To commemorate its ten-year anniversary, this report presents archival data on the CIRS operations from 2007 to 2017, and highlights the institution's five areas of focus:

1. Research and Scholarship
2. Faculty Engagement
3. Publications
4. Community Outreach
5. Student Enrichment

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GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY IN QATAR

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 as a School of Foreign Service, 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 minor in Arabic or 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.georgetown.edu.

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL STUDIES

Established in 2005, the Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS) 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.

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 His Highness the Father Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, 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 about Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, visit qf.org.qa.
The Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS) focuses on research and scholarship, publications, faculty engagement, and public affairs programming. Guided by the principles of academic excellence, forward vision, and community engagement, the CIRS mission revolves around five principal goals:

1. To provide a forum for scholarship and research on international and regional affairs;
2. To encourage in-depth examination and exchange of ideas;
3. To foster thoughtful dialogue among students, scholars, and practitioners of international affairs;
4. 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;
5. 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 Initiatives
CIRS sponsors major studies of regional and international significance, including research initiatives in the areas of international relations, political economy, and domestic politics of the Gulf region, the Middle East, and Asia.

For much of its early years, CIRS privileged the study of the Gulf region, also but looked more broadly at themes related to the broader Middle East. These included topics such as innovation in Islam, migrant labor in the Gulf, and the nuclear question in the Middle East. In more recent years, CIRS’s traditional focus on the Middle East and the Gulf has been complemented by additional research on geographic areas further east, an initiative on China–Middle East relations being a prime example.

In order to ensure originality in its research initiatives, CIRS invites scholars to its working groups to examine a list of original research questions. CIRS also runs an annual research grant designed to foster empirically grounded fieldwork on under-studied topics. Each research initiative typically lasts 18–24 months from inception to completion, and at various stages can involve as many as 15–20 scholars. Between 2007 and 2017, CIRS launched over thirty original research initiatives, inviting over six hundred scholars from thirty different countries to participate.

Working Group Meetings
As part of its research and scholarship initiatives, CIRS organizes working group meetings that convene in Doha or Washington, DC, to examine a variety of international issues. Between 2007 and 2017, CIRS convened over seventy working group meetings held in Doha, Qatar, and at Georgetown University’s Washington, DC campus.

Grants
With the goal of contributing original research to the existing body of knowledge, CIRS funds empirically based, original research projects. Awarded on a competitive basis, CIRS funded twenty-four original research projects between 2007 and 2017.

Fellowships
CIRS supports a variety of scholars and researchers through several fellowship programs. The Center looks for and supports qualified researchers in a variety of disciplines working on subjects of relevance to the Middle East, with priority given to projects demonstrating significance to the Persian Gulf:

- **Post-Doctoral Fellowship:** Between 2008 and 2014, CIRS maintained a Post-Doctoral Fellowship program to support a recent PhD recipient in any discipline working on the Middle East. The fellow resided at the GU-Q campus and, in the absence of teaching responsibilities, worked on turning his or her dissertation into a book manuscript for publication. CIRS hosted a total of seven Post-Doctoral Fellows.
• VISITING FELLOWSHIP: CIRS maintains a Visiting Fellowship to support mid-career and senior scholars in any discipline working on the Middle East. Between 2007 and 2017, CIRS hosted a total of seven Visiting Fellows.

• CIRS GU-Q FELLOWSHIP: To enhance research opportunities for members of Georgetown University in Qatar, CIRS provides an annual fellowship to members of the GU-Q faculty. The fellowship supports original research, and is awarded to faculty members who propose to use the time granted to pursue projects with promising prospects for publication in leading journals or university presses. The selected fellow is appointed for one academic year, and fellows are asked to give a presentation of their research at a CIRS-sponsored talk and to contribute to CIRS’s research agenda. Since 2012, CIRS has hosted five GU-Q faculty members.

• CIRS QATAR UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP: In order to enhance local research productivity and build upon its established collegial relationship with Qatar University, CIRS awards an annual fellowship to a member of Qatar University’s faculty. Any member of the QU full-time faculty engaged in the humanities, social sciences, law, and Islamic studies is eligible for this fellowship. The selected fellow is appointed for one academic year, and while continuing with his/her commitments to QU, will pursue a research project utilizing the resources made available by CIRS. QU Fellows are asked to give a presentation of their research at a CIRS-sponsored talk, and encouraged to engage with the GU-Q faculty and students to discuss areas of mutual interest. Between 2012 and 2017, CIRS hosted a total of five Qatar University faculty members.

