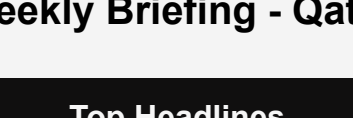


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Weekly Briefing - Qatar

Top Headlines

[Keeta launches in Qatar, offers free delivery and QR200 vouchers to all new customers](#)

Keeta, the international arm of Meituan, has officially launched in Qatar, offering users free delivery, QR200 in vouchers for new users, and access to a wide range of local and international restaurants. Backed by Meituan's technology, Keeta aims to deliver fast, reliable, and affordable services while supporting local businesses and contributing to Qatar's digital economy.

[QFC records 64% year-on-year growth in H1 2025 registration](#)

Qatar Financial Centre (QFC) recorded a 64% surge in firm registrations in H1 2025, reaching 3,300 companies, driven by simplified regulations, reduced fees, and strong investor confidence. With strategic partnerships, landmark events, and initiatives like the Digital Assets Lab and QFC Metaverse, QFC continues to position Qatar as a leading hub for innovation, investment, and global business.

[Qatar's economic growth forecast at 4.8% in 2026](#)

Qatar's economy is gaining momentum in 2025, with GDP growth revised up to 2.7% on the back of strong Q1 performance in trade, tourism, and food services, and PMI readings showing continued private sector expansion. Employment rose 2.8% in Q1, while fiscal projections remain positive with a QR15bn surplus expected despite higher spending leading to a modest H1 deficit.

Sector Developments and Updates

Agriculture

[Municipality continues efforts in waste recycling](#)

The Public Cleanliness Department, in collaboration with a private recycling company, has recycled around 506 tonnes of plastic materials, barrels, and containers since June 1. This initiative supports safe waste disposal, promotes private sector participation, and advances Qatar's National Vision 2030 sustainability goals.

[Ministry of Municipality organises guidance programme on Honeybee Hive Management](#)

The Ministry of Municipality, in collaboration with Mahaseel and Qatfa, organized a "Honeybee Hive Management" training program for 22 engineers and beekeepers. Led by specialist Khalid Saif Al-Suwaidi, the program covered hive care, disease prevention, and honey production, with participants recommending more practical, field-based trainings.

[Al Sheehaniya Municipality intensifies inspections of food outlets](#)

Al Sheehaniya Municipality's Health Control Section intensified summer inspection campaigns to ensure food safety, conducting 2,270 tours that led to 3 closures, 12 violations, and 66 food samples tested. Inspectors also monitored worker compliance with health standards and ran awareness programmes to promote safe food practices.

Education

[New bachelor's degree in artificial intelligence launched](#)

The Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence (BSAI) will provide students with the sophisticated knowledge and skills to become leaders in a field that is transforming the world. In order to bring this top-ranked degree to its Qatar campus, CMU has worked closely with Qatar's Ministry of Education and Higher Education, as well as Qatar Foundation (QF), to ensure the programme will contribute meaningfully to the future of Qatar and its workforce. The BSAI programme directly supports the human development and economic diversification goals of Qatar by cultivating a highly skilled local talent pool in artificial intelligence.

[Education Ministry announces changes to the schedules of public schools](#)

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) announced amendments to school schedules in public schools for the new academic year 2025-2026. The Ministry stated that these amendments include allowing early dismissal for secondary students at 12:45pm on Thursdays only.

[MoEHE holds orientation for scholarship students enrolled in UK, Irish, and European universities](#)

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) organised yesterday an orientation meeting for new students on scholarship to study in universities in the United Kingdom, Ireland, and Europe for the academic year 2025-2026.

Health

[Ministry shuts private health centers, suspends license of health practitioner](#)

The Ministry of Public Health announced on August 14, 2025, the closure of a private health center for lacking the required number of specialists, and the temporary closure of another unit along with suspension of a practitioner's license for regulatory violations. These actions reflect MoPH's commitment to enforcing healthcare standards and ensuring patient safety in Qatar.

[A first in Qatar: The View Hospital introduces safer, minimally invasive options for glaucoma patients](#)

The View Hospital, in affiliation with Cedars-Sinai, performed Qatar's first iStent inject W implantation, a minimally invasive glaucoma surgery by Prof. Ahmad Munier 'Oti, offering patients a safer, effective alternative to traditional treatments. This milestone highlights the hospital's commitment to world-class innovations and strengthens its role as a leading center for advanced ophthalmic care in Qatar.

