

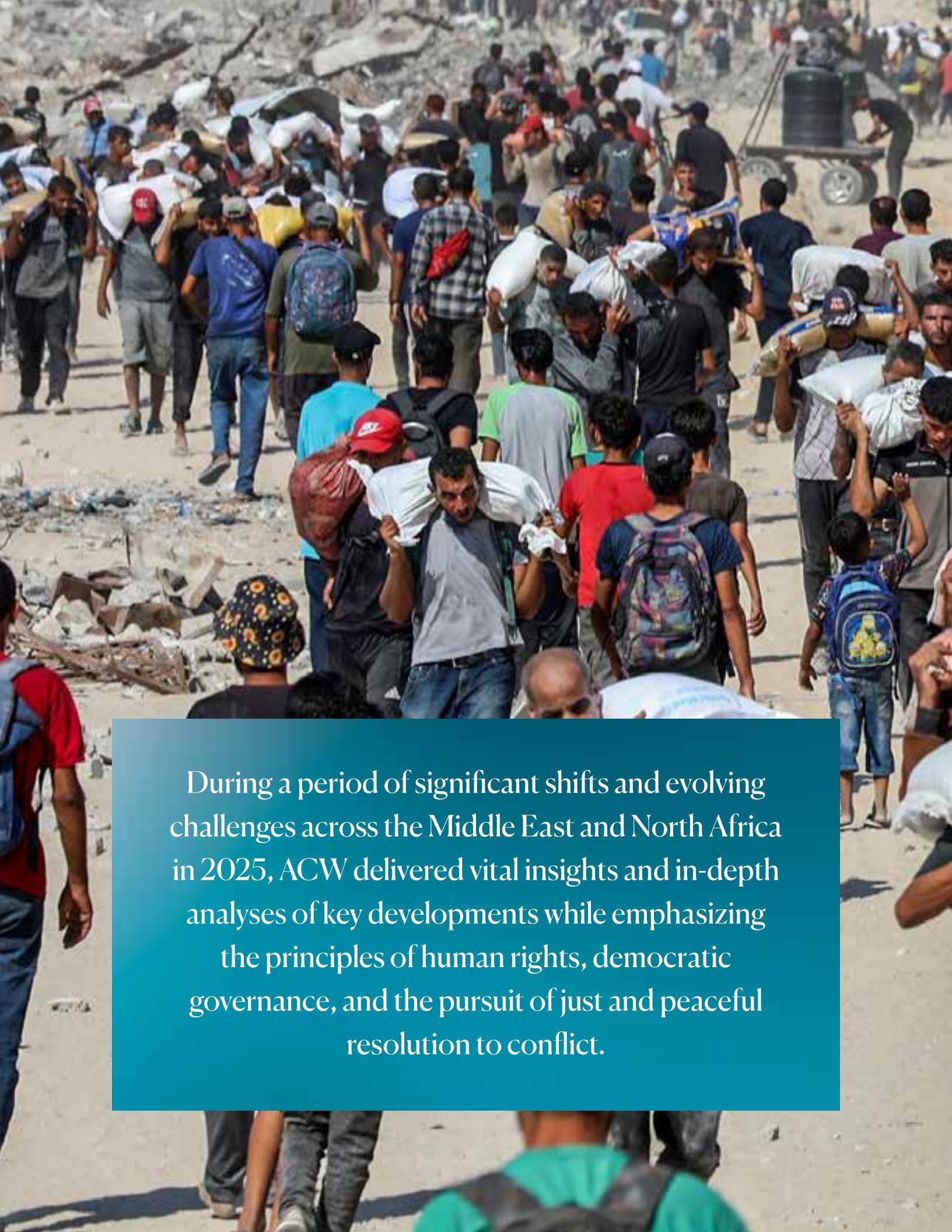
Arab Center Washington DC  
المركز العربي واشنطن دي سي

# ACTIVITIES REPORT

# 20 25

Delivering Evidence-Based and  
Rights-Centered Research Since 2015

**Ten  
Years  
of  
Impact**

A large crowd of refugees, mostly men, are seen carrying supplies through a dusty, debris-strewn area. They are carrying bags, boxes, and other items on their heads and shoulders. The scene is one of displacement and hardship. The text block is overlaid on the bottom right of the image.