2. FACULTY ENGAGEMENT
CIRS provides a number of research opportunities for faculty at GU-Q, and sponsors day-long workshops in which faculty engage with international participants in discussions on a forthcoming publication. In addition, CIRS offers grants to faculty researchers interested in carrying out original fieldwork on issues related to the Gulf, the Middle East, and beyond.

CIRS FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS
In order to enhance research opportunities for members of the university, CIRS offers an annual fellowship to a member of the GU-Q faculty. The fellowship entails a course release per academic year to enable Georgetown scholars to concentrate on a research project and to contribute to CIRS’s research agenda.

FACULTY RESEARCH GRANTS
With the goal of contributing to the existing body of knowledge on the region through original research, CIRS awards research grants to faculty members from Georgetown University. CIRS funds empirically based, original research projects, and creates a scholarly forum through sponsored meetings where grant recipients share their research findings with other academics, policymakers, and practitioners.

CIRS FACULTY RESEARCH WORKSHOPS
In the form of a one-day seminar, faculty research workshops bring together scholars and experts in a particular field to critique a manuscript authored by a GU-Q faculty member. CIRS provides the faculty with a forum in which a forthcoming manuscript can be discussed by invited participants. Since 2014, CIRS has hosted five Faculty Research Workshops.

CIRS FACULTY LECTURES
CIRS invites faculty from GU-Q to deliver a variety of public lectures on topics of their expertise. A scholarly forum is created through a lecture series in the form of Monthly Dialogues and Focused Discussions directed at the community in Qatar. Between 2007 and 2017, CIRS hosted forty-seven lectures and talks involving GU-Q faculty members.

3. PUBLICATIONS
The CIRS publications series includes books, journal special issues, Occasional Papers, Asia Papers, Summary Reports in English and Arabic, Annual Reports, Newsletters, and Briefs. Through its publications, CIRS distributes original research as well as in-depth examination of ideas and issues of contemporary academic significance to the Gulf region, the Middle East, and Asia. In order to disseminate knowledge on these topics to as wide an audience as possible, all in-house CIRS publications can be accessed and downloaded free of charge.

BOOKS
At the conclusion of every multidisciplinary, multi-year research initiative, CIRS publishes the results of these projects in partnership with reputed university presses. Over the years, CIRS has published its book series in partnership with Oxford University Press, Columbia University Press, Yale University Press, Cornell University Press, Syracuse University Press, California University Press, Georgetown University Press, and Hurst Publishers. Between 2007 and 2017, CIRS published twenty-five books, seventeen of which are edited volumes, and eight are authored by CIRS scholars.

OCCASIONAL PAPERS
CIRS publishes original research on a broad range of issues relevant to the Persian Gulf and the Middle East region. CIRS invites manuscript submissions for its Occasional Paper series on a rolling basis throughout the year. All papers submitted are subject to a double-blind peer-review process. Between 2007 and 2017, CIRS published a total of seventeen original research papers authored by academics from various international institutions.

THE ASIA PAPERS
This paper series examines a broad range of issues of relevance to Asia. CIRS invites manuscript submissions for this series on a rolling basis throughout the year. All papers submitted are subject to a double-blind peer-review process.
Journal Special Issues
With the aim of broadening its reach, and diversifying its publication platforms, CIRS's research initiatives on “The State and Innovation in the Persian Gulf” and “Youth in the Middle East” were published as special issues of *The Muslim World*.

Summary Reports
In conjunction with its research initiatives, CIRS produces Summary Reports containing background information on each individual research initiative, collections of paper synopses delivered at CIRS working group meetings, as well as participant biographies. Between 2007 and 2017, CIRS produced a total of seventeen Summary Reports in English and fourteen Summary Reports in Arabic.

Newsletters
Between 2007 and 2017, CIRS produced twenty-two newsletters highlighting its activities, including the latest research initiatives, publications, faculty research, as well as CIRS scholars’ conference participation and book exhibitions.

Annual Reports
At the end of every academic year, CIRS produces a report documenting its activities and achievements. The report includes full listings of all conferences, events, publications, and research initiatives undertaken as part of CIRS’s efforts to promote cross-cultural understanding and dialogue, to encourage in-depth scholarship, and to provide a forum for thought-provoking public lectures and events. CIRS produced ten Annual Reports over ten years.

