About Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q)

Established in 1789, Georgetown University is one of the world’s leading academic and research institutions, offering a unique educational experience that prepares the next generation of global citizens to lead and make a difference in the world.

Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q), founded in 2005, empowers students and shapes the human capacity that the MENA region needs for the 21st century, providing a holistic educational experience built upon the highest academic standards. GU-Q’s Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service (BSFS) stresses multidisciplinary studies in a global context. It is the same globally respected program and curriculum offered at the Georgetown University Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service in Washington D.C. The BSFS degree is offered in one of four majors: International Economics, International Politics, Culture and Politics, and International History. Students can also pursue a certificate in one of three concentrations: Arab and Regional Studies, American Studies, or Media and Politics.

GU-Q provides an excellent space that serves as the foundation for learning, research, and community engagement. The university hosts state-of-the-art auditoriums, immersive classroom instruction facilities, a dedicated staff and internationally renowned scholars and teaching faculty, as well as the region’s leading library for international affairs.

To learn more about GU-Q’s exciting events and programs, or to benefit from its wide array of research, please visit qatar.sfs.georgetown.edu.

About the Center for International and Regional Studies

Established in 2005, the Center for International and Regional Studies at Georgetown University in Qatar is a premier research institute devoted to the academic study of regional and international issues through dialogue and exchange of ideas, research and scholarship, and engagement with national and international scholars, opinion-makers, practitioners, and activists.

About Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organization that supports Qatar on its journey from a carbon economy to a knowledge economy. It does this by unlocking human potential for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. Founded in 1995 by HH the Father Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of Qatar, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. QF carries out its mission via three strategic pillars: education, science and research, and community development. For more information, visit www.qf.org.qa.

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The Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS) focuses on research and scholarship, publications, faculty engagement, community outreach, and student development. Guided by the principles of academic excellence, forward vision, and community outreach, the CIRS mission revolves around five principal goals:

• To provide a forum for scholarship and research on international and regional affairs;
• To encourage in-depth examination and exchange of ideas;
• To foster thoughtful dialogue among students, scholars, and practitioners of international affairs;
• To facilitate the free flow of ideas and knowledge through publishing the products of its research, sponsoring conferences and seminars, and holding workshops designed to explore the complexities of the twenty-first century;
• To engage in outreach activities with a wide range of local, regional, and international partners.

“...a forum for scholarship & research on international and regional affairs...”
1. Research and Scholarship
2. Faculty Engagement
3. Publications
4. Community Outreach
5. Student Enrichment

1. RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

CIRS organizes several working groups that convene in Doha and Washington, DC, to examine a variety of issues pertinent to the Gulf region, the Middle East, and Asia. The primary purpose of these projects is to fill in existing research gaps and to contribute toward furthering knowledge on prevailing issues related to the security, economic stability, and politics of these regions.

Each CIRS research initiative involves working groups made up of prominent scholars, practitioners, and policymakers from the Middle East, the Gulf region, Asia, and beyond. Invited participants contribute to these initiatives by conducting original investigations, and submitting papers on specific topics related to the research.

CIRS contributes to the existing body of knowledge through supporting and funding a wide variety of original and empirically-based research. Through regular working group meetings, CIRS creates a scholarly forum where our grant recipients share their research findings with other international academics, policymakers, and practitioners.

Please see the Appendix for a full list of participants at each working group meeting.
LEADING THE FAITHFUL: THE ROLE OF RELIGIOUS AUTHORITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST - WORKING GROUP I
August 22-23, 2016

Over the course of two days, the invited scholars identified a number of gaps in the literature on the position and role of religious leaders of different communities present in the Middle East, as well as broader themes related to the issue of religious authority across the region.

The session commenced with a discussion led by Reem Meshal on “The Crisis of Religious Authority in Egypt and the Arab Spring,” who spoke about current crises that need further scrutiny, while Zachary Wright and Usama Alony discussed “Personalized Religious Charisma in Jihadi Islamist Circles.”

Leon Goldsmith, Albert de Jong, and Michiel Leezenberg all provided focused case-studies on different, smaller religious communities in the Middle East. Goldsmith provided insight on the topic of “Alawite Religious Leadership, the State, and Politics in the Levant.” De Jong led a discussion on an understudied community in the Middle East, the Mandaens, about which little is known, and Leezenberg presented on “Shabak and Yezidi Religious Leaders and the Iraqi State.” Sajjad Rizvi raised areas of inquiry related to “The Changing Marja'iyat and Shiite Religious Authority in the Middle East,” and Stephane Dudoignon led a session focusing on the role of “Sunni Religious Leaders and Inter-Confessional Relations in Iran.” Other scholars presented their original research findings.

The discussions reflected the significance of the role religious leaders play in the Middle East through their interactions with both states and publics. They also revealed the extent to which this significant role is understudied in the scholarship, especially in light of the developments that swept the region after the 2011 Arab uprisings.
The participants examined pluralism and diversity within the contemporary Middle East, addressing among other things: how governance and legal regimes incorporate or engage with issues of plural communities; how architecture and urbanism in the Middle East reflect changing notions of identity and inclusion; iconoclasm and heritage destruction undertaken by the Islamic State (IS); education in the plural societies of Lebanon and Syria; the economic conditions of Sunni communities in Iran; the evolution of Armenian nationalism and identity in the Middle East; race, ethnicity, and identity in Iran; and Qatari social structure.


Annika Rabo presented on “Educating Citizens in Lebanon and Syria,” and Firoozeh Kashni-Sabet’s paper on race, ethnicity, and identity in Iran provides a historical review of the evolution of notions of race and skin color in modern Iran. Afshin Shahi shifted the discussion to examine notions of inclusion and exclusion in Iran with a paper on “Economic Conditions of the Sunni Community in Modern Iran,” and Islam Hassan shared his research on “Qatari Social Structure and the State: Problems of Inclusion and Exclusion.” The final papers will be published by CIRS in an edited volume.
In collaboration with the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESA) at the National Defense University in Washington, DC, CIRS hosted a one-day forum on Gulf security in Doha. Distinguished scholars, experts, and policymakers convened to discuss current threats and concerns, and potential opportunities in some Gulf countries, including the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Iran. The participants also discussed the United States’ position on these security concerns and opportunities.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states have been keen to protect their monarchies and maintain the status quo in the Middle East with more assertive foreign policies and by utilizing their financial capabilities to influence the political dynamics in the region. Five main security concerns have driven the active role of GCC states in the Middle East: the instability in Syria, Iraq, and Yemen; the uncertainty of US priorities in the region; the rise of non-state actors such as the Islamic State; profound fluctuations in the oil market; and domestic social and economic challenges.

Regardless of internal disagreements, security remains a top priority for the GCC leaders, as does regional and domestic stability. Despite significant steps toward integration, the GCC is still far from providing a model of security integration. GCC member states have different perceptions of their security threats, especially when it comes to Iran.

Some GCC states are also developing advanced security systems in order to minimize possible cyber attacks on their oil facilities and other key infrastructures. Considering these and other perceived threats, the participants argued that each GCC state was likely to continue thinking in national rather than collective terms.
The assembled participants identified key gaps in the literature on rentier states of the Gulf, and discussed a variety of related subtopics: rent distribution and development of institutions; political legitimacy; military establishments in the Gulf; stability and instability; human rights in the Gulf Cooperation Council states; gender equality; entrepreneurship; and education, occupations and Khaleeji youth.

Matthew Gray led the session with his paper, “Rentier Wealth: Curse or Cure for the Gulf?” followed by Desha Girod’s paper “Rent Distribution and the Development of Institution in the Gulf.” Building on this Mehran Kamrava discussed “Political Legitimacy and Scaling Back during an Oil Bust in the Gulf,” in which he spoke about differences among GCC states in terms of patterns of state building, social cohesion, rent-driven policies, relationship between ruling families and tribes, and bureaucracies. Mohammad Reza Farzanegan focused his discussion on “Oil Rents and the Military in the Gulf,” while Jessie Moritz followed with a paper on “Resource Rents and Stability/Instability in Gulf Societies.”

Zahra Babar led a session on “Hydrocarbons and Human Rights in the GCC,” in which she suggested that the “universality” of human rights remains highly contested, with polarization between which rights are mean to be prioritized in different contexts. Following Babar’s discussion, Gail Buttorff led a session on “Hydrocarbon Wealth and Gender Equality in the Gulf.”

Crystal Ennis concluded the working group discussions with a session on “Education, Occupation, and Khaleeji Youth Success,” in which she claimed that there is a mismatch between Khaleeji youth’s education and job market demands. The final articles will be collected by CIRS for publication in a special issue of a journal.
Urbanists, governance experts, and climate change specialists gathered in Doha for a two-day workshop co-hosted with the Strauss Center for International Security and Law at the University of Texas at Austin. Participants gathered to consider climate change vulnerability and governance in coastal cities of South Asia.

Topics debated included the nature and definition of various understandings of climate vulnerability; the role that coastal geographies and ecologies play in exacerbating climate vulnerability; the impacts of climate change on urban settlement; and the governance challenges faced by cities as they attempt (or in some cases do not attempt) to address their particular vulnerabilities.

The conversation was specifically designed to generate comparative discussion across coastal cities in the region, with particular attention paid to coastal mega-cities of the region.

