



[www.tag-forum.org](http://www.tag-forum.org)



**Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Knowledge Forum**



**Senator Abu-Ghazaleh meets students  
of Pearson Institute's International  
Conflict Seminars (PICS) program  
of University of Chicago**

## » **Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Knowledge Forum (TAG-KF)**

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Knowledge Forum was established upon the directive of Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, chairman and founder of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAG-Org), to become a platform for dialogue and exchange of ideas and expertise among economic leaders.

Initially, TAG-Forum was created to provide the business community with a platform for debate, as well as for diagnosis, research, study and continuous assessment of all aspects of business and economy at local, regional and international levels. At some point, we needed to adapt and expand.

In the fast-emerging Knowledge Age, neither business, nor varied economic activities can be dealt with separately from all and every other intellectual engagement, mainly education and culture.

TAGKF functions as part of a comprehensive structure serving not only business, but every other interest of the human mind towards a prominent and secure place in the future.

TAGKF therefore hosts business people, academics, experts, scientists, educators, industrialists, artists, government officials, community leaders and many others and provide them with the ways and means for promoting activity and standards; for analyzing and eventually resolving problems; for conducting research; for overcoming obsolete methods in favor of innovation and progress, and for networking with the wider world around us.

## » **Pearson Institute International Conflict Seminar (PICS) program – University of Chicago:**

The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts seeks to understand the complex causes and consequences of conflict by mobilizing the best minds and the most innovative tools and technology to get to the root of conflict. The Institute is building a research community of preeminent scholars from multiple disciplines who are applying the latest scientific methodologies to understand and address the complex mix of economic, political, religious, cultural, and psychological variables that fuel conflict and the damage it inflicts on countries, communities, and individuals.

The Pearson Institute International Conflict Seminars (PICS) are experiential opportunities for students to learn about international conflict. These programs are developed and led by faculty/staff to conflict/post-conflict zones, and allow students to engage in meetings with local community members, NGOs, politicians, professionals, scholars, and practitioners who work in the conflict resolution sphere. Particular attention is given to helping students see beyond their customary social experiences and academic disciplines, through meetings that tap into the reality on the ground in the region of travel. In addition to meetings, these programs also include field excursions and lectures in order to broaden the depth of exposure and understanding of the dominant causes and consequences of conflict.

University of Chicago students participating in the Pearson Institute International Conflict Seminar in Jordan, travel to the region to learn about the sociopolitical dynamics of conflict, with a special focus on the Syrian civil war and its consequential impact on Jordan.

## Senator Abu-Ghazaleh meets students of Pearson Institute's International Conflict Seminars (PICS) program of University of Chicago

On December 13, 2018, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh addressed at TAG-Knowledge Forum a group of students from Pearson Institute's International Conflict Seminars (PICS) program to discuss his perspective about the region's future and global changes.



As a part of their study, the visiting students chose to meet His Excellency as a key international and Arab public figure, and discussed with him several topics like research and development, Jordan's economic issues, corporate social responsibility and the knowledge tsunami.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh talked about the prediction that the Age of Knowledge and AI would transform into an Age of Wisdom, when public policy and corporate social responsibilities and when all inventions and creative projects are geared towards one goal: serving humanity as a whole, a one human community.

Commenting on the future of education, he stressed that the school and teacher

are no longer needed. What is required is access to the Internet as a human right.

The delegation was accompanied by Dr. Sheila Kohanteb the Director of Global Partnerships and Dr. Lina Haddad Kreidie a Member of Harris Council - University of Chicago.

### **Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh's Remarks at the meeting with Chicago University students**

#### **Opening remarks:**

I am very delighted to receive you and I thank Dr. Lina Haddad Kreidie for this privilege. I have a special spot in my heart for the generation of the future. And as I always say, you represent 25% of the



population, 100% of the future. The 25% that are at school are representing our future, so I am very pleased to spend my time with you.

I want you to read this book [The Brave Knowledge World], which has just been published by me on the future as I see it and as you see it, of course, as you come from a great university. However, I want to start by criticizing your university as I did criticize Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Columbia universities. I had the honor of speaking on September 15th addressing MIT and Harvard University on September 16th. I also spoke at Columbia in October and I am planning now to address the University of Colombia on April 4th, 2019, and subsequently a couple of other leading universities. My theme is the failure of the educational system, and this was the subject of my op-ed published by The Jordan Times newspaper recently.

We will hand you over a copy of the article where I am calling on universities to learn

from the experience of “drop-outs”; you know that drop outs are the leaders of the knowledge world! Of course, they have not failed! Universities have! The educational system under which I studied was fine at that time. The mission of schools and universities at that time was to prepare students for the labor market, but it should not be the mission anymore. The objective should be to produce innovators and creators; so instead of graduating jobs seekers, we want universities to produce innovators who can produce startups and employ others rather than they themselves be seeking jobs. The unemployment problem nowadays affects almost two billion individuals in the world, and one cause of that is the failure of the educational system. Two months ago, I gave a speech at the Arab Region Educational Conference; I said I am exploring possibilities and blaming the world’s educational order for destroying the future of our children.

From my position I say to you: I do not want you to be job seekers, I want you to be innovators, and that is why we have



established here in Amman in October 2018 the first university college of innovation, which is, I think, the only one in the world where students graduate when they invent not when they are examined. If you do not invent, you do not graduate, so your graduation exam is the invention that will help the world. This is my educational mission and I am fighting for it all over the world. I will stop here regarding this issue and I have a second point, then I'll leave it to you to ask your questions.

My second point is that I believe that the world is going into a very serious economic crisis in the year 2020, which is looming. It is already starting as you can see: Never in history have there been such serious economic and social problems. There have been countries like Greece that have seen economic problems and there has been Palestine, which has experienced socio-economic problems, but there isn't any single country nowadays that is not facing problems. I predict that in 2020, we will run into an economic crisis that will culminate in stagflation: stagnation and inflation at the same time. I also predict that the only way out of that crisis is to go into a third world war. So your

generation will witness a third world war. I belong to the generation of WWII, and I can leave it to your imagination to think who the two parties are fighting in this war. It is certainly not the U.S. vs. Iran as the press sometimes wants to represent it. However, this war could be a good thing; wars are not always bad as you must be aware that WWII resulted in so many renaissances and prosperous economies all over the world. There are countries that took advantage from these wars, so the results are mixed. Franklin Roosevelt said that whenever he consulted with an economist, this economist used the phrase "on one hand and on the other", so the president used to ask: "Can anybody find me a one-handed economist?!" There is no one-handed economist; there are always two sides to any issue, and so we have to prepare ourselves. As an organization, for a year now, we have been preparing ourselves for this expected crisis to take advantage of it rather than to suffer from its consequences, and I think it would be interesting for you if you take the time to do some research and studies and write to me about what you think about what I am saying in this regard. Perhaps I am a fool, but as Winston Churchill once said:



