



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

Gulf Studies Forum

December 5 - 7, 2015

[Participants](#)

[Time Table](#)



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December 5 - 7, 2015



Time Table

Day One

December 5, 2015

9:00 - 9:15	Opening Remarks
9:15 - 11:30	Education Panels (Al Mukhtasar Hall)
	Session One
	The Educational Process: Present-day Realities and Challenges (1) Chair: Saeed Al-Mullais Abdullah al-Beraidi: English as an Instructional Medium and the Identity Crisis of Institutions in the Gulf Noura Al Mazrouei: Identity and Education in Higher Education Institutions in the UAE: the Case of Zayed University Clara Morgan: The Role and Effects of Global Educational Quality Discourses on the GCC: A Comparison of the UAE and Qatar Abdulhadi Al Ajmi: Education and Academic Freedoms: Religious and Political Taboos in the Study of History in the Gulf
11:30 - 12:00	Coffee Break

Session Two

The Educational Process: Present-day Realities and Challenges (2)

Chair: Khalid Al-Jaber

12:00 - 14:00

Hend Al Muftah: Education and the Labor Market in Qatar: Two Sides of the Same Coin

Ghazi Al Rasheedi: Pedagogical Changes to the Educational Systems in the GCC States: Independent (Charter) Schools in Qatar and 'Future Schools' in Kuwait as an Example

Sami Al Tamimi: Returns on Educational Investment: Time Spent in Education and Earning Amongst Qataris

Kristin Kamoy: Aspirations and Challenges of Higher Education in the UAE

14:00 - 16:00

Lunch Break

Opening Ceremony (Lusail Hall)

18:00 - 19:30

Lecture: HE Mohammed bin Abdul Wahid Al Hammadi

Minister of Education and Higher Education in Qatar

Lecture: HE Abdullah Bishara

First Secretary-General of the GCC

Day Two

December 6, 2015

	Education Panels (Lusail 1)	International Relations Panels (Lusail 2)
	Session One	
9:00 - 11:00	<p>The Educational Process: Present-day Realities and Challenges (3)</p> <p>Chair: Hatoon al-Fassi</p> <p>Fayiz Al Dhafeeri: The Use of e-Learning Methods in the Classroom: The Case of Kuwait University</p> <p>Aishah Al-Ahmadi: Academic Misconduct in Saudi Arabian Universities</p> <p>Meshari Al Ruwaih: International Relations Scholarship in the Gulf: The Muslim Umma, the Nation State, and the Global Citizen</p> <p>Abdelmalik Mezhouda: Strategic Planning in the Saudi University Sector: Combining Fiscal and Quality Assurance Perspectives</p>	<p>Gulf Security and the Iran Nuclear Agreement</p> <p>Chair: Jaber al Harami</p> <p>Mohammed Ghanim Al Rumaihi: The Iranian Nuclear Agreement: Repercussions for the Arab Gulf Region</p> <p>Dhafer Al Ajmi: A Détente between Iran and the West: Stark Choices for the GCC</p> <p>Faisal Abu Salib: The Iranian Nuclear Agreement and its Implications for the Arab Gulf States</p> <p>Luciano Zaccara: The Regional Implications of the Iranian-P5+1 Nuclear Deal</p>
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break	

Session Two

Professional Licenses for Teachers and Education Leaders in Qatar

Convened by the Supreme Education Council in Qatar

Chair: Hessa Al-Attiyah

Fawziya Al-Khater: National Professional Standards for Teachers and Educational Leaders

Jameel Al-Shammari: The Licensing and National Professional Standards Systems in Qatar

Hadi Al Marri: The National Leadership License: its Value and Prestige

Security Challenges of the GCC States

Chair: Abdullah Al Shammari

Hamad Althunayyan: Regional Rivalry between Iran and Saudi Arabia: The Role of the United States

Khalid al-Dakhil: Iran and the Gulf States: from 'Exporting Revolution' to 'Unravelling the Nation-State'

Mamdouh Salameh: A Nuclear Iran Poses a Real Threat to Oil Resources and Strategic Security of the GCC Countries

Afyare Elmi: The GCC and Ending Piracy in the Horn of Africa: Investing in On-Shore Solutions

