



Gulf Research Center
Knowledge for All

ANNUAL REPORT 20 22



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ANNUAL 20
REPORT 22

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager

Chairman
Gulf Research Center

As we enter 2023, we look back at 2022 as a year during which the world experienced a great deal of volatility and unpredictability due to several global and regional factors. Nonetheless, the work of the Gulf Research Center (GRC) remained consistent throughout the past 12 months and allowed the Center to add new dimensions to its wide range of projects and activities. Some of the highlights of 2022 included:

- The Tafahum Project entered its second phase now called 'Tafahum wa Tabadul,' where the project aims to translate the shared understanding achieved in the previous phase into concrete cooperation mechanisms, in order to work towards a collective process for regional security in West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula.
- A range of research sectoral outlook reports focusing on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's renewable energy, tourism, logistics, and healthcare industries were produced.
- A EU-GCC Webinar Series was established to focus on the issues outlined in the EU Commission's joint communication on a 'Strategic Partnership with the Gulf.'

“We hope that the research output of GRC continues to reach all relevant stakeholders as we move into 2023 and our third decade.”

There was once again a full spectrum of GRC events in 2022, including the annual Gulf Research Meeting, in Cambridge, UK and the Saudi Coffee Sustainability Forum with the Ministry of Culture.

Cooperation with other research centers and universities continued, both in the Gulf region and globally, and was enhanced by the signing of several new memoranda of understanding.

This report will provide information about the broad range of activities carried out by GRC in 2022. These activities would not have been possible without the sincere efforts of GRC staff members across the globe. These efforts are much appreciated, as they constitute the solid foundation of the GRC mission – Knowledge for All.

01

GRC OFFICES

GRC OFFICES

The Gulf Research Center (GRC) was founded in July 2000 by Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, a Saudi businessman. Dr. Sager's vision was to fill a significant void and conduct scholarly, high-quality research on all aspects of the broader strategic Gulf region, including the GCC countries and Iran, Iraq, and Yemen. GRC operates on an independent, non-profit basis.

The Gulf Research Center has been consistently ranked among the top think tanks in the Middle East and worldwide within the University of Pennsylvania's Global Go-To Think Tank Index Report, especially in foreign policy research and public engagement. The GRC believes everyone has the right to access knowledge, so it has made all its research available to the public through publications, workshops, seminars, and conferences. In addition, as a non-profit organization, GRC injects all income into new programs and activities. The GRC is headquartered in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and also has an office in Jeddah. It also has offices located in Geneva and Cambridge and a support office in Dubai.

About the Gulf Research Foundation (GRCF)

The Gulf Research Center Foundation (GRC Foundation or GRCF) was established in 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland. It is, by definition, a non-profit institution and an umbrella organization under which research, training, and educational programs about the Gulf region are developed and implemented. The GRC Foundation conducts research on Gulf issues, promotes academic excellence in and about the Gulf region, and ensures objective and comprehensive analysis and information about this vital part of the world. This is accomplished through numerous projects that GRCF carries out, often in partnership with other research organizations. The location of the GRCF in Geneva, a place where exchanges of ideas on global governance and security take place regularly, has been beneficial for its work. Cooperation with renowned research institutions, universities, and other organizations is essential to the Foundation's work.

In 2011, the Foundation was awarded special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The GRCF is also accredited by the governing council of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). In 2012, the GRCF, together with the Migration Policy Centre (MPC) of the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, established the Gulf Labour Markets and Migration (GLMM) Programme, promoting better understanding and policies in these critical domains for the Gulf and the



countries of origin of the migrants. The Foundation qualifies to receive funding from and participate in programs supported by international organizations, the European Union, the United States, and various independent international foundations. Under the laws of Switzerland and the Canton of Geneva, donors based in Switzerland are eligible to receive tax benefits for supporting the work of the GRC Foundation.

About GRC Cambridge (GRCC)

The Gulf Research Centre Cambridge (GRCC) was established in August 2009 through a cooperative effort between the Gulf Research Center Foundation in Geneva and the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Centre of Islamic Studies at the University of Cambridge. The primary goal of the GRCC is to advance education and research on political, economic, social, environmental, security, and energy issues relating to the Gulf region. One of the critical aspects of the work of the GRCC is organizing the annual Gulf Research Meeting at the University of Cambridge. More information about the Gulf Research Meeting is available [here](#).

The Gulf Research Centre Cambridge is a non-profit, registered charity organization under the Charity Commission for England and Wales and can therefore receive tax-deductible donations.

About GRC Support Office: Knowledge Corporation (K-Corp)

The GRC's support office is based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Knowledge Corporation is a solution provider specializing in event management, knowledge and consultancy, ICT, publishing, media production, and training.





Gulf Research Center
Knowledge for All

GRC in 22 Years



53 Research Programs
30 Research Projects



500+ Conferences, Forums,
Workshops and Lectures



37,000+ Event Participants



180+ Visiting Scholars
and Interns



240 Staff (Cumulative) from
23 Countries



320+ Publications



100,000+ Pages Translated



1200+ External Research
Contributors



12 Accreditations and
Recognitions



115+ Cooperation and
Partnership Agreements



18 Training and Executive
Learning Programs with
1200+ Participants



6 Scholarships
Granted

www.grc.net

02

Projects

As a non-profit organization, the GRC engages in externally-funded research projects focusing on the Gulf region. Such project work allows collaboration with other institutions and creates a broader base for scholarship and research activities.

TAFAHUM PROJECT



In 2022, the Tafahum project of the Gulf Research Center Foundation (GRCF) and the Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient (CARPO) entered its second phase. This stage, now called “Tafahum wa Tabadul,” aims to translate the shared understanding achieved in the previous phase (2018/2021) into concrete exchange and cooperation mechanisms.

The fundamental objective of the Tafahum wa Tabadul project is to outline a process for regional security in West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula - a region that includes the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Iran, Iraq, and Yemen. In addition, it aims to generate an overall “understanding” (tafahum) among regional stakeholders on a collaborative process toward regional security followed by the identification and implementation of concrete areas of “exchange” (or tabadul). The project is funded by the German Federal Foreign Office and implemented by the CARPO and the GRCF.

More details about the project are available [here](#).

Various events were held in 2022 as part of the Tafahum wa Tabadul Project, including the following:

19 February 2022

Munich Security Conference Side Event: “Tafahum wa Tabadul: Strengthening Regional Dialogue in the Gulf Region”

29-30 March 2022

Workshop Track Level 3A: “Regional Networks for Women in Peace and Security Issues: Creating Spaces for Exchange Within the West Asia and Arabian Peninsula (WAAP) Regional Setting.”

18-19 May 2022

Workshop Track Level 2: “The Climate-Energy-Health-Nexus: Sustainability in West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula (WAAP)”

20-23 June 2022

Tafahum wa Tabadul Coordination Team Meeting

7-8 September 2022

4th Tafahum Annual Conference

26-27 October 2022

Workshop Track Level 2: “Pollution and the Climate-Energy-Health-Nexus: Sustainability in West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula (WAAP)”

14 November 2022

COP27 Side Event: “Climate-Energy-Health-Nexus: An Opportunity for Young Green Entrepreneurship”

30 November - 1 December 2022

Workshop Track Level 3B: “Enhancing People-to-People Relations through Academia, Education, and Capacity Development Programs”



Current Status and New Trends: UN Project



As part of a contract with the United Nations Office in Saudi Arabia, the Gulf Research Center is conducting an assessment of the kingdom's positioning in the region and globally, considering the key trends and ongoing shift in the country's relationships with major players at both levels. The research insight provided seeks to help the UN system better understand the current changes in Saudi's approach to regional issues.

As part of the project, a series of ten research papers on Saudi Arabia's diplomatic (re) positioning is being produced. Each paper is thematically focused and includes sections on the contextual analysis, the state of current affairs, and the key trends within the specific topics to be covered. The papers will also emphasize the potential challenges and opportunities for the UN system

These are the following titles of the papers:

- The Ongoing Reforms in Saudi Arabia: Scope and Challenges from a 'Leaving No One Behind' Perspective
- Gender and Youth Empowerment Initiatives in Saudi Arabia and their Potential Contribution to Building a More Inclusive Development Model
- The Saudi Reform Agenda and its Potential Impact on the Social Contract
- The Saudi Involvement in International Organizations (with a focus on the UN system)
- The Relationship between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Iran and their Regional Implications - A Saudi Perspective
- The Relationship between Saudi Arabia and Turkey in a Changing Environment
- Saudi Arabia and its Arab Environment: The Search for Regional Leadership
- Relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Africa (with a focus on the Horn of Africa and the Sahel)
- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Biden Administration: Scope and Limits of the Ongoing 'Recalibration'
- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Other Global Powers (China, Russia): An Alternative to the U.S. Alliance?



NEOM REGIONAL ANALYSIS STUDY



NEOM Situational Analysis Project

The GRC provided a team of researchers to NEOM tasked with developing a situational analysis report on an area surrounding NEOM.

The project conducted a comprehensive situational analysis report to determine the status of the region and provide recommendations.

GULF LABOR MARKETS AND MIGRATION PROGRAM (GLMM)



GLMM Highlights 2022

GLMM is an international independent, non-partisan, non-profit program hosted and supported by the Gulf Research Center. The program provides data, analyses, and recommendations contributing to the improvement of understanding and management of Gulf labor migration, population, and labor markets, engaging with, and respecting the viewpoints of all stakeholders.

Databases

The GLMM has a demographic-economic database with more than 1,000 tables on GCC migration, labor, and population from official GCC sources over the past ten years. These tables are updated weekly and can be accessed, downloaded, and printed [here](#).

In addition, there is a legal database containing hundreds of official legal documents on GCC migration, labor, and population that can be accessed [here](#).

Publications

In 2022, GLMM launched a new publication, “Factsheets,” (access [here](#)). The full list of GLMM publications can be accessed [here](#).

Recent Research and Publications

A recent research project on “Working and living conditions of low-income migrant workers in the hospitality and construction sectors in Qatar and the UAE (Dubai)” based on focus group discussions and interviews with key stakeholders resulted in two reports:



Report 1: Qatar

Access the report [here](#)



Report 2: UAE

Access the report [here](#)

Another recent research project and GRM workshop on Irregular Migration in the GCC resulted in a volume:

Skillful Survival: Irregular Migration in the Gulf: Access the volume [here](#)

Yet another recent research project and GRM workshop on Migration Policies resulted in another volume:

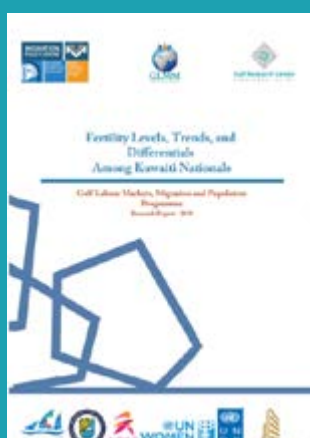
- **Migration to the Gulf: Policies in Sending and Receiving Countries: Access the book [here](#)**

Two other research projects on fertility among nationals in Kuwait, Qatar, and the wider GCC, resulted in three reports:



Report 1: Kuwait

Access the report [here](#)



Report 1: Qatar

Access the report [here](#)



Report 3: GCC

Access the report [here](#)

03

GRC EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Germany and the Gulf

On the occasion of the visit of German Chancellor Olaf Scholz to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, GRC researchers, Layla Ali, Amnah Mosly, Fatma Basunbol, and Noura Alhazmi, met with the Chancellor where they discussed their work and recent development in German-Gulf ties. The GRC introduced their recent activities to the Chancellor, such as research papers focusing on Saudi-EU relations, sports diplomacy, and other topics. The GRC also introduced various research programs and projects, such as 'Tafahum,' and provided an overall update on where the project stands and what has been achieved so far.

In addition, the GRC is sponsoring, with the German Consulate in Jeddah, a twin city project between Jeddah and Hamburg in which the project facilitates various parliamentary delegation visits from Germany to the kingdom to support regional cooperation between Saudi Arabia and Germany. More details of the activities can be found [here](#).



GRC Researchers meeting with the German Chancellor, Mr. Olaf Scholz, in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia



GRC meetings with German parliamentarians and delegations in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia



Click [here](#) to read the full paper:

The Gulf Research Center places particular focus on the development of GCC-EU ties with an emphasis on the bilateral ties with Germany. Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the GRC, published an analysis coinciding with the visit of the German Chancellor entitled ‘Saudi-German Cooperation is Essential for Middle East Security.’

In the publication, Dr. Sager argues that what is currently missing in the Gulf is Germany playing a more active political role that is commensurate with its economic power and its position as a leading European country. This includes the need for Germany and Saudi Arabia to engage in a substantive, extensive political dialogue to dissect and better understand the Middle East’s most pressing problems.

Pertinent regional issues include working together to ensure that Iran becomes a responsible member of a Gulf security community, developing a joint approach toward rebuilding Iraq, engaging jointly in Yemen, including supporting the recently established Yemeni Presidential Leadership Council and coordinating their positions to revitalize the Arab-Israeli peace process.

Broader German involvement in regional issues will undoubtedly, he argues, strengthen the processes of conflict resolution and prevention that the Middle East desperately needs.

The GRC has conducted numerous programs related to the German-Gulf ties. This includes close cooperation with German think tanks like the Konrad-Adenauer Foundation, CARPO, the Bertelsmann Foundation, the Berghof Foundation, the Körber Foundation, and the German-Arab Chamber of Commerce (Ghorfa).

Annual Gulf Research Meeting 2022

The Gulf Research Center (GRC) hosted its 12th Annual Gulf Research Meeting (GRM) in Cambridge on July 14-16, 2022. More than 150 experts attended the conference in person, and more than 80 participants joined them online. The event's participants were divided into 10 workshops overseen by 25 workshop directors. The workshops covered a host of issues related to the Gulf region ranging from international issues, such as the role of the GCC countries and the Indo-Pacific, to economic matters, such as migration, tourism, energy transition, carbon neutrality, and economic statecraft. The workshops also discussed social issues, education, the role of women, and humanitarian and development priorities. The Gulf Research Meeting seeks to hold academic meetings that lead to publications on topics related to social sciences with a focus on the Gulf region. More details on the meeting can be found on the [GRM website](#).

The GRM opening ceremony was moderated by GRC Director of Research Dr. Christian Koch and included welcoming remarks by Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, chairman of the GRC, and Prof. David Cardwell, pro-vice-chancellor for strategy and planning at the University of Cambridge. This was followed by speeches from H.E. Mr. Amin Awad, UN assistant secretary-general and UN crisis coordinator for Ukraine, and H.E. Prof. Einas Al-Eisa, president of Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University.



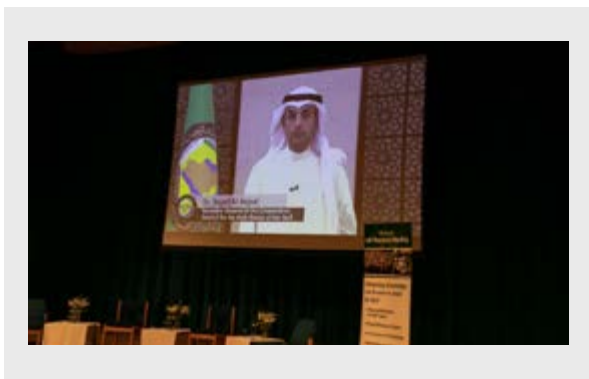
GRM 2022 Opening Ceremony



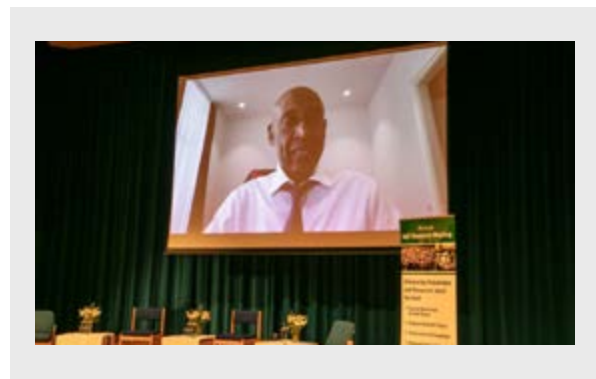
Dr. Christian Koch, GRC Director of Research, master of the GRM 2022 opening ceremony, speaks at the event.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the GRC, delivers a welcome speech at the GRM 2022 opening ceremony.



