

His Excellency Mr. Eric Giraud-Telme, Ambassador of the French Republic to the Kingdom of Bahrain

As 2026 underscores the depth of global interdependence amid fragmentation and rivalry, France argues that coordinated multilateral action remains the only credible path to addressing shared challenges, from health and technology to sustainable growth. In conversation with **Mahir Haneef**, **His Excellency Mr. Eric Giraud-Telme, Ambassador of the French Republic to the Kingdom of Bahrain**, outlines how France is seeking to translate this commitment into action through global agenda-setting and renewed co-operation within multilateral fora.

“Today’s major global challenges call for **coordinated responses grounded in dialogue, cooperation and the pursuit of shared solutions.”**

The year 2026 unfolds in an international context in which interdependence has become a defining feature. Today’s major global challenges call for coordinated responses grounded in dialogue, cooperation and the pursuit of shared solutions. In this respect, multilateralism remains an essential reference framework for consultation and collective action.

Three areas stand out as particularly structuring. The first is global health, now understood in its close links with the environment, agriculture and biodiversity. The second relates to

advanced technologies, whose role is instrumental in ensuring autonomous access to new frontiers in the digital or physical space. The third focuses on international political and economic coordination, which is essential to accompany people towards progress and social transformations and support sustainable growth.

On these 3 major pillars for the future, France is setting the agenda with major international meetings in 2026. First, The One Health Summit, on 7 April 2026 in Lyon, will highlight an integrated approach to global health, bringing together public

authorities, international organizations and the scientific community around science-based prevention policies. Second, in April in Paris, a summit dedicated to space will underscore the growing role of space technologies in ensuring autonomous access to space, supporting innovation and responding to contemporary strategic challenges. Finally, the G7 Summit, to be held in Évian-les-Bains from 14 to 16 June 2026, will provide a forum for collective reflection among leading economies on responses to economic, climate and social challenges.

Taken together, these se-

quencies are part of an ongoing dynamic of dialogue and cooperation within multilateral fora. In this regard, sharing a common trust in multilateralism, Bahrain has been sitting alongside France on the United Nations Security Council since 1 January 2026. Building on the excellent bilateral relations between France and Bahrain and our converging approaches on international cooperation, we are ready, in 2026, to work together in support of peace, stability, development and the promotion of economic and cultural exchanges for mutual benefit.

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(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Daily Tribune)

News of Bahrain Announces New Year Reel Winners



P. Unnikrishnan, Chairman and Managing Director, and Latha Unnikrishnan, Director of The Daily Tribune, along with the digital team present prizes to the winners

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tition.

The initiative aimed to encourage storytelling and uncover hidden creative talent across the Kingdom by giving value to moments recorded by the public.

As the first campaign of its kind by one of Bahrain's most trusted digital news platforms, the response was overwhelming.

Within just seven days, the competition received thousands of entries, reflecting strong community participation and widespread interest.

The campaign concluded on December 31, 2025, with five winners selected to receive cash prizes from News of Bahrain.

The prizes were presented yesterday by P. Unnikrishnan, Chairman and Managing Director, along with Latha Unnikrishnan, Director of The Daily Tribune, in the presence of the digital team.

The winners of the competition were Sheryl Tandayu, Shaikha Hussain, Anas Velluvakandy, Allen Rose Pastor, and Jayesh kumar.

News of Bahrain has continued to expand its digital presence, reaching over 500,000 followers across Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, and YouTube, with millions of organic views. The platform remains one of the Kingdom's fastest-growing and most trusted digital news sources.

Diplomatic missions key to development, says H.E. Shaikh Salman

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His Excellency Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy emphasised the key role of diplomatic missions in supporting development through the implementation of bilateral economic agreements, increasing trade volumes, and attracting foreign direct investment, contributing to the Kingdom's strategic objectives and reinforcing its position as a regional and global investment destination.

He underlined that the integration of foreign policy and economic strategy is a fundamental factor in strengthening Bahrain's position on the global economic map and serves as an effective tool to support economic diversification and sustainable growth, within the framework of the Kingdom's ongoing comprehensive development process under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

Forum

H.E. Shaikh Salman was speaking as he attended the Diplomatic Forum organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the occasion of Bahrain Diplomatic Day, which falls on January 14 each year. A session was held on Bahrain's foreign policy and the global economy as part of the occasion.



H.E. Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa speaks at the event



H.E. Shaikh Salman noted that Bahrain's diplomatic missions abroad play a key role in supporting national efforts to attract investment through international economic representation.

The session was also attended by H.E. Ayman Safadi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister

of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; H.E. Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs; H.E. Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce; and H.E. Noor bint Ali Alkhulaif, Minister of Sustainable Development and Chief Executive of the Economic Development Board (Bahrain EDB).

Achievements

H.E. Shaikh Salman reviewed the Kingdom of Bahrain's key economic achievements and its continued efforts to expand economic development in line with the comprehensive development process under the leadership of HM the King Hamad and the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

The Finance Minister underscored that Bahrain Diplomatic Day reflects the Kingdom's high regard for diplomacy and its role in supporting national development and enhancing Bahrain's regional and international standing.

He highlighted that the direct and continuous support of HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister has helped establish an engaged diplomatic approach that actively contributes to economic growth and attracts high-value investment opportunities.