



Panel discussion:

**Building Bridges: Innovation in Palestine and Switzerland**

Saturday October 28, 2017 at the Institute of Law Annex Building (Room 243) at Birzeit University

**Program**

Time	Item
10:00	Introductory speech by Professor Abdullatif Abu Hijleh – President of Birzeit University
10:05	Introductory speech by Federal Councilor Johann Schneider-Amman – Head of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research
10:15	Panel discussion: presentation by each panelist*
11:00	Q & A
11:35	Activation of Swiss-based robot (Laurent Goetschel – Director of swisspace)  The robot is part of a collaborative project (EFORD- Education for Development) between Birzeit University and swisspace
11:45	Lunch – Catered by Caesar Hospitality Academy (A vocational training academy dedicated to hospitality management)

Moderator: Mr. Sam Bahour

\*Panelists:

***From Palestine:***

- **Ms. Laila Akel**  
Co-Founder: Red Crow
- **Mrs. Ambar Amleh**  
COO – Ibtikar Fund
- **Dr. Iyad Tumar**  
Assistant Professor – Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Faculty of Engineering & Technology  
Birzeit University

***From Switzerland:***

- **Mr. Mauro Dell’Ambrogio**  
State Secretary  
State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI)  
Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER)
- **Ms. Martina Hirayama**  
Vice President of Innosuisse  
Dean and Managing Director of the School of Engineering  
Zurich University of Applied Sciences
- **Mr. David Studer**  
CEO  
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