[Sidra Medicine to launch genome-based newborn screening of treatable genetic disorders](#)

Sidra Medicine, a member of Qatar Foundation, has become the first international site to join the BeighNGS Consortium in partnership with Rady Children's Institute for Genomic Medicine. The collaboration will advance genome-based newborn screening in Qatar through the NOOR-QATAR initiative, enabling early detection and intervention for rare and genetic diseases, setting a new standard for precision and preventive medicine in the region.

Travel, Culture, and Tourism

[QA unveils travel packages for 2026 Qatar tennis tournaments](#)

Qatar Airways, in partnership with Qatar Airways Holidays, has launched the much-anticipated travel packages for the Qatar TotalEnergies Women's Open 2026 and the Qatar ExxonMobil Men's Open 2026. Taking place next year from February 8 to 14 and February 16 to 21, 2026 respectively, the tournaments will bring world-class tennis action to the heart of Doha.

[Three from Qatar named among Forbes Middle East's 'Top 100 Travel and Tourism Leaders 2025'](#)

Forbes Middle East has recognised three executives from Qatar in its Top 100 Travel and Tourism Leaders 2025, a list honouring individuals from across the MENA region, covering key areas such as aviation, hospitality, tourism development, and travel services. Forbes attributed Al-Meer's ranking to his strategic leadership since becoming CEO of Qatar Airways Group in 2023.

[As Vietnam marks 80 years of independence, ties with Qatar deepen](#)

Once scarred by war and isolation, Vietnam has emerged as one of Asia's fastest-growing economies, marking its transformation from conflict to global engagement. Nguyen Huy Hiep, Ambassador of Vietnam to Qatar, described this milestone as "a moment to honour resilience and look forward".

Transport and Logistics

[Qatar Tourism, CSGDB host capacity-building workshop ahead of upcoming cruise season](#)

In preparation for the 2025/2026 cruise season, set to begin November 2025, Qatar Tourism, in collaboration with the Civil Service and Government Development Bureau (CSGDB), hosted a strategic workshop aimed at enhancing the cruise passenger journey and highlighting key projects and initiatives designed to help advance Qatar's cruise tourism sector.

[NU-Q Media Majlis to explore meme culture in 'Memememememe' expo](#)

Curated by Jack Thomas Taylor, curator of art, media and technology, with Assistant Curator Amal Zeyad Ali, the exhibition investigates how digital memes serve as cultural barometers, emotional shorthand, and vehicles for political commentary that influence contemporary consciousness. Organised around four themes Mass, Length, Time, and Volume it explores how memes spread, mutate, and act as measures of collective thought.

[Qatar Rail to unveil 365-day metropass with early bird promotion](#)

Qatar Rail, on the sidelines of its Back to School event today at Sport City Station in Doha Metro, will launch the new 365-day metropass. Priced at QR990, the pass will offer commuters unlimited rides across the Doha Metro and Lusail Tram network. In collaboration with a group of school supplies providers in Qatar, Qatar Rail is organizing the second edition of the 'Back to School' event at Doha Metro's Sport City Station, from today, August 19, to September 2, 2025.

Information and Communications Technology

[Qatar accelerates smart manufacturing, 3D innovation drive](#)

Qatar is advancing as a regional hub for smart manufacturing and 3D innovation, supported by its role in the World Economic Forum's global manufacturing network and the launch of QCED 3D's Center of Excellence. With government-backed innovation, rising industrial output, and sustainability-focused 3D printing, the country is positioning itself as a Gulf leader in Industry 4.0 and advanced production technologies.

[Beema signs partnership with PayLater to enable Shari'a-compliant BNPL for insurance services](#)

Beema, Qatar's leading Islamic insurance provider, has partnered with PayLater, the country's first QCB-licensed Shari'a-compliant BNPL platform, to offer customers interest-free installment payments for Takaful products. The collaboration supports Beema's digital transformation strategy, enhancing convenience, flexibility, and Shari'a-compliant financial accessibility in Qatar's insurance sector.

