

**2022 Commencement Exercise**  
**Ouided Bouchamaoui**  
**June 9, 2022**

Your Excellencies, very honourable American University of Beirut President, Ladies and Gentlemen, I consider an honorary doctorate from the American University of Beirut a great honour, and a very exceptional recognition, for me as a woman coming from the land of Carthage where Elyssa once settled after setting sail from this very beautiful land.. History has linked both of our countries since the beginning of time and it still does.. and I am so proud to be here today. For this, I would like to express my sincere gratitude—especially to Dr. Fadlo Khuri.

We are all striving to redefine our own role in the world, and, make a difference. As part of The Tunisian Quartet Nobel Peace Prize, I feel deeply grateful to receive this honor from such a prestigious long established institution of higher education and research.

President Theodore Roosevelt once said: “Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care.”

.. and I do care !

Thank you very much.