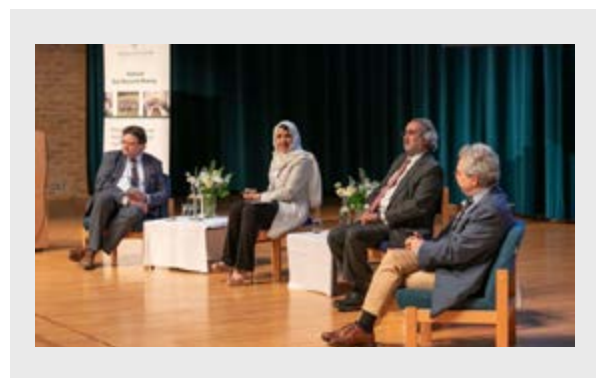
H.E. Dr. Nayef Falah M. Al-Hajraf, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, participates in the opening ceremony online.



H.E. Mr. Amin Awad, UN Assistant Secretary-General and UN crisis coordinator for Ukraine, outlined the effects of the Ukraine crisis in the opening ceremony online.



H.E. Prof. Einas S. Al-Eisa, president of the Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, delivers a keynote speech at the GRM 2022 opening ceremony. She highlighted the importance of women's involvement in education in Saudi Arabia.



GRM 2022 opening ceremony panel discussion in progress with Dr. Christian Koch (far left) as moderator, Prof. Einas S. Al-Eisa, Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, and Dr. John Sfakianakis (far right).

Over the following two days, the Gulf Research Meeting conducted 10 parallel workshops. The following workshops were held:

GRM 2022 Workshops

Workshop 1: Carbon Neutrality in the GCC: Between Good-Intentioned Pledges and the Harsh Reality



Workshop 2: The Gulf States and the Indo-Pacific: Agents or Objects of Geopolitical Competition?



Workshop 3: The Dimensions of Saudi Arabia's Soft Power



Workshop 4: Economic Statecraft, Coercion, and Resilience in the Gulf



Workshop 5: Women in the GCC Socio-Economic Contributions to the Urbanisation of Gulf Countries: Status, Challenges, Aspirations



Workshop 6: Challenges of Change and Transformation in the Gulf During COVID Times: Social, Economic and Political Dimensions



Workshop 7: Living Together Separately: Social and Cultural Implications of Migration to the GCC Countries



Workshop 8: The Tourism, Economic Diversification, and Economic Diplomacy: Lessons from the Arabian Gulf



Workshop 9: Challenges in the COVID Environment: Lessons for Higher Education Reform in the Gulf



Workshop 10: Gulf State Donors Across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus



GRM 2022 Photo Gallery



2022 GRM Participant Reception



GRCC Council Meeting



GRCC Council Meeting



GRM 2022 Workshop Directors



H.E. Prof. Einas S. Al-Eisa, President of the Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, at the GRM Opening Ceremony reception.



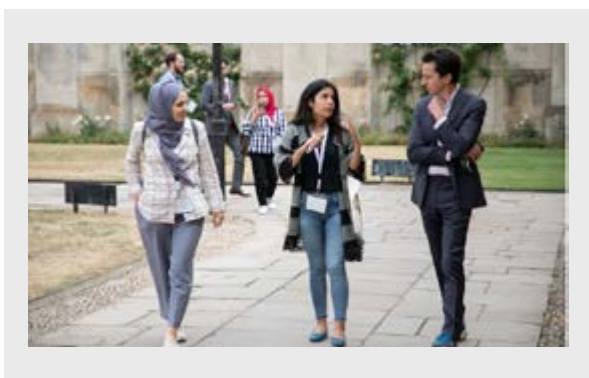
GRM 2022 directors and participants gather in Kings College for the GRM opening gala dinner.



GRM 2022 directors and participants gather in Kings College for the GRM opening gala dinner.



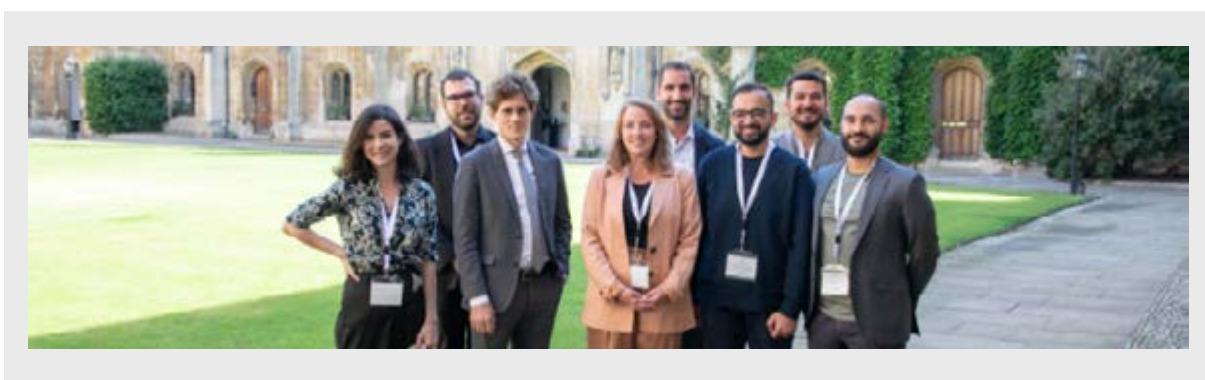
Guests at the GRM 2022 opening ceremony gala dinner.



Lama Khaiyat and Dr. Neil Quilliam from Saudi Soft Power Workshop make their way to the lunch at Kings College.



GRM Participants making their way to Kings College



Workshop 4 Participants gathered at Kings College



Gulf Research Centre Cambridge
Knowledge for All

12 Years of the Gulf Research Meeting



12

Years



1930

Hours



34

Institutions



3508

Participants



137

Workshops



56

Books
Published

www.gulfresearchmeeting.net

GRC Policy Forum 2022

The Gulf Research Center organized a policy forum at the Royal Society in London, England, on July 12, 2022, to address a range of policy issues related to the Gulf region. More than 60 participants, including academics and members of think tanks, attended the event.



H.E. Dr. Nayef Falah M. Al-Hajraf, the Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, addresses participants of the GRC Policy Forum 2022.

The forum began with welcoming remarks by H.E. Dr. Nayef Falah M. Al-Hajraf, the secretary-general of the Gulf Cooperation Council, virtually. His welcoming address can be found [here](#).

The forum was then followed by a presentation of the Gulf Research Center Annual Strategic Review 2022, which outlined key regional developments of last year. The report's results were discussed in two-panel sessions focusing on the current policy issues pertaining to the Gulf region. The GRC Annual Strategic Review can be found [here](#).

The first panel, titled “Gulf Regional Politics, Security, and IR,” was moderated by Dr. Sanam Vakil, deputy director and senior research fellow in the Middle East and North Africa Programme in Chatham House. Speakers of the first panel included Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, chairman of the Gulf Research Center, Dr. Mustafa Alani, the head of GRC’s Defense and Security Program, and Dr. Christian Koch, the director of Research at the Gulf Research Center.

The experts discussed the regional security challenges and stressed the need to address those issues holistically. They were unanimous in their view that despite several difficulties, communication channels are needed for conflict management and de-escalation efforts to move the region out of the crisis.

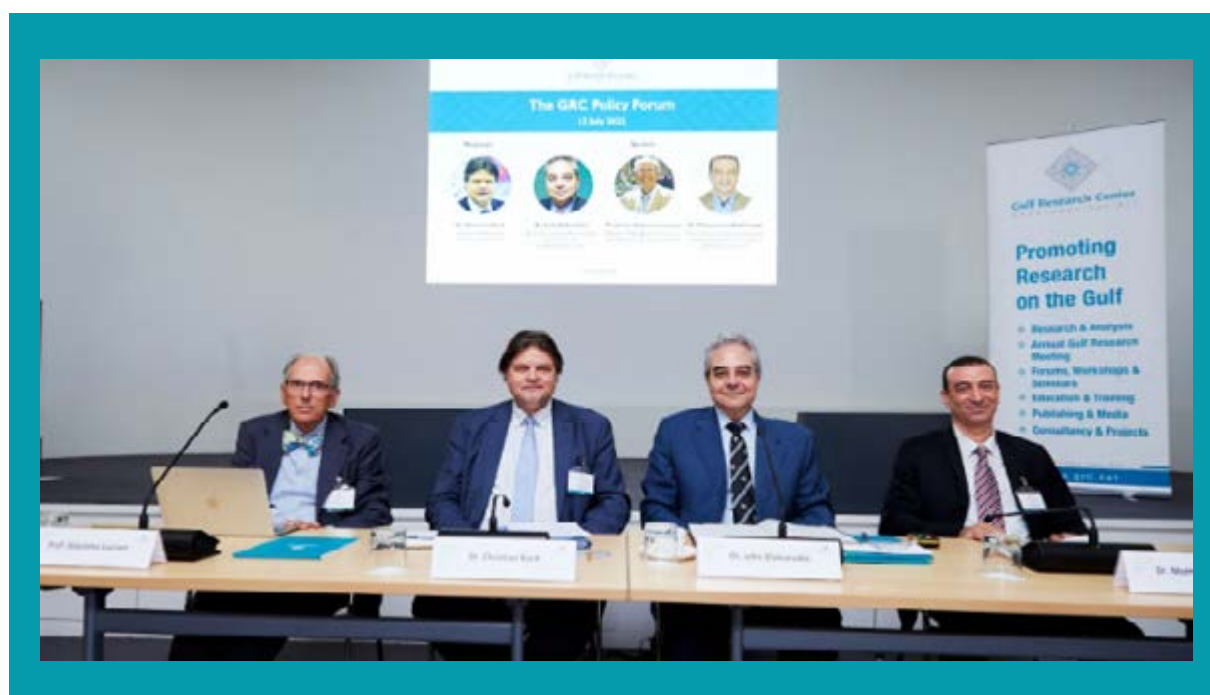
Moderated by Dr. Christian Koch, the director of Research at the GRC, the second panel was titled “Gulf Economics, Energy, and the Environment.” Speakers at the second panel were: Dr. John Sfakianakis, the head of Economic Research and Chief Economist at the GRC. Prof. Giacomo Luciani, a member of the board of trustees at the Gulf Research Center Foundation, and Dr. Mohammed Abdelraouf, head of the Environment Security and Sustainability Research Program at the GRC.

The second panel highlighted the Gulf countries’ awakening to the realities of a global energy economy that is sensitive to climate change and focuses on decarbonization. The experts emphasized how the Gulf economies will have to find new sources of revenue or change their existing structures to boost productivity and be less hydrocarbon intensive.

Panel Session 1: Gulf Regional Politics, Security, and International Relations



Panel Session 2: Gulf Economics, Energy, and the Environment



Gulf Research Center Environmental Security and Sustainability Program

Director of Program: Dr. Mohamad Abdulraouf

The GRC Environment Security and Sustainability Research Program looks at environmental issues in the Gulf region and seeks to document information about specific concerns related to the area to increase awareness about the following key environmental issues:

- Trends in the state of the environment and natural resources in the Gulf and their natural, social, and economic drivers
 - Major environment and sustainability initiatives
 - Environmental threats such as water, desertification as well as climate change, and C&D debris
- More information about the Environment Security & Sustainability Program can be found on the [GRC website](#)

Activities in 2022

GRC COP 27 Side Event



GRC's Side Event at COP27

On November 15, 2022, the Gulf Research Center (GRC) co-organized a side event with the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) at the IsDB Pavilion at COP27 in Sharm Al-Sheikh, Egypt. The side event titled “How to Foster Japan-MENA countries partnership towards NetZero Economies,” presented the joint project between GRC, IGES, and IsDB on Japan-MENA partnership towards NetZero Economies and highlighted the role of the private sector towards green transition in three selected countries; Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Tunis.



GRC-IGES Signed MoU at COP27

During the COP27 side event, the GRC and IGES signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Both sides agreed to enter the MoU to work together to address areas of mutual interest, focusing on the environmental and sustainable development challenges in Japan, the Middle East, and North Africa (MENA) countries, as well as in the Gulf region in particular.

UN Environment Programme (UNEP)



The Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) selected Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf to be among the 35 members of the Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (IMAG). In his role, Dr. Abdelraouf will contribute to the production of the seventh edition of UNEP's Global Environment Outlook (GEO-7).

The Advisory Group plays a critical role in guiding UNEP's Executive Director, authors, and experts on the policy relevance of their work. It also assists the UN leadership in the preparation of the draft of the Summary for Policymakers.

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme, the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) brought together representatives of the 193 member states of the UN, businesses, civil society, and other stakeholders to agree on policies to address the world's most pressing environmental challenges.

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf subsequently participated in the fifth meeting of the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR-5) of the resumed fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 5.2), which took place at UN Environment Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.

GRC Co-Chairing the Major Groups Facilitating Committee (MCFG)

The Gulf Research Center also participated in the meeting of the MCFG as the co-chair of the Major Groups Facilitating Committee (MGFC), representing the Science and Technology Major Group of UN Environment, in June 2022. As part of the meeting, Dr. Abdulraouf co-organized and co-chaired the dialogue sessions with the following:

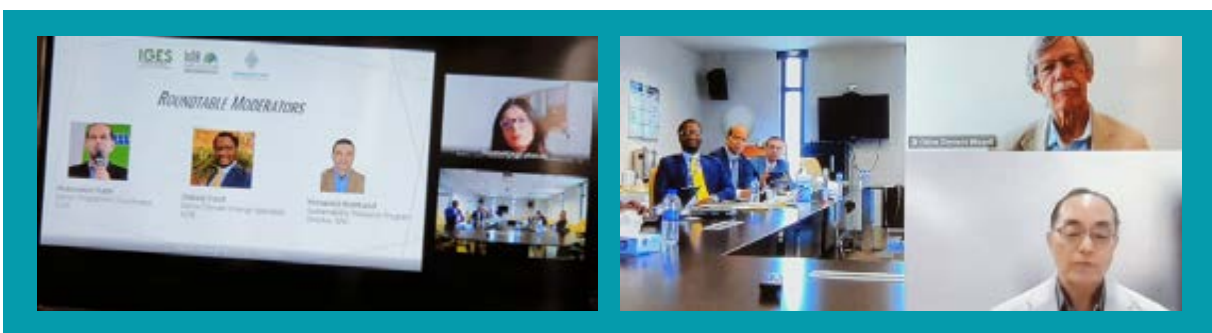
- UNEP Executive Director Mr. Inger Anderson
- H.E. Espen Barth Eide, Norway's minister of environment and climate and president of UN Environment Assembly 5.2
- Major Groups Press Conference



Dr. Abdulraouf chairing the various sessions in Nairobi, Kenya

GRC Joint Study with the Institute for the Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

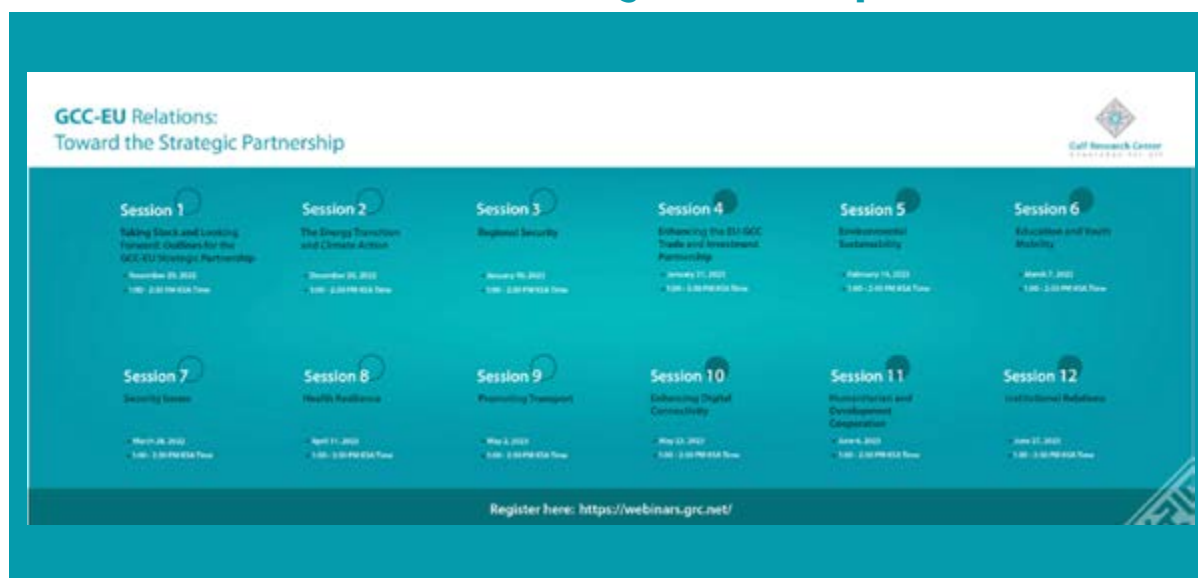
On March 16th, 2022, the Institute for the Global Environmental Strategies – IGES (Japan), Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), and the Gulf Research Center (GRC) partnered to conduct a study “Examining the need and the potential for win-win cooperation between Japan and IsDB’s member countries in the MENA region toward net-zero emission economies.” This pioneering study focuses on three MENA countries. The project included a desk study, interviews, and an expert roundtable held on June 22nd at IsDB headquarters in Jeddah, KSA.