[MCIT, GTA release joint white paper on 'Dhareeba' portal's role in enhancing digital service](#)

MCIT and GTA have released a white paper on the digital transformation of Qatar's Dhareeba tax portal, highlighting its role in simplifying registration, filing, and payments since 2020, saving users significant time. With a 94% satisfaction rate, the portal has enhanced transparency and efficiency, and future plans include AI-driven automation and new smart services in line with Digital Agenda 2030 and Qatar National Vision 2030.

Emerging Technology

[Fintech gains momentum with digital payments and blockchain at forefront](#)

Qatar's fintech landscape is surging forward with remarkable momentum, driven by bold government initiatives, modern regulatory frameworks, and a thriving ecosystem of startups and corporate champions, an expert remarked. With nearly 99 percent of Qatar's population using online and smartphone penetration nearly universal, digital transactions have become the norm. Contactless payments now account for 96 percent of in-store transactions, spanning platforms such as Karwa Taxis and PayPal-enabled services, according to the MENA Fintech Association.

[Jobs in AI, data science, cybersecurity, healthcare most in demand in Qatar](#)

Qatar's labor market is seeing high demand for professionals in AI, cybersecurity, data science, healthcare, and STEM teaching. Mohammed A. al-Kubaisi of QCDC highlighted that this aligns with the country's national development strategy and global trends.

[Smart infrastructure upgrades bolster Qatar's national goals](#)

Qatar's digital economy is scaling up, driven by network upgrades, expanding data centers, and the Digital Agenda 2030. The policy aims to establish a secure, innovative ICT ecosystem and develop skilled talent, positioning Qatar as a regional tech hub within five years.

Energy and Industrial

[Qatar, Exxon Prepare for End-Year Golden Pass LNG Start](#)

The 18.1 million ton per year Golden Pass LNG export project in Texas, owned by QatarEnergy and US major Exxon Mobil, is expected to start operations by early 2026, providing added supply flexibility to both companies in the Atlantic Basin.

[Pakistan seeks to renegotiate LNG deal with Qatar amid surplus crisis – report](#)

Pakistan is looking to renegotiate its long-term liquefied natural gas (LNG) import agreement with Qatar as the country faces an oversupply caused by declining industrial demand and lower electricity consumption. According to Pakistan's Express Tribune, the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) approved the move during a closed-door meeting, authorising the Petroleum Division to restart talks with Qatar to align LNG volumes with current demand.

[QatarEnergy's LNG carrier fleet becomes one vessel richer](#)

A joint venture encompassing Japan's shipping companies NYK and Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha (K Line), Malaysia's energy-related maritime services provider MISC, and China LNG Shipping (Holdings) Limited (CLNG) has taken delivery of a new liquefied natural gas (LNG) carrier built for QatarEnergy, as part of the Qatari state-owned energy giant's massive LNG shipbuilding expansion quest.

Sports

[Qatar Drawn to Lead Group A in Gulf Cup U-17 Showdown](#)

The draw for the Gulf Cup U-17 football tournament was conducted virtually on Wednesday, at the premises of the Arab Gulf Cup Football Federation in Doha via Zoom. Hosted by Qatar from Sept. 20 to Oct. 2, the draw placed the host team, Qatar, at the top of Group A, alongside the UAE, Oman, and Yemen, with Iraq topping Group B, joined by Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Kuwait.

[Qatar U16 basketball team gains valuable experience at Arab C'ship in Cairo](#)

The Qatar U16 basketball team's campaign at the 22nd Arab Championship came to an end in Cairo with a 80-72 loss for Tunisia. With the match, Qatar concluded their preliminary round participation in the tournament, which features six teams Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Algeria, Tunisia, and Egypt competing in a single round-robin format.

[Qatar paddlers excel at WTT Youth Contender in Amman](#)

Qatar's table tennis team delivered an impressive performance at the WTT Youth Contender Championship held in Amman, adding a new achievement to the nation's growing success in international table tennis. Qatar players secured a total of seven medals: one gold, three silver and three bronze.

Updates in Regulations

[Over 10 services in Qatar exempted from closure during Friday prayers: Gazette](#)

The Minister of Commerce and Industry issued Decision No. (80) of 2025 requiring all commercial, industrial, and similar establishments to close for 1.5 hours during Friday prayers, starting from the first call to prayer. Exemptions include pharmacies, hospitals, fuel stations, hotels, transport services, and other essential facilities. The decision takes effect the day after its publication in the Official Gazette.

