

# MAPPING QATAR'S \$400 BILLION FOOTPRINT IN THE UNITED STATES

BY NATALIE ECANOW

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## FOREWORD

BY JONATHAN SCHANZER

Why has a country of just 330,000 citizens that is half the size of New Jersey and a leading patron of the Muslim Brotherhood plowed \$400 billion dollars into the United States? This amounts to approximately \$1.2 million per Qatari citizen — an enormous sum.

FDD's Natalie Ecanow has labored for more than a year, collecting the receipts for these Qatari transactions, most of which have taken place over the past decade. But as Natalie notes, \$400 billion is a lowball estimate. She erred on the side of caution. If you take the word of Qatari government estimates or even the White House, the total number may exceed \$1.2 trillion.

Some Americans may welcome the generosity of the Qatari regime. After all, one could argue that a great many of these investments — spanning energy, defense, biotech and other important sectors — serve to benefit the U.S. economy and U.S. citizens. One could also argue that Qatar, like Japan, Canada, or other countries that sink billions in the United States, simply seeks return on investment.

But Qatar is different. There are more than a few reasons to question the largesse of the Qatari government. At the end of the day, Qatar is ruled by an Islamist, autocratic regime; Freedom House consistently ranks the country as “Not Free” in its annual Freedom in the World survey.<sup>1</sup> And Doha's failure to guarantee the rights of its citizens is not the biggest problem. Rather, it is the country's tendency to support jihadi causes in the Middle East that raises significantly more concern. The country's horrific track record in this regard distinguishes Qatar from other Gulf states that spread their wealth in America.

Though the U.S. government has delineated Qatar as a “Major Non-NATO Ally” and has positioned its Combined Air Operations Center at the Al-Udeid base in Qatar, this regime may qualify as a “State Sponsor of Terrorism.” The regime has sheltered Al-Qaeda.<sup>2</sup> It was a patron for the Taliban before the group recaptured Afghanistan, ending

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1. “Freedom in the World 2026, Qatar,” *Freedom House*, accessed May 26, 2026. (<https://freedomhouse.org/country/qatar/freedom-world/2026>)

2. David Andrew Weinberg, “Qatar and Terror Finance: Part II: Private Funders of al-Qaeda in Syria,” *Foundation for Defense of Democracies*, January 2017. ([https://s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/defenddemocracy/uploads/documents/11717\\_Weinberg\\_Qatar\\_Report.pdf](https://s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/defenddemocracy/uploads/documents/11717_Weinberg_Qatar_Report.pdf))

America's intervention there.<sup>3</sup> The government is a longstanding patron of Hamas, the terrorist group that plunged the Middle East into violence on October 7, 2023.<sup>4</sup> Finally, it is the primary patron of the Muslim Brotherhood, a global network of violent and nonviolent Islamist groups that seek the downfall of the West.<sup>5</sup> Several branches of this network have recently been sanctioned by the U.S. government.

Beyond that, the regime in Qatar has been embroiled in other scandals that should give Americans pause. Qatar bribed its way to hosting the World Cup in 2022. Later that year, the scandal known as “Qatargate” rocked the European Union when Qatari bribes to European parliamentarians were exposed.<sup>6</sup> The bribes were reportedly designed to buy influence to rehabilitate Qatar's image amid reports that more than 6,500 migrant workers had died during the construction of the country's World Cup stadiums.<sup>7</sup>

To whitewash these and other offenses, the Qataris wield the Al-Jazeera Media Network, which broadcasts in multiple languages and multiple formats, to spread the regime's messages.<sup>8</sup> Al Jazeera's U.S.-based affiliate, AJ+, has defied U.S. law for over five years by failing to register as a foreign agent.<sup>9</sup>

It is for these reasons, and perhaps others, that Qatar's massive investments in the United States should be scrutinized. Some of these investments include naked influence-peddling — from sponsorship of the annual congressional baseball game to annual White House correspondents' dinner parties.<sup>10</sup> The Qataris spend an enormous amount on lobby groups and public relations, which helps ensure that their investments continue with minimal scrutiny.

Perhaps most disturbing is the massive amount this small Islamic state has invested in American education. Qatar has half as many citizens as Washington, DC, has residents. Yet somehow, it has surpassed China as the largest foreign funder of American colleges and universities. This is baffling. It is safe to say that the regime in Doha is not a stalwart champion of traditional liberal arts education curricula. Even more disturbing: the regime is funding public K-12 schools, engaging American children in the classroom at a young age.

In an era of heightened cognitive combat, disinformation, and foreign influence, it is time for the United States government to look not just at China and Russia, but other autocratic states — and maybe democracies, too. Examining foreign capital is especially important when the numbers rise above a certain threshold. While it might

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3. “How Qatar came to host the Taliban,” *BBC* (UK), June 22, 2013. (<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-23007401>)

4. Jonathan Schanzer, “Stop With the Nice Words on Qatar,” *Commentary*, December 3, 2023. (<https://www.commentary.org/jonathan-schanzer/stop-with-the-nice-words-on-qatar>)

5. “Muslim Brotherhood in Qatar,” *Counter Extremism Project*, accessed May 26, 2026. (<https://www.counterextremism.com/content/muslim-brotherhood-qatar>)

6. Shari Hinds, “Three Years Since Qatargate: Has the European Parliament Learned Its Lesson?” *Transparency International EU*, December 9, 2025. (<https://transparency.eu/three-years-since-qatargate-has-the-european-parliament-learned-its-lesson>)

7. Juliana Kim, “FIFA should pay workers harmed in building World Cup venues, its committee report says,” *NPR*, November 30, 2024. (<https://www.npr.org/2024/11/30/nx-s1-5211297/soccer-qatar-world-cup-saudi-arabia-human-rights>)

8. Jon Levine, “Inside Al Jazeera's Style Guide, Which Forbids Reporters From Calling ISIS a ‘Terrorist’ Organization,” *The Washington Free Beacon*, February 20, 2026. (<https://freebeacon.com/media/inside-al-jazeeras-style-guide-which-forbids-reporters-from-calling-isis-a-terrorist-organization>)

9. Marc Tracy and Lara Jakes, “U.S. Orders Al Jazeera Affiliate to Register as Foreign Agent,” *The New York Times*, September 15, 2020. (<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/15/business/media/aj-al-jazeera-fara.html>); U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Press Release, “Comer Opens Probe into DOJ's Failure to Enforce FARA Requirements,” February 8, 2024. (<https://oversight.house.gov/release/comer-opens-probe-into-dojs-failure-to-enforce-fara-requirements>)

10. Kate Oczypok, “Social Scene, Your Guide to the 2026 White House Correspondents Dinner Weekend,” *The Georgetowner*, April 23, 2026. (<https://georgetowner.com/articles/2026/04/23/your-guide-to-the-2026-white-house-correspondents-dinner-weekend>); @moody, X, July 31, 2014. (<https://x.com/moody/status/494940874338344960>)

be fair to quibble over what that number should be, it is safe to say that \$400 billion, let alone \$1.2 trillion, is probably far beyond what Americans would deem acceptable.

The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) is a U.S. government body that scrutinizes investments by foreign governments in industries and businesses that could leave America vulnerable. It is time for CFIUS to address concerns about foreign influence in addition to national security risks.

The involvement of CFIUS need not lead to a ban on Qatari investments in the United States. To be sure, foreign direct investment (FDI) by countries of all stripes is an important way to attract wealth to the United States. But not all foreign money should be welcomed. This country is not a charity. Nor is it for sale. It is time to take a closer look at all the ways that Qatari and other foreign money may be buying influence.

The following report by FDD's Natalie Ecanow provides a good first glimpse at Qatari dollars in America. It is certainly not the final word on the problem. But it should prompt a serious discussion. From there, one can only hope that a more serious national dialogue, followed by legislation or other government measures, can begin to tackle the problem.

America should be open to foreign direct investment, but not unwanted foreign influence. Qatar may only be one of many nondemocratic regimes seeking to buy sway in this country. Guardrails are needed now.

## INTRODUCTION

If preparations proceed on schedule, the \$400 million jet that Qatar gifted President Donald Trump will join the Air Force One fleet by America's 250th birthday in July.<sup>11</sup> When Trump first accepted the proffered "palace in the sky" in May 2025, a firestorm erupted in Washington.<sup>12</sup> While criticism from across the aisle is to be expected, many of the president's strongest supporters also expressed deep reservations. As a *New York Sun* editorial noted, "sometimes the scandal is not what is illegal but what is legal." This gift, as the *Sun* observed, comes from a monarchy that has financed America's adversaries, pointing out that, "The Framers understood that gifts from other nations are rarely animated by unalloyed generosity."<sup>13</sup> *The Wall Street Journal's* editorial board expressed similar concerns about an American president being indebted to Qatari royals. "If the emir calls the White House to share his views on Iran, Israel and the region, won't he expect the President to pick up the phone? Should voters even have to wonder?" the board asked.<sup>14</sup>

Trump defended his decision on the grounds that accepting the plane simply makes sense from a budgetary perspective. He then defended the Qataris by asserting, "They also gave \$5.1 trillion worth of investment in addition to the jet."<sup>15</sup> It is unclear where Trump got this number, although one week earlier, the White House

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11. Mike Stone, "Exclusive: US aims for Fourth of July to deploy Qatar-gifted jet as Air Force One" *Reuters*, May 6, 2026. (<https://www.reuters.com/business/aerospace-defense/us-aims-fourth-july-deploy-qatar-gifted-jet-air-force-one-2026-05-06>)

12. Jonathan Karl and Katherine Faulders, "Trump administration poised to accept 'palace in the sky' as a gift for Trump from Qatar: Sources," *ABC News*, May 11, 2025. (<https://abcnews.com/Politics/trump-administration-poised-accept-palace-sky-gift-trump/story?id=121680511>); @CBSNews, "Bipartisan concern over Trump's plans to accept jumbo jet from Qatar," *YouTube*, May 13, 2025. ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhFH4OXG\\_rU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhFH4OXG_rU))

13. "Qatargate: Now an Ultra-Luxurious Jumbo Jet for President Trump's Use," *The New York Sun*, May 12, 2025. (<https://www.nysun.com/article/qatargate-its-latest-offering-is-an-ultra-luxurious-jumbo-jet-for-president-trumps-use>)

14. "Beware Qataris Bearing a 747 Gift," *The Wall Street Journal*, May 12, 2025. (<https://www.wsj.com/opinion/air-force-one-qatar-gift-donald-trump-boeing-747-c80b7e01>)

15. Emma Colton, "Trump rips NBC reporter for asking about Qatari jet gift amid tense meeting on genocide: 'You're a disgrace,'" *Fox News*, May 21, 2025. (<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-rips-nbc-reporter-asking-about-qatari-jet-gift-amid-tense-meeting-genocide-youre-disgrace>)

announced a \$1.2 trillion “economic commitment” from Qatar. An official fact sheet identified \$243.5 billion of deals between U.S. and Qatari firms in various stages of negotiation but did not explain how Washington and Doha will “generate” the remainder of the headline figure of \$1.2 trillion.<sup>16</sup> That same week, a lengthy analysis by *The Free Press* found \$93.7 billion of Qatari spending in the United States — an unusual sum for a country roughly the size of Connecticut with a citizen population smaller than that of Washington, DC.<sup>17</sup>

Yet the actual amount of money that Qatar has spent, invested, and donated is at least four times higher, reaching \$400 billion since 2000. This figure derives from a careful investigation of regulatory filings, business databases, lobbying disclosures, and other public sources of information. For Qatar, a country home to approximately 330,000 citizens, that sum represents approximately \$1.2 million per capita. And the true figure is higher. There is a long list of investments, especially in venture capital, for which a monetary value is not publicly reported.

Qatari money touches nearly every industry in America, from defense and energy to real estate, media, and sports. Doha’s ventures have entailed a cornucopia of transactions, including investments, grants, purchases, and pledges. Thus, there is no single word or term that captures the ways in which Qatar deploys its wealth. Some of these transactions are straightforward investments that yield returns. Others, like employing lobbyists, amount to direct spending on influence. Many fall somewhere in between. Yet even a profit-driven business venture can double as a source of influence. When Doha brings capital and jobs to an American city or state, its leaders will naturally become more concerned about Qatari interests.

