20 Most Influential Leaders to Watch 2024

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H.E. Ahmed Bin Mohamed AI Jarwan | President & Co-Founder | Global Council for Tolerance and Peace

A Global Leader in Peace and Tolerance, Redefining Leadership through Visionary Initiatives and Resolute Commitment: H.E. Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Jarwan

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.E. Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Jarwan embodies the principles of peaceful co-existence, standing as a beacon of leadership committed to fostering tolerance and peace globally. As the President and Founder of the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace, H.E. Al Jarwan's influence spans various platforms. Holding prestigious roles such as President of the Arab Experts Union, President of the Executive Office of the Arab Federations' Forum, and President of the Fundación for Islamic Culture and Religious Tolerance, he exemplifies professionalism, diplomatic finesse, and cultural sensitivity, leaving an impeccable mark on the world stage. During his tenure as the President of the Arab Parliament from 2012 to 2016, H.E. Al Jarwan showcased visionary leadership, serving as a mentor and catalyst for change. He spearheaded initiatives aimed at Arab unity, underdeveloped countries, women's and human rights, Arab security, and youth empowerment, positioning the Arab Parliament as a significant regional and international player. Through strategic collaborations and memoranda of understanding with esteemed international entities, he fostered cooperation and dialogue, advancing the cause of tolerance and understanding.

In 2017, H.E. Al Jarwan co-founded the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace (GCTP), headquartered in Malta, to combat discrimination, religious sectarianism, and ethnocentrism while championing tolerance and peace. His efforts led to milestones such as the launch of the International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace (IPTP), which serves as a global legislative platform representing over 100 countries, and the General Assembly for Tolerance and Peace (GATP), a civil society platform, comprising 50 academic A Global Leader in Peace and Tolerance, Redefining Leadership through Visionary Initiatives and Resolute Commitment: Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Jarwan

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institutions and NGOs. His role in establishing the International Parliament as a permanent observer in the Inter-Parliamentary Union underscores his commitment to positive change. Recognized globally for his contributions to human rights, peace, security, sustainable development, and women's and youth rights, H.E. Al Jarwan's accolades include being featured in The Silicon Review's '30 Most Inspiring Leaders to Watch for 2022' and receiving the Mahatma Gandhi International Award. With a career spanning over four decades, he continues to redefine leadership by advocating for tolerance, peace, and humanitarian values. His commitment to shaping a world characterized by harmony and coexistence reflects his determination to make a lasting impact. Looking ahead, Mr. Al Jarwan remains devoted to raising the value of tolerance, championing a culture of peace, and combating discrimination, violence, and racism, embodying the Emirati spirit of tolerance and peace.

H.E. Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Jarwan President & Co-Founder, GCTP

Overcoming Challenges

Peace Builders and Tolerance Advocates face continuous challenges in their tireless pursuit of promoting tolerance and peace. Foremost among these obstacles is the vehement resistance from groups and individuals who oppose the message of tolerance and peace, often propagating ideologies of hatred and violence. This opposition poses a direct threat to the efforts to foster understanding and reconciliation among diverse communities. Compounding this challenge is the pervasive presence of deep-rooted prejudices and stereotypes that fuel intolerance and discrimination. Overcoming these ingrained

attitudes necessitates sustained educational initiatives and grassroots advocacy efforts aimed at promoting empathy, respect, and acceptance of diversity. The dearth of institutional support and resources presents another hurdle to peacebuilding endeavors. Put simply, securing funding and support for initiatives aimed at promoting tolerance and peace requires strategic partnerships with governments, international organizations, and civil society groups.

In the face of these formidable challenges, H.E. Ahmed Al Jarwan employs a multidimensional approach to overcome obstacles and advance his mission. Leveraging his extensive network of diplomatic contacts and partnerships, he amplifies his message and garners support for peacebuilding initiatives. By engaging in dialogue with stakeholders across various sectors, he fosters understanding and builds consensus around shared goals. Furthermore, H.E. Al Jarwan utilizes his platform as a respected leader and influencer to raise awareness about the importance of tolerance and peace. Through public speaking engagements, media interviews, and outreach campaigns, he amplifies voices of moderation and promotes messages of unity and reconciliation. H.E. Al Jarwan prioritizes youth empowerment and education as integral components of his peacebuilding strategy, investing in programs that empower young people to become agents of positive change in their communities.

Through collaboration with governments, NGOs, and international organizations, H.E. Al Jarwan champions practical solutions for addressing the root causes of conflict and promoting sustainable peace. His resilience, strategic approach, and commitment to his principles enable him to overcome challenges and make meaningful strides toward promoting tolerance and peace in an increasingly divided world.