[Jail QR100,000 fine for violation of privacy in Qatar: Official Gazette](#)

The State of Qatar has issued a revision for cybercrime legislation, targeting unauthorized publication or circulation on the internet of images and videos of individuals without their consent, knowledge, or in situations which are not legally declared. The amended law No. (11) of 2025, was published in the official Gazette, Edition No. 20 of 2025, issued on August 4, 2025, and is approved by the Amir His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani.

[Traffic Department warns of vehicle delisting over renewal failure](#)

The General Traffic Department confirmed that there are "no exceptions" to the vehicle registration renewal deadline, emphasising that failure to renew may result in the vehicle being removed from the registry. Lieutenant Colonel Hamad Ali Al-Muhannadi, Head of the Registration Section at the Licensing Affairs Department at the General Traffic Department, said during an interview with the "Hayatna" program on Qatar TV Sunday.

News by Soutien Group

[Qatar Positioning Itself As Premier Logistics Hub](#)

Qatar is rapidly emerging as a regional logistics hub, backed by world-class ports, airports, free zones, and smart logistics parks, with the sector contributing 5% to GDP and targeted to double non-oil trade by 2030. With advanced infrastructure, policy support, and strategic location, Qatar offers strong opportunities in e-commerce, pharma, and green logistics.

[Saudi Arabia Increases Coffee Production With New Initiatives](#)

Saudi Arabia has launched a coffee sector initiative using tissue culture technology to boost productivity by 30% by year-end, with 50,000 seedlings targeted. Managed by Saudi Reef and Estidamah, the project focuses on disease-resistant, drought-tolerant varieties while providing farmers with training, resources, and global exposure to promote sustainable and climate-resilient coffee production.

[Oman's DCO Unveils Startup Guide](#)

Oman's Digital Cooperation Organisation (DCO) has launched the Startup Country Guide 2024, offering insights into legal frameworks, tax structures, incentives, and sector opportunities to support entrepreneurs. Backed by Vision 2040, initiatives like the Oman Future Fund, AI programmes, and Rising Oman Startups are strengthening Oman's position as a regional hub for innovation and a dynamic digital economy.

Expertise at Soutien Group

[Market Entries & Business Localization](#)

We assist corporate, private, and international clients in forming, incorporating, and registering limited liability entities in onshore and offshore jurisdictions, including mainland, business centers, financial hubs, and free zones, with or without local partners. The process of formation, incorporation and registration is divided in three stages or phases. These are Pre-Licensing, Licensing, Post-Licensing and Administrative and compliance. Click [here](#) for more.

[Strategies, structures, and systems](#)

We engage or involve in areas related to primary and secondary market research, strategy development and implementation, organizational and operational restructuring and restructuring, business model development and innovation, business plans, feasibility studies, and project reports as well as initiation, mediation representation, and public relations services and works. Click [here](#) for more.

[Partnerships & Sponsorships](#)

We have a network of partners, sponsors, and investors including members of the royal family, senior administration officials and key businessmen and -women who are interested in contribute to businesses and projects on a case-by-case basis depending on the requirements of the foreign investor and the interests of the local partners, sponsors, and investors. Click [here](#) for more.

[Other Services](#)

We work hand-in-hand with a network of partners including law-, tax-, accounting- and audit firms, family offices and private banks, who are licensed and authorized to practice in their areas in different jurisdictions regionally and internationally. Click [here](#) for more.

Frequently Asked Questions

[What is the purpose of AOA for the company in Qatar?](#)

The Articles of Association (AOA) serve as the legal document that defines the purpose, governance, and operational rules of a company. It outlines the roles and responsibilities of shareholders, directors, and other stakeholders while ensuring compliance with Qatari laws.

[What cultural considerations are important when setting up a business in Qatar?](#)

Respecting religious traditions, understanding local business practices, and fostering trust-based relationships are vital for successful business localization in Qatar.

[Are there Qatarization requirements for businesses in Qatar?](#)

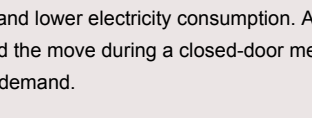
Yes, certain sectors require compliance with Qatarization policies, mandating the employment of a specific percentage of Qatari nationals.

[What does business localization in Qatar involve?](#)

Business localization in Qatar requires aligning your products, services, and operations with local market preferences, regulations, and cultural practices.

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