This relationship between business ventures and political influence takes on special importance when a foreign power is providing the funds. In each case here, the investment vehicle or grantor is either government-controlled or run by members of Qatar’s ruling family. None are independent commercial actors in the way that British Petroleum or Toyota Motors are. For that reason, it becomes especially important to examine how economic relationships may serve the political agenda of the Al-Thani ruling family, whose interests and priorities are often antithetical or even hostile to those of the United States. To be clear, this memo does not claim that any of the ventures it describes are illicit or unlawful. Nonetheless, Qatari dollars raise red flags because, as the *Sun’s* editorial board noted, the scandal may be what is legal.

The nexus between wealth and influence also takes on special importance because Qatar has persuaded many in Washington that it is a trustworthy partner despite its patronage of Hamas, the Taliban, and the Muslim Brotherhood.<sup>18</sup> Similarly, Doha’s state-owned Al Jazeera Media Network amplifies Islamist propaganda for an audience of hundreds of millions of viewers worldwide. The country is also at the center of corruption probes in Europe, Israel, and

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16. The White House, “Fact Sheet: President Donald J. Trump Secures Historic \$1.2 Trillion Economic Commitment in Qatar,” May 14, 2025. (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/05/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-secures-historic-1-2-trillion-economic-commitment-in-qatar>)

17. Frannie Block and Jay Solomon, “How Qatar Bought America,” *The Free Press*, May 13, 2025. (<https://www.thefp.com/p/how-qatar-bought-america>)

18. Natalie Ecanow, “Reckoning Needed Between Terror-Sponsoring Qatar and United States,” *Foundation for Defense of Democracies*, July 13, 2025. (<https://www.fdd.org/analysis/2025/07/13/reckoning-needed-between-terror-sponsoring-qatar-and-united-states>); “Qatar, Money, and Terror,” *Counter Extremism Project*, accessed March 24, 2026. (<https://www.counterextremism.com/content/qatar-money-and-terror>); Paul Alster, “Secret document appears to show Qatar payoffs to key Morsi cronies,” *Fox News*, July 9, 2013. (<https://www.foxnews.com/world/secret-document-appears-to-show-qatar-payoffs-to-key-morsi-cronies>)

Washington, and made headlines for allegedly buying hosting rights for the 2022 FIFA World Cup.<sup>19</sup> Clearly, Doha is unafraid to punch above its weight by walking the line between licit and illicit financial activity.

Qatar’s record notwithstanding, both the Biden and Trump administrations have elevated Doha’s status. The former designated Qatar a Major Non-NATO Ally in 2022 and admitted the emirate to the U.S. Visa Waiver Program in 2024. The latter then extended U.S. security assurances to Qatar in September 2025. The two administrations share few foreign policy instincts, yet both chose to upgrade ties with Qatar rather than proceed with caution.

The United States welcomes foreign investment, which creates jobs and drives economic growth. But when an autocratic, Islamist regime with a record of bribery and terror finance sinks over a million dollars per citizen into the United States, it is worth asking why.

## DEFENSE

**\$84.6 BILLION<sup>20</sup>**

Qatar hosts the Combined Air Operations Center (CAOC) at Al Udeid Air Base. It is the largest American military base in the region, making the U.S.-Qatar defense partnership central to the bilateral relationship writ large. Since 2003, Qatar has contributed “more than \$8 billion in developing Al Udeid Air Base for use by the United States,” according to the U.S. State Department.<sup>21</sup> President Donald Trump announced in May 2025 that Qatar will invest \$10 billion in the base “in the coming years.”<sup>22</sup>

Concurrently, Qatar has spent billions more purchasing American arms through the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) and Direct Commercial Sales (DCS) programs. As of January 2025, the U.S. State Department reported that Qatar had over \$26 billion in active FMS cases, “making Qatar the second-largest FMS partner in the world.”<sup>23</sup> FMS is a program whereby “the U.S. government and a foreign government or international organization enter into a government-to-government agreement,” with the U.S. government acting as an intermediary between American industry and foreign customers.<sup>24</sup> FMS transactions typically involve the sale of major weapons systems like guided missiles or advanced fighter jets. According to records from the Defense Security Cooperation Agency

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19. Kara Scannell, “Sen. Menendez charged with receiving gifts from Qatar in new allegations in corruption scheme,” *CNN*, January 3, 2024. (<https://www.cnn.com/2024/01/02/politics/bob-menendez-superseding-indictment-qatar>); Patrick Kingsley, Johnatan Reiss, and Ronen Bergman, “What Is ‘Qatargate,’ the Latest Furor Embroiling Israel,” *The New York Times*, April 3, 2025. (<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/03/world/middleeast/israel-qatar-netanyahu.html>); “The Qatargate Files,” *Politico*, accessed April 24, 2026. (<https://www.politico.eu/european-parliament-qatargate-corruption-scandal-updates>); David Bond, “Qatar World Cup: ‘£3m payments to officials’ corruption claim,” *BBC* (UK), May 31, 2014. (<https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/27652181>)

20. This figure and all those like it refer to the total amounts of money that FDD was able to trace from Qatar to this sector at the time of publication. The paragraphs below each section describe specific transactions. FDD’s dataset provides a detailed list of each transaction. See: Natalie Ecanow, “Qatari Money In America,” *Foundation for Defense of Democracies*. (<https://www.fdd.org/qataroneyusa>)

21. U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, “U.S. Security Cooperation With Qatar,” January 20, 2025. (<https://www.state.gov/u-s-security-cooperation-with-qatar>).

22. “Qatar will invest \$10 billion in Al Udeid Air Base, Trump says,” *Reuters*, May 15, 2025. (<https://www.reuters.com/world/qatar-will-invest-10-billion-al-udeid-air-base-trump-says-2025-05-15>)

23. U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, “U.S. Security Cooperation With Qatar,” January 20, 2025. (<https://www.state.gov/u-s-security-cooperation-with-qatar>).

24. “Defense Trade and Arms Transfers: Foreign Military Sales,” U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, accessed May 19, 2026. (<https://www.dsca.mil/Programs/Defense-Trade-and-Arms-Transfers/Foreign-Military-Sales>)

(DSCA), the State Department has approved \$55.9 billion in FMS packages for Qatar since 2011.<sup>25</sup> Last year, the State Department approved the sale of eight MQ-9B Remotely Piloted Aircraft to Qatar under the FMS program. Qatar is the first country in the region approved to purchase these advanced drones.<sup>26</sup> Most recently, the State Department announced on May 1 “the immediate sale” of \$4 billion worth of “PATRIOT Air and Missile Defense replenishment services and related equipment” to Qatar. In its press release, the State Department noted that “an emergency exists” that warrants “waiving the Congressional review requirements” associated with FMS cases.<sup>27</sup>

Records from the State Department’s Directorate of Defense Trade Controls show that American companies have shipped \$1.2 billion worth of arms to Qatar since 2014 through the DCS program.<sup>28</sup> DCS involves the “sale of defense articles or defense services made under a Department of State issued license by U.S. industry directly to a foreign buyer,” and generally involve less-sensitive weapons.<sup>29</sup> The dollar value is reported in section 655 of the “Annual Report to Congress on Direct Commercial Sales Authorizations to Foreign Countries and International Organizations.” The congressionally mandated report lists the value of authorized “defense articles and services” alongside the “shipped value,” which represents “the actual shipments of those licensed transactions.” A conservative figure of \$1.2 billion includes just the value of “landed” sales, meaning those that were actually shipped to Qatar.

South Carolina has emerged as a hub for Qatari defense initiatives. In 2018, Barzan Holdings, “the strategic investment arm of Qatar’s Ministry of Defense,” incorporated a subsidiary in Charleston, South Carolina, called Barzan Aeronautical (now SC Aeronautical).<sup>30</sup> Barzan Aeronautical announced plans in 2021 to spend \$14.7 million on a facility for “engineering and manufacturing of technology-based unmanned aircrafts” in Johns Island, South Carolina.<sup>31</sup> Qatar also funds other defense companies through Barzan Holdings and Barzan Aeronautical.<sup>32</sup>

## ENERGY

### \$24.6 BILLION

Energy is a major area of investment for the Qatari government. Texas, as the United States’s leading energy producer, is the primary destination for Qatari investments. The localized nature of these energy deals raises

25. The \$55.9 billion figure reflects FMS packages documented by DSCA; FDD’s dataset records a higher total of approximately \$70 billion, which includes an additional sale sourced to army.mil and the most recent FMS case which the State Department announced in May 2026.

26. Lee Ferran, “US greenlights potential \$1.96 billion MQ-9B drone deal for Qatar,” *Breaking Defense*, March 26, 2025. (<https://breakingdefense.com/2025/03/us-greenlights-potential-1-96-billion-mq-9b-drones-for-qatar>)

27. U.S. State Department, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, “Qatar — Patriot Missile Replenishment,” May 1, 2026. (<https://www.state.gov/releases/bureau-of-political-military-affairs/2026/05/qatar-patriot-missile-replenishment>)

28. U.S. Department of State, Directorate of Defense Trade Controls, “Section 655 Annual Military Assistance,” accessed May 18, 2026. (<https://www.state.gov/section-655-annual-military-assistance>)

29. “Definition,” U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, accessed May 19, 2026. (<https://samm.dsca.mil/glossary/direct-commercial-sale>)

30. “Barzan Holdings,” *Milipol Qatar*, accessed May 18, 2026. (<https://www.milipolqatar.com/visit/search/exhibitor/Barzan-Holdings>); South Carolina Secretary of State, Business Entities Online, Corporate Filing, “SC Aeronautical,” Entity Number 00902994, accessed January 30, 2026. (<https://businessfilings.sc.gov/BusinessFiling/Entity/Profile/d2d59181-1d79-4cec-8255-cdaf56fcb28f>)

31. Office of the Governor of South Carolina, Press Release, “Barzan Aeronautical, LLC establishing operations in Charleston County,” November 12, 2021. (<https://www.governor.sc.gov/news/2021-11/barzan-aeronautical-llc-establishing-operations-charleston-county>)

32. Agnes Helou, “From unmanned to space tech, Qatar’s Barzan eyes new investments, ‘strengthening’ what its got,” *Breaking Defense*, March 6, 2024. (<https://breakingdefense.com/2024/03/from-unmanned-to-space-tech-qatars-barzan-eyes-new-investments-strengthening-what-its-got>); Agnes Helou, “Qatari investment firm Barzan looking to cash in with small defense firms outside region,” *Breaking Defense*, March 21, 2022. (<https://breakingdefense.com/2022/03/qatari-investment-firm-barzan-looking-to-cash-in-with-small-defense-firms-outside-region>); “Barzan Aeronautical Purchases Aerosonde SUAS System,” *Textron Systems*, July 5, 2019. (<https://www.textronsystems.com/our-company/news-events/articles/news/barzan-aeronautical-purchases-aerosonde-suas-system>)

questions as to whether Qatar is accruing political influence in Texas, even if its ventures also have commercial merit. The same question could be asked of Qatar’s investments in South Carolina.

In 2019, then-U.S. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry and Qatar’s minister of state of energy affairs announced a \$10 billion investment in the Golden Pass liquified natural gas (LNG) terminal in Sabine Pass, Texas. Qatar Petroleum, now QatarEnergy, invested “more than \$8 billion” in the LNG terminal, with ExxonMobil picking up the rest of the tab.<sup>33</sup> Three years later, QatarEnergy and Chevron Phillips jointly established the Golden Triangle Polymers Company in Orange, Texas. Qatar owns 49 percent of the \$8.5 billion petrochemical facility project, representing a \$4.2 billion investment.<sup>34</sup> Additionally, the White House noted in May 2025 that Texas-based American energy giant McDermott “has a strong partnership with Qatar Energy” that includes “seven active projects worth \$8.5 billion.”<sup>35</sup>

Qatar’s sovereign wealth fund, the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), also drives investment in the energy sector. In 2019, an affiliate of QIA sunk approximately \$550 million into Oryx Midstream Services, a “privately-held midstream crude operator” based in Texas.<sup>36</sup>

In 2021, QIA invested \$740 million in AVANGRID, a company that generates power for over 3 million Americans.<sup>37</sup> Moreover, filings at the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) in June 2025 show that QIA holds 18.6 million shares, or 5.5 percent, of Vistra Corp, an electricity and power-generation company in Irving, Texas. Based on the 52-week low share price at the time of writing, QIA’s stake in Vistra Corp is worth approximately \$2.2 billion.<sup>38</sup> In March 2026, a consortium including QIA agreed to acquire AES, a clean energy provider based in Arlington, Virginia, for \$10.7 billion. Qatar’s exact contribution is not reported.<sup>39</sup>

American energy giant ConocoPhillips runs a Global Water Sustainability Center in Qatar. The center has received multiple grants from the Qatar National Research Fund, including a \$700,000 grant in 2013 for a study on natural gas production methods.<sup>40</sup>

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33. U.S. Department of Energy, “Secretary Perry Joins Minister Al-Kaabi and Exxonmobil For Golden Pass LNG Signing Ceremony,” February 5, 2019. (<https://www.energy.gov/articles/secretary-perry-joins-minister-al-kaabi-and-exxonmobil-golden-pass-lng-signing-ceremony>). This is recorded as an \$8 billion investment in FDD’s dataset.