Shaping Policies Against Violence

H.E. Ahmed Al Jarwan's vision has had a profound impact on shaping policies and initiatives aimed at reducing violence and conflict globally, reflecting his commitment to nurturing peace and understanding among nations. At the core of Al Jarwan's vision lies a steadfast belief in the power of dialogue, cooperation, and mutual respect as essential ingredients for resolving conflicts and promoting stability. One of the keyways in which H.E. Al Jarwan's vision has influenced global efforts to reduce violence and conflict is through his advocacy for inclusive and sustainable peacebuilding strategies. He emphasizes the importance of addressing the root causes of violence, such as inequality, injustice, and social exclusion, and advocates for policies that promote economic development, social cohesion, and respect for human rights as pathways to lasting peace. Furthermore, H.E. Al Jarwan's vision emphasizes the need for multilateralism and collaboration among nations in addressing shared security challenges. He advocates for strengthening international institutions and frameworks, such as the United Nations and regional organizations, as platforms for dialogue, mediation, and conflict resolution. Through his active engagement in international forums and diplomatic initiatives, H.E. Al Jarwan fosters partnerships and alliances aimed at promoting peace and stability in regions affected by violence and conflict.

H.E. Al Jarwan's vision extends beyond traditional approaches to peacebuilding, embracing innovative strategies and technologies to prevent and mitigate conflicts. He promotes the use of digital diplomacy, social media, and other communication platforms to facilitate dialogue, bridge divides, and build trust among conflicting parties. Additionally, he supports initiatives that harness the potential of youth and civil society organizations as agents of positive change in conflict-affected areas. Through

the sessions organized by the International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace and the General Assembly for Tolerance and Peace (GATP), H.E. Ahmed Al Jarwan successfully convened Members of Parliaments. universities, and civil society organizations to address pressing global issues ranging from climate change and food security to youth and women empowerment, peace cultivation, and sustainable development. These sessions served as platforms for meaningful dialogue and collaboration, resulting in the formation of task forces dedicated to developing academic programs, resolutions, and statements advocating for tolerance and peace. The outcomes of these sessions underscored H.E. Al Jarwan's commitment to fostering cooperation and collective action in pursuit of a more inclusive, peaceful world.

Through his leadership and advocacy, H.E. Al Jarwan has influenced the adoption of policies and initiatives at both the national and international levels aimed at reducing violence and conflict globally. His vision for a world free from violence and strife serves as a guiding light for policymakers, diplomats, and peacebuilders alike, inspiring collective action and collaboration in pursuit of a more peaceful and prosperous future for all.

Leadership Defined by Achievements

H.E. Ahmed Al Jarwan's journey as a respected leader in peacebuilding is marked by a series of significant accomplishments and recognitions, underscoring his commitment to establishing global harmony and understanding. Over four decades, H.E. Al Jarwan's exceptional leadership and diplomatic skills earned recognition worldwide. His presidency of the Arab Parliament for two consecutive terms from 2012 to 2016 showcased his skill in diplomacy, advocating for peace and stability in the Arab region. Under his leadership, the Parliament transitioned into a permanent institution, addressing pressing regional challenges through dialogue and cooperation among Arab nations.

H.E. Al Jarwan's proactive approach to peacebuilding led to the founding of the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace, where he serves as president and co-founder. Through initiatives like the International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace and the General Assembly for Tolerance and Peace, he promotes tolerance, intercultural dialogue, and combats extremism and discrimination on an international scale.

His achievements have garnered numerous accolades, including the Mahatma Gandhi International Award and recognition from prestigious publications like the Wall Street Journal. H.E. Al Jarwan's impact extends globally, recognized through awards such as the Albert Nelson Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis Who's Who, His Highness Sheikh Isa Bin Ali Al Khalifa Award for Voluntary Work, the BIZZ Award, and Leadership Excellence by WorldCob, among others. H.E. Al Jarwan's ability to forge strategic partnerships enhances his credibility as a peacebuilding leader. Collaborating with

governments, parliaments, NGOs, and international organizations amplifies the reach and impact of his initiatives, fostering understanding and cooperation among nations and cultures. Engaging with heads of state and international organizations further demonstrates H.E. Al Jarwan's recognition in diplomatic circles. His handson approach to diplomacy and conflict resolution actively seeks sustainable solutions to global security challenges.

H.E. Ahmed Al Jarwan's accomplishments validate his leadership and inspire individuals and organizations committed to peace and understanding. Through visionary leadership and unwavering dedication, he leaves a legacy of hope, cooperation, and reconciliation on the global stage.

