



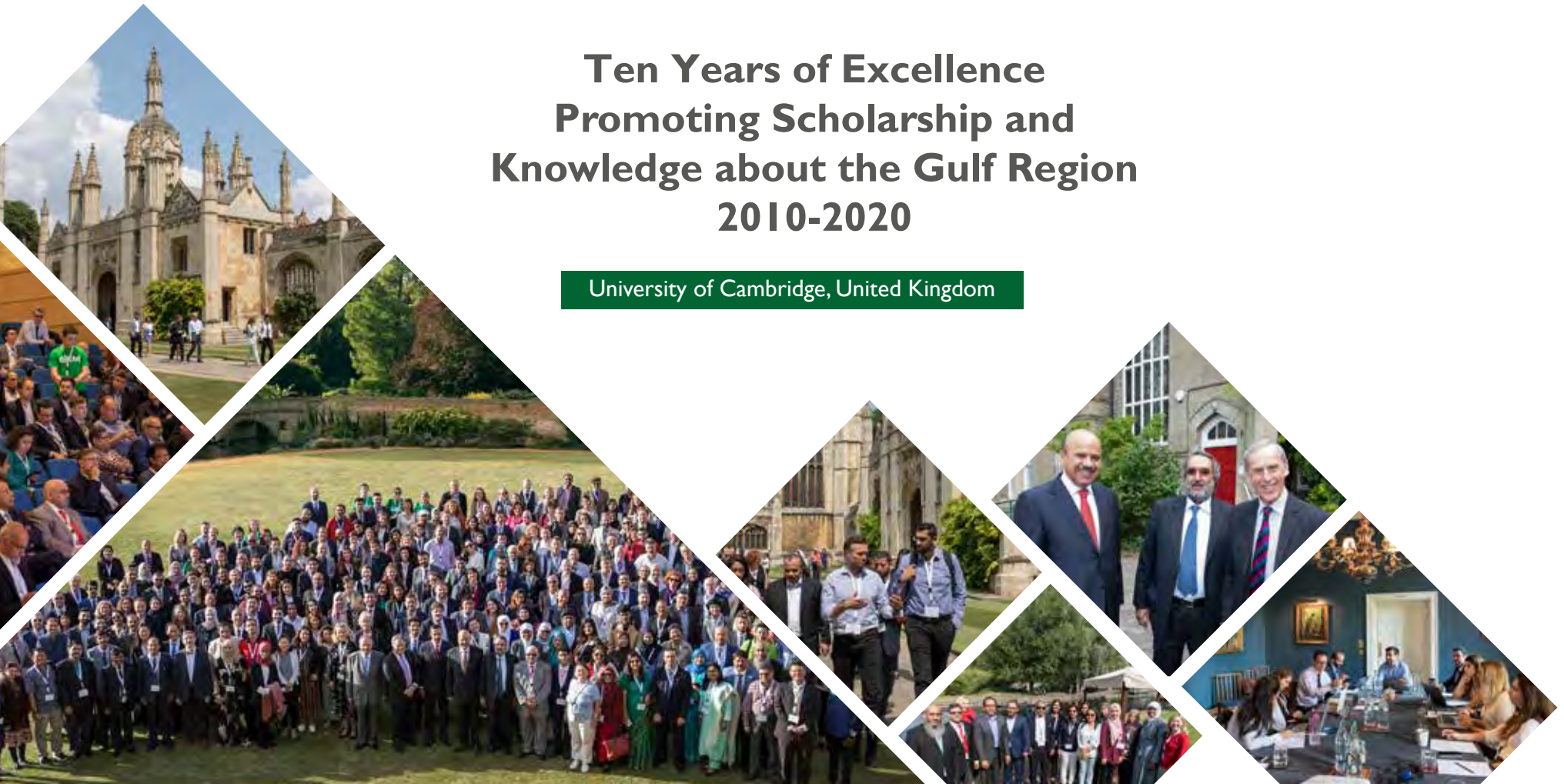
**Gulf Research Centre Cambridge**

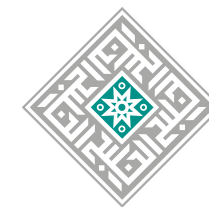
**K n o w l e d g e   f o r   A l l**

# **The Gulf Research Meeting**

**Ten Years of Excellence  
Promoting Scholarship and  
Knowledge about the Gulf Region  
2010-2020**

**University of Cambridge, United Kingdom**





Gulf Research Centre Cambridge

Knowledge for All

## The Gulf Research Meeting

Ten Years of Excellence

Promoting Scholarship and Knowledge about the Gulf Region  
2010-2020

The Gulf Research Meeting The Gulf Research Meeting

University of Cambridge, United Kingdom



**2019 Gulf Research**

**Meeting participants**

## THE GULF RESEARCH MEETING - TEN YEARS OF GULF STUDIES



The Gulf Research Centre Cambridge (GRCC) was established to foster Gulf studies and establish strong links with one of the leading educational institutions in the world - the University of Cambridge. The main activity of GRCC is convening the Gulf Research Meeting (GRM), which has been organized annually since 2010. In 2019, GRCC reached a milestone by convening the tenth Gulf Research Meeting. These ten meetings have brought together 3,358 participants, gathering in 127 workshops, in which more than 1,900 research papers have been presented and discussed. Out of this, more than 50 edited volumes of research on the Gulf region have been published, ensuring that together with the GRM Paper Series, the outreach extends far beyond the meetings themselves. Since its establishment, the GRM has also extended its geographical reach, with scholars and policy practitioners attending from throughout the world. Of particular importance is the participation of the growing scholarly community from the Gulf countries themselves.

The goal of the Gulf Research Meetings is to bring together a community of scholars and specialists working on the Gulf region in order to broaden the research literature on this critical region and to create a network through which people from all over the world can come together to exchange views, present their work, enhance their understanding on topical issues related to the region, and plan for future projects and collaborative research.

The Gulf Research Meetings are taking place at an important time, as the Middle East region is undergoing a series of upheavals, and the critical Gulf region in particular is experiencing wide-ranging challenges and transitions.

This only underscores the need to bring people together in order to exchange views and reflect on the current developments which are impacting the Gulf region. The objective of the annual gatherings is to enhance knowledge about the Gulf, promote scholarly and balanced research about the region, and encourage scholarly and academic exchange among those interested in developments that are defining the Gulf region and its constituent societies. The Gulf Research Meetings stimulate deeper research collaboration and provide a space for an open and frank exchange of research-based views, where people of different backgrounds and specialties can gather together to gain a better understanding of the forces defining and shaping the Gulf region.

The Gulf Research Meetings are also forward looking and address the possible future development of the Gulf region, thus facilitating informed choices and contributing to substantive policy debates. The objective is clear – long-term stability and prosperity for the Gulf region. At a time when a better understanding of the Gulf region is more important than ever, the Gulf Research Meetings provide a much needed platform through which the challenges facing the region are creatively addressed.

**Dr. Abdulaziz O. Sager**

Chairman

Gulf Research Center

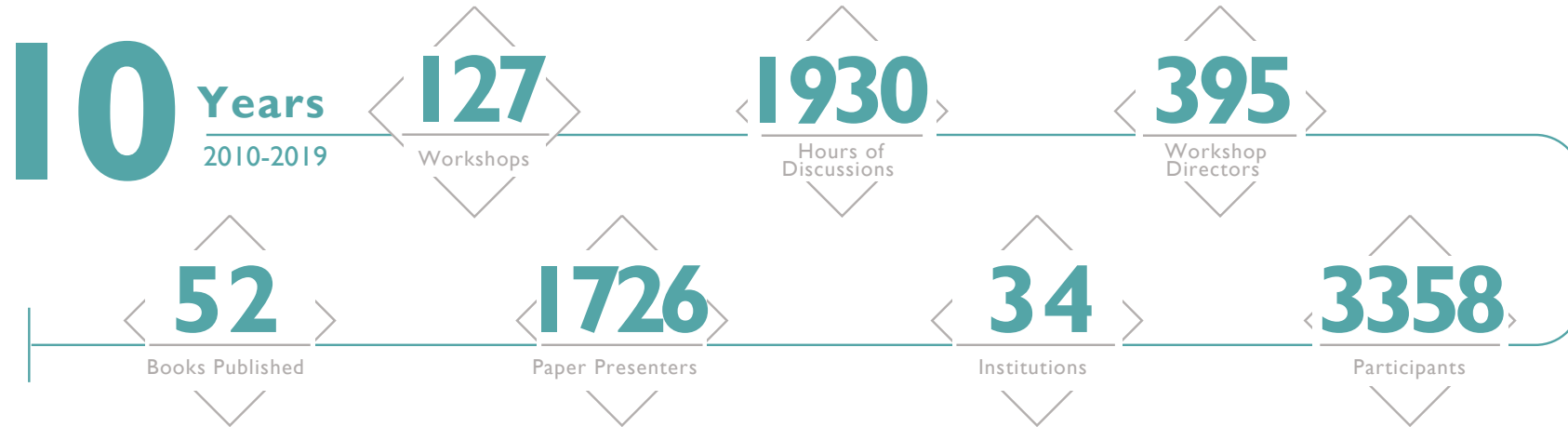


The Gulf Research Meeting

Knowledge for All

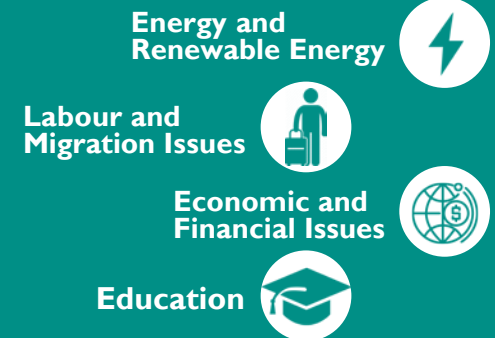
## The First 10 Years of GRM

The Gulf Research Meeting (GRM) offers a unique environment to explore matters of key importance to the Gulf region and provides a platform for discussion and dissemination of research in a wide variety of Gulf-related fields, including economic and financial issues, international relations, security, environment, energy and renewable energy, as well as education, labour and social issues. Committed to a high-level academic standard, the GRM's objective is to help generate solutions to many of the region's pressing challenges.



Participants from **60** Nationalities

**40%** of Participants from the Gulf Region



### TOPICS



2018 Gulf Research Meeting participants



**“I thought the conference was superbly well organized and administered. Congratulations” (2014)**

*Dr. John Duke Anthony*  
PhD, President and CEO  
National Council on  
U.S.-Arab Relations

## About the Gulf Research Meeting

At the Gulf Research Center (GRC), one of the most important goals remains the spread of scholarly research and knowledge relating to the Gulf throughout the international community. In a bid to foster greater understanding of the GCC and the challenges the region faces, and to strengthen the links between scholars from different regions, we decided to create the Gulf Research Meeting (GRM).

Led by the commitment of the GRC’s founder and chairman, Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, the GRM is unparalleled in both its scope and value as far as scholarly and policy-oriented research about the critical Gulf region is concerned. A flagship event that is hosted annually at the University of Cambridge, the GRM brings together hundreds of specialists, policy practioners, and aspiring academics from the Arab region and the rest of the world to discuss and debate the key challenges and changes facing the GCC and enhance their knowledge about this unique part of the world.

### Advancing Knowledge

At a time when the Gulf region continues to gain in strategic relevance and importance, it is more urgent than ever to expand knowledge about this critical part of the world and to become more familiar with the issues that are defining its overall development. Of equal importance is the promotion of scholarly and



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center at the 2019 GRM Opening Ceremony



Prof. David Cardwell, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Strategy and Planning greeting GRM 2019 Participants on behalf of the University of Cambridge

balanced research about the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates), its adjacent neighbors that constitute the wider Gulf region (Iran, Iraq and Yemen) and their relations to one another as well as with the wider external environment.

Through parallel workshops dedicated to specific topics in the fields of politics, economics, energy, security and the wider social sciences, the Gulf Research Meeting addresses the existing shortcomings, to provide correct and insightful information about the region and to promote mutual understanding between the Gulf and the rest of the world.

## Producing Output

Committed to a high-level academic standard, the GRM's objectives are to produce policy input and generate solutions to many of the region's pressing challenges. Each year, workshops are selected on both their ability to contribute to the development of literature on the Gulf and their relevance to issues of present and common concern. In this manner, and through the intensive debates that are part of the individual workshops, concrete ideas and initiatives are created that can then be disseminated to a wider audience through generated publications, whether as short policy briefs, extended essays or more broader edited books. Such discussions also lead to additional collaborative efforts among the participants and their institutions beyond the framework of the GRM.



Panel discussion at the 2019 GRM Opening Ceremony



Amb. Stuart Laing, Master of Corpus Christi College, delivering remarks at the 2017 GRM Opening Ceremony on behalf of the University of Cambridge



**“This was a unique opportunity to meet with an outstanding cadre of elite academics and researchers” (2015)**

*H.E. Dr. Abdul Latif Bin Rashid Al Zayani*  
Secretary-General, The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC)

## Creating Networks

Through its workshops and constant interaction among participants, the GRM also promotes widespread research efforts among different institutions from within the Gulf and other parts of the region to heighten awareness of Gulf-specific issues. At the core lies the partnership between the Gulf Research Centre Cambridge and the Centre of Islamic Studies at the University of Cambridge. Universally recognized as one of the world's leading educational institutions, the University of Cambridge together with the CIS has provided a strong commitment to foster cooperation and promote exchanges such as the Gulf Research Meeting. Such collaboration opens the door to promote further work and link into a worldwide network of leading individuals and research initiatives.

Beyond the University of Cambridge, the GRM brings together institutions from throughout the world thereby creating additional opportunities for networking and cooperation. Particular importance and emphasis is given to encourage young scholars, in particular from the GCC countries – including those studying abroad - to engage in the debate and take part in research collaboration. In this way, GRM provides a path into the future generation and the role it will play in shaping the region's development.

The Gulf Research Meeting is a ground-breaking and progressive project that the GRC is proud to be at the forefront of.



Prof. John Duke Anthony, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, Washington and H.E. Dr. Abdullatif Rashid Al-Zayani, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council at the GRM 2018 opening



Dr. John Sfakianakis, GRC Chief Economist and Head of Research addressing the audience during the 2019 GRM Opening Ceremony

**“It is quite a privilege to be addressing such a distinct audience”**

*His Royal Highness Prince Turki Bin Faisal Al Saud*  
Chairman of the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies



“A fabulous success that will yield some excellent publication/policy developments”

**Dr. Beverly Metcalfe**  
Institute for Development Policy and Management (IDPM)  
University of Manchester

## Ten Years of GRM Donors and Supporters

A sincere thank you to all the generous Donors and Supporters of GRM 2010 – 2019





Prof. Toshiya Hoshino, Osaka University, Yuji Takagi, Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Gulf Research Center and H.E. Dr. Abdul Latif Al-Zayani, Gulf Cooperation Council



Prof. Timothy Niblock, Exeter University



Dr. Saeko Yazaki of the Centre for Islamic Studies, Cambridge with Dr. Paul Aarts, University of Amsterdam



H.E. Dr. Abdul Latif Al-Zayani, GCC Secretary-General with Fawzi Rihane, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Rome



Anand K Rohatgi, CEO of Synergy Consulting IFA Inc. with Prof. Giacomo Luciani of Paris School of International Affairs and Manaf Alhajeri, CEO of Kuwait Financial Center at GRM 2017 opening



GRM 2019 Workshop-A Peace Process for the Gulf : International Initiatives and Gulf Conflict Resolutions



GRM 2016 participants on their way to lunch at King's College



Amb. Stuart Laing, Master, Corpus Christi College



BBC Interview with Dr. Stephane Lacroix, Sciences Po



2016 Workshop - Toward a Sustainable Lifestyle in the Gulf



Participants at the 2016 Opening Reception



2013 GRM Registration Desk



Participants at the 2016 Opening Ceremony



Prof. Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, Vice Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, greets H.E. Prof. Sheikh Abdullah Al-Misnad, President of Qatar University at the Opening Session of the 2012 GRM



GRM 2019 Participant Reception



GCC-Iran Relations Co-Directors Prof. Saleh Al-Mani and Prof. Mahmood Sarioghalam (GRM 2011)



Dr. Oskar Ziemelis, Director of Cooperation at GRC, at the GRM 2017 opening



The members of the GRC Foundation Council in 2011



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Prof. Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, H.E. Dr. Abdul Latif Al Zayani, Prof. Yasir Suleiman CBE and Dr. Abdullah Baabood at the 2012 GRM Opening



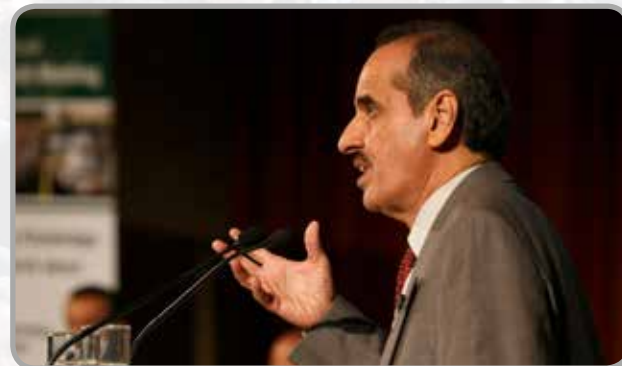
Reception ahead of the Opening of the 2012 GRM



H.E. Dr. Abdullatif Rashid Al-Zayani, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council prior to the GRM 2018 opening ceremony with advisor and GRC staff



Workshop Participants on the King's College Lawn



Prof. Saleh Al-Mani, King Saud University, speaking at the 2013 GRM Opening Ceremony



Members of the Role of Business Women Workshop during the 2011 Opening Reception



The GRM Organizing Team 2016



Prof. Gilles Kepel, Chair of Middle East and Mediterranean Studies, Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, Dr. Abdullah Baabood, Director, Gulf Research Centre Cambridge and Amb. Stuart Laing, Master of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge - 2010 GRM



Indian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia H.E. Talmiz Ahmed and Prof. Abu Backer Bagader of King Abdul Aziz University at the GCC-India Relations Workshop



Sustainable Development Workshop Directors Dr. Yusra Mouzoughi and Dr. Turki Al-Rasheed



Discussion in GCC Foreign and Security Policies Workshop 2016



Workshop on GCC Relations with Post-War Iraq - A Strategic Perspective



Prof. Bahgat Korany exchanging a few words with HRH Prince Turki Al Faisal just prior to the 2011 GRM Opening Session



Participants in the workshop entitled Quotidian Youth Cultures in the Gulf Peninsula: Changes and Challenges at GRM 2019



GRC Chairman Dr. Abdulaziz Sager and Dr. Jennifer Barnes, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for International Strategy, University of Cambridge



H.E. Dr. Abdul Latif Al Zayani, Shaikh Abdullah Al-Khalifa and Dr. Abdullah Baabood