34. Sabrina Valle, “Chevron Phillips, QatarEnergy bet on \$8.5 bln plastic plant in Texas,” *Reuters*, November 16, 2022. (<https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/chevron-phillips-qatarenergy-build-85-bln-polymers-facility-2022-11-16>)

35. The White House, “Fact Sheet: President Donald J. Trump Secures Historic \$1.2 Trillion Economic Commitment in Qatar,” May 14, 2025. (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/05/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-secures-historic-1-2-trillion-economic-commitment-in-qatar>)

36. “Leading US Midstream Crude System Oryx Announces \$550 Million Investment from QIA,” *Oryx Midstream Services*, August 7, 2019. (<https://www.oryxmidstream.com/news/leading-us-midstream-crude-system-oryx-announces-550-million-investment-qla>)

37. Mark Segal, “Qatar Investment Authority Takes \$740M Stake in Sustainable Energy-Focused US Utility AVANGRID,” *ESGtoday*, May 13, 2021. (<https://www.esgtoday.com/qatar-investment-authority-takes-740m-stake-in-sustainable-energy-focused-us-utility-avangrid>); “Where Energy Meets Humanity,” *Avangrid*, accessed January 30, 2026. (<https://www.avangrid.com/aboutus>)

38. U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, “Qatar Investment Authority, Schedule 13G, Vistra Corp.” August 5, 2025. ([https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1692819/000144144925000007/xslSCHEDULE\\_13G\\_X01/primary\\_doc.xml](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1692819/000144144925000007/xslSCHEDULE_13G_X01/primary_doc.xml)); “Vistra Corp,” *CNBC*, accessed January 30, 2026. (<https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/VST>)

39. “Consortium Led by Global Infrastructure Partners and EQT Agrees to Acquire AES,” *AES*, March 2, 2026. (<https://www.aes.com/energy-insights/consortium-led-global-infrastructure-partners-and-eqt-agrees-acquire-aes>)

40. ConocoPhillips, Press Release, “ConcoPhillips Global Water Sustainability Center Awarded Prestigious Grant by Qatar National Research Fund,” June 9, 2013. (<https://www.zawya.com/en/press-release/conocophillips-global-water-sustainability-center-awarded-prestigious-grant-by-qatar-national-research-fund-m3ziqjry>)

## AVIATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

\$246 BILLION

Qatar has committed significant capital to infrastructure beyond the energy sector. Aviation is a major target. Qatar has initiated a reported \$148.5 billion worth of Boeing orders since 2011 and signed a \$79 million deal in 2018 with Tapestry Solutions, a subsidiary of Boeing that specializes in logistics services and software.<sup>41</sup>

Additionally, Doha has hired American companies to manage projects in Qatar. In 2021, the Qatar Public Works Authority awarded U.S. engineering firm Parsons Corporation a four-year, \$114 million contract to improve Qatari roads and other infrastructure. The White House announced in May 2025 that Parsons had “successfully won 30 projects worth up to \$97 billion dollars.”<sup>42</sup> In the United States, QIA participated in a 2024 fundraising round for Transportation Equipment Network, which is “the largest full-service trailer lessor in the United States.”<sup>43</sup>

## EDUCATION

### HIGHER EDUCATION

\$8.9 BILLION

The U.S. Department of Education launched a foreign funding dashboard in January 2026 showing that Qatar has pumped \$8.8 billion into the U.S. higher education system since 2001. That sum positions Qatar as the largest foreign funder of U.S. higher education, surpassing China by approximately \$2 billion.<sup>44</sup>

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41. “Qatar Airways orders Boeing planes in \$1.7B deal,” *Associated Press*, June 20, 2011. (<https://www.deseret.com/2011/6/20/20199110/qatar-airways-orders-boeing-planes-in-1-7b-deal>); “Boeing, Qatar Airways Announce Agreement for Nine 777-300ERs,” *Boeing*, June 17, 2013. (<https://boeing.mediaroom.com/2013-06-17-Boeing-Qatar-Airways-Announce-Agreement-for-Nine-777-300ERs>); “Qatar Airways finalizes \$19 billion Boeing 777X plane deal,” *Reuters*, July 16, 2014. (<https://www.reuters.com/article/business/qatar-airways-finalizes-19-billion-boeing-777x-plane-deal-idUSKBN0FL0T6>); Qatar Airways, Press Release, “Qatar Airways and Boeing Announce Order for 10 777-8Xs and Four 777 Freighters,” June 15, 2015. ([https://www.qatarairways.com/en-se/press-releases/2015/Jun/pressrelease\\_pas-boeing-777-150615.html](https://www.qatarairways.com/en-se/press-releases/2015/Jun/pressrelease_pas-boeing-777-150615.html)); Doug Cameron, “Qatar Airways Places Big Boeing Order,” *The Wall Street Journal*, October 7, 2016. (<https://www.wsj.com/articles/qatar-airways-places-big-boeing-order-1475857076>); Qatar Airways, Press Release, “Qatar Airways Announces \$2.16 billion Boeing Order,” September 26, 2017. (<https://www.qatarairways.com/en/press-releases/2017/sep/qatar-airways-announces--2-16-billion-boeing-order--.html>); Qatar Airways, Press Release, “Boeing, Qatar Airways Sign Letter of Intent for Five 777 Freighters,” April 10, 2018. (<https://www.qatarairways.com/en/press-releases/2018/april/boeing-qatar-airways-sign-letter-of-intent-for-five-777-freight.html>); Boeing, Press Release, “Boeing, Qatar Airways Finalize Order for Five 777 Freighters,” July 10, 2019. (<https://boeing.mediaroom.com/news-releases-statements?item=130476>); The White House, “Fact Sheet: President Donald J. Trump Secures Historic \$1.2 Trillion Economic Commitment in Qatar,” May 14, 2025. (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/05/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-secures-historic-1-2-trillion-economic-commitment-in-qatar>); “US firms sign key MoUs,” *Qatar Tribune* (Qatar), March 15, 2018. (<https://www.qatar-tribune.com/article/116389/NATION/US-firms-sign-key-MoUs>)

42. Parsons, Press Release, “Parsons Awarded \$114 Million Contract By Qatar Public Works Authority To Improve Infrastructure,” May 4, 2021. (<https://www.parsons.com/2021/05/parsons-awarded-114-million-contract-by-qatar-public-works-authority-to-improve-infrastructure>); The White House, “Fact Sheet: President Donald J. Trump Secures Historic \$1.2 Trillion Economic Commitment in Qatar,” May 14, 2025. (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/05/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-secures-historic-1-2-trillion-economic-commitment-in-qatar>). The White House does not specify whether the \$97 billion figure for Parsons’ projects includes the \$114 million contract Parsons received from Qatar’s Public Works Authority in May 2021; to avoid potential double-counting, FDD’s dataset records the value as \$96,886,000,000.

43. I Squared Capital, Press Release, “I Squared Announces New Shareholders in Transportation Equipment Network (‘TEN’) the Leading North American Full-Service Trailer Lessor,” July 15, 2024. (<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20240713566555/en/I-Squared-Announces-New-Shareholders-in-Transportation-Equipment-Network-TEN-the-Leading-North-American-Full-Service-Trailer-Lessor>)

44. U.S. Department of Education, “Section 117 Foreign Gift and Contract Public Transparency Dashboard,” accessed January 5, 2026. (<https://www.foreignfundinghighered.gov>)

Section 117 of The Higher Education Act requires schools to disclose gifts and contracts from foreign sources that exceed \$250,000. The schools that receive the most funding from Qatar are those with satellite campuses in Doha: Cornell University, Carnegie Mellon University, Texas A&M University, Georgetown University, Northwestern University, and Virginia Commonwealth University. Texas A&M announced in 2024 that it will close its Doha campus by 2028.<sup>45</sup> In March, the House Education and Workforce Committee released a report explaining that “financial incentives are a motivating factor” for universities to maintain their campuses in Qatar, and that the incentives often benefit their home campuses. Northwestern, for example, “annually transfers part of its management fee” from Qatar to its communication and journalism schools in Evanston, Illinois. Northwestern and Georgetown are also “contractually required to abide by the ‘applicable laws and regulations of the State of Qatar,’” which has allowed schools to “perpetuate antisemitism without apparent consequence” and left them “struggling to uphold free speech principles.”<sup>46</sup>

The funds disclosed to the Department of Education are only part of the story. Researchers at universities across the country receive funds from Qatari sources that they are not required to disclose. Qatar has funded projects at Northwestern University, Rutgers University, Stanford University, the University of Michigan, and the University of Washington to the tune of more than \$6 million.<sup>47</sup> This is not an exhaustive account of Qatari-funded research projects.

## **K-12**

### **\$8.5 MILLION**

There is no equivalent reporting requirement for K-12 schools. Public records from a range of school districts in major cities across the country document over \$8 million in support from Qatar Foundation International (QFI) since 2010. QFI is the American arm of the Qatar Foundation, which is run by the Qatari royal family. QFI primarily funds teacher trainings, Arabic language and culture programs, and student trips to Doha.<sup>48</sup>

The \$8 million figure here is likely an undercount because it reflects spending only in selected districts. Moreover, *The Wall Street Journal* reported that QFI gave \$30.6 million to dozens of schools between 2009 and 2017.<sup>49</sup>

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45. “Texas A&M-Qatar Campus To Close By 2028,” *Texas A&M University*, February 8, 2024. (<https://stories.tamu.edu/news/2024/02/08/texas-am-qatar-campus-to-close-by-2028>)

46. U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Education and Workforce, Majority Staff Report, “How Campuses Became Hotbeds: The Rise of Radical Antisemitism on College Campuses,” March 17, 2026. (<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/kw4w8wuxj9ecwpevss7gp/How-Campuses-Became-Hotbeds-the-Rise-of-Radical-Antisemitism-on-College-Campuses.pdf>)

47. “NU-Q Year in Review 2017: Shaping Our Future,” *Northwestern University*, accessed May 18, 2026. (<https://www.qatar.northwestern.edu/docs/publications/annual-report/2016-17-annual-report.pdf>); “Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering Biannual Report: 7/2021-7/2023,” *Rutgers School of Engineering*, accessed May 18, 2026. ([https://ise.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/2023-12/ISE%20Year%20End%20Report%202022-23\\_12-15-23\\_v5\\_0.pdf](https://ise.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/2023-12/ISE%20Year%20End%20Report%202022-23_12-15-23_v5_0.pdf)); Carrie Spector, “Project created by Stanford professor Carl Wieman honored for its impact on education,” *Stanford Graduate School of Education*, September 26, 2017. (<https://ed.stanford.edu/news/project-created-stanford-professor-carl-wieman-honored-its-impact-education>); Mark A. Tessler, CV listing research funding by Qatar, April 2025 (<https://lsa.umich.edu/content/dam/polisci-assets/Docs/cv-import-april-2025/mark%20tesslervita%20april%202025.pdf>); “Topic Areas & Projects,” *University of Washington*, accessed May 18, 2026. (<https://sites.uw.edu/urbdp/phd/research/topic-areas-projects>); John Vernon Pavlik, CV listing research funding by Qatar, 2024. ([https://sci.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/pavlik\\_cv\\_2024.pdf](https://sci.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/pavlik_cv_2024.pdf))