Expert Roundtable at the IsDB Headquarters held in Jeddah, KSA

GRC WEBINARS

GCC-EU Relations: Toward the Strategic Partnership Webinar Series



With the release of the EU's Joint Communication on a "Strategic Partnership with the Gulf" and its subsequent approval by the EU Council of Ministers in June 2022, a renewed attempt is being undertaken to give EU-GCC relations a more structured framework around which to conceptualize and deepen mutual ties. With the document being received favorably by the GCC countries, there is a need to place the emphasis on working out implementation strategies for the many issue-oriented areas that the document identifies – from political and regional security affairs to economic and energy relations, to technology and digital development, as well as education, culture and humanitarian coordination. To start the process of identifying the best way forward, the Gulf Research Center (GRC) started a regular webinar series dedicated to specific issues outlined in the joint communication. These webinar discussions are intended to allow both sides to exchange views and present perspectives to put forward concrete suggestions for policy implementation moving forward.

Panel Session 1 of the EU-GCC Webinar Series



On November 29, 2022, the GRC held the first session entitled “Taking Stock and Looking Forward: Outlines of the GCC-EU Strategic Partnership.” More than 150 participants attended the session. The event focused on the status of relations and the priorities related to the EU’s Joint Communication on a “Strategic Partnership with the Gulf.” The speakers of the session were Mr. Carl Hallergard, the Director of Middle East and North Africa at the European External Action Service (EEAS); H.E. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, the Undersecretary for Political Affairs at Bahrain’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs; James Moran, an Associate Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS); and Najla Al-Qassimi, the Director of Global Affairs at B’huth (Dubai Public Policy Research Centre) in the United Arab Emirates. Dr. Christian Koch, the Director of Research at the GRC, moderated the session.

Panel Session 2 of the EU-GCC Webinar Series



The second session was held on December 20, 2022 on the topic of “The Energy Transition and Climate Action.” With more than 80 participants, the event focused on the issue of energy transition and the climate agenda within the context of EU-GCC relations and sought to explore the concrete idea of how the EU-GCC relationship can be advanced both in terms of the EU communication and specifically on the issue of energy cooperation. The speakers of the session were H.E. Dr. Majid Al-Moneef, Chairman of the Board of the Saudi Association for Energy Economics; H.E. Dr. Khalid M. Al Sulaiman, Executive Chairman and Partner of Saudi Tech Engineering and Former Vice President for Renewable Energy at the King Abdullah City for Atomic and Renewable Energy (KACARE); Mr. Marco Morettini, Deputy Head of Division, GLOBAL GI3 Green Transition at the European External Action Service (EEAS); Dr. Aisha Al-Serihi, Research Fellow at the Middle East Institute of the National University of Singapore; and Milan Elkerbout, Research Fellow and Head of the Climate Policy Programme at the Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS) as speakers providing initial remarks. Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, offered opening remarks. Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research at the Gulf Research Center, moderated the session.

JOINT COMMUNICATION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL

A strategic partnership with the Gulf



A Partnership for Prosperity

- Strengthen EU-GCC Cooperation on Trade and Investment
- Global Health Security
- Transport
- Digitalisation
- Maritime Safety
- Research and Innovation
- Space

A Global Humanitarian and Development Partnership

- Humanitarian Aid
- International Humanitarian Law
- Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus
- Development Cooperation
- OECD Arab-DAC Dialogue on Development

A Partnership for a Green Transition and Sustainable Energy Security

- Climate Change
- Clean Energy
- Global and Regional Sustainable Energy Security
- Waste Reduction
- Food System
- Desalination and Deforestation

A Partnership for People

- Rule of Law and Good Governance
- Surveillance and Data Collection
- Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
- Inter-Cultural and Inter-Faith Exchanges
- Education and Vocational Training
- EU-Gulf Cooperation on Research
- Consular Protection
- Visa

A Partnership for Regional Stability and Global Security

- Transparency and Confidence Building Measures
- Political-Military Dialogue
- Dialogue Process
- Maritime Security
- Conflict Prevention and Mediation
- Counter-Terrorism
- Cyberspace
- Judicial and Law Enforcement Cooperation
- EU Special Representative on Gulf Security

A Stronger Institutional Partnership

- Delegation in Qatar in 2022
- Partnership Agreements
- Sectoral Ministerial Meetings
- Political Dialogue



Gulf Research Center
Knowledge for All



GRC_Research GulfResearchCenter gulfresearchcenter gulfresearchcenter

www.grc.net



بيان مشترك إلى البرلمان الأوروبي ومجلس الاتحاد الأوروبي شراكة استراتيجية مع الخليج



شراكة من أجل الاستكشاف الإقليمي والأمن العالمي

- الشفافية وتدابير بناء الثقة
- الحوار السياسي والمهني
- العملية الحوارية
- الأمن البحري
- منع نشوب الصراعات
- مكافحة الإرهاب
- الفضاء السيبراني
- التعاون الفضائي وإعمار القانون
- عملت داني الاتحاد الأوروبي
- لشؤون أمن الخليج

شراكة مؤسسية أقوى

- بعثة في قطر عام 2022
- المبادرات المشتركة
- اجتماعات وزارية قطاعية
- حوار سياسي

شراكة من أجل تحول أخضر وأمن طاقة مستدامة

- تغير المناخ
- الطاقة النظيفة
- أمن الطاقة المستدامة
- الإقليمية والعالمية
- إدارة المياه
- الأنظمة الغذائية
- مكافحة التصحر وإزالة
- الغابات

شراكة من أجل الشعوب

- سيادة القانون والحكم الرشيد
- النزاهة وجودة البيانات
- المساواة بين الجنسين
- وطنيين المرأة
- تحسين التعاون والتبادل بين الثقافات والأديان
- التعليم والتدريب
- الحماية القضائية
- التأشيرات

شراكة من أجل الازدهار

- تعزيز التعاون بين دول مجلس التعاون الخليجي
- واتحاد الأوروبي في التجارة والاستثمار
- الأمن الصحي العالمي
- النقل
- الرقمنة
- السياحة البحرية
- البحث والتطوير
- الفضاء

شراكة إنسانية وللموعدة عالمية

- المساعدات الإنسانية
- القانون الإنساني الدولي
- بركة لجميع ما بين العمل الإنساني والتنمية والمساواة
- التعاون الدولي
- حوار لجنة المساعدة الإنسانية بين الأطراف العربية
- ومناقشة التعاون والتنمية في الميدان الاقتصادي



مركز الخليج للأبحاث
الدراسات والبحوث



GRC_Research GulfResearchCenter gulfresearchcenter gulfresearchcenter

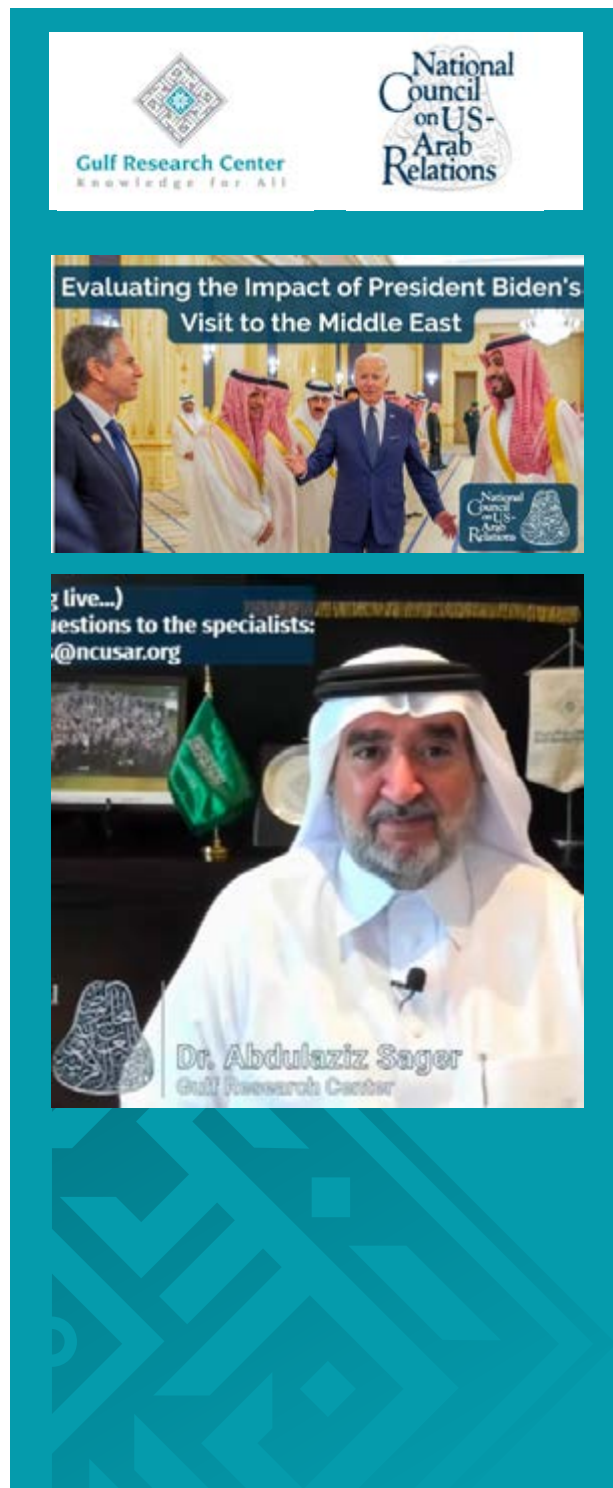
www.grc.net



Evaluating the Impact of President Biden's Visit to the Middle East with National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations

July 22, 2022

Organizers:

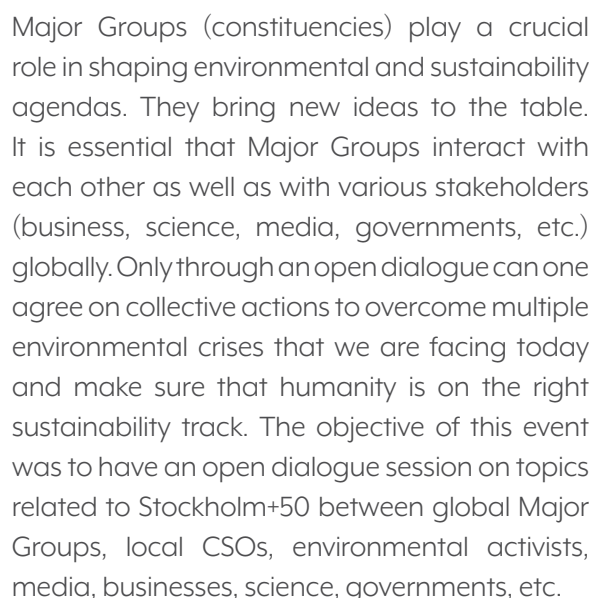


On July 22, 2022, the National Council and the Gulf Research Center hosted an online briefing program looking back at US President Joe Biden's visit to the Middle East with stops in Israel, the occupied Palestinian territories, and Saudi Arabia. The Saudi and US analysts, scholars, and former diplomats assessed the impact of the trip on near-term developments as well as longer-term strategic trends. The program's featured specialists were Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Gulf Research Center founder, and chairman, former US diplomats Ambassador (Retd) Michael Gfoeller, and Mr. David H. Rundell. Col. (Retd) Abbas K. Dahouk and Dr. John Duke Anthony joined them for the proceedings as moderator and context provider, respectively.

Dr. Sager stated that President Biden's visit to Saudi Arabia was "successful for the purpose and the mission of the visit," which includes restoring ties between the two countries, strengthening and continuing the 80-year relationship between the US and the GCC, and reemphasizing and recommitting the US's role in the region. The recording of the webinar can be found [here](#).

June 2, 2022

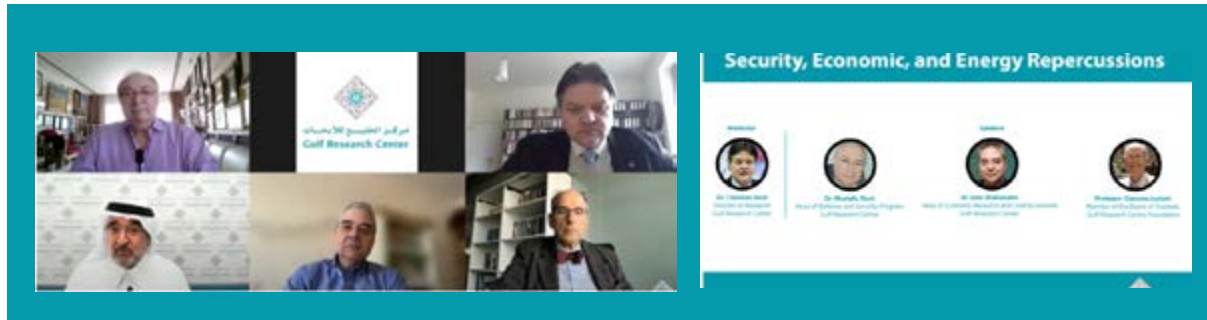
Organizers:



The discussions revolved around the role of citizen science and how it can help solve environmental problems. Experts discussed the role of Major Groups, how they can be better engaged in the future, and what is needed from governments and the UN to better engage Major Groups. The role of environmental laws and how they can improve environmental governance also came under discussion. Other highlighted topics included the importance of the environment in realizing sustainable development goals, the role of youth, and what they plan for the following climate talks in COP27 and COP28. Speakers also discussed food security and the role of the private sector. It was agreed that such dialogue would be repeated in the near future, especially between Nairobi and New York mechanisms of Major Groups to discuss their engagement in the international forum for the environment and sustainable development goals.

The Crisis of Ukraine in the Gulf: Security, Economic, and Energy Repercussions

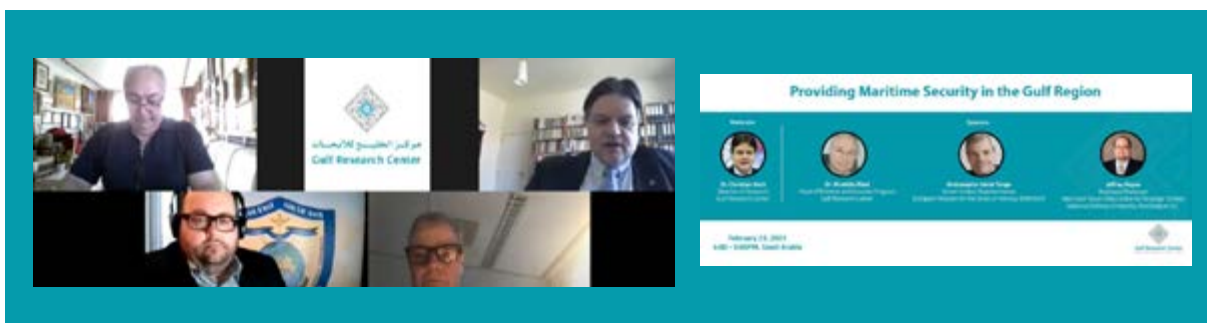
March 17, 2022



The ongoing war in Ukraine has affected the entire world. For the Middle East and the Gulf, the conflict comes when the region is in a precarious state. On the one hand, conflicts are already raging in Syria, Iraq, and Yemen. On the other hand, geopolitical, economic, and energy issues play a significant role in evaluating the repercussions of the Ukraine crisis in the Gulf region. On March 17, 2022, the Gulf Research Center (GRC) held a webinar regarding the Ukraine crisis's geopolitical, economic, and energy repercussions in the Gulf region. Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research at the GRC, moderated the webinar. The webinar recording can be found [here](#)

Providing Maritime Security in the Gulf Region

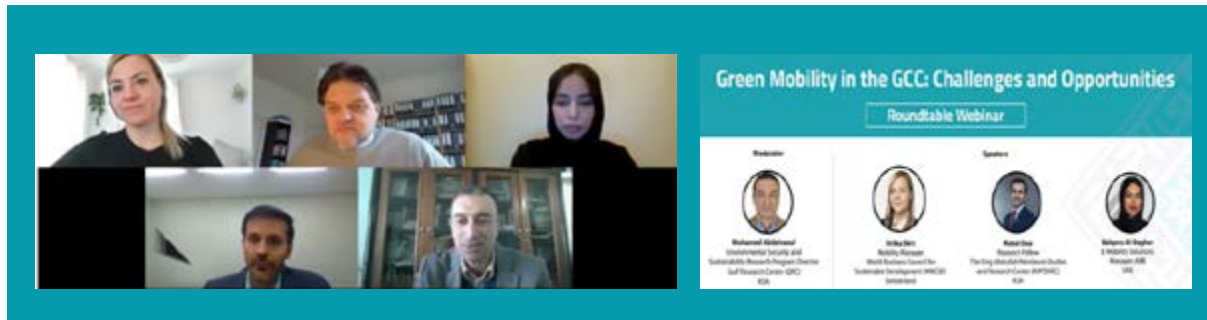
February 23, 2022



The GRC organized a webinar to discuss the fragile security environment in the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Aden, and the Southern Red Sea. Moderating the webinar, Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research at the GRC, explained that the increase in attacks by Houthi rebels in Yemen led to several regional and international responses. On the regional level, the UAE discussed maritime border cooperation and the flow of shipping traffic with Iran. Internationally, there have been deployments of two maritime missions to the region: First, the US created the International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC) and its operational arm, Coalition Task Force (CTF) SENTINEL, to protect commercial ships in the gulf, with the support of Bahrain, the base of the US Fifth Fleet, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Australia, and the UK; and second, the European-led Maritime Awareness in the Strait of Hormuz (EMASOH) and its military arm AGENOR, operating out of a French naval base in Abu Dhabi that also aims to ensure freedom of navigation. The recording of the webinar can be found [here](#).

