

Al Arabiya  
June 2, 2017

**Arab Coalition: We welcome handover of Hudaydah port to neutral party**

An official source from the Arab Coalition welcomed the statements of the UN envoy to Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed in the Security Council, in which he called on the Houthi militias to hand over the Yemeni port of Hudaydah to a neutral party.

The source said these statements are a confirmation of the previous claims made by the coalition, which called for the United Nations to take charge of port supervision to protect the Yemeni people from the smuggling of weapons carried out by the militias, and the confiscation of humanitarian aid and medical access through the port.

The source pointed out that the result reached by the UN envoy, is the same "which we called and stressed the importance of taking early to protect the Yemeni people."

Ould Cheikh expressed his regret over the lack of participation of the Houthi militias and the forces of ousted president Ali Abdullāh Saleh in a meeting to discuss this proposal in order to exploit the port for the introduction of humanitarian materials and commercial products.

The source said that the international envoy to Yemen said in his briefing to the Security Council the importance of using customs and tax revenues from the port of Hudaydah to finance salaries and basic services instead of exploiting them for war or personal benefits.

The source renewed the call of the Arab Coalition for the Support of Legitimacy government in Yemen to pressure the Houthis and force them to implement all relevant international resolutions, especially resolution 2216.

The source confirmed the readiness of the Coalition to support the relief efforts to ensure the flow of medical and food aid to the port of Hudaydah for the Yemeni people to access humanitarian relief.

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**Remarks With Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir Before Their Meeting**

Remarks

Rex W. Tillerson, Secretary of State  
Treaty Room, Washington, DC

June 13, 2017

**SECRETARY TILLERSON:** Good morning, all. So welcome again, Your Excellency, to the State Department.

**FOREIGN MINISTER AL-JUBEIR:** Thank you. Always a pleasure.

**SECRETARY TILLERSON:** It's always a pleasure to see you here.

**FOREIGN MINISTER AL-JUBEIR:** Thank you. I look forward to our discussions.

**SECRETARY TILLERSON:** I look forward to our discussions, too.

**FOREIGN MINISTER AL-JUBEIR:** Thank you.

**SECRETARY TILLERSON:** Thank you.

**FOREIGN MINISTER AL-JUBEIR:** Thank you.

**SECRETARY TILLERSON:** Thanks, everyone.

**QUESTION:** Your Excellency, (inaudible) --

**QUESTION:** Foreign Minister Jubeir, is there more steps to meet the blockade?

**QUESTION:** It seems Qatar is (inaudible) --

**FOREIGN MINISTER AL-JUBEIR:** There is -- there is no blockade of Qatar. Qatar is free to go -- the ports are open, the airports are open. What we have done is we have denied them use of our airspace, and this is our sovereign right. The limitation on the use of Saudi airspace is only limited to Qatari airways or Qatari-owned aircraft, not anybody else. The seaports of Qatar are open; there is no blockade on them. Qatar can move goods in and out whenever they want; they just cannot use our territorial waters.

So technically, this is not a blockade. We have exercised our sovereign right to prohibit them from using our airspace. We have allowed the movement of families between the two countries to happen so that we don't divide families, and we are prepared to provide Qatar with food and medical supplies, should they need this, through the King Salman Center. Thank you.

**QUESTION:** (Inaudible.)

**QUESTION:** Have you opened the Saudi-Qatar border?

**QUESTION:** Mr. Secretary, can the U.S. be a neutral arbiter?

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SAUDI ARABIA

and

REGIONAL SECURITY

## Qatar's History of Funding Terrorism and Extremism

Qatar has long shown negligence in combatting terrorism within its borders. Despite assurances from Qatari leadership that the country was fighting the flow of funds from within its country to extremist groups, the country has done little to show progress or proof of these efforts.

### Turning a Blind Eye to Terrorism and Terror Financing

The U.S. has been critical of Qatar's lack of dedication and carelessness in stopping terror financing. Despite international efforts to impose sanctions on private terrorism supporters within the country, the Qatari government has made no progress in stopping the flow of finances to extremists.