One key discussion question was: How will the anticipated phenomenon of mass displacement and migration challenge our accepted understandings of sovereignty and the protection missions of the state, the city, and the community?

The workshop was the latest in a series of conversations on this topic organized by Paula Newberg as part of the Strauss Center’s research initiative on Complex Emergencies and Political Stability in Asia. The research program explores the diverse forces that contribute to climate-related disaster vulnerability and complex emergencies in Asia; the implications of such events for local and regional security; and how investments in preparedness can minimize these impacts and build resilience.

CEPSA is a multi-year initiative funded by the US Department of Defense’s Minerva Initiative, a university-based, social science research program focused on areas of strategic importance to national security policy.
The invited participants identified key gaps in the literature on the international relations of the Middle East through the lens of middle power theory. They led discussions on related subtopics, including: Middle Eastern middle powers and the international system; middle powers and the 2011 Arab uprisings; domestic politics; middle powers cooperation and competition; humanitarian diplomacy; norm entrepreneurship; and conflict resolution and mediation.

The 2011 Arab uprisings have been an evolving period of significance in the Middle East. While the uprisings increased domestic instability in some traditionally strong states, and led to a retraction in their capacity in international and regional affairs, smaller states suddenly had an opening for more prominent engagement. It remains to be seen whether these smaller states’ regional and international status-seeking endeavors are of a durable nature.

Some discussions focused much attention on the ambiguity in the scholarly literature in terms of providing an exact definition for middle power states, and little work has been done on which states might qualify for middle power status within the context of the Middle East. Other presentations revolved around the characteristics for determining whether a state is able to claim middle power status. These include, among others, states’ relative hard power capabilities; their capacity to exert influence over regional events; financial resources; institutional strength and bureaucratic capabilities; and their relative autonomy. Participants also discussed common foreign policy features among Middle Eastern middle powers. A second working group meeting will take place in the following academic year at which participants will share original paper contributions.
This working group convened under a broader research project on highly skilled migrants in Qatar launched last year by Zahra Babar, CIRS Associate Director for Research, Nabil Khattab of the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, and Michael Ewers of Qatar University’s Social and Economic Survey Research Institute.

Scholars with experience on the topic of skilled migration were invited to present their research and receive feedback from the group. The topics discussed included, among others, “involuntary immobility” of highly skilled migrants in Qatar; the impact of highly skilled migrants on GCC economies; structural factors and recruitment of highly skilled migrants in the GCC; transition from oil- to knowledge-based economies; categories, visa classes, and visa programs of skilled migrants; integration in the workplace; and the global competition among different countries seeking to attract highly skilled migrants.

Babar, Ewers, and Khattab presented their research on “Immobile Highly Skilled Migrants in Qatar.” During their presentation, the authors presented their data and suggested that given the research carried out, it could be argued that under certain circumstances highly skilled migrants might become “involuntarily immobile” in Qatar. Some of the data collected demonstrate that instability, conflict, and insecurity at home for certain Arab communities of highly skilled workers in Qatar means that they are also made involuntarily immobile as they cannot return home or move to resettle in a third country. At the conclusion of the meeting, Babar, Ewers, and Khattab highlighted that the original contributions of the group’s articles would greatly expand the scholarly lens on highly skilled migrants, moving it outside the traditional focus on OECD countries. The articles are due to be published in a special issue of a journal in the next academic year.
Researchers investigated the dynamics, the position of, and the role played by, religious leaders of different religious communities present in the Middle East. Some papers provided historical depth in tracing the role of religious leaders, while others cast their attention to the role of religious leadership in more recent times, particularly in the wake of increasing confessional and sectarian civil conflict seen in the wars in Iraq and Syria.

Discussion focused on specific themes and case studies, addressing the following areas: the role of Sunni authority from a historical perspective; the evolution of the marja’ and Shia religious leadership in the Middle East; the role of Sufi religious leaders and orders in the Middle East today; the evolution of leadership and authority over the Hajj; the conditions of the Alawite community and the role of the Alawi Sheikhs in Syria in the current context; and cases studies on the religious leadership of the Mandaean, the Yezidi, and the Shabak religious communities.

Tamara Sonn presented on “Who Speaks for the Umma? Sunni Authority and Religious Leadership in the Contemporary Middle East.” Mark Sedgwick examined Sufi religious leaders and orders in the Middle East, Leon Goldsmith presented on the ‘Alawī sheikhs, Sajjad Rizvi spoke about Shi‘i leadership and the making of a marja’, Robert Bianchi focused on the Hajj, Albert de Jong shifted the discussion to pseudo-Islamic sects, and Michiel Leezenberg presented the last paper of the working group that examines the transformations in the leadership of minority religious communities in Northern Iraq: the Yezidis, Shabak, and Assyrians in Northern Iraq. The final papers will be published by CIRS in an edited volume.
The working group participants identified key gaps in the literature on sports in the Middle East through the lens of their various disciplines. Discussions were held on a range of related subtopics, including: the historical evolution of sports in the Middle East; nationalism, identity, and sports; ethno-national conflict and sports; social inclusion, gender, and sports; fans, brands, sponsorships, and the commercial development of sports; the politics of football in the Levant; physical education; the evolution of sports media; Khaleeji soft power, branding and sports investments; and GCC mega sporting events and foreign relations.

Murat Yildiz led the opening discussion on the topic “The Historical Evolution of Sports in the Middle East,” Nadim Nassif provided an overview of new research questions in relation to “Nationalism, Identity, and Sports in the Middle East,” and closely related to questions raised during Nassif’s session, Tamir Sorek led a discussion on “Ethno-national Conflict and Sports in the Middle East.” Nida Ahmad continued with a discussion on identity, social inclusion, and exclusion by examining the issue of gender and sports in the Middle East, and Simon Chadwick led a session on the commercialization of sports in the Middle East.

Dag Tuastad shifted the discussion to “The Politics of Football in the Levant,” and Ferman Konukman explored “Physical Education and Sports Development in the Middle East.” Mahfoud Amara discussed another aspect of sports: “The Evolution of Sports Media in the Middle East,” while Nnamdi Madichie led a discussion on “Khaleeji Soft Power, Branding, and International Sports Investments.” Finally, Danyel Reiche discussed “GCC Mega Events and Foreign Relations: Reputational Gain or Loss?” CIRS will publish these original articles in a special issue of a journal within the following academic year.
During this second working group meeting, the participants presented their original contributions to the literature on rentier state theory, on subtopics including: rents, neopatrimonialism, entrepreneurial state capitalism in the Gulf; cooptation mechanisms in rentier state theory; imperial origins of the oil curse; the resource curse, gender, and labor nationalization policies in the GCC; and military spending and corruption in rentier states.

Matthew Gray began the discussion with his paper on “Rentierism’s Siblings: On the Linkages between Rents, Neopatrimonialism, and Entrepreneurial State Capitalism in the Persian Gulf Monarchies,” followed by Jessie Moritz’s paper, which questioned the resilience of rentier theory’s hypothesis that the state effectively coopts the public via rent disbursement, and thus avoids having to either reform or face opposition and dissent. Desha Girod presented on the “Imperial Origins of the Oil Curse,” in which she explored why some leaders of oil-rich states invest their rentier earning in socio-economic development, while other leaders largely spend this wealth on themselves and their networks of support.

Gail Buttorff shifted the discussions with a paper on the resource curse, gender, and labor nationalization policies in the GCC. She argued that recent scholarship posits that the resource curse has gendered as well as economic effects on oil-rich economies, entrenching paternalistic relationships that disadvantage women’s entry into the labor force in states such as those of the Middle East. Mohammad Reza Farzanegan concluded the meeting with a study showing that the level of corruption matters in how oil rents affect the military spending of different countries. The intermediary role of corruption in the military–oil nexus is robust, controlling country and year fixed effects, and a set of control variables that may affect military spending.
In December 2016, the Center for International and Regional Studies launched a grants cycle to fund empirical research on the subject of “Mobility, Displacement, and Forced Migration in the Middle East”, and in May 2017 the first working group under this project was convened in Doha. Seven teams of successful grant awardees were brought together with a number of other scholars to discuss existing gaps in scholarship on voluntary and forced migration in the region, and how their research projects propose to address some of these gaps. Through conducting empirical fieldwork in countries all over the Middle East, these scholars explore the fluid and changing nature of mobility and displacement as well as international humanitarian settings in order to elucidate institutional and human components of national borders.

Some of the subjects under discussion included: Borders and Mobility in the Middle East; Ethnic Cleansing and Forced Migration; Gender Identity and Radicalization; Syrian Refugees in Jordan; Local Markets and Crisis Responses in Border Cities; The Impact of Afghan Refugees on the Social and Spatial Fabric of Tehran; Migrants in Morocco, Tunisia, and Libya; Forced Migration of Yezidis, Shabak, and Assyrians; Gender Dimensions of Displacement; Saudi Arabia’s Humanitarian Donorship and Yemeni Refugee; and Migratory Connections between the Middle East, East Africa, and the Horn of Africa: Yemeni Refuge-seekers in Djibouti.