11:30 - 13:30

13:30 - 15:30

Lunch Break



Session Three		
15:30 - 17:30	<p>Education in the GCC: Policies and Strategies (1)</p> <p>Chair: Mezna Al-Azmi</p> <p>Hanan Abdulhameed: The Role of Pre-tertiary Education in Building Learning Skills in the Information Age</p> <p>Malek Hassan: The Arabic Language and its Deployment in Gulf Educational Systems</p> <p>Aicha Ettaib: The Drafting of Academic Theses in the Social Sciences: Mechanisms, Trajectories and Backgrounds in the GCC</p>	<p>The GCC States and Regional Orders</p> <p>Chair: Fayez Al-Nashwan</p> <p>Zahid Shahab Ahmed: The Impact of the Conflict in Yemen on Pakistan's Relations with the GCC</p> <p>Muhittin Ataman: Relations between Turkey and the GCC: New Opportunities in a Changing Regional Order</p> <p>Jean-Marc Rickli: New Alliance Dynamics in the Gulf</p> <p>Amna Abdullah Sadiq: The Gulf Cooperation Council: Internal Harmony and the Regional Role</p>
17:30 - 18:00	Coffee Break	
18:00 - 19:30	<p>Distinguished Lecture: John Mearsheimer</p> <p>US Policy Towards the Region Since 9/11: One Disaster After Another</p> <p>Chair: Marwan Kabalan</p>	

Day Three

December 7, 2015

	Education Panels (Lusail 1)	International Relations Panels (Lusail 2)
	Session One	
9:00 - 11:00	<p>Education in the GCC: Policies and Strategies (2)</p> <p>Chair: Khalid al-Khater</p> <p>Ahoud Al-Asfour: Privatization Policies and Higher Education Pressures in Kuwait</p> <p>Allam Hamdan: Investment in Education and Economic Development: a Study in the Gulf States</p> <p>Samia Costandi: The Risk of Intellectual Decadence: Ignoring the Humanities in Universities in the Arabian Gulf</p> <p>Adnan Al Jawareen and Basheer Hadi: Analyzing the Causal Links between Education and Employment Policies</p>	<p>GCC Relations with the Major Global Powers</p> <p>Chair: Mohammed Al Misfer</p> <p>Maxim Suchkov: Contemporary Russia-Saudi Relations: Building a Bridge of Cooperation over the Abyss of Discrepancies</p> <p>Majed al-Turki: GCC Relations with Russia: Opportunities and Challenges</p> <p>Hadi Mashaan: Gulf-Japanese Relations: Strategic Aspects and Future Horizons</p> <p>Ayman Al Hammad: China's Position towards 'Operation Decisive Storm'</p>
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break	



Session Two					
11:30 - 13:30	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th data-bbox="274 269 884 490">Educational Policies and the Products of Educational Policies: Impacts on Development and on Society in the Gulf States (1) Chair: Jaber Nasser Al-Marri</th><th data-bbox="884 269 1492 490">Gulf Relations with East Asia Convened by Qatar University Chair: Abdullah Baabood</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td data-bbox="274 490 884 854"><p>Yacoub Al Kandari: Education and Citizenship Formation: Teaching History and the Constitution and their Role in Supporting the Values of Citizenship</p><p>Sharifa Al-Yahyai: Education and the Empowerment of Gulf Women</p><p>Saif Al Muamari & Zainab Al Gharbiya: Education in the Gulf: Strengthening National Identity and Creating Citizenship</p><p>Rabee Qassem and Radi Naghmesh: Education and Employment Policies in the Gulf: the Status Quo</p></td><td data-bbox="884 490 1492 854"><p>Imad Mansour: China's Strategic Objectives with Regards to the GCC States: a Study in Strategic Culture and Foreign Policy</p><p>Steven Wright: The Dynamics of Energy Geopolitics in East Asia and its Impact on the Gulf</p><p>Suhaim Al Thani: The Gulf Pivot to Asia and the Future of GCC Integration</p><p>Remi Piet: The Dynamics of Energy Geopolitics in the Gulf and Qatar's Foreign Relations with East Asia</p></td></tr></tbody></table>	Educational Policies and the Products of Educational Policies: Impacts on Development and on Society in the Gulf States (1) Chair: Jaber Nasser Al-Marri	Gulf Relations with East Asia Convened by Qatar University Chair: Abdullah Baabood	<p>Yacoub Al Kandari: Education and Citizenship Formation: Teaching History and the Constitution and their Role in Supporting the Values of Citizenship</p> <p>Sharifa Al-Yahyai: Education and the Empowerment of Gulf Women</p> <p>Saif Al Muamari & Zainab Al Gharbiya: Education in the Gulf: Strengthening National Identity and Creating Citizenship</p> <p>Rabee Qassem and Radi Naghmesh: Education and Employment Policies in the Gulf: the Status Quo</p>	<p>Imad Mansour: China's Strategic Objectives with Regards to the GCC States: a Study in Strategic Culture and Foreign Policy</p> <p>Steven Wright: The Dynamics of Energy Geopolitics in East Asia and its Impact on the Gulf</p> <p>Suhaim Al Thani: The Gulf Pivot to Asia and the Future of GCC Integration</p> <p>Remi Piet: The Dynamics of Energy Geopolitics in the Gulf and Qatar's Foreign Relations with East Asia</p>
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13:30 - 15:30	Lunch Break				

