

### Speaker Biographies



#### **Asaf Zamir, Consul General of Israel in New York**

Ambassador Asaf Zamir was elected Deputy Mayor of the Tel Aviv City Council in 2008 and, while Deputy Mayor, assumed all responsibility for the city's education system. Throughout his municipal career, Ambassador Zamir promoted and implemented many programs, including those relating to affordable housing, public transportation, education equality, civil rights for minorities and the refugee community, as well as being an advocate for the LGBTQ community in Tel Aviv. Ambassador Zamir also chaired the board of the Yehoshua Rabinovich Foundation for the Arts, where he was active in supporting literature, music, dance, experimental theater, and cinema. In the April 2019 elections, Ambassador Zamir entered national Israeli politics as part of the Blue and White party led by Benny Gantz and Yair Lapid. In May 2020, he was appointed Minister of Tourism and served in that role until 2021. His call for elections in 2021 ultimately led to the formation of the most diverse government in Israeli history. This new government, led by Prime Minister Naftali Bennett and Foreign Minister Yair Lapid, appointed Ambassador Zamir as Israel's Consul General in New York in October 2021.



#### **H.E. Amna Binzaal Almheiri, Consul General of the United Arab Emirates in New York**

Her Excellency Consul General Almheiri joined the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in March 2005 and served at the Permanent Mission of the UAE to the United Nations in New York between 2005 and 2010. During that time, she represented the UAE in the UN General Assembly's Third Committee with a focus on human rights and related issues. She also served in other groups, such as the Social Development Committee and the Commission on the Status of Women. In 2010, Consul General Almheiri returned to Abu Dhabi and was among the team that established the Human Rights Department within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which she ultimately led as Director. Consul General Almheiri served for one year (2017-2018) at the UAE's National Media Council, where she was based in Brussels, Belgium, and was responsible for managing the implementation, execution, and coordination of a public diplomacy program in Europe.

Her Excellency was appointed Consul General of the United Arab Emirates in New York in August 2021. As Consul General, Her Excellency works to promote the important UAE-US bilateral relationship and expand business and cultural ties in New York and the eastern US region. Consul General Almheiri also serves as a liaison for US corporate and government officials and as a resource for UAE nationals residing in the East Coast area.



**Abdelkader Jamoussi, Consul General of the Kingdom of Morocco in New York**

Mr. Abdelkader Jamoussi is a distinguished diplomat and has served as the Consul General of Morocco in New York since 2019. He has held numerous positions on behalf of the Moroccan government, having served as Minister Plenipotentiary in both Canberra, Australia and Tokyo, Japan. Immediately prior to his role as Consul General, he served as an Inspector for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. In addition to his illustrious diplomatic career, Consul General Jamoussi is a distinguished author, having penned no fewer than nine books of

literature and diplomacy. He has found writing and art a way to bridge cultures and a tool to create dialogue and understanding.



**Rose Sager, Trade Representative for the Kingdom of Bahrain**

Born and raised in Bahrain, Rose Sager immigrated to the US where she received a B.S. in mathematics and business from City University of New York. Her career has included positions in the financial and insurance industries and as training director at a major US airline. Rose joined the Office of the Economic Representative as trade representative for the Kingdom of Bahrain in 2006. Under the auspices of the Trade Office at the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain, her role is to facilitate and

promote the US-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement since its implementation in August 2006. In addition to establishing major business and government contacts and increasing bilateral trade, she has promoted the Kingdom of Bahrain at various trade shows, business-to-business networking events, chambers of commerce, World Trade Center forums, women's associations, universities, and more. Based in New York, Rose continuously seeks to establish Bahrain as the ideal investment choice for the US business market, as well as an exotic tourist destination.



**Jason Isaacson, AJC Chief Policy and Political Affairs Officer (Moderator)**

Jason Isaacson, Chief Policy and Political Affairs Officer, is a longtime analyst of U.S. political and strategic affairs and an advocate for Arab-Israeli peace. An observer to the 1991-92 Middle East peace talks in Madrid, Moscow, and Washington, he represented AJC at the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna. Since 1993, he has coordinated periodic AJC ministerial meetings throughout the Middle East, North Africa, Europe, and Asia, including numerous visits that were the first by an American Jewish civic organization. Jason directed an AJC

initiative to strengthen transatlantic cooperation on Middle East policy, resulting in the opening of the Transatlantic Institute in Brussels in 2004. In 2005, in Tunis, he

convened an NGO seminar on tolerance-promotion on the Internet, in conjunction with the UN World Summit on the Information Society. In 2015, he coordinated in Brussels the Defining Moment for Europe conference on strategies to combat resurgent antisemitism. While AJC is celebrating the grand opening of its first outpost in the Arab world—AJC Abu Dhabi—it is worth noting that AJC has been traveling to the Arab world for 30 years with the leadership of Jason Isaacson's Arab outreach efforts.