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under the auspices of President El Sisi

In International Media



WHERE CIVILIZATIONS MEET

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## Executive Summary

The international media has continued to cover the activities of the World Youth Forum (WYF) held in Sharm Sheik resort city for the second day in a row. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi announced on Saturday December 14, 2019 the launch of the third edition of the forum, whose activities will last until December 17, 2019.

As part of its follow-up to this continuous coverage, the State Information Service (SIS) monitored a set of pivots highlighted by the international media, as follows:

- The Arab media focused on President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi's call for ending discrimination based on religion, gender and race.
  - The forum presents a comprehensive vision for the future of the youth, as they will have the opportunity to express their opinions and ideas freely and truthfully. The president assured that the Egyptian youth will be responsible for Egypt's achievements, mega national projects, and its civilized history.
  - The **Arab media** was keen to highlight the pivots of the forum, especially issues on terrorism and armed conflict. Furthermore, the forum focused on means of paving the way for cooperation in the energy sector among the Mediterranean countries, coordination among the Mediterranean countries in the field of energy economy and establishment areas of cooperation in the field of renewable energy and electrical interconnection. The media pointed out that WYF tackled opportunities and challenges facing the Eastern Mediterranean countries in securing various energy sources, financing the construction and maintenance of infrastructure. Besides, topics of the industrial revolution, food security, Mediterranean union, environmental challenges, artificial intelligence, block chain technology, women's empowerment and, art and cinema.

- The Arab outlets focused on the importance of the forum as it is a motive for youth to participate actively in dialogue and generate ideas to achieve goals of humanity.
- In the same context, European media published that the WYF held in Sharm El Sheikh to communicate a message of peace and development, which contributes to facing extremism and terrorism. Therefore, holding the forum in Sinai now is a clear-cut evidence of the success of the efforts exerted by the Egyptian state with all its institutions to combat terrorism. This is the most appropriate response to skeptics of these efforts and promoters of negative rumor.
- Asian media referred to the World Youth Forum which urges youth to participate in the major global issues. The WYF engages youth from across the world in an enriching set-up, allowing them to exchange the point of views and recommend initiatives to decision-makers and influential figures.

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### 1- Arab Media

The State Information Service (SIS), during its follow-up to the Arab media covering the activities of the World Youth Forum, monitored what was published by Al-Sharq Al-Awsat newspaper on December 15, 2019 on the opening of Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, yesterday evening, and the activities of the third edition of the "World Youth Forum" held in Sharm El-Sheikh, South Sinai.

- Egypt's President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi said at the opening session: "We were created from different peoples for integration and acquaintance." The president added that the WYF is a platform to send a message of love and peace, by which we unite our resolve towards a better future based on a constructive dialogue and intention to stability.
  - The forum is attended by prominent figures, such as Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen, Secretary-General of the Arab League (AL) Ahmed Abu El-Gheit, Prince of Mecca and Advisor to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Prince Khaled Al-Faisal and Speaker of the Libyan Parliament, Aqila Saleh.
  - The ceremony started with a speech from Li Yong, Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, who spoke about the importance of youth participation. "From our experience, we know that, when young people participate and are included, economic and industrial development processes are much more likely to be sustainable," said Li Yong. From there, a number of young speakers took to the stage. This included the first person to be able to fly a plane without arms Jessica Cox, an anti-war activist Michelle Schwashenki, and 12-year-old Egyptian Zein Yosusef, who shared his inspirational story of fighting cancer.

- Moreover, the opening session witnessed screening a video message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations António Guterres. "I am pleased to greet the World Youth Forum. Young people are critical agents of change, driving transformation worldwide," Guterres said.
- As many as 7,000 participants took part in the 3rd edition of the World Youth Forum due in Sharm el Sheikh during the period December 14 -17,2019.
- WYF focused on various issues about climate change, the challenges of accelerating technological development which threatens the loss of certain jobs, vocational training and food security in Africa along with ways through which the second goal of sustainable development can be realized, block chain technology as well as the future of digital economy and Artificial Intelligence.
- Terrorism and armed conflict, also, is an included issue among the forum's agenda. During the session titled "Cooperation in the Energy Sector among the Mediterranean Countries", the participants will discuss means of cooperation and coordination among the Mediterranean countries in the field of energy economy , such as cooperation in the field of gas exploration and transportation, and its storage and other areas of cooperation, especially after the great discoveries made in the Eastern Mediterranean Region,"
- Under the title "Cooperation in the field of renewable energy and electrical interconnection", the members will tackle the opportunities and challenges facing the Eastern Mediterranean countries in securing various energy sources, and financing the construction and maintenance of infrastructure.
- President Abdel Fattah Al Sisi inspected on Saturday the branch of King Salman International University in Sharm El Sheikh. During the tour, the President was accompanied by Prime Minister, Mostafa Madbouly, Ministers of Defense and Military Production, Higher Education, and Governor of South Sinai.