48. Simone Weichselbaum, “Qatar Is Pushing for ‘Social Justice’ Lessons and Arabic Classes in US K-12 Schools,” *The Washington Free Beacon*, January 28, 2026. (<https://freebeacon.com/campus/qatar-is-pushing-for-social-justice-lessons-and-arabic-classes-in-us-k-12-schools>)

49. Tawnell D. Hobbs, “U.S. Schools Receive Aid From Qatar,” *The Wall Street Journal*, August 25, 2017. (<https://www.wsj.com/articles/u-s-schools-receive-aid-from-qatar-1503682830>)

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

\$3.6 MILLION

In addition to direct funding for schools, Qatar has disbursed grants to a range of youth programs, including Boys & Girls Clubs; Learning Undefeated, which brings STEM education to underserved communities; and Break the Barriers, which provides extracurricular programming for students of all ages and abilities.<sup>50</sup>

## LOBBYING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

\$295.9 MILLION

In 2017, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, and Egypt severed ties with Qatar citing a range of grievances, including its purported support for “terrorist organizations” and Al Jazeera’s incitement of extremism.<sup>51</sup> Qatar recruited an army of lobbyists to generate support in Washington. States like Saudi Arabia already had deep benches of K Street firms on their payrolls, and the Qataris, according to former U.S. Ambassador to Qatar Patrick Theros, started “playing catch-up ball.”<sup>52</sup>

All firms engaging in “political activities” or public relations on behalf of Qatar must register with the Department of Justice under the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) and periodically disclose funds they receive from, and activities they conduct on behalf of, Doha.<sup>53</sup> Funding information is typically found on two types of documents — Exhibit B, which asks for the written agent’s contract with Qatar, and supplemental statements, which are filed every six months to report money received. Only the money listed in the supplemental statements is counted in this study because those numbers represent monies received, not monies promised.

Since 2010, at least 69 firms have received approximately \$235 million from Qatar. In certain cases, registered agents receive funds from intermediaries on behalf of Qatar, with both the agent and the intermediary filing FARA disclosures. The figures in this memo reflect the total amount each agent reported it received directly from Qatari principals. Agents who disclosed payments only from intermediaries are excluded from this dataset.

Barzan Aeronautical is the largest recipient of Qatari funds. The company received \$95.3 million from Barzan Holdings between 2018 and 2025 to “aid in the procurement/development of airborne ISR [intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance] systems for the foreign principal.”<sup>54</sup> Barzan Aeronautical hired a DC-based law firm to “provide legal counsel, and as required government relations counsel, on commercial and export control

50. “Projects,” *Qatar Harvey Fund*, accessed November 21, 2019. (<https://web.archive.org/web/20191121213140/https://www.qatarharveyfund.com/projects>); “Education: Learning Undefeated,” *Qatar Harvey Fund*, accessed August 19, 2019. (<https://web.archive.org/web/20190819193810/https://www.qatarharveyfund.com/education/learning-undefeated>); U.S. Department of Justice, NSD/FARA Registration Unit, “Six U.S. Charities Benefit from over \$3M Donation from the State of Qatar,” received April 13, 2021. (<https://efile.fara.gov/docs/6822-Informational-Materials-20210413-3.pdf>)

51. “List of demands on Qatar by Saudi Arabia, other Arab nations,” *Associated Press*, June 23, 2017. (<https://apnews.com/general-news-3a58461737c44ad58047562e48f46e06>)

52. Theodoric Meyer and Nahal Toosi, “Lobbyists cash in on dispute between Qatar, Saudi Arabia,” *Politico*, July 19, 2017. (<https://www.politico.com/story/2017/07/19/lobbyists-cash-in-on-qatar-240735>)

53. U.S. Department of Justice, “Foreign Agents Registration Act,” accessed February 2, 2026. (<https://www.justice.gov/nsd-fara>)

54. Barzan Aeronautical LLC, Exhibit AB to Registration Statement, Registration No. 6635, U.S. Department of Justice, FARA Unit, February 11, 2019. (<https://efile.fara.gov/docs/6635-Exhibit-AB-20190211-1.pdf>)

matters.”<sup>55</sup> The law firm reported \$28 million through the FARA process between 2018 and 2023. Qatari entities also paid multimillion-dollar sums to Portland PR; Nelson, Mullins, Riley and Scarborough; and Finn Partners.

Registered Qatari agents have engaged in a variety of activities, including promoting Qatar’s relationship with the United States, engaging congressional offices on legislation, and pushing back against accusations of labor abuses.<sup>56</sup>

## GOVERNMENT

### \$8.9 MILLION

Qatar courts U.S. officials in ways that do not require registration under FARA. This occurs at the federal, state, and local levels. In 2020, for example, Qatar donated \$5 million to the Mayor’s Fund of Los Angeles to help expand the city’s Angeleno Card program, which provided prepaid debit cards to LA residents impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Local news reported that Qatar’s gift was “the largest-ever single donation to the fund.”<sup>57</sup> Qatar reportedly donated an additional \$25,000 to the Mayor’s Fund “to sponsor four blood drives for necessary procedures during the pandemic.”<sup>58</sup>

In 2025, local news outlets discovered that Qatar had paid \$61,930 for Washington, DC, Mayor Muriel Bowser and four of her staffers to travel to the Middle East in 2023. Qatar’s funding was legal, but the overseas trip made headlines because the mayor’s office allegedly claimed that the funding came from the DC Chamber of Commerce.<sup>59</sup>

Bowser is just one of many American officials who have travelled abroad on Doha’s dime. These trips are often publicly reported in local papers, but the costs of the trips are not. For example, New York City Police Commissioner Edward Caban made two trips to Qatar in 2023, one covered by Qatar’s Ministry of Interior and the other by the Qatari Embassy. The *New York Post* obtained disclosures that it said, “estimate the cost between \$1,000 and \$4,999 for travel, accommodations and meals but do not contain any more specifics on the trips.”<sup>60</sup>

55. Ott, Bielitzki & O’Neill PLLC, Exhibit AB to Registration Statement, Registration No. 6573, U.S. Department of Justice, FARA Unit, July 20, 2018. (<https://efile.fara.gov/docs/6573-Exhibit-AB-20180720-1.pdf>)

56. U.S. Department of Justice, FARA Unit, Supplemental Statement, “Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP” Registration No. 5928, May 25, 2023. (<https://web.archive.org/web/20250202173641/https://efile.fara.gov/docs/5928-Supplemental-Statement-20230525-28.pdf>); U.S. Department of Justice, FARA Unit, Supplemental Statement, “The Gallagher Group, LLC,” Registration No. 6277, Received November 29, 2017. (<https://efile.fara.gov/docs/6277-Supplemental-Statement-20171129-6.pdf>); U.S. Department of Justice, FARA Unit, Supplemental Statement, “Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP” Registration No. 5928, Received May 30, 2018. (<https://efile.fara.gov/docs/5928-Supplemental-Statement-20180530-18.pdf>); U.S. Department of Justice, FARA Unit, Informational Materials, “Nurnberger & Associates, Inc.,” Registration No. 6907, June 5, 2021. (<https://efile.fara.gov/docs/6907-Informational-Materials-20210605-1.pdf>); U.S. Department of Justice, FARA Unit, Informational Materials, “Ballard Partners,” Registration No. 6415, December 30, 2020. (<https://web.archive.org/web/20211030181154/https://efile.fara.gov/docs/6415-Informational-Materials-20201230-76.pdf>); Jon Levine, “Eliot Engel weakens Hamas sanctions bill after lobbying from Qatar,” *New York Post*, September 21, 2019. (<https://nypost.com/2019/09/21/eliot-engel-weakens-hamas-sanctions-bill-after-lobbying-from-qatar>); Ben Strauss, “Migrant workers accuse U.S. PR firms of helping Qatar hide World Cup abuses,” *The Washington Post*, April 24, 2025. (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2025/04/24/quarter-world-cup-migrant-lawsuit>)

57. Brian Day, Erika Martin, and Mary Beth McDade, “L.A. Mayor announces expansion of Angeleno Card program after Qatar gifts \$5 million,” *KTLA5 LA*, April 23, 2020. (<https://ktla.com/news/local-news/l-a-mayor-provides-update-on-covid-19-outbreak-2>)

58. Sana Hussain, “Qatar donates to thousands of struggling families in California,” *Doha News* (Qatar), December 3, 2020. (<https://dohanews.co/qatar-donates-to-thousands-of-struggling-families-in-california>)

59. Scott Taylor, “DC Mayor asking Qatar to sign a donation agreement two years after it paid for her visit,” *ABC7 News Washington*, April 28, 2025. (<https://wjla.com/features/i-team/washington-dc-code-mayor-spending-travel-expenses-report-dubai-qatar-donation-agreement-luxury-vacation-climate-change-convention-taxpayer-dollars-chamber-of-commerce-middle-east-investigation>)

60. Craig McCarthy, “Qatar paid for NYPD commissioner’s Middle East trips after Adams admin was mum on who picked up tab,” *New York Post*, August 1, 2024. (<https://nypost.com/2024/08/01/us-news/qatar-paid-for-nypd-commissioners-middle-east-trips-after-adams-admin-was-mum-on-who-picked-up-tab>)

Doha has likewise paid for the mayors of Kansas City (MO), Tucson (AZ), Fresno (CA), Atlanta (GA), Montgomery (AL), Columbia (SC), and Rochester Hills (MI) to travel to Qatar.<sup>61</sup> The price tag of their trips is not reported. Mayors from Dallas-Fort Worth (TX), Tampa (FL), Miami (FL), Quincy (IL), Mountain Home (ID), and New Orleans (LA) have also visited Qatar in the last five years. Reports do not specify who funded their junkets.<sup>62</sup>

The same goes for members of Congress. Representatives Ilhan Omar (D-MN), Eric Swalwell (D-CA), Andre Carson (D-IN), Claudia Tenney (R-NY), Darin LaHood (R-IL), and Bryan Steil (R-WI), are among the members who traveled to Doha on Qatar's dime. The disclosures do not list costs.<sup>63</sup>

Qatar also frequently presents gifts to U.S. officials. This is standard for some foreign governments, but federal employees must disclose gifts that exceed a minimal value. Reports from the State Department's Office of the Chief of Protocol note over \$1.3 million in gifts from Qatari officials. The largest gift is a "gold-plated mechanical bird" worth \$110,000 that President Barack Obama received from Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani in May 2015. First Lady Michelle Obama received the same gift in November 2015.<sup>64</sup>

## THINK TANKS

### \$22.6 MILLION

Think tanks that have received funds from Qatar include the Brookings Institution, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Middle East Institute, the Stimson Center, and the Wilson Center. The Baker Institute for Public Policy at Rice University in Texas also received grants from Qatar, including \$2.5 million to establish The State of Qatar Endowment for International Stem Cell Policy Research.<sup>65</sup> Think tanks are generally not required to

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<sup>61</sup>. Ilana Arougheti, "Kansas City mayor is headed to Qatar ahead of 2026 World Cup. What to know," *The Kansas City Star*, May 15, 2025. (<https://www.kansascity.com/news/local/article306483241.html>); Sarah Lapidus, "Tucson Mayor Regina Romero returns from Qatari-funded trip to Doha economic forum," *AZ Central*, May 23, 2025. (<https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/politics/arizona/2025/05/23/tucson-mayor-returns-from-qatari-funded-trip/83800892007>); "Mayor Jerry Dyer in Qatar to promote Fresno as investment hub," *ABC30*, November 19, 2024. (<https://abc30.com/post/mayor-jerry-dyer-qatar-promote-fresno-investment-hub/15559524>); Farah AlSharif, "U.S. mayors in Qatar to promote cities as investment hubs," *Doha News* (Qatar), November 19, 2024. (<https://dohanews.co/u-s-mayors-in-qatar-to-promote-cities-as-investment-hubs>)