15:30 - 17:00	Session Three	
17:00 - 17:30	Coffee Break	
17:30 - 19:00	International Relations Panels (Lusail 2)	
	Session Four	
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Gulf States and Arab Crises: a Reciprocal Relationship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Ali Alzumai</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dhafer Al Ani: The Iraq Crisis: Fallout for Gulf Security</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Abdulwahab al-Qassab: Operation Decisive Storm and Concomitant Change in the Arab-Iranian Geostrategic Relationship</p> <p>Nagla Marie: The United Arab Emirates and the Arab Spring Revolutions: Limits of Influence and Signs of Impact</p> <p>Mohammed Al Misfer: The Power of the State in the International Arena: Qatar and the Arab Spring</p>	

Educational Policies and the Products of Educational Policies: Impacts on Development and on Society in the Gulf States (2)

Chair: Sadiq Al Ammari

Kaltham al-Ghanim: Does education empower women in the region?

Ali Watfa: Political Activism of Students at Kuwait University: Impact of Academic and Social Factors

Ali Fakhro: Gulf Education and Culture

GCC Relations with the United States

Chair: Khalid al-Dakhil

Ghassan Al-Izzi: The United States, NATO and the Security of the Arab Gulf States

Becca Wasser: US Congress and the Gulf States: an Emerging Relationship?

Osama Abu Irshaid: Present-day Reality of the US-Saudi Relationship



Participants

Participant	Biography
Abdelmalik Mezhouda	Researcher specializing in strategic planning, performance assessment, quality control, and other areas in the fields of business and higher education. He received his MA and PhD in Business Administration, specializing in Strategic Planning, from Batna University, Algeria, and Lille University, France.
Abdulhadi Al Ajmi	Chair of the History Department at the University of Kuwait. He holds a PhD in Islamic history from Durham University, UK. He has published widely both regionally and internationally and is active in Kuwaiti and Gulf political affairs.
Abdullah Al Shammari	Assistant Professor and Head of the Gulf Studies Department at the Middle East Center for Islamic Research, Ankara. He is a member of the Consultative Board and Lecturer at the Diplomatic Academy in the UK/Qatar. He received his PhD in International Relations from Bahcesehir University, Istanbul, Turkey.
Abdullah al-Beraidi	Professor of Management and Organizational Behavior at Qassim University in Saudi Arabia, with numerous works published on social and political issues in the Arab Gulf states. He obtained a master's degree in accounting from King Saud University and a doctorate in Business Administration, specializing in organizational behavior, from the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom.
Abdullah Baabood	Director of the Gulf Studies Program at Qatar University's College of Arts and Sciences. Baabood completed MA degrees in Business Administration and International Relations in the UK, before completing his PhD in Political Economy in Britain.
Abdullah Bishara	Kuwaiti Diplomat and Statesman, Bishara was the first Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (1981-1993). From 1964 to 1971 he was the Director of the Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Kuwait. From 1971 to 1981 he served as Ambassador of Kuwait to the United Nations. Currently, he is the President of the Diplomatic Center For Strategic Studies and a regular columnist and lecturer on Diplomacy and Strategy.
Abdulwahab al-Qassab	Associate Researcher at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies (ACRPS). Al-Qassab was a member of the Iraqi Armed Forces from 1966 to 1991, and retired with the rank of Rear Admiral. As a researcher, he worked with the Center for Arab World Studies, Al-Mustansiriya University, and the Center for International Studies, Baghdad University. He earned his PhD in Strategic Studies from Campbell University in North Carolina, USA.
Adnan Al Jawareen	Assistant Professor in the Economics Department at Basra University, al-Jawareen has written three books on the topics of competitiveness, economic crises, and sustainable development, as well as academic research papers for peer-reviewed journals. He holds a PhD in development economics from Basra University, Iraq.

