Our New Lebanon



# **Speaker Series**

## S A M I F A T F A T



Date: November 29, 2020

Time: 12:00 PM Pacific 10:00 PM Beirut

Place: Zoom <u>Click to Register</u>

#### PROFILE

In 2018, Sami Fatfat became the youngest MP in Lebanon. He is what can be called an out-of-the-box politician, despite the fact that he comes from a political family that had its share of influence in Northern Lebanon.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in economics and a master's degree in business, Fatfat worked for a few years in different organizations, then ran his father's office before running for the 2018 parliamentary elections. Becoming a parliamentarian was a deep rooted motivation geared to help the people in his region. Fatfat's most notable accomplishment is bridging the gap between the past and the future. He prioritized working on changing the voting age considering the Lebanese youth form over 40% of the population and should not bear the weight of the past on their shoulders. On the other hand, while being a member of the Youth and Sports Parliamentary Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee, he struggles to amend the nationality law to allow Lebanese women to pass on their nationality to their children while trying to create a regulatory system for legalizing cannabis cultivation and its production for medicinal use. Sami acknowledges that the sectarian political system does not help achieve his goals, hence the need to update the system. He believes that change should happen from within to avoid civil unrest.

Finally, in Fatfat's own words "I believe in negotiations and discussions. I believe in compromises for the greater good but of course there is a limit to everything, I do not believe in sacrificing my ethics and values."

#### Q/A

Please prepare your questions in advance and send them to rania@ournewlebanon.org no later than Saturday, November 28th at 10 pm.

#### ZOOM ETIQUETTE

- Best Practices for a successful Zoom meeting
- Mute yourself when you're not talking- If not, you will be muted to avoid noise interference
- Use the chat to ask questions
- Use the reaction button to raise your hand
- Ask questions, don't make statements and be brief

\*This session is being recorded and will be posted on Our New Lebanon pages

### OUR NEW LEBANON

"We strive to preserve Lebanon as a model of freedom and democracy. We work to promote peace, neutrality, freedom of religion, and free speech. We support economic liberty and political independence. To strengthen and expand the US-Lebanon relationship in ways that enhances the security of both countries. To educate and guide decision-makers on the bonds that unite the two countries and matters of interest to the Lebanese American Community.