Acting Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Adam Szubin reiterated this lack of progress in October 2016. According to Szubin, Qatar "still lacks the necessary political will and capacity to effectively enforce their CFT [Counter the Financing of Terrorism] laws against all terrorist financing threats regardless of organization or affiliation."

### Support for ISIS, Al-Qaeda and Al-Nusra

Dangerous groups such as AQAP, Daesh (ISIS) and the Taliban have targeted Qatar as a source for fundraising. Additionally, funds originating in Qatar are still being sent to groups that much of the world designates as terrorist organizations, including Al-Nusra, Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood.

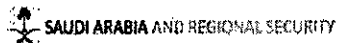
In 2015, the U.S. State Department's Country Report on Terrorism for Qatar confirmed this, arguing that, "Entities and individuals within Qatar continue to serve as a source of financial support for terrorist and violent extremist groups, particularly regional al-Qa'ida (Al-Qaeda) affiliates such as the Nusrah Front."

According to David Andrew Weinberg of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, being able to secure illicit funding from Qatari financiers was an important factor in Al-Nusra's decision to rebrand itself. Weinberg writes:

*"It is particularly vital to evaluate Qatar's record on terror finance in light of the Nusrah Front's July 2016 decision to rebrand itself as Jabhat Fateh al-Sham (JFS), which purports to have 'no relationship with any foreign party.'"*

Qatar's support for terrorist organizations has caused chaos in countries throughout the region. Elizabeth Dickinson of Foreign Policy wrote in September 2014 that Qatar, "played a major role in destabilizing nearly every trouble spot in the region and in accelerating the growth of radical and jihadi factions."

"The results have ranged from bad to catastrophic in the countries that are the beneficiaries of Qatari aid: Libya is mired in a war between proxy-funded militias, Syria's opposition has been overwhelmed by infighting and overtaken by extremists, and Hamas's intransigence has arguably helped prolong the Gaza



Strip's humanitarian plight," wrote Dickinson. "For years, U.S. officials have been willing to shrug off Doha's proxy network — or even take advantage of it from time to time. Qatar's neighbors, however, have not."

## Support for Hamas

Qatar has established itself as an indispensable ally to Hamas, a U.S.-designated terrorist organization that has controlled the Gaza Strip since 2007. Despite the U.S. designation, Qatari Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani stated in June 2017 that Hamas is "a legitimate resistance movement."

According to the U.S. Treasury's Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, "Qatar, a longtime U.S. ally, has for many years openly financed Hamas."

In a June 2017 hearing for the Middle East and North Africa Subcommittee, Chairwoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) expressed support for Saudi Arabia's actions to hold Qatar responsible for its support of Hamas.

"Many of us on this subcommittee have been calling attention to Qatar's history of financing terror — including its support for Hamas and its unwillingness to support existing sanctions against individuals within its borders," Ros-Lehtinen said. "Qatar has long been a permissive terrorist financing environment, and if nothing else, this Saudi-led response will at least get the conversation started. This is the same Qatar which was entrusted to monitor the Taliban 5 — even though we knew it continued to fund ISIS, Hamas, the Taliban, the Muslim Brotherhood and countless other extremist groups. This is a conversation we need to be having."

## Support for the Muslim Brotherhood

Qatar is a known ally and supporter of the Muslim Brotherhood. Qatar has been conducting a destabilizing campaign through its support of the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

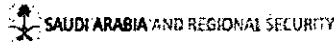
Qatar promotes the Muslim Brotherhood's agenda through its Al Jazeera Network. One of the major connections between the extremism organization and the news network has been the broadcast of Sheikh Yusuf al-Qaradawi, who openly lives in Qatar.