- The State Information Service (SIS) followed up what was reported by the Kuwaiti daily newspaper “Al-Seyassah” that the World Youth Forum opened by President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi, will highlight various issues on the pivots of peace, development and creativity. The forum attended by a number of local, Arab and international figures, as it included a number of senior guests such as the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Senegalese President Maki Sally, Adviser to the Kuwaiti Emiri Diwan Yusuf Al-Ibrahim, and about five thousand young people from all over the world.
  - Prior the inauguration of WYF, President Abdel Fattah El Sisi went on a bike tour in the Red Sea resort city of Sharm el Shiekh.
- Kuwaiti newspaper “Al-Anbaa” said that the four-day forum is attended by youth of 160 countries. The agenda of the forum includes activities, events, dialogues and discussions on common issues. The participants exchanged their view points with senior state officials, led by President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi. They review their challenges and listen to the problems that stand before them on the international level.
  - The newspaper added: The proposals and initiatives of Egyptian and foreign youth participating in the dialogue sessions listed on the agenda of the third edition of the World Youth Forum will draw a comprehensive vision for the future they seek to live in. They will have the opportunity to express their opinion and ideas freely and honestly. Egyptian officials and its youth will be the carrier of Egypt’s achievements, its giant national projects, and its

civilizational history, confirming their Egyptian identity distinguished in the spirit of tolerance and acceptance of the other, which is the dominant feature in the history, which had characterized exclusion of any other state.

- The newspaper added that youth are one of the biggest driving forces that work to shape the future, as they make up fifth of the world's population, which is the largest percentage in history. According to population estimates for the year 2019, the number of young people in the age group (from 18 to 29 years) reached 2.2 million people, which represents 21% of the total population of the world.
- Youth in Egypt, the world, with their energy, enthusiasm, and new thinking, are a wealth that must be invested, that is why President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi has taken the initiative to secure an annual platform for young people from all over the world hosted by Egypt every year. That initiative resulting in the formation of a global network that includes young people from different countries to work together to serve their societies and nations in a gathering characterized by participation of Egyptian and foreign youth, with strong presence of various local and international institutions and bodies, which opens the way for their effective contributions in political, social and economic life. Young people are the owners of the largest share of the future, they contribute decisively to the formation of its present, and they are the representatives of the world's youth under under Egyptian auspices and under the leadership of its president in the "World Youth Forum". They are the ambassadors of their countries in the forum and the ambassadors of Egypt in their country, where they have the opportunity to be a global role models in How to open the arm of the world to the future with new thinking in which they could build their homelands.
- Youth are models that reflect Egypt's help to them in strengthening their own capabilities to deal with the differences in courage and confidence and come up with radical solutions that contribute to solving their issues in a positive and peaceful way. Beginning and ending with the word of youth and its

interventions that can be considered a clear youthful expression on the various issues raised on the Egyptian and international scene.

- As for the guests of Egypt from youth around the world, they will represent their country with all the similarities and differences they carry, which will enrich the discussion and achieve complementarity, as they hold the banners of communication, dialogue with their peers from Egypt and the world. The forum activities will confirm what was highlighted by discussions of its previous two versions of youth as effective cadres in the process of building the future.
- The newspaper concluded, "The results that the forum will come out with will be a work plan with specific standards and characteristics, and a timetable for implementing those standards, and their proposals will define a comprehensive vision for the economic and social future of Egypt and the world, to keep pace with the requirements of the current century and its rapid and enormous changes. It will also reflect their abilities to engage officials in finding modern solutions to the problems of education, poverty, unemployment, women's empowerment, small enterprises, entrepreneurship and the digital world.
- The "SIS" also monitored the meetings that some of the forum's guests had with the UAE newspaper "Al-Ittihad", where John Menot, a young man from South Sudan who had experienced an unfortunate bullying in Cairo, told the newspaper that he did not imagine that his fate would turn into a state of support and love he had given by Egyptian people, it was a great gift that would make him happy for life.
- Nuri Bolgazzetti, from Verona, Italy, came to attend the World Youth Forum for the second time, indicates that she is a journalist and public domain worker in Italy, participating in many of the work of the United Nations and



refugees. She said that World Youth Forum is an inspiring example of containing so many young people from different throughout the world to express their point of view, and it's a common opportunity, whether for them or for the youth and the Egyptian government, to transfer the experiences and cultures that have benefited her on a personal level. She added that she is very happy to attend the forum, wishing from different nationalities repeating the experience of the World Youth Forum in Italy itself to enrich cultures.