The participants will be invited back for a second meeting within the upcoming academic year to share their research findings, and critically discuss their papers.
CIRS hosted a Working Group meeting at the Georgetown University campus in Washington D.C. The meeting, which was a closed-door, one-day seminar, brought together a small number of renowned scholars to engage in a focused discussion on a book manuscript titled *The New Arab State: Institutions, Actors, and Processes*. This manuscript is in its final stages of preparation, and has been authored by CIRS Director, and Georgetown University Professor, Mehran Kamrava.

This is a book about state-society relations in the Arab world, focusing on the institutional make-up and composition of Arab states and how they have sought to establish coercive and ideological apparatuses enabling them to rule over society. Through a historical-institutional lens, Kamrava maintains that critical junctures provide a window of opportunity for state leaders to craft institutions and institutional arrangements that enable them to rule over society. Once these institutional arrangements are in place, two set of dynamics begin to occur. At one level, as institutions mature and as their institutions become routine, they begin to develop lives of their own. Slowly, they assume internal dynamics that move them in one direction or another. The actors who created these institutions, however, may not always approve of the direction in which they are moving. Thus a potential area of tension develops between agency and structure—what state actors wish to see of the institutions of the state and how these institutions actually behave.

The participants at the meeting are all scholars who work on the Middle East, some of who are members of the Georgetown University faculty, while the rest are affiliated with other universities and think-tanks based in Washington, DC. The workshop participants approached their individual chapters from their diverse disciplinary positions while understanding that the manuscript wished to receive a critique across conventional disciplinary divides. Each participant had been assigned specific chapters to read and review, and which they then had to present to the group and also offer their own comments. The workshop participants suggested vital changes to the manuscript in order to avoid certain pitfalls and to appeal broadly to its intended audiences.

An introductory chapter highlighting the core contribution of the volume to the vast literature that already exists on the post Arab Spring Middle East was considered essential by several of the participants. The introduction ought to also provide some of the author’s reflections on and definitions of the terminology and key concepts that he uses throughout the book, such as institutions and agency. In addition, perhaps the introduction ought to introduce the larger outlines of the disciplinary debates that are currently placed later on in the volume. Some of the participants were very appreciative of the interdisciplinary approach of the workshop, but pointed out that from a historian’s perspective, the volume’s core approach towards a linear progress of the history of Middle Eastern states would be contested as such a linear view obscures the particularities of different Arab states’ experiences over time.
2. Faculty Engagement

CIRS provides a number of engagement opportunities to the faculty of Georgetown University in Qatar, including a year-long annual fellowship position, research workshops designed for in-depth discussion of a faculty member’s forthcoming publication, grants awarded for original research projects, and international travel and outreach opportunities.

CIRS Faculty Fellows

CIRS provides two annual year-long fellowship positions awarded to faculty members from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar (SFS-Q) and Qatar University.

Abdullah Al-Arian is Assistant Professor of History at Georgetown University in Qatar. Al-Arian received his doctorate in history from Georgetown University, and is author of *Answering the Call: Popular Islamic Activism in Sadat’s Egypt* (Oxford University Press). He is co-editor of the “Critical Currents in Islam” page on Jadaliyya, and is also a contributor to the Al Jazeera English network and website.

During his fellowship, Al-Arian worked on a project that reconsiders how we understand the historical role of Islamic social movements in the Arab world. In particular, it looks at the transnational diffusion of what we might call the Muslim Brotherhood “idea” and its subsequent localization in particular nation-state contexts.

Hadeel Al-Khatib is Assistant Professor in the College of Education at Qatar University. Her PhD is from University College London where she researched the impact of neoliberalism on Qatar’s language policy and language planning.

During her fellowship, she examined the future directions of Qatar University’s Language in Education Policy of either developing its bilingual education programs or implementing an Arabic monolingual model as stated in the strategic planning cycle 2017-2019. Her aim is to answer the question: what combination of language instruction will ensure that Qatar University’s students gain the subject content knowledge and skills necessary for higher education and employment?
CIRS Research Grant Recipients 2016-2017

CIRS awards research grants to scholars and researchers interested in the study of Gulf-related issues and the broader Middle East. Our goal is to contribute to the existing body of knowledge in the region through supporting original research on various topics. CIRS funds empirically-based research projects to fill existing gaps in the literature. Through regular CIRS-sponsored meetings we create a scholarly forum where CIRS grant recipients share their research findings with other academics, policymakers, and practitioners.

Mobility, Displacement, and Forced Migration in the Middle East

The Middle East is currently facing one of its most critical migration challenges, and the region has become the simultaneous producer of, and host to, the world’s largest population of displaced people. Exploring the conditions, causes, and consequences of ongoing population displacements in this part of the world is key to better understanding some of the profound social and political changes underway in the region. This project recognizes regional migration as a complex, widespread, and persistent phenomenon in the Middle East, and a topic best studied from a multidisciplinary approach. In an effort to broaden our understanding of the complex population movements that are seen in the Middle East, CIRS launched this grant-funded, multi-disciplinary research initiative to explore questions related to this topic.

A Story Worth Telling: Omani-Zanzibari Identity at the Intersection of Ethnic Cleansing and Forced Migration

Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf, Georgetown University in Qatar

Over the centuries, Omani people established significant maritime networks across the Indian Ocean and the East African littoral. Although commonly associated with the official transfer of the capital from Muscat to Zanzibar by Sayyid Sultan in 1832, many Omanis refer to a migratory pattern that spanned centuries. These migrations both before and after of the settlement of Al-Busaidi dynasty in the Zanzibar archipelago lie at the heart of the creation of a distinctly Omani-Swahili identity and political subjectivity. This project tells the story of how the forced migration of Omanis to Muscat after the Zanzibar Revolution in 1964 affected their Swahili identity. On January 12, 1964, hundreds of Africans attacked Unguja, the seat of the Omani empire armed with machetes, automatic rifles, and guns. Within a few hours of this attack, the Sultan and other Omani-Zanzibari fled the island following the massacre and rape of Arabs. The objective of the project is to examine the effects of forced migration on Omani-Zanzibaris in Muscat. Three main research questions ask: How did they think of themselves politically, socio-culturally, and linguistically? The project will continue a multi-sited ethnography in Muscat and Zanzibar. It will gather personal narratives to elucidate the base theme of the trajectory of Swahili identities in Oman and the extent to which they have been modulated by their forced migratory experience from Zanzibar.
The long-term conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq have led to a continuous migration of refugees to Iran. Today, Iran has become one of the biggest host countries of refugees in the Middle East. The unprecedented scale of the recent migration has had a significant impact on urban development dynamics, particularly in large cities. This research project is focused on a socio-spatial perspective on how Afghan refugee communities have begun to change local urbanism in Iranian cities. The central objective is to investigate three main dimensions of how these communities have been impacting their new surroundings: An active and conscious participation via community representatives in order to improve certain conditions; an indirect development of new spatial realities by investment patterns and general economic interaction; and last, but not least, the role of cultural aspects.

The methodological approach of this proposed research project mainly comprises interviews with officials and refugees, as well as site visits of case study districts in Tehran. The case studies are selected according to both the high percentage of refugees and the general history of each district with the aim to probe the main transformations and new socio-spatial realities in various contexts. The project is intended to support international academic research by providing new insights into the development dynamics between refugee communities and their surroundings in the Middle East. The project will therefore conclude with a new framework integrating all key aspects, which have to be taken into account.

This project aims to illuminate the dynamics and the patterns of the Syrian refuge in Syria’s neighboring countries. In particular, it puts the current forced displacement of Syrians into the larger theoretical framework of migration and mobility and connects the current forms of the Syrian displacement and refugeism to a longer history of crossborder mobility, transnational connections, and migration in the Middle East. It will be based on in-depth fieldwork in the Dayr al-Ahmar region, in the North of the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon (muhafaza of Baalbek-Hermel).

The research aims to explore the transformations brought about by the Syrian conflict in this area previously characterized by mobility and transnational networks connected to Syria. The ways in which the Syrian families are allowed to settle, under what conditions, and in which area of the territory of the villages seem to obey specific logics that the research will explore. This area offers interesting insights into the deployment of the new territoriosity of the economies of war and refugeism, from the resilient black market of cheap products in which Syrians play an important role, to the contributions of Syrian...
workers to the Lebanese economy, or to the fuelling of the Syrian war and Lebanese groups that are party to war, for instance with the reactivation of drug production and its transnational networks and markets.

Local Markets and Crisis Responses in Border Cities: The Cases of Lebanon and Turkey

Estella Carpi, University College London and Save the Children; Andrea Rigon, University College London; and Fernando Espada, Save the Children.

The nearly six-year-old Syrian political crisis has produced a large number of refugees fleeing into the border towns of Gaziantep (southern Turkey) and Halba (northern Lebanon). As a consequence, these two urban settings have been reconfigured through new social networks formed by Syrian refugee newcomers, older-date Syrian migrants, and citizen residents. In this framework, the sizeable presence of the international humanitarian apparatus assisting the refugees in border towns is changing local consumption cultures and leisure activities. Humanitarianism is here to be interpreted as a neoliberal force transforming local cultures and human geography in official states of emergency.