Qatar has been accused of supporting a Muslim Brotherhood terrorist cell discovered in the UAE in 2012 and has financed Muslim Brother activities in Europe

## Congressional Concern

Members of Congress have expressed concern over Qatari funding of terrorism. Examples include:

**Letter to the Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, Department of the Treasury David S. Cohen from Rep. Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Rep. Ted Deutch (D-FL), Rep. Ted Poe (R-TX) and Rep. Brad Sherman (D-CA) and cosigned by 20 additional Members of Congress, December 2016:** *"Qatar's \$400 million donation for Gaza reconstruction in 2012 bolstered Hamas' credibility in Gaza and may have directly supported Hamas-backed entities. Qatar also allows Hamas'*



*top leader, politburo chief Khalid Mishaal, to operate out of its territory knowingly and with impunity. It was even widely reported in the press that Qatar threatened to deport Mishaal if Hamas had accepted an Egypt-backed ceasefire agreement to end this summer's conflict in Gaza."*

*"We are concerned about the ties between Qatar and Hamas, and we commend you on your speech before the Center for a New American Security, where you stated that, 'Qatar, a longtime U.S. ally, has for many years openly financed Hamas,' and that press reports indicate that the Qatari government is also 'supporting extremist groups operating in Syria,' further adding to the instability of the region. As you noted in your speech, there are private fundraising networks in Qatar that solicit donations for terrorists. Qatar, in your words, is 'a permissive terrorist financing environment.'"*

**Letter to Secretary of the Treasury Jacob Lew from Sen. Mark Kirk (R-IL), May 2016:** *"Amid recent news reports that blacklisted foreign terrorist financiers remain active on social media, I write to express grave concern about Qatar's permissive environment for terrorist financing. For over a decade, the Qatari government has displayed leniency and negligence toward individuals who support and finance ISIS, its predecessor Al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI), and other terrorist groups...To this day, terrorist financiers—including those designated by the United States and the United Nations—continue to enjoy such impunity in Qatar."*

**Letter to Secretary of Defense Ash Carter from Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO), February 2015:** *"The Qatari government turns a blind eye to terrorist fundraising for Al Qaeda and the Islamic State by U.S.-designated persons within its borders... Qatar is now known as the world's safe haven for terrorist groups and militia leaders... Qatar's efforts to curb terror finance are woefully inadequate."*

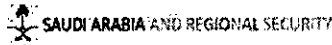
**Letter to Secretary of the Treasury Jack Lew from Reps. Peter J. Roskam (R-IL) and Brad Sherman (D-CA), December 2014:** *"Members of Qatar's ruling family, as well as its citizens and charity organizations, have long supported radical Islamist groups, including U.S.-designated terrorist organizations Hamas, al-Qaeda, and the al-Nusra Front."*

**Letter to Secretary of State John Kerry and Secretary of the Treasury Jack Lew from Rep. Peter Roskam (R-IL), July 2014:** *"I am deeply concerned that your close work with Qatar in pursuit of a Gaza ceasefire rewards, bolsters, and legitimizes Qatar's longstanding sponsorship of the terrorist organization Hamas. The severity of the current conflict and possibility for even greater escalation underscores how we must hold Qatar and all those who sponsor terrorism accountable for these reprehensible crimes rather than look the other way as Doha enables terrorism against Israel."*

**Letter to Ambassador Mohamed bin Abdulla Al-Rumaihi from 24 Member of Congress, August 2013:** *"We write to express concern over the expanding diplomatic and economic ties between your government and Hamas, a U.S.-designated Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO)... We are disturbed by reports that Qatar pledged over \$400 million in funds to Hamas in October 2012."*

## Shielding Known Terrorists

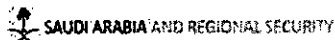
Qatar has done little to assist the U.S. and international counterterrorism efforts. Several individuals in Qatar are on sanctions lists for supporting terrorist activities, but continue to operate within the country's borders.



In February 2016, former Treasury Assistant Secretary for Terrorist Financing Daniel Glaser, now a board member of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies Center on Sanctions and Illicit Finance, criticized the pace and determination of Qatar's counterterrorism efforts. "There continue(s) to be designated terrorist financiers operating openly and notoriously," argued Glaser.

