



المركز العربي للأبحاث ودراسة السياسات
Arab Center for Research & Policy Studies



Moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem

The Legal and Political Significance

February 24, 2018

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Time Table

9:00 - 9:15	Opening Remarks
9:15 - 11:00	The Legal Status of Jerusalem Chair: Mohammed Bin Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi Anis Kassim: American Recognition of Jerusalem as the Capital of Israel: the Challenge to International Law Salma Karmi-Ayyoub: Characterising Israeli Policy in Jerusalem as a Crime Against Humanity Alaa Mahajna: Jerusalem within Israeli Law: the Prospects for Confrontation
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 - 13:30	Geographic and Demographic Changes Chair: Majed Al-Ansari Khalil Toufakji: Jerusalem: The Battle for Demographic and Geographic Supremacy Rassem Khamaisi: Matrix of Control: Demographic and Urban Alterations Francesco Chiodelli: Shaping Jerusalem: Urban Policies in the Dual City Dana El Kurd: Shifting Mobilization Patterns in Jerusalem: The Role of the Palestinian Authority
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30 - 16:00	Political Considerations of Moving the US Embassy Chair: Abdullah Al-Athba Clyde Wilcox: Domestic Politics and the Decision to Move the US Embassy Osama Abu Irshaid: The Decision to Move the US Embassy: Motives and Repercussions Ibrahim Fraihat: The Impact of the US Embassy Decision on the Future of the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict Adeeb Ziadeh: The Palestinian Response: The Search for a New Sponsor for the Peace Process
16:00 - 16:30	Coffee Break
16:30 - 18:00	Roundtable Discussion

Participants

Abdullah Al-Athbah	Qatari journalist and media figure. Al-Athbah is the Editor-in-Chief of the country's daily <i>Al Arab</i> newspaper.
Adeeb Ziadeh	Visiting Assistant Professor at the International Relations Department of the Ahmed bin Mohammed Military College in Qatar and Lecturer at the Department of International Affairs at Qatar University. Ziadeh was named Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy in the UK in 2014. He received his doctoral degree from the University of Exeter, also in the UK, in the field of European Foreign policy in the Middle East, focusing on the EU's relationship with Hamas. His latest book (2018) was published in English by Routledge, entitled <i>EU Foreign Policy and Hamas; Inconsistencies and Paradoxes</i> .
Alaa Mahajna	Lawyer and jurist based in Jerusalem who specializes in settlement issues and Palestinian land, residency and housing rights. Mahajna previously worked as a lawyer at the Adalah Center in Haifa and the Arab Center for Palestinian Rights, and previously served as legal advisor in the Negotiations Affairs Department through the United Nations Development Program. He is a researcher at the Mada al-Carmel Center and holds a Master's Degree in International Law from the University of Virginia.
Anis Kassim	Practicing lawyer in Amman and founder and partner of Kassim Law Firm. He received his doctorate in law from the University of Washington in 1977. He served as a legal adviser to the Palestinian negotiating delegations in Madrid and Washington and was a member of the Palestinian litigation team during deliberations on Israel's Separation Wall before the International Court of Justice in 2004. Kassim has served as Editor-in-Chief and Consultant for the Palestinian Yearbook of International Law (published in English since 1984) and sits on the Boards of Trustees for both Birzeit University and the University of Jordan.
Clyde Wilcox	Professor in the Government Department at Georgetown University, where he has taught since 1987. He writes on a number of topics in American and Comparative politics, including religion and politics, gender politics, public opinion and electoral behavior, interest groups, campaign finance, and science fiction and politics. He has authored, coauthored, edited, or co-edited more than 30 books and hundreds of journal articles and book chapters.
Dana El Kurd	Researcher at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies. She is specialized in the fields of comparative politics and international relations, with a particular focus on Palestine, authoritarianism, and contentious politics. El Kurd received her PhD in Political Science from The University of Texas at Austin.
Francesco Chiodelli	Associate Professor in urban planning at the Gran Sasso Science Institute (l'Aquila, Italy), where he is the Vice-Coordinator of the international PhD Program in Urban Studies and Regional Science. He has recently published <i>Shaping Jerusalem: Spatial Planning, Politics and the Conflict</i> (Routledge, 2016). Chiodellia holds a PhD in Urban Policies and Projects from the Polytechnic University of Milan, Italy.
Ibrahim Fraihat	Head of the Conflict Management and Humanitarian Action Master's Program at the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies and Affiliate Scholar at Georgetown University. He previously served as Senior Foreign Policy Fellow at the Brookings Institution. Fraihat received a doctorate in conflict analysis and resolution from George Mason University in 2006. He is the recipient of George Mason University's Distinguished Alumni Award (2014) for his achievements in the field of conflict resolution. His latest book is <i>Unfinished Revolutions: Yemen, Libya, and Tunisia after the Arab Spring</i> (Yale University Press, 2016).
Khalil Toufakji	Director of the Maps and Survey Department at Orient House, Jerusalem. Toufakji is also a member of the licensing committee in the governorate of Jerusalem. He is the Palestinian representative in the Arab Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. He has authored a number of publications, most recently "Map of Palestine since 1948" issued by the Palestinian Studies Association, and the "Map of the neighborhoods of Jerusalem and the Old City" issued by the Committee of Jerusalem Heritage.
Majed Al-Ansari	Professor of Political Sociology and Researcher in the Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI) at the University of Qatar. Al-Ansari holds an MA in Social Transformation from Manchester University, UK and a PhD from the Cathie Marsh Institute at Manchester University on "The effect of religious, social, and political values on social cohesion in Qatar." He also writes a weekly article for the Qatari newspaper <i>Al-Arab</i> and has worked as a consultant for several charitable foundations.
Mohammed Bin Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi	Dean and Associate Professor of Commercial Law at the College of Law in Qatar University. He holds an LLM and JSD from The University of California, Berkeley and received the State PhD award from H.H Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani at Qatar Education Excellence Day in 2012. Al-Khulaifi received a fellowship grant from the Center of International and Regional Studies at Georgetown University and a grant from Qatar National Research Fund to research "Legal Education and Job Market Skills in Qatar". He was also a Visiting Professor at Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar in 2013.
Osama Abu Irshaid	Non-Resident Researcher at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies based in Washington DC. Abu Irshaid earned his PhD in Politics and Philosophy from the UK's Loughborough University. He has published numerous studies in English and Arabic. Two of his published Arabic titles focus on Hamas and the Jordan-Israel peace treaty.
Rassem Khamaisi	Geographer, Urban Planner and Professor of Urban Geography and Planning at the University of Haifa. Khamaisi is also the Head of the Jewish Arab Center and the Center of Planning and Studies in Kafr Kanna. He holds a PhD from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is currently Visiting Professor at Queen's University in Belfast. Khamaisi has published numerous books and articles in Arabic, English and Hebrew. He heads planning teams for many Palestinian cities and villages such as Ramallah and Qalqiliya and has been part of multiple national and international planning teams.
Salma Karmi-Ayyoub	UK-based criminal barrister and legal consultant. She qualified as a barrister in 2007 and from 2009 until 2012 carried out international litigation for the Palestinian rights organization, Al Haq. She is currently a consultant for Al Haq, as well as other NGOs and solicitors firms, on issues related to international law. Her articles have appeared in publications such as <i>The London Review of Books, Reuters and The Nation</i> .