- The newspaper pointed out that the forum has become an event of issues that concern young people in Egypt and the world, and ways to empower them it in all fields. It also important for providing an opportunity for young people to express their views and ideas and put forward their problems and listen to the problems of other youth towards issues that concern them at the international level, such as the issue of communications and information technology, and the problem of terrorism and others.
- For its part, the Emirati newspaper, Al Bayan, stated that President Abdel Fattah Essisi announced the launch of the activities of the third edition of the World Youth Forum, stressing that the forum brings us back to the roots of humanity that do not distinguish between people on the basis of race, color or religion, and that it is a message of love and peace based on constructive dialogue and looking forward to the future. The President stressed the importance of this global event, hosted by Sinai, the land of peace and the cradle of prophets, stressing that it is a continuation of the Egyptian youth dream which was built on the certainty that we are created different to integrate.
  - The newspaper also published a long report on the Egyptian city of Sharm El Sheikh which witnesses the activities of the World Youth Forum, as it is one of the best tourist destinations in the world; its beaches are among the most beautiful places that attract diving amateurs to enjoy the

wonders of coral reefs and its distinguishable marine life. Being one of the best resorts in the world, the city embraces about 200 hotels, in addition to entertainment sites, nightclubs, casinos, and commercial markets, as well as an international airport.

- Over many years, the city has housed many important events such as the Peace Makers Summit 1996, the Wye River Agreement 1999, and the agreement was called the Wye River Agreement 2, the Arab Summit in 2003, the Sharm El Sheikh Summit (the Quartet Summit), which was held in 2005, and the Non-Movement Alignment Summit in 2009, the Conference on Supporting and Developing the Egyptian Economy 2015, and the Arab Summit 2015.
- The report prepared by the State Information Service about Arab media coverage of the activities of the World Youth Forum tackled what was reported by Abu Dhabi News Network, highlighting inspiring experiences of people who reached the third session of the World Youth Forum, to talk about their painful experiences through which they survived and managed to conquer all of them and achieve success despite pain and suffering, so that their words were voiced out with happiness, pride, hope, optimism and joy.
- Jessica Cox, the first person to fly a plane with her feet because she is armless, was one of the speakers during the opening, and her body language was the strongest in her expressions, according to the body language expert, Dr. Raghda Al-Saeed, as she has the energy expressing the great inspiration that she possesses, Al-Saeed asserted that Cox showed that energy with her permanent smile, and the physical movement she made at the end of her talk on the stage, to show her ability to tie the shoe .

- Congolese Michel Chicuanini, who was forced to be a soldier in his childhood. His greatest feeling was crystalized in tears filled with sadness mixed with hope and strength.
  - In her analysis of the body language of Halima Aden, the first model star wearing the veil “hijab”, the expert of the body language confirmed that she possessed a special attraction with her laughter, which flows sincerely from the heart, explaining that she possessed high energy, and was highly motivational, which emerged through her request from the audience to repeat her sentence telling that everyone can really change.
  - The child Zain Youssef, the cancer fighter, said that he is a strong warrior, while holding his fist in evidence of strength and control over things, in addition to reciting effective inspiring religious quotes, noting that the strongest part of his story being expressed through his body language was when he said that he fought cancer "once, twice, thrice,...etc", with the tone of his voice increasing in each number.
- Jordan Times reported that Crown Prince Abdullah attended the opening session of the third edition of the World Youth Forum. President Sisi received the Crown Prince at the forum, which was held with the participation of experts and about 7000 young men and women from all over the world, including 70 from Jordan, according to a statement issued by the Royal Court.
- Speaking at the opening session, President Sisi officially announced the opening of the forum, welcomed all participants and described the Global Youth Forum as a platform to send the message of peace and love to the world, based on a constructive dialogue seeking a better future.