Some of the known terrorists linked to Qatar include:

- **Sa'd bin Sa'd Muhammad Shariyan Al-Ka'bi:** Qatari financier of Al-Qaeda affiliate Al-Nusrah in Syria.
  - Established donation campaigns in Qatar to aid a fundraising request from Al-Nusrah in order to purchase weapons and food.
  - Worked to facilitate a ransom payment to Al-Nusrah in exchange for a hostage being held by the terror organization.
  - Named Specially Designated Global Terrorist and sanctioned by the U.S. Treasury Department on August 5, 2015.
  - Listed on UN Security Council Sanction List on September 21, 2015.
- **Abdallah Salih Muhammad Al-Kawari:** Qatar-based Al-Qaeda financier and security official.
  - Coordinated the delivery of Qatari-financing to support Al-Qaeda and facilitated international travel for an Al-Qaeda foreign donor carrying tens of thousands of dollars earmarked for Al-Qaeda.
  - Named Specially Designated Global Terrorist and sanctioned by the U.S. Treasury Department on August 5, 2015.
  - Listed on UN Security Council Sanction List on September 21, 2015.
- **Ashraf Muhammad Yusuf 'Uthman 'Abd al-Salam:** Jordanian national, with Qatari ID card, financier and operative for Al-Nusrah and Al-Qaeda.
  - Facilitated the travel of military trainers to Syria to train Al-Nusrah in 2012.
  - Facilitated the transfer of hundreds of thousands of dollars from U.S.- and UN-designated financier and Qatar-based Khalifa Muhammad Turki al-Subaiy intended for Al-Qaeda in Pakistan.
  - Named Specially Designated Global Terrorist and sanctions by the U.S. Treasury Department on September 24, 2014.
- **'Abd al-Malik Muhammad Yusuf 'Uthman 'Abd al-Salam (AKA Umar al-Qatari):** Jordanian national, with Qatari ID card, financier, recruiter and operative for Al-Nusrah.
  - Gave thousands of dollars and materials to support Al-Qaeda in Syria in 2012.
  - Coordinated the transfer of thousands of dollars from UN and U.S.-designated Qatari Al-Qaeda financier Khalifa Muhammad Turki al-Subaiy to AQ senior leadership.
  - Named Specially Designated Global Terrorist and sanctioned by the U.S. Treasury Department on September 24, 2014.
  - Listed on UN Security Council Sanction List on January 23, 2015.



- **Ibrahim 'Isa Hajji Muhammad al-Bakr: Qatar-based financier and logical supporter of Al-Qaeda and the Taliban in Pakistan and Afghanistan.**
  - Served as a link between Gulf-based terrorist financiers and Al-Qaeda and the Taliban in Afghanistan.
  - Played a key role in a terrorist cell plotting a 2006 attack on U.S. military bases in Qatar.
  - Named Specially Designated Global Terrorist and sanctioned by the U.S. Treasury Department on September 24, 2014.
  - Released by Qatari authorities after promising not to conduct terror activity in Qatar, according to a September 2014 U.S. Treasury Department terror designation.
  
- **Abd al Rahman bin Umayr al Nu'aymi: Qatar-based terrorist financier and facilitator.**
  - Provided money and material support to Al-Qaeda affiliates in Syria, Iraq, Somalia and Yemen for more than 10 years.
  - Considered among the most prominent Qatar-based supporters of extremists.
  - Oversaw the transfer of more than \$2 million per month to Al-Qaeda in Iraq.
  - Named Specially Designated Global Terrorist and sanctioned by the UN on September 23, 2014 and U.S. Treasury Department on December 18, 2013.
  
- **Khalifa Muhammad Turki al-Subaiy: Known Al-Qaeda associate and financier.**
  - Participated in financing, planning, facilitating, preparing or perpetrating of acts or activities of Al-Qaeda.
  - Listed on the UN Security Council Sanctions list on October 10, 2008.

