# GULF RESEARCH CENTER NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2025



# **GRC Events & Activities**

# Roundtable Meeting with H.E. Mr. David van Weel

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

October 21, 2025, Riyadh



On October 21, 2025, Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), hosted H.E. Mr. David van Weel, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and his accompanying delegation at the GRC office in Riyadh during his official visit to the Kingdom. The meeting served as an important platform for a constructive exchange on areas of mutual interest and recent regional

developments. Discussions focused on strengthening Gulf-Netherlands relations, exploring avenues for enhanced research and academic cooperation, and identifying new opportunities in economic and investment partnership. Both sides underscored the importance of dialogue and knowledge exchange in advancing shared priorities and fostering deeper understanding between the Gulf region and Europe.





#### GRC Events & Activities

Roundtable with the Foreign Minister of the Netherlands

Executive Training
Program: The Role
of International
Organizations and
Multilateral Institutions
for Saudi Diplomats

Workshop on Beyond the Great Powers: The Rise of Middle Power Diplomacy in the Middle East

- GRC Cooperation
- GRC Publications
- GRC Programs

Gulf Labour Markets, Migration, and Population (GLMM) Programme

Environmental Security and Sustainability Program

Cultural & Media Program

- GRC Participations
- GRC in the Media



## **Executive Training Program**

# The Role of International Organizations and Multilateral Institutions for Saudi Diplomats

October 6-10, 2025, Geneva



The Gulf Research Center (GRC) held a week-long Executive Training Program in Geneva, Switzerland, under the theme "The Role of International Organizations and Multilateral Institutions for Saudi Diplomats." The program was designed for officials from the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other governmental entities.

Participants had the honor of meeting H.E. Mr. Abdulmohsen Majed A. bin Khothaila, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations in Geneva, and H.E. Mr. Saqer bin Abdullah Al-Moqbel, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the World Trade Organization (WTO), along with a number of experts and professionals during visits to various international organizations in Geneva as part of the program, including:

- The United Nations
- World Trade Organization
- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- World Health Organization

Throughout the week, participants took part in a series of in-depth sessions addressing key themes such as the foundations of multilateral diplomacy; trade, development, and multilateral economics; humanitarian affairs and crisis coordination; and global health diplomacy.





## Workshop on

Beyond the Great Powers: The Rise of Middle Power Diplomacy in the Middle East

Organized by the

Gulf Research Center Foundation, Brussels, the UCLA Burkle Center, and Middle East Council on Global Affairs (MECGA)

October 20, 2025, Brussels



The Gulf Research Center Foundation, Brussels hosted a project workshop with the UCLA Burkle Center and Middle East Council on Global Affairs (MECGA) entitled "Beyond the Great Powers: The Rise of Middle Power Diplomacy in the Middle East." The workshop aimed to better understand the changing mediation landscape of the region, featuring discussions on traditional regional powers (Egypt, Algeria, Türkiye), case studies on Iran and Yemen, comparative perspectives on mediation by the US, China, and Europe, and the roles being played by Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq.

The workshop addressed how MENA governments are increasingly engaging in conflict mediation, a practice formerly dominated by traditional Western actors, with the goal of mapping emerging diplomatic roles and assessing their scope and boundaries in the context of global competitiveness.

The workshop brought together senior scholars and policymakers to discuss a draft paper and exchange in an informal format to refine academic analysis and generate insights into the geopolitics and effectiveness of Middle Eastern and Gulf mediation practices in a changing international order.





# Memorandum of Understanding with Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS)







Dr. Ahmed Sager, Vice President of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), and Prof. Saleh Alkhathlan, Senior Advisor at the GRC, met with Mr. Li Kaisheng, Vice President of the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS), and his accompanying delegation at the GRC office in Riyadh on October 23, 2025. The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange views

on recent regional developments and explore potential areas of cooperation between the two institutions. On this occasion, Dr. Ahmed Sager, on behalf of the GRC, and Mr. Li Kaisheng, on behalf of the SIIS, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening research collaboration and promoting the exchange of knowledge and expertise.