In these increasingly hybrid social settings, the transformation of local, international, and refugee sociocultural practices—traditions, habits, and public behavioral codes—is under-researched while it is possible to unearth how the urban patterns of Gaziantep and Halba are presently changing. The qualitative exploration of fluid leisure and consumption cultures in international humanitarian settings will therefore be explored in order to elucidate institutional and human components of border urban change. This research aims to investigate how everyday practices change within and between local, migrant, and refugee communities in times of emergency and in response to neoliberal humanitarian policies and emerging cultures of everyday life arrangement.

Forced Migration in Northern Iraq: A Comparative Study of Yezidis, Shabak, and Assyrians

Michiel Leezenberg, University of Amsterdam; and Thomas Schmidinger, University of Vienna

The Daesh onslaught on Jebel Sinjar and Ninewah plain in Northern Iraq in August 2014 specifically targeted three minority groups: the Yezidis, the heterodox Shi’ite Shabak, and the Assyrian Christians. These groups have long maintained an ambiguous, and ambivalent, position between the Iraqi state and the Kurdish national movement. The present project aims to trace and compare the dispersal patterns of these groups after they were driven from their homes. The Assyrians appear to have relocated in the most concentrated fashion, almost all resettling in the Ain Kawa suburb of Erbil. The Yezidis have resettled in a number of refugee camps in and near Iraqi Kurdistan, but the majority appear set to have emigrated to Europe. The Shabak, finally, first fled to Erbil area, but were subsequently encouraged to leave the refugee camps there and to resettle in Shi’ite
southern Iraq; there are signs that their distinct heterodox Shi’ite faith is currently being absorbed into mainstream itna’ashari Shi’ism. The project aims to tease out the risks these differences pose for the survival of these groups as distinct ethnic or sectarian minorities.

**Internal Displacement, (Re)-configuration of Gender Identity and Potential Link to Radicalization: The Case of Syrian Refugees in Jordan**

Aitemad Muhanna-Matar, *London School of Economics, Middle East Centre*

With a shortage of humanitarian aid provided to Syrian refugees in Jordan, many families have developed severe, as well as socially and culturally degrading, coping mechanisms to survive, including withdrawing children from school and sending them to work; early marriage for girls; and survival sex by adult women. These humiliating aspects of coping cause, and are partly caused by, a crisis of gender identity—both men and women are unable to fulfill their gender roles with dignity.

This research attempts to explore how the degrading aspects of gender reconfiguration for family survival are emotionally and morally accommodated, and/or resisted, by both men and women, and if they trigger vulnerable people to radicalize as a means of moral restoration based on Islamic ideology. Most gender literature on Syrian refugees focuses on the material aspect of coping, with insufficient attention given to the subjective effects of displacement and its resulting humanitarian crisis on gender identity and its reconfiguration.

**Mobility, Displacement, and Forced Migration in Libya and Tunisia**

Ricardo René Larémont, *State University of New York at Binghamton*; and Mostafa O. Attir, *The Libyan Academy for Graduate Studies, Tripoli, Libya*

This research project will examine mobility, displacement, and forced migration in Libya and Tunisia. Though significant work in recent years has studied the impact of trans-Mediterranean migration on Europe, little to no research has examined its effects on North Africa. This landmark study therefore seeks to address this lacuna by establishing foundational knowledge about the array of African and Middle Eastern migrants who have arrived in Libya and Tunisia. Though some of these migrants may attempt the dangerous crossing to Europe, many more choose—or are forced—to remain in these points of departure.

In order to address the humanitarian tragedy and security risks that are currently unfolding in the region, both researchers and policymakers need to understand these migrants' experiences, and the communities they have formed. This project will use semi-structured, individual interviews and focus groups to obtain data regarding migrants’ motives for migration, their aspirations, and the living conditions in Libya and Tunisia. This data will, in turn, be published in academic and public policy articles and, eventually, as a chapter in the book that will be produced by CIRS. This fieldwork is the initial phase of a long-term project that will have a wide-ranging impact on scholarly analyses and public policy regarding this issue.
3. Publications

CIRS publishes research and related materials in a variety of formats, including books, Occasional Papers, The Asia Papers, Annual Reports, Newsletters, and English and Arabic language Summary Reports. Through its publications, CIRS provides a forum for in-depth examination of ideas and issues of contemporary academic and political significance, both in the Gulf region, the Middle East, Asia, and beyond.

☐ The Asia Papers no. 2 (2016)

- The Importance of Being Ernst: Ernst David Bergmann and Israel’s Role in Taiwan’s Defense
  Yitzhak Shichor, University of Haifa

This paper examines the role of Professor Ernst Bergmann, the first chairman of the Israel Atomic Energy Commission, in Taiwan’s nuclear and missile programs. Bergmann maintained close relations with Taiwan’s president and its military-technological-scientific complex and facilitated some of Israel’s military transfers to Taiwan. While the Israeli Ministry of Defense approved some of his activities, the Foreign Ministry took exception, and it was well before Jerusalem’s rapprochement with Beijing. Since his death, Bergmann has been considered a prominent player in Taiwan’s defense modernization and a forefather of its nuclear program.

☐ Occasional Paper no. 17 (2016)

- Water Management in the Nile Basin: A Fragmented but Effective Cooperative Regime
  Bart Hilhorst, Food and Agriculture Organization

This paper describes the emerging cooperative regime in the Nile basin, and analyzes its effectiveness. It presents an inventory of where cooperation among Nile riparians is needed, and discusses the required level of cooperation. The paper identifies four distinct sub-basins that have substantial autonomy in managing their water resources. It finds that the emerging cooperative setup is logical and for now effective, and does not lock in arrangements that may prove inconsistent—at a later point in time—with the overall objective of reasonable and equitable use of the Nile waters by each riparian state.
**Books**

The Center for International and Regional Studies sponsors original studies of regional and international significance, including research initiatives in the areas of international relations, political economy, and domestic politics of the Gulf, the Middle East, Asia, and beyond. CIRS regularly identifies emerging socioeconomic and political trends in the region, and develops research initiatives in areas which require further focused scholarship. These volumes are the results of CIRS research in a variety of fields.

- **Bullets and Bulletins: Media and Politics in the Wake of the Arab Uprisings** (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016)
  
  *Edited by Mohamed Zayani and Suzi Mirgani*

  This book takes a holistic look at the intersections between media and politics before, during, and in the reverberations of the Arab uprisings. The uprisings were accompanied by profound changes in the roles of traditional and new media across the Middle East. What added significantly to the amplification of demands and grievances in the public spheres was the dovetailing of an increasingly indignant population—ignited by the prospects of economic and political marginalization—with high rates of media literacy, digital connectivity, and social media prowess.

- **Gateways to the World: Port Cities in the Persian Gulf** (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016)  
  
  *Edited by Mehran Kamrava*

  This book presents an in-depth approach to the study of some of the fastest growing, most impressive Persian Gulf cities with global aspirations. It looks at how the emergence and significance of cities along the Gulf waterway should be contextualized. It then moves to historical examinations of the emergence of boundaries, how they became “port cities,” the semantics of studying them, and what the glittering skylines and remaining traditional neighborhoods mean for the international political economy and for the identity of their residents.
*By Suzi Mirgani*

This book explores the points of convergence between corporate capitalist and terrorist practice. Assessing an increase in the number of terrorist attacks directed at commercial entities in urban areas, with an emphasis on the shopping mall in general and Nairobi’s Westgate Mall in particular, Suzi Mirgani offers a disturbing perspective on the spaces where the most powerful forces of contemporary culture—the most mainstream and the most extreme—meet on common ground.

**Transitional Justice in the Middle East and North Africa** (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016)
*Edited by Chandra Lekha Sriram*

This book brings together experts in the fields of human rights and transitional justice, and in the history, politics, and justice systems of MENA countries. While these countries have diverse histories, political institutions, and experiences with accountability, most have been through non-transition, stalled transition, or political manipulation of transitional justice measures, highlighting the limits of such mechanisms. These studies inform reflection not only on the role of transitional justice in the region, but also on challenges to its operation more generally.

**Inside the Islamic Republic: Social Change in Post-Khomeini Iran** (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016)
*Edited by Mahmood Monshipouri*

This book discusses how, since 1989, there has been a noticeable transition in structures of power, as well as the way in which Iranians have come to deal with changing societal conditions. This is exacerbated by the global communication trends and information expansion, as Iran has increasingly become the site of burgeoning demands for women’s rights, individual freedoms, and festering tensions and conflicts over cultural politics. These realities, among other things, have rendered Iran a country of unprecedented—and at times paradoxical—changes.
CIRS produces Summary Reports containing detailed background information on its research initiatives, as well as synopses of original chapters submitted by working group participants for inclusion in the final edited volumes or journal special issues.

**Youth in the Middle East**  
CIRS Summary Report no. 15, 2016

This report explores the ways in which youth manage and respond to socioeconomic and political constraints across the region, as well as the potentials of policy to support various aspects of youth’s lives. Additionally, this research examines the ways in which Middle Eastern youth collectively regenerate a new consciousness and forge novel methods of mobilization. The original research papers produced as part of this initiative are published as a special 2017 issue of *The Muslim World*.

