
Aly Erfan

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Personal Information

- Name in Full: Aly Ahmed Mohamed Erfan
 - Nationality: Egyptian
 - Current Rank: Ambassador in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt
 - Current Position: Professor of Practice, School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, the American University in Egypt
 - Date of Birth: 1 February, 1960
 - Place of Birth: Cairo, Egypt
 - Marital Status: Married
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Summary Statement

Profile:

- An experienced Diplomat, with a 30-year career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt and the League of Arab States, which was focused mainly on the most pressing issues of regional peace and security that relate to the Arab World and the Middle East.

Competencies:

- Strong analytical skills, strategic planning and decision-making abilities, as a result of having served for more than 15 years in the "inner-cabinet" of three Foreign Ministers and the Secretary General of the League of Arab States, during critical and eventful periods in the Middle East.
- Effective communication and negotiation skills, acquired from having been a member of Egyptian and League of Arab States delegations to multiple regional and international organizations, conferences and summits. Those skills have been polished further by an experience in the private sector as a business development consultant.

- Proven managerial, administrative and team-building abilities, with experience in both government and private-sector management processes.

Current Position

July 2016 to Current [School of Global Affairs and Public Policy](#), American University in Cairo
Cairo, Egypt
Professor of Practice, Global Affairs

- Teaching post-graduate courses on issues including the Arab-Israeli conflict, regional security, current Middle East affairs, as well as regional and international organizations (the United Nations and the League of Arab States) as they relate to Middle East conflicts and crises.
- Leading the Middle East Policy Programme at the School of Global Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP), which aims at deepening the School's engagement and involvement in the public debate regarding regional issues, as well as expanding its outreach regionally and globally as a center of excellence that bridges between academic, scholarly research on one hand and the practical requirements of Middle East diplomacy and public policy on the other hand.
- Member of the Advisory Board of the [Middle East Studies Centre](#) of the School of Global Affairs and Public Policy of the American University in Cairo.
- Co-Managing Editor of the [Cairo Review of Global Affairs](#), the quarterly journal of the School for Global Affairs and Public Policy at the American University in Cairo.
- Director of the [Master of Global Affairs Program](#).
- Member of the International Advisory Board of the [Cairo International Centre for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding \(CCCCPA\)](#).

Professional History

I-July 2011-July 2016

Political Advisor and Chef De Cabinet of the Secretary General of the League of Arab States, **The League of Arab States** (Seconded from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs):

As Chef de Cabinet (July 2013-July 2016)

- Managing and directing the Cabinet of the Secretary General of the League of Arab States, which supports the Secretary General (a staff of over 70 professional and administrative assistants).
- Advising the Secretary General on matters relevant to the administration and managerial oversight of the League of Arab States.
- Liaising with the other heads of divisions and departments to coordinate general policy planning and activities as related to the mandate, policy objectives and responsibilities of the Secretary General and to monitor implementation.
- Representing the Secretary General, where relevant, in inter-agency meetings or in meetings with Member States, relating to management and administrative issues of the League of Arab States.

As Political Adviser (July 2011-July 2016)

- Advising the Secretary General of the League of Arab States on substantive policy matters, as related to his mandate and to the responsibilities of the League of Arab States, particularly on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, the situation in Syria, the Situation in Libya, the Situation in Yemen, the Situation in Iraq and the Establishment of an Arab Joint Force.
- Assisting the Secretary General in preparing for Arab Ministerial and Summit Meetings. Maintaining contact with high-ranking officials of Member States and extra-regional partners (the United Nations, the European Union...etc), on relevant substantive and political issues. Advising the Secretary General on relations between the League of Arab States and its Member States as well as its relations with extra-regional parties.
- Reviewing and supervising press statements of the Secretary General and of the League of Arab States. Speech-writer for the Secretary General. Representing the Secretary General and/or the League of Arab States in regional or international conferences relating to substantive political issues.

II-December 2005-August 2011

Business Development Consultant,

Alkan Consult (On leave without pay from the Foreign Ministry):

- Evaluating and assessing business opportunities and identifying areas of high growth potential.
- Advising clients on ways and means to develop their business in the Egyptian market.
- Advising clients throughout the negotiation-phases.

III-January 1993-December 2005

Assistant to the Foreign Minister on: The Middle East Peace Process/Arms Control/Regional Issues,

Cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt:

- Close involvement in following the negotiations between Israel and Palestine, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, including through maintaining close contact with policy-makers among relevant regional and international parties.
- Representing Egypt as a member of delegation to regional and international fora that dealt with Arms Control.
- Assisting the Foreign Minister in developing policy and in decision-making regarding the aforementioned issues.
- Speech-writer for the Foreign Minister on relevant issues.

IV-September 1988-December 1993

Desk Officer for Economic Issues (one year) Arms Control/Security Council (Arab/Israeli Conflict-Iraq),

Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations-New York:

- Sitting on the First and Second Committees of the General Assembly of the United Nations (Arms Control and Economic Affairs respectively).
- Following closely the deliberations on the Arab/Israeli Conflict and the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in the Security Council.
- Assisting in preparing Egypt's policy positions on the aforementioned issues.