Green Mobility in the GCC: Opportunities and Challenges

January 12, 2022



On January 12, 2022, the Gulf Research Center held a webinar discussion titled “Green Mobility in the GCC: Opportunities and Challenges.” The event sought to examine the status of green mobility in the GCC countries and look into recent innovations and business development activities for electromobility solutions in transport and automotive industries across the GCC countries. It aimed at evaluating the pros and cons of different green mobility solutions and what is best for the region. The webinar tried to identify the obstacles facing green mobility in the GCC and better understand the role of green mobility in helping achieve carbon neutrality in the region. Dr. Christian Koch welcomed the participants. Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Director of the Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program at the GRC, moderated the discussion. The recording of the webinar can be found [here](#)

04

Building Partnerships for a Better Gulf - GRC Memoranda of Understanding

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR A BETTER GULF

Collaboration with think tanks and research organizations is a vital part of the Gulf Research Center's mandate. The cooperation agreements that the center has signed with several institutions worldwide aim to support the areas of research, policy facilitation, and implementation of long-term conditions for peace, security, and sustainable development. In partnering with institutions of interest, we hope to work in pursuit of creating greater national, regional, and international awareness on issues pertaining to security and stability in the Gulf region and beyond.

Over the course of 2022, the Gulf Research Center finalized new Memoranda of Understanding with research organizations in Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Japan, Germany, and other countries. The agreements outlined cooperation in terms of conducting original research on issues pertaining to peace, security and stability, trade, energy, and resources, as well as language and culture in the Gulf region and beyond.



Gulf Research Center MoU with the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf

In the presence of H.E. Dr. Nayef Falah M. Al-Hajraf - Secretary-General of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, the Secretariat General of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf and the Gulf Research Center (GRC) signed a memorandum of understanding.

The Secretariat General was represented in signing this MoU by the Assistant Secretary for Legal and Legislative Affairs, Counselor Sultan bin Nasser Al-Suwaidi, while the GRC was represented by its Chairman, Dr. Abdulaziz Sager. Dr. Sager explained that this MoU falls within the framework of strengthening the relationship with various organizations as well as with government and private agencies, to advance research work and to enhance the approach of the GRC in making research-based knowledge available in a way that contributes to serving the countries and peoples of the Arab Gulf region.



University of
St Andrews

Gulf Research Center MoU with the University of St. Andrews

The GRC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Institute of Middle East, Central Asia, and Caucasus Studies (MECACS) at the University of St Andrews. This agreement came into effect in June 2022. The MoU strives to stimulate cooperation between the GRC and MECACS on matters related to the economy, security, energy, environment, and politics of the Gulf countries, and the wider Middle East. This collaboration will take the shape of joint webinars, and other forms of collaborative knowledge production.



Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

The Gulf Research Center and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) Regional Program for Gulf States signed an MoU to work together in pursuit of strengthening relations between the Gulf States and Europe by focusing on the common objectives between them, including advancing mutual understanding on regional issues; supporting peace and security; promoting socio-economic development; and creating international awareness on issues pertaining to the Gulf region and Europe.



Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Geneva

In June 2022, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Gulf Research Center and the University of Geneva. The memorandum was signed by the Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, and the Directors of the Global Studies Institute (GSI), the Arabic Studies Section of the Department of Mediterranean, Slavonic and Oriental Studies, and the Continuing Education Program. This memorandum confirmed the pronounced interest on both sides to collaborate with each

other, which was crowned with the donation of the Gulf Research Meeting Collection to the University of Geneva.



GRCF Formalized Membership at the Geneva Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Services

On June 8, 2022, the Gulf Research Center Foundation formalized its membership with the Geneva Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Services.



GRCF Formalized Membership and Partnership with the Arab-Swiss Chamber of Commerce and Industry

On June 3, 2022, the Gulf Research Center Foundation formalized its membership and partnership with the Arab-Swiss Chamber of Commerce and Industry.





Gulf Research Center Foundation MoU with the Osaka School of International Public Policy - Osaka University

The Gulf Research Center signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University, Japan. The objective of the MoU is to promote cooperation in the fields of education and academic research, including a) activities such as collaborative research, lectures, symposiums, and the associated exchange of researchers; and b)

the exchange of information and materials in a variety of fields, including sustainable development goals (SDGs) and environmental, social, and governance (ESG) integration research and education.

In addition to the MoU signed with Osaka University, which will enable progress on a variety of joint projects, especially SDGs and NPT-related (Non-Proliferation Treaty) issues between Japan/East Asia and the Gulf states, the GRC's Japan branch continued work on several other initiatives. One of those projects is the development of a Japanese company database in the UAE and Saudi Arabia to enhance the GCC and East Asia relations. In connection, GRC's recently appointed summer intern, Ms. Shahad Turkistani, focused her efforts on examining potential opportunities in the new era of Saudi-Japan relations in the context of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager Guest Professorship at the Osaka University

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager has been appointed as a Guest Professor of OSSIP (Osaka School of International Public Policy), the graduate school of Osaka University- OSIPP.

OSIPP was established in 1994 as a place where various public policy issues can be addressed through interdisciplinary research, education, and social contribution. It aims to engage in state-of-the-art research on the global and strategic implications of a wide range of public policy areas and provide appropriate training

for international leaders dedicated to working for the public good. With the recent establishment of the ESG Integration Research and Education Center (ESG-IREC), we are expanding the scope of our research and education to include identifying innovative solutions to public policy issues to build a more peaceful and sustainable future.

The Osaka University guest professorship is a prestigious, internationally recognized position. Osaka University only appoints the position to high achievers within the academic world and those individuals who have contributed significantly to global politics, economics, peace, human rights, and SDGs humanitarian activities. As a "goodwill" position, the role does not carry any specific commitments or obligations, and it takes a maximum term of 3 years, being reviewed by both parties annually.

Given the current economic and political challenges facing many countries, the relationship between Japan and the Gulf Region has become increasingly important. Therefore, Osaka University and OSIPP look forward to enhancing their collaborative academic activities and achievements in the many fields where their interests overlap.



GRC MoU with the Environmental Association & Combat Desertification

On December 5, 2022, The Gulf Research Center (GRC) and the Environmental Association & Combat Desertification signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This memorandum outlines the joint work between both institutions to maximize the common interest in scientific and specialized studies and highlight research and studies on the environment and sustainability.



GRC MoU with The Cooperative Society of Moringa & Desert Plants

On December 5, 2022, The Gulf Research Center (GRC) and The Cooperative Society of Moringa & Desert Plants signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This memorandum focuses on both institutions working together on joint scientific research reports, specialized studies, and environmental and sustainability research.

05

GRC PUBLICATIONS

The Gulf Research Center produces a wide variety of publications through its research programs, projects, and the Gulf Research Meetings. GRC's publications can be accessed on its website [here](#), and the commentary and analysis can be found [here](#).

Commentary & Analysis



The Ukraine War and Europe's Energy Crisis: An Opportunity for GCC Energy Producers

December 2022
Abdullah
Almutabagani



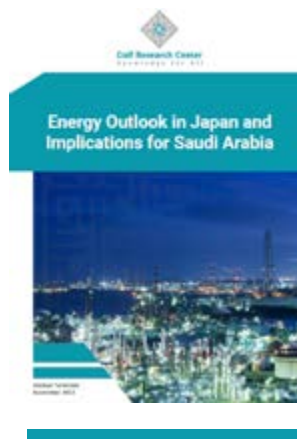
Sustaining Gulf National Security in Light of the Ukraine Crisis

December 2022
Layla Ali



The Economic Developments of the Arab - China Summit

December 2022
Abdullah
Almutabagani



Energy Outlook in Japan and Implications for Saudi Arabia

December 2022
Shahad Turkistani



Strength in Numbers: International Reactions to Criticisms of the Qatar World Cup

December 2022
Amnah Mosly



Nuclear Issues Emanating from the War in Ukraine and their Relevance to Gulf Security

December 2022
Robert Mason



President Xi Jinping's Visit to the Kingdom: What does this Entail Moving Forward?

December 2022
Layla Ali



GCC / Saudi Arabia's Evolving Relationship with Japan on Energy Security

October 2022
Noriko Suzuki



COP27: Loss and Damage Fund - A Major Victory

November 2022
Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf



US-Saudi Relations: Oil & Energy

October 2022
Amnah Mosly



Saudi Sports: Regional and International Positioning

November 2022
Amnah Mosly



The Qatar World Cup

October 2022
Amnah Mosly



Saudi Arabia Developing a Partnership with China

October 2022
Layla Ali



Jeddah Security and Development Summit Boosts US-GCC Strategic Relations

August 2022
Amnah Mosly

Saudi-German Cooperation is Essential for Middle East Security



September 2022
Dr. Abdulaziz Sager



A National Transformation: Saudi Arabia and the Vision 2030 Reform Agenda

July 2022
Layal Niazy



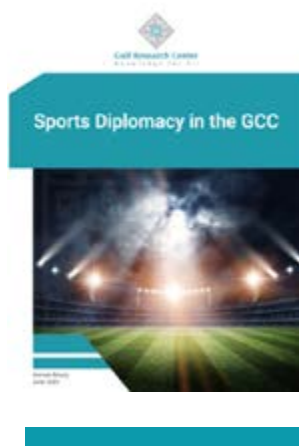
Education in the GCC: Developments and Trends

September 2022
Amnah Mosly



Contours of Saudi Arabia's Shifting Regional Policy

July 2022
Layal Niazy



Sports Diplomacy in the GCC

July 2022
Amnah Mosly



Tumultuous Yet Promising: The Evolution of GCC-Iraq Relations

June 2022
Amnah Mosly



FSO Safer: A ticking time bomb or a beacon of hope for international community

June 2022
Ghassan Shams



U.S.-GCC Changing Energy Relations

June 2022
Amnah Mosly



Thaw in Saudi-Iran Relations and the Way Forward

June 2022
Layla Ali



GCC Women in Sports

June 2022
Amnah Mosly



EU-GCC Relations: Turning a New Page?

June 2022
Dr. Christian Koch



The Role of Think Tanks in Public Policy: The Case of the Gulf WMD Free Zone Project

March 2022
Dr. Christian Koch,
Ghassan Shams, Layla
Ali



Assessment of Saudi Policy in the Horn of Africa

April 2022
Ghassan Shams



Prospects of Saudi led mediation efforts towards the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam

March 2022
Ghassan Shams



Saudi Arabia's Foreign Policies

April 2022
Amnah Mosly



U.S.-Saudi Relations: Recalibrations

February 2022
Amnah Mosly



GCC-China Relations and the Visit of the Foreign Ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain to China

February 2022
Ghassan Shams



Saudi-Iranian Relations: Regional Implications

January 2022
Layla Ali



To Overcome the Flaws of the JCPOA, a Gulf WMD Free Zone should be pursued

January 2022
Mustafa Alani and
Christian Koch



Saudi Arabia: Women and Youth Empowerment

January 2022
Kinda Bakr

Araa Magazine

'Araa,' is an Arabic word meaning opinions or perspectives. Araa Magazine **مجلة آراء حول الخليج** (translated as Perspectives from around the Gulf) is a monthly periodical that focuses on the affairs of the Gulf region, providing in-depth analysis in Arabic of current affairs in Gulf security, politics, economics, environment, energy, and social issues, in addition to the challenges that the region is facing in these areas. Araa was the first Gulf periodical specializing in Gulf affairs bringing together a network of more than 600 contributing writers, including scholars, academics, and other specialists working in the Gulf region. It is a concrete reference for those in academia and higher education working at various regional universities. Araa Magazine is an independent platform that provides a space for differing opinions within social and moral responsibility. In 2022, Araa published 450 articles written by 500 authors focused on 50 different regional studies and topics. <https://www.araa.sa>

The following are the twelve issues of Araa Magazine that were published in 2022:



Issue 169 (January 2022):
A Year's Dedication Complete, and the New Year's Commitment



Issue 170 (February 2022):
Education in the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council: Reality and Hopes



Issue 171 (March 2022):
Investing in the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council: Challenges and Incentives



Issue 172 (April 2022):
Saudi Arabia's Strategic Security Priorities



Issue 173 (May 2022):
Highlights in the History of the Arabian Peninsula



Issue 174 (June 2022):
Gulf States and the Russia-Ukraine War



Issue 175 (July 2022):
Parliamentary Politics in the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council: Roots and Ambitions



Issue 176 (August 2022):
Enhancing U.S.-Gulf Relations and the Results of the Jeddah Security and Development Summit



Issue 177 (September 2022):
The American-Western Containment of China and Russia and its Repercussions on the Gulf Region



Issue 178 (October 2022):
The Role of Oil and Gas in Shaping International Relations and the Future of the Gulf Region



Issue 179 (November 2022):
Security in the Gulf: Initiatives to Build a Regional Security System



Issue 180 (December 2022):
Regional and International Economic Blocs and their Future Relationship with the Gulf States

Selected Arabic Articles and Research Papers



Indications of Three Peaks in Riyadh: Saudi-China Relations

December 2022
Dr. Saleh Al-Khathlan



Indications of the Midterm Results of the US Congress Elections and their Implications on the Political Scene of the United States of America

December 2022
Dr. Abderrezzaq Gherraf



A Future Reading of the Consequences of the Iranian People's Protests

December 2022
Youssef Kamel Khatab



Russian-Algerian Military Cooperation in Light of Threats of the US 'CAATSA' Act: Dimensions and Impacts

November 2022
Dr. Abderrezzaq Gherraf



The Outcomes of the 31st Arab Summit in Algeria

December 2022
Dr. Abderrezzaq Gherraf

GCC-Country Updates



Brazil - GCC Relations

December 2022



Egypt-GCC Relations

June 2022



US-GCC Relations

August 2022



UK-GCC Relations

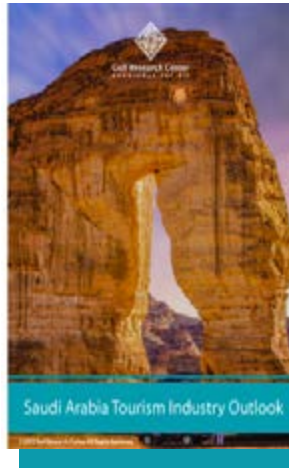
June 2022

GRC Reports



The Sectors of the Future and their Impact on the Economy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