During a period of significant shifts and evolving challenges across the Middle East and North Africa in 2025, ACW delivered vital insights and in-depth analyses of key developments while emphasizing the principles of human rights, democratic governance, and the pursuit of just and peaceful resolution to conflict.

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# OUR Journey

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## A Trusted Research Organization Grounded in Human Rights

Dear Friends,

As we mark Arab Center Washington DC's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all of you who have supported and engaged with our work since the center was established in 2015.

Over the past decade, we have consistently delivered timely, unparalleled, and objective analysis of Middle East politics and US foreign policy in the region, with an emphasis on democracy and human rights. In 2025, during a time of unprecedented challenges to global security and stability and major shifts taking place across the region, we continued to provide important and decisive analysis of the most vital economic, political, social, and environmental developments affecting the Middle East and North Africa and US foreign policy there.

At a time when having credible and objective information is more critical than ever, our team at Arab Center Washington DC worked tirelessly to provide rigorous in-depth and evidence-based analysis of emerging events and their impacts on the region and the world. Over the past 10 years, our work has been pivotal in filling a glaring gap in research that centers human rights, democracy, international law, and just and peaceful resolution to conflict, reaching millions of people in the United States and around the world.

On behalf of Arab Center Washington DC, I would like to thank all of our supporters and audience members who interacted with us since our inception. Our work would not be possible without the generous support of private and institutional donors who provide the funds necessary to attract and retain outstanding scholars and maintain our academically rigorous and independent research agenda. We hope you will consider making a tax-deductible contribution to help us advance this critical work.

Thank you for being part of our journey over the last decade. We look forward to engaging with you in the next ten years and beyond.



Khalil E. Jahshan  
Executive Director



# OUR Mission

A Focus on Highlighting Arab Perspectives  
in US Policy Discussions

Quality  
—  
Diversity  
—  
Impact

Arab Center Washington DC (ACW) is a nonprofit, independent, and nonpartisan research organization dedicated to furthering the political, economic, and social understanding of the Arab world in the United States and to providing insights on US policies and interests in the Middle East and North Africa.

As a Washington-based, authoritative research center on the Arab world, ACW addresses fundamental aspects of US-Arab relations through timely and objective academic research, policy analysis, and educational exchange.

Highlighting Arab  
perspectives in US policy  
conversations

- › Independent Research
- › Diverse Expertise
- › Impactful Analysis





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Non-Resident Fellow, ACW; Senior Professorial Lecturer, American University

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Palestine Project Coordinator, ACW

**Yara M. Asi**

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**Jonathan Kuttab**

Non-Resident Fellow, ACW; Human Rights Lawyer

**Yousef Munayyer**

Head of Palestine/Israel Program and Senior Fellow, ACW

**Afrah Nasser**

Non-Resident Fellow, ACW; Freelance Journalist and Human Rights Defender

**Daniel Neep**

Senior Editor, ACW

**Assal Rad**

Non-Resident Fellow, ACW; Historian of the Modern Middle East

**Annelle Sheline**

Non-Resident Fellow, ACW; Research Fellow for the Middle East, Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft

**Kristian Coates Ulrichsen**

Non-Resident Senior Fellow, ACW; Baker Institute Fellow for the Middle East, Rice University

**Radwan Ziadeh**

Senior Fellow, ACW

*Note: Names of institutions are mentioned for affiliation purposes only*



# OUR Footprint

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A Legacy of Rigorous Research  
and Diverse Expertise