<sup>62</sup>. Asmahan Qarjouli, "US mayors meet Qatar's Amir during trade mission visit," *Doha News* (Qatar), March 30, 2021. (<https://dohanews.co/us-mayors-meet-qatars-amir-during-trade-mission-visit>); "Minister of Municipality, mayors of several US cities discuss cooperation," *The Peninsula* (Qatar), May 26, 2023. (<https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/26/05/2023/minister-of-municipality-mayors-of-several-us-cities-discuss-cooperation>)

<sup>63</sup>. U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Clerk, Financial Disclosure Report, 2022, "Hon. Ilhan Omar," May 15, 2023. ([https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public\\_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10053193.pdf](https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10053193.pdf)); U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Clerk, Financial Disclosure Report, 2022, "Hon. Eric Swalwell," August 3, 2023. ([https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public\\_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10051447.pdf](https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10051447.pdf)); U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Clerk, Financial Disclosure Report, 2022, "Hon. Andre Carson," for May 13, 2023. ([https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public\\_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10054306.pdf](https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10054306.pdf)); U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Clerk, Financial Disclosure Report, 2022, "Hon. Claudia Tenney," August 2, 2023. ([https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public\\_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10052761.pdf](https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10052761.pdf)); U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Clerk, Financial Disclosure Report, 2022, "Hon. Darin LaHood," May 15, 2023. ([https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public\\_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10052406.pdf](https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10052406.pdf)); U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Clerk, Financial Disclosure Report, 2022, "Hon. Bryan Steil," May 5, 2023. ([https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public\\_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10052991.pdf](https://disclosures-clerk.house.gov/public_disc/financial-pdfs/2022/10052991.pdf))

<sup>64</sup>. U.S. Department of State, Office of the Chief of Protocol, "Office of the Chief of Protocol; Gifts to Federal Employees From Foreign Government Sources Reported to Employing Agencies in Calendar Year 2015," Federal Register 70490, October 12, 2016. (<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2016-10-12/pdf/2016-24481.pdf>)

<sup>65</sup>. "25th Anniversary Timeline," *Baker Institute*, accessed February 6, 2026. (<https://www.bakerinstitute.org/baker-institute-timeline>); The Baker Institute reported that the agreement for the endowment was signed on November 28, 2006, and disclosures submitted to the Department of Education show that Rice University received a \$2.5 million gift from Qatar in March 2007. FDD's dataset treats these as the same transaction and records it once in the higher education section.

publicly disclose their donors or the amounts given, but some disclose this information voluntarily. Think tanks have acknowledged over \$20 million of funding from Qatar. Several additional ones name Qatari entities as donors in their annual reports, but do not share the amount. More disclosure is needed.

## REAL ESTATE

\$8.9 BILLION

In October 2025, Qatar hosted a soiree to celebrate the opening of its new embassy building in Washington, DC.<sup>66</sup> The embassy is located at the former Carnegie Institution of Washington administrative building, which was designated as a National Historical Landmark in 1965.<sup>67</sup> Property records show that the building was sold for \$65 million in 2021.<sup>68</sup>

Qatar has amassed an extensive U.S. real estate portfolio through government organs, the royal family, and investment firms run by Qatari royals. Qatar's properties are scattered across the United States and include some of the most recognizable properties in America: The Plaza Hotel in New York (\$600 million), the St. Regis New York (\$310 million), and the St. Regis San Francisco (\$175 million).<sup>69</sup> Qatar even owns a piece of the Empire State Building through a \$622 million equity investment in Empire State Realty Trust.<sup>70</sup>

In 2023, Qatar purchased the Park Lane Hotel in New York for \$623 million, ending a yearslong ordeal that saw the U.S. Justice Department seize the Park Lane while investigating one of the hotel's financiers, Low Taek Jho, for fraud and money laundering.<sup>71</sup> Qatar acquired the Park Lane from presidential envoy Steven Witkoff.<sup>72</sup> Qatar also owns several condos across New York City, including multiple units in Trump World Tower at 845 UN Plaza.<sup>73</sup>

In Washington, DC, Qatar's real estate portfolio encompasses much more than its embassy. In 2010, Qatar sunk \$650 million into CityCenterDC, becoming the majority owner of the 10-acre development in downtown Washington

66. @QatarEmbassy\_US, X, October 24, 2025. ([https://x.com/QatarEmbassy\\_US/status/1981819682886946953](https://x.com/QatarEmbassy_US/status/1981819682886946953))

67. "The Carnegie Institution of Washington," *National Park Service*, accessed February 3, 2026. (<https://www.nps.gov/places/000/the-carnegie-institution-of-washington.htm>)

68. Washington DC Office of Tax and Revenue, Property Record, SSL 0195-0848, accessed February 3, 2026.

69. Dmitry Zhdannikov, "Qatar to buy New York's Plaza Hotel for \$600 million — source," *Reuters*, July 3, 2018. (<https://www.reuters.com/article/business/qatar-to-buy-new-yorks-plaza-hotel-for-600-million-source-idUSKBN1JT1JF>); Patrick Clark and Gillian Tan, "Qatar Wealth Fund Buys St. Regis. Hotel That Invented Bloody Mary," *Bloomberg*, October 31, 2019. (<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-10-31/marriott-sells-st-regis-new-york-to-qatar-investment-authority>); Marriott, Press Release, "Marriott International Sells The St. Regis San Francisco; Retains Long-term," December 1, 2016. (<https://marriott.gcs-web.com/news-releases/news-release-details/marriott-international-sells-st-regis-san-francisco-retains-long>)

70. Empire State Realty Trust, Press Release, "Empire State Realty Trust Announces \$622 Million Investment by Qatar Investment Authority," August 23, 2016. (<https://www.esrtreit.com/esrt-news/empire-state-realty-trust-announces-622-million-investment-by-qatar-investment-authority>)

71. Jennifer Epstein, "Manhattan Hotel Once Linked to 1MDB Scandal Sells to Qataris," *Bloomberg*, August 28, 2023. (<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-08-28/manhattan-hotel-once-linked-to-1mdb-scandal-sells-to-qataris>)

72. Rich Bockmann, "Qataris shell out \$623M for storied Park Lane Hotel," *The Real Deal*, August 28, 2023. (<https://therealdeal.com/new-york/2023/08/28/qia-buys-park-lane-hotel-from-witkoff>)

73. "Qatar is so filthy rich that even its servants have a \$41M mansion," *The Real Deal*, July 4, 2017. (<https://therealdeal.com/miami/2017/07/04/qatar-is-so-filthy-rich-that-even-its-servants-have-a-41m-mansion>); New York City Department of Finance, Office of the City Register, Property Record, Document ID 2012120301328001, November 30, 2012. ([https://a836-acris.nyc.gov/DS/DocumentSearch/DocumentImageView?doc\\_id=2012120301328001](https://a836-acris.nyc.gov/DS/DocumentSearch/DocumentImageView?doc_id=2012120301328001)); New York City Department of Finance, Office of the City Register, Property Record, Document ID 2012112901543003, November 20, 2012. ([https://a836-acris.nyc.gov/DS/DocumentSearch/DocumentImageView?doc\\_id=2012112901543003](https://a836-acris.nyc.gov/DS/DocumentSearch/DocumentImageView?doc_id=2012112901543003)); New York City Department of Finance, Office of the City Register, Property Record, Document ID 2018012900694001, January 17, 2018. ([https://a836-acris.nyc.gov/DS/DocumentSearch/DocumentImageView?doc\\_id=2018012900694001](https://a836-acris.nyc.gov/DS/DocumentSearch/DocumentImageView?doc_id=2018012900694001))

featuring residential buildings, office spaces, restaurants, and luxury shops.<sup>74</sup> Alduwaliya Asset Management, which is directed by members of Qatar’s ruling Al-Thani family, has scooped up several properties across the capital, including a Hilton Homewood Suites near the Washington DC Convention Center and a historic 19th century townhouse known as the Demonet Building.<sup>75</sup> Alduwaliya has purchased hundreds of millions of dollars of real estate in New York City and Boston, as well.<sup>76</sup>

## DISASTER RELIEF

### \$76.2 MILLION

Qatar has stepped in more than once to provide relief to American communities recovering from natural disasters. After Hurricane Katrina ravaged Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama in 2005, Qatar established a \$100 million Qatar Katrina Fund to support impacted communities.<sup>77</sup> The headline figure is less than \$100 million because it reflects only those grants categorized as disaster relief. Some Katrina Fund disbursements funded scholarships and other programs cataloged in separate categories. Recipients of Qatar Katrina Fund grants included Habitat for Humanity (\$22 million), March of Dimes (\$3 million), and the Treme/Lafitte Renewal project (\$2.5 million).<sup>78</sup>

Qatar established a similar fund after Hurricane Harvey ripped through Texas in 2017. The \$30 million Qatar Harvey Fund disbursed grants to a range of organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, a Houston community center, and a local church.<sup>79</sup> The Qatar Harvey Fund also granted \$6 million to the Bob Woodruff Foundation to “support organizations providing services to the more than 400,000 post-9/11 veterans and

74. Marc Fisher, “Qatar is suddenly investing heavily in the U.S., bankrolling D.C.’s City Center, other projects,” *The Washington Post*, December 17, 2013. ([https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/qatar-is-suddenly-investing-heavily-in-the-us-bankrolling-dcs-city-center-other-projects/2013/12/17/1ffaceca-5c6a-11e3-95c2-13623eb2b0e1\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/qatar-is-suddenly-investing-heavily-in-the-us-bankrolling-dcs-city-center-other-projects/2013/12/17/1ffaceca-5c6a-11e3-95c2-13623eb2b0e1_story.html)); Washington, DC, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development, “CityCenterDC,” accessed February 3, 2026. (<https://dmped.dc.gov/page/citycenterdc>)

75. Rebecca Cooper, “Another Qatari firm makes D.C. hotel buy,” *Washington Business Journal*, February 13, 2017. (<https://www.bizjournals.com/washington/news/2017/02/13/another-qatari-firm-makes-d-c-hotel-buy.html>); Daniel J. Sernovitz, “Qatari affiliate acquires D.C. building amid conflict with Gulf states,” *Washington Business Journal*, June 22, 2017. (<https://www.bizjournals.com/washington/news/2017/06/22/qatari-affiliate-acquires-d-c-building-amid.html>); “Demonet Building,” *DC Historic Sites*, accessed February 3, 2026. (<https://historicsites.dcpreservation.org/items/show/817>); “Al Duwaliya Asset Management Limited,” Company Number 11232047, accessed May 21, 2026. (<https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/11232047/officers>)

76. Lois Weiss, “Qatar-based investment firm in talks to buy 2 Garment Center buildings,” *New York Post*, May 7, 2019. (<https://nypost.com/2019/05/07/qatar-based-investment-firm-in-talks-to-buy-2-garment-center-buildings>); David Cohen, “Alduwaliya Asset Management Acquires Two Boston MXU Properties,” *ConnectCRE*, October 18, 2019. (<https://www.connectcre.com/stories/alduwaliya-asset-management-acquires-two-boston-mxu-properties>)

77. U.S. Department of State, “The Qatar Katrina Relief Fund,” May 12, 2006. (<https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2006/66186.htm>)

78. Jed Lipinski, “5 Ways \$100 million from Qatar is being spent in New Orleans,” *nola*, May 6, 2015. ([https://www.nola.com/news/business/5-ways-100-million-from-qatar-is-being-spent-in-new-orleans/article\\_ad23d1c3-19b2-58ad-af6f-e4f6a87fa99a.html](https://www.nola.com/news/business/5-ways-100-million-from-qatar-is-being-spent-in-new-orleans/article_ad23d1c3-19b2-58ad-af6f-e4f6a87fa99a.html)); Lesley Walker, “Qatar’s \$100m gift to Hurricane Katrina victims, 10 years on,” *Doha News* (Qatar), August 26, 2015. (<https://dohanews.co/qatars-100m-gift-to-hurricane-katrina-victims-10-years-on>)

