

THE 6TH GERMAN-ARAB WOMEN'S FORUM

SPEAKERS ANNOUNCEMENT



SVENJA SCHULZE

Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany



DR. ANNA CHRISTMANN

Commissioner for Startups and the Digital Economy at the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action



SANAE ABDI

Member of the German Bundestag



SUSANNE FRIEDRICH

Director of Agency for Business and Economic Development (AWE)



MARLIS JAHNKE

Digital Entrepreneur, OUISSAL Mentor, Germany



DR. RASHA ALEID

Owner & GM, Juman OUISSAL Mentee, Jordan



REEM GHAZAL

Co-Founder, Vitally OUISSAL Mentee, Egypt



DR. NADIA EL SHAFEI

Managing Partner & Co-Founder, R&S OUISSAL Mentor, Egypt



DR. FELLA BOUTI

CEO, Eco Tashira OUISSAL Mentee, Algeria



IKBEL KAOUICHE

Product Owner, Kamioun OUISSAL Mentee, Tunisia



DR. SANAA EL AJI

Co-founder and Publishing Director of Marayana.com OUISSAL Mentee, Morocco



MARWA AL SHAMY

Founder, Smart Content OUISSAL Mentee, Egypt

HOST



CLARA GRUITROOY

Secretary General, EMA e.V. Founder of OUISSAL

MODERATOR



YOUNNA NAUFAL

Geopolitical Advisor and Media Specialist Director, APCO

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SVENJA SCHULZE

*Federal Minister for Economic
Cooperation and Development,
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Svenja Schulze has been the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development since December 2021. Previously, she served as the Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety from 2018 to 2021. In North Rhine-Westphalia, she held the position of Minister for Innovation, Science, and Research from 2010 to 2017 and was also a member of the state parliament from 1997 to 2000 and from 2004 to 2018. She has been a member of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) since 1988. Svenja Schulze studied German Language and Literature and Political Science at the Ruhr University Bochum.

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DR. ANNA CHRISTMANN

Commissioner for Startups and the Digital Economy at the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action



Dr. Anna Christmann is the Aerospace Coordinator of German Federal Government and the Commissioner for Startups and the Digital Economy at the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action. She has been a member of the German Bundestag since 2017 and is part of the parliamentary group Alliance 90/ The Greens. She received her PhD from the University of Bern in 2011 and then worked at the Center for Democracy at the University of Zurich. From 2013, she worked at the Ministry of Science in Stuttgart as the minister's office manager and as a policy advisor in science policy.

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SANAE ABDI

Member of the German Bundestag



Sanae Abdi, born on July 7, 1986, has been the directly elected Member of the Bundestag for electoral district 93/Cologne I since 2021. Previously, she worked as a project manager at the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). As part of her mandate, she aims to focus on promoting social justice, effective climate protection, and equitable international cooperation. Sanae Abdi serves as the spokesperson for development policy for the SPD parliamentary group. She is also a full member of the Subcommittee on International Climate and Energy Policy.

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SUSANNE FRIEDRICH

*Director of Agency for Business
and Economic Development (AWE)*



Susanne is an organizational developer with large experience in capacity building and multi-stakeholder management. She started her professional career at the Chilean Export Promotion Bureau and also worked as an advisor for public-private partnerships in development cooperation for several years. She joined GIZ in 2009 and worked in various projects of the German development cooperation in Latin America and Germany, in fields such as inclusive business, integrity in supply chains, quality infrastructure and export promotion for SMEs. Currently she leads the Agency for Business and Economic Development. She is a member of the Advisory Board of Transparency International Germany.

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MARLIS JAHNKE

Digital Entrepreneur
OUISSAL Mentor, Germany



Marlis Jahnke is a seasoned entrepreneur and the Managing Partner of inpromo GmbH, which she founded in 1999. After her innovative digital ideas faced resistance in the music industry, she successfully launched her agency for online communication. In 2014, she pioneered Germany's first influencer marketing platform, which she sold in 2020. Marlis now applies her extensive experience in guiding startups as an advisory board member for various companies. She is the editor of the book "Influencer Marketing" (Springer Gabler, 2018/2021) and co-authored "The Gründerinnen Handbuch," a guide for women entrepreneurs. As co-host of the EQUALIZER podcast, she interviews founders, investors, and business angels, highlighting stories of innovation.

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DR. RASHA ALEID

*Owner & GM, Juman
OUISSAL Mentee, Jordan*



Rasha Aleid is an accomplished entrepreneur and pharmacist with a Master's degree in pharmaceutical sciences. In 2009, she founded JUMAN, a leading Jordanian company specializing in high-quality cosmetic and para-pharmaceutical products. Under her leadership, JUMAN has gained recognition for its adherence to Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and strict regulatory standards. In 2016, she was named Businesswoman of the Year by Bank al Etihad. With a vision to harness the therapeutic properties of the Dead Sea, Rasha launched the JUMAN DEAD SEA skincare line, now sold in Europe, the USA, and beyond.