# Marking a Decade of Excellence

**30**

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EVENTS

**250**

ORIGINAL POLICY AND RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

**100**

AUDIOVISUAL ANALYSES

**3**

MAJOR CONFERENCES

- › **Tenth Annual Conference:**  
*"Trump and the Middle East: A Second Term Review"*
- › **Palestine Conference:**  
*"A Historic Juncture: Israel's Destruction of Gaza and the Palestinian Future"*
- › **Ministerial Keynote Conversation:**  
*"Syria's Transitional Government: Challenges, Policies, and Prospects"*

## Providing Timely and Proactive Responses to Fast-Paced Developments

In 2025, ACW responded in a timely and effective manner to the rapid developments in the region and US foreign policy, through publishing high-quality research and analysis papers, producing thought-provoking audiovisual analyses, and hosting incisive seminars and policy conversations.

Our work highlighted the impacts and long-term implications of the pressing political, economic, social, and environmental issues facing the Middle East and North Africa and of US policies in the region, while offering policy recommendations that center human rights, democratic governance, and long-term interests in the region for both the United States and the people of the Arab world.

# 40

RESEARCH FELLOWS  
AND ACADEMIC  
BOARD MEMBERS

# 300

SCHOLARS  
CONTRIBUTING  
CONTENT

# 50%

WOMEN EXPERTS  
SPEAKING AT PUBLIC  
EVENTS

# 75%

NATIVE AND ARAB  
ANALYSTS COVERING  
PRESSING ISSUES

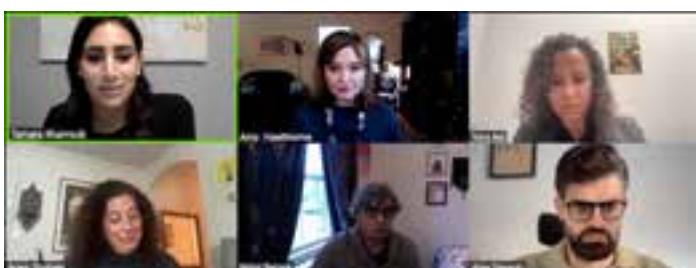
# 30%

ACADEMIC SCHOLARS  
CONTRIBUTING ANALYSES



## Impact Through Diverse Expertise and Inclusive Discussions

In its decade of work, ACW has earned a prominent reputation for prioritizing inclusivity and diversity in all areas of programming. In 2025, we continued our tradition and internal policies that require meticulous research, planning, and fact-checking, and that ensure representation and diversity of topics and experts, highlighting Arab and indigenous voices and the work of female experts and of scholars from the Global South.

