



## 'BUILDING SOLIDARITY IN ASYLUM POLICY'

4th & 5th November. Brussels

## Biography

**Khalid Chaouki** is 31 years old; he was born in Casablanca and raised in Italy, he is therefore a child of the new multicultural Italy. His mother tongues are Italian and Arabic, and he is fluent in English and French. He is a professional journalist. Within the Democratic Party he is responsible for the New Italians at a national level.

He is currently a Member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies and serves on the Foreign Affairs Committee. Since April 2013 he has been the Chairman of the Culture Committee of the PA-UfM (Union for the Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly), the international organization aiming at promoting relations between the European Union and the Southern Mediterranean countries, at strengthening democracy, women's rights and the role of parliaments as well as civil society.

He spent much of his childhood and teenage in Emilia Romagna. He has been travelling all over Italy for study and work purposes: he studied in Bologna and worked in Naples for AnsaMed – ANSA's Mediterranean news network.

He collaborated with Corriere del Mezzogiorno, La Repubblica, Reset, the Reform and Al Jazeera.

He was a member of the Council for Italian Islam established at the Ministry of Interior.

He has been living in Rome since 2008 with his wife Khalida, the cornerstone of his life, and two wonderful sons: Adam and Ilyas. He has always combined political engagement with family commitment. Politics for him means passion and dedication, a way to make a difference and build the world he desires.

He has recently devoted himself to writing: in 2005 he published "Salaam Italy!", in which he describes what young Muslims living in Italy think and dream of. More recently, he has published "Leghisti brava gente" (The members of Northern League are good guys), in which he tries to demonstrate that immigration has been addressed by some policy-makers with a short-sighted approach, accompanied by the usual "politics of fear".

He dreams of an Italy that is inclusive, supportive and capable of looking to the future with serenity and hope, he is committed in Parliament and in life to building a plural Italy.