The Gulf Research Center (GRC) continues to provide in-depth analysis and thought leadership on key regional and global developments. Our latest publications in March cover a wide range of topics, from U.S. foreign policy under Trump's second term to Saudi Arabia's evolving diplomatic role in global affairs. We also explore sustainable development in the Gulf, Russia's repositioning in the Middle East, and Gulf relations with Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

Below are some of our most recent works:

#### **Commentary & Analyses**



France's Political Paralysis: A Stress Call for Europe's Core Stability

**A**  $\Phi$ CC Soft Power: Towards Collective Approach





Dr. Mislamed Abdeleacht \* October 2021

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France's Political Paralysis: A Stress Call for Europe's Core Stability

Houda Barroug October 2025

GCC Soft Power: Towards a Collective <u>Approach</u>



Redrawing the Map of Power

Tamara Uspenskikh October 2025

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The Belt and Road Initiative 2.0: Balancing Opportunities and Risks for the Gulf States

The Belt and Road Initiative 2.0: Balancing

Opportunities and Risks for the Gulf States Lepla Ali October 2025

Layla Ali

October 2025

The Aegean-Gulf Axis: How Greece and Saudi Arabia Are Redrawing the Map of Power

Dr. John Sfakianakis

October 2025

What to Expect from COP30 Climate Talks in Belém

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf

October 2025



Gulf-East Asia Synergies: Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Japan, and South Korea as Emerging Peace Mediators in Gaza and the Middle East

Noriko Suzuki

October 2025



#### **Commentary & Analyses**







The Evolution of Saudi-Pakistani Security and Military Relations From Bilateral Cooperation to the Engineering of New Balances in the Gulf and South Asia Dr. Abdalute Saure



Gulf Research Center

From the Mediterranean to the South Caucasus - A Shifting Balance of Power between Russia and Turkey

Freil Advaliani

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From Dialogue to Diplomacy: Saudi Arabia's Pursuit of Regional Stability Through Multilateral Diplomacy

#### Layla Ali

October 2025



The Evolution of Saudi-Pakistani Security and Military Relations From Bilateral Cooperation to the Engineering of New Balances in the Gulf and South Asia

#### Dr. Abdulaziz Sager

October 2025



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From the Mediterranean to the South

<u>Caucasus – A Shifting Balance of</u> <u>Power between Russia and Turkey</u>

#### **Emil Advaliani**

October 2025



Shadows in Northern Skies: The NB8 Security Response

> Arenah Mosty October 2025



Gulf Research Center

The Road to Palestinian Statehood and Latin America's Convergence with the Gulf

October 2025





Multipolar World; The Evolving Role of Gulf States in Global and Regional Order Luptafil Cosobr 2025

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Shadows in Northern Skies: The NB8 Security Response

#### **Amnah Mosly**

October 2025

The Road to Palestinian Statehood and Latin America's Convergence with the Gulf

#### Hannan Alghamdi

October 2025

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Middle Powers in a Multipolar World: The Evolving Role of Gulf States in Global and Regional Order

#### Layla Ali

October 2025

www.grc.net



#### **Commentary & Analyses**



Crude Realities: Power, Liquidity, and the Myth of an Oil Glut

Dr. John Sfakianakis

October 2025



The New York Conference on the Two-State Solution: Challenges and the Ability to Implement Solutions.