- The opening session also included notes from participants from all over the world, where a group of young people highlighted their experiences in converting challenges into opportunities.
- The French-speaking “Le Jeune Indépendant” published on December 14, 2019 a report by its special envoy in Sharm El-Sheikh Kamel Mansari entitled: World Youth Forum 2019: "The Trial, Mosaic for Peace". In his report, he reviewed the play “The trial” which was performed on Saturday December 14 in Sharm el-Sheikh. The play is based on "Santa Claus Trial."
  - The play denounces the bias that Santa Claus embodies in favor of some children from rich countries at the expense of children who are less fortunate or who live in misery. It also embodies the duality between Children's comfort in the West and the children’s deprivation in poor countries, victims of the feudal greed or the wealthy who take advantage of this extreme weakness and poverty, and victims of warlords and extremists.
  - Despite the attempt to defend himself, the report indicated that Santa Claus, played by Khaled Galal throughout the trial, finally confessed his guilt in facing the scale of the tragedies that the victims suffered. This continues until a girl, presumed to have Down syndrome, appears. This girl will eventually reconcile everyone by declaring her message of love; a message that abandons the hatred, resentment and spirit of revenge that marked the mood of each of the victims.
  - The report clarified that although the show describes, over time, a missing mobile piece of human errors, but ultimately offers a loving point of hope rather than hatred and greed, in light of the need for justice and participation among humans on this earth. This is the message that Khaled Galal seems to

address in this show. The forum will discuss, among other themes, the disparity between rich and poor countries.

- The report pointed out that the theatrical performance included representatives of multiple nationalities from the four continents, including the Algerian Yahya Bin Masoud.

## 2- European Media

- The SIS report continued its follow-up to cover the European media. "The Reference" website, issued by CEMO Center - Paris, highlighted the emphasis of Dar al-Ifta's Observatory of Takfiri Fatwas and Extremist Views that the World Youth Forum, held in Sharm El Sheikh under the auspices of President Abdel Fattah El Sisi, is a message to confronting extremism and terrorism. The website stated that the Observatory said that convening the forum in Sinai is the clearest evidence of the success of the state's efforts with all its institutions in countering terrorism, and is a reply to rumors and skeptics.
- It added that the World Youth Forum has drawn the attention of the political leadership since April 2017. At the 4th National Youth Conference in Ismailia, President Abdel Fattah El Sisi said that he would join Egyptian youth in inviting young people from around the world to participate in the World Youth Forum to be held in Sharm El-Sheikh in November 2017. The forum will aim to send a "message of peace, development and love from the land of Egypt."
- "The Reference" indicated that the World Youth Forum's program includes a variety of pivots that discuss issues and topics of interest to various youth groups worldwide. Through its sessions, youth will express their visions, present their ideas and exchange their experiences. The forum will discuss the

topics of food security, environment, climate, blockchain, artificial intelligence, union for the Mediterranean, women empowerment, art and cinema.

- DY News London 7 website mentioned that the third World Youth Forum (WYF) starts at Sharm El-Sheikh "The City of Peace in Egypt", under the slogan "Where civilizations meet". In this year's forum, youth will exchange their ideas and views regarding peace and innovation.
  - The Forum was first launched by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi in 2017, to support youth's ideas on specific issues of mutual interest and importance.
  - World Youth Forum Public Coordinator Deputy Aya Ateya said that World Youth Forum sends a message of peace, prosperity, harmony, and progress to the entire world. It engages youth from around the globe in an enriching set-up, allowing them to exchange views and recommend initiatives to decision-makers and influential figures. The forum is a chance for you to engage with qualified and skilled professionals.
- Russia Today reported that President Abdel Fattah El Sisi said, at the opening of the third edition of the World Youth Forum in Sharm El-Sheikh, that he is blessed to say that Sinai will be a platform of love and peace and a constructive dialogue-based peace message for better future.

### 3- Asian Media

- "China dot.org" and "Xinhua" reported that President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi in his opening speech, delivered from the blessed land of Sinai, stated that he announced the inauguration of the third edition of the World Youth Forum and expressed his hope that the forum will be a platform for peace, love and constructive dialogue for a better future.
  - The Forum will discuss a number of topics including the industrial revolution, food security, the Union for the Mediterranean, environmental challenges, artificial intelligence, block chain technology, the empowerment of women, art and cinema.
- China Network, in a report published on 12/14 highlighted President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi's inauguration of the World Youth Forum, in its third edition, in Sharm El Sheikh, in the presence of more than seven thousand young men and women from different countries of the world. Moreover, LI Yong, Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Speaker of the Libyan Parliament, Aqila Saleh, and many delegations from other countries of the world attended the ceremony.

