



# A Conversation with Careem Co-Founder & CEO Mudassir Sheikha

Tuesday, November 17, 2020 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. EST Online event via Zoom

### **Welcome Remarks**



Mr. Frederick Kempe
President and CEO, Atlantic Council

Fred Kempe is the president and chief executive officer of the Atlantic Council. Under his leadership since 2007, the Council has achieved historic, industry-leading growth in size and influence, expanding its work through regional centers spanning the globe and through centers focused on topics ranging from international security and energy to global trade and next generation mentorship. Before joining the Council, Kempe was a prize-winning editor and reporter at the *Wall Street Journal* for more than twenty-five years. In New York, he served as assistant managing editor, International, and columnist. Prior to that, he was the longest-serving editor and associate publisher ever of the *Wall Street Journal Europe*, running the global *Wall Street* 

Journal's editorial operations in Europe and the Middle East. In 2002, The European Voice, a leading publication following EU affairs, selected Kempe as one of the fifty most influential Europeans, and as one of the four leading journalists in Europe. At the Wall Street Journal, he served as a roving correspondent based out of London; as a Vienna Bureau chief covering Eastern Europe and East-West Affairs; as chief diplomatic correspondent in Washington, DC; and as the paper's first Berlin Bureau chief following the unification of Germany and collapse of the Soviet Union. As a reporter, he covered events including the rise of Solidarity in Poland and the growing Eastern European resistance to Soviet rule; the coming to power of Mikhail Gorbachev in Russia and his summit meetings with President Ronald Reagan; the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Lebanon in the 1980s; and the American invasion of Panama. He also covered the unification of Germany and the collapse of Soviet Communism. He is the author of four books. The most recent, Berlin 1961: Kennedy, Khrushchev, and the Most Dangerous Place on Earth, was a New York Times Best Seller and a National Best Seller. Published in 2011, it has subsequently been translated into thirteen different languages. Kempe is a graduate of the University of Utah and has a master's degree from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, where he was a member of the International Fellows program in the School of International Affairs. He won the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism's top alumni achievement award and the University of Utah's Distinguished Alumnus Award. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and Gender Champions in Nuclear Policy. For his commitment to strengthening the transatlantic alliance, Kempe has been decorated by the Presidents of Poland and Germany and by King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden.

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### **Speaker Bios**



Mr. Mudassir Sheikha Co-Founder and CEO, Careem

Mr. Mudassir Sheikha is the CEO and Co-Founder of Careem. He grew up in Karachi, Pakistan, before graduating from the University of Southern California with a degree in economics and computer science and then completing a masters degree in computer science at Stanford. Mudassir's career in tech started with Silicon Valley startup "Brience". Mudassir then moved back to Pakistan and co-founded "DeviceAnywhere", a company that was acquired by "Keynote" in 2008 before joining management consulting firm "McKinsey & Company" in Dubai. In 2012, he left to form a new company with ex-McKinsey colleague, Magnus Olsson. The idea was not just to build a big business, but start one that would have a big impact, be meaningful, and with a mission to simplify and improve lives and create an awesome organisation that inspires. From that came Careem. Today, Careem is the leading technology platform

across the greater Middle East and was recently acquired by Uber in the largest industry transaction seen in the region. Careem operates in more than 100 cities across 14 countries with more than 1,300 colleagues and well over one million captains on its platform.



Mr. Amjad Ahmad

Director and Resident Senior Fellow, empowerME, Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East, Atlantic Council

Mr. Amjad Ahmad is director and resident senior fellow of empowerME at the Atlantic Council's Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East. He focuses on shaping innovative investments to empower entrepreneurs, women, and youth in the Middle East. He develops strategies and policies to drive sustainable prosperity through the creation of dynamic entrepreneurial

economies, the economic participation of women, and educational transformation. Amjad is also managing partner of the venture capital firm Precinct Partners and serves on the boards of Nuwa Capital, Eyewa, Tapal Tea, RSA Global, Mumzworld, Mr. Usta and The Luxury Closet. Based in the United Arab Emirates for fifteen years prior to moving to Washington, DC, Amjad has collaborated with business leaders and entrepreneurs to build leading companies in the Middle East. Through his work as a venture capital and growth investor, Amjad established two investment firms in the region that provided over \$1 billion in funding to over fifty companies in sectors ranging from technology and education to healthcare and finance. During the past five years, Amjad has focused his investments on entrepreneurship, innovation, and technology. Amjad holds a master's degree in international affairs with a concentration in international finance and economics from Columbia University and is a graduate of the general management program at Harvard Business School.





### **Moderator Bio**



Ms. Hadley Gamble Anchor and Reporter, CNBC

Ms. Hadley Gamble is CNBC's Anchor based in Abu Dhabi. Hadley anchors Capital Connection from CNBC's Middle East Headquarters based within Abu Dhabi Global Markets. In addition, Hadley also fronts CNBC's popular documentary franchise, Access: Middle East where she speaks to world leaders, international CEOs and philanthropists. Recent guests include Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, Lebanon's Prime Minister

Saad Hariri, Saudi Foreign Minister Adel Al-Jubeir, HRH Princess Reema bin Bandar Al-Saud, as well as U.S Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and U.S Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. In addition, Hadley has profiled some of the biggest names in business including the man behind the world's tallest tower, Emaar Chairman Mohammed Alabbar, bitcoin brothers Tyler and Cameron Winklevoss and the only Western investor to hold a telecom license in North Korea, billionaire Egyptian businessman Naguib Sawiris. Hadley regularly reports for CNBC from the World Economic Forum in Davos, moderating panels on topics ranging from the geostrategic outlook for the Middle East to the future of education and infrastructure. Hadley is also a passionate advocate for women in the workplace and their advancement across the Arab world. She moderated the first ever women's business forum in Saudi Arabia and provided exclusive content to CNBC as the Kingdom lifted its decades-old driving ban. An experienced journalist, Hadley has also worked for ABC News and Fox News in Washington, DC producing news programs and covering national and international political events, including the 2008 Presidential Debates, Election Night 2008 and the Inauguration of US President Barack Obama.