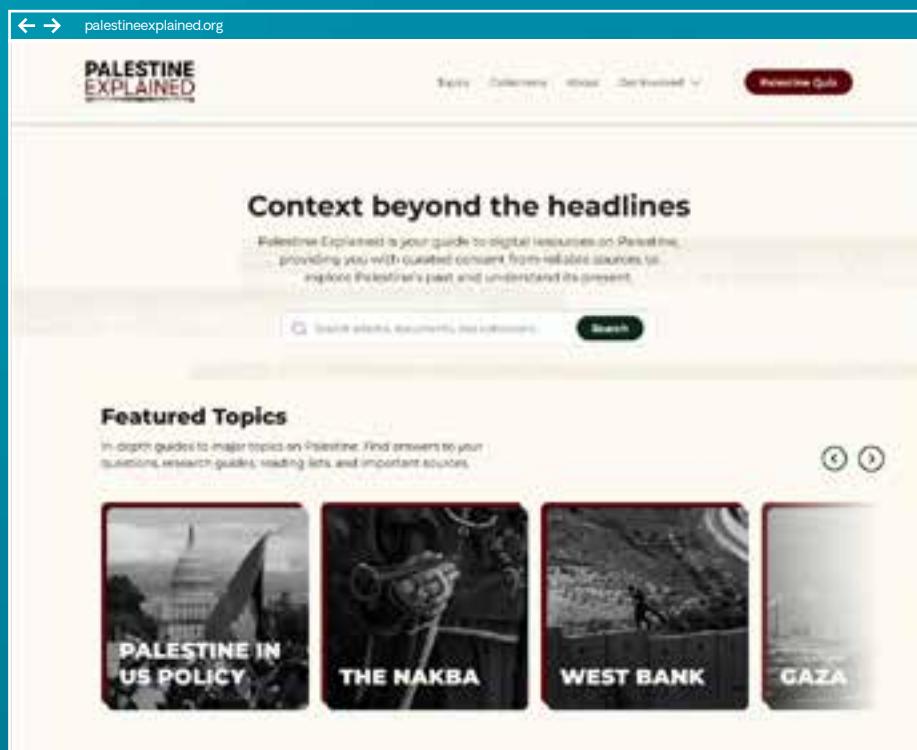


# PALESTINE EXPLAINED

## Filling a Gap in the Palestine Information Space

The last two years have seen a significant increase in demand for information about Palestine. ACW identified the need for a reliable platform to counter disinformation and censorship efforts and act as a one-stop shop for research on Palestine. While curating and aggregating information from various knowledge producers on Palestine into one centralized space, the platform offers information to users from introductory level to subject matter specialists, provides a user-friendly window into the vast world of digital resources on Palestine, offers context on these materials, and generates original resources to fill in informational gaps where necessary.

**PalestineExplained.org**





# OUR Impact

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A Decade of Advancing a Principled  
US Foreign Policy in MENA



## Maintaining Impact and Visibility

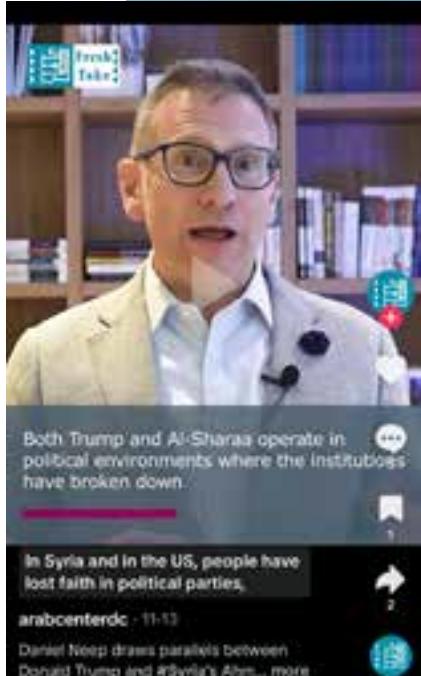
In addition to maintaining high-quality work products and reputation, ACW increased institutional impact and visibility in 2025 through establishing relationships with new think tanks and academic partners, implementing joint programs, producing new dynamic formats of policy analysis for social media platforms, pursuing outreach to provide informational and educational materials to policymakers, and increasing engagements with the US and international media. The impact of these programs, partnerships, and outreach efforts was strengthened by our continued commitment to excellence, integrity, and quality, and through outreach to and relations with prominent institutions and experts.



# A Leading Think Tank on US Middle East Policy

## INFORMING MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD

In 2025, ACW's work served as a trusted resource for rights-based policy solutions to inform decisionmakers, journalists, scholars, students, and the general public alike.



**2M**

WEBSITE  
VISITS

**300K**

MEDIA VIEWS ON  
YOUTUBE, TIKTOK,  
AND INSTAGRAM

**3M**

REACHED  
ON SOCIAL  
MEDIA

**45K**

SOCIAL MEDIA  
FOLLOWERS

**25K**

EVENT  
ATTENDEES

**13K**

NEWSLETTER  
SUBSCRIBERS





## Bridging Research and Policymaking

Over the past year, ACW worked to build, strengthen, and expand relationships with like-minded research and academic institutions. These collaborations resulted in the merging of expertise and allowed us to produce content that bridges the academic and policy worlds. Our engagements with think tanks and academic institutions in Washington DC and internationally addressed critical issues facing the MENA region.