Participant	Biography
<p style="text-align: center;">Afyare Elmi</p>	<p>Assistant Professor at Qatar University's International Affairs Department. He is the author of "Understanding the Somalia conflagration: Identity, political Islam and peacebuilding" which is published by Pluto Press. His research interests include international security, state-building, conflict, peacebuilding and the Horn of Africa.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Ahoud Al-Asfour</p>	<p>Assistant Professor at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, College of Basic Education, Kuwait. She holds a PhD in Higher Education Privatization Policies in Kuwait (Comparative Education), and a Master of Education Policy International, both from the University of Melbourne, Australia.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Aicha Ettaib</p>	<p>Associate Professor of Sociology and Social Work at the Faculty of Arts Department of the University of Dammam. She previously worked as a development consultant with a number of Arab and international bodies including the World Bank, the German Development Bank, the Japanese Bank for Cooperation, and the League of Arab States. She holds an MA and a PhD in sociology from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Tunis.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Aishah Al-Ahmadi</p>	<p>Scholar whose research focuses on education and primary education. She is a member of the Saudi Educational and Psychological Association as well as the Comparative and International Education Society. The author of numerous scholarly articles, Al-Ahmadi earned her PhD at the Faculty of Education and Humanities at Taibah University in Saudi Arabia.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Ali Alzumai</p>	<p>Formerly Kuwaiti Minister for Religious Endowments and Islamic Affairs, Minister of Planning, and Minister of State for Administrative Development Affairs, he was awarded a PhD in modern political history in 1989 in the UK with a thesis on "The Intellectual and Historical Development of the Islamist Movement in Kuwait 1950-1981."</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Ali Fakhro</p>	<p>Member of the Board of Trustees of several Arab research institutions including the Center for Arab Unity Studies, the Arab Organization for the Fight Against Corruption, the Bahrain Center for Studies and Research and the Institute for Palestine Studies. He has served as Bahrain's Minister of Health from 1970 to 1982, and Education Minister from 1982 to 1995, and then as Bahrain's ambassador to France.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Ali Watfa</p>	<p>Professor of Educational Psychology in both Damascus University and Kuwait University. A member of the Arab Writers Union, the Syrian Writers Association, the Global Network for Human Rights Education and many other Arab organizations, his books have been widely translated and his educational research published in Arab and Islamic educational journals. He holds an MA and PhD in Educational Sociology from Cannes University, France.</p>

Participant	Biography
Allam Hamdan	Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Accountancy and Economics at Ahlia University in Bahrain. Hamdan has won a number of prizes for academic research and holds an MA and PhD in Accountancy from the Arab Academy for Banking and Financial Studies in Jordan.
Amna Abdullah Sadiq	MA student in the Gulf Studies Program at Qatar University, Sadiq's research interests include the role of media in the Arab Spring, on which she wrote a paper presented at the Student Middle East Studies Conference at Georgetown University, Qatar. Sadiq has a BA in Diplomacy and Global Security from Qatar University.
Arij al-Bassam	Researcher specialized in Educational Technologies, al-Bassam has participated in many regional and international conferences and published a number of research papers. She holds an MA in Educational Technologies from King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia.
Ayman Al Hammad	Lead writer for Riyadh newspaper and political analyst interested in Chinese affairs and nuclear energy. He has lectured at the Institute for Diplomatic Studies in Riyadh and at the College of Media and Communications, Imam Muhammad ibn Saud University. He has an MA in Media from King Saud University, Saudi Arabia.
Basheer Hadi	Assistant Professor in the Economics Department at Basra University, specializing in econometrics. He has published research in a number of local and Arab journals and participated in many academic conferences inside and outside Iraq. He received his PhD in economics from Basra University.
Becca Wasser	Project Associate in the Center for Middle East Public Policy at the RAND Corporation, where she works on a variety of defense and Middle East related projects. Prior to RAND, Wasser worked at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), based jointly in Washington, DC and Manama, Bahrain. She holds an MS in Foreign Service, with distinction, from the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.
Clara Morgan	Assistant Professor in Political Science at UAE University with research interests in the governance of education and labor market policy. Her current research focuses on educational policy developments in the Arab region. Morgan holds a PhD in Public Policy from Carleton University and a Master of Arts in Education from the University of Toronto.
Dhafer Al Ajmi	Executive Director of the Gulf Monitoring Group. A retired Colonel in the Kuwait Air Force, he has published articles and studies on issues of Gulf security and is a regular contributor to the Gulf press. In Arabic, he has authored, among other works, Arabian Gulf Security: Its Evolution and Dilemmas in Regional and International Relations. He holds a doctorate in Arabian Gulf Security from the British Staff College, Camberley.