“The greatest lesson in life is to realize that idiots are sometimes right”. So do some research and let me know what you think before the crisis comes because the process might begin gaining momentum in 2019 and will hit the world in 2020. Now I am writing a major thesis on this subject, and I will be addressing a community of ambassadors this evening. I will be addressing them on the issue of the prospective crisis and imminent global war; that is the topic of urgency and I think it is my duty to let the world know about it and prepare for it so we do not sit and wait for what will come. So please do some research and thinking and if you were kind enough, write to me on my direct private mail. We have our own internet and our own ISP. We do not use a service provider and we are our own domain registrar, one of the seven global accredited domain name registrars. I will stop here. Thank you again and the word is now for Dr. Lina and Dr. Sheila Kohanteb.

**Dr. Lina:**

Thank you very much your Excellency Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh. My knowledge of Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh goes back for decades but actually I’ve met him in person this year for my doctorate project here in Jordan, and I wanted to get connected with him to get his opinion on what we can do as scholars and students, on what we can do regarding post-conflict reconstruction in the Middle East, specifically on the human development factor and he kindly welcomed us and talked to us about many issues that need to be handled, specifically the human being, as humanity is affected by wars, and as wars destroy and kill humanity, we need to reconstruct the human being so that we can create and have innovators. Actually, I do agree with Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh that wars, as much as they create destruction to humanity, they are an opportunity. The issue is how to grab this opportunity and come up with a positive impact. During our meetings, and as an adviser to the University of



Chicago's Harris Council, I thought of you, students, and about how we can connect the university to the region here. So as students and future generation, how can we help the region while we have a vested interest not only in being part of conflicts but also a part in reconstruction for a positive future.

I have seen many answers to my thoughts and vision with Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh so we can connect you with him to ask your questions, and express thoughts, inquiries and concerns. I am sure he will be most welcoming of your questions and will help you. As he mentioned, please email him as he will definitely respond to your emails promptly and give his invaluable opinions.

It is just amazing how he lived his life in a unique lifestyle. Reading the books he gave me about his life, he is just an amazing person who has faced many challenges in his life and his background is very humble, and I am sure you will read more about him and I am sure you will

know how an amazing person he is. And again, thank you for having us here and I hope this will be a step to help you to think more about how we can be innovators and have a better future.

I welcome Dr. Sheila, who has worked behind the scenes and arranged everything to meet up here, so please welcome her.

**Dr. Sheila Kohanteb:**

Thank you very much for having us here as we are very delighted to meet with you. This group of students here are all Master's students in public policy and the purpose of programs like this is really to help students to understand not only the world but focusing also on conflict: what's going round right now and to understand conflicts from the perspective of people on the ground. Based on what you have been saying previously about students being innovators, as we have in this meeting 18 students of public policy. So I would like to ask you: What is your advice for them? How can they be innovators in the public policy world?

**Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh:**

This is a great question, and a great opportunity and pleasure to address students from a great university. I would like very much to express my opinion about this subject as I have never been asked this question.

I am not a politician and I do not talk politics. I do not believe that there is such a thing as politics. I think the world is run on economics and there is no political decision that is not either predicted for an economic result or caused by an economic fact. So I cannot think that there is any political decision has been taken not for economical reason or based on economic cause or fact. Therefore, I am talking pure economics and not criticizing the political order whether it is led by the great U.S.A or by the G20, UN or by whatever political party. I want to talk about the economic order not the political order and I think that your focus and innovation should be on public policies for a better economic order. The focus on public policy has been always been a political order. And for that purpose again, unfortunately, the leaders of the world somehow wrongly thought that the best way to rule this world is by old British wisdom: divide to rule, which was translated to American language as it has been said in famous American play that Americans did not speak English for so many years. The “divide to rule” in English became in American: Create chaos. The policy of chaos creation in the world became part of the world political order as a means for controlling and ruling the world. Obviously it has worked, I am not denying that there has been a great success, but every tool used comes to an

end! (I have studied Shakespeare and I wanted to become a Shakespearean scholar, but because my family needed support, I went for a job that could get more income. I taught Shakespeare at schools when I was undergraduate when I was young at your age!) Shakespeare said once that we often create tools that are used against us! This word what Condoleezza Rice called creative chaos worked as a tool of policy but it has reached a point where it has become a tool used against us. The chaos we have created, all of us. Again, I stress on the fact that I am not a politician and I am not criticizing a certain country or leadership, I am talking pure economics. More than economics, I am talking about social interest. I have recently been selected to the UN High-Level Advisory Board on Social Impact. I am glad that we are talking now, looking into social impact, not only the economic impact. The world has developed a number of economic indicators which can lead us to see the rates of growth, employment, inflation etc., but there has never been focus on the actual impact on the individual. You can see countries with a good GDP growth while the human and social situation is deteriorating, so I am, as a member of a group of eminent members of the high-level advisory board, innovating social indicators to reflect the impact of any decision, whether you call it political, military or economic. So the world needs social indicators to measure the impact on individuals as in the final analysis, it is the human being who matters. I think what I want you to do is to work on how you can redirect the international public policy from objectives which are short term, which is a major criticism of most of the



countries of the world, including the U.S., as the malice we see today in Europe, like in France and other countries, including our countries, is because politicians, when they run for elections and for positions, they promise their citizens things that the country cannot afford, so it becomes a problem how to meet these targets. What we need regarding public policy is how to make it society-centered, citizen-centered, not government policy-centered!

We always think of government policies: How can I be a more powerful country? How can I reap maximum advantages? How can I benefit as a country versus other countries? or a group of countries, or as a leader or as a person, in fact, in many cases, but I have never seen a focus on public policy regarding how we can create a better life for human beings. On one occasion, I was on a panel where I was very honored to sit next to Bill Gates, and one of the questions we were debating was, how we define this century.