**12**  
ACADEMIC AND THINK TANK PARTNERSHIPS

LAUNCHED A NEW  
**outreach**  
PROGRAM TO THE ARAB AMERICAN COMMUNITY

OUTREACH TO  
**100's**  
OF MIDDLE EAST CENTERS AND SCHOLARS AT US UNIVERSITIES



# 200

EXPERT MEDIA  
INTERVIEWS

# 15

OP-EDS PUBLISHED IN MAJOR US  
AND GLOBAL MEDIA OUTLETS

# 30

EXTERNAL LECTURES,  
BRIEFINGS, AND CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS

## Serving as a Trusted Resource in the Media and Public Forums

As the world witnessed major global developments and geopolitical shifts taking place in 2025, ACW served as a trusted source for evidence-based and informative analysis on critical policy issues. ACW experts contributed innovative insights in top media outlets and to shaping public and policy conversations.

ACW research fellows and analysts are regularly consulted and featured as expert contributors to the US and international media, at academic institutions and high-level conferences, with prominent US and global leaders, and in US government briefings, directly reaching hundreds of thousands of people world-wide.



## Delivering Critical Insights for Washington Policymakers

Over the past 10 years, ACW has built a strong reputation in the Washington policy community, establishing ourselves as a go-to research center for timely, accurate, and insightful analysis and information on the MENA region. In 2025, our government outreach program provided educational materials and policy analyses to congressional and executive branch staff and hosted several informational briefings for US legislators, ensuring our analyses and policy recommendations reached decisionmakers and played a key role in shaping foreign policy conversations in Washington DC. Among the many topics covered was Israel's war on Gaza, US relations in the Gulf, the transitional government in Syria, and social and political developments in North Africa.

**100's**  
OF DECISION MAKERS  
REACHED

**50**  
INFORMATIONAL BRIEFINGS  
AND ENGAGEMENTS WITH  
CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES

WASHINGTON POLICY WEEKLY:

**50**  
COMPREHENSIVE WEEKLY  
REPORTS TRACKING AND  
ANALYZING DEVELOPMENTS  
IN US POLICY TOWARD  
THE ARAB WORLD



# Centering Human Rights and Democratic Transitions

ACW's dedication to justice-centered and evidence-based analysis, combined with our commitment to diversity and the inclusion of indigenous voices, helped set ACW apart from other think tanks. In 2025, ACW convened authoritative international experts and engaged with senior officials and civil society alike to aid decision making in the United States and around the world that prioritizes justice and human rights, advances democratic governance, and fosters long-term sustainable development and peace. Our work has been sought after by millions of people looking for objective, in-depth, justice-based analysis of developments in the MENA region.



# OUR Highlights

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## A Record of Navigating Global Shifts with Expertise and Vision

The events that started on October 7, 2023 and the new developments across the region and in the United States over the two years since, have prompted Arab Center Washington DC to quickly adapt and adjust our programming to respond to the fast-changing and important developments across the region, while pursuing our mission of highlighting human rights concerns.

In 2025, ACW responded effectively to several major critical events and rapid developments both in the United States and in MENA, while maintaining our hard-earned reputation as an authoritative research center on Middle East politics and US policies and interests in the region.

### Examining the Political, Economic, Legal, and Humanitarian Dimensions of the Gaza Genocide

In 2025, ACW continued to provide in-depth analysis of Israel's war on Gaza, as well as of its various dimensions and broader impacts on the future of Palestine and Israel, regional dynamics, US policy, and the international order. Our work addressed a critical gap in research by prioritizing human rights and international law, while outlining policy approaches aimed at achieving a just and lasting peace.



