The Gulf Research Meeting
Promoting Scholarship and Knowledge about the Gulf Region

Annual Meeting
University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
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THE GULF RESEARCH MEETING

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. Since GRCC opened its doors in 2009, the relationship with the university and the Centre of Islamic Studies (CIS), to which GRCC is affiliated, has significantly moved forward. One of the main activities of the GRCC calendar is the holding of the annual Gulf Research Meeting. This event brings together a community of scholars and specialists working on the Gulf region in order to broaden the academic literature on this critical region and to create a network where people from all over the world can come together to exchange views, present their work, enhance their understanding on issues topical and related to the region, and plan for future projects and collaborative work.

In 2013, the 4th Gulf Research Meeting was held, bringing together more than 300 participants, including paper writers, workshop directors and listening participants. In total, in all four meetings, more than 1500 leading academics, area specialists, policy practitioners and students have participated in 60 workshops with more than 800 papers being presented. Needless to say, the response has exceeded our expectations. The Gulf Research Meeting not only makes a valuable scholarly contribution to the literature on the region but the meeting has also led to increased involvement of people from the region itself. So far, about 40% of participants have come from the GCC countries themselves. We intend to continue to develop the GRM so that it becomes the key annual meeting for scholars on the Gulf. The dates for the 2014 meeting are August 25 to 28, 2014. We look forward to your active participation in the meeting, be it as a paper presenter, workshop director or listening participant.
In addition to GRM, the GRC Cambridge will be looking to expand its activities in close cooperation with the Centre of Islamic Studies, whose strong support and institutional backing of the University of Cambridge provides an unparalleled opportunity to offer world-class research and discussion about one of the most complex regions in the world. We highly appreciate the enthusiastic response of the CIS and its director, Prof. Yasir Suleiman. I hope that you will share our vision and join our mission and I thank you in advance for any support you may extend, so that both our collaboration with the CIS, the wider University of Cambridge and the Gulf Research Meeting can provide the academic bridge between the GCC and the rest of the world.

Dr. Abdulaziz O. Sager
Chairman
Gulf Research Center
“I thought the conference was superbly well organized and administered. Congratulations”

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

HRH Prince Turki Bin Faisal Al Saud
Chairman of the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies
its overall development. Of equal importance is the promotion of scholarly and 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 meetings, 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.
“This was a unique opportunity to meet with an outstanding cadre of elite academics and researchers”

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

Dr. Beverly Metcalfe
Institute for Development Policy and Management (IDPM)
University of Manchester
Prof. Timothy Niblock of Exeter University answers questions from the Arab Media during the Opening of the 2012 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 Mouzugh and Dr. Turki Al-Rasheed

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

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

Lulwa Al-Mutlaq, President and CEO of Golden Trust Business Consultancy, Bahrain with H.E. Abdul Latif Al Zayani, GCC Secretary-General at the 2011 Opening Reception

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

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

Dr. Yang Guang, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences with Dr. Mustafa Alani, Gulf Research Center

Workshop on GCC Relations with Post-War Iraq - A Strategic Perspective
Cynthia and John Duke Anthony, National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations with Dr. Saad Al-Ammar, GCC Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs

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

Discussions over Lunch at the 2013 GRM

Dr. Eiman Mustafawi, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Qatar University, H.E. Prof. Shaikha Al-Misnad, President of Qatar University, Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, GRC Chairman and Dr. Darwish Al-Emadi, Director, Social and Economic Survey Research Institute, Qatar University

Audience at 2013 GRM Opening Ceremony

Participants at the GRM 2013 Farewell Dinner

Dr. Khaled Hroub, Northwestern University, Doha asking a question at the 2013 GRM Opening Ceremony

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

Gulf Research Meeting
"The range of workshops in this conference shows breadth across the arts, humanities and sciences, and the conference gains strength and relevance 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

Workshop 2  
**Formal and Informal Mechanisms of Political Participation**  
*Prof. Anoush Ehteshami*, Durham University

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

Workshop 4  
**The GCC Banking and Financial Sector**  
*Dr. Eckart Woertz*, Gulf Research Center  
*Dr. Hatem Al-Shanfari*, Sultan Qaboos University
Workshop 5
Population, Labor Markets and National Identity
Dr. Steffen Hertog, Sciences-Po
Dr. Rola Dashti, Kuwait Economic Society

Workshop 6
The Impact of Migration on Gulf Development and Stability
Prof. Philippe Fargues, European University Institute
Prof. Nasra Shah, Kuwait University

Workshop 7
Developing an Agenda for Security Studies in the Gulf
Dr. Mustafa Alani, Gulf Research Center
Prof. Saleh Al-Mani, King Saud University

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
Workshop 9
Environmental Policies in the Gulf Region
*Dr. Mohammed A. Raouf*, Gulf Research Center
*Prof. Walid K. Al-Zubari*, Arabian Gulf University

Workshop 10
EU-GCC Relations
*Dr. Geoffrey Edwards*, University of Cambridge
*Dr. Abdullah Baabood*, Gulf Research Centre

Workshop 11
Gulf-China Relations
*Prof. Tim Niblock*, University of Exeter
*Dr. Mei Zhang*, Shanghai Institute for International Studies