September 2022
Gulf Research Center



Saudi Arabia Tourism Industry Outlook

May 2022
Gulf Research Center



GRC Annual Strategic Review

July 2022
Gulf Research Center



Saudi Arabia Logistics Industry Outlook

May 2022
Gulf Research Center



Saudi Arabia Renewable Energy Industry Outlook

May 2022
Gulf Research Center



Saudi Arabia Healthcare Industry Outlook

May 2022
Gulf Research Center



Saudi Arabia Banking & Finance Industry Outlook

May 2022
Gulf Research Center



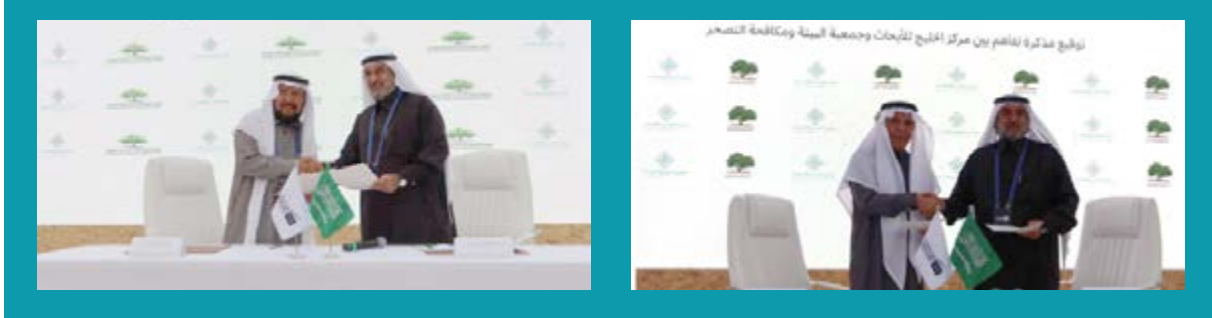
Exploring Relations between the European Union and the Gulf Cooperation Council: a Structural Analysis

February 2022
Matteo Moretti

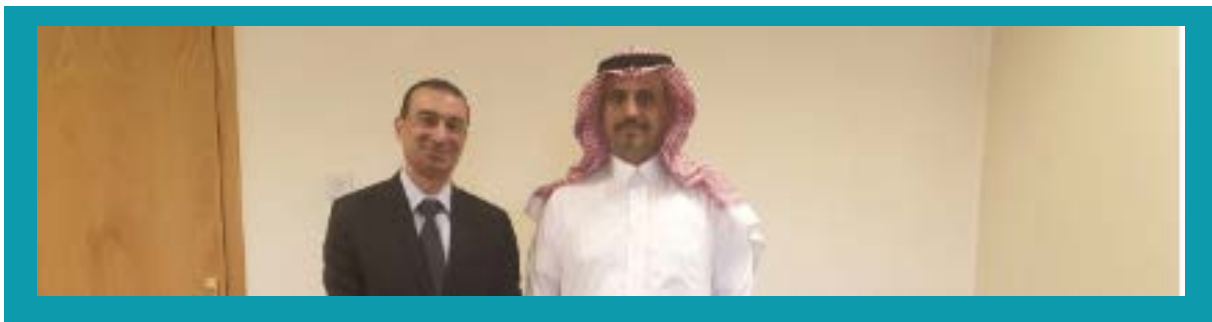
06 GRC External Engagements (Timeline of Events)

Throughout 2022, the GRC participated in numerous external events, both online and in person, on issues pertaining to the developments in the Gulf region and its wider neighborhood. GRC places particular emphasis on such participation as it allows for a regional perspective to be included in the overall debate. The following is an overview of the key events in which the GRC participated.

December 26, 2022 - As part of the Saudi Food Festival, the GRC signed two MoUs with the Cooperative Society for Yusr Plants and Desert Plants and Environment and Combating Desertification Society for cooperation in environmental and sustainable development.



December 26, 2022 - Dr. Mohammed Abdelraouf met with H.H. Prince Mutaib bin Fahd Al Saud, Chairman of the Council of the Environment and Combating Desertification Association in Riyadh, to activate the MoU that was signed between the two entities on December 25, 2022.



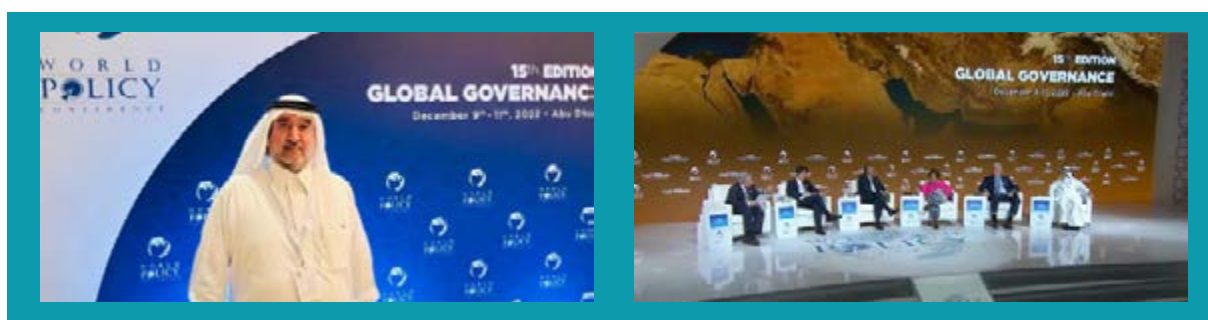
December 14, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager received HE Ambassador Petra Menander, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Yemen, and the Sultanate of Oman at the GRC's headquarters office in Riyadh. The Ambassador was joined by her accompanying team. Both sides discussed the Saudi-Swedish relationship and its various fields of development.



December 13, 2022 - On the sidelines of the Jeddah International Book Fair, journalist and TV presenter of the Lebanese MTV channel and owner of Saer Al Mushar Printing and Publishing House, Antoine Saad, visited the GRC's office in Jeddah and was welcomed by Dr. Zaid Al Fadeil, director of the cultural program at the GRC in which Dr. Zaid briefed him about the upcoming activities of the program which will be launching soon.



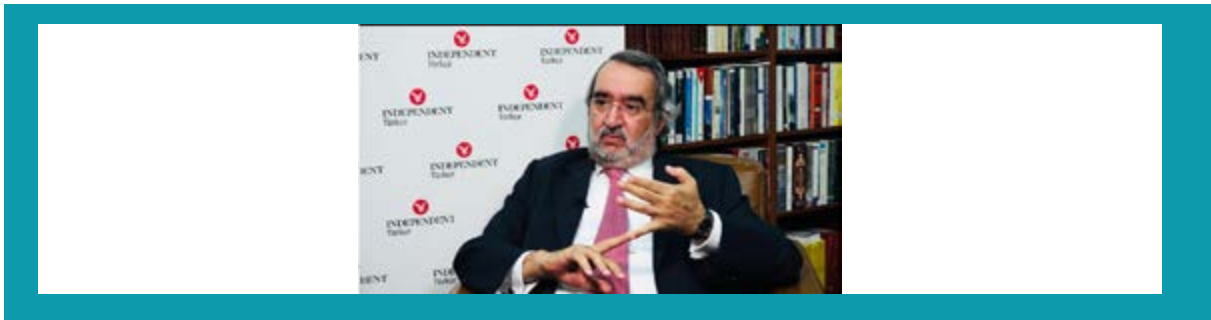
December 11, 2022 – Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated as a speaker in a panel session titled ‘The Middle East in the New Geopolitical Context’ at the 15th edition of the World Policy Conference in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Dr. Abdulaziz focused on the regional and international environment, the relations of the GCC countries, and other regional developments. The recording of the session can be accessed [here](#).



December 7, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager prepared a commentary for Asharq Al-Awsat with an article titled ‘Riyadh is paving the way for expanding China’s economic relationship with the Gulf and Arab countries.’ This article focused on the investment partnership between China and Saudi Arabia in comprehensive development plans in various fields. Access to the article is available [here](#).



November 30, 2022 – The Independent (Turkey) interviewed Dr. Abdulziz Sager, focusing on Saudi-Turkish relations. Dr. Abdulaziz Sager talked about the government system in the Kingdom, education, the Kingdom's Vision 2030, the Kingdom's regional relations (Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Turkey), the Palestinian issue, and Saudi-US relations. The recording of this interview can be found [here](#).

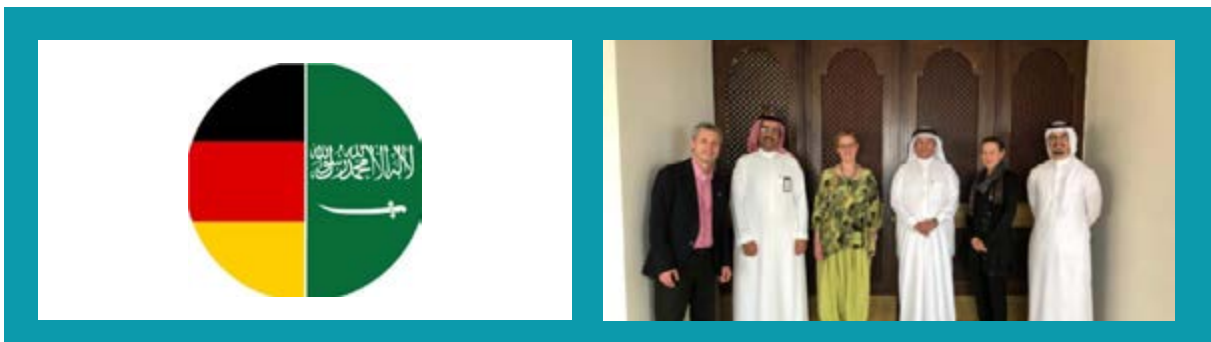


November 28, 2022 – Noriko Suzuki attended the 'About Japan's Maritime National Security' forum organized by the Sasakawa Foundation in Tokyo, Japan.

November 23, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager virtually participated in a closed working group organized by the Stimson Center as part of its Middle East and North Africa Program. This session dealt with the crisis in Syria from a Gulf perspective and focused on the possible solutions for regional stability and the different ways to achieve the political process.

November 22, 2022 - Amnah Mosly participated in a webinar titled "Sports Diplomacy as a Pillar of National Strategy," hosted by TRENDS Research & Advisory. She discussed Sports Diplomacy in the GCC, particularly regarding the Qatar World Cup.

November 21, 2022 - Dr. Ahmed Sager (Vice President of the GRC), Dr. Abdulqader Amir (Director of Urban Development & Engineering Studies), and Abdullah AlMutabagani (Researcher) held a meeting with the German Consul General Dr. Eltje Aderhold in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. This meeting was held to meet with the delegation from Hamburg and discuss cooperation for the Jeddah-Hamburg twin-city project that the GRC is sponsoring. The discussion focused on regional cooperation between Germany and Saudi Arabia. The meeting was followed by two receptions that hosted the delegation. More information on the project's activities can be found [here](#).



November 18 -20, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch attended the 18th Regional Security Summit of the IISS Manama Dialogue in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The event brought together more than 400 representatives of government, research, and NGOs. In addition, Dr. Koch held more than 25 bilateral meetings during the summit, discussing current developments and GRC's ongoing research programs and activities.



November 17, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated as a virtual speaker in the second Saudi International Maritime Forum (Protection of Marine Units and Vital Coastal Sites from the Threat of Unmanned Systems), organized by the Royal Saudi Navy Forces.

Dr. Abdulaziz's session was titled 'Protection of Infrastructure and Energy Resources,' where he examined the impact of the threat on the global economy, specifically on energy sources.



November 17, 2022 - Noriko Suzuki virtually attended the press conference at the occasion of the MoU between Manga Production (owned by the MISK Foundation) and Dynamic Production, which was organized by Manga Production Japan.

November 16, 2022 - Noriko Suzuki attended the seminar on the Outcome of the US Midterm Election and its Impact on Japan which was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan in Tokyo, Japan.

November 14-15, 2022 - GLMM participated with Nasra Shah, Françoise De Bel-Air, and Imco Brouwer in a meeting of the Migration Advisory Group (MAG) of the FAIRWAY project of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Regional Office for the Arab States (ROAS), Beirut.

November 14, 2022 - Dr. Zaid AlFadeil participated in a discussion organized by the Heritage Ambassadors Association in which he spoke about the importance of preserving cultural property and the specificity of the heritage dimension of the Kingdom and the city of Jeddah in particular.

November 11, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager spoke at the 13th edition of the Bosphorus Summit in Turkey Istanbul, organized by the International Cooperation Platform (UiP - ICP). Dr. Abdulaziz participated in a 'Gulf-Turkish Relations: Challenges and Aspirations' session. An article on Dr. Abdulaziz's discussions can be found [here](#).



November 9-10, 2022 – Fatemah Basunbul, GRC's Senior Web Developer, attended the Global Cyber Security Forum held in Riyadh and organized by the National Cybersecurity Authority and the Saudi Information Technology Network.



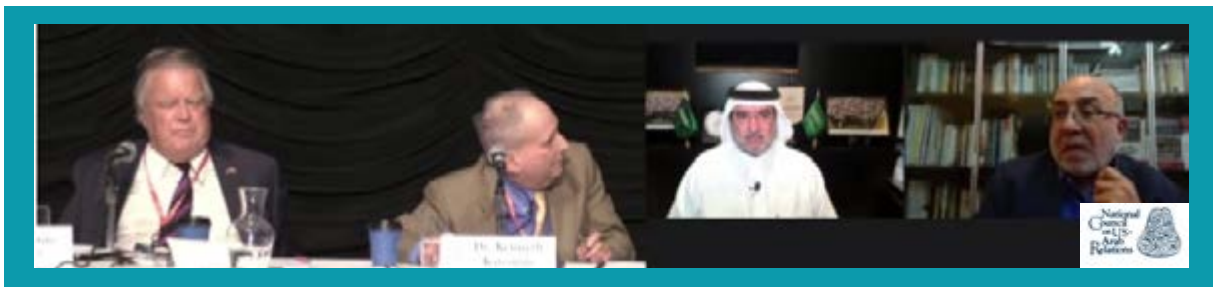
November 4, 2022 – Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated as a speaker in the 13th annual Sir Bani Yas Forum, organized by the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in Abu Dhabi, UAE. The forum is held annually, with the distinguished presence of the most prominent officials and intellectuals worldwide, to exchange visions on developments in regional and international issues and ways to achieve security and stability in the region.



November 4, 2022 - Noriko Suzuki attended the Invest in Saudi Seminar (Vision 2030) by Saudi's Ministry of Interior and JETRO Organization in Tokyo, Japan.



November 2 - 3, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager and Dr. John Sfakianakis spoke at the 31st annual Arab-U.S. Policymakers Conference hosted by the National Council on US-Arab Relations. Dr. John Sfakianakis participated virtually in the panel session on 'Energy, Economic, and Business Dynamics in Focus.' Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated virtually in the panel titled 'Geopolitical Dynamics of Arabia and the Gulf. Videos of speakers and sessions can be found [here](#).



October 27, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager met with the French Ambassador, Mr. Ludovic Pouille, and discussed the regular partnerships with French research centers on the Ukraine war's impact on global economic and geopolitical balances and cooperation on regional crises.



October 23, 2022 – Dr. Abdulaziz Sager presented a lecture entitled ‘Strategic Security Priorities for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Coming Challenges’ organized by the Armed Forces Intelligence and Security Authority. This was held under the patronage and presence of H.E. Commander of the Air Defense Forces, Lieutenant-General Mazyad bin Suleiman Al-Amro.



