



Fahad Jaham Alkuwari

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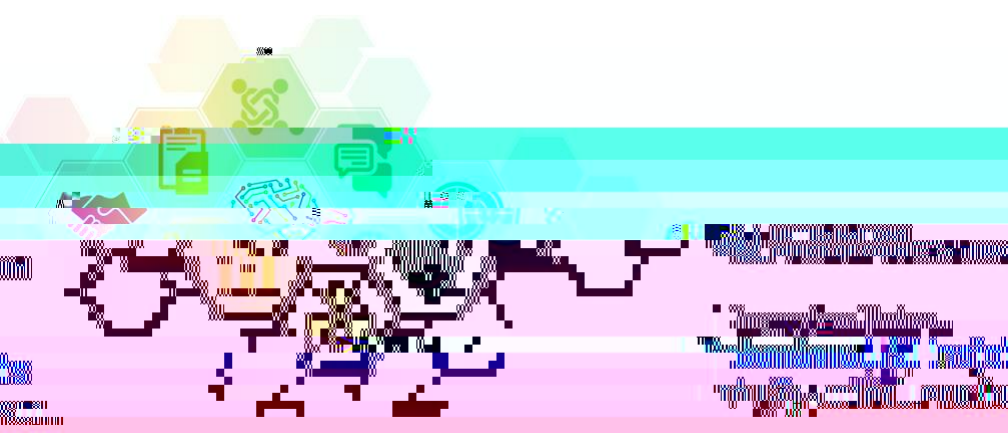
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Your Excellency Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs,

Your Excellency Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In an ever-changing world with increasingly complex issues, the urge to develop novel policy processes is more pressing than ever. In this context, behavioral insights have established, in a very short period of time, a strong track record in helping governments address environmental, social and economic multifaceted complexities and are now deeply rooted in public bodies all across the world.

Since 2016, the State of Qatar has been introducing behaviorally inspired processes, tools and practices in its policy development and has built a favorable environment conducive to the creation and growth of enterprises exploring the potential of behavioral insights in informing policy; in 2016, the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy – the entity tasked with the delivery of the 2022 FIFA World Cup infrastructure and with the enrichment of the ensuing legacy–established the MENA region’s first behavioral insights and nudge unit: the Qatar Behavioral Insights Unit (QBIU), now incorporated under the Qatar Financial Centre. Today, the Unit promotes evidence-based policies to address challenges with behavioral roots in sports and health, workers' welfare, sustainability and entrepreneurship, education, social cohesion and inclusion, and public service delivery.

be conducive to violent extremist action. By analyzing the data through a behavioral insights approach, the Office will develop a new generation of interventions for policymakers to effectively prevent violent extremism and will work with Member States and civil society partners to provide capacity-building assistance to develop and implement behaviorally-informed interventions in the counter-terrorism context.

We are confident that the rich and advanced academic landscape in the State of Qatar will be the perfect incubator for the nascent International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter Terrorism. Over the past two decades, Qatar has built a unique academic ecosystem fostered through world-class cross-sectoral collaborations with leading universities, firms and international organizations. This vision is embodied through Qatar Foundation, a non-profit organization made up of 50 entities working around three main pillars: research, education and community development. Since inception, Qatar Foundation has delivered breakthrough achievements in research in many fields by working with researchers and international universities like Harvard University and MIT and international firms like Boeing. To date, Qatar National Research Fund has provided over \$1.4 Billion to fund more than 2,300 research and innovation projects. This opens the door for fruitful partnerships through which this existing trove of cutting-edge research