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SAUDI ARABIA

# IN FOCUS

MAY 2017

SAUDI ARABIA WELCOMES PRESIDENT TRUMP

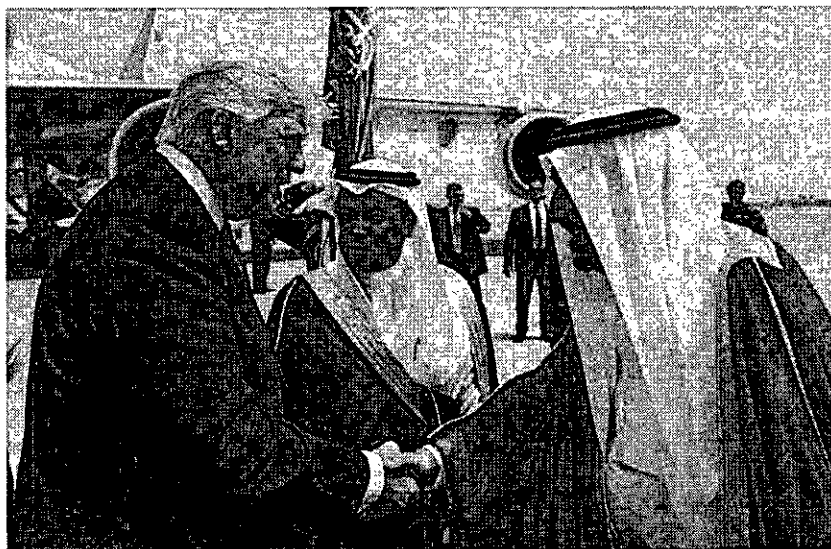
## President Trump Makes Historic Visit to Saudi Arabia

In May, United States President Donald J. Trump made history: For the first time, a U.S. President traveled to Saudi Arabia on his first foreign trip, engaging in discussions with Saudi Arabia and other nations that resulted in several agreements and, ultimately, the strengthening of the critical Saudi-U.S. relationship.

The two countries engaged in a series of talks aimed at reaffirming the longstanding Saudi-U.S. partnership and strengthening the close ties between the two countries. These talks resulted in the formulation of the Joint Strategic Vision Declaration, which ensured that both nations will dedicate themselves to strengthening their Strategic Partnership for the 21st Century.

According to the declaration, "The United States of America and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia seek to embark on new initiatives to counter violent extremist messaging, disrupt financing of terrorism, and advance defense cooperation."

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King Salman welcomes President Trump in Riyadh, May 20, 2017.

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**SAUDI ARABIA**  
**IN FOCUS**

**NOTABLE QUOTES**

*"As we extend our thanks to and appreciation of [President Trump] for his response to attend and participate in this summit, we reaffirm our happiness and gratitude for His Excellency's choice of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and this summit as His Excellency's first trip and external participation since assuming office."*

- Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz, May 21, 2017

*"This historic and unprecedented gathering of leaders—unique in the history of nations—is a symbol to the world of our shared resolve and our mutual respect. To the leaders and citizens of every country assembled here today, I want you to know that the United States is eager to form closer bonds of friendship, security, culture and commerce."*

- President Donald J. Trump, May 21, 2017

Furthermore, the declaration lays out a vision for a "robust, integrated regional security architecture," recognizing that such infrastructure is necessary for successful cooperation.

The two countries will form a Strategic Joint Consultative Group to chart the course of the strategic partnership. The group will meet at least once per year, alternating between the two countries, to review areas of cooperation and continually strengthen efforts toward collaboration.

The two leaders also agreed on the necessity of containing Iran's interference in the internal

affairs of Saudi Arabia and other regional states, encouragement of sectarianism, continued support of terrorism and militant proxy groups, and efforts to destabilize the region.