79. Qatar Harvey Fund, Press Release, “State Of Qatar Donates \$1.7 Million To Harvey-Damaged MECA; An Addition \$8.7 Million In Grants Announced From Qatar Harvey Fund,” July 2, 2019. (<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/state-of-qatar-donates-1-7-million-to-harvey-damaged-meca-an-additional-8-7-million-in-grants-announced-from-qatar-harvey-fund-300879628.html>); “Projects,” *Qatar Harvey Fund*, accessed May 19, 2026. (<https://web.archive.org/web/20191121213140/https://www.qatarharveyfund.com/projects>)

their families in the southeast Texas areas impacted by Hurricane Harvey.”<sup>80</sup> Qatar granted the Bob Woodruff Foundation another \$5 million in 2023 “to support veterans in Florida in their recovery from recent natural disasters,” including Hurricane Ian.<sup>81</sup>

## MEDICINE

### \$517.8 MILLION

Through its post-Katrina and post-Harvey funds, Qatar has disbursed grants to hospitals in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.<sup>82</sup> Additionally, Doha has invested in a range of biotechnology companies, including: Sionna Therapeutics, which is developing treatments for cystic fibrosis; BioXcel Therapeutics, which is leveraging artificial intelligence to develop treatments for brain and nervous system disorders; PepGen Inc., which is developing therapies for neuromuscular and neurological diseases; and Perspective Therapeutics, a radiopharmaceutical company developing novel cancer treatments. Based on the 52-week-low share price at the time of writing, Qatar’s shares in each company are worth approximately \$24.2 million, \$2.8 million, \$1.3 million, and \$13.9 million respectively.<sup>83</sup> Qatar also invested \$2.1 million in Argus Cognitive, a New Hampshire-based company using artificial intelligence to help diagnose and treat autism.<sup>84</sup>

Additionally, there are a half-dozen biotechnology companies in which Qatar made early, seed-stage investments. No dollar amount is publicly available. The companies include:

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80. Qatar Harvey Fund, “Bob Woodruff Foundation,” accessed February 4, 2026. (<https://web.archive.org/web/20190819185341/https://www.qatarharveyfund.com/bob-woodruff-foundation>); Davis Land, “Qatar Harvey Relief Money Goes to Historic Hospital Reopening,” *Houston Public Media*, October 17, 2018. (<https://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/articles/news/2018/10/17/308406/qatar-harvey-relief-money-goes-to-historic-hospital-reopening>)

81. Asmahan Qarjoui, “Qatar donates \$5mn to help Florida residents recover from natural disasters,” *Doha News* (Qatar), September 28, 2023. (<https://dohanews.co/qatar-donates-5mn-to-help-florida-residents-recover-from-natural-disasters>)

82. Lesley Walker, “Qatar’s \$100m gift to Hurricane Katrina victims, 10 years on,” *Doha News* (Qatar), August 26, 2015. (<https://dohanews.co/qatars-100m-gift-to-hurricane-katrina-victims-10-years-on>); Stephanie Strom, “Qatar Grants Millions in Aid to New Orleans,” *The New York Times*, May 2, 2006. (<https://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/02/us/02charity.html>); Davis Land, “Qatar Harvey Relief Money Goes to Historic Hospital Reopening,” *Houston Public Media*, October 17, 2018. (<https://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/articles/news/2018/10/17/308406/qatar-harvey-relief-money-goes-to-historic-hospital-reopening>); “Qatar Consul General Participates in Groundbreaking Ceremony for Renovation of Hospital in Houston,” *Qatar News Agency* (Qatar), September 11, 2024. (<https://qna.org.qa/en/news-bulletins-details?id=0035-qatar-consul-general-participates-in-groundbreaking-ceremony-for-renovation-of-hospital-in-houston&date=11/09/2024>)

83. U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Schedule 13G, “Qatar Investment Authority / Sionna Therapeutics, Inc.” signed June 15, 2025. ([https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/2036042/000094787125000610/xslSCHEDULE\\_13G\\_X01/primary\\_doc.xml](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/2036042/000094787125000610/xslSCHEDULE_13G_X01/primary_doc.xml)); U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Schedule 13G, “Qatar Investment Authority / BioXcel Therapeutics, Inc.” signed December 18, 2024. ([https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1720893/000094787124001018/xslSCHEDULE\\_13G\\_X01/primary\\_doc.xml](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1720893/000094787124001018/xslSCHEDULE_13G_X01/primary_doc.xml)); U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Schedule 13GA, “Qatar Investment Authority / PepGen Inc.” signed November 11, 2024. ([https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1835597/000110465924116477/tm2427677d1\\_scl3ga.htm](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1835597/000110465924116477/tm2427677d1_scl3ga.htm)); Qatar Investment Authority, Schedule 13G, Perspective Therapeutics, Inc., U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, filed February 5, 2026. ([https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/728387/000144144926000003/xslSCHEDULE\\_13G\\_X01/primary\\_doc.xml](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/728387/000144144926000003/xslSCHEDULE_13G_X01/primary_doc.xml)); “Sionna Therapeutics Inc,” *CNBC*, accessed February 2, 2026. (<https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/SION>); “BioXcel Therapeutics Inc,” *CNBC*, accessed February 6, 2026. (<https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/SION>); *CNBC*, “PepGen Inc,” accessed February 6, 2026. (<https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/PEPG>); “Perspective Therapeutics Inc,” *CNBC*, accessed April 8, 2026. (<https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/CATX>)

84. “Pre Seed Round — Argus Cognitive,” *Crunchbase*, accessed February 6, 2026. ([https://www.crunchbase.com/funding\\_round/argus-cognitive-pre-seed--67209996](https://www.crunchbase.com/funding_round/argus-cognitive-pre-seed--67209996)); “Every child deserves a timely assessment,” *Neurora*, accessed May 19, 2026. (<https://arguscognitive.com/>); “QBRI collaborates on autism diagnosis tool with Argus Cognitive, Rush University,” *Qatar Tribune* (Qatar), April 6, 2021. (<https://www.qatar-tribune.com/article/210567/NATION/QBRI-collaborates-on-autism-diagnosis-tool-with-Argus-Cognitive-Rush-University>)

- Outpace Bio — QIA participated in a \$144 million financing round in 2024.<sup>85</sup>
- Latigo Biotherapeutics — QIA participated in a \$150 million financing round in 2025.<sup>86</sup>
- Supira Medical — QIA participated in a \$120 million financing round in 2025.<sup>87</sup>
- Arbor Biotechnologies — QIA participated in a \$73.9 million financing round in 2025.<sup>88</sup>
- Neuralink — QIA participated in a \$650 million financing round in 2025.<sup>89</sup>
- Star Therapeutics — QIA participated in a \$90 million financing round in 2023.<sup>90</sup>
- Ensoma — QIA participated in a \$53 million financing round in 2025.<sup>91</sup>
- OncoResponse — QIA participated in a \$40 million financing round in 2018.<sup>92</sup>

## SPORTS

### \$207.4 MILLION

In 2022, Qatar became the first Mideast nation to host the FIFA World Cup, a privilege secured with bribes, which two British journalists detailed meticulously.<sup>93</sup> Three weeks before the vote, for example, Qatar allegedly offered FIFA a \$400 million television contract that “included an unprecedented success fee of \$100m” to be deposited in a FIFA account “only if” Qatar’s bid was successful.<sup>94</sup> This was just the tip of the iceberg. Nevertheless, Qatar’s foray into sport continues to deepen.

85. BioSpace, Press Release, “Outpace Bio Announces \$144M Oversubscribed Series B Financing to Advance AI-powered Cell Therapies into Clinical Development,” August 2, 2024. (<https://www.biospace.com/outpace-bio-announces-144m-oversubscribed-series-b-financing-to-advance-ai-powered-cell-therapies-into-clinical-development>)

86. Latigo Biotherapeutics, Press Release, “Latigo Biotherapeutics Closes \$150 Million in Series B Financing to Advance Non-Opioid Pain Therapeutics,” March 17, 2025. (<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/latigo-biotherapeutics-closes-150-million-in-series-b-financing-to-advance-non-opioid-pain-therapeutics-302397457.html>)

87. “Global VC deals for March 27, 2025,” *Pitchbook*, accessed February 6, 2026. (<https://pitchbook.com/newsletter/global-vc-deals-for-march-27-2025>)

88. Arbor Biotech, Press Release, “Arbor Biotechnologies Announces \$73.9 Million Series C Financing to Advance Novel Gene Editing Therapeutics,” March 18, 2025. (<https://arbor.bio/arbor-biotechnologies-announces-73-9-million-series-c-financing-to-advance-novel-gene-editing-therapeutics>)

89. Neuralink, Press Release, “Neuralink raises \$650 million Series E,” June 2, 2025. (<https://neuralink.com/updates/neuralink-raises-650m-series-e>)

90. Qatar Investment Authority, Press Release, “QIA joins \$90 million funding round in leading biotechnology company, Star Therapeutics,” May 9, 2023. ([https://www.qia.qa/en/Newsroom/Pages/QIA-joins-\\$90-million-funding-round-in-leading-biotechnology-company,-Star-Therapeutics.aspx](https://www.qia.qa/en/Newsroom/Pages/QIA-joins-$90-million-funding-round-in-leading-biotechnology-company,-Star-Therapeutics.aspx))

91. Ensoma, Press Release, “Ensoma Announces \$53 Million Financing to Support Key Clinical Milestones for EN-374 and Continued Development of In Vivo Hematopoietic Stem Cell Engineering Pipeline,” September 22, 2025. (<https://ensoma.com/press-release/ensoma-announces-53-million-financing-to-support-key-clinical-milestones-for-en-374-and-continued-development-of-in-vivo-hematopoietic-stem-cell-engineering-pipeline>)

92. OncoResponse, Press Release, “OncoResponse Raises \$40 Million in Series B Financing,” September 11, 2018. (<https://oncoresponse.com/news-center/press-release-2018-09-11.php>)

93. Heidi Blake and Jonathan Calvert, *The Ugly Game: The Corruption of FIFA and the Qatari Plot to Buy the World Cup* (New York: Scribner, 2015).

94. “Exclusive investigation: Qatar’s secret \$880m World Cup payments to Fifa,” *The Sunday Times* (UK), March 10, 2019. (<https://www.thetimes.com/sport/football/article/revealed-qatars-secret-880m-world-cup-payments-to-fifa-p3r5rvw9x>)

In 2023, QIA purchased approximately 5 percent of Monumental Sports & Entertainment, the parent company of the Washington Wizards (NBA), Washington Capitals (NHL), and Washington Mystics (WNBA). The deal was worth just over \$4 billion, making Qatar's 5 percent amount to \$202.5 million. Qatar increased its stake in December 2025 for an undisclosed amount.<sup>95</sup>

In 2018, Qatar paid \$100,000 to keep the DC Metro open an hour after closing so fans could catch a late-night ride home after the Capitals's Stanley Cup playoff game against the Tampa Bay Lightning.<sup>96</sup> Months later, Qatar Airways announced a partnership agreement with the Brooklyn Nets and Barclays Center. The value of the sponsorship deal was not reported.<sup>97</sup>

Qatar has also directed money to community sports programs. In 2021, Qatar donated \$150,000 to Celebrity Sweat Cares, a nonprofit organization that provides children with access to sports and fitness gear. Qatar's embassy announced the donation alongside a \$40,000 gift to the Orange County Soccer Club (OCSC) Community Foundation to "provide soccer balls and prizes for students who complete the OCSC Virtual Soccer curriculum."<sup>98</sup> Materials submitted to the Department of Justice pursuant to FARA show that the Qatari embassy sponsored "Military Appreciation Night" at an OCSC home game in July 2021.<sup>99</sup>

A \$3.3 million from the Qatar Harvey Fund also helped construct eight soccer fields intended to double as flood mitigation basins.<sup>100</sup> Most recently, the Embassy of Qatar gave \$1 million to the Wounded Warrior Project "to provide adaptive sports opportunities" to veterans in Florida.<sup>101</sup>

In 2025, Qatar's Government Communications Office signed a five-year strategic partnership agreement with online sports platform Fanatics. As part of the arrangement, Qatar sponsored a three-day sports festival in New York City. The value of the sponsorship is not public.<sup>102</sup>

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**95.** Brian Lewis, "Qatari government makes first U.S. sports investment in Wizards, Capitals group," *New York Post*, June 22, 2023. (<https://nypost.com/2023/06/22/qatar-makes-first-u-s-sports-investment-in-wizards-capitals-group>); Monumental Sports & Entertainment, Press Release, "Monumental Sports & Entertainment Announces Minority Investor Updates to Accelerate Growth and Innovation," December 17, 2025. (<https://monumentalsports.com/2025/12/monumental-sports-entertainment-announces-minority-investor-updates-to-accelerate-growth-and-innovation>)

**96.** Gina Cook, "Qatar, DowntownDC Pay for Metro to Stay Open Late for Caps Game 4," *NBC4 Washington*, May 17, 2018. (<https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/qatar-downtowndc-pay-for-metro-to-stay-open-late-for-caps-game-4/150950>)

**97.** Qatar Airways, Press Release, "Qatar Airways Becomes Official Global Airline Partner of the Brooklyn Nets and Barclays Center," October 3, 2018. (<https://www.qatarairways.com/en/press-releases/2018/October/Barclays.html>)

**98.** Qatari Embassy to the United States, Press Release, "Qatar Donates More Than \$200K to Celebrity Sweat Cares, the OCSC Community Foundation and the LAFC Foundation in Celebration of National Sports Day," February 9, 2021. (<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20210209005430/en/Qatar-Donates-More-Than-%24200K-to-Celebrity-Sweat-Cares-the-OCSC-Community-Foundation-and-the-LAFC-Foundation-in-Celebration-of-National-Sports-Day>)

**99.** U.S. Department of Justice, FARA Unit, Informational Materials, "Proof Strategies Inc." Registration No. 6822, received July 21, 2021. (<https://efile.fara.gov/docs/6822-Informational-Materials-20210721-15.pdf>).

