

Omar Christidis

MENA Innovation & Investment Expert

CEO & Founder at Arabnet



Biography

Omar Christidis is a first mover and early evangelist in the Middle East digital sector, and has a long track record in driving the conversation around tech and innovation in the region.

Over more than a decade, his company, Arabnet, has organized over 30 tech conferences, featuring more than 2,000 global experts, and has issued over a dozen original research reports. Omar is an Advisory Board member of the Strategic Foresights Program at the Middle East Institute (Washington DC), a Faculty Member and Moderator at the Aspen Institute, UK, a Board Member of the Lebanese Exhibitions & Conferences Association (LECA), and a Founding Board Member of the Yale Arab Alumni Association.

Omar has participated in conferences and forums around the globe, including, but not limited to, Smart Cities in New York, Misk Global Forum (KSA), Future Investment Initiative (KSA), Global Entrepreneurship Summit. As a moderator, he regularly interviews global leaders such as Sir Martin Sorrel and Gary Vaynerchuk. Furthermore, he's been featured in world renowned publications and cable news channels including Forbes, CNN, CNBC Arabia, and Sky News Arabia to name a few. Omar holds a BA *magna cum laude* from Yale University and an MBA from the Yale School of Management as Silver Scholar.



Omar interviewing Cristiano Amon, CEO of Qualcomm, at GAIN Summit



Omar moderating a panel at the Future Investment Initiative, KSA

Boards & Memberships

- ❖ Faculty Member and Moderator, Aspen Institute, UK
- ❖ Advisory Board Member, “Comin” Insurtech Startup, Lebanon
- ❖ Board of Trustee Member, American Community School (ACS) Beirut
- ❖ Board member, Lebanese Exhibitions & Conferences Association (LECA)
- ❖ Partner at Tech Stack Authority (UK)
- ❖ Advisory Board Member, Strategic Foresights Program, Middle East Institute, Washington D.C.
- ❖ Board Member, Flat6Labs Beirut



Awards & Honors

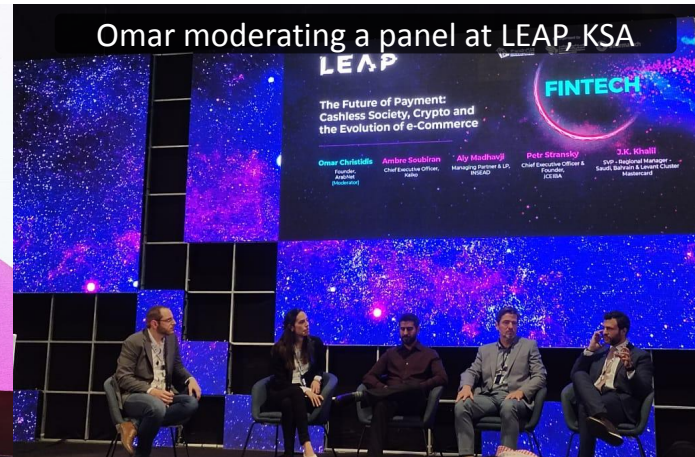
- ❖ Global Finance Magazine, Top Innovator for the Middle East in 2018
- ❖ World Economic Forum, Top 100 Arab World Startup in 2017
- ❖ Endeavor, High-impact Entrepreneur
- ❖ Gulfnews Magazine, "30 under 30" List in 2012

Selected Speaking Engagements

- ❖ **EuroMed Conference**, organized by the European Investment Bank (Barcelona)
- ❖ **Rising Leaders Fellowship**, Aspen Institute, UK
- ❖ **Global AI Summit**, organized by the Saudi Data and AI Authority
- ❖ **Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development Conference**, UAE
- ❖ **Future Investment Initiative (FII)**, organized by the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia
- ❖ **LEAP**, organized by the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Saudi Arabia
- ❖ **Smart Cities NY**, USA
- ❖ **Global Labor Market Conference**, organized by the Saudi Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development
- ❖ **Fintech Abu Dhabi**, organized by Abu Dhabi Global Markets
- ❖ **Biban**, organized by the SME Authority of Saudi Arabia
- ❖ **Global Entrepreneurship Summit**, organized by the US State Department



Omar MCs the Huawei Tech4Good awards ceremony, UAE



Omar moderating a panel at LEAP, KSA



Omar moderating a panel at EIBMED23, Spain

Selected Media Appearances





Eli Khouri, Chairman, Omnicom Media Group MENA

“Omar was a natural choice for the role of host and panel moderator at our annual OMD Predicts conference in Dubai in 2017. He proved us right with his obvious talent for the stage and grasp of the themes discussed in our panels. His lively and engaging style proved a hit with the audience and speakers.”



Walid Hanna, Founder & CEO, Middle East Venture Partners (MEVP)

“Omar has a gift for the stage. His presence is dynamic and engaging to the audience; his input is characteristically rich with original data and unique perspective on tech investment trends in the MENA region. He also channels an infectious, positive and upbeat energy onto the attendees, turning them into participants in a lively debate.”



Faraz Khaled, CEO, Noon.com

“Having been interviewed by Omar on several occasions, I can say that his eloquence, the depth of his knowledge, and his ability to lead and engage in a conversation have always been exceptional. His deep-rooted relationships within the ecosystem are a great boon for any partner as well.”

For Bookings

For bookings or more information on how Omar can help make your event a compelling success, please contact

Booking@omarchristidis.com

Visit www.omarchristidis.com for more details.