Geoffrey Edwards, Christian Koch, Christian-Peter Hanelt, Dania Koleilat Khatib, Amal Sakr and Shady Abdul Wahab at GRM 2017



Abdulah Alshoaibi from the Saudi Fund for Development; Salem Almahri and Richard Common from the York Management School



Dr. Elie Azar of Masdar Institute in Abu Dhabi and Dr. Oskar Ziemelis of the Gulf Research Center discuss sustainable growth in the Gulf region



Dr. John Duke Anthony and Dr. Abdulkhaleq Abdulla with GRM 2018 participants



Nadia Mohammed Osman of the Research Council, Oman with Shaikha Latifa Al-Khalifa of the University of Bahrain



Audience at 2013 GRM Opening Ceremony



Sujata Ashwarya Cheema, Centre for West Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Kottapurath Mohammed Seethi, Mahatma Gandhi University; Prof. Girijesh Pant, Jawaharlal Nehru University; and Jinwoog Kim from the Korea Institute for Military Affairs



Dr. Khalid Al-Ruwaihi, DERASAT, Bahrain with Shaikh Abdullah Al-Khalifa and Yuji Takagi, President, Sasakawa Peace Foundation



Prof. Toshiya Hoshino, Dean of the Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University with his daughter and Noriko Suzuki, Director, GRC Foundation Asia



GRM 2019 Workshop on Domestic Policy Making and Governance in Saudi Arabia



Workshop on the Relationship between the Gulf Countries and Latin America - The Role of Non-State Actors



GRC Chairman, Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, with participants in GRM 2017



Participants from the Fintech, Digital Currency and the Future of Islamic Finance workshop at GRM 2018



Eman Ragab, Al-Ahram Center, Egypt with Prof. Satoru Nakamura, Kobe University, Japan



Dr. Haya Al Hargan and Eng. Salma Bani - participants in the GRM 2018 workshop on the Gulf States in East Africa: Security, Economic and Strategic Partnerships



Daniel Stauffacher, Member of the GRC Foundation Council (2012-2018) and President of ICT4Peace in Geneva



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, Mrs. Cynthia Anthony and Dr. John Duke Anthony from the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations



Dr. Ashraf Mishrif from King's College London, Prof. Yasir Suleiman from Centre of Islamic Studies at University of Cambridge and Prof. Bahgat Korany from American University of Cairo and University of Montreal



GRM 2017 gala dinner in King's College



Dynamic discussions in the GRM 2018 workshop on the Post-Syrian-Crisis Political Architecture and the Roles of the USA, Russia and China as External Actors



Work in progress in GRM 2017 workshop on Transforming Business Education in the GCC



Lunch at Queens' College



Participants of the GRM 2018 workshop on Shaping the Future of the GCC Countries through Language Policy and Planning



Latifa Al-Khalifa from Bahrain, Degang Sun from Shanghai International Studies University and Dr. Ashraf Kishk of DERASAT



Participants in the GRM 2014 workshop on Enhancing the Learning Ecosystem in the GCC



Dr. Turki Al Rasheed from Golden Grass, Inc. at the Gulf Union Workshop dinner



Networking session at Corpus Christi College, University of Cambridge



Makio Yamada from Oxford University in the GRM 2015 workshop on The Gulf Cooperation Council and the BRICS



Work in progress in GRM 2017 workshop on Transforming Business Education in the GCC



GRM 2019 Participants at Dinner in King's College



**“The range of workshops in this  
arts, humanities and sciences,  
relevance**

**conference shows breadth across the  
and the conference gains strength and  
from this.”**

*Professor Dame Alison Richard*  
Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge

## 2010 GRM Workshop on Environmental Policies in the Gulf

### 2010 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

#### Workshop 1

##### **Natural Resources, Accountability and Democracy**

*Dr. Richard Youngs*, Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior (FRIDE)

*Prof. Gerd Nonneman*, University of Exeter



Dr. Richard Youngs

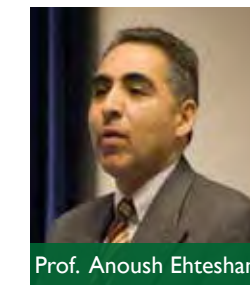


Prof. Gerd Nonneman

#### Workshop 2

##### **Formal and Informal Mechanisms of Political Participation**

*Prof. Anoush Ehteshami*, Durham University



Prof. Anoush Ehteshami

#### Workshop 3

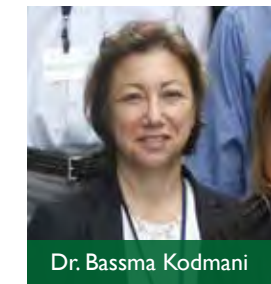
##### **The Role of the Private Sector in Promoting Economic and Political Reform**

*Prof. Giacomo Luciani*, Gulf Research Center Foundation

*Dr. Bassma Kodmani*, Arab Reform Initiative



Prof. Giacomo Luciani



Dr. Bassma Kodmani

#### Workshop 4

##### **The GCC Banking and Financial Sector**

*Dr. Eckart Woertz*, Gulf Research Center

*Dr. Hatem Al-Shanfari*, Sultan Qaboos University



Dr. Eckart Woertz



Dr. Hatem Al-Shanfari

Workshop 5  
**Population, Labor Markets and National Identity**

*Dr. Steffen Hertog*, Sciences-Po  
*Dr. Rola Dashti*, Kuwait Economic Society



Dr. Steffen Hertog



Dr. Rola Dashti

Workshop 6  
**The Impact of Migration on Gulf Development and Stability**

*Prof. Philippe Fargues*, European University Institute  
*Prof. Nasra Shah*, Kuwait University



Prof. Philippe Fargues



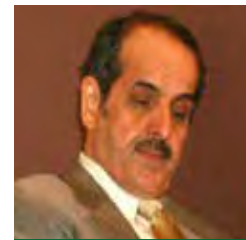
Prof. Nasra Shah

Workshop 7  
**Developing an Agenda for Security Studies in the Gulf**

*Dr. Mustafa Alani*, Gulf Research Center  
*Prof. Saleh Al-Mani*, King Saud University



Dr. Mustafa Alani



Prof. Saleh Al-Mani

Workshop 8  
**The Governance of Higher Education in the Gulf Cooperation Region**

*Prof. André Elias Mazawi*, University of British Columbia  
*Dr. Ronald G. Sultana*, University of Malta



Prof. André E. Mazawi



Dr. Ronald G. Sultana

Workshop 9  
**Environmental Policies in the Gulf Region**

*Dr. Mohammed A. Raouf*, Gulf Research Center  
*Prof. Walid K. Al-Zubari*, Arabian Gulf University



Dr. Mohammed A. Raouf



Prof. Walid K. Al-Zubari

Workshop 10  
**EU-GCC Relations**

*Dr. Geoffrey Edwards*, University of Cambridge  
*Dr. Abdullah Baabood*, Gulf Research Centre Cambridge



Dr. Geoffrey Edwards



Dr. Abdullah Baabood

Workshop 11  
**Gulf-China Relations**

*Prof. Tim Niblock*, University of Exeter  
*Dr. Mei Zhang*, Shanghai Institute for International Studies



Prof. Tim Niblock



Dr. Mei Zhang

Workshop 12  
**Islamic Politics in the Gulf**

*Dr. Stephane Lacroix*, Sciences-Po, Paris, supervises the Kuwait Program of Gulf Studies  
*Saud Al-Sarhan*, University of Exeter



Dr. Stephane Lacroix



Saud Al-Sarhan

## 2010 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Developing an Agenda for Security Studies Workshop



Islamic Politics in the Gulf Workshop participants



GCC Banking and Financial Sector Workshop



Governance in Higher Education in the Gulf Workshop Directors Prof. Andre Mazawi, University of British Columbia and Prof. Roland Sultana, University of Malta

## 2010 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



2010 EU-GCC Relations Workshop participants



Discussion in 'Natural Resources, Accountability and Democracy in the Gulf' Workshop



Workshop at The Moller Centre



EU-GCC Relations Workshop group



**2011 GRM Workshop on the Role of Business Women in the Economies and Societies of the Arab Region**

## 2011 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

### Workshop 1 Impact of Climate Change on the Gulf Region

*Dr. Mohammed Raouf*, Gulf Research Center  
*Dr. Kristian Coates Ulrichsen*, Research Fellow, London School of Economics and Political Sciences



Dr. Mohammed A. Raouf



Dr. Kristian C. Ulrichsen

### Workshop 2 The Transformation of Rentier States and the Provision of Public and Common Goods

*Dr. Tarik Yousef*, Dubai School of Government  
*Dr. Eberhard Kienle*, CNRS Paris / PACTE IEP de Grenoble, France



Dr. Tarik Yousef



Dr. Eberhard Kienle

### Workshop 3 Educational Reform, Public Policy, and the Students of the Gulf Region

*Prof. Dr. Kathryn Bindon*, Advisor, President - University of Bahrain  
*Dr. Jason E. Lane*, State University of New York, Albany



Prof. Kathryn Bindon



Dr. Jason E. Lane

### Workshop 4 WTO and Globalization: GCC Impact

*Prof. Tim Niblock*, University of Exeter  
*Prof. Mohamed Ramady*, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals



Prof. Tim Niblock



Prof. Mohamed Ramady

### Workshop 5

#### Modernization and Socio-Economic Changes in the Gulf Arabic Cities

*Dr. Belgacem Mokhtar*, Assistant Professor of Economic Geography and Planning, Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat

*Dr. Montasser I.M. Abdelghani*, Assistant Professor of Social and Urban Geography, Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat



Dr. Belgacem Mokhtar



Dr. Montasser Abdelghani

### Workshop 6

#### India and the Gulf: What Next?

*Amb. Ranjit Gupta (Retd.)*, Member of the National Security Advisory Board, India

*Prof. Abu Backer Bagader*, Professor of Sociology, King Abdul Aziz University



Amb. Ranjit Gupta



Prof. Abu Backer Bagader

### Workshop 7

#### Shaping the Gulf National Innovation Systems

*Dr. Kenneth Wilson*, Professor and Director, National Research Foundation, United Arab Emirates.

*Imen Jeridi Bachellerie*, MSC, Researcher, Science and Technology, Gulf Research Center

*Dr. Eoin O'Sullivan*, University of Cambridge



Dr. Kenneth Wilson



Imen Bachellerie



Dr. Eoin O'Sullivan

### Workshop 8

#### Healthcare Challenges in the Gulf Region

*Dr. Ahmed Alawi*, Director, Cambridge Consulting Alliance Ltd, Cambridge

*Shelley Gregory-Jones*, Development Director, PHG Foundation, Cambridge, UK



Dr. Ahmed Alawi



Shelley Gregory-Jones

### Workshop 9

#### Potential and Limits of Civil Society in the Gulf Region

*Prof. Paul Aarts*, Department of Political Science, University of Amsterdam

*Dr. Baqer Al-Najjar*, Department of Social Sciences, University of Bahrain



Prof. Paul Aarts



Dr. Baqer Al-Najjar

### Workshop 10

#### Media in the GCC

*Dr. Abeer Najjar*, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Mass Communication, AUS, Sharjah

*Dr. Khaled Hroub*, Director, Cambridge Arab Media Project, University of Cambridge



Dr. Abeer Najjar



Dr. Khaled Hroub

### Workshop 11

#### GCC-Iran Relations

*Prof. Saleh Al-Mani*, Professor and Dean of College of Law and Political Science, King Saud University, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

*Prof. Mahmood Sariolghalam*, Professor of International Relations, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran



Prof. Saleh Al-Mani



Prof. M. Sariolghalam

### Workshop 12

#### Migration in the Gulf

*Prof. Philippe Fargues*, European University Institute, Robert Schumann Centre for Advanced Studies

*Prof. Nasra Shah*, Faculty of Medicine, Kuwait University



Prof. Philippe Fargues



Prof. Nasra Shah

### Workshop 13

#### Human Resource Development in the Gulf Region

*Dr. Christopher J. Rees*, University of Manchester

*Nasser AlBadri*, Director, Recruitment and Omanisation

Department, Royal Court Affairs(RCA), Sultanate of Oman



Dr. Christopher J. Rees



Nasser AlBadri

### Workshop 14

#### The Role of Business Women in the Economies and Societies of the Arab Region

*Dr. Anja Zorob*, Assistant Professor, Otto Suhr Institute of

Political Science, Freie Universität Berlin

*Dr. Beverly Dawn Metcalfe*, University of Manchester, UK



Dr. Anja Zorob



Dr. Beverly D. Metcalfe

### Workshop 15

#### The EU and the GCC in the Mediterranean

*Dr. Tobias Schumacher*, Centre for Research and Studies in

Sociology, Lisbon University Institute

*Dr. Geoffrey Edwards*, Department of Politics and International

Studies, University of Cambridge



Dr. Tobias Schumacher



Dr. Geoffrey Edwards

### Workshop 16

#### Soft Power in the Gulf: The Politics of the Post-Rentier State

*Dr. Victor Gervais*, Associate Fellow, Kuwait Program,

Sciences Po Paris



Dr. Victor Gervais



## 2011 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Debating the Prospects for GCC-Iran Relations



Discussion in the India and the Gulf: What Next Workshop



Media in the GCC Workshop Group



Educational Reform, Public Policy and the Students of the Gulf Region Workshop Group

## 2011 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Media Workshop Discussion



Potentials and Limits of Civil Society in the Gulf Region Workshop



Shaping the Gulf National Innovation Systems Workshop Group



Roundtable Discussion at the EU and the GCC in the Mediterranean Workshop



## 2012 GRM Workshop on the Impact of the Arab Spring on the GCC

### 2012 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

#### Workshop 1

##### **The Arab Spring: Impacts and Consequences on the GCC**

*Dr. May Seikaly*, Wayne State University, Detroit, USA

*Dr. Khawla M. Mattar*, Director, UN Information Center, Cairo, Egypt



Dr. May Seikaly



Dr. Khawla M. Mattar

#### Workshop 2

##### **Asia and the Gulf: Comparative Analysis of the Roles of Asian Countries**

*Prof. Tim Niblock*, University of Exeter

*Dr. Monica Malik*, EFG Hermes, Dubai, United Arab Emirates



Prof. Tim Niblock



Dr. Monica Malik

#### Workshop 3

##### **Gulf Charities in the 'Age of Terror' and the 'Arab Awakening'**

*Robert Lacey*, Author of 'Inside the Kingdom', London, UK

*Jonathan Benthall*, Honorary Research Fellow, London, UK



Robert Lacey



Jonathan Benthall

#### Workshop 4

##### **Socio-Economic Impacts of GCC Migration**

*Prof. Philippe Fargues*, European University Institute, Florence, Italy

*Prof. Nasra Shah*, Faculty of Medicine, Kuwait University



Prof. Philippe Fargues



Prof. Nasra Shah

### Workshop 5

#### **A Growing Gulf: Public and Private Sector Initiatives and the Realities of Youth Employment Outcomes**

*Dr. Tarik Yousef*, CEO, Silatech, Qatar

*Dr. Nader Kabbani*, Director of Research, Silatech, Qatar



### Workshop 6

#### **International Tourism Development in the GCC Countries: Opportunities and Challenges**

*Dr. Ala Al Harmaneh*, Institute of Geography, University of Mainz, Germany

*Dr. Marcus Stephenson*, Associate Professor of Tourism Management, Middlesex University, Dubai



### Workshop 7

#### **The Impact of Globalization on Women in the GCC**

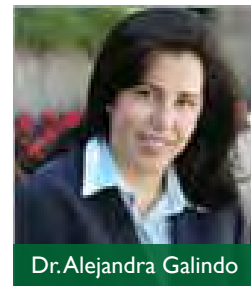
*Dr. May Dabbagh*, Dubai School of Government, Dubai, UAE



### Workshop 8

#### **An Assessment of Opportunities and Possibilities: The Gulf and Latin America**

*Dr. Alejandra Galindo*, University of Monterrey, Mexico



### Workshop 9

#### **Visual Culture in the GCC**

*Dr. Nadia Mounajjed*, College of Art and Design, Sharjah

*Sharmeen Syed*, Art Foundation, Sharjah



### Workshop 10

#### **The Impact of Large-Scale Datasets on Evidence-Based Educational Policymaking and Reform in the Gulf States**

*Dr. Naif Alromi*, Ministry of Education, Saudi Arabia

*Dr. Alexander Wiseman*, Lehigh University, USA

*Dr. Saleh A. Alshumrani*, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia



### Workshop 11

#### **Environmental Cost and Changing Face of Agriculture in the Gulf States**

*Dr. Shabbir A. Shahid*, Centre for Biosaline Agriculture, Dubai, UAE

*Dr. Mushtaque Ahmed*, Center for Environmental Studies and Research, Oman



### Workshop 12

#### **Gulf Energy Challenges**

*Dr. Naji Abi Aad*, Senior Advisor to the CEO, Qatar Petroleum

*Dr. Mostefa Ouki*, Vice President, Nexant Limited, UK



### Workshop 13

#### Housing Markets and Policy Design in the Gulf Region

*Gus Freeman*, Ernst & Young, UAE

*Prof. Peter Williams*, Housing and Planning Research, UK

*David Smith*, Chief Operating Officer, Affordable Housing Institute  
Boston, MA, United States



Gus Freeman



Prof. Peter Williams



David Smith

### Workshop 14

#### Structure, Conduct and Performance: The Case of GCC Banks

*Dr. Lamia Obay*, Abu Dhabi University

*Dr. Anis Samet*, American University of Sharjah



Dr. Lamia Obay



Dr. Anis Samet

### Workshop 15

#### State-Society Relations in the Arab Gulf Region

*Dr. Mazhar Al Zo'by*, Qatar University

*Dr. Birol Baskan*, Georgetown University, School of Foreign  
Service, Qatar



Dr. Mazhar Al Zo'by



Dr. Birol Baskan

### Workshop 16

#### The Political Economy of Clean Energy Solutions in the GCC

*Dr. Rabia Ferrouki*, Senior Program Officer, IRENA, UAE

*Prof. Giacomo Luciani*, Senior Consultant, GRCE, Switzerland

*Dr. Manfred Hafner*, FEEM, Italy



Dr. Rabia Ferrouki



Prof. Giacomo Luciani



Dr. Manfred Hafner

### Workshop 17

#### Healthcare Policies in the GCC: Challenges and Future Directions

*Dr. Ahmed Alawi*, Gulf Investment and Marketing Group, UK

*Dr. Mohammed Alkhazim*, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University,  
Saudi Arabia



Dr. Ahmed Alawi



Dr. Moh. Alkhazim

### Workshop 18

#### Islamic Finance in the GCC

*Dr. Mehmet Asutay*, Durham University, UK

*Dr. Abdullah Turkistani*, King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia



Dr. Mehmet Asutay



Dr. Abdullah Turkistani

### Workshop 19

#### The Gulf-India Strategic Partnership in a Pan-Asian Cooperative Paradigm

*Prof. Abu Backer Bagader*, King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia

*Amb. Ranjit Gupta*, (Fmr. Member) National Security Advisory  
Board, India



Prof. Abu Backer Bagader



Amb. Ranjit Gupta

## 2012 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Questions and answers session at GRM 2012 Opening



2012 GRM Opening Reception



Participants in the Arab Spring Workshop



The Impact of Globalization on Women in the GCC Workshop

## 2012 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Participants prior to the 2012 GRM Opening



Asia and the Gulf Workshop Participants



Islamic Finance in the GCC Workshop



Workshop Group: The India-Gulf Strategic Partnership  
in a Pan-Asian Cooperative Paradigm



## 2013 GRM Workshop on the GCC States - Turkey Relations - Opportunities and Challenges

### 2013 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

#### Workshop 1

##### **The GCC States-Turkey Relations: Opportunities and Challenges**

*Dr. Özden Zeynep Oktav, Yıldız Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey*

*Dr. Birol Baskan, Georgetown University Qatar, Doha, Qatar*



Dr. Özden Z. Oktav



Dr. Birol Baskan

#### Workshop 2

##### **The Relationship between the Gulf Countries and Latin America: The Role of Non-State Actors**

*Dr. Alejandra Galindo Marines, University of Monterrey, Mexico*



Dr. Alejandra Galindo

#### Workshop 3

##### **The Gulf and Asia Political Relations and Strategic Options in a Developing Scenario**

*Prof. Tim Niblock, Emeritus Professor, University of Exeter, UK*

*Prof. Yang Guang, Institute for West Asian and African Studies, Beijing, China*

*Dr. Marc Valeri, University of Exeter, United Kingdom*



Prof. Tim Niblock



Prof. Yang Guang



Dr. Marc Valeri

#### Workshop 4

##### **Saudi Arabia and the Arab Uprisings: National, Regional, and Global Responses**

*Prof. Paul Aarts, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands*

*Dr. Saud M. Al Tamamy, King Saud University, Riyadh, KSA*



Prof. Paul Aarts



Dr. Saud M. Al Tamamy

## Workshop 5

### The Rentier State at 25: Dismissed, Revised, Upheld?

*Dr. Steffen Hertog, The London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom*

*Prof. Giacomo Luciani, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland*



Dr. Steffen Hertog



Prof. Giacomo Luciani

## Workshop 6

### Gulf Cities as Interfaces

*Prof. George Katodrytis, RIBA, College of Architecture, Art and Design, American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates*

*Sharmeen Syed, Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates*



Prof. George Katodrytis



Sharmeen Syed

## Workshop 7

### Sustainable Development Challenges in the GCC

*Dr. David Bryde, Research Institute, Liverpool John Moores University, United Kingdom*

*Dr. Yusra Mouzughi, Liverpool John Moores University, United Kingdom*

*Dr. Turki Al Rasheed, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*



Dr. David Bryde



Dr. Yusra Mouzughi



Dr. Turki Al Rasheed

## Workshop 8

### Educational Challenges in the GCC in the 21st Century

*Dr. Khadijah Bawazeer, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, KSA*

*Dr. Tariq Elyas, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, KSA*

*Dr. Ahmar Mahboob, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia*



Dr. Khadijah Bawazeer



Dr. Tariq Elyas



Dr. Ahmar Mahboob

## Workshop 9

### GCC Relations with Post-War Iraq: A Strategic Perspective

*Dr. Omar Al-Ubaydli, DERASAT, Manama, Bahrain*

*Dr. Bashir Zain AlAbdin, DERASAT, Manama, Bahrain*



Dr. Omar Al-Ubaydli



Dr. Bashir Zain AlAbdin

## Workshop 10

### Boundaries and Territory in the Gulf Region

*Richard Schofield, Senior Lecturer, Department of Geography, King's College London, United Kingdom*



Richard Schofield

## Workshop 11

### Challenges Facing the GCC Oil & Gas Industry

*Dr. Naji Abi-Aad, COO of PetroLeb, Beirut, Lebanon*

*Dr. Christian Panzer, Senior Researcher, Department of the Energy Economics Group, Vienna University of Technology, Austria*



Dr. Naji Abi-Aad



Dr. Christian Panzer

## 2013 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



2013 GRM Workshop Directors



Opening Ceremony 2013 Gulf Research Meeting

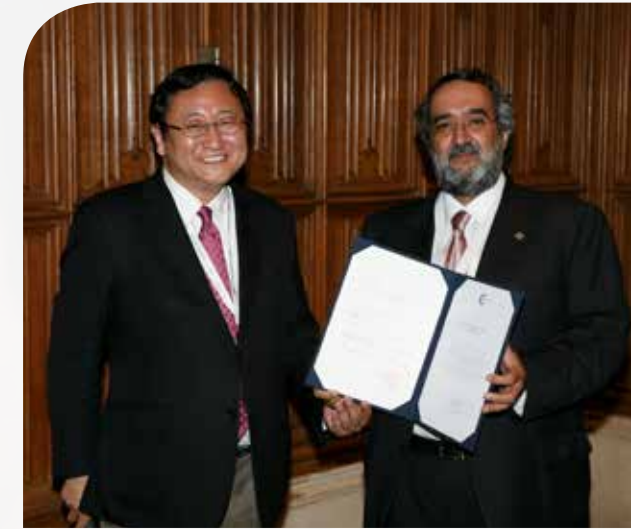


Workshop on Boundaries and Territory in the Gulf Region



Workshop on Educational Challenges in the GCC in the 21st Century

## 2013 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager receiving an honorary Professorship from Prof. Toshiya Hoshino, Dean of the Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University, Japan



Audience at the 2013 GRM Opening Ceremony



2013 GRM Opening Reception



Asking a question in the Opening Panel at the 2013 GRM



## 2014 GRM Workshop on "Iran and the GCC, Prospects for Change?"

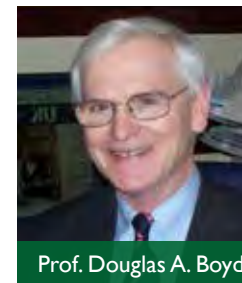
### 2014 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

#### Workshop 1

##### **Social Media and the Changing Context of Politics in the Gulf**

*Prof. Douglas A. Boyd, Professor, University of Kentucky, USA*

*Dr. Yousef Al-Failakawi, Head, US Culture Relationships Department,  
Kuwait University, Kuwait*



Prof. Douglas A. Boyd



Dr. Yousef Al-Failakawi

#### Workshop 2

##### **The United States and the Gulf: Towards a Reassessment of Gulf Commitments and Alignments?**

*Prof. Tim Niblock, University of Exeter, United Kingdom*

*Dr. Abdullah Baabood, University of Qatar, Qatar*

*Prof. Steven W. Hook, Kent State University, United States of America*



Prof. Tim Niblock



Dr. Abdullah Baabood



Prof. Steven W. Hook

#### Workshop 3

##### **Representing the Nation – the Use of Heritage and Museums to Create National Narratives and Identity in the GCC**

*Dr. Pamela Erskine-Loftus, Northwestern University in Qatar*

*Dr. Mariam Ibrahim Al-Mulla, University of Qatar*

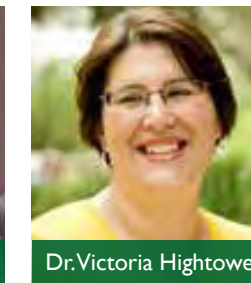
*Dr. Victoria Hightower, Assistant Professor, University of North Georgia, USA*



Dr. Pamela Loftus



Dr. Mariam Al-Mulla



Dr. Victoria Hightower

#### Workshop 4

##### **The Future of Yemen**

*Dr. Noel Brehony, SOAS, United Kingdom*

*Dr. Saud Al Sarhan, Head of Research, KFCRIS, KSA*



Dr. Noel Brehony



Dr. Saud Al Sarhan

## Workshop 5

### Employed, yet Underemployed and Underestimated: Leadership, Ownership and Work Motivation in the Gulf

*Prof. Mohamed A. Ramady, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Dhahran, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*

*Dr. Annika Kropf, University Erlangen-Nuernberg, Germany*



Dr. Mohamed Ramady



Dr. Annika Kropf

## Workshop 6

### Green Economy in the Gulf Region

*Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf Abdelhamid Aly, Research Fellow, Environmental Research Program, Gulf Research Center, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*

*Dr. Mari Luomi, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, United Kingdom*



Dr. Moh. Abdelraouf



Dr. Mari Luomi

## Workshop 7

### Enhancing the Learning Ecosystem in the GCC: Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC)

*Dr. Asma Siddiki, Alpha I Education, LLC, Dubai, United Arab Emirates*

*Dr. Rania Ibrahim, Dean of Student Affairs, Effat University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*



Dr. Asma Siddiki



Dr. Rania Ibrahim

## Workshop 8

### The GCC States' Foreign and Security Policies after the Arab Spring

*Dr. Jean-Marc Rickli, Khalifa University, UAE*

*Dr. Khalid Almezaini, Qatar University and LSE, Qatar / UK*



Dr. Jean-Marc Rickli



Dr. Khalid Almezaini

## Workshop 9

### Science & Technology Education, Research and Innovation in GCC Countries (Supported by Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences)

*Dr. Afreen Siddiqi, Harvard University, United States of America*

*Dr. Laura D. Anadon, Harvard University, United States of America*



Dr. Afreen Siddiqi



Dr. Laura D. Anadon

## Workshop 10

### Determinants of Future Migration in the Gulf

*Prof. Philippe Fargues, Director - MPC, European University Institute, Italy*

*Prof. Nasra M. Shah, Professor, Department of Community Medicine and Behavioral Sciences, Kuwait University, Kuwait*



Prof. Philippe Fargues

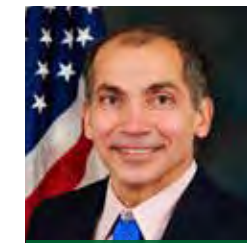


Prof. Nasra M. Shah

## Workshop 11

### The Changing Energy Landscape in the Gulf: Strategic Implications

*Dr. Gawdat Bahgat, Professor, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University, Washington DC, United States of America*



Dr. Gawdat Bahgat

## Workshop 12

### Iran and the GCC: Prospects for Change?

*Dr. Paul Aarts, Department of Political Science, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands*

*Dr. Luciano Zaccara, Georgetown University in Qatar / Qatar University*



Dr. Paul Aarts



Dr. Luciano Zaccara

### Workshop 13

#### Doctoral Symposium: Addressing the Sustainability Agenda in the Gulf Region

*Dr. Yusra Mouzugh, Liverpool John Moores University, United Kingdom*

*Prof. David Bryde, Liverpool John Moores University, United Kingdom*

*Dr. Turki Al Rasheed, Golden Grass Inc., Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*



Dr. Yusra Mouzugh



Prof. David Bryde



Dr. Turki Al Rasheed

### Workshop 14

#### Gulf-Africa Relations: Past and Present Trends (Supported by Georgetown University SFS-Q)

*Dr. Rogaia Abusharaf, Associate Professor, Georgetown University, Qatar*

*Prof. Dale F. Eickelman, Professor, Dartmouth College, USA*



Prof. Rogaia Abusharaf



Prof. Dale F. Eickelman



Participants at the GRM 2014 closing dinner



GRM 2014 Lunch at King's College

## 2014 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Participants of the Gulf-Africa Relations workshop at the 2014 GRM



Participants discussing issues at the 2014 GRM workshop dedicated to the GCC States' Foreign and Security Policies after the Arab Spring



Discussions during the workshop on Future Migration in the Gulf at the 2014 GRM



2014 GRM Opening Ceremony



2015 GRM Workshop on “The Gulf Cooperation Council and the BRICS”

## 2015 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

### Workshop 1

#### **Egypt and the GCC: Renewing an Alliance amidst Shifting Policy Pressures**

*Christian Henderson, School of Oriental and African Studies, UK  
Dr. Robert Mason, British University in Egypt, Egypt*



Christian Henderson



Dr. Robert Mason

### Workshop 2

#### **Building an Institutional Process of Socio-Politics in the Gulf**

*Dr. Mark Thompson, King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Dr. Neil Quilliam, Senior Consulting Fellow, Chatham House, UK*



Dr. Mark Thompson



Dr. Neil Quilliam

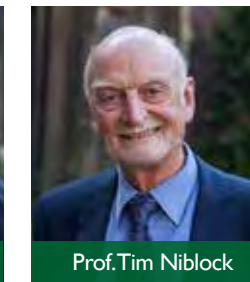
### Workshop 3

#### **The Gulf Cooperation Council and the BRICS**

*Prof. Degang Sun, Shanghai International Studies University, China  
Prof. Tim Niblock, University of Exeter, United Kingdom*



Prof. Degang Sun



Prof. Tim Niblock

### Workshop 4

#### **The Role of Legislation, Policies and Practices in Irregular Migration to the Gulf – With Support from Qatar University**

*Prof. Nasra M. Shah, Professor, Kuwait University, Kuwait  
Prof. Philippe Fargues, Director - MPC, European University Institute, Italy*



Prof. Nasra M. Shah



Prof. Philippe Fargues

## Workshop 5

### Intellectual Property in the New Era in the GCC States: Enforcement and Opportunity

*Alhanoof Al Debasi, Lecturer, Princess Nourah University, KSA*

*Prof. David Price, Associate Professor, Charles Darwin University, Australia*



Alhanoof Al Debasi



Prof. David Price

## Workshop 6

### Transnational Knowledge Relations and Researcher Mobility for Building Knowledge-Based Societies and Economies in the Gulf

*Dr. Jean-Marc Rickli, Assistant Professor, King's College London, Qatar*

*Dr. Rasmus Bertelsen, Professor, University of Tromsø, Norway*

*Dr. Neema Noori, Associate Professor, University of West Georgia, USA*



Dr. Jean-Marc Rickli



Dr. Rasmus Bertelsen



Dr. Neema Noori

## Workshop 7

### Higher Education in the GCC: Linkages and Independence

*Prof. Rogaia Abusharaf, Associate Professor, Georgetown University, Qatar*

*Prof. Dale F. Eickelman, Professor, Dartmouth College, USA*



Prof. Rogaia Abusharaf



Prof. Dale F. Eickelman

## Workshop 8

### The Arms Trade, Military Services and the Security Market in the Gulf: Trends and Implications

*Prof. David B. Des Roches, National Defense University, USA*

*Dania Thafer, American University in Washington DC, USA*



Prof. David Des Roches



Dania Thafer

## Workshop 9

### Economic Diversification: Challenges and Opportunities in the GCC

*Dr. Ashraf Mishrif, King's College London, United Kingdom*

*Yousuf Hamad Al Balushi, Supreme Council for Planning, Oman*



Dr. Ashraf Mishrif



Yousuf Al Balushi

## Workshop 10

### The Future of Yemen's Unity

*Dr. Ahmed A. Saif, Sheba Center for Strategic Studies, Yemen*

*Dr. Isa Blumi, Associate Professor, Georgia State University, United States of America*



Dr. Ahmed A. Saif



Dr. Isa Blumi

## Workshop 11

### Iran-GCC Energy Cooperation

*Prof. Gawdat Bahgat, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies,  
National Defense University, United States of America*



Prof. Gawdat Bahgat

## 2015 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Participants in the Workshop "Higher Education in the GCC: Linkages and Independence"



Work in progress in the workshop "Egypt and the GCC: Renewing an Alliance amidst Shifting Policy Pressures"



Participants in the workshop "The Arms Trade, Military Services and the Security Market in the Gulf: Trends and Implications"



Workshop directors for GRM 2015

## 2015 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Work in progress in the workshop "The Gulf Cooperation Council and the BRICS"



Work in progress in the workshop "Building an Institutional Process of Socio-Politics in the Gulf"



Participants in the workshop "Egypt and the GCC: Renewing an Alliance amidst Shifting Policy Pressures"



Books based on previous GRM workshops published by Gerlach Press and GRC Cambridge



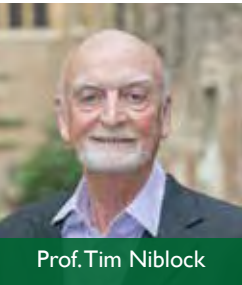
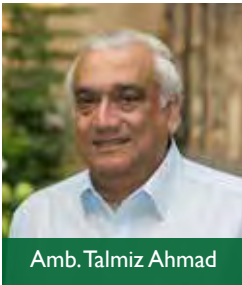
2016 GRM Workshop on “New Security Dynamics in the Gulf and the Transformation of the GCC States’ Security Agenda”

2016 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

Workshop 1  
Challenges Facing GCC Oil and Gas Exports  
Dr Naji Abi Aad, Petroleb, Lebanon  
Dr. Christian Panzer, CPE ThinkTank, Austria



Workshop 2  
Collective Security in the Gulf: Prospects for Pan-Gulf Cooperation  
Prof. Degang Sun, Middle East Studies Institute Shanghai, International Studies University, China  
Amb. Talmiz Ahmad, Indian Foreign Service  
Prof. Tim Niblock, University of Exeter, United Kingdom



Workshop 3  
Nuclear Energy for the Gulf: Key Questions and Opportunities  
Dr. Ali Ahmad, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, United States of America  
Prof. Nesreen Ghaddar, Qatar Chair in Energy Studies / Masri Institute of Energy and Natural Resources, American University of Beirut, Lebanon



Workshop 4  
Towards a Sustainable Lifestyle in the Gulf  
Dr. Elie Azar, Engineering Systems and Management, Masdar Institute, United Arab Emirates  
Dr. Mohamed Abdel Raouf, Environment Research Program, Gulf Research Center, Saudi Arabia / Egypt



## Workshop 5

### Yemen and the GCC: Future Relations

*Prof. Daniel Martin Varisco, American Institute for Yemeni Studies / Center for Humanities and Social Sciences / Member of Gulf Studies Program, Qatar University*

*Dr. Helen Lackner, British-Yemeni Society, Durham University, United Kingdom*



Prof. Daniel Martin Varisco



Dr. Helen Lackner

## Workshop 6

### Arab Gulf Cities in Transition: Space, Politics and Society

*Dr. Veronika Deffner, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore*  
*Dipl. Arch. Aurel von Richthofen, The Future Cities Laboratory, Singapore-ETH Centre*

*Zahra Babar, Research Center for International and Regional Studies, Georgetown University – Qatar*



Dr. Veronika Deffner



Dipl. Arch. Aurel von Richthofen



Zahra Babar

## Workshop 7

### Exploring the Dynamism of Islamic Finance in the GCC Region

*Prof. Mehmet Asutay, Durham Centre in Islamic Economics and Finance, Durham University Business School, Durham University, United Kingdom*

*Dr. Shehab Marzban, Hamad bin Khalifa University, Qatar*



Prof. Mehmet Asutay



Dr. Shehab Marzban

## Workshop 8

### The Future of GCC Labour Market Reform: Towards a Multi-Disciplinary, Sustainable, Evidence-Based and Practical Understanding