In his brilliant way, he said: I can describe the rest of this century it in two words, Artificial Intelligence. That meeting took place three decades ago. How true was Bill Gates! And the next question was: When will we be able to think of humanity in our innovation and creation and use of our various technological talents and inventions to serve that purpose? That is because at the time being, the top companies want to be the richest, the best and the most profitable business companies, obviously including my organization, as proudly my organization is the top leader in the world, including the U.S., in being protectors of intellectual property rights. We are proudly the global leaders in intellectual property. Our objective is to protect intellectual property and to become the most powerful intellectual property firm in the world. Is it in our focus to help human being? No. So yes, I am criticizing myself. This is the case with all major companies, Apple is competing with Huawei for who will be richer, more

profitable and more powerful. We have in the U.S. today 72,000 artificial intelligence scientists who are working full time on AI innovations and we have half that number in China. I am honored that my name is in the Hall of Honor of Chicago as one of the greatest contributors of intellectual property elected by the int'l community of intellectual community for that purpose. When we talk about intellectual property, we say we have to protect it so that the inventor can have the benefit of his time, intelligence and investment! That's great but there is nothing in public policy, disciplines or order in the world that says this should be directed to the benefit of the individual, so when we were debating this with Bill Gates, his prediction was that after we are through with the Knowledge Age and artificial intelligence revolution of this century, perhaps in the next century we will be going into what he called the Wisdom Age, when we will be innovating, creating policies, managing crises etc. for the benefit of humanity. I understand that people like Bill Gates and all the wealthy and prosperous organizations contribute to society like we do at TAG-Org; we annually contribute 50% of our profits to local society not as money but through 40 ongoing programs and institutions running all the time, dedicated for social development, particularly education. That's fine! But that's not what I am talking about. I am talking about that we are going to invent for the benefit of the humanity and not for the aim of becoming wealthy and rich so we can afford to donate. The situation today: Be great, be profitable, be the best and when you achieve that, you will be able to donate. That's good

so far, but when are we going to direct all our policies including creativity and innovation in public policies towards the objective of what is good for the humanity and not what is good for the company or for me as a person so that I can be kind to fulfill my corporate social responsibilities.

So, I think what we need is to start an awareness process or create a new thinking trend on wisdom in public policy. We need to develop wisdom in our public policy and not what is the best public policy for me, but what is the wisest policy, which is not necessarily the best for me. Hopefully then we can be able to enter the Wisdom Age, which I hope to be before end of this century because humanity is in a great trouble everywhere and things are not getting better; they are getting worse unfortunately. If you look around you, rarely can see symptoms of any positive directions; indicators are in the wrong directions, so if I want to summarize, we need to create and innovate towards wisdom in public policy.

**Dr. Lina:**

This is what the world needs in terms of wisdom, and this paradigm shift that you are talking about in terms of moving from what has been and the new liberalism has created this gap between the people, the business and the government, so what you are trying to tell us here is to reconstruct the human being and to help build an innovator and creative human being by relaying this wisdom. Is this wisdom going to be taught at schools, universities or vocational training?

**Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh:**

You are touching on a very sensitive issue which bothers me. If I say that in the U.S. there are at least 70,000 Artificial Intelligence scientists, I am talking only about those who are fully dedicated, because there are research centers using artificial intelligence scientists whose number makes that much more. Unfortunately, there are some countries that do not know what artificial intelligence means, and they are arguing whether they should accept the idea of AI as a concept. What I am scared of is that because I know that AI does not make things more intelligent, the most important and serious thing about A.I. is how it will change the human being. Here are some of the impacts of AI on the human being: It will make our memory equivalent to a computer, as we are developing computers to be smart to think like we think, our brains will become as competent as a computer in their capacity of retaining, analyzing and miming data.

In other words, there will be a human being who will have a better brain than other human beings; it will help us have a more memory span, preempt diseases, instead of treating them. I have served on the Advisory Board of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and I was sitting beside the chairman of GlaxoSmithKline, which is one of the major pharmaceutical companies. He said that in 20 years time, there would be no medicine on the shelf for anybody. The medicines will be tailored to individuals according to their genes. He said that at least 70% of medicines we have do not treat, but are sedatives. Instead

of that, we are going through a process that when the child is born, we can find through their genetic maps what diseases they are going to have, like diabetics, and we will be able to stop that genetically, instead of treating the disease.

We are talking about the economic gap between countries and something that is much more serious than the economic gaps between countries, rich countries and poor countries. This was the subject in the WISIS process. Now I'm concerned that we will have a human gap, individuals in the country who do not have access and resources to the artificial intelligence and who are inferior to those who have the privilege of being in an artificial intelligence community. This is very serious and those who are in that community should not feel very happy that they are in that place; believe me.

Coming back to the Wisdom Age, it is unfortunate for those who are lucky to be living in a world of those who are unlucky, and this is something politicians do not understand. They don't understand that there is a greater wisdom than just cutting the best for me: America First, me first; It doesn't work. And we have seen it isn't working. We've said it in Jordan, Jordan First. It doesn't work. We have, instead, to think of humanity as one community and as I have said in one of my recent speeches, we need to move from country communities to a human community and this takes a lot of creation of public awareness. It is in the interest of Jordan to realize that, and I'm using my country as an example because I love it and I'm

proud of it. It is our duty to see that the community around us in the region and in the world is as conducive to my interests as my own community. Countries that have concentrated on this and created around them areas of trouble, poverty, hatred and unrest are not fortunate. This must be considered, and it applies to the communities within the same country, within the regions in the country, so what I'm talking about is that we need to think and focus on humanity as one community and this is the wisdom we have not reached yet. I have not reached it. I'm trying only to analyze it and explain it; I am not claiming that I am at that level. I'm not, but I'm trying to study and see how to work, how to start and how to go in that process.

How can we together create a better world for every human being? That, after all, is the only solution. You know if you go to the books of religion or to the wisdom of the greatest wise men of history, they talk about humanity, never about a group or a religion or a sect. We must go back to the original concepts of wisdom; the pillars of wisdom are for all human beings and not for a particular group or a particular country. Saying our global partners are our strategic partners, everybody is your strategic partner because if they were not, they are your enemies and if they are your enemies, they can do as much damage as your enemy rather than your friend.