**100.** "Blue Ridge Park Soccer Fields," *Qatar Harvey Fund*, accessed February 6, 2026. (<https://web.archive.org/web/20260310220144/https://www.qatarharveyfund.com/community-development/blue-ridge-park-soccer-fields>); "Alabonson Park Soccer Fields," *Qatar Harvey Fund*, accessed February 6, 2026. (<https://web.archive.org/web/20260209235440/https://www.qatarharveyfund.com/community-development/alabonson-park-soccer-fields>)

**101.** Wounded Warrior Project, Press Release, "Embassy of the State of Qatar Honors Service and Sacrifice of Veterans," January 29, 2026. (<https://newsroom.woundedwarriorproject.org/2026-01-29-Embassy-of-the-State-of-Qatar-Honors-Service-and-Sacrifice-of-Veterans>)

**102.** Fanatics, Press Release, "Fanatics and State of Qatar Announce Strategic Partnership," February 26, 2025. (<https://www.fanaticsync.com/press-releases/fanatics-and-state-of-qatar-announce-strategic-partnership>)

## MEDIA

### \$1 BILLION

A clip of former Qatari Prime Minister Hamad bin Jassim Al-Thani resurfaced in November 2025 in which he boasts that Doha “had journalists on our payroll in many countries.”<sup>103</sup> This would not be surprising, given Qatar’s creation and control of the Al Jazeera Media Network, which asserts its independence but serves as the emirate’s global media arm, promoting Islamist and anti-Western content.<sup>104</sup> But Al Jazeera and its affiliates are only part of the Qatari media empire. Indeed, from broadcast media to movie studios, Qatar has sunk significant capital into the American mediascape.

Qatari royal Sheikh Sultan bin Jassim Al-Thani reportedly invested \$50 million in Newsmax between 2019 and 2020 through his London-based investment firm, Heritage Advisors.<sup>105</sup> Documents submitted to the SEC in March 2025 show that Sheikh Sultan holds 19,737,553 shares, or 22.2 percent, of Newsmax. Based on the 52-week-low price at the time of writing, those shares are worth approximately \$100.9 million.<sup>106</sup>

In 2023, QIA invested \$150 million in the North Road Company, the production studio behind hits like “Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes,” “New Girl,” and “Love Is Blind.”<sup>107</sup> French media conglomerate Mediawan acquired North Road in January 2026 but QIA will reportedly maintain a minority share.<sup>108</sup>

Qatar also owns Miramax films through its state-owned beIN Media Group. In 2016, beIN purchased Miramax for an undisclosed amount. However, reports suggested that the sellers — which included QIA and U.S. Ambassador to Turkey Tom Barrack’s Colony Capital — asked for as much as \$1 billion. According to *The New York Times*, beIN sold 49 percent of Miramax to ViacomCBS in 2020 but remained the majority owner. ViacomCBS reportedly invested \$375 million for its 49 percent stake, indicating that Qatar’s shares were worth approximately \$390 million at the time of sale.<sup>109</sup>

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**103.** @BenWeinthal, November 25, 2025. (<https://x.com/BenWeinthal/status/1993312675179426027>)

**104.** Zachary Laub, “How Al Jazeera Amplifies Qatar’s Clout,” *Council on Foreign Relations*, July 12, 2017. (<https://www.cfr.org/backgrounders/how-al-jazeera-amplifies-qatars-clout-chapter-why-has-it-antagonized-gulf-monarchies-and-egypt>); Hussain Abdul-Hussain, “Al Jazeera should report, not inflame the Gaza war,” *Asia Times* (Hong Kong), March 22, 2024. (<https://asiatimes.com/2024/03/al-jazeera-should-report-not-inflame-the-gaza-war>)

**105.** David Kenner, Sarah Ellison, and Jonathan O’Connell, “Qatari royal invested about \$50 million in pro-Trump network Newsmax,” *The Washington Post*, March 26, 2024. (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2024/03/26/qatar-newsmax-investment>)

**106.** U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Schedule 13G, “Heritage Investments Limited Partnership / Sheikh Sultan bin Jassim Al-Thani / Newsmax Inc.” filed May 1, 2025. ([https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/2026478/000121390025038485/xslSCHEDULE\\_13G\\_X01/primary\\_doc.xml](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/2026478/000121390025038485/xslSCHEDULE_13G_X01/primary_doc.xml)); “Newsmax Inc,” *CNBC*, accessed February 5, 2026. (<https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/NMAX>)

**107.** Caitlin Huston, “Peter Chernin’s North Road Company Raises \$150M From Qatar Investment Authority,” *The Hollywood Reporter*, January 31, 2023. (<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/business/business-news/peter-chernin-north-road-company-qatar-investment-authority-1235314411>)

**108.** Lauren Hirsch and Brooks Barnes, “Hollywood’s North Road Studio Acquired by the European Production Giant Mediawan,” *The New York Times*, January 30, 2026. (<https://www.nytimes.com/2026/01/30/business/north-road-mediawan-deal.html>); Mediawan, Press Release, “Mediawan to Acquire The North Road Company, Creating a New Global Independent Content Platform,” January 30, 2026. (<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20260130062902/en/Mediawan-to-Acquire-The-North-Road-Company-Creating-a-New-Global-Independent-Content-Platform>)

**109.** Michael Cieply, “Miramax Is Bought by the Qatari beIN Media Group,” *The New York Times*, March 2, 2016. (<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/03/business/media/miramax-is-bought-by-the-qatari-bein-media-group.html>); Paramount, Press Release, “ViacomCBS and beIN Media Group Complete Miramax Transaction,” April 3, 2020. (<https://ir.paramount.com/news-releases/news-release-details/viacomcbs-and-bein-media-group-complete-miramax-transaction>)

Qatar is also part of Paramount's ongoing bid to takeover Warner Bros Discovery.<sup>110</sup> SEC documents show that the Qatari, Saudi, and Emirati sovereign wealth funds offered "an aggregate \$24 billion commitment."<sup>111</sup> Qatar will reportedly own 10.6 percent of the company once the merger is complete.<sup>112</sup>

Social media is another area of investment. Qatar backed Elon Musk's takeover of Twitter to the tune of \$375 million and has signed partnership agreements with TikTok, Snap Inc., and podcasting giant iHeartMedia.<sup>113</sup> The monetary values of the agreements are not public.

As Qatar partners with social media platforms, it is also investing in their users. In November 2025, Qatar paid for a group of Republican influencers to visit Doha during the Formula One Grand Prix. The price tag of their trips is not reported.<sup>114</sup>

## TECHNOLOGY

\$156.5 MILLION

Leveraging data from the SEC and business intelligence platform Crunchbase, it is clear that technology companies have raised funds from Qatari sources. In many cases, Qatar is listed as one of several investors who participated in a single financing round. The size of the funding rounds are public, but the amounts Qatar contributed are not specified.

One of Qatar's major tech investments is in QuantumScape, a Silicon Valley firm that is developing rechargeable batteries for electric cars. Reuters reported in 2021 that Qatar owned approximately 4.7 percent of the company

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**110.** Charles Gasparino, "The takeover battle for Warner Bros. Discovery is coming to a head for Paramount Skydance: 'Put up or shut up,'" *New York Post*, February 2, 2026. (<https://nypost.com/2026/02/02/media/the-takeover-battle-for-warner-bros-discovery-is-coming-to-a-head-for-paramount-skydance>)

**111.** U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Schedule TO, Exhibit, "Offer to Purchase for Cash All Outstanding Shares of Series A Common Stock of Warner Bros. Discovery, Inc." Warner Bros. Discovery, Inc." accessed May 21, 2026. (<https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1437107/000119312525310708/d92876dex99a1a.htm>)

**112.** Todd Spangler, "Paramount-Warner Bros. Discovery Will Be 38.5% Owned by Middle Eastern Funds Following Close: Filing," *Variety*, April 27, 2026. (<https://variety.com/2026/film/news/paramount-warner-bros-foreign-ownership-middle-eastern-funds-1236731732>)

**113.** Giacomo Tognini, "Qatar's Backing Of Elon Musk's Twitter Deal Raises Questions Ahead of the FIFA World Cup," *Forbes*, November 12, 2022. (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/giacomotognini/2022/11/12/qatars-backing-of-elon-musks-twitter-deal-raises-questions-ahead-of-the-fifa-world-cup>); "GCO, TikTok sign multi-year MoU to support global creative excellence," *Qatar Tribune* (Qatar), February 5, 2026. (<https://www.qatar-tribune.com/article/217973/nation/gco-tiktok-sign-multi-year-mou-to-support-global-creative-excellence>); "Snapchat to open office in Qatar; signs MoU with Government Communications Office," *The Peninsula* (Qatar), August 9, 2022. (<https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/09/08/2022/snapchat-to-open-office-in-qatar-signs-mou-with-government-communications-office>); iHeartMedia, Press Release, "iHeartMedia and the Government Communications Office of the State of Qatar partner to establish regional podcasting hub," February 24, 2025. (<https://www.iheartmedia.com/press/iheartmedia-and-government-communications-office-state-qatar-partner-establish-regional>); @dohanews, X, February 26, 2025. (<https://x.com/dohanews/status/1894648200499531953>)

**114.** Maggie Severns, Natalie Andrews, Josh Dawsey, and Eliza Collins, "Washington's New Lobbyists: Paid Online Influencers With Few Rules," *The Wall Street Journal*, January 11, 2026. (<https://www.wsj.com/politics/policy/washington-lobbyists-paid-online-influencers-few-rules-69eccd13>)

which, at the time, was worth a reported \$446 million. Based on the 52-week-low share price at the time of this writing, Qatar's 14.3 million shares are worth approximately \$54.4 million.<sup>115</sup>

Other technology companies that have raised money from Qatari sources include:

- xAI — QIA participated in a \$6 billion financing round in 2024 and a \$20 billion round in 2026.<sup>116</sup>
- Uber — QIA participated in a \$1.2 billion financing round in 2014. *Bloomberg* reported in 2018 that Qatar had invested \$100 million.<sup>117</sup>
- Axiom Space — QIA co-led a \$350 million fundraising round in 2026.<sup>118</sup>
- Vast — QIA participated in a \$500 million fundraising round in 2026.<sup>119</sup>
- Gigamon — QIA jointly acquired the cybersecurity company in 2017. The valuation was approximately \$1.6 billion.<sup>120</sup>
- Instabase — QIA participated in a \$100 million financing round in 2025.<sup>121</sup>
- Cresta — QIA co-led a \$125 million financing round in 2024.<sup>122</sup>
- Databricks — QIA participated in a \$10 billion financing round in 2025.<sup>123</sup>
- Applied Intuition — QIA participated in a \$600 million financing round in 2025.<sup>124</sup>
- Mesosphere — QIA participated in a \$125 million fundraising round in 2018.<sup>125</sup>