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
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

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

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

Workshop 4
WTO and Globalization: GCC Impact
Prof. Tim Niblock, University of Exeter
Prof. Mohamed Ramady, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals
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

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

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

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
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

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

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

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
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*

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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 D. Metcalfe, University of Manchester, UK*
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

Workshop 16

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

Dr. Victor Gervais, Associate Fellow, Kuwait Program, Sciences Po Paris
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

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

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

Workshop 4
Socio-Economic Impacts of GCC Migration
Prof. Philippe Fargues, European University Institute, Florence, Italy
Prof. Nasra Shah, Faculty of Medicine, Kuwait University
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

Workshop 14

Structure, Conduct and Performance: The Case of GCC Banks

Dr. Lamia Obay, Abu Dhabi University
Dr. Anis Samet, American University of Sharjah

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

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, GRCF, Switzerland
Dr. Manfred Hafner, FEEM, Italy
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

Workshop 18
Islamic Finance in the GCC
Dr. Mehmet Asutay, Durham University, UK
Dr. Abdullah Turkistani, King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia

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
2012 Gulf Research Meeting Workshops

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the GRC, speaking at the 2012 GRM Closing Dinner

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

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

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

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
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

Workshop 6
Gulf Cities as Interfaces
Prof. George Katodrytis, RIBA, College of Architecture, Art and Design, American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
Sharmeena Syed, Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

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

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
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

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Workshop 10

**Boundaries and Territory in the Gulf Region**

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

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

Amb. Ranjit Gupta
Member of the National Security Advisory Board, India
Motivated by the same objectives underlying the Gulf Research Meeting, the Gulf Research Center Foundation, in association with the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Centre of Islamic Studies, established the Gulf Research Centre Cambridge in 2009. In addition to organizing the GRM, GRC Cambridge serves as a platform for other events throughout the year and provides a focal point for students dedicated to carrying out and promoting critical research related to the Gulf.

The Gulf Research Centre Cambridge is a registered charity organization under the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The Centre can receive donations which are tax deductible.
“It was an exceptional media workshop in Cambridge - interesting, valuable, diverse, and enjoyable”

Prof. Frank Kalupa
James Madison University, United States
GRC Cambridge Trustees

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager
Founder and Chairman
GRC Cambridge

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

Sir Richard Dearlove
Master, Pembroke College
University of Cambridge
UK

Dr. Christian Koch
Director
GRC Foundation
Geneva, Switzerland

Amb. Stuart Laing
Master, Corpus Christi College
University of Cambridge
UK

Prof. Giacomo Luciani
Senior Consultant
GRC Foundation
Geneva, Switzerland

Prof. Timothy Niblock
Professor
Arab Gulf Studies
University of Exeter
UK

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

Prof. Charles Tripp
Professor
Politics of the Middle East
University of London
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
The Gulf Research Center Foundation (GRCF) was officially established in Geneva, Switzerland on 21st June 2007. It was enlisted into the Commercial Registry on 4th July 2007 under the law of the Canton of Geneva.

The Foundation is a non-profit organization which aims to gather and disseminate knowledge about the political, economic, social and security issues defining the Gulf region. The Foundation’s numerous public events promote and facilitate communication and dialogue between citizens of the Gulf region and those outside the region, notably through media and conferences and workshops.

Cooperation with renowned research institutions, universities and training organizations is considered an essential part of the Foundation’s work. At its core is the promotion of new academic education programs including the encouragement of students from the GCC and other Arab countries to actively engage in research about the Gulf.

All of the objectives combine to promote the creation and preservation of peace, security, stability and sustainable development in the Gulf region and the rest of the world.

The GRCF is a non-governmental foundation which is allowed to receive donations that receive tax benefits under the laws of Switzerland and the Canton of Geneva. The Director of the Foundation is Dr. Christian Koch.
“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
GRC Foundation Council Members

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager  
Founder and Chairman  
GRC Foundation

Mr. Ahmed Sager  
GRCF Founding Member  
Saudi Arabia

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

Dr. Daniel Stauffacher  
President  
ICT4Peace Foundation  
Switzerland

Mr. Javaid Iqbal  
Vice President  
Knowledge Corporation

Dr. Oskar Ziemelis  
Director of Cooperation  
Gulf Research Center
Our Sponsors

GRC Cambridge would like to express its deep thanks and gratitude to all of our sponsors 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 investments portfolios across many sectors.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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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.

Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences

KFAS 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.
The Kuwait Research Programme on Development, Governance and Globalisation in the Gulf States is a ten year multidisciplinary global programme. It focuses on topics such as globalisation, economic development, diversification of and challenges facing resource rich economies, trade relations between the Gulf States and major trading partners, energy trading, security and migration.

The Programme generally focuses on the states that comprise the Gulf Cooperation Council - Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. However, occasionally the interests of research require a more flexible and broader conception.

The Programme is hosted by LSE Government, and led by Professor David Held. It supports post-doctoral researchers and PhD students, develops academic networks between LSE and Gulf institutions, and hosts public lectures, a regular seminar series as well as five major biennial conferences.

**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](http://www.nec.com).
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.
Our Contacts

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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)