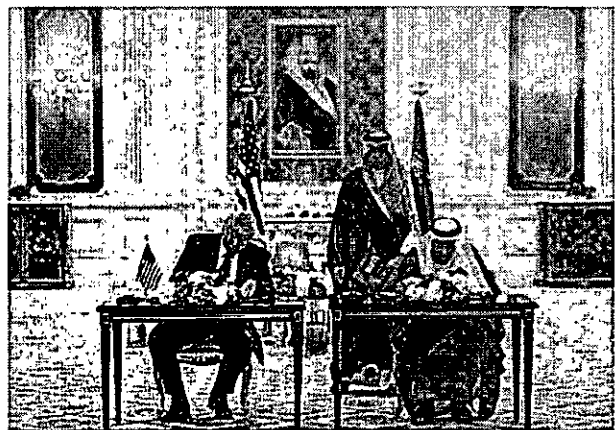
Additionally, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz and President Trump recognized the importance of economic ties between Saudi Arabia and the U.S., and took steps to increase trade and investment, develop joint economic projects, and create jobs in both countries. The visit resulted in investment and trade agreements with a potential value of more than \$350 billion.

**Saudi Arabia Unveils Center for Combating Extremism**

On May 21, King Salman inaugurated the new Global Center for Combating Extremist Ideology. President Donald Trump joined the King for the opening of the Center, further underlining the close cooperation that Saudi Arabia and the U.S. enjoy in combating extremism.

The Center, headquartered in Riyadh, builds upon and extends the growing international cooperation in combating extremist ideology, and will use innovative techniques to fight the growth of terrorism and destroy its allure for vulnerable young people by promoting moderation and encouraging positive dialogue.

The Center will monitor, process and analyze extremist speech online in a number of languages and dialects, relying on technology that can process and analyze data in six seconds.



## Three Summits, One Vision: President Trump Ramps Up Regional Engagement in Riyadh

Following the unprecedented Saudi-U.S. Summit, President Donald Trump participated in two other major forums during his visit to Riyadh: a GCC-U.S. Summit and the Arab Islamic American Summit. All participants are hopeful that the administration's commitment to ramp up engagement and dialogue will help solve the region's most pressing problems.

The GCC-U.S. summit yielded the reaffirmation of the strategic partnership between the two parties. A number of issues were discussed, including a commitment to tackling the root causes of crises in the Middle East, the need for more urgent steps to address threats posed by Daesh (ISIS) and Al-Qaeda, and the rejection of Iran's continued interference in the internal affairs of the GCC states and other regional countries.

King Salman expressed his optimism about the outcomes of the meetings in his remarks at the Arab Islamic American Summit on May 21.

"The meeting significantly shows that our 55 Arab and Islamic countries attending the summit today with a population exceeding 1.5 billion, are an important partner in fighting the forces of extremism and terrorism and achieving world peace, security and stability," said King Salman. "His Excellency [President Trump] holds many hopes and aspirations for cooperation with the Arab and Muslim world."

President Trump also gave a speech in which he spelled out the necessity for cooperation between the U.S. and the entire region.

"You also hosted me in the treasured home of King Abdulaziz, the founder of the Kingdom who united your great people," President Trump remarked. "Working alongside another beloved leader – American President Franklin Roosevelt – King Abdulaziz began the enduring partnership between our two countries. King Salman: your father would be so proud to see that you are continuing his legacy – and just as he opened the first chapter in our partnership, today we begin a new chapter that will bring lasting benefits to our citizens."

President Trump laid out the U.S. commitment to work alongside Arab and Muslim nations to defeat terrorism and extremism.

"This is not a battle between different faiths, different sects, or different civilizations," he said. "This is a battle between barbaric criminals who seek to obliterate human life, and decent people of all religions who seek to protect it. This is a battle between good and evil."

This sentiment was echoed by Foreign Minister Adel bin Ahmed Al-Jubeir at a joint press conference with Secretary of State Rex Tillerson.