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REEM GHAZAL

*Co-Founder, Vitally
OUISSAL Mentee, Egypt*

Reem Ghazal is the Co-Founder of Vitally.ai, a cutting-edge platform for remote patient monitoring that utilizes AI to extract vital health data. She also serves as a Project Manager at Fruitful Solutions, where she drives innovation in fresh food processing, using AI to enhance transparency and reduce global food losses while supporting food security initiatives.

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DR. NADIA EL SHAFEI

*Managing Partner & Co-Founder, R&S
OUISSAL Mentor, Egypt*



Dr. Nadia El Shafei has over 30 years of experience in Human Resources and Organizational Development. She holds a PhD in Human Resources Management, a Master's in Learning and Development, and a Bachelor's in Commerce. Nadia has held key HR roles in multinational companies like Aventis Pharma, Schering Plough, Rhone Poulenc Rorer, and Glaxo-Wellcome. She also lectures in MBA and DBA programs at the Arab Academy for Science and Technology and the American University. Currently, she is the Managing Partner and Co-Founder of R&S Management Consultancy Company, a position she has held for 19 years.

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DR. FELLA BOUTI

CEO, Eco Tashira
OUISSAL Mentee, Algeria



Dr. Fella Bouti holds a PhD in Agronomic Sciences, with her research focused on the diversity of plant-pollinating insects, particularly bees. She began her career as a freelancer on the Fiverr platform before founding Eco Tashira just over two years ago. Based in Algeria, Eco Tashira aims to transform urban landscapes through innovative green solutions and sustainable urban development projects. Dr. Bouti has been the CEO of Eco Tashira since March 2022, driving positive change in the nation's cities and communities.

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IKBEL KAOUICHE

*Product Owner, Kamioun
OUISSAL Mentee, Tunisia*



Ikbel Kaouiche is a trilingual Product Manager with over two years of experience in Software Product Management. A graduate of Tunis Business School, she specializes in Business Analytics and Information Technology. Starting her career in a B2B startup, Ikbel discovered her passion for strategic vision, Agile delivery, and customer-centric solutions. She thrives in dynamic environments and is keen to connect with like-minded professionals to drive impactful projects.

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DR. SANAA EL AJI

*Co-founder and Publishing
Director of Marayana.com
OUISSAL Mentee, Morocco*



Dr. Sanaa El Aji holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Aix-Marseille. She is a communication consultant with more than 20 years in communication in several companies, and is the founder and director of Marayana.com, established in May 2018. Her work is driven by her commitment to diversity, pluralism, equality, and freedom.

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MARWA AL SHAMY

*Founder, Smart Content
OUISSAL Mentee, Egypt*



Marwa Alshamy, an architect turned entrepreneur, is the founder and CEO of Smart Content, specializing in digital education. With over 14 years of experience, she focuses on empowering educators to create engaging Arabic content on sustainability and green jobs. Under her leadership, Smart Content has partnered with institutions in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. Since joining the OUISSAL Program, Marwa has launched the "Gahez" platform and received the Women in Africa First Award, striving to make education more accessible and impactful in the Arab world.

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HOST

CLARA GRUITROOY

*Secretary General, EMA e.V.
Founder of OUISSAL*



Clara Gruitrooy, Secretary General of the EMA since 2017, has shaped the organization since 2009. With a Master's in Intercultural Conflict Management, a Postgraduate Diploma in Executive Management from ESMT, and certification as a Leadership Coach, she also leads gender equality initiatives as Chairwoman of the federal board of the Working Moms e.V. in Berlin. Her efforts have earned her nominations for the Emotion Award "Women for the Future" and the Global Peace Institute's "40 Under 40 Peace Champions." Clara founded the award-winning mentoring program "Ouissal" and recently founded the OWYO Campus, a recently started project in Dresden for the integration of refugees into the German labour market.

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MODERATOR

YOUNMNA NAUFAL

*Geopolitical Advisor and
Media Specialist
Director, APCO*

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Youmna Naufal is a Media Specialist and Director of Communications at APCO based in Riyadh, KSA, where she advises government entities on critical issues and executive positioning.

Prior to that, she was at Brunswick Group providing counsel to high-profile clients, and co-managing Brunswick's relationship with the World Economic Forum (WEF), having moderated panels at Davos in 2022 and 2016.

Throughout her career, Naufal has interviewed over 500 figures including such luminaries as Nicolas Sarkozy, Julian Assange, John McCain, and Brazilian football legend Ronaldinho. Previously, she was the Head of the English News division at Future Television, and the Beirut Correspondent for China's Global TV Network (CGTN) and TRT World.

Naufal earned her MA in International Business and International Relations from New York University (NYU).

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