*David Jones, The Talent Enterprise, United Arab Emirates*

*Dr. Sofiane Sahraoui, Arab Governance Institute / Institute of Public Administration of Bahrain, Bahrain*



David Jones



Dr. Sofiane Sahraoui

## Workshop 9

### New Security Dynamics in the Gulf and the Transformation of the GCC States' Security Agenda

*Dr. Jean Marc Rickli, Dept. of Defence Studies, King's College London / Joaan Bin Jassim Joint Command and Staff College, United Kingdom / Qatar*

*Dr. Victor Gervais, Emirates Diplomatic Academy, United Arab Emirates*



Dr. Jean Marc Rickli



Dr. Victor Gervais

## Workshop 10

### Foreign Relations of the GCC Countries amid Shifting Global and Regional Dynamics

*Dr. Silvia Colombo, Mediterranean and Middle East Programme, International Affairs Institute, Italy*

*Dr. Eman Ragab, Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Egypt*



Dr. Silvia Colombo



Dr. Eman Ragab

## Workshop 11

### The Economics of Migration to the Gulf: Perspectives from Countries of Origin and Destination

*Dr. Ganesh Seshan, Georgetown University, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service in Qatar, Qatar*

*Dr. Usamah Alfarhan, Sultan Qaboos University, College of Economics and Finance, Oman*



Dr. Ganesh Seshan



Dr. Usamah Alfarhan

# 2016 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Workshop directors for GRM 2016



Participants in workshop on The Economics of Migration to the Gulf. Perspectives from Countries of Origin and Destination



Participants in the workshop on Yemen and the GCC



Participants in the workshop on Challenges Facing GCC Oil and Gas Exports

# 2016 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Participants in the workshop on Foreign Relations of the GCC Countries amid Shifting Global and Regional Dynamics



Participants in the workshop on Arab Gulf Cities in Transition



Participants in the workshop on Towards a Sustainable Lifestyle in the Gulf



Participants in the workshop on Collective Security in the Gulf



2017 GRM Workshop on “The GCC and the Indian Ocean:  
Economic Opportunities and Political Challenges”

## 2017 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

### Workshop 1

#### Smart Cities in the Gulf: Current State, Opportunities, and Challenges

Dr. Elie Azar, Masdar Institute, United Arab Emirates

Dr. Wael Abdel Samad, Rochester Institute of Technology, United Arab Emirates



Dr. Elie Azar



Dr. Wael Abdel Samad

### Workshop 2

#### Public-private Partnerships for Infrastructure Delivery in the GCC: Challenges and the Opportunities

Mhamed Biygautane, Monash University, Australia

Dr. Khalid Al-Yahya, King Salman Center for Governance and Innovation / Palladium, Saudi Arabia

Dr. Amer Al Adhadh, Ministry of Economy and Trade / Georgetown University, Qatar/ United States of America



Dr. Amer Al Adhadh



Mhamed Biygautane



Dr. Khalid Al-Yahya

### Workshop 3

#### Brexit and GCC

Dr. Abdullah Baabood, Qatar University, Qatar

Dr. Geoffrey Edwards, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom



Dr. Abdullah Baabood



Dr. Geoffrey Edwards

### Workshop 4

#### The GCC and the Indian Ocean: Economic Opportunities and Political Challenges

Prof. Tim Niblock, University of Exeter, United Kingdom

Amb. Talmiz Ahmad, Former Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Oman and the UAE, Indian Foreign Service

Prof. Degang Sun, Shanghai International Studies University, China



Amb. Talmiz Ahmad



Prof. Degang Sun



Prof. Tim Niblock

## Workshop 5

### Electoral Frameworks, Party Systems and Electoral

#### Outcomes: Comparing Elections in the Gulf

*Dr. Luciano Zaccara, Qatar University, Qatar*

*Dr. Kristin Smith Diwan, Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington, United States of America*



Dr. Kristin Smith Diwan



Dr. Luciano Zaccara

## Workshop 6

### Transforming Business Education in the GCC. Transitioning from Theoretical to Applied, and Applied to Impactful

*Dr. Asma Siddiki, Prince Mohammed Bin Salman College of Business & Entrepreneurship, Saudi Arabia*



Dr. Asma Siddiki

## Workshop 7

### Gender and Identity in the Gulf: Cultural Constructions and Representations

*Dr. Sabrina DeTurk, Zayed University, United Arab Emirates*

*Dr. Sarina Wakefield, Zayed University, United Arab Emirates*

*Prof. Dr. Laila Prager, NYU Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates*



Dr. Sabrina DeTurk



Dr. Sarina Wakefield



Prof. Dr. Laila Prager

## Workshop 8

### The Arab Gulf in the West: Perceptions and Realities; Opportunities and Perils

*Dr. Marwa Maziad, University of Washington, United States of America*

*Dr. Dania Kolehlat Khatib, Al Istishari Al Strategy for Economic and Future Studies, United Arab Emirates*



Dr. Dania Kolehlat Khatib



Dr. Marwa Maziad

## Workshop 9

### Migration Policies in the Gulf: Continuity and Change

*Prof. Nasra M. Shah, Kuwait University, Kuwait*

*Prof. Philippe Fargues, European University Institute, Italy*



Prof. Nasra M. Shah



Prof. Philippe Fargues

## 2017 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Workshop directors for GRM 2017



Participants in the workshop on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Delivery in the GCC



Participants in the workshop on Migration Policies in the Gulf



Participants in the workshop on Gender and Identity in the Gulf

## 2017 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Group picture in the workshop on The Arab Gulf in the West



Participants in the workshop on Brexit and the GCC



Participants in the workshop on The GCC and the Indian Ocean



Workshop directors and participants in the workshop on Smart Cities in the Gulf



## 2018 GRM Workshop on “Iraq and Arab Gulf Countries: Rapprochement?”

### 2018 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

#### Workshop 1

##### Gulf Cooperation Council Culture and Identities in the New Millennium: Resilience, Transformation, (Re)Creation, and Diffusion

Dr. Magdalena Karolak, Associate Professor, Zayed University, UAE

Dr. Nermin Allam, Assistant Professor, Department of Politics, Rutgers-Newark University, United States of America



Dr. Magdalena Karolak



Dr. Nermin Allam

#### Workshop 2

##### The Gulf and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

Prof. Tim Niblock, University of Exeter, United Kingdom

Prof. Degang Sun, Shanghai International Studies University, China

Amb. Talmiz Ahmad, Symbiosis International University, Pune, India



Prof. Tim Niblock



Prof. Degang Sun



Amb. Talmiz Ahmad

#### Workshop 3

##### The Gulf States in East Africa: Security, Economic and Strategic Partnerships?

Dr. Robert Mason, Associate Professor and Director, Middle East Studies Center, American University in Cairo, Egypt

Dr. Simon Mabon, Lecturer in Politics, Philosophy and Religion / Director, Richardson Institute / Lancaster University, United Kingdom



Dr. Robert Mason



Dr. Simon Mabon

#### Workshop 4

##### The Rise of International Sport on the Arab Peninsula: Politics, Art, Ethics

Dr. Rita Elizabeth Risser, Assistant Professor, College of Humanities, Department of Philosophy, United Arab Emirates University, United Arab Emirates

Dr. Andrew Edgar, Deputy Head of School, Head of Subject English, Communication and Philosophy, Cardiff University, United Kingdom



Dr. Rita Elizabeth Risser



Dr. Andrew Edgar

## Workshop 5

### **Iraq and Arab Gulf Countries: Rapprochement?**

*Dr. Sterling Jensen, Assistant Professor, UAE National Defense College, United Arab Emirates*

*Dr. Waleed al-Rawi, Author and member, Arab Historians Union, United States of America*



Dr. Sterling Jensen



Dr. Waleed al-Rawi

## Workshop 6

### **The Future of Population and Migration in the Gulf**

*Prof. Philippe Fargues, Professor, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute, Italy*

*Prof. Nasra M. Shah, Professor, Department of Community Medicine and Behavioral Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Kuwait University, Kuwait*



Prof. Philippe Fargues



Prof. Nasra M. Shah

## Workshop 7

### **Shaping the Future of the GCC Countries through Language Policy and Planning: Concepts, Challenges and Aspirations**

*Dr. Ahmar Mahboob, University of Sydney, Australia*

*Dr. Ali Al-Issa, Sultan Qaboos University, Sultanate of Oman*

*Dr. Tariq Elyas, King Abdulaziz University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*



Dr. Ahmar Mahboob



Dr. Ali Al-Issa



Dr. Tariq Elyas

## Workshop 8

### **Fintech, Digital Currency and the Future of Islamic Finance in the GCC- Strategy, Operational and Regulatory Issues**

*Dr. Nafis Alam, Associate Professor, Henley Business School, University of Reading Malaysia, Malaysia*

*Prof. S. Nazim Ali, Director and Professor, Center for Islamic Economics & Finance, College of Islamic Studies, Hamad bin Khalifa University, Qatar Foundation, Qatar*



Dr. Nafis Alam



Prof. S. Nazim Ali

## Workshop 9

### **The Gulf Post-Syrian-Crisis Political Architecture and the Roles of the External Actors: the USA, Russia and China**

*Prof. Alexey Vasiliev, Honorary President, Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia*

*Dr. Dania Koleilat Khatib, Executive Director, Al Istishari AI Strategy Center for Economic and Future Studies, United Arab Emirates*



Prof. Alexey Vasiliev



Dr. Dania Koleilat Khatib

## Workshop 10

### **A Debate on Economic Sustainability: in the GCC and Elsewhere**

*Prof. Giacomo Luciani, Adjunct Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland*  
*Tom Moerenhout, PhD candidate, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland*



Prof. Giacomo Luciani



Tom Moerenhout

# 2018 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



GRM 2018 workshop co-directors



Participants in the workshop on GCC Culture and Identities



A presentation in the workshop on the Future of Islamic Finance in the GCC



Participants in the workshop on the Future of Population and Migration in the Gulf

# 2018 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Participants in the workshop on the Gulf States in East Africa



Participants in the workshop on the Rise of International Sport on the Arab Peninsula



Group of participants in the workshop on the Gulf and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation



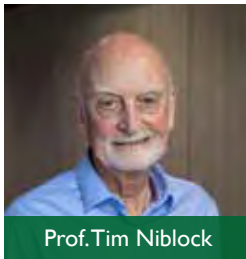
Participants in the workshop on Economic Sustainability



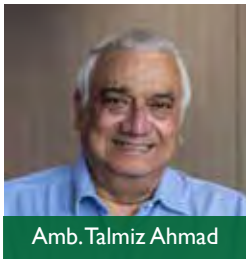
2019 GRM Workshop on “Re-engaging with the Gulf  
Modernist City: Heritage and Repurposing Practices”

2019 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

Workshop 1  
**A Peace Process for the Gulf: International Initiatives and Gulf Conflict Resolution**  
*Prof. Tim Niblock, University of Exeter, United Kingdom*  
*Prof. Degang Sun, Shanghai International Studies University, China*  
*Amb. Talmiz Ahmad, Former Indian Ambassador to KSA, Oman and UAE*



Prof. Tim Niblock



Amb. Talmiz Ahmad



Prof. Degang Sun

Workshop 2  
**Artificial Intelligence in the Gulf: Prospects and Challenges**  
*Dr. Elie Azar, Masdar Institute, United Arab Emirates*  
*Anthony N. Haddad, Middle East Expansions, United Arab Emirates*



Dr. Elie Azar



Anthony N. Haddad

Workshop 3  
**Business-State Relations in the Gulf**  
*Dr. Don Babai, Harvard University, USA*  
*Dr. Manal Shehabi, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, United Kingdom*



Dr. Don Babai



Dr. Manal Shehabi

Workshop 4  
**Domestic Policy Making and Governance in Saudi Arabia**  
*Dr. Mark Thompson, KFUPM & KFCRIS, KSA*  
*Dr. Neil Quilliam, Chatham House, United Kingdom*



Dr. Neil Quilliam



Dr. Mark Thompson

## Workshop 5

### Emerging Challenges in International Relations and Transnational Politics of the GCC

*Dr. Jessie Moritz, Australian National University, Australia*

*Dr. Emma Soubrier, Université Clermont Auvergne, France*



Dr. Jessie Moritz



Dr. Emma Soubrier

## Workshop 6

### Family Changes in the Context of Social Changes in the Gulf Region

*Dr. Anis Ben Brik, Doha International Family Institute, Qatar*

*Dr. Jennifer E. Lansford, Duke University, USA*

*Dr. Abdallah M. Badahdah, South Dakota State University, USA*



Dr. Anis Ben Brik



Dr. Jennifer E. Lansford



Dr. Abdallah M. Badahdah

## Workshop 7

### Post-Brexit Britain, Europe and Policy towards Iran and the GCC states: Potential Challenges, and the Possibility of Cooperation

*Diana Galeeva, University of Durham, UK*

*Dr. Abdullah Baabood, Qatar University, Qatar*

*Dr. Geoffrey Edwards, University of Cambridge, UK*



Diana Galeeva



Dr. Abdullah Baabood



Dr. Geoffrey Edwards

## Workshop 8

### Quality of Higher Education in the Gulf: Quo Vadis?

*Dr. John McAlaney, Bournemouth University, UK*

*Dr. Reynaldo Gacho Segumpan, Rustaq College of Education, Oman*



Dr. John McAlaney



Dr. Reynaldo Gacho Segumpan

## Workshop 9

### Quotidian Youth Cultures in the Gulf Peninsula: Changes and Challenges

*Dr. Emanuela Buscemi, University of Monterrey, Mexico*

*Dr. Ildiko Kaposi, Gulf University for Science & Technology, Kuwait*



Dr. Emanuela Buscemi



Dr. Ildiko Kaposi

## Workshop 10

### Re-engaging with the Gulf Modernist City: Heritage and Repurposing Practices

*Prof. Roberto Fabbri, University of Monterrey, Mexico*

*Sultan Sooud al Qassemi, Barjeel Art Foundation, UAE*



Prof. Roberto Fabbri



Sultan Sooud al Qassemi

## Workshop 11

### The Consequences of the Kurdistan Independence Referendum: Relations between KRG – Iran/ the GCC

*Dr. Marianna Charountaki, University of Leicester, UK*

*Irfan Azeez Azeez, University of Durham, UK*



Dr. Marianna Charountaki



Irfan Azeez Azeez

## Workshop 12

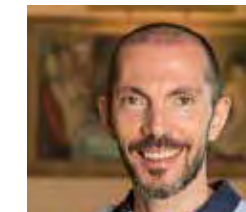
### The Role of Sovereign Investment Vehicles in the GCC

*Dr. Juergen Braunstein, Harvard Kennedy School Belfer Center, USA*

*Mattia Tomba, National University of Singapore, Singapore*



Dr. Juergen Braunstein



Mattia Tomba

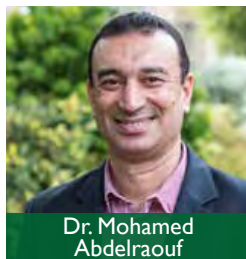
### Workshop 13

#### **Towards Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Gulf**

*Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Gulf Research Center, KSA/Egypt*

*Dr. Robert Mason, American University in Cairo, Egypt*

*Prof. Maurie Cohen, New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA*



### Workshop 14

#### **Women, Nation Building and Modernization Projects in the Gulf: Explorations in State Instrumentalization of Women**

*Dr. Magdalena Karolak, Zayed University, UAE*

*Dr. Abeer AlNajjar, American University of Sharjah, UAE*

*Dr. Rima Sabban, Zayed University, UAE*



## 2019 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



GRM 2019 Workshop Co-directors



Participants in the workshop on Women, Nation Building and Modernization Projects in the Gulf



Discussions in the workshop on the Consequences of the Kurdistan Independence Referendum:  
Relations between KRG-Iran/the GCC



A presentation taking place in the workshop on the Role of Sovereign Investment Vehicles in the GCC

## 2019 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops



Ongoing presentation during the workshop on Artificial Intelligence in the Gulf



Participants in the workshop on Emerging Challenges in International Relations and Transnational Politics of the GCC




A discussion during a presentation in the workshop on Business-State Relations in the Gulf



Workshop on the Quality of Higher Education in the Gulf



Participants of the 2019 GRM Workshop on “Family Changes in the Context of Social Changes in the Gulf”



**“I wanted to spend a few moments to consider what Research Center and the GRC Foundation have achieved, but also underscore the responsibility in being an anticipate the pressure points, to analyze what is possible, influence decisions which change people’s lives. This is**

**this annual Gulf Research Meeting, the Gulf not simply to pay homage to your achievements, organization that is turned to – in order to to identify the right fora for discussions, to what you have done over the past 13 years”**

Dr. Jennifer Barnes  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for  
International Strategy  
University of Cambridge



“Participation in the event at Cambridge was a great experience”

*Amb. Ranjit Gupta*  
Member of the National Security  
Advisory Board, India

## About the Gulf Research Centre Cambridge



**Dr. Oskar Ziemelis**  
Interim Director  
GRC Cambridge



**Gulf Research Centre Cambridge**  
Knowledge for All

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 research and education on political, economic, social, environment, security, and energy issues relating to the Gulf region. As part of its work to organize the annual Gulf Research Meeting, the GRCC identifies subjects of importance to the Gulf region, stimulates research in these subject areas, and provides a forum for broad dissemination of the research results, with the goal of helping to generate solutions to many of the challenges facing the Gulf region.

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.



GRC Cambridge Board of Trustees 2019



Gulf Research Centre Cambridge Trustees Meeting 2019



Gulf Research Centre Cambridge Trustees Meeting 2019



“It was an exceptional media workshop in Cambridge - interesting, valuable, diverse, and enjoyable”

*Prof. Frank Kalupa*  
James Madison University,  
United States

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*Dr. Abdulaziz Sager*  
Founder and Chairman  
GRC Cambridge



*Amb. Stuart Laing*  
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National University of Singapore



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Geneva, Switzerland



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University of Cambridge  
UK



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GRCF Founding Member  
Saudi Arabia



*Dr. Christian Koch*  
GRC Foundation  
Geneva, Switzerland



*Prof. Yasir Suleiman*  
Professor  
Modern Arabic Studies  
University of Cambridge  
UK



**“Thank you very much for this wonderful meeting. Our workshop participants were fascinated by the high quality of organization, hospitality and scientific richness”**

*Dr. Belgacem Mokhtar*  
Department of Geography  
College of Arts  
Sultan Qaboos University

## About the Gulf Research Center Foundation



GRCF Council Meeting



**Gulf Research Center Foundation**  
Knowledge for All

The Gulf Research Center Foundation (GRC Foundation or GRCF) was established in 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland, under the Swiss Civil Code relating to foundations. 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. Cooperation with renowned research institutions, universities and other organizations is an essential part of the Foundation's work.

In 2011, the GRC Foundation was awarded special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. 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 key domains for the Gulf and the countries of origin of the migrants.

