

**NOTES: ROUNDTABLE WITH AMB. MUTLAQ AL QAHTANI, SPECIAL ENVOY FOR COUNTERTERRORISM  
& MEDIATION**

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Attendees:

1. Matt Levitt, Director of Program on Counterterrorism and Intelligence, Washington Institute for Near East Policy
2. Kate Bauer, Fellow, Washington Institute for Near East Policy
3. Daniel Glaser, Principal, Financial Integrity Network
4. Josh Kirshner, Senior Vice President, Beacon Global Strategies

Notes:

- On the day of the FDD conference in May, Amb. Qahtani had a meeting at the White House that morning, then Treasury, then State later in the day; and by that night, QNA had been hacked.
- When discussing the significance of the blockade, he likes to use the comparison of what President Carter did with Iran, but even he/the U.S. did not implement the level of measures that have been implemented against Qatar now.
  - One example, 800 Qatari students studying in the UAE were expelled.
- We met with US officials (yesterday?) about continuing the dialogue of the Riyadh Summit. They asked if we could attend a meeting in Riyadh. We said that we could not do this while we are still under blockade; but we also want to be flexible; so we proposed Kuwait as an alternative meeting location.
- **TERROR FINANCE**
  - When asked (by Levitt) what the new MOU provides for, Amb. mentioned that it will: enhance the level of cooperation on prosecutions, increase intelligence sharing, provide for more technical cooperation and capacity-building with respect to prosecutions, and includes mechanisms for making progress reports to the relevant sanctioning committees.
  - Very recently, Qatar amended a 2004 counterterror law to establish a mechanism that allows Q to designate individuals.
  - In clearing up a discrepancy between whether Qatar has prosecuted 4 or 5 individuals, Ambassador explained that:
    - 4 individuals were tried in person, because 1 was tried in absentia, but there were 5 individuals total.
    - All individuals in Qatar are under surveillance, travel bans, and have assets frozen
    - 1 was prosecuted, sentenced to 15 years imprisonment, appealed, and was acquitted on appeal
    - 1 was prosecuted and sentenced to life
    - 2 others were acquitted
  - The Ambassador later added that Q is trying to find new and fresh evidence to prosecute the acquitted individuals.
  - Ambassador added that there are **additional cases**, but that these are not public yet, and he can't disclose those details because the investigations are still ongoing.