Ms. Hana Jalloul Muro

October 2025



The New York Conference on the Two-State Solution: Challenges and the Ability to Implement Solutions

Ms. Agnès Levallois

October 2025



Europe moves on recognition of the





The New York Conference on the Two-State Solution: Challenges and the Ability to Implement Solutions



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Europe moves on recognition of the Palestinian State

**H.E. James Moran** 

October 2025

The New York Conference on the TwoState Solution: Challenges and the **Ability to Implement Solutions** 

H.E. Diego Martínez Belío

October 2025



Saudi-Pakistan Mutual Defense Agreement: What It Is, and What It Is Not

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Saudi-Pakistan Mutual Defense Agreement: What It Is, and What It Is Not

**Amnah Mosly** 

October 2025

#### **Selected Arabic Articles**



الآلة الفكرية الإسرائيلية؛ الأدوات والعمليات والتأثير فيف بعمل قطاع مرافز الفمر والأبدان الإسرائيلية داخل الدولة وغارجما؟

محيد بن ساري الزميي. باهث مركز الخليج للأبحاث



تنامي العلاقات الأمنية والعسكرية السعودية ـ الباكستانية

د. عبدالحزيز بن علَمِلَن بن صفر مؤسس ورثيس مرفز الخليج للأبحاث

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تيك توك والمرأة الأمريكية

، بن ساري الزميي. . الخليم للأبمات

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The Israeli Intellectual Machine: Tools, Processes, and Influence\* How does Israel's think tank and research sector operate domestically and internationally?

#### Mohammad S. Alzou'bi

October 2025

The Growing Saudi-Pakistani Security and Military Relations: From Bilateral Cooperation to Shaping New Balances

#### Dr. Abdulaziz Sager

in the Gulf and South Asia

October 2025

TikTok and the American Mirror: Behavioral Capitalism, Surveillance, and the Struggle for Digital Sovereignty

#### Mohammad S. Alzou'bi

October 2025



أم سالع بن سميم النثالي

اء مدائع بن معيد الخلقان محمدشام اول بمرکز الخليم لاأبحاث



لغاء قانون قيصر وتحديات تحسينه للاقتصاد السوري ورنة تدليلية

وحدة والن احث أول عرفز العليم للأبحاث

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اغتيال المرشح صفاء المشهداني، الدلالت والنداميات

د. رضا الخراوي باحث أول بمرخز الحليج للأبحاث

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A Reading into the Executive Order to Ensure Qatar's Security

#### Prof. Saleh M. Alkhathlan

October 2025

Lifting the Caesar Act and the Challenges of Reviving the Syrian Economy

#### **Yousef Kamil Khattab**

October 2025

The Assassination of Candidate Safaa Al-Mashhadani: Implications and Consequences

#### Rasha Al Azzawi

October 2025

www.grc.net

## **Selected Arabic Articles**



هل يسهم اجتماع باريس في تنفيذ خطة ترامب للسلام؟

يوسف هامل خطاب بانت أول يسرفز المليم للأيجاث



قراءة تحليلية شاملة لخطة ترامب للسلام في الشرق الأوسط ورقابطية

> بوسف هامل مطاب بادئ أول بورگر المليخ للأيماث

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برعز الفتيج تقيمات

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Does the Paris Meeting Contribute to Implementing Trump's Peace Plan?

#### Yousef Kamil Khattab

October 2025

Comprehensive Analytical Reading of Trump's Peace Plan in the Middle East

#### Yousef Kamil Khattab

October 2025

At the Sochi Summit: Putin Declares "Russia Will Prevail and Europe Is Fading to the Margins of History" Notes from My Participation in the 22nd Valdai Forum

#### Prof. Saleh M. Alkhathlan

October 2025



تركيا وصراع التوازن الاستراتيجي بين القوب الكبرب: حسابه التوارنة ومعداليبارة

د. عبد الرزاق غراف باست أول مرخز الخليج تأبحات

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Turkey and the Strategic Balance Struggle Among Major Powers: Calculations of Equilibrium and the Pressure of Choices

#### Dr. Abderrezzaq Gherraf

October 2025



أزمات الرواية الإسرائيلية واستراتيجيات حرب نتنياهو الرقمية الحديدة

دنمد بن سارو الزبيع باهت برکز الذليج لاأبخان

Crises of the Israeli Narrative and Netanyahu's New Digital Warfare Strategies

#### Mohammad S. Alzou'bi

October 2025



Issue #214 (October 2025)