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**115.** Saeed Azhar, "Qatar sovereign fund discloses 4.69% stake in QuantumScape Corp," *Reuters*, August 2, 2021. (<https://tech.yahoo.com/general/articles/qatar-sovereign-fund-discloses-4-180256710.html>); U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Schedule 13G, "Qatar Investment Authority / QuantumScape Corporation," accessed May 21, 2026. ([https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1811414/000114036121026381/brhc10027479\\_sc13ga.htm](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1811414/000114036121026381/brhc10027479_sc13ga.htm)); "QuantumScape Corp," *CNBC*, accessed February 6, 2026. (<https://www.cnbc.com/quotes/QS?qsearchterm=quantumscape>)

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**117.** Douglas MacMillan, Sam Schechner, and Lisa Fleisher, "Uber Snags \$41 Billion Valuation," *The Wall Street Journal*, December 5, 2014. (<https://www.wsj.com/articles/ubers-new-funding-values-it-at-over-41-billion-1417715938>); Mohammed Sergie, "Two Royals in Their 30s Have Been Given the Keys to a \$320 Billion Fund," *Bloomberg*, November 6, 2018. (<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-11-06/qatar-turns-to-royals-in-their-30s-to-manage-320-billion-fund>)

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**119.** Qatar Investment Authority, "QIA Invests in Vast to Support Development of Next-Generation Space Stations," March 3, 2026. (<https://www.qia.qa/en/Newsroom/Pages/QIA%C2%A0Invests-in-Vast-to-Support-Development-of-Next-Generation-Space-Stations.aspx>)

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**121.** "Qatar sovereign wealth fund invests in US unicorn Instabase," *Zawya* (UAE), January 21, 2025. (<https://www.zawya.com/en/business/investment/qatar-sovereign-wealth-fund-invests-in-us-unicorn-instabase-id4c02wv>)

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**123.** Jordan Novet, "Meta backs Databricks as the data analytics startup inches toward IPO," *CNBC*, January 22, 2025. (<https://www.cnbc.com/2025/01/22/meta-backs-databricks-as-the-data-analytics-startup-inches-toward-ipo.html>)

**124.** Applied Intuition, "Applied Intuition Closes Series F at \$15 billion Valuation, Accelerating Vehicle Intelligence Across All Moving Machines," June 17, 2025. (<https://www.appliedintuition.com/news/series-f>)

**125.** Ron Miller, "Mesosphere hauls in \$125 M Series D investment," *TechCrunch*, May 7, 2018. (<https://techcrunch.com/2018/05/07/mesosphere-hauls-in-125-m-series-d-investment>)

- SoFi — QIA led a fundraising round in 2019 that raised over \$500 million.<sup>126</sup>
- GamerBoom — MBK Holding, an investment firm chaired by Qatari royal Mansoor Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, participated in a \$9 million venture round in 2025.<sup>127</sup>
- d-Matrix — QIA participated in a \$275 million financing round in 2025.<sup>128</sup>

## FINANCIAL SECTOR

### \$26.8 BILLION

Affinity Partners, the investment firm of Trump’s son-in-law Jared Kushner, has benefited from Qatari support. *The New York Times* reported in 2023 that the UAE had invested “more than \$200 million” in Affinity, and that “a Qatari entity invested a similar sum.”<sup>129</sup> In May 2025, Kushner said that QIA and an Emirati firm invested an additional \$1.5 billion in Affinity.<sup>130</sup> He did not specify how much of that sum came from Qatar and thus no additional cash was added to the total in this memo.<sup>131</sup> Former Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin’s Liberty Strategic Capital also reportedly received a \$500 million commitment from Qatar.<sup>132</sup> Most recently, QIA signed a \$25 billion memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Goldman Sachs.

Additionally, filings submitted to the SEC show that QIA holds stock in Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Sixth Street Specialty Lending, Global Business Travel Group, and Blackstone Secured Lending Fund.<sup>133</sup> IlWaddi Holdings, which is run by Qatari royal Sheikh Jassim Abdulaziz Al-Thani, likewise holds stock in AlTi Global.<sup>134</sup>

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**131.** Qatar Investment Authority, Press Release, “Qatar Investment Authority and Goldman Sachs Sign MoU to Expand Strategic Partnership with \$25bn Investment Target,” January 20, 2026. ([https://www.qia.qa/en/Newsroom/Pages/Qatar-Investment-Authority-and-Goldman-Sachs-Sign-MoU-to-Expand-Strategic-Partnership-with-\\$25bn-Investment-Target.aspx](https://www.qia.qa/en/Newsroom/Pages/Qatar-Investment-Authority-and-Goldman-Sachs-Sign-MoU-to-Expand-Strategic-Partnership-with-$25bn-Investment-Target.aspx))

**132.** Kate Kelly and David D. Kirkpatrick, “Kushner’s and Mnuchin’s Quick Pivots to Business With the Gulf,” *The New York Times*, May 22, 2022. (<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/05/22/business/jared-kushner-steven-mnuchin-gulf-investments.html>)

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Venture capital appears to be a growing priority for Qatar. In February 2024, Doha launched a \$1 billion “Fund of Funds” program to “create a vibrant venture capital and start-up ecosystem” in Qatar “by providing financial resources and support services” to fund managers abroad.<sup>135</sup> Qatar expanded the program by \$2 billion in February 2026. To date, over a half-dozen U.S. companies have received undisclosed sums through the program, including Greycroft, Liberty City Ventures, Ion Pacific, B Capital, Deerfield Management, Human Capital, Builders VC, and Founders Circle Capital.<sup>136</sup>

## CULTURE AND AMERICANA

### \$26.2 MILLION

American history appears to be a particular area of philanthropic interest. Qatar made a \$20 million donation to the Richard Nixon Foundation in 2023 “to build a new hall at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum designed to house large-scale, rotating and traveling education exhibitions and programs.”<sup>137</sup> The same year, Qatar pledged \$5 million to the National Medal of Honor Museum in Arlington, Texas.<sup>138</sup> Lifetime donations from the Qatar Fund for Development to the Carter Center, a nonprofit organization founded by former President Jimmy Carter, exceed \$1 million.<sup>139</sup>

Meanwhile, the Embassy of Qatar appeared on the International Spy Museum’s list of donors in 2020, 2021, 2023, and 2024.<sup>140</sup> Qatar likewise signed an MOU with the Smithsonian Institute in 2020 and donated an undisclosed amount to The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City in 2022.<sup>141</sup>

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135. “The Fund of Funds program,” *Qatar Investment Authority*, accessed April 8, 2026. (<https://www.qia.qa/en/Funds-of-Funds/Pages/Default.aspx>)

136. Andrew Mills, Qatar wealth fund plans to invest in five new VC funds,” *Reuters*, February 2, 2026. (<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/qatar-wealth-fund-plans-invest-five-new-vc-funds-2026-02-02>); Qatar Investment Authority, “Qatar’s Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs marks one year of QIA’s Fund of Funds program at Web Summit Qatar,” February 23, 2025. (<https://www.qia.qa/en/Newsroom/Pages/Qatar’s-Prime-Minister-and-Minister-of-Foreign-Affairs-marks-one-year-of-QIA’s-Fund-of-Funds-program-at-Web-Summit-Qatar.aspx>); Qatar Investment Authority, “Human Capital joins QIA’s Fund of Funds program and announces office opening in Doha,” February 20, 2025. (<https://www.qia.qa/en/Newsroom/Pages/Human-Capital-joins-QIA’s-Fund-of-Funds-program-and-announces-office-opening-in-Doha.aspx>); Mohammed Sergie, “Qatar Investment Authority lures VC firms to Doha with \$1B fund,” *Semafor*, February 26, 2025. (<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/qatar-investment-authority-lures-vc-120521139.html>); Qatar Investment Authority, “Founders Circle Capital Joins QIA’s Fund of Funds Program, Strengthening Qatar and Regional Innovation Ecosystem,” December 9, 2025. (<https://www.qia.qa/en/Newsroom/Pages/Founders-Circle-Capital-Joins-QIA’s-Fund-of-Funds-Program,-Strengthening-Qatar-and-Regional-Innovation-Ecosystem.aspx>); Qatar Investment Authority, “Qatar’s Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign affairs announces expansion of QIA’s Fund of Funds program, welcoming new global VCs to Qatar,” February 1, 2026. (<https://www.qia.qa/en/Newsroom/Pages/Qatar-Prime-Minister-and-Minister-of-Foreign-affairs-announces-expansion-of-QIA’s-Fund-of-Funds-program-welcoming-new-global-VCs-to-Qatar.aspx>); Deerfield Management is recorded in FDD’s dataset as a medicine investment given the firm’s focus on healthcare.

137. Richard Nixon Foundation, “Richard Nixon Foundation Receives Pledge of \$20 Million from Government of Qatar,” May 25, 2023. (<https://blog.nixonfoundation.org/2023/05/richard-nixon-foundation-receives-20-million-gift-from-government-of-qatar>)

138. Chuck Ross, “Hamis Patron Qatar Quietly Bankrolling Group Building Medal of Honor Memorial in DC,” *The Washington Free Beacon*, March 15, 2024. (<https://freebeacon.com/national-security/hamis-patron-qatar-quietly-bankrolling-group-building-medal-of-honor-memorial-in-dc>)

139. “Annual Report 2024,” *Carter Center*, accessed May 21, 2026. (<https://reports.cartercenter.org/annual-report-24#1>)

140. “2020 Year in Review,” *International Spy Museum*, accessed May 21, 2026. (<https://spy-museum.s3.amazonaws.com/files/resources/2020-year-in-review-web.pdf>); “2021 Year in Review,” *International Spy Museum*, accessed May 21, 2026. (<https://spy-museum.s3.amazonaws.com/files/resources/dev-21-yir-final.pdf>); International Spy Museum, “2023 Annual Report.” (<https://spy-museum.s3.amazonaws.com/files/resources/2023-annual-report-web.pdf>); “2024 Annual Report,” *International Spy Museum*, accessed May 21, 2026. (<https://spy-museum.s3.amazonaws.com/files/resources/2024-spy-annual-report-final-web.pdf>)

141. “QF and HBKU announce partnerships with US institutions including NASA,” *The Peninsula* (Qatar) September 16, 2020. (<https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/16/09/2020/QF-and-HBKU-announce-partnerships-with-US-institutions-including-NASA>); The Met, Press Release, “The Metropolitan Museum of Art Announces Major Gift From Qatar Museums,” September 21, 2022. (<https://www.metmuseum.org/press-releases/gift-from-qatar-2022-news>)

## CONCLUSION

The United States should welcome foreign investment. But America isn't a charity, nor is it for sale. Washington should not allow foreign governments to purchase influence unchecked and without proper transparency. Policymakers must start asking when foreign investment becomes a deliberate tool of foreign influence, and what risks come with investments from a country like Qatar, which has a documented history of funding terrorist groups including Hamas, the Taliban, and the Muslim Brotherhood.

One month after returning to office, Trump issued the "America First Investment Policy," a memo declaring his administration's intention to "make the United States the world's greatest destination for investment dollars, to the benefit of all of us." But Trump's memorandum rightly noted that "investment at all costs is not always in the national interest."<sup>142</sup> Qatar may have persuaded successive presidents that it deserves to be a Major Non-NATO Ally, but the Persian Gulf emirate often conducts itself in ways unworthy of the name. The U.S. government has yet to soberly assess Qatari partnerships and investments despite wanting to ensure that "foreign investors avoid partnering with United States foreign adversaries." The \$400 billion of wealth Qatar has directed into the United States warrants much greater scrutiny.

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142. The White House, Memo, Presidential Action, "America First Investment Policy," February 21, 2025. (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/02/america-first-investment-policy>)

## About the Foundation for Defense of Democracies

The Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD) is a Washington, DC-based, nonpartisan policy institute focusing on foreign policy and national security. For more information, please visit [www.fdd.org](http://www.fdd.org).

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**Natalie Ecanow** is a senior research analyst at FDD focusing on the Middle East and the Gulf. Her research on foreign influence has appeared in publications such as *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Washington Times* and she has been invited to testify before state and federal legislatures. Natalie holds a B.A. in political science from Duke University and a master's in security studies from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

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