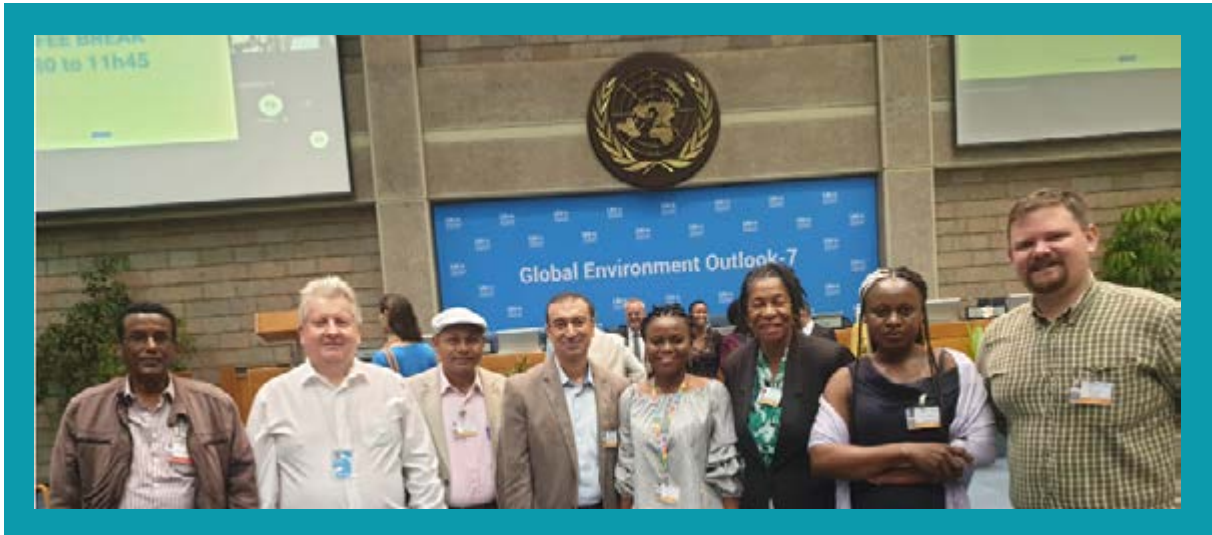
October 20, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, received the Irish Ambassador appointed to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Mr. Gerry Cunningham, at GRC’s headquarters office in Riyadh. During this meeting, they discussed Saudi-Irish relations and regional and international developments.



October 18, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager held an interview with Institut Montaigne and focused on the topics of ‘The Ukraine Crisis and the Gulf: A Saudi Perspective.’ Click [here](#) to read the full interview.



October 17 - 21, 2022 - Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program Director, participated in the GEO 7 - Global Environment Outlook - 7 inaugural and scoping meetings in Nairobi. In addition, Dr. Abdelraouf participated in the meeting representing the Gulf Research Center as a member of the Intergovernmental Multistakeholder Advisory Group for GEO-7.



October 12, 2022 – Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, GRC's Environment Research Program Director, participated in the Hydrogen Diplomacy roundtable in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, that focused on 'Enhancing the energy & hydrogen dialogue between Saudi Arabia and Germany' organized by the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ).



October 11, 2022 – Dr. Abdulaziz Sager spoke at the conference entitled 'Arab Geopolitics 2022' in Rome, Italy. The NATO Defense College Foundation organized the meeting in cooperation with the Department of Political Affairs and Security Policies at NATO. Dr. Abdulaziz presented at the first session focused on 'A region looking forward.'

October 6 - 9, 2022 – Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the annual meeting of the Global Strategic Advisory Group in Italy and presented on the topic “Old Dependencies and New Prospects - Geopolitics of Security, Energy, and Climate Change.”

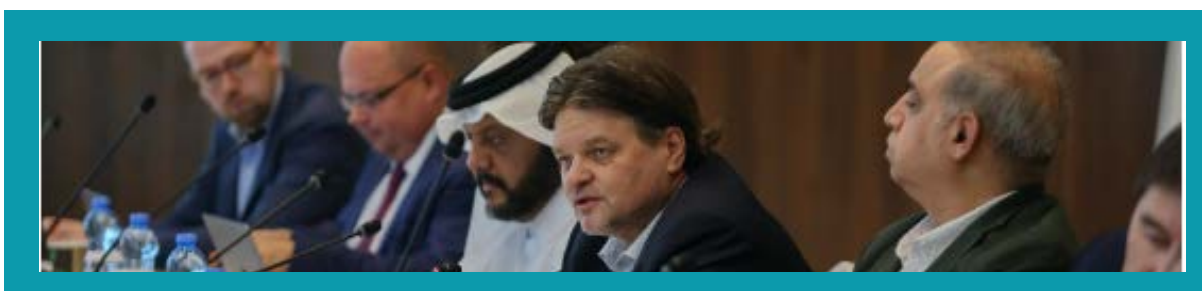
October 6 – 7, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research, spoke at the meeting of the Heads of Political Components Affairs of UN Peace Operations in the MENA region in Vienna on October 6 and 7, 2022. Dr. Koch's presentation focused on the Gulf region's local, regional, and global dynamics and ramifications. The meeting was attended and chaired by Darko Mocibob, Director of the Middle East Division in the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations at UN Headquarters in New York,

October 4, 2022 – Dr. Christian Koch met with Anna-Maria Panagiotakopoulou, Head of the Division for the Arabian Peninsula and Iraq Division, at the European External Action Service in Brussels. They discussed the recent Joint Communication on a Strategic Partnership with the Gulf released by the European Commission in May 2022 and how to best move forward with implementing aspects of the strategy.

October 1 - 2, 2022 - The GRC organized the scientific content activities of the International Forum for the Sustainability of Saudi Coffee, organized by the Ministry of Culture, in Jazan, Saudi Arabia. It hosted a group of Saudi and international experts to discuss the value chain of Saudi coffee.



September 30 – October 1, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager spoke at the workshop “The Middle East: Reset, Great Power Competition, and Regional Order,” organized by the Middle East Council on Global Affairs, held in Doha, Qatar. Dr. Abdulaziz's remarks focused on the visions of the regional powers and the change of regional order. Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research at the GRC, spoke at the same workshop on the topic of how the change in regional alliances is being seen from a GCC perspective. The event brought together 40 regional experts and specialists.



September 27, 2022 – Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in a panel discussion entitled “The Kingdom’s International Image... Stereotyping the Image and Means of Improvement,” organized by the Salam Project for Cultural Communication in Abha, Saudi Arabia.



September 21, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the second security forum entitled “Creating a New Security Architecture in the Middle East: Achieving Common Security for the Region,” organized by the China Institute of International Studies. The forum’s purpose was to strengthen security and stability in the Middle East.

September 18, 2022 – Dr. Abdulaziz Sager and Dr. Ahmed Sager received Mr. Cengiz Özgencil, the President of the Bosphorus Forum, and his companions at the GRC headquarters in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. During the meeting, the sessions of the 13th Bosphorus Summit were discussed, one of which revolves around Gulf-Turkish relations.



September 13, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the Medinah Endowment Conference 'Awqaf' held in Medinah, Saudi Arabia.



September 13, 2022 - Noriko Suzuki participated in an event to discuss the Abraham Accords and its impact on regional developments. The event featured H.E. Dr. Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Undersecretary for Political Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain.



August 24-25, 2022 - Under the patronage of HRH Prince Faisal bin Salman bin Abdulaziz - Governor of Madinah Region, and in the presence and participation of HRH Prince Saud bin Khalid Al-Faisal, Deputy Governor of the region, Dr. Abdulaziz participated as a speaker in the Madinah Conference for Awqaf. The conference focused on endowments and the regulatory environment, development and sustainability, finance and investment, and modern technologies for the endowment sector.



August 10, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, chairman of the GRC, received Mr. Chen Weiqing, ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and his colleagues at the GRC headquarters in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on Aug. 10, 2022. During the meeting, both sides discussed Saudi-China relations, and the ongoing activities of the GRC in various fields



August 9, 2022- Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the GRC, received Mr. Mark Donovan, ambassador of Australia to Saudi Arabia, and his colleagues at the GRC headquarters in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on Aug. 9, 2022. They discussed Saudi-Australian relations and the ongoing activities of the GRC.

July 21, 2022 – Dr. Noriko participated in a seminar and panel discussion at Shohei Jyuku (勝兵塾) with Michito Kato, a leading policy analyst, and renowned journalist.

July 19, 2022 - Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf facilitated a monthly call in July and August for UNEP Major Groups as part of GRC's capacity of being a co-chair of the Major Groups facilitating committee at UNEP.

July 18, 2022 – Dr. Abdulaziz Sager's Op-Ed titled "Constants of the Saudi-American relations are unchangeable" was published in Saudi daily newspaper "Okaz."

July 15, 2022– Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, discussed with "Asharq Bloomberg" the implications of the visit of President Biden on the Middle East in a program titled: "Biden's visit to the Middle East ... What do Arabs want from America?"

July 15, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager wrote an article for "Asharq Al-Awsat" titled: "Washington needs a 'radical change' in its policies toward redrawing the region's alliances." He concluded that the formation of "A Middle Eastern NATO" may take decades.

July 5, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research at GRC, held a meeting at the German Federal Foreign Office to discuss the ongoing 'Tafahum wa Tabadul' project on the regional security process. This was followed by a meeting with the team of the Berghof Foundation in Berlin, including their program director for the Middle East, Oliver Wils, and with Nora Rathje, project manager in the Middle East and North Africa Unit.

July 4, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch met with H.E. Yousuf Khalifa Alsada, GCC envoy to the EU. They discussed common projects, including following up on the EU communication on a strategic partnership with the Gulf region released in May 2022.

June 30, 2022 - Dr. Mohamed Abdelroauf, Director of the GRC Environmental Security and Sustainability Program, and Dr. Vera Lalchevska, senior researcher at GRCE, attended a roundtable discussion titled, "Is there a Sustainable Future for the Gulf Countries?"

June 23, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch, GRC Director of Research, participated in the conference organized by the NATO Defence College Foundation in cooperation with the Fondazione Campagna di San Paolo in Rome and spoke in a panel session on 'Balancing Threats and Opportunities.'



June 19, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, GRC Chairman, participated in a session on 'Erem News' channel titled 'What are the options for the Gulf States to confront the Iranian nuclear weapon?'



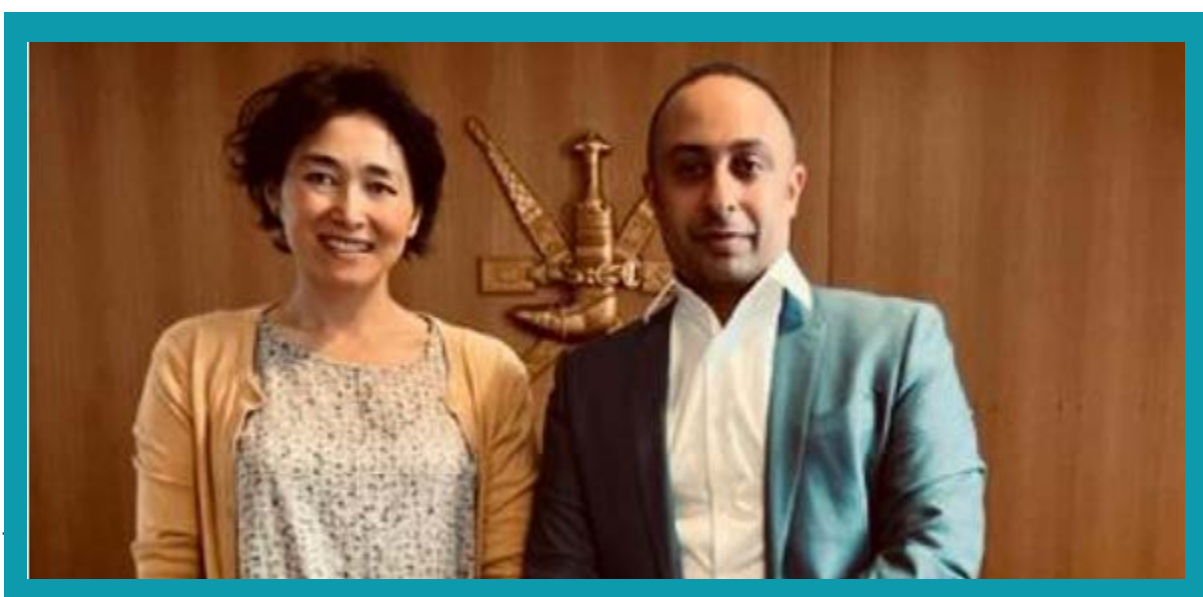
June 19, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, GRC Chairman, wrote an article titled 'The Saudi-US Summit is an Extension of 80 Years of Strategic Relations' for Okaz Newspaper. Click here to read the full article: <https://www.okaz.com.sa/news/local/2108040>

June 17-19 2022 – Researcher Ghassan Shams participated in the Yemen International Forum in Stockholm organized by the Sana'a Center and the Folke Bernadotte Academy - Swedish Agency for peace, security and development.



June 16, 2022 - Dr. Hesham Al-Ghannam participated in a closed briefing organized by the European Leadership Network in London, UK.

June 15, 2022 - Dr. Hesham Al-Ghannam participated in a workshop at the Anglo-Omani Society on climate change in the Arabian Gulf in London, UK.



June 15, 2022 - The Gulf Research Center Foundation (GRCF) participated in the meeting of the President of the UN General Assembly, His Excellency Abdulla Shahid, with civil society organizations on June 15, 2022, in the UN Office in Geneva. The GRCF was represented by senior researcher Dr. Vera Lalchevska, researcher Amnah Mosly, and research intern Channisellak. The meeting was held at the request of the President of the General Assembly, at the margins of the high-level commemorative event on the occasion of the 50th session of the Human Rights Council. Over 150 NGOs registered for this exclusive meeting, where Mr. Shahid shared his vision and priorities of his "Presidency of Hope," and emphasized the importance of giving youth, women, and civil society a greater voice in multilateralism.

The GRCF, in its statement written by researcher Amnah Mosly, emphasized the importance of the Gulf region and explained the GRCF mission to promote knowledge for all, through research, conferences, workshops, and dialogue. In his remarks, Mr. Shahid called for more equality, and for an end to nationalism on the multilateral level. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted that while only one-third of the Africans had been vaccinated, the Europeans were receiving their third jab. Mr. Shahid also reminded everyone that the UN had been built on three pillars: 1) Peace and security 2) development and 3) human rights. He continued by stating that world leaders needed to ensure that human rights were taken into consideration in everything they did, and, specifically, that the rights of women were addressed. It was unacceptable that out of 76 presidents of the General Assembly, only four had been women. This was why, during his presidency, he had created a platform to promote the voices of women.



June 14, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch, GRC Director of Research, participated in the closed GCC-EU Strategy Meeting held by the European Council on Foreign Relations in Brussels. The focus was on the next steps in the EU-GCC Joint Cooperation Partnership.

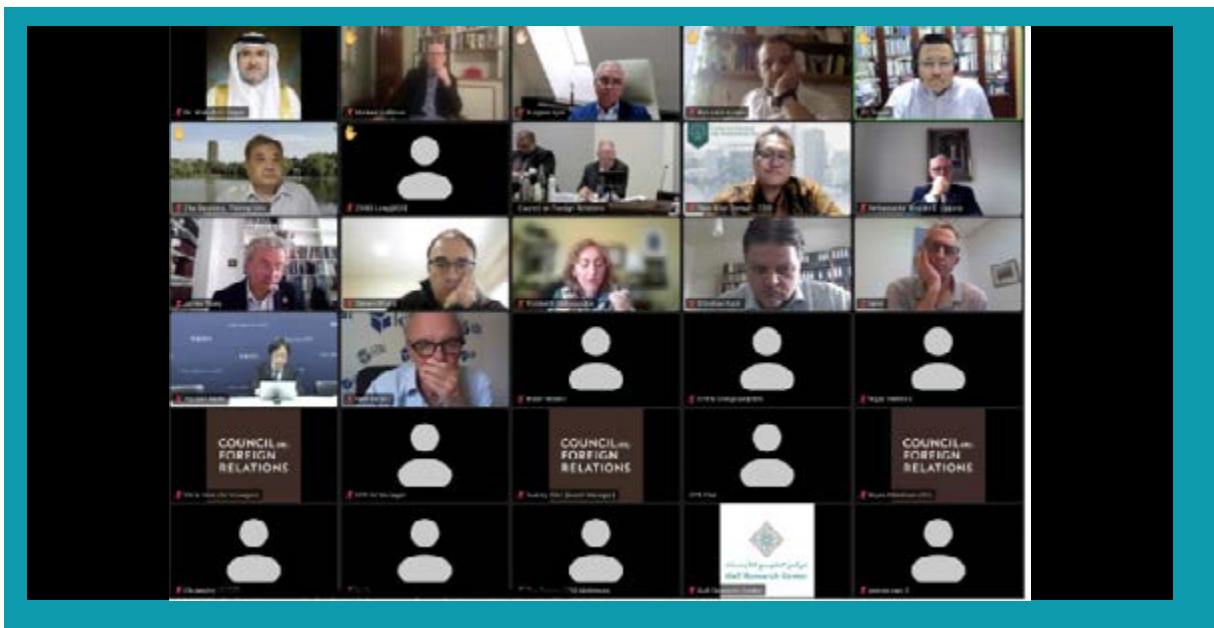
June 14, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager gave an exclusive interview with the “Reconnaissance Center for Research and Studies.” It focused on the topic of “visual communication” and discussed the dangers it poses in terms of Iranian projects in the region. [Click here](#) to read the full interview online.