The New York Conference on the Two-State Solution: Challenges and the Ability to Implement Solutions



## **Country Updates & Trade Reports**



**Egypt - GCC Relations**Gulf Research Center
October 2025



Türkiye - GCC Relations
Gulf Research Center
October 2025

## **Country Updates & Trade Reports**



Finland - GCC Relations
Gulf Research Center
October 2025



Portugal - GCC Relations
Gulf Research Center
October 2025

# **GRC Programs**



# Gulf Labour Markets, Migration, and Population (GLMM) Programme



#### **GLMM**

The Gulf Labour Markets, Migration, and Population Program (GLMM) is an international, independent, non-partisan, non-profit program established in 2010 and is hosted and supported by the Gulf Research Center. The program provides data, analyses, and recommendations contributing to the improvement of the understanding and management of Gulf labour migration, population, and labor markets, engaging with and respecting the viewpoints of all stakeholders. Visit the website here.

#### **Publications**

#### **Forthcoming**

Françoise De Bel-Air, Nasra M. Shah (editors), <u>The Future of Migration to GCC Countries: Migrants' Aspirations, Labour Reforms, and Politics</u>, Springer, South-South Migration, November 2025. Includes 16 chapters originally presented as papers for the <u>GLMM workshop at the 14th Gulf Research Meeting (GRM)</u>, <u>Cambridge</u>, 9-11 July 2024.

#### Data

For fifteen years, GLMM has gathered, analyzed, and published official data related to labour and migration from multiple sources of all six GCC states. The database contains more than 1,000 tables.

#### **Highlighted Data**

- Kuwait: Population employed in the domestic sector by nationality (Kuwaiti/non-Kuwaiti) and sex (Q4 2014-Q1 2025)
- Kuwait: Total employed population (public, private, domestic sectors), by nationality (Kuwaiti/ non-Kuwaiti) and sex (Q4 2014-Q1 2025)
- Kuwait: Population employed in the private sector by nationality (Kuwaiti/non-Kuwaiti) and sex (Q4 2014-Q1 2025)
- Kuwait: Population employed in the government sector by nationality (Kuwaiti/non-Kuwaiti) and sex (Q4 2014-Q1 2025)
- Kuwait: Population employed in the domestic work sector, by sex and country of citizenship (top-10 countries, Q2 2015-Q1 2025)
- Kuwait: Population employed in the domestic work sector, by country of citizenship (top-10 countries, Q2 2015-Q1 2025)



## Gulf Labour Markets, Migration, and Population (GLMM) Programme

#### **Country Tables**

- Access Bahrain data here
- Access Kuwait data here
- Access Oman data here
- Access Qatar data here
- Access Saudi Arabia data here
- Access UAE data here

#### **GCC Regional Tables**

GLMM also constructs unique GCC regional tables based exclusively on official country data. Access them here.

## **Upcoming Event**

GLMM, together with the Regional Programme Gulf States (RPG) of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS), is organizing a meeting on 2 December 2025 in Riyadh entitled "The Future of Migration to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf: Retaining Foreign Talents and Skills."

Contact: Mr. Imco Brouwer: imco.brouwer@grc.net

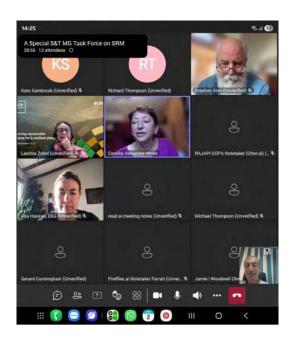




## **Environmental Security and Sustainability Program**

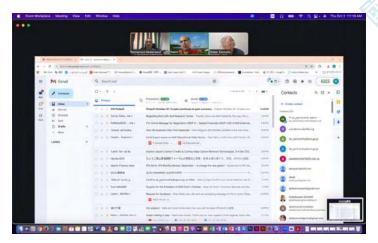
#### 2 October 2025

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program Director at the Gulf Research Center participated in a virtual telecall of the UNEP Science and Technology Major Group discussing Solar Radiation Modifications (SRM) and the best way to have good governance over geoengineering. The call was part of the Science and Technology Major Group's preparations for UNEA 7.