The establishment of the GRC Foundation is an important step to facilitate research on Gulf issues, promote academic excellence both in and about the Gulf region, and ensure objective and comprehensive information and analysis about this vital part of the world. This is accomplished through numerous research projects that GRCF carries out, often in partnership with other research organizations. The Foundation qualifies to receive funding 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.



“In the short span of three years, the GRM has become the main gathering of scholarly expertise on the Gulf”

**Prof. Giacomo Luciani**  
Scientific Director,  
Master in International Energy of the Paris  
School of International Affairs at Sciences Po  
Princeton University Global Scholar

# GRCF Council Members

## GRC Foundation Council Members



**Dr. Abdulaziz Sager**  
Founder and Chairman  
GRC Foundation



**Dr. Mustafa Alani**  
Senior Advisor and Director  
Security & Defense Studies  
Gulf Research Center



**Eng. Javaid Iqbal**  
Managing Director  
Knowledge Corporation



**Dr. Ahmed Sager**  
GRCF Founding Member  
Saudi Arabia



**Dr. Oskar Ziemelis**  
Director of Cooperation  
Gulf Research Center



“The China-Gulf session which I was involved in was without doubt, the most useful gathering I have been to on this subject”

**Prof. Tim Niblock**  
Chair of the Management Board  
Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies  
University of Exeter

## GRM Publications

### Edited Research Volumes:



#### **GCC Relations with Post-War Iraq: A Strategic Perspective**

**Edited by: Omar Al-Ubaydli and Andrea Plebani**

This volume contains the contributions to the Gulf Research Center workshop entitled: “Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Relations with Post-War Iraq: A Strategic Perspective,” held during the July 2013 Gulf Research Meeting in Cambridge, UK. The papers examine the history and future of the often fractious relationship between Iraq and the GCC countries. The backdrop is the US dominance of security arrangements in the Arabian Gulf region for most of the post-war period. The volume’s contributions explore the underlying reasons for the region’s instability from a variety of perspectives and with an emphasis on the GCC’s relationship with Iraq. Topics covered include: Iraq’s federal architecture, the highly controversial role of Iran, the effects of regional sectarianism, the possibility of Iraq becoming a member of the GCC, the impact of Chinese oil demand, the evolving nature of US regional military deployments, and the expanding use of social media by religious clerics. The volume’s goal is to produce operational recommendations for senior government figures. To that end, each author provides two lists of recommendations for improving the region’s stability: one targeting GCC policymakers and the other targeting their Iraqi counterparts. There is a strong consensus concerning the need for a more inclusive and multilateral approach to regional security, and for any such approach to be spearheaded by the region’s principle stakeholders: Iraq, Iran and the GCC countries themselves. However, the precise nature of a potentially successful common security strategy remains an area of considerable controversy.



#### **Housing Markets and Policy Design in the Gulf Region**

**Edited by: David A. Smith and Angus Freeman**

Housing is what creates and defines cities, and affordable housing is what makes successful and scalable cities. Indeed, housing is the spatial expression of a society’s values and morality, and of its commitment to an inclusive society. In the Gulf region, characterized by rapid urbanization and astonishing transformation over the last two decades, housing is absolutely urgent as a national priority. The Gulf region has an unusually large number of factors that make the emergence and development of quality affordable housing a challenge without obvious parallels or examples elsewhere in the world. As a result, the region presents a set of housing and affordable housing delivery challenges unique in their own right. These challenges will require solutions based on innovation in both the private and public sectors.



### Asia-Gulf Economic Relations in the 21st Century: The Local to Global Transformation

Edited by: Tim Niblock and Monica Malik

Asia constitutes the hub of the transformation of global economic power today. The Gulf, itself part of Asia, is of increasing importance in this transformation. This book documents the growing interactions between the economies of the Gulf states and those of the rest of Asia. These relationships are critical to how the world economy develops over the next decade, and how economic (and perhaps strategic) power is distributed. This volume assembles cutting-edge thinking by 16 specialists on a wide variety of topics covering Arab Gulf relations with China, Japan, ASEAN, Korea and India, as well as with Russia, Iran and Turkey.



### The Gulf and Latin America: An Assessment of Expectations and Challenges

Edited by: Alejandra Galindo

Since the last decade of the 20th century, there has been an increase in South-South trade, which is also reflected in the trade between the Gulf and Latin American countries. While trade between the two sides grew substantially during the last decade, there are also renewed attempts to cooperate in other fields. The opening of embassies in Latin America by the Gulf countries and vice versa in the last few years, direct flights between Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela to some of the capitals of the Gulf region, investments by the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Qatar in some Latin American countries and the holding of the Arab-South American Summits starting from 2005, among other exchanges, reveal the growing convergence of interests between these two regions. This book covers, in particular, an aspect that is often neglected in area studies, namely the exchange as a whole between the

two regions, since most studies on these regions tend to focus on the interactions with developed countries or emerging economies such as China and Russia. From a historical, economic and politically strategic point of view, the book offers a critical examination of the foreign policies pursued by the Gulf and Latin American countries in the renewed exchange that is taking place now.



### Security Dynamics of East Asia in the Gulf Region

Edited by: Tim Niblock and Yang Guang

The Gulf region's primary economic relationships are rapidly shifting from West to East. Relations with China, Japan and South Korea are becoming increasingly strategic in nature: based on a degree of mutual dependence far greater than is present in Gulf-Western relations. The balance of global politics will be critically affected by this powerful emerging relationship. This book provides documentation of the trend and examines some of the political and strategic issues which follow from it.



### State-Society Relations in the Arab Gulf States

Edited by: Mazhar A. Al-Zoby and Birol Baskan

This book examines the strategies and dynamics through which state-society relations in the Arab Gulf region have been cultivated, and explores the alternative political, social, economic and popular changes that threaten these relations. The work focuses on understanding how state sovereignty has been shifting to accommodate internal social, cultural, and intellectual forces and how these forces have managed to balance social and political powers in order to function within and co-exist alongside the state. Case studies give specific examples of how social forces, popular movements, social media and youth culture are actively influencing cultural attitudes and practices as well as political actions.



### Environmental Cost and Face of Agriculture in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries

Edited by: Shabbir A. Shahid and Mushtaque Ahmed

This volume presents the outcome of an Agriculture Workshop organized by the Gulf Research Centre Cambridge (GRCC), and held at Cambridge University, UK during the Gulf Research Meeting 11-14 July 2012. The workshop, entitled "Environmental Cost and Changing Pace of Agriculture in the Gulf States" was attended by participants from Australia, Bahrain, India, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, UAE, UK, and Morocco. These scientists, educators, researchers, policy makers and managers share their experience in agriculture in the Gulf States, with the aim of helping to improve agriculture production and thus bridge the gap between local production and the food import. The book covers topics such as the prospects of agriculture in a changing climate; the potential of climatesmart agriculture; the impact of food prices, income and income distribution on food security; improved efficiency in water use; challenges in using treated wastewater in agriculture; investment in foreign agriculture and agricultural research and development. The papers span the nations of the Gulf Cooperation Council, with specific case studies set in Oman, Bahrain and Kuwait.



### The Political Economy of Energy Reform: The Clean Energy-Fossil Fuel Balance in the Gulf

Edited by: Giacomo Luciani and Rabia Ferroukhi

Climate change requires coordinated global responses. All nations, including major Gulf Arab oil producers, should implement policies to contain greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Yet all realistic scenarios point to the continuing global need for fossil fuels. The countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) thus face a dilemma between continuing development and use of their fossil fuel endowments and increasing reliance on low carbon sources, such as nuclear, solar or wind. This book explores various facets of the dilemma. The volume is the product of a workshop held during the 2012 Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Centre, Cambridge.



### **A New Gulf Security Architecture: Prospects and Challenges for an Asian Role**

**Edited by:** Ranjit Gupta, Abubaker Bagader, Talmiz Ahmad and N. Janardhan

This book explores how growing economic ties between Asian countries and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) could impact their future relationship. It postulates that the stage is now set for strategic partnerships and highlights how some Asian countries have been explicit about showcasing their power and influence in the Gulf region. While exploring an alternative and broadbased security architecture, it identifies the challenges that any probable Asian cooperative approach could face as the countries of the Arabian Gulf show signs of looking beyond the United States to develop their long-term strategic interests. The volume is a product of a workshop held during the 2012 Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Centre, Cambridge.



### **Gulf Charities and Islamic Philanthropy in the “Age of Terror” and Beyond**

**Edited by:** Robert Lacey and Jonathan Benthall

“Gulf Charities and Islamic Philanthropy in the ‘Age of Terror’ and Beyond” is the first book to be published on the charities of Saudi Arabia and the Arabian Gulf, covering their work both domestically and internationally. From a diversity of viewpoints, the book addresses the historical roots of Islamic philanthropy in religious traditions and geopolitical movements; the interactions of the Gulf charities with “Western” relief and development institutions – now under pressure owing to budgetary constraints; numerous case studies from the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia; the impact of violent extremism on the sector; with the legal repercussions that have followed – especially in the USA; the recent history of attempts to alleviate the obstacles faced by bona fide Islamic charities, whose absence from major conflict zones now leaves a vacuum for extremist groups to penetrate; and the prospects for a less politicized Islamic charity sector when the so-called “war on terror” eventually loses its salience. The volume is a product of a workshop held during the 2012 Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Centre, Cambridge.



### **Islamic Finance: Political Economy, Performance and Risk (Three Volume Series)**

**Edited by:** Mehmet Asutay and Abdullah Turkistani

This collection of new research brings together state of the art thinking by 45 experts from academia and business on all key aspects of Islamic Finance. Individual volumes deal with the key issues of: Political Economy, Values and Innovation; Risk, Stability and Growth; and Performance and Efficiency. Islamic Finance has had a transformational impact on markets well beyond the Muslim world. This development has been the outcome of various stakeholders and agencies interacting to develop a political economy based on Islamic values to generate religiously and culturally authentic financial institutions and instruments. The studies presented in these volumes discuss such interactions through specific examples from the GCC countries supported by comparative perspectives in order to articulate the development and consequences of Islamic Finance.



### **India and the Gulf: What Next?**

**Edited by:** Abubaker Bagader, Ranjit Gupta, Talmiz Ahmad and N. Janardhan

A combination of global political and economic factors helped Asia and the Gulf ‘rediscover’ their ties in the beginning of the 21st century. The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries adopted a ‘Look East’ policy, as a result of which India further consolidated its age-old partnership with the region. Against the backdrop of this renewed ‘East-East camaraderie’, this book explores how growing GCC-India economic ties could impact the future course of their relationship. It postulates that the stage is now set for the construction of a strategic GCC-India partnership, including the evolution of a strategic role for India in the region.



### **Africa and the Gulf Region: Blurred Boundaries and Shifting Ties**

**Edited by:** Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf and Dale F. Eickelman

The ties that bind Africa and the Gulf region have deep historical roots that influence both what Braudel called the *longue durée* and the short-term events of current policy shifts, market-based economic fluctuations, and global and local political vicissitudes. This book, a collaboration of historians, political scientists, development planners, and a biomedical engineer, explores Arabian- African relationships in their many overlapping dimensions. Thus histories constructed from the “bottom up” – records of the everyday activities of commerce, intermarriage, and gender roles – offer an incisive complement to the “top down” histories of dynasties and the elite. Topics such as migration, collective memory, scriptural and oral narratives, and contemporary notions of food security and “soft”

power pose new questions about the ties that bind Africa to the Gulf. This volume is based on a workshop held at the 5th Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Center Cambridge in summer 2014.



### **The Green Economy in the Gulf**

**Edited by:** Mohammed Raouf and Mari E. Luomi

Filling a void in academic and policy-relevant literature on the topic of the green economy in the Arabian Gulf, this edited volume provides a multidisciplinary analysis of the key themes and challenges relating to the green economy in the region, including in the energy and water sectors and the urban environment, as well as with respect to cross-cutting issues, such as labour, intellectual property and South-South cooperation. Over the course of the book, academics and practitioners from various fields demonstrate why transitioning into a ‘green economy’ – a future economy based on environmental sustainability, social equity and improved well-being – is not an option but a necessity for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) States. Through chapters covering key economic sectors and cross-cutting issues, the book examines the GCC states’ quest to align their economies and economic development with the imperatives of

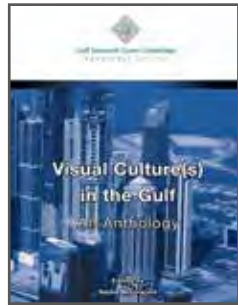
environmental sustainability and social welfare, and proposes a way forward, based on lessons learned from experiences in the region and beyond. This volume will be of great relevance to scholars and policy makers with an interest in environmental economics and policy.



### **GCC–Turkey Relations: Dawn of a New Era**

**Edited by: Özden Zeynep Oktav and Helin Sarı Ertem**

In 2008, Turkey became the first country outside the Gulf to be given the status of strategic partner of the GCC. This was a turning point in Turkey-GCC relations as, for long, Turkey's relations with the region had been quite weak, and the two sides had not spent much effort to revive trust-based mutual relations since the Ottoman period. Since 2008, relations have improved in an unprecedented way. The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in Jeddah in December 2011 laid the foundation of a regular dialogue at the ministerial level, while Turkey's trade volumes with the Gulf monarchies reached \$19.6 billion in 2012. What explains these remarkable changes? What can be done to encourage exchange of technical expertise and information, improve economic relations, and initiate negotiations to establish free trade zones? The contributions in this volume address these questions and evaluate the historical, cultural, economic, and political reasons for the improving GCC-Turkey ties with a special emphasis on changing security perceptions after the start of the Arab Spring, and specifically the Syrian civil war. They explore the potential areas for further cooperation and the impact of economic interdependence, cultural interactions, and power balances on the evolving relationship between the two sides. To sum up, this timely book provides comprehensive assessments from a well-informed multinational group of authors, thus making an interdisciplinary contribution to the existing literature on GCC-Turkey relations.



### **Visual Culture(s) in the Gulf: An Anthology**

**Edited by: Nadia Mounajjed**

The most widespread representation of the Gulf depicts megastructures and a network of infrastructural landscapes organized within a highly visualized urban environment. The Gulf city aspires to compete in a global market and tends to accentuate its symbolic economies making use of arts and signature architectural projects to promote its image. In this process, it works through identity negotiation between a capitalist super-modern tendency and Arab Islamic conservatism. Dubai is a good reflection of this archetype. Yet beneath this image, there exist countless narratives that are inherently integrated within regional visual practices: the particularities and cultural limitations of visual territories, local ways of seeing, imagery production, display and visualism, as well as ocular perceptions of the city and issues of physiognomy of form in urban morphology. This book is about the visual turn in the Gulf. It traces image production and consumption and examines the existing visual landscape in the region. Writings examine the wealth of visual culture(s) in the Gulf in order to explore how meaning is both made and transmitted in an increasingly visual world. Seven chapters draw together writings on the relationship between cultural production, visual practices, and the politics of representation while ultimately arguing for a multidimensional reality in the cultural production of the Gulf region. Authors depart from various theoretical perspectives on iconology, museology, urban morphology, globalization, post-colonial narratives, feminist critique, transnational cultural shifts, and identity politics.



### **The Changing Energy Landscape in the Gulf: Strategic Implications**

**Edited by: Gawdat Bahgat**

Extreme fluctuations in oil prices (such as the dramatic fall from mid-2014 into 2015) raise important strategic questions for both importers and exporters. In this volume, specialists from the US, the Middle East, Europe and Asia examine the rapidly evolving dynamic in the energy landscape, including renewable and nuclear power, challenges to producers including the shale revolution, and legal issues. Each chapter provides in-depth analysis and clear policy recommendations. This volume is based on a workshop held at the 5th Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Center Cambridge in summer 2014.



### **Employment and Career Motivation in the Arab Gulf States: The Rentier Mentality Revisited**

**Edited by: Annika Kropf and Mohamed A. Ramady**

The notion of "rentier mentality" has haunted the literature on the Gulf States for almost 40 years now. However, few studies have actually provided insight into how the nationals themselves perceive their career motivators, employability and productivity.

The eleven studies of this book present both empirical findings and case studies that reveal what nationals expect from their workplace and what hinders them from a personal, meaningful contribution.

While it seems that an initially high work motivation is often annihilated by structural impediments such as a strong hierarchy or widespread *wasta*, it also seems that many nationals fail to understand the urgent requirements of the GCC labour markets.



### **Gulf Cities as Interfaces**

**Edited by: George Katodrytis and Sharmeen Syed**

The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, also known as the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), represents one of the most urbanized regions in the world, with an estimated 70 percent of the population residing in cities. The GCC states have adopted strategies to balance growth and shift dependence on oil. Architecture and urbanism are seen as dynamic facilitators and flexible commodities in the network of transnational urbanisms and global capitalist forces. Cities in this region are shaped by various forces: historical, geopolitical, demographic, and topographical contexts as well as by large influxes of investments and workforce. These cities now shape 21st century urban concepts. This volume is an exploration of specific Gulf cities as interfaces.

Twenty first century cities continue to act as interfaces not only as physical spaces but also as evolving machinery and tools of capital. From food urbanism and edible landscape to modernist ideals, grandiose visions, and new orientalisms, the papers in this volume address and investigate the city in four variances: Urbanism and Identity as Interface; Landscape and Geography as Interface; Social Condition and History as Interface; and Culture and Politics as Interface.



### **Rebuilding Yemen: Political, Economic and Social Challenges**

**Edited by: Noel Brehony and Saud Al-Sarhan**

As Yemenis start planning the reconstruction and rebuilding of their country after recent turmoil they face huge challenges in every major sphere. This book discusses the political and economic background and analyses the most important issues: the option of improved governance through a federal government; addressing the powerful and patronage networks of the previous regime; investing in Yemen's human and natural resources to compensate for falling revenues from oil and gas; maintaining rural life through reduced dependence on irrigated agriculture and investing in enhancing rain fed agriculture; addressing the issue of urban water shortage through desalination; and involving women in enhancing security. This volume is based on a workshop held at the 5th Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Center Cambridge in summer 2014.



**The United States and the Gulf: Shifting Pressures, Strategies and Alignments**  
Edited by: Steven W. Hook and Tim Niblock

Gulf region's relations with the outside world are changing radically. The Gulf's major trading partners are now no longer predominantly Western. China, in particular, now has a significant stake and highly critical interests in the region. The United States still dominates the security field, yet its Gulf allies have come to doubt the strength of US commitment. Meanwhile the Arab monarchies of the Gulf are struggling to cope with multiple divisions, problems and threats: the radical forces of change unleashed by the Arab Spring, the rising power of ISIS, and the destabilising impact of their unsettled relations with Iran. This book examines the range of security issues which this situation has given rise to: the nature and scope of US power; and the likely directions of future policy; the options open to Asian powers with interests in the region; the concerns, strategies and dynamics of the regional states; and the feasibility of European states assuming a security role in the region.