Participant	Biography
Dhafer Al-Ani	Iraqi Member of Parliament on the Foreign Relations Committee. Professor at the Political Science College of Baghdad University. He was the former Head of the Iraqi Studies Department at the Gulf Research Center in Dubai. He holds a doctorate degree in International Relations.
Faisal Abu Salib	Assistant Professor in the Political Science department of the Social Science faculty at the University of Kuwait since September 2009. Abu Salib headed the American Studies unit in the same faculty from 2010 to 2014. He has published a number of articles and books on US foreign policy in the Gulf region and gained a doctorate in Political Science from the University of Manchester in 2009.
Faleh Al Hajri	Deputy Editor-in-Chief at Qatar's Al Sharq newspaper. He holds a degree in Mass Communication from Qatar University.
Fawziya Al-Khater	Director of the Teaching Committee in the Higher Education Council of Qatar. She currently heads many committees with pivotal roles in reviewing Qatar's national teaching curriculum. Al-Khater holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences in addition to a Teaching Diploma.
Fayez Al-Nashwan	Professor of International Law and International Relations and an Advisor to His Highness the Prime Minister of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah as well as to Kuwait's Social Development Bureau. An expert on extremism and terrorism, Al-Nashwan sits on the committee tasked with amending Kuwait's educational curricula. He earned his PhD in Political Science with a specialization in International Law from Cairo University.
Fayiz Al Dhafeeri	Assistant Dean for research, consultancy, and training at the College of Education at Kuwait University. He was previously the Director of the Education Technology Center at Kuwait University. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Applied Technology and Performance Improvement from the University of North Texas.
Ghassan Al-Izzi	International affairs scholar and Professor of Political Science and International Relations at the Lebanese University. His scholarship has been published in both Arabic and French. Al-Izzi obtained his PhD from France's Reine University.
Ghazi Al Rasheedi	Assistant Professor in the Department of Foundations of Education in the School of Education at Kuwait University. He headed the Higher Committee for Education in Kuwait from 2004 to 2006, and holds a PhD in Education from Sussex University, UK.

Participant	Biography
Hadi Al Marri	Researcher specializing in educational and teaching issues. He holds multiple diplomas in educational leadership and has attended various educational and managerial training courses. He holds the full professional license for school principals. Al Marri has a Masters degree from the Sharia and Islamic Studies College at Qatar University.
Hadi Mashaan	Head of the Political Science Department in the Faculty of Law and Political Science at the University of Anbar in Iraq. He has published books and research articles and previously chaired the department of Behavioral Sciences at Challenge (al-Tahadi) University in Libya. He holds a doctorate in political science from the University of Baghdad.
Hamad Althunayyan	Doctoral candidate in Political Science at the University of Maryland, College Park. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Virginia Commonwealth University, and Master of Arts in International Relations from the American University in Washington, DC. He has written several articles on Gulf security, Iran, and the US role in the Middle East.
Hanan Abdulhameed	Researcher specializing in Educational Technologies, Abdel Hamid has taught and carried out academic research at a number of institutions including Dar Al-Hekma University and Saudi Aramco. Widely published in various local and international cultural and academic journals, Abdulhameed holds an MA in educational technologies from King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia.
Hatoon al-Fassi	Saudi academic, historian and writer, specialized in women's history in the Gulf. She is a columnist in the daily al-Riyad, and has published her research extensively in Arabic and English. She obtained her master's degree from King Saud University, and her doctorate in ancient history from the Middle East Department of Manchester University, England.
Hend Al Muftah	Associate Professor and Vice-President of Administration and Finance at the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, Qatar. Formerly Head of Human Resources at Qatar University, she has published a number of academic papers. Al Muftah received her MA in development studies from SOAS, and her PhD in Human Capital Formation from Exeter University, UK.
Hessa Al-Attayah	Research Assistant at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies. Her research interests focus on linguistics and identity formation in Qatar. Before joining the ACRPS, Al-Attayah graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Affairs, Cum Laude (With Distinction), from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, majoring in Culture and Politics (CULP).