"Unless we are able to move [away] from notions of a clash of civilizations and move towards a partnership among civilizations, we will not be able to eradicate the scourge of terrorism," said Minister Al-Jubeir.

## Saudi Arabia and U.S. to Co-Chair Terrorist Financing Targeting Center

Saudi Arabia and the United States signed an agreement on May 21 announcing the intent to establish the Terrorist Financing Center (TFTC).

The TFTC marks a collaborative approach to confronting new and evolving threats from terrorist financing, leveraging existing tools and formalizing cooperation between the U.S., Saudi Arabia and partners in the Gulf.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin praised the agreement, pointing to the benefits of enhanced cooperation between the two countries.

"This new Terrorist Financing Targeting Center will enhance existing tools and cooperation with partners in the Gulf to forcefully address evolving threats," Secretary Mnuchin said. "Treasury will offer the vast expertise of our Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence to this creative new effort. We will co-chair the TFTC with Saudi Arabia, and will work collaboratively with the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council to counter these global terror networks."



## Saudi-U.S. CEO Summit Yields Billions in Investments

As President Donald Trump traveled to Saudi Arabia, another high profile event was being held in tandem in Riyadh: the inaugural Saudi-U.S. CEO Forum, attended by more than 100 CEOs and leaders of the most influential companies in Saudi Arabia and the U.S. Saudi and U.S. companies signed investment and trade agreements worth \$350 billion. The agreements are expected to drive economic growth and create jobs in both the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson commented on the agreements during a press briefing with Foreign Minister Adel Al-Jubeir,

"We expect that these investments over the next 10 years or so will provide hundreds of thousands of jobs in both the United States and Saudi Arabia," said Secretary Tillerson. "They will lead to a transfer of technology from the U.S. to Saudi Arabia, enhance our economy, and also enhance American investments in Saudi Arabia, which already are the largest investments of anyone."

The agreements are in line with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 plan for economic development and reform. Dr. Majed Al-Kassabi, Minister for Commerce and Investment in Saudi Arabia, emphasized that the agreements demonstrate the fast diversification that the Kingdom's economy is currently undergoing.

"The sheer breadth and scale of these agreements epitomize the accelerating diversification of the Kingdom's economy into high-growth sectors such as technology, industrial manufacturing and aerospace, creating and safeguarding 250,000 jobs both in Saudi Arabia and the U.S.," he said.

The agreements covered a number of sectors, including defense, energy, oil and gas, chemicals, infrastructure, technology and digital solutions, healthcare and pharmaceuticals.

## Arms Deal Bolsters Saudi Defense, Creates U.S. Jobs

While in Riyadh, President Trump and King Salman signed a defense package worth nearly \$110 billion, aimed at building the security capabilities of Saudi Arabia and contributing to job creation in the U.S.

The package of defense equipment will contribute to the long-term security of Saudi Arabia, increasing capabilities to fight terrorism in the region and effectively contribute to regional security. The sale includes air force modernization, with improvements to

systems and training that will enable the Kingdom to continue its air campaign against Daesh targets in Syria.

The arms sale demonstrates the U.S. commitment to Saudi Arabia, while expanding opportunities for American companies in the region and supporting tens of thousands of new jobs in the United States. Approximately 1.2 million Americans work in the aerospace and defense sectors.



ROYAL EMBASSY OF SAUDI ARABIA

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## Questions to ask Qatar

There is much in the public record that points to Qatar's active support of terrorist organizations and failure to take the steps to put a stop to terror-related activities within its borders.