**Transitional Justice in the Middle East and North Africa**  
CIRS Summary Report no. 16, 2017

This report contains synopses of chapters published in the CIRS volume on *Transitional Justice in the Middle East and North Africa* (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016). This is the first study of its kind to look examine human rights and transitional justice in the history, politics, and justice systems of countries such as Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Algeria, Bahrain, and Morocco in the wake of the Arab uprisings.

**The Great Game in West Asia**  
CIRS Summary Report no. 17, 2017

As part of a larger research initiative, this report contains synopses of chapters on the power competition between Iran and Turkey in the South Caucasus. These powers have vied for influence in the region, while contending with ethnic heterogeneity within and across their borders. Turkey has long conceived of itself a bridge between Asia and Europe and a central player in global affairs; while Iran’s ambitions for strategic centrality have been masked by its own inarticulate foreign policy agendas and the missteps of its revolutionary leaders.
بالتزامن مع المبادرات البحثية، يقوم مركز الدراسات الدولية والإقليمية بإنتاج تقارير موجزة تحتوي على العديد من المعلومات المتعلقة بخلفية المبادرات البحثية التي يتبناها المركز، إضافة إلى ملخص للأوراق البحثية التي قدمتها مجموعات العمل إلى المركز خلال اجتماعاتها، وكذلك تحتوي هذه المبادرات البحثية على السير الذاتي للمشاركين.

بوابات إلى العالم: مدن الموانئ في الخليج

تقرير الموجز رقم 13

إن تنوع الأطر التاريخية والجغرافية والسياسية والاجتماعية- الاقتصاديةية في المنطقة يستلزم وضع مدن الخليج في سياق يتفاوض مع مسار تنميتها العمرانية الخاصة. فالشبكات العمرانية المتقدمة في المدن الإقليمية مثل الرياض وجدة ومسقط وصنعاء وبندر عباس وبغداد، تكشف عن استمرارية تاريخية وتاريخية تختلف عن حواضر الخليج مثل الدوحة والكويت ودي. من هنا، فإن دراسة المشهد العمراني لمدن الخليج في سياقاتها المحاذية ومن منظور مقارن تقدم لنا رؤية إضافية تغوص في السياقات السياسية والثقافية والاجتماعية- الاقتصادية التي صاغت شكل العمران في المنطقة.

الإعلام والسياسة في أعقاب الانتفاضات العربية

تقرير الموجز رقم 14

رافقت الثورات العربية تغييرات عميقة في أدوار وسائل الإعلام التقليدية والجديدة في منطقة الشرق الأوسط. من بين العوامل التي ساعدت على تضخم المطالب وال목ال في المجال العام والشوارع والساحات إلى حد كبير، هو تلامح الجماهير الساخنة على الوضع - وهو سخط أججته آفاق التهميش الاقتصادي والسياسي - مع ارتفاع معدلات المعرفة الإعلامية والاتصال الرقمي والبراعة في استخدام وسائل الإعلام الاجتماعية. هذا المزيج من النشاط السياسي والتواصل حول الاحتجاجات الشعبية في الشوارع إلى معارك حول المعلومات، حيث تضاربت السلطة واليشاطر على تمرير الرسائل الإعلامية.
This issue studies the state of Middle Eastern youth, focusing on ways in which their experiences shape their worldviews and their priorities. The contribution it makes to the burgeoning literature on Middle Eastern youth enhances our understanding of young people in the MENA region and examines their novel methods of mobilization and regeneration of a new consciousness. These articles are the result of a multi-disciplinary research initiative launched by CIRS in collaboration with the non-profit organization Silatech.

## Newsletters

CIRS publishes a newsletter each semester detailing its recent and ongoing activities, publications series, research and scholarship initiatives, faculty engagement, student development initiatives, as well as lectures, events, and community outreach and programming. Both the Fall 2016 and the Spring 2017 editions of the CIRS Newsletter are available in hard copy format, and can also be downloaded for free from the CIRS website.

## Annual Report

The 2015–2016 CIRS Annual Report contains information about all the activities, research initiatives, publications, lectures, and events the center organized throughout the year. Highlights include a robust faculty engagement program, including the introduction of two new faculty fellows from Georgetown University in Qatar and Qatar University, a faculty research workshop, and a series of lectures delivered by GU-Q faculty and hosted by CIRS throughout the year. Other notable achievements include finalizing a CIRS research grant cycle, and awarding five original projects to study “The Gulf Family,” and the publication of three new books.
4. Community Outreach

CIRS welcomed members of Qatar’s community to attend various on-campus lectures and events throughout the academic year. This diverse audience included students, faculty, staff, members of academic and diplomatic communities, and the general public.

CIRS Dialogue Series

The CIRS Dialogue Series is designed to present interested community members with a forum for thoughtful dialogue with scholars from Georgetown University in Qatar, and elsewhere, about their latest academic endeavors and research agendas.

Transitions in Qatar’s Architectural Identity

Ibrahim Mohamed Jaidah

September 26, 2016

Ibrahim Mohamed Jaidah, renowned Qatari Architect, and Group CEO and Chief Architect of the Arab Engineering Bureau, explained the definitions of Qatari architecture; its history, influences, aesthetics, and the future of its development. Jaidah said the history of the Gulf region in general, and Qatar in particular, has always been one of global influences through trade routes and contact with neighboring countries and cultures.

Did Democracy Lose this Round? And Why?

Azmi Bishara

November 28, 2016

Azmi Bishara, General Director of the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies, argued that some of the concerns raised about democracy in the Middle East could be equally applied to the failure of liberalism in the West, and the rise of increasingly right-wing tendencies. He presented four broad explanations for why this round of democratic transition has failed in the Arab world, with a background of the brutality of old regimes and the oppression of civil protests.
Essa Al-Mannai, Executive Director of Reach Out To Asia, explained that education is the organization’s top priority in humanitarian crises because children are the most marginalized and most vulnerable, and access to education in safe, nurturing environments can enable children to develop critical skills. He shared ROTA’s efforts to build local capacity in Qatar, and beyond, through youth engagement, community service, and global citizenship. A major benefit of educating refugees is the huge return on investment for a country that has experienced a crisis, such as war-torn Syria, as there will eventually be resettlement and rebuilding needs and opportunities.

Abdullah Al-Arian, Assistant Professor of History at the Georgetown University in Qatar, outlined reasons for why the current moment—six years after the Arab uprisings—presents a critical juncture to reassess our understanding of Islamist movements. By looking at the past through a fresh lens, we come away with a different image of political Islam. In the face of a growing global insurgency by groups such as al-Qaeda and the Islamic State, it is important to distinguish between different strands of political Islam: those that have remained within the modernist Islamic tradition with its acceptance of nation states, and those that have categorically rejected the designation of states in favor of a radically different political order.
Focused Discussions

Through its Focused Discussion series, CIRS provides an intimate intellectual forum for academics, diplomats, and opinion leaders to engage with Georgetown University in Qatar faculty, students, and other community members on a particular topic of interest.

Trump’s Election and the Need for a Mass Movement for Constitutional Reform

Anatol Lieven, Professor of International Politics at the Georgetown University in Qatar, spoke about the 2016 US elections in the broad context of the US Constitution. Many Americans consider the Constitution “sacred,” and would reject even the smallest changes to it, even though it has undergone twenty-seven successful amendments over its history. This passionate attachment, he argued, comes from the Constitution’s importance to US civic nationalism and identity.

News and Views in a Post-Truth World

Mishal Husain, BBC journalist, host, and documentarian, discussed how journalists navigate through, and respond to, changing news environments, particularly during seismic world events such as the Arab uprisings and the 2016 US presidential election. Husain reflected on how the UK’s EU referendum was reported, highlighting the duty of the BBC and other broadcasters to ensure due impartiality in political coverage. She also spoke about the controversy about “fake news” in the wake of Donald Trump’s election victory, and her concerns about hearing “mainstream media” employed as a term of abuse.
CIRS Screens Suzi Mirgani’s Short Film “Caravan”

Suzi Mirgani
January 19, 2017

CIRS hosted a screening of Managing Editor and independent filmmaker Suzi Mirgani’s short film, Caravan, to an audience of students, staff, faculty, and guests at Georgetown University in Qatar. In a lyrical relay of thoughts, the film narrates the stream of consciousness flowing through a cross-section of Qatari society. In the suspended time and space of a Doha traffic jam on reclaimed land, a random group of people creates a temporary urban society.

Higher Education Policies and the Emerging Over-education Crisis in the Middle East

Nader Habibi
February 19, 2017

Nader Habibi, Professor of Economics and Middle East Studies at Brandeis University, argued that the supply of university graduates has exceeded the labor market demand, and has led to an increase in the unemployment rate among university graduates. Transferring the higher education enrollment decisions to an independent body away from political and social pressures, can have an effect in preventing over education.

Migrant Recruitment Fees and the GCC Construction Sector

David Segall
March 19, 2017

David Segall is a policy associate with New York University’s Stern Center for Business and Human Rights. He spoke about the current predominant recruitment model in the GCC states, and argued that instead of project clients and construction companies bearing these costs, the most vulnerable migrant workers usually pay for their own recruitment—and then some—in violation of GCC and international law.
Two Professors of Government at Georgetown University in Qatar discussed the 2016 US presidential elections just weeks before they were held. Joshua Mitchell spoke about why Donald Trump achieved the republican nomination and how the widening divide in the nation factored in his popularity, while Clyde Wilcox shared his apprehensions of the changing political landscape in the US, and said the narrow gap in the polls was due to multiple obstacles that were stacked against Hillary Clinton.

