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. One of the GRCC’s main activities is the convening of the annual Gulf Research Meeting (GRM). 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 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 work.

The Gulf Research Meeting has been organized annually by the GRCC since 2010. Since that time, up to and including the 2015 meeting, the GRM has brought together more than 2,000 participants, gathering together in 86 workshops, in which more than 1,200 papers have been presented and discussed. Out of this, more than 20 edited volumes have been published, ensuring that together with the GRM Paper Series, the outreach extends far beyond the meeting itself. 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 Gulf Research Meetings are taking place at an important time, as the Middle East region is undergoing a series of crises and the Gulf region in particular is experiencing wide-ranging transitions. 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 working on or interested in developments taking place that are defining the Gulf region and its constituent societies. 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.

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
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
GRM Donors and Supporters
A sincere thank you to all the generous Donors and Supporters of GRM 2010 - 2015
University of Cambridge Vice Chancellor Dame Alison Richard, GRC Chairman Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Gulf Research Center and H.E. Dr. Abdul Latif Al-Zayani, Gulf Cooperation Council

2010 GRM Opening Session Audience Participation

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

2013 GRM Registration Desk

Dr. Sulaiman Al-Jassim, Vice-President, Zayed University, UAE; H.E. Dr. Mohammad Al-Ohali, Deputy Minister for Educational Affairs, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Prof. Yasir Suleiman, University of Cambridge

2011 Opening Session Audience Participation

Prof. Timothy Niblock, Exeter University

University of Cambridge Vice Chancellor Dame Alison Richard, GRC Chairman Dr. Abdulaziz Sager and Prof. Yasir Suleiman, University of Cambridge at the 2010 GRM Opening

2010 GRM Reception at Queen's College

Dr. Abdulla Baabood, welcomes participants at the 2012 GRM Opening Session

Dr. Sulaiman Al-Jassim, Vice-President, Zayed University, UAE; H.E. Dr. Mohammad Al-Ohali, Deputy Minister for Educational Affairs, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Prof. Yasir Suleiman, University of Cambridge
Dr. Saeko Yazaki of the Centre for Islamic Studies, Cambridge with Dr. Paul Aarts, University of Amsterdam

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

Amb. Stuart Laing, Master, Corpus Christi College

BBC Interview with Dr. Stephane Lacroix, Sciences Po

Abdulnabi Alekry posing a question at the 2013 GRM Opening Panel Discussion

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

Reception on the King's College Lawn following the Opening of the 2012 GRM

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

H.E. Shaikh Khalid Bin Sultan Al Nahyan participating in the discussion in the Soft Power Workshop at the 2011 GRM

GRC Chairman Dr. Abdulaziz Sager and Prof. Geoffrey Edwards of Pembroke College

Members of the GRC Foundation Council

Workshop Participants on the King's College Lawn

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

Prof. Timothy Niblock of Exeter University answers questions from the Arab Media during the Opening of the 2012 GRM
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

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

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

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

Reception ahead of the Opening of the 2012 GRM
Workshop on the Relationship between the Gulf Countries and Latin America - The Role of Non-State Actors
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

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
Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center and Amb. Ibrahim Al-Adoofi, former Yemeni Ambassador to 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. Abdullah Baabood from Qatar University crossing the Mathematical Bridge at Queens' College

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

Lunch at Queens’ College

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

Participants in GRM 2015 at the Opening Ceremony reception

Audience at GRM 2015 Opening Ceremony

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
“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
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

Gulf Research Meeting 2010
The Governance of Higher Education in the Gulf Cooperation Region

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

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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

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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

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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

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
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
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
Sharmeen 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

Workshop 10

Boundaries and Territory in the Gulf Region
Richard Schofield, Senior Lecturer, Department of Geography, King’s College London, United Kingdom

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 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

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

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

Workshop 4
The Future of Yemen
Dr. Noel Brehony, SOAS, United Kingdom
Dr. Saud Al Sarhan, Head of Research, KFCRIS, KSA
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

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

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

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
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

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

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

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
Workshop 13

Doctoral Symposium: Addressing the Sustainability Agenda in the Gulf Region

Dr. Yusra Mouzughi, 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

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

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Dr. Hasanain Tawfiq and Dr. Abdulaziz Sager at the reception prior to the 2014 GRM VIP dinner

Lively discussions at the 2014 GRM VIP dinner
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

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

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

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
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

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

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

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
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

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

Workshop 11

Iran-GCC Energy Cooperation
Prof. Gawdat Bahgat, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University, United States of America
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
“I wanted to spend a few moments to consider what this annual Gulf Research Meeting, the Gulf Research Center and the GRC Foundation have achieved, not simply to pay homage to your achievements, but also underscore the responsibility in being an organization that is turned to – in order to anticipate the pressure points, to analyze what is possible, to identify the right fora for discussions, to influence decisions which change people’s lives. This is 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

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 and security 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.

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

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

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Dr. Christian Koch
Director
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
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. 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
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Dr. Abdulaziz Sager
Founder and Chairman
GRC Foundation

Mr. Ahmed Sager
GRCF Founding Member
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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
“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
Our 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 climate-smart 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.

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 San 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 wasa, 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 Mouzughi 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.
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.
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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 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. We are unwavering in our quest to create solutions that contribute positively to the living standards of the communities we serve. This is an important aspect of our 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, we have 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, who are part of the famous Belgian BESIX Group, and Taylor Woodrow, who are 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.

**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.
**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. Our 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. Our 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 us to establish ourselves 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 (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

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 – Qatari, 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

**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**

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.

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.
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.
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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.

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