- The network transmitted parts of the speech of His Excellency during the opening ceremony, where he affirmed that the World Youth Forum comes as a continuation of the Egyptian young men dream which has started two years ago; a dream built on the certainty that we were created different to complement each other, and were created as peoples and tribes to get to know one another. He added, "It gives me pleasure to announce from the blessed land of Sinai kicking off the 3rd edition of the World Youth Forum, to be a platform through which we send the entire world a message of love and peace and a constructive dialogue-based peace message for a better future that will depend mainly on love and stability."
- The Network also referred to the speech of the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, which was recorded and broadcasted during the ceremony. In his speech, Guterres explained that "young people are the leaders of the development process in the world, but many of them face obstacles that prevent them from fully realizing their full potentialities, which is improper", noting that " the UN acknowledges, through 2030-plan for young people, that we cannot achieve sustainable development goals without the active participation of young people whom I encourage to be the driving force for eradicating poverty, reducing inequalities, combating armed conflicts, eliminating hatred and enhancing human rights." He also called on young people to continue to exert the pressure necessary to address the emergency



situation of climate change. He pointed out that the United Nations will launch a global dialogue next year, which marks the 75th anniversary of its founding, and it needs young people's ideas to build a better world for all.

- The Network pointed out that Li Young, Director General of the UNIDO, pointed out that World Youth Forum is an important initiative as more than half the world's population is under the age of 30 and the vast majority of them live in developing countries. Moreover, Li Young stressed in a speech delivered during the opening of the Forum that "adopting youth visions in any development process is imperative and necessary," noting that the UN Youth Vision 2030 calls for youth engagement and their contribution to societies, and added, "We try to integrate youth in all the priorities of UNIDO's strategy to work to develop young men and increase employment rates, as when young people contribute to society, the economic and industrial process becomes more sustainable." He stressed that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development cannot take place without investing in youths as being the agents of change and the leaders of the future.
- The Network also hinted that the opening ceremony of the forum witnessed stories of inspiring models of young people, such as the American girl Jessica, who fulfilled her dream to be a pilot, even though she is without arms, and Michelle, from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who was kidnapped in his childhood by an armed group and was forced to fight. His father was killed

because of working in the field of defending human rights. However, he is now one of the most important child-right defenders in the world who calls for putting an end to child work as soldiers. Halima Aden, is also one of the inspiring models. She is the first black female model who appears wearing hijab on the covers of the most famous fashion magazines in the world. She is an American of Somali origin. Another example is the Egyptian girl Noura, who works as a tour guide.

- The Network noted that the forum, whose activities will continue until next Tuesday, will address three main axes: peace, development and creativity. Through these axes, a large number of different issues of interest to young people will be discussed, which in turn creates a platform for expressing views, presenting ideas and exchanging experiences through several sessions and workshops. The list of the topics which will be discussed during the Forum comprises about 17 sessions, including food security, the industrial revolution, the Union for the Mediterranean, environmental challenges, artificial intelligence, women's empowerment, art and cinema. It is scheduled that the current session of the Forum will present a model of the Union for the Mediterranean, where the European Union and the countries of the Eastern and Southern Mediterranean will be represented by young people in order to achieve stability, peace and development at the regional level.

## 4- African Media

- Cameroon Radio and Television reported that approximately 20 Cameroonian youths are in Sharm El Sheikh to attend the third edition of the World Youth Forum. Dr Enow Awah Georges CEO/Founder of the Organization for Health in Sustainable Development (OHISD) in Cameroon stated that he hopes to exchange and network with other youths from around the globe.
  - This third edition of the World Youth Forum focuses on the involvement of youths in key global issues. It gives room for them to exchange views in an enriching set up in order to propose useful initiatives to decision-makers and influential figures.
- The "Africa Portal" website under the title "Al-Sisi honors an exceptional patient" highlighted the story of the 12-year-old child Zain Youssef, who reviewed his journey of recovery from cancer at the World Youth Forum. The site pointed out that President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi said: "I want to shake hands with you." Then, the president went to the child, Zain, on the stage to shake his hand. Besides, the participants paid tribute to Radwa Musa, the mother of the Zain Youssef, the cancer fighter.