**TARGET MARKETS: INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM MEETS GLOBAL CAPITALISM IN THE MALL**

**SUZI MIRGANI**  
April 5, 2017

Suzi Mirgani, Managing Editor at CIRS, presented themes from her book on the 2013 Westgate Mall attack in Nairobi. She used it as a case study to examine how media networks and extremists both played a role in creating a “spectacle of terror.” She explained how the attack was a made-for-television event, and noted how news networks and entertainment networks are vertically aligned, often owned by the same parent corporation, making their content similar in style and substance.

**PANELS**

With the US Presidential Election emerging as one of the most important political developments of the year, CIRS held a panel discussion featuring two renowned authorities on US political systems and philosophy. Mehran Kamrava moderated the panel, which was held shortly before the election and attended by a large audience.

**The 2016 US Presidential Election**

**JOSHUA MITCHELL AND CLYDE WILCOX**  
October 18, 2016
CURRENT CHALLENGES IN THE MIDDLE EAST CONFERENCE
Algiers, Algeria, July 31, 2016: Mehran Kamrava delivered a speech to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs forecasting the challenges ahead for the Middle East in the next decade.

2016 GULF RESEARCH MEETING
Gulf Research Centre Cambridge, United Kingdom, August 16-19, 2016: Zahra Babar was co-director of the workshop on “Arab Gulf Cities in Transition: Space, Politics and Society.”

AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (APSA) ANNUAL MEETING

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF FAMILY RESEARCH AND POLICY
Doha, October 17-18, 2016: Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS Project Manager, served on the conference’s program committee and organized a plenary panel moderated by Mehran Kamrava on the topic, “Post-Wars and Conflicts: Repatriation, Local Integration, and Resettlement.” Wanucha moderated the panel, “Family Formation and Breakdown during War and Conflict.”

FIFTH ANNUAL QATAR LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
Qatar National Convention Center, Doha, October 22, 2016: Mehran Kamrava held a workshop on the “two-state solution” policy for Israel and Palestine, based on findings from his book, The Impossibility of Palestine.

MIGRATION DYNAMICS: THE FLOW OF PEOPLE AND IDEAS INTO THE GULF
London School of Economics Middle East Centre, October 24, 2016: Zahra Babar presented a paper on “Highly Skilled Migrants in Qatar” at this one-day workshop.
The Impossibility of Palestine Book Talk

Migration in a Turbulent World Conference
Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, November 26–28, 2016: Zahra Babar was an organizer of the conference and presented her paper, “Careers, Expertise, and Life Strategies of Highly-Skilled Migrants in Qatar,” co-authored with Michael Ewers and Nabil Khattab.

The Trump Presidency: Domestic and Foreign Repercussions Symposium

University of Cambridge—Al-Jazeera Media Project Panel
Al-Jazeera Centre for Studies, Doha, January 7–8, 2017: Suzi Mirgani moderated a panel on “Surveillance” at a conference on “Media in Political Transition: The Cases of Tunisia, Morocco, and Turkey.

Changing International Dynamics on Foreign Policies and Allied Opportunities
Doha Bank, Doha, January 29, 2017: Mehran Kamrava gave a speech on the key developments in the Middle East and the shift in qualitative power since early 2000, and the role of Qatar in the last decade.

International Studies Association’s 58th Annual Convention

CIRS Delegation Collaborates with Kazakhstan Education Institutions
Astana, Kazakhstan, March 5–8, 2017: The CIRS delegation met the First Vice Rector, departmental deans, senior administrative staff at Al-Farabi Kazakh National University; a team of researchers from KIMEP University; and scholars from the R. B. Suleimenov Institute of Oriental Studies, headed by Mufti Absattar Kazhy Derbisali, to explore possible research collaborations with Kazakh institutional networks.

India – Middle East Relations in the Asian Century Panel
Brookings Doha Center, Doha, March 12, 2017: Zahra Babar participated in a panel discussion on the burgeoning relationship between India and the Middle East.

The Liberal State and its Alternatives in the Indian Ocean World Conference
5. Student Enrichment

Publications Interns

Mohammed Al-Jaberi          Waleed Zahoor

Publications Interns are responsible for many of the designs, layouts, and formatting of CIRS publications, and multimedia messages. Through training and practical application, they gain skills related to publishing and design software, and website and social media management, as well as insights into the world of academic publishing.

Research Interns

Safa Babikir             Emma Mogensen

Tasked with research roles and responsibilities at CIRS, Research Interns are involved in a number of high-level research projects. They become familiar with rigorous research methods, and assist with collecting, translating, and analyzing a variety of primary and secondary sources on social, economic, and political indicators in the Middle East.

Student Assistants

Rawan Al-Khulaidi        Riham Mansour

The primary duties of Student Assistants are staffing reception, greeting visitors, and maintaining the professional appearance of the CIRS space. They perform clerical duties, and assist in organization and execution of CIRS events. The competencies gained include organizational skills, time management, and events coordination.
**APPENDIX**

**Analytics: Academic Outreach**


**Research and Scholarship Initiatives**
- 32 Research Initiatives
- 70 Working Group Meetings
- 26 Granted Research Projects
- 657 Affiliated Scholars
- 492k Granted Funds

**Publications**
- 18 Published Books
- 17 Occasional Papers
- 17 Summary Report EN
- 14 Summary Report AR
- 2 The Asia Papers
- 22 Newsletters

**Community Outreach**
- 23 Distinguished Lectures
- 71 Monthly Dialogues
- 70 Focused Discussions
- 11 Panels
- 13k Attendees

**Faculty Engagement**
- 5 Faculty Workshops
- 48 Faculty Lectures
- 24 Fellows

**Academic Partners by Region (2016-2017)**

*Total number of scholars: 120.*
The image contains a document page titled "Downloads of CIRS Publications." It provides statistics on the downloads of CIRS publications across different repositories for the years 2016-2017. The page includes tables and figures summarizing views, unique visitors, universities, and countries for various publications.

### CIRS Publications Downloads (2016-2017)

**Georgetown University Institutional Repository**

- **Total Downloads:**
  - Total Downloads: 13514
  - Summary Reports EN: 13311
  - Summary Reports AR: 11951
  - Occasional Papers: 2930
  - Newsletters: 2026
  - Annual Reports: 1340
  - Briefs: 939

### CIRS Publications Downloads (2016-2017)

**Academia.edu**

- **Views:** 1634
- **Unique Visitors:** 1165
- **Universities:** 240
- **Countries:** 94

**Views:** Number of times CIRS publications were viewed.

**Unique Visitors:** New visitors.

**Universities:** Affiliated academic institutions of visitors.

**Countries:** Visitor locations.

### Top 5 CIRS Publications (2016-2017)

**Social Science Research Network (SSRN)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>No. of Views</th>
<th>No. of Downloads</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Transitional Justice in the Middle East and North Africa” CIRS Summary Report no. 16</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Web-Based Learning in Qatar and the GCC States” CIRS Occasional Paper no. 5 by Alan S. Weber</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC” CIRS Summary Report no. 12</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Food Security and Food Sovereignty in the Middle East” CIRS Summary Report no. 6</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>2012</td>
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</table>
## Academic Citations of CIRS Publications

### Top 5 CIRS Publications Citations (as of June 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>No. of Citations</th>
<th>Year of Publication</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Qatar: Small State, Big Politics</em>&lt;br&gt;Title: <em>Qatar: Small State, Big Politics</em>&lt;br&gt;Author: Mehran Kamrava&lt;br&gt;Publication Type: Book published by Cornell University Press</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Theory of “Late Rentierism” in the Arab States of the Gulf&lt;br&gt;Title: A Theory of “Late Rentierism” in the Arab States of the Gulf&lt;br&gt;Author: Matthew Gray&lt;br&gt;Publication Type: CIRS Occasional Paper</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraqi Refugees: Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan&lt;br&gt;Title: Iraqi Refugees: Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan&lt;br&gt;Author: Patricia Fagen&lt;br&gt;Publication Type: CIRS Occasional Paper</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workforce Nationalization in the Gulf Cooperation Council States&lt;br&gt;Title: Workforce Nationalization in the Gulf Cooperation Council States&lt;br&gt;Author: Kasim Randeree&lt;br&gt;Publication Type: CIRS Occasional Paper</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixing the Kingdom: Political Evolution and Socio-Economic Challenges in Bahrain&lt;br&gt;Title: Fixing the Kingdom: Political Evolution and Socio-Economic Challenges in Bahrain&lt;br&gt;Author: Steven Wright&lt;br&gt;Publication Type: CIRS Occasional Paper</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### Citations of CIRS Publications/year

![Bar chart showing citations trend from 2008 to 2016](image)

The number of citations for 2017 will be available in the 2017-2018 annual report.

Source: Google Scholar, 2008-2016.
1. The “Mobility, Displacement, and Forced Migration in the Middle East” Research Grant announcement attracted 5,000 pageviews.

2. The 2014 article “The Narrow Path to Qatari Citizenship” by CIRS Associate Director for Research, Zahra Babar attracted 3,000 page views in April 2017.

