



**AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Anti-Corruption Commission and AUB Sign Agreement to Advance Integrity Education and Institutional Reform

In a decisive step toward fostering a transparent and accountable public sector culture in Lebanon, the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) and the American University of Beirut (AUB), through its Government Engagement Platform (GEP) formalized a strategic partnership through the signing of a comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The signing ceremony took place at the NACC headquarters in Beirut, where representatives from both institutions gathered to underscore their shared commitment to embedding anti-corruption principles into the core of education, governance, and public engagement.

This landmark agreement, through which AUB is setting a model for other universities, reflects the shared commitment of both parties to collaborate on a wide range of initiatives aimed at generating knowledge, building sustainable capacity, and empowering youth. Through this MoU, the NACC and AUB will join forces to promote a culture of integrity, prevent corruption, and contribute to Lebanon's long-term institutional resilience.

Representing the National Anti-Corruption Commission were Judge Klaude Karam, president of the commission; Dr. Fawaz Kabbara, vice president; Judge Therese Allawi; Dr. Ali Badran; Dr. Joe Maalouf; and Dr. Kleib Kleib. The American University of Beirut delegation was led by Dr. Fadlo R. Khuri, AUB president; Dr. Zaher Dawy, provost; Dr. Fadi El Jardali and Dr. Joseph Bahout, co-leads of the Government Engagement Platform (GEP); and Zeina Sleem, GEP advocacy and engagement officer.

Under the terms of the agreement, both parties will work together to enhance academic and policy-oriented approaches to anti-corruption. This includes the co-development of educational content, particularly the design of university-level courses on anti-corruption and transparency to be integrated into undergraduate and graduate curricula at AUB. Beyond the classroom, the MoU envisions youth-led networks fostering civic responsibility and ethical leadership.

The partnership will also facilitate the organization of national conferences, workshops, and expert training sessions. Special emphasis will be placed on research collaboration, especially in updating Lebanon's National Anti-Corruption Strategy for the next five years. The parties plan to draw on the research expertise of AUB faculties and academic centers and the institutional knowledge of the NACC to ensure the production of academic research in Anti-corruption practices.

American University of Beirut

PO Box 11-0236, Riad El Solh, Beirut 1107 2020, Lebanon
T +961 1 35 00 00 – Ext 2650 | communications@aub.edu.lb

aub.edu.lb

In addition, the MoU allows for the placement of AUB students in internships or project-based learning experiences within the NACC, offering them first-hand exposure to public sector processes and ethical governance challenges.

At the end of the ceremony, President Karam presented an honorary shield to President Khuri and emphasized the importance of NACC's collaboration with all sectors, starting with the educational sector, particularly through universities, and especially the American University of Beirut.

Khuri affirmed that AUB would stand alongside the commission in its mission to combat corruption and promote a culture of integrity and transparency, ultimately contributing to building a better country.

By signing this MoU, AUB and the NACC signal their joint belief in the power of academic-government collaboration to shape a new generation of ethical leaders, enhance public trust, and lay the foundations for sustainable reform. This partnership stands not only as a framework for cooperation but as a testament to Lebanon's capacity for renewal when knowledge and governance align.

ENDS

For more information please contact:

Simon Kachar, PhD

Executive Director of Communications
Lecturer – Political Studies and Public Administration Department
Founding Director – Good Governance and Citizenship Observatory
Fellow – Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs
Member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Research, Innovation, and Creativity Hub

T +961 1 37 43 74 Ext: 2676 | M +961 3 42 70 24
sk158@aub.edu.lb

Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 790 full-time faculty members and a student body of over 9000 students. AUB currently offers more than 140 programs leading to bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full-service 365-bed hospital.

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