Participant	Biography
<p>Hoda al-Yami</p>	<p>Assistant Professor in Educational Technologies at Najran University, Saudi Arabia, Al-Yami has published extensively in academic journals. She holds a PhD in educational methods and technologies from Umm al-Qura University in Saudi Arabia.</p>
<p>Imad Mansour</p>	<p>Assistant Professor in the Department of International Affairs at Qatar University, Mansour is also Director of the research group on International Affairs and Security at the Center for Humanities and Social Sciences. He is also Vice President of the Global South Caucus of the International Studies Association. He is the author of 'Statecraft in the Middle East' (I.B.Tauris, forthcoming 2016).</p>
<p>Jaber Al Harami</p>	<p>Editor-in-Chief of Qatar's Al Sharq newspaper, having been the Chief of the Media Committee at Qatar's Special Olympic Committee. Previously, al-Harami was a member of the Executive of the International Sports Press Association and was Qatar's representative to the founding meeting of the Afro-Arab Journalism Organization, in 1998. In 1996, he was recognized by the Arab League as the Arab region's best young journalist.</p>
<p>Jaber Nasser Al-Marri</p>	<p>Managing Editor of Qatar's Al Arab newspaper, Al Marri is a journalist and media researcher. He earned a BA in Media Studies from Qatar University.</p>
<p>Jameel Al-Shammari</p>	<p>Head of the Desk of Teacher Affairs in Qatar's Higher Education Council. He is a certified human development trainer and holds the full professional license for school principals. He holds a Bachelor's of Arts degree in History, in addition to leadership and management diplomas.</p>
<p>Jean-Marc Rickli</p>	<p>Assistant Professor at the Department of Defence Studies of King's College London but based at the Joaan Bin Jassim Joint Command and Staff College in Doha. He is also a Senior Researcher at the Near East Center for Security and Strategy of King's College and an Associate Fellow of the Geneva Center for Security Policy (GCSP). He holds a PhD and an MPhil in International Relations from Oxford University, UK.</p>
<p>John J. Mearsheimer</p>	<p>R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science and Co-Director of the Program on International Security Policy at the University of Chicago. Mearsheimer has written extensively on security issues and international politics more generally, and has published five books, among them The Tragedy of Great Power Politics (2001, 2014), which won the Joseph Leggold Book Prize and The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy (with Stephen M. Walt, 2007), which made the New York Times best seller list and has been translated into twenty-two different languages.</p>

Participant	Biography
<p>Kaltham al-Ghanim</p>	<p>Professor of Sociology and Co-Director of the Humanities and Social Sciences Centre at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Qatar University. She has several published research studies addressing family, women and youth issues, and has participated in drafting a number of development policies and programs, serving also as president or member of the Board of Directors in select development agencies. She holds a doctoral degree in Sociology from the Faculty of Arts, Ain Shams University.</p>
<p>Khalid al-Dakhil</p>	<p>Researcher in political sociology, a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Palestine Studies and a Professor of Political Sociology at King Saud University in Saudi Arabia. He has been a columnist for London's Al Hayat newspaper and is widely published in Arab journals. Al-Dakhil received his PhD and MA from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).</p>
<p>Khalid Al-Jaber</p>	<p>Head of the Al-Sharq Center for Research and Opinion Surveys and Assistant Professor of Political Communication in the Gulf Studies Program at Qatar University. Al-Jaber was previously the Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Al-Sharq, and is now the Editor-in-Chief of the English language Peninsula, a part of the same newspaper group. Al-Jaber is a scholar of Arab and Gulf studies whose research focuses on media, political communication, and international relations.</p>
<p>Khalid al-Khater</p>	<p>Administrative Director of Research and Monetary Policy at the Central Bank of Qatar, al-Khater is also a member of the Monetary Policy Committee, and of the central bank's investment board. Specialized in monetary policy and political economy, al-Khater has worked as a visiting professor at Georgetown University and at the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development. He holds a PhD in economics from the University of California.</p>
<p>Kristin Kamøy</p>	<p>Doctoral student in law at University of Toulon France (defends in 2016), and currently teaches Media and Communication at the American University in the Emirates, Dubai, UAE. She has degrees in Social Anthropology (MSc) and Management (BSc) from the London School of Economics. Kamøy was a staff reporter at a national daily in Oslo, Norway, for years.</p>