- **Users**: Visitors who had at least one website session in the 2016-2017 academic year.
- **Page Views**: Total number of times users viewed pages on the CIRS website.
**Twitter 2016-2017 Academic Year**

TWEET IMPRESSIONS AND PROFILE VISITS


- **Followers:** Users following the CIRS Twitter account.
- **Profile Visits:** Number of visits to the CIRS twitter account.
- **Tweet Impressions:** Times users were served a CIRS Tweet on their timeline or search results.

- **2k** Followers
- **13k** Profile Visits
- **224k** Tweet Impressions

**CIRS Twitter Followers**

![Twitter followers chart with 2k, 13k, and 224k annotations]
CIRS YOUTUBE ANALYTICS 2016-2017 ACADEMIC YEAR

DAILY VIEWS OF CIRS LECTURES

Number of views: 34k
Number of minutes watched: 433k
Number of shares: 398
Number of subscribers: 210

VIEWER DEMOGRAPHICS

TOP 10 VIEWED CIRS LECTURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Video</th>
<th>Watch time (minutes)</th>
<th>Views</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The World is Flat 3.0</td>
<td>Thomas Friedman</td>
<td>190,174</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Obama/Bush Foreign Policy: Why Cent...</td>
<td>108,682</td>
<td>5,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Denial: Western Journalism and the ...</td>
<td>50,444</td>
<td>3,200</td>
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<td>Women in Qatar: Quotes, Qualifications, and ...</td>
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<td>Islam and the Preservation of the Natural Env...</td>
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<td>Did Democracy Lose this Round? And Why!</td>
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<td>The Core of our Religious Traditions</td>
<td>Karen A...</td>
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<td>The U.S.-Saudi Arabia Relationship</td>
<td>Michael ...</td>
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<td>Afghanistan: War without End?</td>
<td>Anatol Lieven</td>
<td>5,923</td>
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<td>The Impossibility of Palestine</td>
<td>Mehran Kamr...</td>
<td>3,885</td>
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CIRS FACEBOOK ANALYTICS 2016-2017 ACADEMIC YEAR

**TOP FOLLOWERS BY COUNTRY**

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Followers</th>
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<td>Indonesia</td>
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**TOP FACEBOOK POST**

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**Reach:** Number of unique users who were served at least one impression of CIRS content via the news feed and timeline.
**CIRS Staff Directory**

**Mehran Kamrava**  
Director  
- Directs all CIRS activities  
- Authors books and edits volumes.

**Zahra Babar**  
Associate Director for Research  
- Initiates, develops, and oversees CIRS research initiatives  
- Oversees fellows program  
- Oversees grant cycles

**Misba Bhatti**  
Coordinator  
- Coordinates logistics for fellows, lecturers, and working groups  
- Handles Director’s schedule  
- Manages student workers and interns

**Islam Hassan**  
Research Analyst  
- Conducts background research for CIRS research initiatives  
- Contributes to CIRS publications  
- Develops CIRS online research profile
Suzi Mirgani
Managing Editor

- Oversees publishing and editorial processes
- Manages website, social media, and publicity
- Collaborates on CIRS research initiatives

Jackie Starbird
Publications and Projects Assistant

- Writes, edits, and designs publications and publicity materials
- Copy edits manuscripts
- Collaborates on CIRS research initiatives

Elizabeth Wanucha
Project Manager

- Manages grant cycles
- Organizes working group meetings
- Assists with planning CIRS research initiatives

Michael Angelo Galano
Office Assistant

- Welcomes guests to CIRS
- Performs clerical duties
- Assists with organizing CIRS lectures and events

Hadeel Al-Khatib
CIRS Qatar University Fellow

- Takes part in research and contributes to the intellectual life of CIRS
- Collaborates with SFS-Q Faculty
- Gives public talks to the Qatar community

Abdullah A. Al-Arian
CIRS SFS-Q Faculty Fellow

- Takes part in research and contributes to the intellectual life of CIRS
- Collaborates with SFS-Q Faculty
- Gives public talks to the Qatar community
CIRS ADVISORY BOARD

Osama Abi-Mershed, Director, *Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University*

Sheikha Abdulla Al-Misnad, Professor and Former President, *Qatar University*

Ahmad Dallal, Professor, *American University of Beirut*

Suad Joseph, Professor, *University of California, Davis*

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Rami Khouri, Former Director, *The Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut*

Sir Tim Lankester, Chairman of the Council, *London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London University*

James Reardon-Anderson, Dean, *Georgetown University in Qatar*

Alistair G. Routledge, President and General Manager, *ExxonMobil Qatar*

Standing from left: Sir Timothy Lankester, Rami G. Khouri, James Reardon-Anderson, Mehran Kamrava, Ahmad Dallal, and Islam Hassan.

CIRS Program Committee

Rogaia Abusharaf
Georgetown University in Qatar

Talal Abdulla Al-Emadi
Qatar University

Uday Chandra
Georgetown University in Qatar

Firat Oruc
Georgetown University in Qatar

M. Reza Pirbhai
Georgetown University in Qatar

Daniel Westbrook
Georgetown University in Qatar

Mohamed Zayani
Georgetown University in Qatar
Research and Scholarship Participants

Working Groups

Leading the Faithful: The Role of Religious Authorities in the Middle East - Working Group I
August 22-23, 2016

Participants and Discussants:
- Usama Alony, Northwestern University in Qatar
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Robert Bianchi, Shanghai International Studies University
- Albert de Jong, Leiden University
- Stéphane Dudoignon, French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRF); Nazarbayev University of Astana, Kazakhstan
- John Fahy, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Leon Goldsmith, Massey University and University of Otago, New Zealand
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Michiel Leezenberg, University of Amsterdam
- Reem Meshal, Qatar University
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Sajjad Rizvi, University of Exeter
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Zachary Wright, Northwestern University in Qatar

Pluralism and Community in the Middle East - Working Group II
September 18-19, 2016

Participants and Discussants:
- Taghreed Jamal Al-deen, Deakin University, Melbourne
- Nezar Al Sayyad, University of California, Berkeley
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- James Barry, Deakin University, Melbourne
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet, University of Pennsylvania
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Firat Oruc, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Annika Rabo, Stockholm University
- Afshin Shahi, University of Bradford
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar

Strategic Forum on Gulf Security
September 25, 2016

Presenters:
- Abdulkhaleq Abdulla, Qatar University
- Gawdat Bahgat, NESA, National Defense University
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
Mohammad Marandi, University of Tehran
Rory Miller, Georgetown University in Qatar
Richard Russell, NESA, National Defense University
Houchang Hassan Yari, Royal Military College of Canada

Participants:
- LTC Sadiam Al Dhulaimi, Representative for Yemen, US Central Command
- H.E. Bashir Al-Shirawi, Former Ambassador of Qatar to South Africa
- LTC Mustafa Abdel Haleem Mohammad Alhyari, Jordan Armed Forces
- Abdullah Baabood, Qatar University
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Daniel Baltrusaitis, National Defense College of the UAE, and NESA, National Defense University
- Kai-Henrik Barth, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Abdelwahab El-Affendi, Doha Institute of Graduate Studies
- Afyare Elmi, Qatar University
- Glnar Eskandar, US Embassy
- Ibrahim Fraihat, Brookings Doha Center
- Lauren Granger, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Hussein Heydari, Embassy of Iran
- Ludovic Hood, US Embassy
- H.E. Willy Kempel, Ambassador of Austria to Qatar
- Kentaro Niimi, Embassy of Japan
- CSM Cynthia Pritchett, (retired) US Central Command
- James Reardon-Anderson, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Jean-Marc Rickli, King’s College London
- Marta Saldana, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Youssef Shatilla, Masdar Institute of Science and Technology
- Rana Shayya, US Embassy
- Douw GJ Vermaak, Embassy of South Africa
- Steven Wright, Qatar University
- Luciano Zaccara, Qatar University

THE “RESOURCE CURSE” IN THE GULF - WORKING GROUP I
October 9-10, 2016

Participants and Discussants:
- Hanadi Mubarak Al-Mubaraki, Kuwait University
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Gail Buttorff, University of Kansas
- Crystal Ennis, Leiden University
- Mohammad Reza Farzanegan, Philipp’s-Universität Marburg
- Desha Girod, Georgetown University
- Matthew Gray, Waseda University, Tokyo
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Jessie Moritz, Australian National University
- Moamer Qazafi, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
Climate Vulnerability in South Asia’s Coastal Cities
January 10-11, 2017

Participants and Discussants:
- Kamran Asdar Ali, University of Texas, Austin
- Nausheen Anwar, Institute of Business Administration, Karachi
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Misba Bhatti, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Sheryl Beach, University of Texas, Austin
- Timothy Beach, University of Texas, Austin
- Solomon Benjamin, Indian Institute of Technology Madras
- Jason Cons, University of Texas, Austin
- Vinita Damodaran, University of Sussex
- Rupali Gupte, Collective Research Initiatives Trust, Mumbai
- Arif Hasan, Architect, Planner, and Social Researcher, Karachi
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Iftikhar Iqbal, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Bangladesh
- Garima Jain, India Institute for Human Settlements, Bengaluru
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- M. Hafijul Islam Khan, International Centre for Climate Change and Development, Bangladesh
- Mathangi Krishnamoorthy, Indian Institute of Technology Madras
- Anatol Lieven, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Sohail Malik, Innovative Development Strategies, Islamabad
- Paula Newberg, University of Texas, Austin
- Mahesh Rajasekar, Taru Leading Edge and Taru Research Information Network, India
- Asad Sayeed, Collective for Social Science Research, Karachi
- Ali T. Sheikh, Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD), Pakistan
- Sam Tabory, Chicago Council on Global Affairs
- Clare Wait, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Adeel Zafar, Simon Fraser University, British Columbia

