Global Security Forum 2025 Closes with Insightful Dialogue on Regional Stability, Technological Threats, and Global Governance

- **Qatar's Institutions Spotlighted in Strategic Conversations on Peacebuilding, Hybrid Warfare, and Diplomacy**
- **Experts Call for Proactive Dialogue in the Sahel as Regional Collapse Looms**
- **Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Technology Debated as Dual-Use Global Security Tools**
- **Syria's Post-Conflict Future Examined Through Lenses of Justice, Humanitarian Aid, and Illicit Economies**

Doha, Qatar, 30 April 2025:

The third and final day of the Global Security Forum 2025 brought together diverse international perspectives through a series of insightful side events exploring the future of peace mediation, technological disruption, and the evolving role of state and non-state actors in global governance.

Sessions were hosted in collaboration with leading Qatari institutions, including Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU), Qatar University (QU), and the Joaan Bin Jassim Academy for Defence Studies, reinforcing Qatar's position as a hub for strategic dialogue on international security.

Regional challenges were front and center, particularly during a session on the Sahel crisis, where experts stressed the urgency of preventative dialogue and long-term engagement. "Qatar is an expert in crisis negotiation and can help facilitate this," said Dr. Lassina Diarra of the International Academy for the Fight Against Terrorism. "When we look at the Sahel, the situation has been deeply complicated for the past 20 years. We need to begin the prevention track now, and Qatar can contribute on many levels."

Dr. Bakary Sambe, Regional Director of the Timbuktu Institute, added: "Qatar has double legitimacy when it comes to engagement in Africa – its experience in mediation, and its international reputation for diplomacy."

The role of education also featured prominently. "We urge the international community to support education efforts in the Sahel," said Dr. Sambe. "Qatar's institutions, like the Doha Institute, have a key role to play in shaping dialogue and research."

At a concurrent session on the challenges of post-conflict reconstruction in Syria, speakers discussed transitional justice and economic recovery. Ms. Jenifer Vaughan, Senior Media Advisor to the UN Special Envoy for Syria, noted: "On the ground, we've seen some improvement in the North, but challenges remain – from humanitarian access to the reintegration of returnees."

The Qatar International Academy for Security Studies (QIASS) hosted a forward-looking and highly engaging discussion in collaboration with HBKU on hybrid threats and artificial intelligence, where Dr. Georgios Dimitropoulos of the College of Law observed: "Countries like the U.S. are working to reclaim control over AI for economic and military security reasons, but it's critical that global collaboration keeps pace."

The day concluded with Navigating a Fragmented World: Multilateralism, Minilateralism, and the Quest for a New Global Order, hosted by Qatar University. The session explored how emerging and middle powers, particularly in the Global South, are shaping new pathways in international governance.

Held under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, the Global Security Forum remains a vital platform for evidence-based dialogue, bridging academic insight, field expertise, and policy leadership. As with previous editions, a GSF 2025 Findings Report synthesizing key insights and actionable recommendations is currently being compiled and will be shared with the public in the coming weeks.

-End-

About the Global Security Forum:

The Global Security Forum is an annual international gathering which has brought together, for several years, an international network of senior officials and experts and consistently included heads of state and government, ministers, heads of security agencies, prominent experts, academics, journalists, and thousands of attendees. This invitation-only event provides a unique dynamic platform for international stakeholders to convene and address the international community's leading security challenges. Please visit globalsecurityforum.com and follow @TheSoufanCenter, @GSECFORUM, @QIASSQATAR #GSF2025.