Participant	Biography
Luciano Zaccara	Assistant Professor and Research Coordinator in Gulf Politics at the Gulf Studies Center, Qatar University. He is also the Director of the OPEMAM-Observatory on Politics and Elections in the Muslim and Arab World based in Spain. He was Visiting Assistant Professor at Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service in Qatar, between 2013 and 2014. He holds a PhD in Arab and Islamic Studies from Autónoma University of Madrid.
Majed al-Turki	Head of the Center for Media and Arab-Russian Studies, and since 2009 an academy member of the Russian Academy of Social Sciences. He holds a doctorate in Political Science from the University of Moscow, 2004, and a PhD in Media Systems and Policy from Imam University in Riyadh in 1998. He has authored more than 20 articles on media and in political and historical domains and has undertaken the supervision of a number of translations from Russian to Arabic.
Malek Hassan	Researcher specializing in Applied Linguistics and Professor at the Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fes, Morocco, Hassan has published numerous books and articles. He holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics from Moulai Ismail University, Morocco.
Mamdouh Salameh	International Oil Economist and Consultant to the World Bank on oil and energy issues. He is a technical expert with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Vienna and a Visiting Professor of Energy Economics at the ESCP Europe, an administrative sciences university, in London. He holds a PhD in Economics specializing in the economics and geopolitics of oil and energy.
Marwan Kabalan	Associate Researcher at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies. He was previously Dean of the Faculty of International Relations and Diplomacy at the University of Kalamoon, Damascus. Kabalan is the author of several books and essays in politics and international relations. He earned his PhD at Manchester University, UK.
Maxim Suchkov	Political analyst focusing on Russian and American foreign policy in the Middle East and the post-Soviet space. He is a columnist for Al-Monitor's Russia Pulse and expert of the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC). He is also an Associate Professor at Pyatigorsk State Linguistic University's School of International Relations and a Fellow at the Institute for Strategic Studies in the Russian North Caucasian city of Pyatigorsk.

Participant	Biography
Meshari Al Ruwaih	Lecturer in the Department of International Affairs, Qatar University, Al Ruwaih's research interests focus on the relationship between Islam and contemporary international relations. He has published a number of books and articles and received his MA and PhD in International Relations from Durham University, UK.
Mezna Al-Azmi	Assistant Professor in the College of Education, Kuwait University and researcher specializing in Education Administration and Education Economics. She has published several research papers and holds a PhD in Education Administration.
Mohammed Al Misfer	Professor of Political Science at Qatar University. He is a regular columnist for both Doha-based and pan-Arab newspapers, and writes widely on Arab nationalism and related issues. Al Misfer earned his PhD in Political Science from New York University.
Mohammed bin Abdul Wahid Al Hammadi	Minister of Education and Higher Education in Qatar. Previously, he served a number of roles at Qatar University, including as Dean of the College of Engineering and the Vice President for Planning and Institutional Development. Al Hammadi is also the former President of the Qatar College of Technology, and was also the Director of the Office of Research and Institutional Planning at the same institution.
Mohammed Ghanim al-Rumaihi	Professor of Political Sociology at Kuwait University, and previously served as Editor-in-Chief of Kuwaiti periodicals and General Secretary for the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters. An adviser to the Prime Minister's Office, he is also a member of several research institutions and intellectual journals and magazines. He has a number of published books on development in the Gulf and on Arab culture. He obtained his doctoral degree in Social Sciences from Durham University in 1973.
Muhittin Ataman	Professor at Yildirim Beyazit University, Ankara, where he teaches International Relations and Middle Eastern Politics. Ataman is also the Deputy General Coordinator at SETA Foundation, and Editor-in-Chief of Insight Turkey. His academic studies mainly concentrate on Middle Eastern politics, Gulf politics in particular, and Turkish foreign policy. Ataman completed his Doctorate at the University of Kentucky.
Nagla Marie	Assistant Professor in Political Science at King Abdul-Aziz University. Marie is the winner of the Arab prize for Social Sciences and Humanities from the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies for the year 2013-2014. She holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Political Science from the Economics and Political Science College at the University of Cairo.

