



**RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)**  
Invites you to a presentation on Webinar, Sep 30 at 11:00 a.m.  
To view the webinar, log on to: <https://bit.ly/30IBj21>

## **Hagar Hajjar Chemali**

### **“A Closer Look at the Middle East: Key Developments, Insights, and Where Things are Headed”**



The Middle East is facing an incredibly tumultuous time – threats from Iran continue to grow as the regime sponsors militias and terrorist proxies in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen. A coalition of Gulf States is confronting the Iranian threat while engaged in a battle in Yemen that has resulted in a catastrophic humanitarian crisis. Syria continues to suffer with an ongoing civil war that has not only descended into confessional chaos, but has allowed for the growth of terrorism and an immense refugee and displaced persons problem. Turkey and Saudi Arabia vie for regional leadership – with both countries becoming increasingly authoritarian, while Lebanon suffers from a collapsing economy and the effects of a mass explosion that killed nearly 200 people, injured thousands, and decimated a section of the country’s capital. Amidst the chaos, destruction, and despair across the Middle East – there are also signs of hope. The UAE-Israel and Bahrain-Israel peace agreements brokered by the Trump administration not only bring trade and security opportunities, but shift the dynamic in the region in favor of pursuing peace with Israel.

Hagar Hajjar Chemali will offer an in-depth perspective on the complexities of the Middle East. A graduate of Barnard College, she has an M.A. from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs with a concentration on International Security Policy and the Middle East. She held several senior positions in the Obama administration, including Director of Communications and Spokesperson for the U.S. Mission to the United Nations under Ambassador Samantha Power, and from 2010-2012 Director for Syria and Lebanon at the White House, National Security Council. She began her career in Washington, D.C. as a Legislative Fellow for Congressman Christopher Shays (R-CT).

Ms. Chemali is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Greenwich Media Strategies, LLC, a firm providing strategic communications consulting and public affairs services in the areas of national security, counter-illicit finance, and business. She is also senior nonresident fellow with the Atlantic Council's Economic Sanctions Initiative, and is a writer and commentator on foreign policy issues, featured regularly on MSNBC, CNN, NBC News, Fox News, BBC, and Bloomberg. Chemali graduated from Greenwich Academy, currently serves on its Board of Trustees as well on the Board of the Greenwich United Way. She resides in Greenwich, CT

**Next Week: October 7, Roberto Lenton, Ph.D., Chair, International Water Management Institute, Professor Emeritus, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, "Food, Water and Global Development."**

*The Greenwich Retired Men's Association offers a free Webinar program every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. For additional information see [www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org) or contact us by e-mail at [info@greenwichrma.org](mailto:info@greenwichrma.org).*