This concept of moving maybe because I am an old man, having completed 80 years and I enjoyed my life and my career. I enjoyed what I have been doing, and I am very proud of what I have achieved but

I have come to reflect now: Have I really done what I wanted to do when I started as a little school boy who used to walk four hours every day to school because I couldn't afford any kind of transportation? I decided to become at that time someone and I didn't know anything else but to become that person! Have I achieved what I should have achieved; I'm not sure because I believe that the community and the overall culture and the human culture are very much lacking. We always hear politicians talk about what they are going to do for the country; what they are going to do for their people; we do not hear political leaders talking about what they are going to do for humanity, and they forget that if your neighbors in this humanity are not targeted like you are, you can be very uncomfortable. We need this shift in what public policy is about. Again, I'm very proud, as I said, that I'm on this UN High-Level Advisory Board on Social Impact and when we talk about social impact we don't talk about local social impact; we are talking about human social impact for everybody as the only way any group of people or country or individual can be happy is when everybody around us is happy. That's why I've come to know and to realize happiness is more important than wealth, success or power. I have learned that to be loved is more important than to be powerful or feared; that is not public policy. We know that in public policy, we want the world to know how powerful we are so that we can create fear in the enemy or the other. Create love; love is much more powerful than power itself; it is the greatest power and that is what I have learned and I have enjoyed the love I have from everybody that knows me. I

go around and I see people saluting me and loving me although I have no power; I'm not powerful at all. I am an ordinary citizen but I have managed to create in my limited modest person a trend or a theme of love. Unfortunately, because they are mostly in Arabic, I cannot share with you my statements and my trendy videos on the power of love instead of power of hate, one of which has half a billion circulation.

**Dr. Lina:**

Since the students are here, we were trying to open the doors for them to understand more the region in Middle East, as we miss a lot of knowledge about this part of world. First of all, we can see the gap, but what we need to see is how we can reconstruct. You know there have been ongoing construction; now we have the opportunity to rebuild but how can we rebuild in such a wise way? the way which has more innovation, more artificial intelligence in this part of the region so maybe the students would have some questions before and we can initiate such a discussion.

**Question:**

When it comes to crises and other countries' intervention in them, who decides when it is appropriate to intervene in a crisis?

**Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh:**

Whether it was Venezuela, Palestine, Afghanistan or Yemen, is it unfair that the world just watch what is happening in Yemen, for example, thinking this is an isolated country and why should I care about what is going in Yemen, the most recent disaster? I'm not blaming anybody; I'm just talking about the situation. This is what I am talking about. The difference

between what is happening and what I am asking for is to move from crisis solution to crisis prevention. You know Americans are great in crisis management and this is something probably you studied in your courses: crisis management. I'm not talking about crisis management; I'm talking about crises prevention. If the leaders of the world spend more time on crisis prevention than they spend on crisis creation and crisis management, we would have a better world. We must become better human beings than we are today. All of us think that what happens to somebody who is starving and who is on the street not finding leafs from the trees to eat as not my concern. It takes a change of heart in this world. Most of the problems, I dare say, that we live in a human-created crisis. What happened in Iraq was human created; what happened in Afghanistan was human created; what happened in Palestine was human created; what happened in Venezuela, Peru, every country in the world that has problems is the creation of human beings. I challenge you to find a single case where the problem is not created either by self-inflection or an external party. There is no disaster in the world – I'm not talking about natural disasters of course—that has not been created either by our own selves or by somebody against us. This is what I am talking about, and this is a philosophy; it is an ideology that we have to develop; again if you want to do a study how to move from crisis creation and crisis management to crisis prevention. What we have is all created by us; in every country of the world, every community in the world, the problems are created by either by our own selves, or we are the victims of an outsider.

**Question:**

what are your thoughts on socially responsible investment?

**Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh:**

I like this question because one of the things this old man did in his life is that I have drafted the global compact of the United Nations about corporate social fairness and responsibility, not just responsibility about gender, employment and corporate social responsibility, and I have co-chaired the concerned panel with Kofi Annan and with Ban ki-moon, when the latter took over. I insisted when Kofi Annan asked me to chair it that it was a human issue, not political nor economic, or financial; It was human issue and I told him: I want you to be its chair and the only organization under the UN which is chaired with Secretary General not as a secretary general but as chairman; we were co-chairs. So I insisted that he should, for a change, and it was the only situation that I know of, where the UN secretary general was called chairman. We drafted 10 principles for a better world and I think this should be revisited and I would encourage you to do it as a research.

I have been talking about this for two decades ago, and now this document needs to be revisited and developed into a more appropriate document for today. That is because I want to move from the concept, as I said, of corporate social responsibility. Although it is a good concept, I was trying in this process to say that the companies that contribute to society are not donating; they are repaying a favor and when I talk about corporate social responsibility, I say that if companies could realize and remember that whatever they earn and

whatever money they have come from community. Therefore, when they carry out any project for the community, they are only repaying; they are not giving any favor or are doing any donation. Corporate social responsibility should be seen as a repayment for a debt, which we owe, as companies, to society. My income comes from society so I'm repaying for what society has given.

Now we need to move in that global compact from this concept of corporate global responsibility plus the other 10 principles: one on gender equality, one on employment of youth and one principle on equality in the workplace etc.

I think we need a new global compact that could be proposed to the United Nations, may be you as Chicago University is a premier school in the world. How can we develop this UN global compact to become a human global compact? Because when I do my corporate social responsibility, I mostly direct it to my community. My concept now is that we have to start thinking of the global community not my own community. Saudi Arabia will never be comfortable with a country neighboring it called Yemen, which has economic and social problems, neither would any other country in the world. The US, you think, is a prosperous country; you are lucky and you are happy. Enjoy thinking you are a prosperous country, but a prosperous country with neighbor that has problems, these problems are problems for you, too. So we need to move now from corporate global social responsibility, a term which I coined in that document, to corporate human responsibility that is not only directed to the community where I live.

It's inevitable that if we want to live in a happy world, we have to be all happy. Look at what happens in a house if one of the family members is uncomfortable, unhappy and miserable; it makes all your life miserable. This is the world we live in: It's a family that has to be taken care of by all. So my advice is we have to move beyond the concept of corporate social responsibility to corporate human responsibility.

**Question:**

Education is a transformation especially when you invest in early education. From your perspective, what advice can you give to policy makers on education?

**Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh:**

That's a very good question; I would like you to answer your own question by writing a book for children like this one [Talal, Son of Adibeh] which is being taught in schools now: It is the story of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh. The Palestinian Minister of Education has decided this story would be a reading material for all schools. I like you to write a book for children because this process has to start not only as a public awareness and research at the level of scholars and governments and media, but also at the educational level. You could write a book for children on the concept, on the theory that a happy country is the country that lives in a happy world and that a happy individual is happy when all people around them are happy.