Participant	Biography
Noura Al Mazrouei	Assistant Professor at the College of Sustainability Sciences and Humanities at Zayed University, Abu Dhabi. She is also an Assistant Professor at the Emirate Diplomatic Academy, which she has worked on establishing since 2014. She obtained a PhD in International Relations with a focus on Gulf Studies from the University of Exeter, UK.
Osama Abu Irshaid	Non-Resident Researcher at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies. Abu Irshaid earned his PhD in Politics and Philosophy from the UK's Loughborough University, and an MA in Political Science and International Relations from Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago, Illinois.
Rabee Qassem	Assistant Professor in the Economics Department of the College of Administration and Economics at Basra University. He holds an MA in Labor Economics and a PhD in Economic Development from Basra University.
Radi Nagemesh	Teaches in the Economics Department of the College of Administration and Economics at Basra University. He has published numerous research papers and received his PhD in International Economics, specializing in financial crises, from Basra University in 2012.
Rémi Piet	Expert in Russian and European foreign policy, energy security especially in the Americas and Asia and international political economy. He currently serves as a member of the Graduate Faculty of International Affairs and Political Economy in the Masters and PhD Program in Gulf Studies at Qatar University. He holds a PhD from the University of Miami, USA.
Sadiq Al Ammari	Qatari journalist and the Managing Editor of Al Raya daily newspaper. A practicing journalist for the last 16 years, Al Ammari earned a BA in Journalism and Media at Cairo's Al Azhar University.
Saeed Al-Mullais	Member of Saudi Arabia's Shura Council. His previous roles include being an Assistant Undersecretary in the Saudi Ministry of Education; an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Education at King Saud University; and the General Director of the Arab Education Bureau of the Gulf States. Al-Mullais earned his PhD, during which his research focused on the teaching of English in secondary schools, from Indiana University at Bloomington, Indiana in the United States.
Saif Al-Muamari	Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Teaching, Faculty of Education, Sultan Qaboos University, he is a member of the UNESCO team of Arab experts drawing up the Global Citizenship Charter for the Arab world. He has published many books and articles, and received his PhD in Philosophy of Education from Glasgow University, Scotland.

Participant	Biography
Sami Al Tamimi	Teaches at Basra University and was formerly Director of the Department for Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies, and Director of the Finance and Administration Office at the same institution. He holds an MA and PhD in Economics, specializing in Economic Development, from Basra University.
Samia Costandi	Associate Professor in Philosophy of Education at Ahlia University, Bahrain. She is currently Assistant Head for Educational Quality at the same institution. She received her MA and PhD in Philosophy of Education from McGill University, Canada.
Sharifa Al-Yahyai	Lecturer and Researcher specialized in Women Studies at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. Formerly Oman's Minister for Social Development (2004-2011), she received her PhD in Arabic and Middle Eastern Studies from Leeds University, UK in 2001.
Steven Wright	Associate Professor of International Relations and Gulf Studies, at Qatar University, and Associate Dean for Planning and Quality Assurance for the College of Arts and Sciences. He previously served as Head of the Department of International Affairs. Wright's areas of research focus on comparative politics and international relations of the Persian Gulf States, energy security and US foreign policy towards the Middle East. He obtained his PhD from Durham University, UK.
Suhaim Al Thani	Researcher at ACRPS and Secretary of the Organizational Board of the Gulf Studies Forum, Al Thani's work has appeared in several peer-reviewed journals. He holds an MA in Political Science, specializing in International Relations, from Royal Holloway, University of London.
Yacoub Al Kandari	Professor of Anthropology and Sociology in the Department of Sociology and Social Work, Faculty of Social Science, Kuwait University. His previous posts include Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Kuwait University, and Director of the Center for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies. Al Kandari received his MA and PhD from Ohio State University, USA.
Zahid Shahab Ahmed	Assistant Professor at the Centre for International Peace & Stability (CIPS), National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST) in Islamabad. He received his PhD in Political and International Studies from the University of New England (UNE) in Australia. In 2013, Ashgate Publishing Ltd published his book: "Regionalism and Regional Security in South Asia: The Case of SAARC".
Zainab Al Gharbiya	Education expert in the Office of the Minister for Education in Oman. She has published several books and research papers, and writes a weekly column in the Omani newspaper Al Roya. She received her MA in Education from Glasgow University, Scotland.



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