**Sustainable Development Challenges in the Arab States of the Gulf**  
Edited by: David Bryde, Yusra Mouzoughi and Turki Faisal Al-Rasheed

This volume surveys the increasing challenges facing the Arab Gulf states in terms of sustainable consumption and production. Topics include: environmental sustainability: waste, recycling, water, energy, renewables, and pollution; economic sustainability: employment, education, training and business engagement; social sustainability: equality and diversity, pollution, congestion, community participation. Includes contributions from specialists from the UAE, Bahrain, Lebanon, Egypt, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Qatar as well as from the US and the UK. This volume is based on a workshop held at the 5th Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Center Cambridge in summer 2014.



**The Gulf and Latin America: Exploring New Avenues of Exchange**  
Edited by: Alejandra Galindo Marines

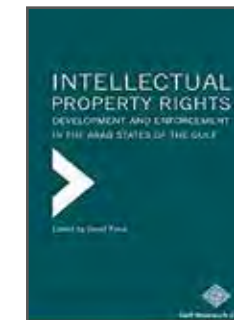
In the last few years, there has been a substantial increase in trade and investment between Latin America and the Gulf region as well as the opening of new embassies among these countries, a trend that started in the second half of the last decade. Besides the diverse encounters at the official level through the Arab South American Summits, an increasing number of non-state actors are participating in the growing exchange between these regions, reflecting a renewed interest in enhancing cooperation beyond the government level. This book describes how non-state actors are able to create avenues of participation to bring the GCC countries and Latin America closer. By examining the different types of actors and issues involved in the increasing exchange, this volume provides an overview of one important aspect of the relations between the two regions and the possibilities to consolidate and expand cooperation. Regarding cultural and educational activities which aim to bring the societies of the two regions closer, the book describes the role played by regional organizations, besides the cultural and trade exchange in terms of the art market. In trade and investment, the impact of the relationship between

the state and the growing businessmen networks is assessed. Further, the cooperation between the private sector, foreign investors, and the state and its effect on liberalization policies in Latin America is weighed as an opportunity to apply to the GCC economies. At the level of society and the role played by the Muslim/Arab communities in Latin America, this book looks at their transnational links as well as their influence in the foreign policies of the Latin American countries towards the Gulf region, besides their input in the formation of identities across the regions. This volume offers a non-traditional view focusing on specific actors and issues in the evolving relationship between the Gulf and Latin America, thus providing an understanding of the possibilities and obstacles in the relationship.



**Higher Education Investment in the Arab States of the Gulf: Strategies for Excellence and Diversity**  
Edited by: Dale Eickelman and Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf

Over the last half-century, the GCC states have invested on a huge scale in higher education, but the stated commitment to internationally recognized excellence has also to come to terms with tradition. These pressure points are examined here in a number of comparative studies, and cover among other topics: - higher education as soft power to promote regional or global influence - intense reliance on foreign instructors - citizen entitlements - badu and hadar divisions - gender separation - different visions of language of instruction - marginalization of foreign students and faculty outside work - branch campuses of foreign universities Despite efforts to train and employ nationals, the vast majority of health workers remain non-local, and major challenges remain in fields such as science and technology. Expenditure has not always led to the effective reform of underperforming educational systems, and institutions often fall short of their world-class aspirations. The studies in this book explore ways of making institutions better realise the balance between global and local.



**Intellectual Property Rights: Development and Enforcement in the Arab States of the Gulf**  
Edited by: David Price

This volume includes a range of topics addressing aspects of the current status of intellectual property (IP) protection regimes in the Gulf Cooperation Council and its individual member states, and aspiring GCC members Jordan and Yemen. It examines the opportunities and challenges facing the GCC in becoming a real union with common, or at least harmonized, IP laws and regulations, while still allowing flexibility for domestic imperatives and interests. IP is a crucial part of commercial and trade activity which the GCC needs to address as a union to maximize outcomes and benefits for the GCC members collectively and individually. Contributions represent a broad-based and truly international interest in Gulf IP, with authors from Australia, Bahrain, China, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. The volume provides a catalyst for further deliberation and debate on these above issues and other Gulf-related IP issues, as well as a worthy contribution to the expansion of Gulf studies in the broader context.



### Science and Technology Development in the Gulf States: Economic Diversification through Regional Collaboration

Edited by: Afreen Siddiqi and Laura Diaz Anadon

The Arab states of the Gulf, currently heavily reliant on oil and gas exports, have stated their intention to promote economic diversification and have embarked on reforming existing institutions for higher education, scientific research, and technology innovation. The region has witnessed huge population growth in recent decades, and in some cases (e.g. Saudi Arabia) almost half the population is under the age of twenty-five and in need of access to quality education and meaningful employment opportunities. This book provides an in-depth discussion of what is needed to accelerate the development of science, technology and innovation in the Gulf. Among other issues, the authors discuss the need for regional collaboration, and tackle systemic challenges such as immigration policies, career incentives for GCC citizens, and increased inclusion of women in the workforce.



### Egypt and the Gulf: A Renewed Regional Policy Alliance

Edited by: Robert Mason

Egypt continues to be cultural and political beacon in the Middle East. Its control of the Suez Canal, cold peace with Israel, concern about Gaza, mediation and interest in the Israel-Palestine conflict, and the marginalization of the Muslim Brotherhood are all points of significance. There is a close, and expanding, defence and security relationship between Egypt and the GCC states, most evident in the inclusion of Egypt in Saudi Arabia's new Sunni counter-terrorism alliance. The authors of this book contextualise historical linkages, and allies add to this the real postures (especially contentious relations with Qatar and Turkey) and study Egypt's strategic relations with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE in particular. The book's main argument derives from a complex web of political, socio-economic and

military issues in a changing regional and international system. It states that the Egyptian regional policy under Sisi will generally remain consistent with existing parameters (such as broad counter-terrorism efforts, including against the Muslim brotherhood). There is strong evidence to support the idea that Cairo wishes to maintain a GCC-first policy.



### Iran's Relations with the Arab States of the Gulf: Common Interests over Historic Rivalry

Edited by: Maaïke Warnaar and Paul Aarts

GCC-Iran relations are at the heart of important political dynamics in the Middle East today. This is not limited to the ongoing disputes in the Gulf, one of the most important strategic locations globally. Iran and the GCC states also find themselves on opposing sides in the Syrian and to some extent the Iraqi conflicts. This volume traces the origins of the troubled relations between Iran and the majority of the GCC monarchies. It discusses not only geostrategic rivalries, but also matters of identity which have been of increased importance since 2010. While important differences are noticeable among the GCC monarchies in regard to their willingness to engage Iran, the difficult relationship between Saudi Arabia and Iran puts a strain on the possibilities for engagement between Iran and the GCC as a whole.



### The Arms Trade, Military Services and the Security Market in the Gulf States: Trends and Implications

Edited by: Dania Thafer and David B. Des Roches

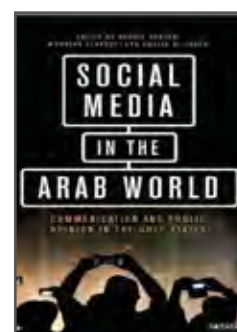
The Gulf is in the first rank of potential global flashpoints. It is the largest market for weapons imports in the world and is considered to be a vital interest of all the great powers. Iran is viewed as an expansionist threat by Arab states of the Gulf, who have built considerable militaries in a historically short timeframe. Security in the Gulf, however, is a complicated matter. The Arab states of the Gulf have pursued different defense policies, as well as different ways of building up their forces. In some instances, the establishment of a strong military is not just a way to ensure security, but also a way to build a national identity. In other cases, great powers (such as the United States) seek to promote cooperation between the Arab Gulf militaries as an interim step to promote political reform and integration.



### The Arab States of the Gulf and BRICS: New Strategic Partnerships in Politics and Economics

Edited by: Tim Niblock, Alejandra Galindo and Degang Sun

How the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) relates to BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) is, in the light of the growing strength and importance of this organisation in the countries which comprise it, of critical importance. The GCC countries have fast-growing economies, and they share some of the attributes and concerns of BRICS countries. The objective of this book is to examine the commonalities and the differences in economic and political interest between the BRICS countries and the GCC countries, so as to assess the potential for cooperation and collective action. Whether the GCC could itself become a part of BRICS is also worth consideration. While the focus is on the GCC, the GCC's relations with the BRICS countries have been, and will continue to be, closely affected by the wider Gulf dimension – the state of their relations with Iran and Iraq, and the manner in which the BRICS countries relate to those two countries.



### Social Media in the Arab World

Edited by: Barrie Gunter, Mokhtar Elarashi and Khalid Al-Jaber

Following the Arab Spring, the use of social media has become instrumental in organising activist movements and spreading political dissent in the Middle East. New online behaviours have transformed traditional communication channels, enabling young people of all backgrounds to feel politically empowered. But now that spring has turned to winter, what are the long-term implications of internet activism in the region? Social Media in the Arab World provides a unique insight into the role of online communications as a force for change in the Gulf States. Featuring examples as diverse as neo-patrimonial politics in Saudi Arabia and the ways an online presence affects the status of women in Kuwait, the chapters examine shifts in the political, social and religious identities of citizens as a result of increased digital activism. With contributions from a variety of inter-disciplinary

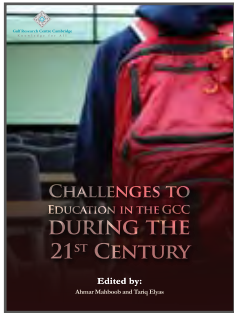
experts, this wide-ranging study examines the consequences of changing power dynamics brought about by popular social media. In doing so, this book offers an original perspective on the long-term implications of internet usage in the Arab world and is essential reading for students and researchers working across the region.



### Migration to the Gulf: Policies in Sending and Receiving Countries

Edited by: Philippe Fargues and Nasra M. Shah

International migration is a ubiquitous reality in the Gulf states where foreign citizens are a majority in the workforce as well as in the total population of several states. Migration is instrumental in the Gulf nations' prosperity and at the same time regarded as a challenge to their identity. For many countries of origin in Asia, the Arab world and East Africa, migration to the Gulf is an integral part of the daily lives of tens of millions and a constitutive element of economies and societies. This book is about policies designed to regulate migration and protect the migrants and enable them to contribute to the prosperity of the Gulf and the development of their home countries. It brings unique knowledge to all those striving to improve current systems, from a state's as well as a migrant's perspective.



### Challenges to Education in the GCC during the 21st Century

Edited by: Ahmar Mahboob and Tariq Elyas

This volume examines the applied and theoretical frames of reference that operate in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and probes the relevant aspects of scale, proportion, and the grounding of education in the Gulf region. The five papers included in this volume discuss elements of policy and curriculum, teachers and teacher identity, students and student identity, and social conditions that affect teaching and learning in the 21st century in the GCC states. Together, these papers raise and discuss issues of critical importance as we plan for education in the GCC for the 21st century.



### Skillfull Survivals

Edited by: Philippe Fargues and Nasra M. Shah

The Gulf States are among the most sought-after destinations by global migrants. Part of this migration is irregular; due to five main causes: entering with no proper visa; overstaying once a visa or residence permit has expired; being employed by someone who is not the sponsor; absconding from a sponsor; and being born in the Gulf to parents with an irregular status. The treatment reserved for migrants in an irregular situation marks out the Gulf States. Arrest and detention are widespread practices in spite of constitutional guarantees against arbitrary imprisonment. Staying without a proper visa or absconding from a sponsor is regarded as a criminal act, and foreign nationals who commit such acts are detained in the same prisons as common law criminals with no clear right of recourse. Domestic workers, most of whom are women employed by private households and, therefore, not

protected by labour laws which in the Gulf apply only to businesses, are particularly subject to arbitrary sanctions and jail.

Lived experiences suggest that migrants may not see their irregular status as being disastrous. Many, in fact, are willing to perpetuate this situation, despite their awareness about possible arrest, jail term, and deportation. A theme that emerges repeatedly in interviews indicates the lack of options open to

migrants elsewhere, including their country of origin. Migrants in an irregular situation learn to negotiate the formal and informal spaces and systems they encounter. They have specific goals they want to achieve during their Gulf stay, whatever the cost. Education of their children and building a house in the origin country are paramount among these goals. Most irregular migrants seem to share one characteristic: resilience. As their stay in the Gulf lengthens, they gather enough capacity to exercise their agency to achieve a skilful survival in the face of adversity. A wide-ranging system of mutual benefits constituting win-win situations for varied actors enables and perpetuates irregular migration.

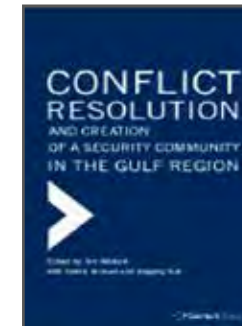


### Special issue: "Foreign Relations of the GCC Countries amid Shifting Global and Regional Dynamics"

Edited by: Silvia Colombo and Eman Ragab

This Special Issue examines the foreign policies of the GCC countries six years after the Arab uprisings in terms of drivers, narratives, actions and outcomes, paying particular attention to Middle Eastern countries, Iran and Western international powers. The assessment focuses on current affairs, but also contributes to establishing a productive link between empirical studies and the existing theoretical frameworks that help explain the increasing foreign policy activism of the GCC countries. All in all, the articles collected in this Special Issue shed light on and provide a more solid and fine-grained understanding of how regional powers like Saudi Arabia, as well as the other smaller GCC countries, act and pursue their interests in an environment full of uncertainty, in the context of changing regional and global dynamics and power distribution. The Special Issue brings together a

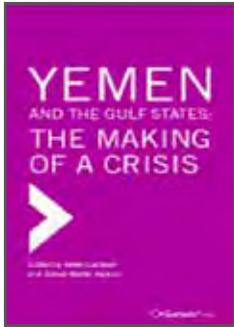
selection of articles originally presented and discussed at the Seventh Gulf Research Meeting (GRM) organised by the Gulf Research Centre Cambridge at the University of Cambridge on 16-19 August 2016.



### Conflict Resolution and Creation of a Security Community in the Gulf Region

Edited by: Tim Niblock, Talmiz Ahmad and Degang Sun

The bitter confrontation between Saudi Arabia and Iran is not only stoking conflicts in Syria, Iraq and Yemen, but now threatens the stability, security and well-being of the whole Gulf region. All the major global powers have significant interests in this area, and the pursuit of these interests adds further layers of division and conflict. This book goes to the heart of this issue, examining the critical modalities whereby the "Gulf Cold War" can be brought to an end. What is needed, the contributors argue, is the creation of a security community among the states of the Gulf. The processes through which this could be achieved are carefully examined. All those interested in the future and well-being of the Gulf region should give consideration to the perspectives advanced. This volume is based on a workshop held at the Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Center Cambridge in summer 2016.



### Yemen and the Gulf States: the Making of a Crisis

Edited by: Helen Lackner and Daniel Martin Varisco

Yemen is the only state on the Arabian Peninsula that is not a member of the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council). It is also the only local state not ruled by a royal family. Relations between Yemen and the GCC states go back for centuries with some tribes in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman tracing genealogy back to ancient Yemen. In this timely volume six scholars analyze Yemen's relations with Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Iran with a focus on recent developments, including the conflict after the fall of Ali Abdullah Salih in Yemen. This volume is based on a workshop held at the Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Center Cambridge in summer 2016.



### The Future of Labour Market Reform in the Gulf Region: Towards a Multi-Disciplinary, Evidence-based and Practical Understanding

Edited by: David B. Jones and Sofiane Sahraoui

As governments across the GCC strive to implement labour policies which accelerate the transition to “post oil” knowledge-based economies, this volume provides insights into the size of this challenge, along with analysis of progress to date. With a comprehensive coverage of the region (each GCC member is included in some respect), this new work provides unique insights into how the domestic policy agenda is shifting the region's moribund labour markets inexorably towards greater productivity, positivity, sustainability and efficiency. This volume is based on a workshop held at the Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Center Cambridge in summer 2016.

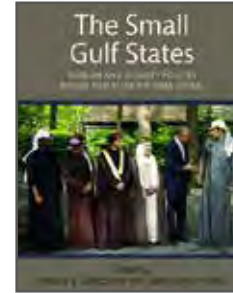


### Strategies of Knowledge Transfer for Economic Diversification in the Arab States of the Gulf

Edited by: Rasmus Gjedssø Bertelsen, Neema Noori and Jean-Marc Rickli

Diversification is the principal economic objective for the Gulf States. The steep and sustained fall in oil prices over the last few years has added to the collective urgency to seek new sources of revenue. As such, the overriding theme of regional economic summits in recent years has focused on the question, “how do we transition to a knowledge-based economy?” This is the central question taken up by the contributors to this volume. A growing body of literature has begun to address how state policy in conjunction with universities, think tanks, and businesses can create the groundwork to support knowledge-intensive industries. But, so far, comparatively little work has been done on the potential of this matrix of policies to succeed in the current political and economic context of the GCC. This volume assesses current policies designed to engender knowledge-based economies in the region and

analyzes how a diverse array of actors, including government agencies, national and transnational businesses, universities, and individuals coordinate and mediate the transmission of knowledge to support knowledge-intensive industries. This volume is based on a workshop held at the Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Center Cambridge in summer 2015.

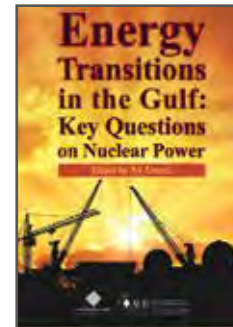


### The Small Gulf States. Foreign and Security Policies before and after the Arab Spring

Edited by: Khalid S. Almezaini and Jean-Marc Rickli

Small states are often believed to have been resigned to the margins of international politics. However, the recent increase in the number of small states has increased their influence and forced the international community to incorporate some of them into the global governance system. This is particularly evident in the Middle East where small Gulf States have played an important role in the changing dynamics of the region in the last decade. The Small Gulf States analyses the evolution of these states' foreign and security policies since the Arab Spring. With particular focus on Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, it explores how these states have been successful in not only guaranteeing their survival, but also in increasing their influence in the region. It then

discusses the security dilemmas small states face, and suggests a multitude of foreign and security policy options, ranging from autonomy to influence, in order to deal with this. The book also looks at the influence of regional and international actors on the policies of these countries. It concludes with a discussion of the peculiarities and contributions of the Gulf states for the study of small states' foreign and security policies in general. Providing a comprehensive and up-to-date analysis of the unique foreign and security policies of the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) before and after the Arab Spring, this book will be a valuable resource for students and scholars of Middle East studies, foreign policy and international relations.



### Energy Transitions in the Gulf: Key Questions on Nuclear Power

Edited by: Ali Ahmad

Several countries in the Middle East, including the United Arab Emirates and kingdom of Saudi Arabia, are in the process of planning, establishing or expanding their nuclear power programs. The official rationale for investing in nuclear energy differs from one country to another, but broadly speaking, it seems to emerge from the need to improve energy security through reducing the reliance on oil and natural gas to generate electricity and desalinated water. This volume aims to examine the challenges as well as the opportunities associated with the deployment of nuclear power in the region. The key focus areas of this book are the economics of nuclear power; nuclear security and potential for regional cooperation; and technology overview.



