



GAWBL-Summit 2018

German-Arab Women Business Leaders

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Honey Thaljieh

Manager Corporate Communications, FIFA, Palestine

Honey Thaljieh is Manager of Corporate Communications at FIFA, where she founded and leads the FIFA Annual Conference for Equality and Inclusion. As Corporate Communications Manager, reporting directly to the CEO Honey also works to communicate FIFA's efforts and lead projects to promote diversity, gender equality, integration, empowerment, and peace initiatives through football.

Thaljieh is the co-founder of women's football in Palestine, the first captain of the Palestinian national football team, and the first woman in the Middle East to obtain a FIFA Master and be employed by FIFA. She managed to break through social and political barriers and become a role model to women and girls throughout the Arab world and beyond. Following a series of career-ending knee injuries, Honey directed her efforts to empower the next generations. Through her extensive network of partnerships, she has created, developed and maintained sports initiatives for thousands of boys and girls throughout the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, providing them with alternative avenues and opportunities.

Today, Honey continues to be a poignant voice for empowerment and equality through sports. She is an international activist, inspirational speaker and community leader, and strong advocate for the role of sports in changing lives and creating hope and opportunities. Honey is also recognised as a Champion for Peace by the organisation Peace and Sport and serves as ambassador for several pro-social sports organizations including Save the Dream, Homeless World Cup, and Football for Peace.

She speaks regularly at global conferences and prestigious international organisations and universities and gave a talk at the world-famous TEDx in Zurich. Thaljieh has given keynote speeches and panel presentations at events organized by United Nations, UNESCO, UNICEF, Harvard, and The Vatican, among others. She has received various recognitions including Leaders Under 40 and featuring her football jersey in museums around the world from Japan to Germany, Spain, and in the MuCEM in Marseille. Honey has also been featured in documentaries and books worldwide, most notably in Eric Cantona's "Football Rebels". Honey is regularly interviewed by mainstream media outlets such as CNN, Financial times, Boston Globe, France 24, Al-Jazeera, etc.