#### 2 October 2025

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program Director at the Gulf Research Center and Dr. Oskar Ziemelis, director of the Gulf Research Center Foundation participated in a virtual telecall with Dr. Rabhi Abdessalem, Senior Research at the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies to discuss possible areas of cooperation, such as at COP30 and the possibility of renewing the joint MoU.



#### 13 October 2025

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program Director at the Gulf Research Center, participated in a virtual telecall of the UNEP Science and Technology Major Group discussing various preparations for UNEA 7, such as task forces on specific topics, ministerial declarations, resolution focal points, and joint statements.

#### 22-23 October 2025

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program Director at the Gulf Research Center, participated in a virtual online consultation of all nine Major Groups at UNEP to discuss preparations for the seventh United Nations Environment Assembly, including a joint statement for all Major Groups, progress on ministerial declarations, and resolution focal points from various Major Groups.



#### 24 October 2025

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program Director at the Gulf Research Center, participated in a virtual call with colleagues from the Global Methane Hub to explore possible cooperation on research, events, and projects, especially for GCC countries, in the area of methane and flare reduction to fight climate change. Also, possible collaboration during the COP30 climate talks was explored.



#### 27-31 October 2025

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program Director at the Gulf Research Center, participated in the Global Environmental Outlook (GEO) 7 Summary for Policymakers review and approval meeting from Monday, 27 October to Friday, 31 October 2025, inperson at the United Nations Office at Nairobi. GEO is the flagship report of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), providing an integrated assessment of environmental change, the current state of the environment, the effectiveness of policy response, and the options for achieving different possible futures in the medium to long term. It is planned to be launched at UNEA-7 in December 2025. Dr. Raouf participated in the meeting as a member of the GEO Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (IMAG). The Gulf Research Center is currently the representative of the Science and **Technology Major Group at UNEP** 





## **Cultural & Media Program**





#### **GRC Podcast Activities**

#### October 3, 2025

The GRC Podcast hosted journalist Sameer Al-Hiyari in an episode titled "Memories Between Two Countries," exploring shared experiences and cultural reflections between nations. Watch the full episode <a href="here">here</a>.



#### October 8, 2025

The GRC Podcast hosted Ambassador Dr. Taha Al-Mutawakkilin an episode titled "Challenges in Implementing the Two-State Solution and Ways to Overcome Them," discussing the political and diplomatic complexities surrounding the issue and potential paths forward. Watch the full episode <a href="https://example.com/here/">here</a>.



The GRC Podcast presented a short episode titled: "Riyadh Reads and the World Listens," about the Riyadh International Book Fair. Watch the full episode here.



#### October 18, 2025

The Gulf Research Center Podcast presented a short episode titled: "Will the 2026 World Cup Witness the Best Version of the Saudi National Team?" Watch the full episode here.





# **Cultural & Media Program**





#### **Publications**

#### October 8, 2025

The GRC's Cultural & Media Program published a paper titled: "The Arab World and Lessons from the Chinese Experience: A Reading in the Book 'The Meeting of East" by Youssef bin Fahad Al-Ghuzouli, Senior Researcher at the GRC. Read the full paper <a href="here">here</a>.

# October 20, 2025

The GRC's Cultural & Media Program published a paper titled "The Western Model in the Ongoing International Transformations" by H.E. Samira Rajab, Bahrain's Former Minister of State for Information Affairs and political columnist. Read the full paper <a href="here">here</a>.





# **GRC Participations**



#### October 27, 2025

Mr. Abdulaziz Alageel, Senior Advisor at the Gulf Research Center (GRC), met with Mr. Ashok Kumar Mirpuri, Head of International Policy & Governance at Temasek International Pte. Ltd., one of Singapore's leading sovereign wealth funds and former Singaporean Ambassador to the United States, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Australia, at the GRC office in Riyadh. During the meeting, both sides discussed the Kingdom's growing sectors and ongoing development projects.