## Charting Pathways to Democratic Transitions and Inclusive Governance in Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq

As major shifts swept the MENA region in 2025, governments grappled with new realities, political transitions, and economic challenges. Throughout 2025, ACW explored the evolving landscape of governance in the region and examined the challenges and prospects of inclusive and democratic transitions in Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq.



## Exploring Political Processes to End the Neglected Conflicts in Libya, Sudan, and Yemen

The crises in Libya, Sudan, and Yemen fell under the radar in 2025 and seem to have been forgotten and the suffering of civilians neglected. ACW examined the key drivers of these conflicts, regional and foreign intervening factors, the devastating humanitarian and destabilizing impacts, the challenges to pursuing political processes, and pathways toward reaching viable resolutions.



## Investigating Resurgent and Entrenched Authoritarianism in Egypt and North Africa

The year 2025 saw popular protests and tensions across North Africa over rising unemployment, inequality, declining public services, food insecurity, and further stifling free speech and dissent. ACW examined these trends of entrenched authoritarianism and their impacts, as well as prospects for democratic governance, socio-economic equality and development, and political reform.



## Assessing Israel's Regional Military Overreach and Threats to the Regional and Global Order

In 2025, ACW experts produced high-impact research and analysis of major events and regional developments especially Israel's expansionist agenda and its military attacks across the region, from Palestine to Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Iran, Qatar, and the flotillas in international waters, examining the impacts and broader implications for security, international law, and the global order.



## Responding to Emerging Threats of Climate Change, Social Media Influence, and AI-Assisted Warfare

Amid growing global concerns over the risks of climate change and the use of technology by authoritarian and oppressive regimes, ACW focused in 2025 on assessing the threats as well as the opportunities presented by these developments, examining the impacts of climate change in MENA and potentials for energy transitions and the effects of social media and AI technologies on human rights and freedoms.



## Navigating the Trump Administration's Policies toward MENA and their Domestic Implications

The first year of the second Trump administration has seen a fast pace of developments and mounting challenges to the work of human rights and democracy. In 2025, ACW excelled in providing timely and in-depth analysis of the impacts of policies like striking Iranian nuclear facilities, the Gaza ethnic cleansing and 20-point plans, development funding cuts and tariffs, sanctioning multilateral and international legal entities, transactional relations and strategic weapons agreements with the Gulf, as well as domestic repression and shifts in US public opinion, and their implications for US interests and politics and the broader global order.





# OUR Community

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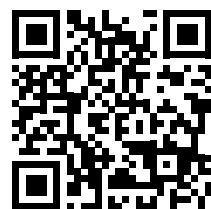
## A Network of Supporters Investing in Rights-Based Policy Solutions

Arab Center Washington DC (ACW) is extremely grateful to our community for engaging with us during 2025 and the past 10 years through our events, publications, media channels, and other initiatives. As we work to expand and upgrade our programming, we increasingly rely on the commitment and support of private and institutional donors who share our vision.

ACW relies on contributions from individual supporters, organizations, foundations, and corporations. Contributions to ACW—a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization—are deductible under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Donations provide critical support for our important work, helping ACW attract and retain outstanding scholars to maintain our academically rigorous and independent research agenda.

We hope that you will make ACW a priority and continue to engage with us and support our work in the next decade and beyond.



JOIN OUR COMMUNITY OF SUPPORTERS

## Donate Now

[ArabCenterDC.org/Support-ACW](https://ArabCenterDC.org/Support-ACW)

# OUR Affiliates

## A Global Research Network

ACW is affiliated with the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies (ACRPS) and its network of research centers around the world. Headquartered in Doha, Qatar, ACRPS is one of the premier independent research institutes in the Arab region.



# A Decade of Commitment to

- › The importance of democracy in the Arab world
- › A respect for human rights and civil liberties
- › A just and peaceful resolution to conflict
- › Underscoring long-term US interests in MENA

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**ArabCenterDC.org**