**In pursuit of the truth, Qatar should respond to these questions:**

1. A leaked memo sent by Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi showed that Qatar funneled as much as \$500 million to Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)-supported Iraqi Shia militias as ransom payment earlier this year. Some believe this is the largest ransom payment in history. Why does Qatar think it is acceptable to fund these militias causing chaos throughout the Middle East?
2. The Nusra Front is an Al-Qaeda affiliate in Syria responsible for the murder of thousands of people. It has been designated a terrorist organization around the world. But Qatar funds the group directly and through ransom payments. Will Qatar stop funding Al-Nusra and other Al-Qaeda linked organizations and join other responsible nations in sanctioning it?
3. There are at least seven U.S. Treasury-designated Al-Qaeda fundraisers living freely in Qatar. Will Qatar take any action to prosecute, sanction or limit their activities?
4. Qatar's support for terrorism is not new. The country signed the Riyadh Agreement in 2014 and promised to change its behavior and end its support for extremism. Why has Qatar not lived up to its promises?
5. Yusuf Al-Qaradawi has been called the "Theologian of Terror." He endorses suicide bombings as permissible under Islamic law. He lives openly in Qatar and regularly appears on Al Jazeera. Does Qatar endorse his views and will it continue to offer a platform for his radicalization efforts?
6. Various governments and independent experts have established that Qatar is one of the principal funders of Hamas, the Muslim Brotherhood's Palestinian affiliate, and offers its leadership safe haven in Doha. The U.S. designated Hamas as a terrorist organization responsible for hundreds of acts of violence. When will Qatar suspend its funding for Hamas and expel its leadership from the country?
7. Abd al Rahman bin Umay al Nu'aymi is known around the world for financing Al-Qaeda affiliates in Syria, Iraq, Somalia and Yemen for more than a decade. At one point, he was sending more than \$2 million a month to Al-Qaeda in Iraq. What, specifically, has Qatar done to prevent Nu'aymi from supporting terrorism? Why has it allowed him to continue to operate?
8. Why hasn't Qatar sought to arrest Sa'd bin Sa'd Muhammad Shariyan Al-Ka'bi or Abdallah Salih Muhammad Al-Kawari, well known terrorist financiers that openly operate in Qatar despite being named Specially Designated Global Terrorist by the U.S. Treasury Department and listed on the UN Security Council terrorism sanctions list?

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**Saudi Foreign Minister: Demands on Qatar to Stop Funding  
Terrorism are Non-Negotiable**

WASHINGTON [June 27, 2017] – Saudi Foreign Minister Adel bin Ahmed Al-Jubeir called on Qatar today to end its support for terrorism and extremism in the Middle East.

“This idea that you can fund extremist groups, that you can pay ransom to terrorist groups like Al-Qaeda and ISIS, that you can send \$300 million to the Shi’ite militias in Iraq with most of it ending up with the Quds Force in Iran, is not acceptable,” he said in a press briefing at the Saudi Embassy in Washington today. “I think most countries in the world would agree with the demand to stop this.”

“We hope that reason will prevail and that our brothers in Qatar will do the right thing and respond to the demands of the international community to cease these activities. Because we think we can’t be on both sides of this issue. You cannot fight against ISIS, you cannot commit to participate in the global center against extremism, you cannot commit to participate in a financial center to combat terror financing and at the same time allow these things to go on,” he said.

Minister Al-Jubeir said that Saudi Arabia has expressed its grievances and it is now up to Qatar to make amends, and he said Saudi Arabia’s demands are non-negotiable. Specifically, Saudi Arabia has demanded that Qatar end its practice of harboring known terrorists, prohibit funding from within its borders to Al-Qaeda and Daesh (ISIS), and shut down its news network, Al-Jazeera, which has been inciting violence throughout the region.

“It’s very simple. We made our point. We took our steps. And it’s up to [Qatar] to amend [its] behavior. And once they do, then things will be worked out. But if they don’t, they will remain isolated,” said Minister Al-Jubeir. “If Qatar wants to come back into the GCC pool, they know what they have to do.”

The Foreign Minister reiterated that the decision to cut off diplomatic ties with Qatar was made after taking into account the history of its behavior, including harboring known terrorists and funding extremist groups throughout the region.

“It was an issue that has been building up, and then a decision was made that enough is enough. Zero tolerance,” he said.

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*This is distributed by Qorvis MSLGROUP on behalf of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.*

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