June 14, 2022 - Dr. Vera Lalchevska, GRCF senior researcher, and Amnah Mosly, a researcher at GRCF, participated in the Geneva Dialogue on Environment, Climate, Conflict, and Peace (ECCP) meeting organized by the Geneva Peace-Building Platform (GPP).

June 7-8, 2022- Ghassan Shams and Dr. Hesham Al-Ghannam, represented the GRC at the workshop titled “Regional Perspectives on the future of Yemen component,” organized by the Berghof Foundation in Berlin, Germany.

June 6, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Dr. Christian Koch, and Layla Ali participated virtually in the 11th annual conference of the Council of Councils organized by the Council on Foreign Relations.



June 3, 2022 - Dr. Mohamed Abdelroauf spoke at an official side event on the sidelines of Stockholm+50 in Stockholm, Sweden, titled “Youth Voices – From Paris and Stockholm to Sharm El-Sheikh and Abu Dhabi.” Dr. Abdelraouf spoke about “the role of Major Groups and especially youth in climate talks.”



June 2-3, 2022 - Dr. Mohamed Abdelroauf participated in the Stockholm+50 international meeting from June 2-3 in Stockholm, Sweden. The meeting was held to commemorate 50 years of environmental multilateralism and the first Stockholm conference on environment and development in 1972.



June 2, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch, GRC Director of Research, took part in a discussion with the UAE’s Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, Omar Sultan AlOlama, at the Museum of the Future in Dubai, UAE. The meeting was organized by the German-Arab Friendship Association and the Emirates Policy Center.

June 2, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, GRC chairman, wrote an article titled “A Gulf-Russian meeting in Riyadh to strengthen relations and discuss the Ukraine crisis,” which was published in the “Asharq Al-Awsat” newspaper.

June 1, 2022 - Dr. Hesham Al-Ghannam, GRC senior fellow, participated in a closed panel discussion organized by the Center for European Studies at the Prince Saud Al-Faisal Institute in partnership with the Italian Center for Geopolitical Studies.



May 31 - June 4 2022 - Dr. Mohamed Abdelroauf, director of the GRC's Environmental Security and Sustainability Program, participated in the fourth high-level global session from May 31-June 4, 2022, in Stockholm, Sweden. Dr. Abdelraouf spoke at the high-level closing session at Stockholm+100 about the role of the Major Groups in multilateralism.



May 31, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch, GRC Director of Research, took part in a workshop organized by the German-Arab Friendship Association and the Emirate Policy Center on "UAE-Germany Relations: Looking towards the Future." The event featured discussions on the foreign policy, economic, energy, environment, defense, and cultural relations between the two countries.

May 25, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch, GRC Director of Research, participated in discussion with the Kuwaiti Ambassador to Belgium and the EU, Jasem Al-Budaiwi. It was hosted by the Arab-Belgium-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce (ABLCC) on May 25 in Brussels. The meeting focused on expanding EU-GCC trade and investment opportunities.

May 19, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, participated as a speaker in the roundtable discussion titled “The Russia-Ukraine War and its impact on the Arabian Gulf” hosted by the NATO-Istanbul Cooperation Initiative (ICI) Regional Centre (NIRC) in Kuwait in cooperation with Institut de Recherche Stratégique de l’Ecole Militaire (IRSEM) and the Fondation Méditerranéenne d’Etudes Stratégiques (FMES).



May 9, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, GRC Chairman, received the director of the Institute for Strategic Research (IRSEM) at the French Ministry for the Armed Forces, Dr. Jean-Baptiste Jeangène Vilmer, and his accompanying delegation. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the bilateral relations between Saudi Arabia and France and ways to enhance them in all aspects to serve the aspirations of the two countries.



May 14, 2022 - Dr. Vera Lalchevska, GRCF senior researcher and research intern Chanisse Sellak participated in the Geneva Dialogue on Environment, Climate, Conflict, and Peace (ECCP) organized by the Geneva Peace-Building Platform.

May 2, 2022 - Noriko Suzuki, was interviewed by Toranomon TV's Miki Otaka. The interview focused on Saudi Arabia's perspectives on future relations with the US, Japan, Russian Federation, and China following the Ukraine conflict.

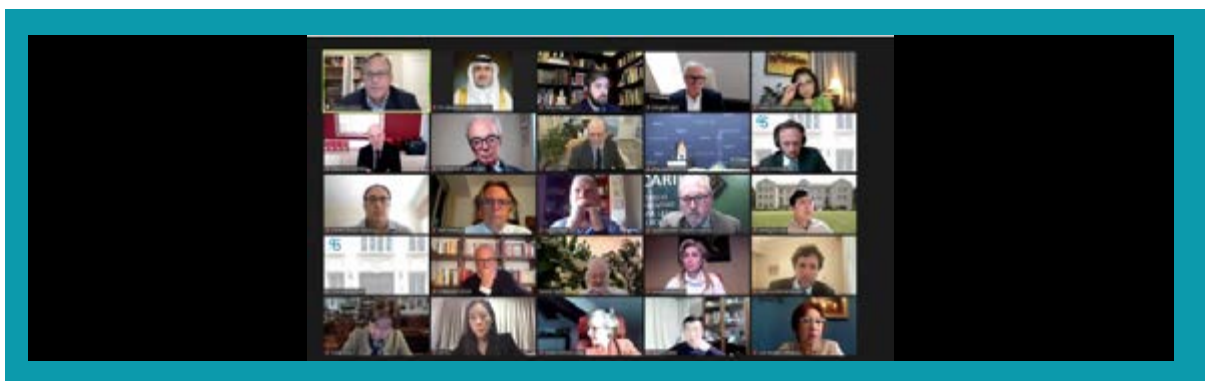
May 1, 2022 - Noriko Suzuki, with the director and board members of the Japan Society of Security and Crisis Management (chairman is former Prime Minister Shizo Abe) at the annual general assembly.



April 1, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, was a guest on the Al-Monitor weekly podcast "On the Middle East" hosted by Andrew Parasiliti.



March 30, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, participated in the Council of Council's fifth virtual conference via Zoom organized by the Council on Foreign Relations.



March 28-29, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, attended the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Doha Workshop titled “Geopolitics, Nuclear Issues, and the Middle East,” which was held in Doha.

March 27, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, was a guest on the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR) weekly podcast, “Mark Leonard’s World in 30 Minutes,” hosted by Mark Leonard.

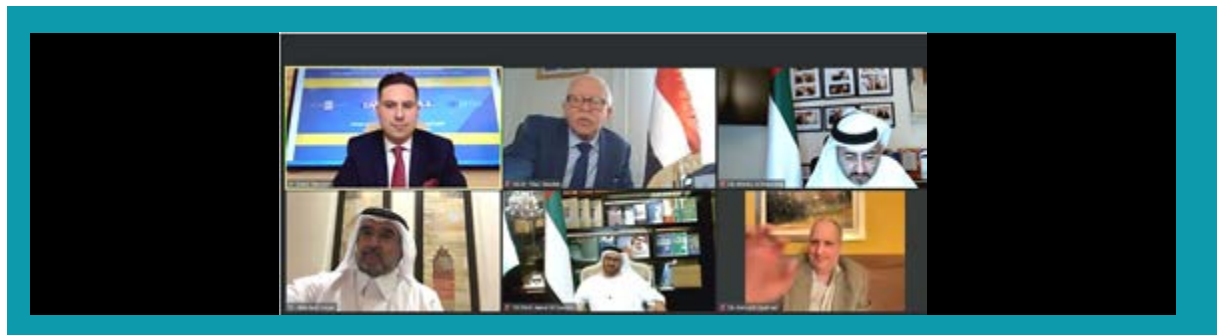
March 27, 2022- Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the GRC, participated as a speaker at the Doha Forum and Chatham House closed-door workshop, titled “De-Escalation in Yemen: The Role of Iran and the GCC in Brokering Peace” at the 20th Doha Forum.



March 27, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, GRC chairman, took part in the Doha Forum and RAND Corporation closed-door roundtable as a speaker. The event, titled “The Evolving US-Mideast Security Partnership,” was held at the 20th Doha Forum.

March 23, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, GRC chairman, participated virtually in the dialogue meeting on Yemen titled “Recent Developments, Evolving Strategies & Options for De-escalation,” organized by The Berghof Foundation.

March 23, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, chairman of the Gulf Research Center, attended the third session titled “Gulf security from the world’s security?” in the virtual roundtable titled: “Security of the Gulf Region: Threats, Repercussions and Solutions,” organized by the European Assembly Against Extremism and Terrorism in collaboration with the office of H.E. Minister Prof. Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi of the UAE.



March 22, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research at the GRC, spoke at the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs, discussing a strategic partnership with the Gulf.



March 16, 2022- Ghassan Shams, GRC researcher, participated in a conference titled “Social Networking Sites: Theoretical Frameworks and Application Problems” organized by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Foundation, in cooperation with the Department of Philosophy at the College of Arts at Kuwait University in Kuwait.

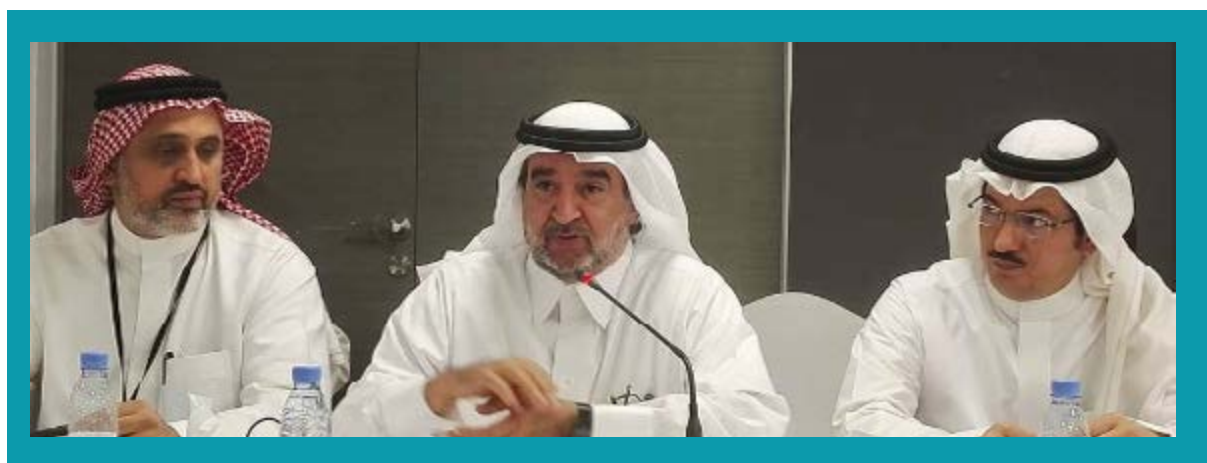


March 10, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch met with Carsten Wilms, a permanent representative at the German Embassy in Abu Dhabi. They discussed recent developments, and Dr. Koch updated him on the status of the Tafahum wa Tabadul research project.

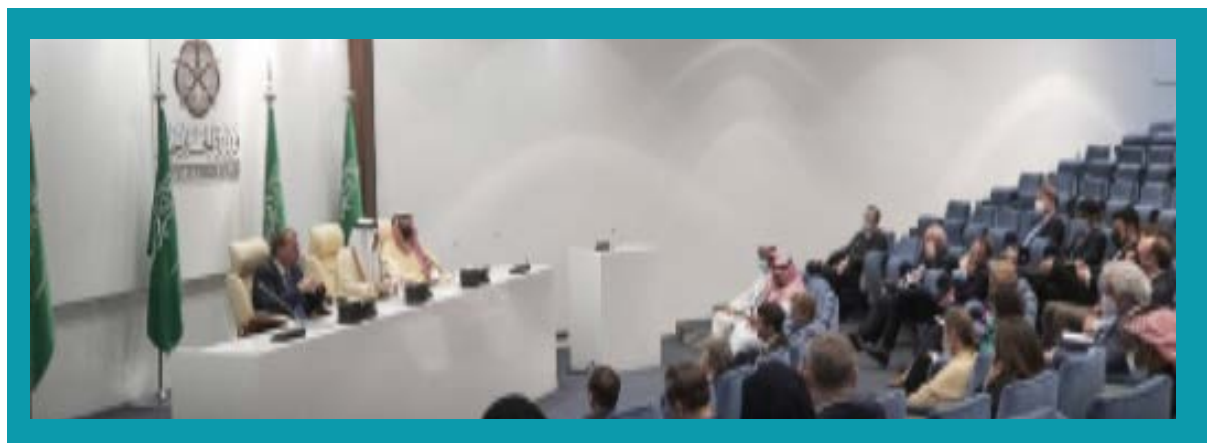
March 10, 2022 - Dr. Koch also met with Dr. Khalid Al-Mezaini, a professor at Zayed University in the UAE, and participated in teaching a graduate seminar on UAE foreign policy. He met with N. Janardhan, a senior research fellow at the Emirates Diplomatic Academy, to discuss developments in Gulf-Asia relations.

March 8, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch met in Riyadh with Patrick Simonnet, head of the EU Delegation to Bahrain, Oman, and Saudi Arabia, to discuss recent developments in EU-GCC ties.

March 6, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, GRC chairman, participated as a speaker in the closed workshop titled “Foreign and Security Policy in the framework of the German-Arab Gulf Dialogue on Security and Cooperation.” It was organized by the German-Arab Friendship Association (DAFG) and the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies (KFCRIS).



March 4, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch, GRC Research Director, was part of a German delegation that visited the Kingdom. The visit was sponsored by the German-Arab Friendship Association.



March 3, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch, participated in a discussion titled “Moving from De-Escalation to Confidence-Building in the Gulf: Models, Initiatives, and the Role of the European Union” held by the Finnish Institute for International Affairs at the permanent representation of Finland to the EU.

February 28, 2022 - Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, director of the GRC’s Environmental Security and Sustainability Program, participated in the resumed session of the fifth UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 5.2), which took place at UN Environment Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.



February 27, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the GRC, participated as a speaker in the seminar titled “Saudi historians and anniversary of the Founding Day,” organized by the Eastern Province Literary Club (EPLC) in Dammam.



February 23, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated as a speaker in the virtual event “The role of think tanks in the foreign policymaking process” organized by the British International Studies Association.

February, 21 2022 - Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf participated in the fifth meeting of the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR-5) of the resumed fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 5.2), which took place at UN Environment Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya on Feb. 21-25.



February 18-20, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the 58th Munich Security Conference in Munich.



January 27, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch took part in an expert roundtable on “EU-Gulf Relations” organized by the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) along with the European External Action Service (EEAS).




January 27, 2022 - Dr. Christian Koch spoke at an event organized by the UK's Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office on the GCC's external engagement with third countries/ other regional organizations, the balance between multilateral and bilateral ties, and the impact of the intra-GCC disputes on likely future prospects.



January 27, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated as a speaker in the virtual round table "Qatar 2022 – The World Cup in the Middle East for the first time: What is at stake for the host country and the region?" The Center for Continuing and Distance Education of the University of Geneva organized it.



January 24, 2022 - Dr. Abdulaziz Sager attended the Saudi-Iraqi Business Forum, organized by the Federation of Saudi Chamber at its headquarters.



07

GRC IN THE MEDIA

GRC IN THE MEDIA

GRC staff make regular appearances on major regional and global media outlets, and are often quoted in the press, speaking on the most pressing issues impacting the Gulf region.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the Al-Rabaa program on Al-Arabiya for a special coverage for the year 2022, in which Dr. Abdulaziz spoke about numerous political summits and meetings hosted in Riyadh and Jeddah, OPEC+ decision to reduce production, Saudi Arabia's position on the Russian-Ukraine war, and the leadership role of HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the Al Sharq (Bloomberg) program in an episode titled 'Arab-Chinese Relations...Options on the Silk Road.'



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the Saudi news channel and focused his discussion on Saudi-Chinese relations.



Dr. Christian Koch was quoted in a Der Spiegel story about the sport policies of the GCC states in their Issue no. 44. The article can be accessed [here](#).



Dr. Christian Koch was quoted in the Economist on November 24, 2022 for a story on Gulf regional development in light of the protests in Iran. The article can be accessed [here](#).



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in a discussion on the Al-Arabiya news channel on the visit of President Xi Jinping to Saudi Arabia and the convening of the three summits, the Saudi-China summit, the Gulf-China summit, and the Arab-China summit.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the 'Panorama' channel on Al-Arabiya in an episode titled 'Riyadh Summits...Why are they so important?'



