



NATIONAL U.S.-ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

غرفة التجارة الأمريكية العربية الوطنية

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U.S. – ARAB CHAMBER CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT-ELECT TRUMP

“Our Chamber looks forward to working closely with the new Administration – just as we have with all previous Administrations, Democratic or Republican – to promote American prosperity.” – NUSACC CEO

In the United States, “Every individual takes an equal share in sovereign power and participates equally in the government of the state.” – Alexis de Tocqueville, 1835

Washington, D.C. – The National U.S. – Arab Chamber of Commerce (NUSACC) extended its congratulations today to Donald Trump on his election as President of the United States. “After this extraordinary campaign, we believe that it is time for all Americans to come together in support of our new President-elect, Donald Trump,” said David Hamod, President & CEO of NUSACC. “Like most Americans, I think, I sincerely hope that our new President will quickly earn the trust and confidence that is so badly needed in the aftermath of this challenging election.”

The United States has enjoyed a longstanding tradition of peaceful transitions after elections, a process that is admired throughout the world. After succeeding George Washington as America’s second President, John Adams wrote, “The sight of the sun setting . . . and another rising (though less splendid), was a novelty.” Without regard to the party or personality of the incoming President, uneventful succession in the White House has been a testament to the strength of American democracy.



President-elect Donald Trump
(Photo: InsideGov.org)

Hamod went on to say, "The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region is of great importance to our country in terms of economic prosperity, security, and America's national interests. I hope that President-elect Trump will strengthen commercial ties with the peoples of the MENA region, one of the most pro-American markets in the world. He concluded, "Our Chamber looks forward to working closely with the new Administration – just as we have with all previous Administrations, Democratic or Republican – to promote American prosperity."

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Hamod was interviewed just before the elections by *Arabian Business* magazine, one of the most widely read English language business journals in the MENA region. Hamod suggested that President Obama's legacy will be a mixed one: "[Obama] largely kept his commitment to the American people to minimize the presence of U.S. troops in regional conflicts, but by 'leading from the rear', *reactively*, the Obama Administration allowed vacuums to be created in such places as Syria, Libya, Iraq, and Afghanistan," Hamod said. "These vacuums were filled very quickly by regional players and proxies whose visions for the region may not be aligned with those of the United States."

Recent developments in the MENA region are a staple on news outlets every day, so the new President is likely to have more Arab world issues with which to contend than has any other U.S. President during the past 50 years.



The White House

"For the first time in memory, MENA regional leaders and proxies are taking bold steps — *proactively*, without waiting for the United States — to safeguard their respective interests," Hamod observed. "It will be very difficult for the next President of the United States to manage all of these complicated relationships, some of which are evolving on a daily basis. There is a growing expectation that the

new President will have to be more activist than Obama, and that means the USA, if called upon to do so, must be prepared to go toe-to-toe with certain players in the region, such as Russia, Iran, and others."

Security remains the biggest concern for U.S. citizens living in the region, Hamod suggested, as well as American companies looking to do business there. "Terrorism will continue to

raise its ugly head across the MENA region and, sadly, extremism is not going away anytime soon," Hamod noted. "For example, *Daesh* may be losing some of its footholds in the Levant and North Africa, but what will happen when its fighters stealthily return to their homelands? Governments may not be prepared for this influx, which could get out of hand very quickly."

Hamod concluded, "Security and stability are essential for every country in the region. Without those, economic development will be hampered, and there will be little foreign direct investment."

You can read the full text of the article [here](#).

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For more information on NUSACC and its activities, please click [here](#).

The National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce, widely regarded as the voice of American business in the Arab world, is in touch with business communities across the United States and serves as the U.S. point of contact for the national chambers of commerce in the 22 Arab nations. On a daily basis, NUSACC works closely with leaders throughout the

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