### Economic Diversification in the Gulf Region, Vol. I (The Private Sector as an Engine of Growth)

Edited by: Ashraf Mishrif and Yousuf Al Balushi

This volume focuses on the role of the private sector in diversifying the economics of Gulf countries in the post-petrodollar era, when fluctuating and declining oil prices are negatively impacting national expenditures. It explores current policies of countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council and their efforts to shift their economies away from heavy dependence on hydrocarbons. The structural changes will create favorable conditions for the private sector to flourish, shift production dependence from public to private sector, and allow for more efficient resource allocation. Such changes will also allow local banks to provide financial support to small and medium enterprises, boost entrepreneurship for job creation, and strengthen organizational structure and efficiency.



### **Economic Diversification in the Gulf Region, Vol. II (Comparing Global Challenges)**

**Edited by: Ashraf Mishrif and Yousuf Al Balushi**

This volume explores the challenges to diversification in Gulf countries, which can no longer rely on profits from hydrocarbons to fund national expenditures. It elaborates on the problem of weak institutions, lack of coordination between policy makers and executors, limited investment in research and development, and a workforce that is too poorly skilled to compete in the private sector. In addition to analyzing issues in areas such as education, labor, business, and trade, the contributors underscore the importance of using global best practices to overcome fundamental weaknesses in the Gulf Cooperation Council's economic structure that limit opportunities for economic diversification.

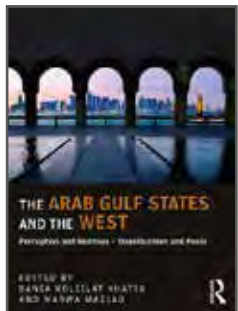


### **Smart Cities in the Gulf - Current State, Opportunities, and Challenges**

**Edited by: Wael A. Samad and Elie Azar**

In this edited volume, academics and practitioners from various disciplines investigate the challenges, opportunities and frameworks in the implementation of Smart Cities in the Gulf. The volume presents insightful analyses and identifies key lessons learned through case studies covering four main themes, including: smart city frameworks and governance, resources and infrastructure, information and communication technologies, and the social perspective. In doing so, the book provides policy recommendations related to smart governance, as well as overall frameworks that cities can adopt in their process of transition, and knowledge that is integral to bridge the gap between various stakeholders in the Smart City milieu. This edited volume comprises extended versions

of papers presented at a workshop titled “Smart Cities in the GCC: Current State, Opportunities and Challenges” held at the 2017 Gulf Research Meeting, which took place at University of Cambridge, UK.



### **The Arab Gulf States and the West. Perception and Realities - Opportunities and Perils**

**Edited by: Dania Koleilat Khatib and Marwa Maziad**

This book examines the relations and image of the Arab Gulf states in the West. It addresses the question of Perception in International Relations and how the Arab States of the Gulf have pursued various endeavours to project themselves into the West. The book chapters generate ideas on how perceptions came about and ways to improve cultural and political realities on the ground in the Arab Gulf States. Thus, it paves the way for a new area of research in the field of Gulf Studies that extends beyond traditional international relations frameworks by weaving elements of intercultural communication into the mix. Recognizing, yet extending beyond, a traditionally realist framework, which had dominated the analysis of Arab Gulf States

foreign relations with western countries, this book tackles both the materialist and the symbolic in the efforts and initiatives launched by the Arab

Gulf States. Some chapters maintain a social-scientific approach about the politics of Arab Gulf States in the West from an International Relations lens. Others employ theoretical frameworks that were founded on the notion of the “encounter,” with anthropological lenses and concepts of intercultural communication. In addition to the value of such an academic research agenda, some of the chapters touch upon the added importance of policy-oriented input. As the Arab Gulf States actively engage with the West, the book would widely appeal to students and researchers of Gulf politics and International Relations.



### **Foreign Relations of the GCC Countries: Shifting Global and Regional Dynamics**

**Edited by: Eman Ragab and Silvia Colombo**

This book examines the foreign policies of the GCC countries six years after the Arab uprisings, in terms of drivers, narratives, actions and outcomes, paying particular attention to Middle Eastern countries, Iran and Western international powers. The assessment focuses on current affairs, but also contributes to establishing a productive link between empirical studies and the existing theoretical frameworks that help explain the increasing foreign policy activism of the GCC countries. All in all, the articles collected in this book shed light on and provide a more solid and fine-grained understanding of how regional powers like Saudi Arabia, as well as the other

smaller GCC countries, act and pursue their interests in an environment full of uncertainty, in the context of changing regional and global dynamics and power distribution. The book brings together the articles published in a Special Issue of the International Spectator.

### **Policy-Making in the GCC: State, Citizens and Institutions**

**Edited by: Mark C. Thompson and Neil Quilliam**



The GCC is a major player in the post-2011 reordering of the Middle East. Despite the rise in prominence of individual Gulf states - especially Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates - and the growth of the GCC as a collective entity, surprisingly little attention has been paid to the actual mechanics of policy-making in the region. This book analyses the vital role that institutions are coming to play in shaping policy in the Gulf Arab states. The research coincides with two key developments that have given institutions new importance in the policy process: the emergence of a new generation of leaders in the Gulf, and the era of low oil prices. Both developments, along with dramatic demographic change, have compelled state and citizens to re-evaluate the nature of the social contract that binds them together. Contributors assess the changing relationship between state

and citizen and evaluate the role that formal and informal institutions play in mediating such change and informing policy. The book shows how academic, social and economic institutions are responding to the increasingly complex process of decision-making, where citizens demand better services and further empowerment, and states are obliged to seek wider counsel, although wanting to retain ultimate authority. With contributions from both academics and practitioners, this book is highly relevant for researchers and policymakers alike.

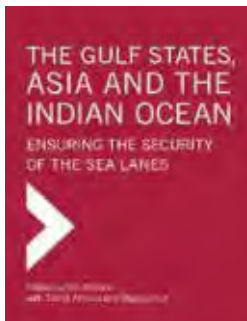


### **Sustainability in the Gulf: Challenges and Opportunities**

**Edited by: Elie Azar and Mohamed Abdel Raouf**

Sustainability is a topic of great interest today, particularly for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, which have witnessed very rapid economic and demographic growth over the past decade. The observed growth has led to unsustainable consumption patterns of vital resources such as water, energy, and food, highlighting the need for an urgent shift towards green growth and sustainable development strategies. Sustainability in the Gulf covers the region's contemporary development challenges through the lens of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which place sustainability at the centre of the solution to the current environmental, economic, and social imbalances facing GCC countries. The book presents multiple analyses

of Gulf-specific sustainability topics, examining the current status, challenges, and opportunities, as well as identifying key lessons learned. Innovative and practical policy recommendations are provided, as well as new conceptual angles to the evolving academic debates on the post-oil era in the Gulf. Through chapters covering sector-related studies, as well as the socio-economic dimensions of the sustainability paradigm, this volume offers valuable insights into current research efforts made by the GCC states, proposing a way forward based on lessons learned.



### **The Gulf States, Asia and the Indian Ocean: Ensuring the Security of the Sea Lanes**

**Edited by: Tim Niblock with Talmiz Ahmad and Degang Sun**

Among the many strategic and economic issues facing the Gulf in the coming years, those relating to the Indian Ocean are set to be among the most challenging. In the re-ordering of global economic and political power which is currently underway, the Indian Ocean constitutes a key arena for regional and global competition and rivalry. With the leading Asian powers playing a more proactive role in the region, sometimes with conflicting ambitions, and the United States intent on maintaining its established maritime hegemony there, the potential dangers for the Gulf states are considerable. Gulf economic interests and perhaps regime stability would be severely affected by conflict. This book contends that the Gulf states need to play an active part in the promotion of

Indian Ocean stability and security, working with other Indian Ocean states to develop institutional structures and practices which encourage cooperation and provide avenues for conflict resolution. They have everything to gain from such a strategy. This volume is based on a workshop held at the Gulf Research Meeting organized by the Gulf Research Centre Cambridge in summer 2017.

## **Individual Research Papers:**



### **Regional Disorder and New Geo-economic Order: Saudi Security Strategies in a Reshaped Middle East**

**Emma Soubrier**

The Arab uprisings which started in early 2011 from the Maghreb to the Mashreq have rightfully provoked an incredible burgeoning of research projects and fuelled existing ones with new energy. Among the issues the so-called 'Arab Spring' has put the focus on is the question of its impact on the six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Here, narrowing the focus to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the international research community faced two main questions. First, would the wave of Arab uprisings submerge the Kingdom or stop on its shores? Second, it appeared that Saudi Arabia had proven rather resilient to the regional disturbances, but how could one analyze its response to the ambient disorder? This paper aims at answering the latter question.



### **Transforming GCC's Oil and Industry in the 21st Century: Opportunities and Challenges**

**Vijo Varkey Theeyattuparampil and Ali Vezvaei**

For decades, GCC countries have relied on conventional oil and gas revenues to power their economies. Advancements in the up-, mid-, and, down-stream technologies in unison with supportive regulatory and political systems, has positioned GCC as a leading exporter of oil and gas. However, findings of new oil and gas reserves from unconventional sources are expected to rival the region as leading exporters of oil and gas. This has introduced both opportunities and challenges for the regional hydrocarbon industry. In this study, the drivers and barriers in the oil and gas industry across three focus areas are identified: technical, regulatory, and, economics. As an outcome, key recommendations for GCC policy-makers that could support the development of GCC's hydrocarbon industry are put forward.



### **In Search of Stability: Saudi Arabia and the Arab Spring**

**René Rieger**

This paper challenges the widespread assertion that the Saudi reaction to the developments related to the Arab Spring has been purely counterrevolutionary in nature. While it is true that Riyadh has been supporting the monarchical regimes in Bahrain and Oman and backed the Mubarak regime in Egypt right until its fall, the Kingdom supported the overthrow of the Gaddafi regime in Libya and, after initial hesitation, also became a strong supporter of the anti-regime forces in Syria. The Saudi reaction to the Arab Spring has been dynamic in nature and differed from one state to another. The Saudi bolstering of the political status quo and regime stability in some states, support of revolutionary forces in others, and interference in post-revolutionary processes yet elsewhere, may ostensibly be a contradiction but is in fact the result of a coherent strategy.



### **Perpetuating the Rentier State: Patrimonialism in a Globalized World**

**Ahmet O. Evin, Manfred Hafner and Simone Tagliapietra**

This paper examines whether the rentier state exists today according to the criteria formulated by Hazem Beblawi and Giacomo Luciani some 25 years ago and whether it is possible to sharpen the definition of the rentier state with the benefit of hindsight. Since the rentier state theory was first articulated, a great deal has changed in respect to the economies of the energy-producing Gulf countries. They have not only grown much richer but also adopted sophisticated means for governing their finances and have become significant players in global financial markets. Moreover, they have begun planning for the time when they would run out of hydrocarbon reserves by directing a significant portion of their rents into Sovereign Wealth Funds. The Gulf is further no longer at the periphery but constitutes one of the significant centers at the global crossroads.



### **Disputed Islands between UAE and Iran: Abu Musa, Greater Tunb, and Lesser Tunb in the Strait of Hormuz**

**Noura S. Al-Mazrouei**

This study describes the history of the territorial dispute between the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Iran over Abu Musa, Greater Tunb, and Lesser Tunb, islands located in the strategically important Strait of Hormuz through which 40 percent of the world's oil and most of the oil from the Gulf region passes. The paper discusses the status of the three islands during the pre-colonial, British colonial, and post-colonial periods. Of particular note is Great Britain's role in the Gulf and how it shaped the development of the claims of Iran and the emirates of Sharjah and Ras al-Khaimah over the three disputed islands. The paper also examines the Iranian and UAE legal perspectives concerning the islands in order to get a better understanding of why Iran has consistently refused to submit the case to the International Court of Justice.



### **The Gulf Arab Countries' Foreign and Security Policies Post-Arab Uprisings: Toward Greater Regional Independence of the Middle East**

**Valentina Kostadinova**

This paper examines the Gulf Arab countries' foreign and security policies in the immediate aftermath of the Arab uprisings (until mid-2014) and compares them to the policies of the US and the EU. Building on a detailed outline of the different facets of power and a comparison with the respective actor's capabilities in the aftermath of World War I, it argues that, relatively speaking, the power of the Western actors has declined, while that of the Gulf Arab players has increased. The analysis lays out the factors that have contributed to this outcome. Analytically, the paper engages with the concept of power but starts from the perspective of the entities that experience the exercise of power. This allows the author to develop the investigation using traditional power

measurements, while simultaneously avoiding a Western-centered viewpoint. Thus, a sense of agency for the Middle East and, more specifically, the Gulf Arab region is restored.



### **Realigning Ecological Needs and Economic Growth to Formulate Environmental Policy for the Gulf States**

**Azhan Hasan and Hezlina Mohd Hashim**

The concept of sustainable development first presented in the Brundtland Report in 1987 underlined the simultaneous and mutually reinforcing pursuit of economic growth, environmental improvement, as well as global and social equity together with an emphasis on global distribution. It marked the start of a new phase in the hitherto antagonistic environment-economy relationship based on the recognition that ecosystem degradation and global warming pose serious threats both for poverty reduction and development. During the 1990s, sustainable development became the predominant feature of the environmental discourse, underlying global, supranational, national, regional, and local environmental policy strategies.

A key implication of the interdependence of environmental-development goals as outlined in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA) Scenario Report emphasizes the need for a meaningful integration of environmental sustainability concerns in national development plans and strategies of individual donors and inter-governmental development agencies. In addition, there is also the need for closer coordination between multilateral environmental agreements and other international institutions in the development policy sphere.

It is necessary to understand the forces that will determine environmental change as well as to choose a set of environmental policies that will move us toward a sustainable future. This, in turn, needs a better understanding of social institutions, and ecological and economic processes. After an extensive analysis of these issues, this paper presents steps that the GCC could take in framing the right environment policies.



### **Salalah: The Economic Development and Spatial Fragmentation of a Globalized Port City in Southern Oman**

**Steffen Wippel**

This paper studies the spatial and economic development of the Greater Salalah area in the southern governorate of Dhofar (Oman) in a conceptually well-informed manner referring to theories of post-modern urban development, especially of "globalized" cities, global and local fragmentation, post-modern urbanisation and characteristics of contemporary port cities.

## Our Donors and Supporters

GRC Cambridge would like to express its deep thanks and gratitude to all of our Donors and Supporters as without their generous support and enthusiasm, the Gulf Research Meetings would not have been possible.

### Al Diyar



Al Diyar is a real-estate development company focusing on the local Saudi Market. Al Diyar is also an investment management company that manages diversified investment portfolios across many sectors.

### Al Fozan Holding Company



Al Fozan Holding Company is part of the Al Fozan Group, which is a successful conglomerate with operations throughout the GCC and Middle East. Led by a talented team of professionals, Al Fozan Group has evolved and diversified over the years to become one of the fastest-growing regional success stories today. The businesses in the group make it a leading player in retail, manufacturing, real estate and trading while its approach to corporate social responsibility puts the group on an even footing with the world's best. The group has the strength and commitment that comes from over half a century of business experience distinguished by excellence in achievement and attention to detail in everything it does. The results of its highly successful track record speak for themselves in the form of its multibillion dollar annual turnover from more than 30 operating companies in over 200 retail locations in Saudi Arabia and the wider GCC.

### Al Muhaidib Contracting



Al Muhaidib Contracting has been working on a single project since first opening its doors for business in Dammam in 1973: building one of the best construction companies in the Middle East. A member of the A.K. Al Muhaidib Group, one of the largest, most successful, and most diversified groups in the region, Al Muhaidib Contracting's goal is to construct the highest quality projects while placing a strong emphasis on safety, quality workmanship, an advanced moral code, and relationships. Al Muhaidib Contracting is unswerving in its quest to create solutions that contribute positively to the living standards of the communities it serves. This is an important aspect of the company's Corporate Social Responsibility program, which encompasses, amongst many other things, sustainability and

Saudization. As a Class-A certified contractor for Saudi Aramco, as well as with the Saudi government for public works, Al Muhaidib Contracting has built a reputation for delivering on complex jobs that call for detailed thought and planning in relation to schedules, logistics or complicated systems. Moreover, having formed successful joint-ventures with blue-chip organizations such as Six Construct, which is part of the famous Belgian BESIX Group, and Taylor Woodrow, which is owned by the VINCI Group, the company has underlined its ability to form long term business partnerships with developers, corporations, government agencies, companies and organizations on local, regional and international levels.

### Alwaleed Bin Talal Foundation – Global



Alwaleed Bin Talal Foundation – Global prides itself on its slogan “Commitment without Boundaries” as it serves the need of communities around the world, regardless of race or religion. Its international philanthropic activities span the four focus areas of: Global Cultural Understanding, Community Development, Disaster Recovery and Women's Empowerment. The Foundation has supported effective non-profits in over 65 countries around the world, benefiting communities in the Arab, Asian and African regions, as well as in Europe, Oceania and the Americas.

His Royal Highness Prince Alwaleed has a long history of supporting those less fortunate, particularly in the developing world. This Foundation was established to institutionalize his international philanthropic activities, and its strategy is built on Prince

Alwaleed's belief that philanthropy is a humanitarian obligation, with an emphasis on extending need-based help to communities the world over.

Alwaleed Foundation strives to build global intercultural understanding through academia and creative learning. It supports sustainable and innovative programs that use high-quality research, media and art to bring about much needed peace and understanding in communities around the world. With a special focus on promoting the exchange of knowledge between the world of Islam and the West, the Foundation forms long-term partnerships with leading universities and innovative organizations, helping to bridge gaps of knowledge between cultures, thus creating better global understanding suitable for the 21st century's interdependent world.

### Arab Center for Research & Policy Studies



The Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies (ACRPS) is an independent research institute for the study of the social sciences and humanities, with particular emphasis on the applied social sciences. The Center seeks to examine the key issues afflicting the Arab world, governments, and communities; to analyze social, economic, and cultural policies; and to provide rational political analysis on the region. In addition to timely research, studies and reports, the ACRPS publishes 5 peer-reviewed academic journals and translates key foreign contemporary works into Arabic. The Policy Analysis Unit within the

ACRPS is dedicated to the study of the region's most pressing current affairs. The Center's public opinion program, the Arab Opinion Index, is the largest opinion poll of its kind in the Arab region. In 2014, the Center established the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, an independent institute for learning and research in the fields of Social Science, Humanities, Public Administration and Development Economics.