The United States of America would be a happier country if Mexico is happy; that has to be. It is not fair to remain silent and say: I want to protect America. Fine, I want to protect America, but America would be

better protected if Mexico is happy, more so if Mexico was the enemy and I build a barrier between me and this neighbor. We must be courageous enough to speak out and say that living in a happy environment is cheaper and better than fighting in an unhappy environment. I would like you to write a book for children teaching them the philosophy that we are talking about: The transition from the world of knowledge to a world of wisdom means happiness for humanity, and that should be our target; the love of humanity is our target, and this for my own good not just because I want to be nice. I am a good friend of the USAID, which donates and generously supports, so do the many other funds in the world, and the UN. That's not what I am talking about; I'm not talking about you being good to others by giving them. I'm talking about by being good in creating a community where all are happy and good, and not because I have become very powerful and I'm able to donate.

Instead of focusing on being more powerful, more wealthy and more able to give aid, the challenge is how I can make you not in need for aid. That should be our focus in all our projects: how to make individuals not in need for us. We don't give them money, we don't give food and we don't give any kind of assistance; we try to make people independent and un-dependent on us. I would like to see books written about this to educate the children instead of books that teach me that I come first, my country first, being great, being wealthy, being powerful, being good. And these are also the principles of religions. We often forget the mood that politicians put us in all over the world. We forget the principles of religions, the real principles

of religions. We forget the real principles of wisdom. I think of the things you can do to try to write in a language addressed to children: how loving everybody in the world can make you a happier person.

**Question:**

What can be done to ensure refugee children better education, especially as a generation now is missing its chance to receive education?

**Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh:**

I have news for you: The highest internet literacy percentage in the world is in refugee camps and among Palestinian refugees. Do you know that Yemen is now one of the highest countries in terms of the use of IT in the world? And this is also a part of my other book, *Blessing of Suffering*. It also applies to the Syrian refugees in the [Za'atari Refugee Camp] whom we serve under a program with the European Union, a partnership between Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization and the EU. We have a program offering Syrian refugees in the camp bachelor and Master's degrees online from accredited universities in the world. For the Syrian refugees and the Palestinian refugees and every poor person in the world, his life line is his gadget. He doesn't have Cinema to go to; he doesn't have a garden to take his girlfriend to. His life is entirely linked to this gadget which he uses it to talk, to read, to reach out to family, to do anything. The literacy rate in Palestine is considered high compared to the western world. It is up to 95 percent.

To answer the question, what all these people need is connectivity and a gadget.

By the way, let me make an announcement which am doing for the first time.

We are now manufacturing an educational tool we called TAG Educator; it is being produced in China like your iPhone, like everything else, but this gadget designed by us and produced by us. It is intended to be affordable, because, as you know, at least 50 percent of the cost of whatever tool you are using is profit. Add to it – and this is how a company can become the greatest the largest organization in the world – that there is another 20 percent as marketing cost. So if we produced this gadget not for profit but for the sake of helping humanity, we can produce at half the cost at least with the same specs. We are going to make it with Wi-Fi and internet connectivity, of course, and access to our cloud for all educational programs. What I am trying to say is that what we need now to move in the knowledge age from the traditional concept that we need to give them schooling. They don't need it; they don't need schools; nobody needs schools. Schools are out of date. There is a famous school in Britain called “Harrow” that doesn't have any classes any more. There, students live in a hostel and teach each other. In one of my speeches, I said we should be ashamed of ourselves because if you look at the classroom over the past 150 years, the change has been zero. The only change is from sitting on the floor to sitting at desks. Look at what has happened in everything in your world: your mobile, your car and your computer. There have been technological developments in everything except in education. So forget about it: We don't need schools because the knowledge world, as I claim, is

moving from teaching to learning; there is no teacher my friends who has anything to teach you which is not on the Internet; That is why we have drop-outs; the teacher cannot have more knowledge than the knowledge in the knowledge world, so we do not need teachers and we do not need schools. Again, as chairman of the UN Global Alliance for ICT and Development, I called for making access to the Internet for everybody in the world a human right.

That is all they need: Give me access, connectivity and a tool and I will learn and will be better than you in Chicago, because I have more time to study than you do on campuses and in your beautiful gatherings in the evenings. That is because I will spend 24 hours studying. I will be better than you – and I am one person who is against camps; I think they are sources for malice than goodness.

So what we need human access to and affordability of the knowledge tool, and we are working on. We, Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization and the EU, have also

installed a dedicated internet line to the backbone directly in the US for research, accessible to all universities in the region, so universities cannot claim they don't have research facilities in the research connectivity. This dedicated internet line is already in place and we are now in the process of connecting universities to this line, which has cost a few millions to have in place to connect these universities to research community in Europe, the US and the rest of the world. That is what people need; I don't need anybody to teach me; there is nothing to teach me: I can find it; it is there. Everything the teacher is going to teach is already taught, so the focus should be on moving from teaching to learning and on educational institutions becoming places for learning rather than teaching.

**Dr. Sheila:**

Thank you very much; our students would like to present a simple gift to you.

**Student:**

kindly accept this simple gift on behalf of PICS – Chicago University.

