

For Immediate Release



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AUB rated one of world's most attractive universities **among employers, # 1 in region**

The 2018 QS Graduate Employability Rankings on the best institutions at engaging with employers ranked the American University of Beirut (AUB) as one of the world's top in producing successful alumni and one of the most reputed and attractive universities among employers in the world. Going up at least 40 places since last year, AUB ranked 41 globally in QS' category of Graduate Employability. For the second year in a row, AUB ranked top in the Arab world and the MENA region.

Asking questions such as “How reputed are the institutions among employers?” and “Are the institutions nurturing high-achievers?” the report looks at how connected and attractive institutions' recent graduates are to employers.

AUB was ranked among such elite institutions as the University of Chicago (21), UPenn (22), Michigan (25), Northwestern (32), Duke (34), Brown (43), Boston (51), Carnegie Mellon (55), and Johns Hopkins (64), among others.

The ranking considered 600 institutions, but ranked only the top 500 globally, including 26 from the MENA region.

From Lebanon, AUB was one of only two institutions that were ranked, the other being placed in the 301-500 bracket. From the Arab world, Egypt was represented by four universities (with AUC at the top in the 201-250 bracket), Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates each had three, and Jordan and Kuwait each had one university represented.

The second highest ranked institution in the MENA region was placed over 100 spots below AUB, in the 141-150 ranking bracket. No other institution from the MENA region was ranked among the top 200.

Commenting on the results, AUB President Dr. Fadlo R. Khuri said: "The importance of the latest QS university employability rankings is that they show that the students of the American University of Beirut are among the most highly sought by employers globally, and that they carry an invaluable and reproducible set of skills into the job market, in addition to the rich vein of values that they represent. These are the values that can build not only great companies, but enduring and inclusive societies. We are not the least bit surprised that employers consider our students to be the most talented and employable from South Africa to Russia, from India to Greece and Turkey. They are genuinely formidable and ethical young people."

"One of AUB's missions is to produce graduates who are 'committed to creative and critical thinking, life-long learning, personal integrity, civic responsibility, and leadership.' The success of AUB in this mission could not be more attested to than through the 2018 QS Graduate Employability Rankings," said Dr. Lokman Meho, director of AUB University Libraries. "This QS ranking is evidence of AUB's success in achieving its mission of producing outstanding graduates, many of whom go on in their careers to become among the world's most innovative, creative, prosperous, entrepreneurial, and/or philanthropic individuals."

The Graduate Employability ranking made its debut last year using innovative, original insight and credible indicators including a large number of surveyed employers worldwide. QS published this list of the top 500 institutions for employability of graduates based on (1) reputation with employers, asking them to identify those institutions from which they source the most competent, innovative, and effective graduates; (2) alumni outcomes to establish which universities are producing world-changing graduates; (3) institutions' relations with external partners, which establishes which universities are collaborating successfully with global companies to produce citable, transformative research, and considers work-placement related partnerships; (4) employer-student connections, which sums the number of distinct employers who are actively present on a university's campus; and (5) graduate employment rate, which reflects the success rate of universities at nurturing employability, that is, measuring the proportion of graduates in full or part time employment within 12 months of graduation.

AUB was ranked 84 in employer reputation globally and 49 in alumni outcomes. AUB also achieved a 178 ranking in partnerships with employers, 95 in employer-student connections that allow students to network with businesses and launch their careers early on during their university experience, and the fourth ranking worldwide in graduate employment rate, an indicator of the success of AUB's students at securing full or part-time employment within 12 months of graduation.

The QS Graduate Employability Rankings is an annual ranking of universities around the world, celebrating institutions which are committed to and are effective in preparing students for the workplace.

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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 700 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,500 students. AUB currently offers more than 130 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 420-bed hospital.

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