#### October 27, 2025

Dr. John Sfakianakis, Chief Economist and Head of Economic Research at the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated as a speaker at the Saudi-Greek Business Council Meeting, held in Riyadh on October 27, 2025. During the meeting, Dr. Sfakianakis delivered remarks in a session focused on providing key insights into the Saudi economy.

#### October 27, 2025





Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated as a speaker at the Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue, held in Vienna on October 27, 2025. During the session, Dr. Sager addressed ongoing regional security developments and examined the dynamics of U.S. relations with Gulf states in shaping regional stability.

## October 23, 2025



Dr. Ahmed Sager, Vice President of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), and Prof. Saleh Alkhathlan, Senior Advisor at the GRC, met with a delegation from the Norwegian Centre for Conflict Resolution (NOREF) including Ms. Laura Mitchell, Senior Advisor for NOREF's MENA Programme, Dr. Gina Lende, Senior Advisor for the Global Programme and head of NOREF's Africa and Sahel work, and The Honourable Aliyu Ibrahim Gebi, NOREF's partner in the Sahel, at the GRC office in Riyadh on October 23, 2025. The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange views and explore areas of mutual interest and potential collaboration between the two institutions.

#### October 22, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated as a speaker at the Reuters NEXT Gulf 2025 Conference, held in Abu Dhabi on October 22, 2025. Dr. Sager took part in a panel session titled "What's NEXT? MENA's Role in a New World Order," alongside H.E. Lana Nusseibeh, Minister of State, United Arab Emirates and Jihad Azour, Director of the Middle East and Central Asia Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF). The session was moderated by Samia Nakhoul, Reuters Global Foreign Policy Editor. During the session, Dr. Sager highlighted Saudi Arabia's expanding global partnerships and its growing role in mediating regional conflicts, while underscoring the Kingdom's balanced approach in maintaining strong economic relations with both the United States and China.

# **GRC Participations**



#### October 21, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, received Professor Abdullah Al-Ghadawi, Director of the Taqadum Center for Dialogue, Development, and Peacebuilding, at the GRC's office in Riyadh. During the meeting, the recent situations and developments in Syria were discussed, as well as areas of research cooperation between the two centers.

## October 20, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated as a speaker in a webinar organized by the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington (AGSIW) on "Unpacking the Saudi-Pakistani Mutual Defense Agreement." Also joining the discussion was (Ret.) Brigadier Feroz Hassan Khan, Lecturer at the Naval Postgraduate School. Dr. Sager examined the Saudi-Pakistani defense partnership and discussed the importance of sustained cooperation between Riyadh and Islamabad within the broader framework of Gulf—South Asia relations. Watch the full webinar recording <a href="https://documents.org/licenses/bull-100

#### October 16, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated in the panel "Redefining Maritime Agendas," as part of the 11th edition of the Mediterranean Dialogues (MED) held in Naples, Italy. During the discussion, Dr. Sager addressed the Red Sea crisis and its implications for the Gulf region, as well as the security and resilience of Saudi Arabia's underwater infrastructure. The panel featured distinguished speakers, including Admiral Giuseppe Cavo Dragone, Chairman of the NATO Military Committee and Özgür Ünlühisarcikli, Director of the German Marshall Fund's Ankara Office, reflecting the high-level strategic dialogue on maritime security.

#### October 16, 2025



Dr. Ahmed Sager, Vice President of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), and Prof. Saleh Alkhathlan, Senior Advisor at the GRC, met with H.E. Ms. Kjersti Tromsdal, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Ms. Heidi Elburgi Johansen, Norway's Special Representative for Yemen, along with their accompanying delegation, at the GRC office in Riyadh.