V-September 1987-September 1988

Desk Officer for the IMF, the World Bank and Egyptian/American Economic Relations,

Department of International Economic Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt:

- Following closely Egypt's relations with the IMF, the World Bank and the United States.
- Preparing background and policy memoranda on the aforementioned issues.
- Liaising with other relevant Government Agencies regarding the aforementioned issues.

Regional and International Conferences

I- As Member of the Delegation of the League of Arab States :

- Arab Summit in Sharm Al Sheikh (March 2015)
- Arab Summit in Kuwait (March 2014)
- Arab Summit in Doha (March 2013)

- Regular Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations (2011-2015)
- Regular and Extraordinary Sessions of the Council of the League of Arab States at the Ministerial Level and its Sub-Committees on Syria and The Arab Peace Initiative (2011-2016)
- Friends of Syria Conferences (2012-2013)
- Friends of Libya Conferences and Meetings of the Special Envoys on Libya (2011-2015)
- Friends of Yemen Conference (London, March 2013)
- The Geneva I Conference on Syria (June 2012)
- The Geneva II Conference on Syria (Held in Montreux-January 2014)
- Security Council Meeting on Syria (January 2012)
- Meetings of The International Syria Support Group-ISSG (Vienna, New York and Munich, 2015-2016)
- Security Council Meeting on Cooperating with the League of Arab States (September 2012)
- High Level Thematic Debate of the General Assembly of the United Nations on Strengthening Cooperation Between the United Nations and Regional and Sub-regional Organizations (New York, May, 2014)
- The Leaders' Summit on Countering ISIL and Violent Extremism (UN, New York, September, 2015)

II- As Member of the Egyptian Delegation :

- Arab Summit in Tunis (May 2004)
- Arab Summit in Sharm Al Sheikh (March 2003)
- Arab Summit in Beirut (March 2002)
- Arab Summit in Amman (March 2001)
- Arab Summit in Cairo (October 2000)
- Arab Summit in Cairo (June 1996)
- Regular Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations (1988-2005)
- Summit on the Palestinian-Israeli Track in Sharm El Sheikh (June 2003)
- Sharm El Sheikh Summit Conference on the Palestinian-Israeli Track (October 2000)
- Sharm El Sheikh Summit Conference for the Signing of the Sharm El Sheikh Memorandum on the Palestinian-Israeli Track (September 1999)
- Summit of Peacemakers in Sharm El Sheikh (March 1996)

- Regular and Extraordinary Sessions of the Council of the League of Arab States at the Ministerial Level (1993-2005)
- Meetings of the Steering Committee of the Multilateral Track of the Madrid Peace Conference (1993-2000)
- Meetings of the Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security (ACRS) of the Multilateral Track of the Madrid Peace Conference and its Subsidiary Workshops (1993-1995)
- Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (April-May 1995)

Workshops and Track II Activities

Participated in numerous workshops and track II activities, on issues of the Middle East Peace Process, Arms Control and well as issues of Regional Security, such as Arab/Israeli relations, Iran, Syria...etc.

Among those activities were workshops held by:

- The Center for Middle East Studies, Egypt
- Wilton Park, the United Kingdom
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Sweden
- Saban Center for Middle East Policy, The Brookings Institution, the United States
- University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), the United States
- Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum (CPPF), the United States

Education

- 1987 **School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London**
London, United Kingdom
Area Studies (Near and Middle East, Major in Political Science) Master of Arts
- Dissertation Title: "The October 1973 War: Sadat in Search of Legitimacy"
- Synopsis: The dissertation examined the challenges and limitations that Anwar Sadat faced in trying to establish his legitimacy during the period from 1970, a few short months after he assumed the Presidency, until October 1973, when he successfully launched the October War, which finally secured the legitimacy he sought. In the course of this examination, the dissertation addressed Sadat's struggle with the burdens of the legacy of Nasser, to which he found himself accountable and against the bearers of which he attempted to establish his authority. It also examined the style of Sadat's rule and the manner by which he managed crises in general.
- 1986 **Institute for Diplomatic Studies-Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt**
Cairo, Egypt
Diplomatic Training for newly-recruited Diplomatic Attachés
Top of Class.
- 1982 **American University in Cairo**
Cairo, Egypt
Political Science Bachelor of Arts

Languages

- Arabic: Fluent-Mother tongue.
- English: Fluent- Language of education.
- French: Conversational.

Publications

(Egypt Needs a New Foreign Policy)
- Al Masri Al Youm, April 15th, 2011
Article Co-written with Ezzedine Choukri Fishere.

References*

Dr. Nabil Elaraby

- Former Secretary General of the League of Arab States.
- Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt.
- Former Judge on the International Court of Justice

Ms. Fayza Aboul Naga

- National Security Adviser of Egypt.
- Former Minister of International Cooperation of Egypt.

Ambassador Nabil Fahmy

- Dean of the School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the American University in Cairo.
- Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt
- Former Ambassador of Egypt to the United States

Dr. Nasser Al Kidwa

- Former Envoy of the League of Arab States for Libya.
- Former Deputy United Nations/League of Arab States Joint Special Representative for Syria.
- Former Foreign Minister of Palestine.

Ambassador Jeffrey Feltman

- Former United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs and Head of the United Nations Department of Political Affairs.
- Former United States Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.

Dr. Ezzedine Choukri Fishere

- Ambassador in the Foreign Ministry of Egypt.
- Author.
- Visiting Professor, Dartmouth College, United States.

* Contact details available on request.