

Post-war security challenges

Qatar official urges stronger diplomacy amid global instability

● Rising geopolitical competition

● Current crises demand coordinated global responses

● Calls for shared vision

A senior Qatari official called for stronger diplomatic engagement and collective international cooperation to address mounting global instability, warning that ongoing conflicts are reshaping political and economic relations worldwide.

Dr. Majed bin Mohammed Al-Ansari, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Qatar and Official Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, made the remarks during a session in Milan focused on cooperation between the European Union and the Gulf Cooperation Council in the post-war context.

The session, titled "Cooperation between the European Union and the Gulf Cooperation Council for Arab States after the Gulf War: Managing Instability and Reimagining Security," was organized by the Doha Forum and the MED Dia-



logues, in partnership with the Italian Institute for International Political Studies and the Center for International Policy Research.

Al-Ansari said the current international environment is marked by overlapping crises and conflicts that complicate decision-making and undermine efforts to achieve stability. He warned that some actors promote narratives and policy approaches driven by strategic competition rather than long-term peace.

He stressed that political and

military pressure alone cannot produce sustainable solutions, adding that mediation and diplomacy remain essential tools. According to him, skepticism about diplomacy's effectiveness actually reflects a growing need for it.

The Qatari official also urged continued reliance on diplomatic channels and dialogue to prevent further escalation and avoid deeper cycles of conflict. He said the ongoing war has had wide-ranging consequences for international relations, including ties between Europe,

the United States and countries in the Middle East.

He highlighted broader ripple effects on energy security, global trade, supply chains and geopolitical alignments.

Al-Ansari concluded that security and stability can no longer be achieved unilaterally, but require coordinated international action. He called for a shared framework to address accelerating regional and global challenges, noting increasing interdependence among states across political, economic and security dimensions.

Economic, security ties discussed in Syria visit



Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam met Syrian President Ahmad Al-Sharaa in Damascus. Following the talks, remarks indicated the two sides discussed strengthening bilateral cooperation across key sectors.

Salam said the visit, accompanied by a government delegation, marked progress on a range of shared issues, particularly in the fields of economy, energy, transport and security, describing the discussions as taking place in a spirit of goodwill and mutual commitment.

He said both sides were work-

ing "without reservation or hesitation" toward expanding cooperation, expressing confidence that the outcomes of the meeting would soon yield tangible results.

The talks also covered regional developments and their impact on Lebanon and Syria amid rapidly evolving conditions in the Middle East, as described by officials.

Salam said political consultations between Beirut and Damascus would continue, adding that joint committees would be established and ministerial-level coordination intensified to follow up on agreed areas of cooperation.

Austria, UAE deepen cooperation on AI, energy and trade

Austrian Chancellor Christian Stocker met UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan during a working visit to the United Arab Emirates. Both sides agreed to deepen cooperation across artificial intelligence, energy, trade and investment, according to a joint readout.

The leaders exchanged views on regional and international developments and discussed ways to further expand political, economic, humanitarian and cultural ties between Vienna and Abu Dhabi.

Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Stocker reviewed the progress in bilateral relations in recent years, describing them as based on mutual trust, shared interests and a commitment to development and prosperity for both nations.

Both sides reaffirmed their shared objective of promoting regional and international security and stability.

They also agreed to build on the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement signed in 2021, with plans to adapt it to emerging sectors, particularly artificial intelligence and advanced technologies.

The two leaders stressed their commitment to strengthening cooperation in AI through a "digital bridge" initiative, including policy coordination, joint research, data



centre development, talent exchange and training programmes. The cooperation framework builds on a memorandum of understanding signed in 2024.

Discussions also covered expanding investment flows and enhancing economic cooperation, with both countries highlighting their roles as regional hubs and gateways to high-growth markets.

They underlined the importance of improving business environments to attract sustainable investment and support long-term economic development. Both sides also welcomed continued engagement between small, medium and large enterprises through regular high-level meetings.

The leaders supported the creation of a UAE-Austria Business Council to further institutionalise economic ties and facilitate private sector engagement.

They also noted progress in negotiations on a UAE-European Union Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, saying it would further strengthen trade and investment links.

UAE backs AI governance for climate action

At a ministerial session on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the United Arab Emirates reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening international cooperation to advance global development targets, focusing particularly on artificial intelligence governance and safety as key drivers of climate action.

Officials said the UAE seeks to align emerging technologies with sustainable development priorities, highlighting the importance of responsible AI frameworks in supporting environmental objectives.

The UAE also announced it will co-host the upcoming UN Water Conference alongside Senegal, where it plans



to showcase innovative water technologies and address the rising demand for water and energy driven by data centres and AI infrastructure.

The initiative reflects growing global concern over the environmental footprint of rapidly expanding digital systems, particularly regarding resource consumption and climate resilience.

UAE, Turkey trade tops \$45.2 Billion under CEPA



The United Arab Emirates and Turkey have surpassed their non-oil trade targets under a comprehensive economic partnership agreement that came into force in 2023, officials said during high-level talks in Istanbul.

Bilateral non-oil trade between the two countries reached \$45.2 billion in 2025, exceeding the \$40 billion target ahead of schedule. This was driven by strong political will from both leaderships to deepen economic and investment ties.

The agreement has led to a multiple-fold increase in trade flows since its implementation, strengthening cooperation in key sectors including investment,

logistics and commerce.

During a visit to Istanbul led by Shaikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan and a UAE ministerial delegation, discussions were held with Turkish ministers, senior officials and business leaders to expand the scope of the partnership.

Talks focused on mechanisms to further elevate bilateral economic relations and unlock additional opportunities for mutual growth, according to officials involved in the meetings.

The UAE and Turkey have significantly expanded engagement in recent years, with both sides emphasising economic diversification and private-sector collaboration under the framework of the partnership agreement.

Qatar Urges Action Over Israeli Violations

During a UN meeting focused on the situation in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, Qatar urged the international community to take responsibility for addressing repeated Israeli violations and to enforce United Nations Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 2334 and 2803, during a UN meeting focused on the situation in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

In a statement delivered at an Arria-formula meeting of the Security Council, Qatar's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Sheikha Alya Ahmed bin Saif Al-Thani, reaffirmed Doha's backing for efforts toward a com-

prehensive and just peace based on international legitimacy and a two-state solution.

She reiterated Qatar's support for establishing an independent Palestinian state along the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital, and stressed continued backing for the Palestinian cause and the resilience of its people.

The meeting, convened by the United Kingdom, France, Denmark, Greece and Latvia at UN headquarters in New York, comes amid renewed concerns over escalation in the occupied West Bank despite international efforts to advance peace initiatives.

Qatar said settlement activity in the occupied territories was



illegal, describing it as a "flagrant violation" of international law, UN resolutions, and a 2024 advisory opinion by the International Court of Justice.

The Qatari envoy also condemned Israel's decision to designate parts of the West Bank as "state land," rejecting what she described as measures aimed at

altering the demographic composition, character and legal status of occupied Palestinian territories, including East Jerusalem.

She warned such actions undermine prospects for a viable Palestinian state and weaken ongoing diplomatic efforts toward a political settlement.

Qatar further condemned incursions by Israeli officials and settlers into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, including the raising of the Israeli flag within its courtyards, calling the actions a violation of international law and a provocation to Muslims worldwide.

Ships Turned Back



The U.S. Naval blockade against Iran continues to be fully enforced. As of today, CENTCOM forces have redirected 58 commercial vessels and disabled 4 since April 13 to prevent the ships from entering or leaving Iranian ports.