Middle Power Politics in the Middle East - Working Group I
January 15-16, 2017

Participants and Discussants:
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Jonathan Benthall, University College London
- Suleyman Elik, Istanbul Medeniyet University
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Simon Mabon, Lancaster University
- Imad Mansour, Qatar University
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Marco Pinfari, American University in Cairo
- Amin Saikal, Australian National University
- Adham Saouli, University of St. Andrews
- Nael Shama, University of St. Andrews
- Jackie Starbird, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Yahia Zoubir, KEDGE Business School, France
HIGHLY SKILLED MIGRANTS: THE GULF AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES
- WORKING GROUP II
January 29-30, 2017

Participants and Discussants:
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Payal Banerjee, Smith College
- Lucie Cerna, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the Center on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS)
- Amanda Chisholm, Newcastle University
- Françoise De Bel-Air, Gulf Research Center, Geneva, and the European University Institute
- Michael Ewers, SESRI, Qatar University
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Martin Hvidt, University of Southern Denmark
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Nabil Khattab, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Jackie Starbird, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Micheline van Riemsdijk, University of Tennessee Knoxville
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar

LEADING THE FAITHFUL: THE ROLE OF RELIGIOUS AUTHORITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST - WORKING GROUP II
February 12-13, 2017

Participants and Discussants:
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Robert Bianchi, Shanghai International Studies University
- Albert de Jong, Leiden University
- Leon Goldsmith, University of Otago
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Michiel Leezenberg, University of Amsterdam
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Sajjad Rizvi, University of Exeter
- Mark Sedgwick, Aarhus University
- Tamara Sonn, Georgetown University
- Jackie Starbird, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar

SPORTS, SOCIETY, AND THE STATE IN THE MIDDLE EAST
- WORKING GROUP I
March 12-13, 2017

Participants and Discussants:
- Nida Ahmad, University of Waikato
- Mahfoud Amara, Qatar University
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Simon Chadwick, Salford University Manchester
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Monèm Jemni, Qatar University
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Ferman Konukman, Qatar University
THE "RESOURCE CURSE" IN THE GULF - WORKING GROUP II
April 2, 2017
Participants and Discussants:
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Gail Buttorff, University of Kansas
- Mohammad Reza Farzanegan, Philipps-Universität Marburg
- Desha Girod, Georgetown University
- Matthew Gray, Waseda University, Tokyo
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Anatol Lieven, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Jessie Moritz, Australian National University
- Gerd Nonneman, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Jackie Starbird, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar

MOBILITY, DISPLACEMENT AND FORCED MIGRATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
- WORKING GROUP I
May 21-22, 2017
Participants and Discussants:
- Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Pooya Alaedini, University of Tebran
- Mustafa Attir, The Libyan Academy for Graduate Studies Tripoli
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Matt Buehler, University of Tennessee
- Estella Carpi, University College London and Save the Children, UK
- Assaf Dahdah, Aix-Marseille Université
- Sarah Dryden-Peterson, Harvard Graduate School of Education
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Amani El Jack, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- Sherine El Taraboulsi-McCarthy, Humanitarian Policy Group at the Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
- Mohammed Abu Hawash, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Michiel Leezenberg, University of Amsterdam
- Ricardo René Larémont, State University of New York at Binghamton
- Aitemad Muhanna Matar, London School of Economics and Jordan University
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
THE NEW ARAB STATE - WORKING GROUP II
June 9, 2017

Participants and Discussants:

Osama Abi-Mershed, Georgetown University
Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
Dan Brumberg, Georgetown University
Steven Cook, Council on Foreign Relations
Kristin Smith Diwan, Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington
Daniel Esser, American University
Desha Girod, Georgetown University
Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar

CIRS RESEARCH AFFILIATES

CIRS SFS-QATAR FACULTY FELLOW 2016-2017
Abdullah A. Al-Arian, Georgetown University in Qatar

CIRS QATAR UNIVERSITY FACULTY FELLOW 2016-2017
Hadeel Al-Khatib, Qatar University

CIRS GRANT Awardees 2016-2017
Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf, Georgetown University in Qatar
Estella Carpi, University College London and Save the Children; Andrea Rigon, University College London; and Fernando Espada, Save the Children
Ricardo René Larémont, State University of New York at Binghamton; and Mostafa O. Attir, The Libyan Academy for Graduate Studies, Tripoli, Libya
Michiel Leezenberg, University of Amsterdam; and Thomas Schmidinger, University of Vienna
Aitemad Muhanna-Matar, London School of Economics, Middle East Centre
Leïla Vignal, University of Oxford; and Emma Aubin-Boltanski, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France
Florian Wiedmann, Pooya Alaedini, and Kosta Mathey, Global Urban Studies Institute (GLOBUS) – Internationale Akademie Berlin, Germany

CIRS INTERNS 2016-2017
Mohammed Al-Jaberi, Publications Intern
Waleed Zahoor, Publications Intern
Safa Babikir, Research Assistant
Emma Mogensen, Research Assistant
Rawan Al-Khulaidi, Student Assistant
Riham Mansour, Student Assistant


**Publications**

**Books**

**Journal Special Issue**

**Occasional Papers**

**The Asia Papers**
- “The Importance of Being Ernst: David Bergmann and Israel’s Role in Taiwan’s Defense,” The Asia Papers no. 2 (2016), by Yitzhak Shichor, University of Haifa.

**Summary Reports**

**Arabic Publications**

**Newsletters**
- CIRS Newsletter no. 21, Fall 2016.
- CIRS Newsletter no. 22, Spring 2017.

**Electronic Media**
- CIRS Website: cirs.georgetown.edu
- E-Bulletins: contact cirsresearch@georgetown.edu
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/CIRSGUQ
- Twitter: @CIRSGUQ
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/CIRSSFSQ
Community Outreach Calendar of Events

August 2016
- Leading the Faithful: The Role of Religious Authorities in the Middle East

September 2016
- Pluralism and Community in the Middle East
  Working Group II: September 18-19, 2016.
- Strategic Forum on Gulf Security
  Co-hosted with the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESA), National Defense University in Washington, DC
- Transitions in Qatar’s Architectural Identity
  Ibrahim Mohamed Jaidah, Qatari Architect and Group CEO & Chief Architect of the Arab Engineering Bureau

October 2016
- The “Resource Curse” in the Gulf
- The 2016 U.S. Presidential Election
  Panel: October 18, 2016.

November 2016
- Trump’s Election and the Need for a Mass Movement for Constitutional Reform
  Anatol Lieven, Professor of International Politics, Georgetown University in Qatar
  Focused Discussion: November 23, 2016.
- Did Democracy Lose this Round? And Why?
  Azmi Bishara, General Director of the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies
- News and Views in a Post-Truth World
  Mishal Husain, Journalist and news presenter for the BBC
  Focused Discussion: November 30, 2016.
**January 2017**

- **Climate Vulnerability in South Asia's Coastal Cities**  
  Co-hosted with the Strauss Center for International Security and Law at the University of Texas at Austin.  

- **Middle Power Politics in the Middle East**  

- **CIRS Screens Suzi Mirgani’s Short Film Caravan**  
  Suzi Mirgani, Managing Editor for CIRS Publications, and Independent Filmmaker  
  Focused Discussion: January 19, 2017.

- **Highly Skilled Migrants: The Gulf and Global Perspectives**  

**February 2017**

- **The Regional Humanitarian Crisis**  
  Essa Al-Mannai, Executive Director, Reach Out To Asia (ROTA)  

- **Leading the Faithful: The Role of Religious Authorities in the Middle East**  

- **Higher Education Policies and the Emerging Over-education Crisis in the Middle East**  
  Nader Habibi, Henry J. Leir Professor of the Economics of the Middle East at Brandeis University’s Crown Center for Middle East Studies  
  Focused Discussion: February 19, 2017.

**March 2017**

- **Sports, Society, and the State in the Middle East**  
  Working Group I: March 12-13, 2017

- **Migrant Recruitment Fees and the GCC Construction Sector**  
  David Segall, Researcher at NYU Stern Center for Business and Human Rights  
  Focused Discussion: March 19, 2017.

**April 2017**

- **The “Resource Curse” in the Gulf**  
Target Markets: International Terrorism Meets Global Capitalism in the Mall
Suzi Mirgani, Managing Editor for CIRS Publications
Focused Discussion: April 5, 2017.

Brothers Behind Borders: Islamism and Nationalism in the Middle East
Abdullah Al-Arian, Assistant Professor of History, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

May 2017
Mobility, Displacement and Forced Migration in the Middle East

June 2017
The New Arab State
Working Group II: June 9, 2017.