## Talal Abu-Ghazaleh: 10 Prescriptions for Success



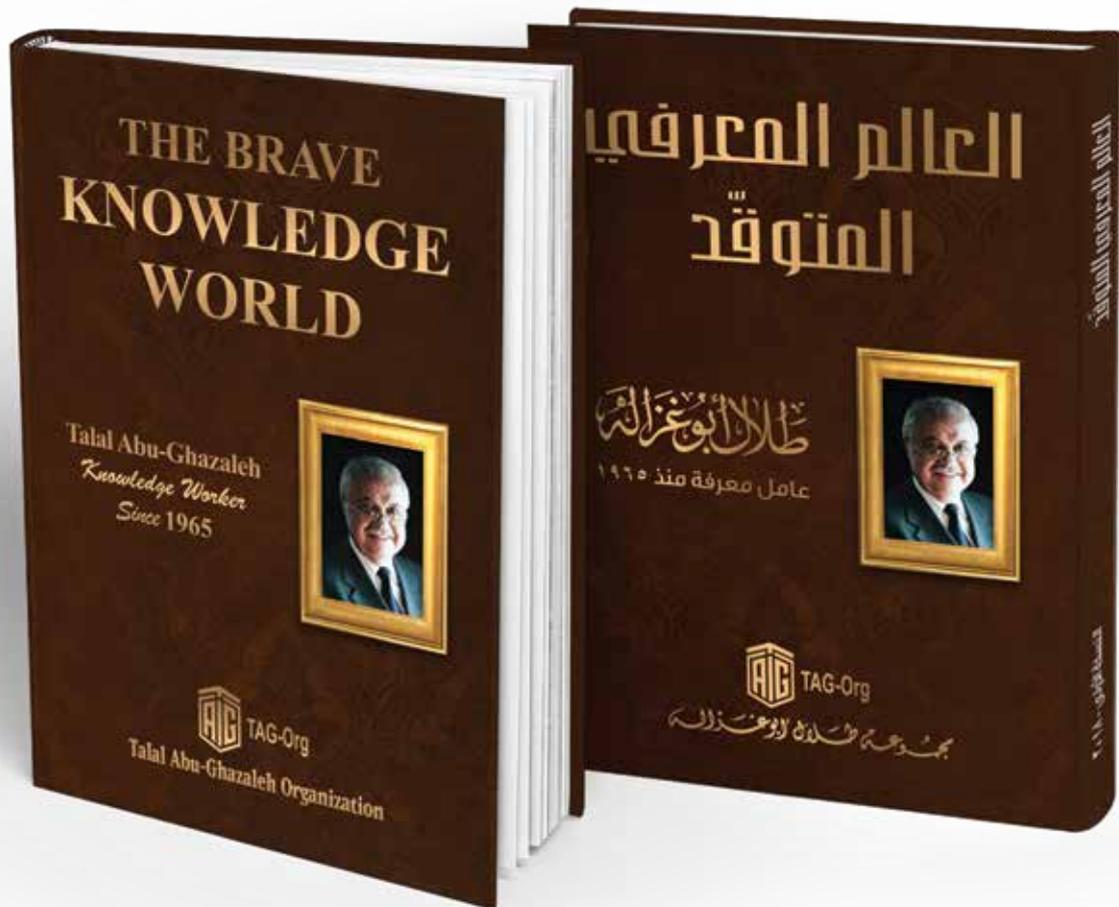
1. Hope brings luck: **Be hopeful, always.**
2. Happiness is an enabler: **Be happy, always.**
3. The objective of education is innovation: **Invent.**
4. Be a natural and perpetual student: **Never stop studying.**
5. Look for the first mover advantage: **Resist the herd instinct.**
6. Just like your non-stop heart, rest is bad for you: **Work and work.**
7. In Arabic, retired (متقاعد) means “die-seated” “!مت – قاعد”: **Never retire.**
8. Your adversaries help protect you from yourself: **Love and love everybody.**
9. Welcome adversities and failures: **Turn them into blessings and successes.**
10. At school, you learn and sit for exams: **After School, you face exams and learn.**

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh

## “The BRAVE KNOWLEDGE WORLD” Book

Written by Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh

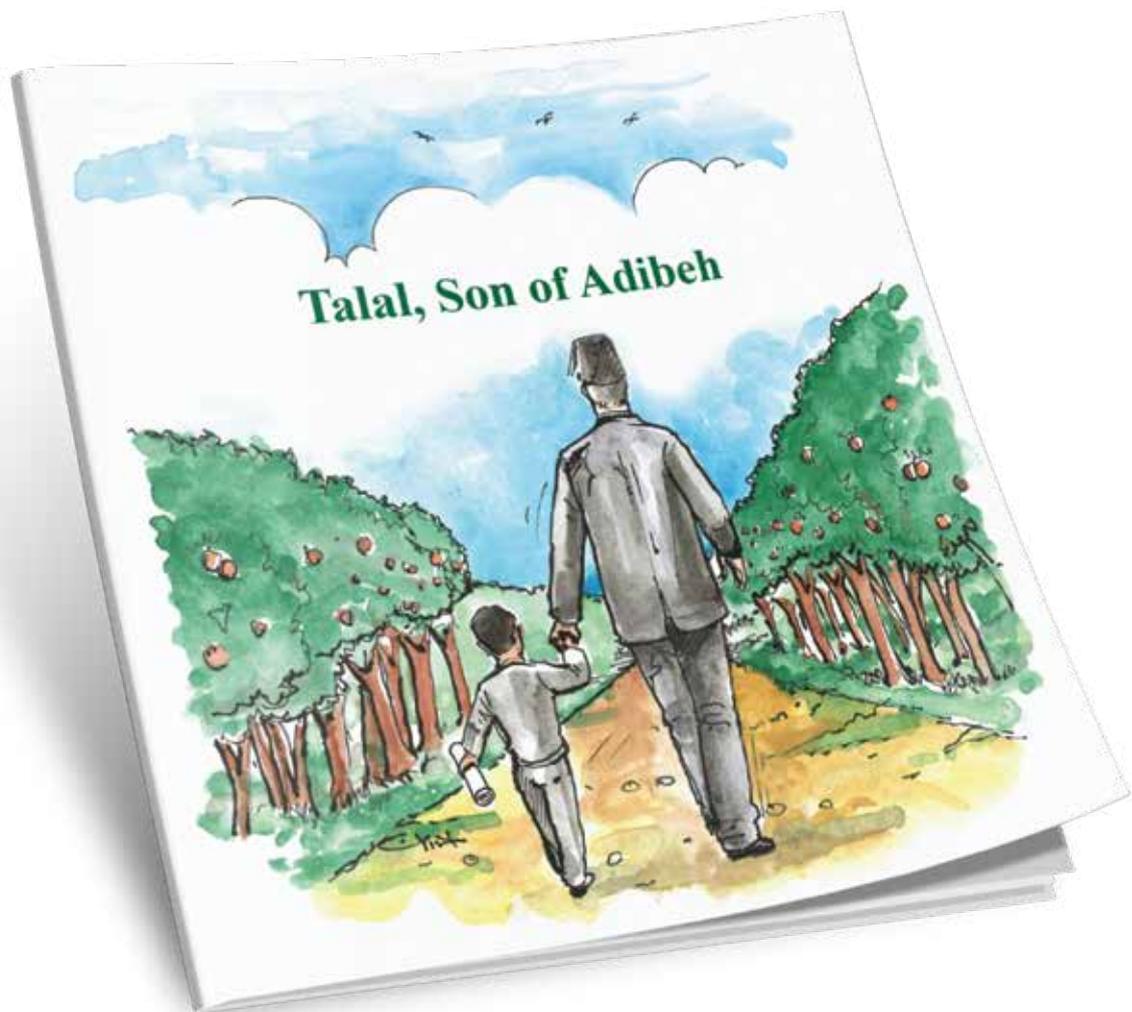
The Book depicts the author’s vision of a world of the future embraced by the knowledge revolution and technological advancement. It is a call for all involved to prepare the new leaders of tomorrow, the young generation, to innovate and create. The 184-page book comes in two versions: English and Arabic.