Building Peace Solutions Through Global Collaboration

H.E. Ahmed Al Jarwan, a stalwart advocate for tolerance and peace, engages with global leaders through diverse avenues to foster sustainable solutions for global peace and security. Central to his approach is the cultivation of meaningful dialogue and collaboration among nations and leaders worldwide. H.E. Al Jarwan initiates engagement by forging strategic partnerships and alliances with key stakeholders across the international community. Through diplomatic channels and high-profile summits, he builds relationships grounded in mutual respect and common objectives, setting the stage for collaborative endeavors to tackle urgent

global challenges. His active participation in international forums and initiatives focused on peacebuilding and conflict resolution further underscores his commitment. Whether at United Nations General Assembly sessions, Inter-Parliamentary Union meetings, or regional peace conferences, he advocates for inclusive and enduring solutions that prioritize dialogue, reconciliation, and mutual understanding.

H.E. Al Jarwan's warm reception by numerous heads of state, including presidents from various countries, highlights his extensive engagement and collaboration with global leaders. Through dialogue, partnership, and diplomatic efforts, he nurtures meaningful relationships, uniting with world leaders to address pressing global issues and promote tolerance, understanding, and peace on a global scale. Recognizing the vital role of multilateralism, H.E. Al Jarwan tirelessly facilitates dialogue and cooperation among nations to enhance collective security efforts. He champions innovative approaches to peace and security, acknowledging the interconnected nature of global challenges and advocating for integrated solutions that address root causes and cultivate sustainable development.

In addition to engaging in public diplomacy efforts to mobilize support for peace and security issues, H.E. Al Jarwan nurtures extensive collaboration through the signing of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with national and international parliaments, as well as organizations like the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). These agreements underscore his commitment to promoting cooperation and dialogue across diverse regions and political entities in pursuit of peace and tolerance. Through his collaborative spirit, visionary leadership, and undivided dedication, H.E. Ahmed Al Jarwan inspires and mobilizes global leaders to unite in their pursuit of sustainable peace and security. Together, they strive for a future where dialogue, cooperation, and mutual respect prevail, laying the foundation for a more peaceful and prosperous world for generations to come.

Inspiring the Next Generation

In diplomacy and peace advocacy, H.E. Ahmed Al Jarwan emerges as a guiding light, weaving narratives of tolerance and peace throughout his remarkable journey. Rooted in the teachings of his homeland, the UAE, H.E. Al Jarwan's academic pursuits in engineering laid the foundation for a career spanning over four decades, characterized by visionary leadership and strategic contributions to tolerance and peace. Critical junctures in his journey shaped his evolution as a leader. From his tenure in the UAE Armed Forces to his diplomatic roles in Washington, D.C., and London, each experience broadened his global perspective. However, it was his presidency of the Arab Parliament during turbulent times in the Arab region that truly defined his leadership. Navigating through tumultuous waters, H.E. Al Jarwan led the Arab Parliament through pivotal moments, overseeing its transition to a permanent institution. His initiatives

transcended borders, fostering dialogue and cooperation to advance the cause of peace. This leadership laid the groundwork for founding the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace in 2017.

Today, H.E. Al Jarwan's influence extends beyond geopolitical boundaries as he champions youth empowerment. Recognizing the transformative power of the next generation, he inspires young leaders to embrace tolerance and peace through mentorship, education, and advocacy. By equipping them with the tools to effect positive change, he illuminates a path towards a future characterized by enduring principles of tolerance and understanding. H.E. Al Jarwan's approach to influencing the next generation is multifaceted, grounded in exemplary leadership, advocacy, and commitment. Through his actions and interactions, he embodies the principles of tolerance and peaceful coexistence, leading by example. Prioritizing youth empowerment, he provides opportunities for engagement in peacebuilding activities and leadership programs while advocating for education and awareness initiatives to promote tolerance and peace.

As a mentor and role model, H.E. Al Jarwan offers guidance and support, nurturing young leaders' development and commitment to advancing peace. He amplifies their voices in decision-making processes, recognizing and celebrating their contributions to peacebuilding efforts. Through his holistic approach, H.E. Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Jarwan plays a pivotal role in shaping a future characterized by tolerance, understanding, and peace. H.E. Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Jarwan remains devoted to raising the value of tolerance, championing the culture of peace, and dismantling discrimination, violence, and racism. He exemplifies the Emirati spirit of tolerance and peace, serving as a beacon of hope for a brighter, more harmonious world.

Cover Story