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the 'East Circle' program on Al Sharq (Bloomberg) in an episode titled 'China, Saudi, Gulf, and Arab Summits.'



Dr. Zaid Alfadeil participated in the 'The Voice of the Arabs Network' radio and discussed the emergence and development of Saudi theater.



Dr. Zaid Alfadeil participated in a podcast with Rotana Radio and talked about the issue of tribal intolerance and its societal effects, indicating the negative impact of this behavior and pointing to the importance of activating the various regulations and laws that limit this phenomenon.



Dr. John Sfakianakis participated in the Al Sharq program (Bloomberg) in an episode entitled 'The British Conservative Party...the decisive hour is approaching.'



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the 'Panorama' program on Al-Arabiya on an episode entitled 'Saudi - US Relations Escalating Statements.'



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the 'Ya Hala' program and discussed the OPEC+ decision to reduce oil production.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated on France 24 on a program called 'Today's Happening' that discussed the new royal orders with the recent appointment of the Crown Prince as Prime Minister.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated on Al Sharq TV in an episode entitled: "Germany... Options for the Russian Test."



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager appeared on Al Arabiya channel in a discussion entitled "The Arab Peace Initiative..a historic deal". The intervention dealt with the meeting held to discuss the Arab Peace Initiative hosted by the European Union.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the program "Panorama" on the Al-Arabiya news channel and discussed the visit of HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to France.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the program "Situation" on the Saudi Channel. The program discussed HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's trip to Greece and France, among other topics.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in the program (Here is Riyadh) on Al-Ekhbariya channel, about the visit of the Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to Greece.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in Russia Today's (RT) program in an episode titled "A Turbulent Bay in the Realm of Confrontation." The program dealt with how the GCC countries deal with regional tensions and the confrontation between Russia and the West, and the extent to which the Gulf can compensate for Russian energy exports.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in an Al-Arabiya news channel program to discuss the Jeddah Summit for Security and Development.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated in a program on the Al-Akhbariyah news channel and discussed Prince Khalid bin Salman's role in Washington D.C.



Dr. Mustafa Alani, director of the Security and Defense Program at the GRC, participated in the Al-Hadath news channel and talked about the repercussions of the Houthi militias targeting Saudi Arabia.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager appeared in a program on the Al-Akhbariyah news channel and discussed the diplomatic efforts of the GCC countries to hold consultations with the Houthis.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager appeared on the Al-Sharq news channel and discussed the Ukraine crisis.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager appeared on the France 24 news channel and discussed the explosion of the three fuel tanks in the UAE.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager took part in a program on the Al-Hadath news channel and discussed Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's interview with the Atlantic magazine.



Dr. Abdulziz Sager participated in a program on the Al-Hadth news channel and discussed the classification of the Houthi group as a "terrorist organization."



08

GRC STAFF



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager

Chairman and founder of the Gulf Research Center



Dr. Mustafa Alani

Senior Advisor & Director - Security and Defense
Research Program



Dr. Christian Koch

Director of Research



Dr. Ahmed Sager

Vice-President



Prof. Giacomo Luciani

Trustee and a Founding Member of the Gulf Research
Center Foundation, Geneva



Dr. John Sfakianakis

Program Director - Economic Research, Chief Economist



Prof. Fawziah Abalkhail

Senior Advisor



Prof. Suzan M. AlQurashi

Senior Advisor



Prof. Saleh M. Alkhathlan

Senior Advisor



Dr. Zaid A. Alfadeil

Director of Cultural Program



Dr. Abdulgader Othman Amier

Director of Urban Development & Engineering Studies



Dr. Ahmed Alkhabti

Senior Advisor



Dr. Oskar Ziemelis

Director of Cooperation and Director of GRC Foundation, Geneva



Eng. Javaid Iqbal

Managing Director, Knowledge Corporation, Dubai



Jamal Hammam

Publishing Manager, Araa Magazine Editor-in-Chief



Dr. Mohammed Abdelraouf

Program Director, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program



Youssef K. Khattab

Senior Researcher



Dr. Abderrezzaq Gherraf

Senior Researcher



Imco Brouwer

Executive Director - Gulf Labor Markets and Migration Program



Noriko Suzuki

GRC Japan Branch



Samir Kandil

Assistant General Manager



Ahmad Salah Ahmad

Administration Manager



Khedir Saleh

Administration



Vasim Ahmed Shaikh

Accounting Manager



Mohammed Gomaa

Financial Manager



Sanya Kapasi

Administration Manager



Eng. Ahmed Sh. Aldaraji

Project Manager



Mohammed Al-Ghamdi

Project Manager



Layla Ali

Researcher



Amnah Mosly

Researcher



Abdullah Almutabagni

Researcher



Youssef AlGhazoli

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Suliman Mardini

Araa Magazine



Yasir Ahmed

Araa Magazine



Noura AlHazmi

Business Development Manager, Knowledge Corporation



Shahad AlGhamdi

Marketing Representative

GRC Non-Resident Research Fellow



Robert Mason

Non-Resident Research Fellow

Robert Mason joined the Gulf Research Center as a non-resident fellow as of October 2022. He will focus on research topics such as regional security, UK-GCC relations, and nuclear issues related to Ukraine and the Gulf. He specializes in Gulf politics and the international relations of the Middle East. He is also a non-resident fellow at the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington and has served as Associate Professor and Director of the Middle East Studies Center at the American University in Cairo (AUC).

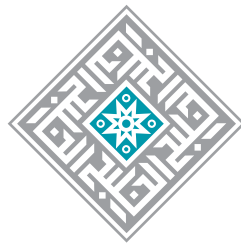
Shahad Turkistani



Shahad Turkistani is an MA student of international relations at the Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies. Shahad serves as a teaching assistant at the Prince Saud Al Faisal Institute for Diplomatic Studies. Her research interests revolve around East Asia-GCC Relations, Japan's foreign policy, and energy security.

09

GRC FINANCIALS



Gulf Research Center
K n o w l e d g e f o r A l l

**The Gulf Research Center Financials
Dubai – Jeddah – Geneva – Cambridge
For the Period of 23 Years
2000 - 2022**

Financials

The GRC financials have been compiled for the period 2000-2022. The consolidated financial statement is a compilation of financial data from the following GRC entities:

- Gulf Research Center Foundation, Geneva
- Gulf Research Centre Cambridge, UK
- Gulf Research Center, Jeddah
- Gulf Research Center, Dubai (2000-2010)

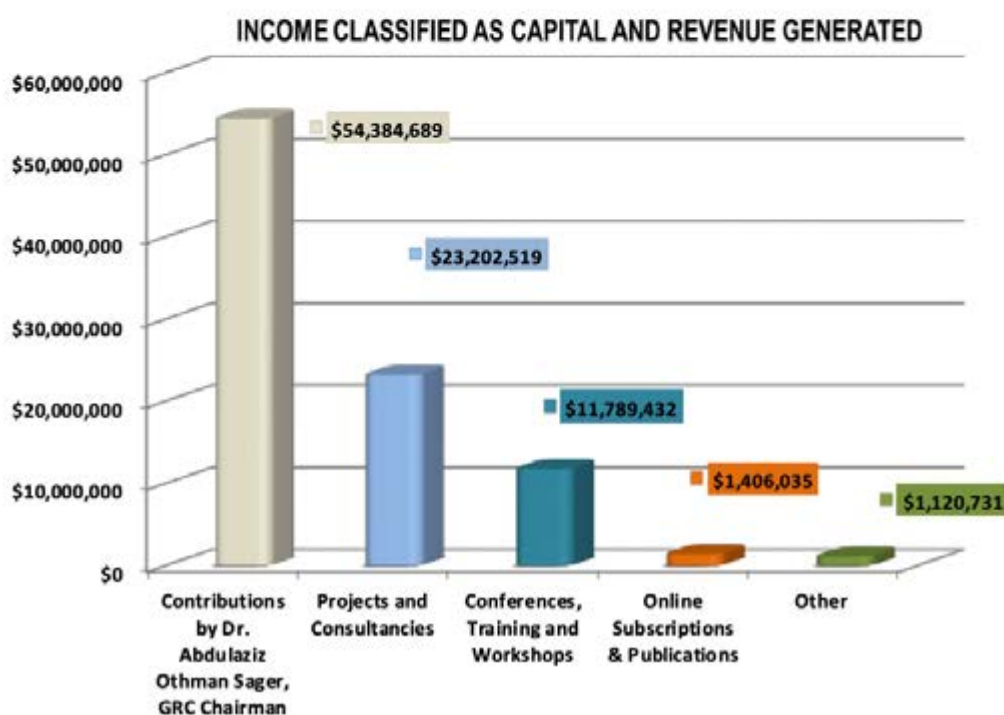
This consolidated statement presents a summarized view of information abstracted from the unaudited annual financials of the individual GRC entities.

The primary source of GRC funding is Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, GRC Founder and Chairman.

Consolidated GRC Financial Statements -- (Unaudited)

Consolidated Statement of Activities for the Period - 01 Jan 2000 to 31 Dec 2022

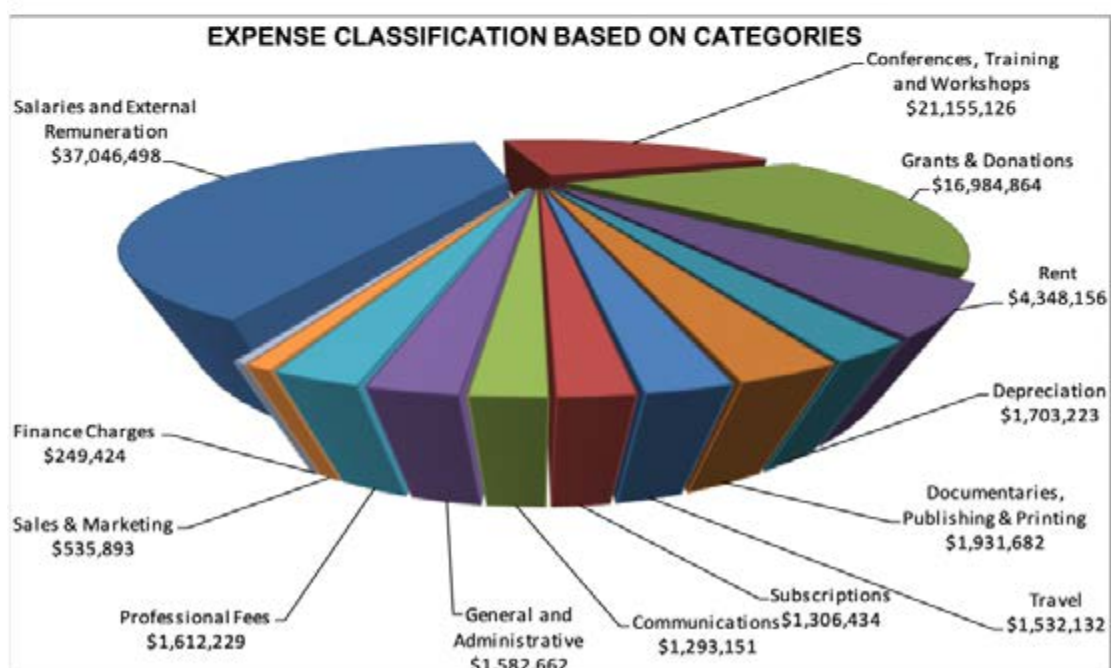
Description	Total
	All amounts in USD
Revenues	
Contributions by Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Sager, GRC Chairman	\$54,384,689
Projects and Consultancies	\$23,202,519
Conferences, Training and Workshops	\$11,789,432
Online Subscriptions & Publications	\$1,406,035
Other	\$1,120,731
Total Revenue	\$91,903,406



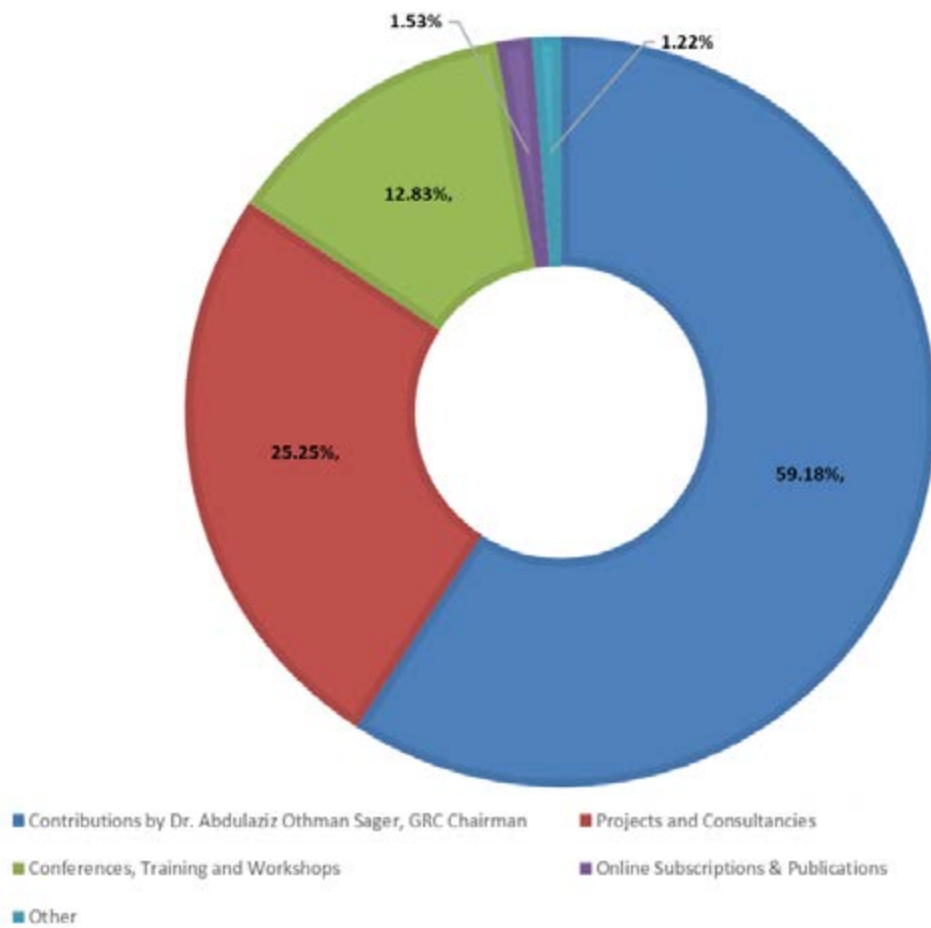
Consolidated GRC Financial Statements -- (Unaudited)

Consolidated Statement of Activities for the Period - 01 Jan 2000 to 31 Dec 2022

Operating Expenses	
Salaries and External Remuneration	\$37,046,498
Conferences, Training and Workshops	\$21,155,126
Grants & Donations	\$16,984,864
Rent	\$4,348,156
Depreciation	\$1,703,223
Documentaries, Publishing & Printing	\$1,931,682
Travel	\$1,532,132
Subscriptions	\$1,306,434
Communications	\$1,293,151
General and Administrative	\$1,582,662
Professional Fees	\$1,612,229
Sales & Marketing	\$535,893
Finance Charges	\$254,301
Total Operating Expenses	\$91,286,352



SOURCES OF INCOME IN PERCENTAGE



Consolidated GRC Financial Statements -- (Unaudited)

Consolidated Statement of Activities for the Period - 01 Jan 2000 to 31 Dec 2022

Particulars	Total
	All amounts in USD
Assets:	
Long-term assets	
Property and equipment net	\$25,996
Total long-term assets	\$25,996
Current assets	
Trade and other receivables	\$230,140
Prepayments / advances	\$22,356
Deposits	\$16,461
Cash in hand and at bank	\$853,632
Total current assets	\$1,122,588
Total assets	\$1,148,585
Liabilities:	
Current liabilities	
Trade and other payables	\$311,589
Accrued expenses	\$84,116
Total current liabilities	\$395,705
Net Assets	\$752,879
Net Equities/Reserves and Surplus	\$752,879
Total Laibilities & Equities	\$1,148,585

NOTE:

This is a consolidated financial statement for the following GRC entities:

Gulf Research Center Foundation ----- Gulf Research Centre Cambridge

Gulf Research Center – Jeddah ----- Gulf Research Center – Dubai

This statement is a compilation of the financial activities of the individual GRC entities.

The primary source of GRC funding is Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, GRC Founder and Chairman



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