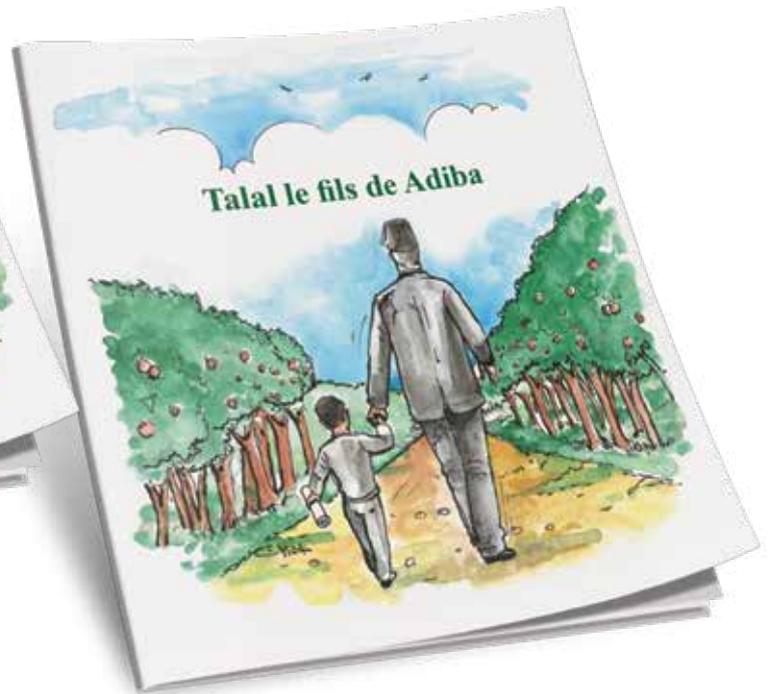
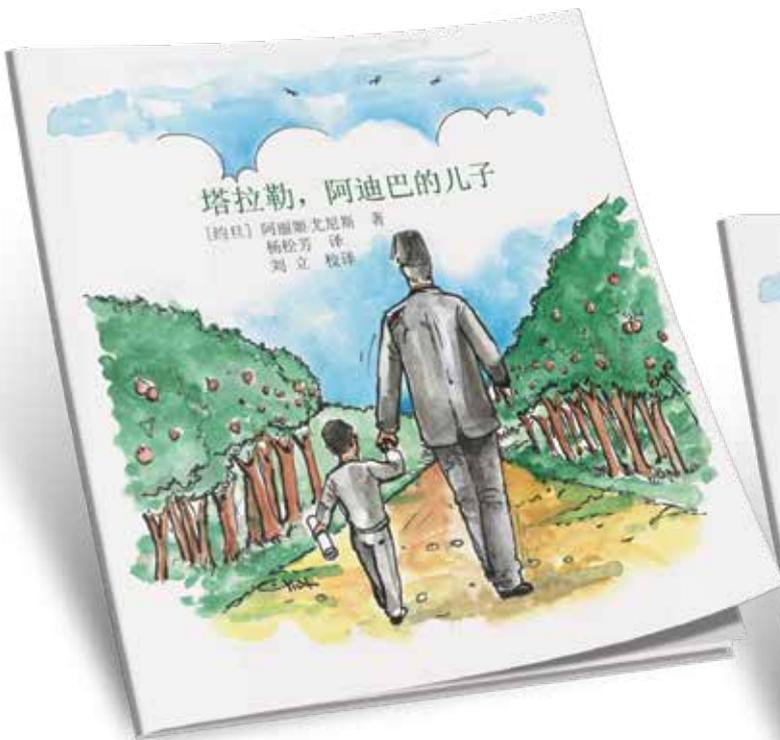
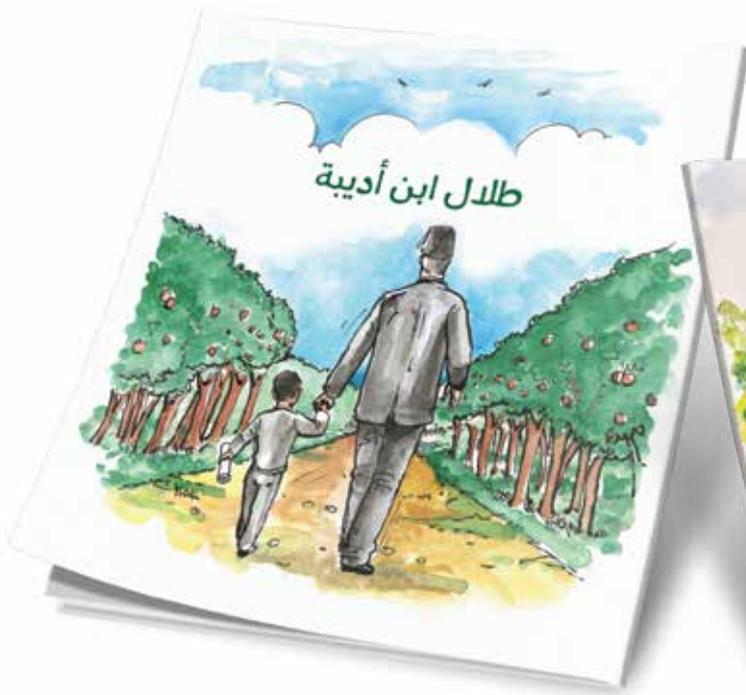


## TALAL, SON OF ADIBEH

This story will give you a lesson in challenging difficulties and a model of success despite the difficulties and hurdles. It is a story of a child who grows up to become a legend, after facing unimaginable suffering throughout his life. However, he never gave up and rose to the challenge of facing his circumstances to build a prosperous future for himself, his family, country and nation. He became a prominent Arab figure serving as an example of genius, creativity, leadership and success, establishing a name for himself as a key character in intellectual, social and humanitarian arenas.

The story has the rights of printing and publishing in many countries of the world, and has been translated into various vital languages.