## The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development



The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (the Arab Fund), based in the State of Kuwait, is an Arab regional financial institution focused on funding economic and social development by financing public and private investment projects and providing grants and expertise. The Arab Fund's activities are characterized by a number of important aspects that make it a model of cooperation and Arab economic integration, and a reflection of outstanding joint Arab action. With all the Arab countries as its members and concentrating on economic and social development affecting the same countries, the Arab Fund carefully follows guidelines on neutrality in pursuing its activities and organizes itself under substantive rules to ensure independence from any political considerations when conducting in its operations.

## Asyad Holding Group



Asyad Holding Group is a leading private wealth management organization that manages a wide portfolio of real estate, private equity, and financial investments. The beginnings of Asyad Holding Group can be traced to the founding of a construction company by Eng. Osama Alsayed in 1975, which grew to become a very successful business and diversified into the four main business units that exist today: Asyad Capital, Asyad Real Estate, Asyad Aviation, and Asyad Investments.

## Atheeb Group



Atheeb Group is a major diversified group established in 1985, based in Saudi Arabia and operating across the Middle East and in the wider region. Atheeb Group has succeeded in the market, and is in the stage of expanding its business in the region. Its business activities focus on Shipping Stevedoring, Medical Services, IT & Telecommunications, Operations & Maintenance, Real Estate Investment, Contracting, Fund Investment and providing products and services to the defense sector. Atheeb Group's workforce is about 7,000 people, led by a professional and well-qualified management team. They are guided by a clear mission and vision for growth, and a set of core values that include quality, professionalism, and the highest level of ethics and social responsibility.

## Bahamdan



The Group is comprised of a number of closely aligned investment arms. While independent, they share a set of common values and approach to effectively making and managing investments across asset classes and geographies. The Group's activities are undertaken by three investment arms - the Bahamdan Group, Safanad and Arcola. While the Bahamdan Group makes and manages local investments in Saudi Arabia and across the MENA region, Safanad, which

was established with the backing of Bahamdan in 2009, is a global principal investment vehicle used to execute and manage the Group's global assets including investments in real estate, private equity and public markets. Arcola acts as a supporting entity, serving as the Group's liquidity and wealth management platform and the manager of its investments into global securities. Today the Group has investments across multiple asset classes and industries including substantial holdings in the financial services, education, healthcare, real estate, telecommunications and media, aviation, industrial and construction sectors. The Group's investments, which are made independently and alongside well respected partners, range from start-up ventures to established growth businesses and turnaround situations, which not only require capital but access to the expertise, know-how and business acumen that define Bahamdan and have allowed it to establish itself as a strategic global investor over the past 60 years.

## Bank Dhofar



The bank started as Bank Dhofar al Omani al Fransi in January 1990, with a paid up capital of 5 million Omani Rials. The bank acquired the assets and liabilities of Banque Paribas through a sale and purchase agreement and entered into a five year management contract with the French bank. It commenced operations with two branches, one in Muscat and the other branch in Salalah.

## Bank Muscat



With assets worth over USD 15 billion, Bank Muscat is the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate of Oman with a strong presence in Corporate Banking, Retail Banking, Investment Banking, Treasury, Private Banking and Asset Management. The Bank has the largest network in Oman exceeding 130 branches, 386 ATMs, 131 CDMs and 4500 PoS terminals. The international operations consist of a branch each in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia), Kuwait and a Representative Office in Dubai (UAE).

## Centre for International and Regional Studies - Georgetown University



Georgetown University is a private, Jesuit, research university whose main campus is in the Georgetown neighborhood of Washington, D.C. Founded in 1789, it is the oldest Catholic university in North America and one of the first post-colonial institutions of higher learning in the United States. Georgetown administers 180 academic programs in four undergraduate and three graduate and professional schools, of which the schools of international affairs and law are particularly selective and well regarded. In addition to its main campus, Georgetown operates a Law Center on Capitol Hill, as well as auxiliary campuses in Italy, Turkey, and Qatar.

## The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf



**The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf**

The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC) is a cooperative framework established on 25 May 1981 joining the six states of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to effect coordination, integration and inter-connection in all fields in order to achieve greater unity. The GCC Charter emphasizes the deepening and strengthening of relations, links and areas of cooperation among all six states. On one hand, the GCC is a continuation, evolution and institutionalization of old prevailing realities; on the other, it is a practical answer to the challenges of security and economic development in the region. It is also a fulfillment of the aspirations of its citizens towards Arab regional unity. In addition to strengthening cooperation

and integration, the GCC also has as its goal, the formulation of similar and thus unifying regulations for the member states in various fields, including: economic and financial affairs; commerce, customs and communications; education and culture; social and health affairs; information and tourism; as well as legislative and administrative affairs. The GCC also aims to: stimulate scientific and technological progress in the fields of industry, mining, agriculture, water and animal resources; to establish scientific research; to establish joint ventures; and to encourage cooperation by the private sector for the good of the peoples of the GCC states.

## Dallah Albaraka



**دلالة البركة  
Dallah Albaraka**

Dallah Albaraka was founded in Riyadh by Sheikh Saleh Kamel in 1969 as a small proprietorship and has evolved over a period of 30 years into a diversified international conglomerate, incorporating investments in billions in over 40 countries worldwide. The group impacts on almost every sector of economic life, including industry, trade, real estate, tourism, health care, communication, media, production, technical maintenance and operation, transport, banking and financial services as well as education and training.

## Derasat



Derasat is a think tank in the Kingdom of Bahrain dedicated to encouraging the use of research and dialogue to inform policy makers and interest groups and to increase understanding of current and emerging international issues in the pursuit of a prosperous and peaceful world for all. In today's rapidly changing world of opportunities and challenges, Derasat aims to build bridges between differing perspectives, create forums for open debate, use strategic insight to enhance understanding and to promote new thinking and independent thought that can generate creative solutions for our future peace, security and stability.

## Emaar Properties



Emaar Properties PJSC is rapidly evolving to become a global provider of premier lifestyles. A Dubai-based Public Joint Stock Company, Emaar is listed on the Dubai Financial Market and is part of the Dow Jones Arabia Titans Index. In tandem with Dubai's rapid growth, Emaar has been shaping landscapes and lives in the Emirate since the company's inception in 1997. Not just building homes, Emaar develops value-added, master-planned communities that meet the homebuyers' full spectrum of lifestyle needs. A pioneer of innovative community-living concepts, Emaar is the prime mover of the Emirate's real estate and construction sector.

## Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar (SFS-Q)



Established in 1789, Georgetown University is one of the world's leading academic and research institutions. It provides students with a world-class learning experience focused on educating the whole person and engaging with different faiths, cultures and beliefs, preparing the next generation of global citizens to lead and make a positive difference in the world. Georgetown's School of Foreign Service (SFS) is particularly selective and highly regarded. Since 2005, Georgetown's Qatar campus offers the same highly ranked four-year SFS curriculum as in Washington D.C. The students – Qataris, non-Qatari residents, and international students – are ranked with their peers in D.C. as one single cohort. The curriculum offers four Majors: Culture and Politics, International Economics, International History, and

International Politics, with 'Certificates' (minors) in Arab & Regional Studies, American Studies, and Media & Politics, and is underpinned by a Liberal Arts education across the social sciences and humanities. Research ranges across the same spectrum; the in-house Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS) focuses particularly on the Middle East. The Qatar campus is an integral part of Georgetown University, while actively engaging with its local and regional environment. [Qatar.sfs.Georgetown.edu](http://Qatar.sfs.Georgetown.edu)

## Goldman Sachs



The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. is a leading global investment banking, securities and investment management firm that provides a wide range of financial services to a substantial and diversified client base that includes corporations, financial institutions, governments and individuals. Founded in 1869, the firm is headquartered in New York and maintains offices in all major financial centers around the world. Goldman Sachs focuses on the following four business segments: Investment banking - providing a broad range of investment

banking services to a diverse group of corporations, financial institutions, investment funds and governments. Institutional client services - facilitating client transactions in a broad spectrum of financial products. Investing and lending - investing in and originating loans to provide financing to clients. Investment management - providing investment management services and offering investment products across all major asset classes to a diverse set of institutional and individual clients.

### Jabal Omar Development Company



Jabal Omar Development Company is one of the largest real estate developers in the Middle East and one of the largest listed companies on the Saudi stock market (Tadawul). It engages in the investment, development, management, sale and lease of the Jabal Omar project in Makkah. Its flagship project, Jabal Omar, is a multi-use real estate mega development project within walking distance of the Holy Mosque in Makkah Al Mukarramah. As the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia continuously seeks to increase the capacity for Makkah Al Mukarramah pilgrims, Jabal Omar Development Company is proud to contribute to this by developing the areas overlooking the Holy Mosque to give visitors and residents of Makkah a unique living and spiritual experience. The total area of the Jabal Omar project is 230,000 square meters. The project includes 40 hotel towers and is mixed use with commercial markets, apartments, luxury residential units and hotels. The hotels are owned by a company which is managed by major international hotel companies. Every room has a dedicated space for private prayer and contemplation that provides direct views of the Holy Mosque. Hotels under their operation include Jabal Omar Conrad Hotel, Jabal Omar Hyatt Regency Hotel, Jabal Omar Marriott Hotel, Jabal Omar Hilton Suites Hotels and Jabal Omar Hilton Conference Hotel, which has the largest conference room in Makkah Al Mukarramah. Jabal Omar Development Company was founded in 2006 and is headquartered in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

### KAB Holding



KAB Holding was established by Sheikh Khaled Ahmed Bagedo and focuses on promoting the real estate business and building materials manufacturing, mainly targeted at the Saudi Arabian and Middle Eastern markets. Based in Jeddah, KAB Holding is known for its ambition, enthusiasm and devotion to community development, through large scale business.

### Khaled Juffali Company



Khaled Juffali Company, KJC Ltd., is a multifaceted personal investment company with a vast local, regional, and international network of investments. Having an underlying focus on the creation and incubation of growth business ventures, KJC has penetrated industries that include automotive, petrochemicals, banking, insurance, venture capital funds, buyouts, distribution, information technology, education, real estate development, project management and consulting services, biotechnology, heavy cranes, auto/equipment leasing, and telecommunication. KJC's strength lies in its strategic mix of innovative projects that have a solid financial foundation coupled with an excellent network of multinational partnerships, know-how and a proven track record.

### Knowledge Corporation



Knowledge Corporation (KCORP) is a multifaceted company providing a broad range of first class services, including: ICT services covering both technology and content; education and training; event-related services; management consulting; and media services. There are many companies that offer various technical services, but it is rare to find a company that can cover such a broad range of services in an integrated way. KCORP prides itself in being a total solution provider that caters for client needs not only during all project phases, but also before and after a project, always striving to help the client fulfill its goals and objectives. Knowledge-based systems to serve knowledge-based societies are at the heart of KCORP's work. Established in 2008, KCORP has offices in the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

### Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences



The Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences aims to stimulate, support, and invest in initiatives and human resources that contribute to the building of a strong STI system and culture and fostering an enabling environment. The initiatives include improving public understanding of science, strengthening innovation and research capacity and enhancing the enabling cultural environment, supporting the gifted and talented, as well as translating knowledge into innovation and encouraging more private technological capability.

### London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) Kuwait Programme



The LSE Kuwait Programme on Development, Governance and Globalisation in the Gulf States is a ten year multidisciplinary global research programme. It focuses on topics such as globalisation and the repositioning of the Gulf States in the global order; capital flows, and patterns of trade; specific challenges facing carbon and resource-rich economic development; diversification, educational and human capital development into post-oil political economies; and the future of regional security structures in the post-Arab Spring environment.

### Maceen Capital



Maceen Capital is a closed joint stock investment company authorized and regulated by the Saudi Capital Market Authority (CMA) with license (08132 – 37) for dealing, managing, custody, advising and arranging. Since its inception in 2009, Maceen Capital has managed to establish a solid and credible reputation that translated into a remarkable growth and success. Maceen Capital oversees a wide portfolio of local & international investment opportunities and operates as a full-fledged investment group.

## National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations



Founded in 1983 and based in Washington, D.C, the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations is an American non-profit, non-governmental, educational organization dedicated to improving American knowledge and understanding of the Arab world. The National Council's vision is a relationship between the United States and its Arab partners, friends, and allies that rests on as solid and enduring a foundation as possible. Such a foundation, viewed from both ends of the spectrum, is one that would be characterized by strengthened and expanded strategic, economic, political, commercial, and defense cooperation ties; increased joint ventures; a mutuality of benefit; reciprocal respect for each other's heritage and values; and overall acceptance of each other's legitimate needs, concerns, interests, and objectives.

The National Council's mission is educational. It seeks to enhance American awareness, knowledge, and understanding of the Arab countries, the Mideast, and the Islamic world. Its means for doing so encompass but are not limited to programs for leadership development, people-to-people exchanges, lectures, publications, an annual Arab-U.S. policymakers conference, and the participation of American students and faculty in Arab world study experiences. As a public service, the Council also serves as an information clearinghouse and participant in national, state, and local grassroots outreach to media, think tanks, and select community, civic, educational, business, and professional associations. In these ways the Council helps strengthen and expand the overall Arab-U.S. relationship.

## NEC



NEC Corporation is a leader in the integration of IT and network technologies that benefit businesses and people around the world. By providing a combination of products and solutions that cross-utilize the company's experience and global resources, NEC's advanced technologies meet the complex and ever-changing needs of its customers. NEC brings more than 100 years of expertise in technological innovation to empower people, businesses and society. For more

information, visit NEC at <http://www.nec.com>.

## Nesma



Nesma Holding is a privately owned Saudi Arabian company that maintains a varied business portfolio in Saudi Arabia, Dubai, Egypt and Turkey. Nesma Holding and its subsidiaries enjoy a long-standing reputation of financial strength and stability honed over many years of sound management and prudent practices at all levels. Nesma's business integrity and quality standards translate into exceptional services and products offered to businesses and individual consumers

alike. Since Nesma Holding was established in 1979, its creation of joint ventures and partnerships with international companies as well as its acquisition and development of subsidiary companies has bolstered its reputation as a serious player in the diversifying economy of Saudi Arabia.

Nesma aspires to be the most respected diversified company in all its countries of operation. Nesma is dedicated to bringing innovative ideas to life, in business as well as society. Today, Nesma maintains a diverse portfolio of companies across various sectors, including: Engineering & Construction, Water & Electricity, Business & Consumer Services, Transportation & Marine Services, Materials & Manufacturing, Technology, Retail & Consumer Products, and Investment & Finance.

## Qatar University



Qatar University (QU) has grown and progressed significantly since its founding in 1977, gaining a wealth of academic, research and institutional accomplishments that have served to position it as an effective partner in the Qatari society and one of the leading universities in the region. The international reputation of QU continues to grow, as evidenced by its 11th place ranking among 100 universities in the MENA region. Added to this, is a growing number of highly-popular specialist Masters and PhD programs, multiple significant research successes, an ambitious research roadmap fielding national development priorities, and a large body of talented sought-after graduates. QU also boasts a large portfolio of

internationally-accredited colleges and programs that attest to a high level of excellence and quality. QU continues to be proud of its close relationship with the public and private sector and has signed a number of MOUs and collaborative agreements that benefit its students, faculty, and the institution as a whole. These agreements have engendered a number of Professional Chair positions at QU that serve to enhance its research objectives, invigorate students' learning by doing, and further expand partnerships with leading organizations in Qatar and beyond. As a national university, QU recognizes its responsibility to uplift the culture and the identity of the Qatari society. This is in keeping with, and with the support of, the State of Qatar's vision and development strategies, under its Social Development Pillar, to "preserve Qatar's national heritage and enhance Arab and Islamic values and identity."

## Saudi Binladin Group



The history of Binladin begins in 1931. During the Kingdom's early years, under the reign of King Abdul Aziz Al Saud, Mohammed Binladin founded the Mohammed Binladin Organization as a general contracting company. Binladin's history and growth has been intertwined with that of the Kingdom ever since. As Saudi Arabia prospered, developed and became active on the international front, Binladin evolved simultaneously. Under the leadership of Salem M.

Binladin, the company's activities expanded from road works and construction, to diversified activities with numerous offshoots worldwide. To prepare for an ambitious and more active international role, the Saudi Binladin Group (SBG) was set up to incorporate various Binladin companies under a single association.

## Sciences Po - Kuwait Program



The Kuwait Program is a Gulf-focused research and teaching program based at the Chaire Moyen-Orient Méditerranée at Sciences Po Paris, created in 2007 thanks to a generous grant from the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS). KFAS and Sciences Po share an awareness of the common challenges facing the Gulf region and Europe in fields such as security, sustainable development, geopolitics of energy, economic diversification, the new role of the private sector, international migration, civil society development, and the shift of public policies from domestic to global levels. The two institutions have hence agreed to work together in creating a structure that provides new approaches and fresh ideas in these fields to leaders, senior officials, academics and researchers.

## Silatech



Silatech promotes large-scale job creation, entrepreneurship, access to capital and markets, and the participation and engagement of young people in economic and social development. Founded in 2008 by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, the company finds innovative solutions to challenging problems, working with a wide spectrum of NGOs, governments and the private sector to foster sustainable, positive change for Arab youth.

## The Zubair Corporation



Founded in 1967 as Muscat Trading Company by Mohammad Al Zubair, which then became Zubair Enterprises, Zubair is one of a number of leading business houses that operates successfully both nationally and internationally. Its growth in size and diversity, across a wide range of interests, has highlighted the entrepreneurial flair, informed risk-taking and awareness of national interests that reflects Oman's successes.

## The Anglo-Omani Society



The Anglo-Omani Society (AOS) is a charitable organisation working with the objective of preserving the longstanding friendship between Britain and Oman. Through its central London premises, the Society offers a confluence for the government, academic and private sectors of both countries to develop their cross-cultural activities, and offers support in the form of bursaries, scholarships and grants for external projects that are aligned to its charitable objectives. The Society arranges a series of cultural, educational and networking events throughout the year, showcasing well-known and experienced speakers who are specialists in their own fields. In addition, the Anglo-Omani Society is engaging with the younger members of both countries through its New Generation Group (NGG), which operates its own programme of events and annual delegations to the UK and Oman.

## Our Contacts

For further details on the Gulf Research Meeting, participation, attendance and sponsor information, please contact:

### *Aileen Byrne*

Gulf Research Centre  
19 Rayat Al-Itehad Street  
P. O. Box 2134  
Jeddah 21451  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Email: [abyrne@grc.net](mailto:abyrne@grc.net)

### *Oskar Ziemelis*

Gulf Research Centre Cambridge  
Centre of Islamic Studies  
University of Cambridge  
Sidgwick Avenue  
Cambridge CB3 9DA  
United Kingdom  
Email: [oskar@grc.net](mailto:oskar@grc.net)

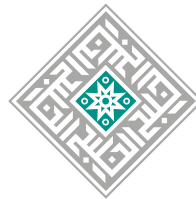
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**I would like to express my admiration for  
the GRC's solid scientific effort in the field  
of research and studies on Gulf issues**

”

*H.E. Dr. Abdul Latif Bin Rashid Al Zayani*  
Secretary-General, The Cooperation Council for  
the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC)

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