

17, rue De-Candolle
1205 Geneva
Switzerland

London Office:

2-6 Boundary Row
SE1 8HP
London

Istanbul Office:

Yenibosna Merkez Mah. 29 Ekim Cad.
Istanbul Vizyon Park
A1 blok 6. Kat No: 67
Bahçelievler/Istanbul

Kuala Lumpur Office:

Level 8, Vertical Corporate Tower
B, Avenue 10, TheVertical, No, 8,
Jalan Kerinchi, Bangsar South,
59200 Kuala Lumpur

www.sharqforum.org

   SharqForum