#### October 14, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, received H.E. Mr. Carlo Baldocci, Ambassador of the Republic of Italy to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at the GRC's office in Riyadh. During the meeting, both sides discussed areas of mutual interest and recent regional developments.

#### October 13, 2025



The Gulf Research Center Foundation office in Brussels hosted 14 young diplomats from the GCC member states taking part in the "Young Leaders in Regional Diplomacy program" of the EU. The events focused on the Gulf perspectives on EU policy making and partnership. The discussion opened with an overview of GRC's mission in fostering competence and dialogue between the GCC and EU. As a platform for policy exchange, the GRC's office in Brussels facilitates discussions and initiatives that promote institutional cooperation and cross-cultural understanding. The discussion showcased the dynamic role of GCC young diplomats, underscoring their innovative perspectives and nuanced approaches to strengthening the comprehensive GCC-EU partnership.

## October 12, 2025



Dr. Ahmed Sager, Vice President of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), and Prof. Saleh Alkhathlan, Senior Advisor at the GRC, welcomed Ms. Andrea Schoenauer, Political Counsellor, and Ms. Lamya Hussain, First Secretary from the Embassy of Canada to Saudi Arabia, at the GRC office in Riyadh. Both sides discussed the ongoing regional developments and potential areas for collaboration.

#### October 8, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), met with H.E. Ms. Kjersti Tromsdal, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at the GRC's office in Riyadh. During this meeting, both sides discussed areas of mutual interests and regional developments.

#### October 7, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), met with a delegation of experts from leading German think tanks on October 6, 2025, at the GRC office in Riyadh. The delegation included: Dr. Isabelle Werenfels. German Institute for International

# **GRC Participations**



and Security Affairs (SWP), Dr. Guido Steinberg, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), Dr. Marie-Christine Heinze, Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient (CARPO), Dr. Sebastian Sons, Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient (CARPO), Ms. Sophia Meranto, Munich Security Conference (MSC), and Ms. Rachel Tausendfreund, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP). Representatives from the German Federal Foreign Office and the German Embassy in Riyadh also attended the meeting. The discussions centered on strengthening cooperation between German research institutions and the Gulf Research Center, building on a long-standing partnership. Both sides also exchanged views on key regional developments and shared perspectives on issues of mutual interest.

#### October 6, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC) and Member of the Board of Trustees of the International Crisis Group, attended and participated in the International Crisis Group's 30th Anniversary Board Meeting held in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, from October 3 to 5, 2025.

#### October 4, 2025



GRC's Director of the Cultural and Media Program, Dr. Zaid Alfadeil, participated in the symposium "Culture and Enlightenment" held in Amman, Jordan, and organized by the Arab Thought Forum and the German Cultural Dialogue Center.

#### October 2, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated as a speaker at the Munich Leaders Meeting 2025 organized by the Munich Security Conference, in AlUla, Saudi Arabia. Dr. Sager participated in the panel session titled "In High Demand: Advancing Economic Security, Cooperation, and Trade," where he addressed the global and geopolitical challenges shaping the Gulf's economic security. The session was held at the iconic Maraya venue in Hegra, AlUla. Speakers in the panel also included: Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General of the United Nations Trade and Development, and H.E. Mr. Stefano Sannino, Director-General, Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf of the European Commission

# **GRC** in the Media



## GRC media participation can be accessed here, at the GRC official YouTube channel.



#### 28 October 2025

Dr. Zaid Al-Fadeil, Director of the Cultural Program at the Gulf Research Center (GRC) appeared on "The Seventh Neighbor" on Iraq 24 TV, in an episode titled "From Geography Textbooks to the Reality of Neighborliness." He discussed how education systems shape regional perceptions and emphasized the need for curricula that promote shared understanding and constructive neighborly relations.

#### Watch here



#### 1 October 2025

Dr. Zaid Al-Fadeil, Director of the Cultural Program at the Gulf Research Center appeared on Al-Ekhbariya Channel, discussing the launch of the *Riyadh International Book Fair 2025.* 

#### Watch here





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