[ In Our 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ]



[ Our Leadership in Capacity Building ]

-  Translated pages in different languages: +10,000,000
-  Professional reports issued by TAG-Org: + 1,000,000
-  Professionals trained at TAG-Org: + 500,000
-  Professional certificates granted by TAG-Org: +500,000
-  Talal Abu-Ghazaleh International Certificate in IT: +250,000
-  Contracted advisers on the tenders database: +50,000
-  Contracted trainers on the training database: +10,000
-  TAG-Org Affiliated Training Centers: + 1,000

[ Our International Status ]

-  Total clients in all services and activities: +1,000,000
-  Trademarks registered around the world: + 500,000
-  Intellectual property rights managed: +100,000
-  Annual increase in the number of clients: +25,000
-  Our company in auditing is among global top 20
-  Best IP Firm in the Middle East for 9 Years
-  Number of convictions against us worldwide: 0
-  Inducted to the IP Hall of Fame, Chicago 2007

[ Our Consulting Services ]

-  Archived documents by TAG-Org: + 150,000,000
-  Trademarks in the IPPR database: + 2,000,000
-  Scientific subjects in TAGEPEDIA: + 1,000,000
-  Conducted projects' feasibility studies: + 10,000
-  Restructured institutions by TAG-Org: + 4,000
-  Qualified organizations to receive ISO certificates: + 400
-  Members of the ISO International Committee since 1995

[ Our Knowledge-based Achievements ]

-  Annual global online outreach: + 30,000,000
-  150 databases with classified records: + 500,000
-  Developed E-Software solutions to serve clients: 100
-  TAG-Org's websites for all services & activities: 60
-  TAG-Org has its own internet line: TAG-ISP
-  Constructed and own TAG-Computing Cloud
-  The first International Accredited Domain Name Registrar

[ Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Foundation (CSR) ]

-  Our knowledge stations serving communities: 200 | Our fully operated & funded capacity building institutions: 50
-  Talal Abu-Ghazaleh allocates 50% of its annual profits to Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Foundation and invests the other half in developing the Organization's capacities and expanding activities

## The Global Organization for Professional Services and Education

www.tagorg.com

### JORDAN (Regional Office):

- ① Amman - Head Office    ② Amman Office    ③ Amman (University)    ④ Irbid    ⑤ Maan

### ASIA

**TAG-Org Offices:** **AFGHANISTAN:** ⑥ Kabul, **BAHRAIN:** ⑦ Manama, **CHINA:** ⑨ Beijing, ⑨ Chengdu, ⑩ Guangzhou, ⑪ Shanghai, **INDIA:** ⑫ Bangalore, ⑬ Mumbai, ⑭ New Delhi, **INDONESIA:** ⑮ Jakarta, **IRAN:** ⑯ Tehran, **IRAQ:** ⑰ Baghdad, ⑱ Erbil, **KAZAKHSTAN:** ⑲ Almaty, **KUWAIT:** ⑳ Kuwait, **LEBANON:** ⑳ Beirut (AGIP), ㉒ Beirut (TAG-Audit), **MALAYSIA:** ㉓ Kuala Lumpur, **OMAN:** ㉔ Muscat, ㉕ Salalah, ㉖ Duqm, **PAKISTAN:** ㉗ Karachi, ㉘ Lahore, **PALESTINE:** ㉙ Gaza, ㉚ Ramallah, **QATAR:** ㉛ Doha, **SAUDI ARABIA:** ㉜ Khobar, ㉝ Riyadh, ㉞ Jeddah, **SOUTH KOREA:** ㉟ Seoul, **SRI LANKA:** ㊱ Colombo, **SYRIA:** ㊲ Damascus, **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES:** ㊳ Abu-Dhabi, ㊴ Ajman, ㊵ Al-Ain, ㊶ Hamriya, ㊷ Sharjah, ㊸ Dubai, ㊹ Jebel Ali, ㊺ Ras Al-Khaimah, ㊻ Um Al-Quwain, ㊼ Fujairah, **VIETNAM:** ㊽ Hanoi, **YEMEN:** ㊾ Sana'a.

**Liaison Offices:** **AUSTRALIA:** ㊿ Sydney, **BANGLADESH:** ① Dhaka, **CHINA:** ② Hong Kong, **JAPAN:** ③ Osaka, **NEW ZEALAND:** ④ Wellington, **SINGAPORE:** ⑤ Singapore, **UZBEKISTAN:** ⑥ Tashkent.

### AFRICA

**TAG-Org Offices:** **ALGERIA:** ⑦ Algeria, **CAMEROON (Covering 15 Countries):** ⑧ Douala, **EGYPT:** ⑨ Cairo, **ETHIOPIA:** ⑩ Addis Ababa, **KENYA:** ⑪ Nairobi, **LIBYA:** ⑫ Tripoli, **MOROCCO:** ⑬ Casablanca, **NIGERIA:** ⑭ Abuja, **SOUTH AFRICA:** ⑮ Johannesburg, **SUDAN:** ⑯ Khartoum, **TANZANIA:** ⑰ Dar es Salaam, **TUNISIA:** ⑱ Tunis.

**Liaison Offices:** **DJIBOUTI:** ⑲ Djibouti

### EUROPE

**TAG-Org Offices:** **FRANCE:** ⑦ Paris, **MALTA:** ⑧ San Gwann, **RUSSIA:** ⑨ Moscow, **TURKEY:** ⑩ Ankara.

**Liaison Offices:** **BELGIUM:** ⑦ Brussels, **CYPRUS:** ⑧ Nicosia, **GERMANY:** ⑨ Dusseldorf, **FINLAND:** ⑩ Helsinki, **HUNGARY:** ⑪ Budapest, **ITALY:** ⑫ Rome, **NORWAY:** ⑬ Oslo, **SWITZERLAND:** ⑭ Geneva, ⑮ Zurich, **TURKEY:** ⑯ Istanbul, **DENMARK:** ⑰ Copenhagen, **POLAND:** ⑱ Warsaw, **SPAIN:** ⑲ Madrid, **SWEDEN:** ⑳ Stockholm, **UNITED KINGDOM:** ㉑ London.

### NORTH AMERICA

**TAG-Org Offices:** **CANADA:** ⑧ Montréal, **MEXICO:** ⑨ Mexico City.

**Liaison Offices:** **CANADA:** ⑩ Ottawa, **PANAMA:** ⑪ Panama City.

### SOUTH AMERICA

**TAG-Org Offices:** **BRAZIL:** ⑧ Rio de Janeiro, **CHILE:** ⑨ Santiago, **VENEZUELA:** ⑩ Caracas.

**Liaison Offices:** **ARGENTINA:** ⑪ Buenos Aires, **COLOMBIA:** ⑫ Bogotá.

**OUR MOTTO:**  
**“IF YOU STOP GETTING BETTER,  
YOU STOP BEING GOOD”**



**Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Knowledge Forum**

---

TAG-Org Building  
46 Abdel Rahim Al-Waked Street, Shmeisani,  
Amman, Jordan  
P.O. Box: 921100 Amman 11192, Jordan  
Tel: +962 6 5100 900  
Fax: +962 6 5100 901

---

**[info@tag-forum.org](mailto:info@tag-forum.org)**  
**[www.tag-forum.org](http://www.tag-forum.org)**  
**[www.tagorg.com](http://www.tagorg.com)**