Briefs
CIRS Briefs are published in the form of edited transcripts of lectures hosted by CIRS as well as concise academic articles. This series is designed to make contact with a wider readership and to extend CIRS’s activities towards interested members of the general public.

4. Community Outreach
Since 2007, CIRS has engaged directly with the local communities of Qatar through its community outreach program consisting of a wide array of lectures and events held at various locations around Doha. After the construction of the GU-Q campus was completed in 2011, CIRS opened its doors to welcome members of the community into its new home. Between 2007 and 2017, CIRS hosted over 175 lectures and events geared towards educating, informing, and engaging with over 13,000 members of the general public.

Distinguished Lecture Series
Since 2007, CIRS had the honor of inviting distinguished authors, academics, and respected public figures to visit Qatar and engage with the community. CIRS hosted twenty-three distinguished lectures, inviting such distinguished speakers as Hanan Ashrawi, Robert Fisk, Thomas Friedman, Karen Armstrong, Seymour Hersh, and Peter Bergen, among other public intellectuals.

Monthly Dialogue Series
This lecture series is designed to present community members with a forum for thoughtful dialogue with scholars about their latest academic endeavors and research agendas. Every month, leading scholars discuss their work and research interests with community members. Since 2007, CIRS has organized over seventy Monthly Dialogues, inviting over 6,500 members of the public.

Focused Discussions
Through this series, CIRS provides an intellectual forum for academics, diplomats, and opinion leaders to engage with students and the public on a particular topic of interest. Since 2007, CIRS has hosted over seventy focused discussion lectures.

Panel Discussions
CIRS organizes panel discussions in which scholars engage with the audience by debating current global affairs. CIRS has hosted eleven panel discussions covering important topics such as the US elections, climate change, international piracy, and the sanctions on Iran.

5. Student Enrichment
Research Interns
Research Interns are tasked with research roles and responsibilities at CIRS. Selected Georgetown students are trained in 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.

Publications Interns
Publications Interns are responsible for many of the designs, layouts, and formatting of CIRS publications, and are tasked with maintaining social media platforms. Through training and practical application, these students acquire skills related to copy editing, publishing software, and multimedia management, and gain insights into the world of academic publishing.

Faculty Fellow Research Assistants
These students assist CIRS GU-Q Faculty Fellows with their research. They are trained in rigorous research methods, and assist with collecting and analyzing data.

Student Assistants
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 the organization and execution of CIRS events. The competencies gained include organizational skills, time management, and events coordination.

Summer Interns
CIRS welcomes students from international higher education institutions to intern at CIRS over the summer months. These students are tasked with working on a specific research project, with the aim of fostering international institutional collaboration and student mentoring.
RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP

CIRS sponsors major studies of regional and international significance, including research initiatives in the areas of international relations, political economy, and domestic politics of the Gulf region, the Middle East, and Asia.

- Conferences
- Working Groups

CIRS organized a conference in which invited scholars discussed the following themes: the role of women in Islamic education; scientific knowledge in classical Muslim education; the Palestinian curriculum; disability and education in the Arab world; and education reform in the Middle East and North Africa region.

EDUCATION AND CHANGE IN QATAR AND THE ARAB WORLD
April 21-22, 2007

CIRS Ten-Year Report 2007-2017

INNOVATION IN ISLAM
April 5-6, 2008

This research conference featured two days of discussion with prominent scholars on Islamic thought, culture, and history. The keynote address was delivered by acclaimed poet, Adonis. CIRS published papers from the conference in a book titled Innovation in Islam: Traditions and Contributions (University of California Press, 2011), edited by Mehran Kamrava.
Working Groups

CIRS sponsors major studies of regional and international significance, including research initiatives in the areas of international relations, political economy, and domestic politics of the Gulf region, the Middle East, and Asia. CIRS regularly identifies emerging socioeconomic and political trends in these regions, and develops research initiatives to fill existing research gaps, and to contribute towards furthering knowledge on the prevailing issues.

America’s Role in the World
Co-sponsored with the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy (ISD), Georgetown University
October 23, 2007

CIRS and ISD held a working group meeting comprised of prominent scholars, experts, and observers of US foreign policy to analyze a draft report compiled by the “America’s Role in the World” working group. The report sums up the various geopolitical challenges that the 2008 US administration would face in coming years.

Global Media between Dialogue and War: When Enemies Boost the Ratings
Co-sponsored with the Italian organization Reset—Dialogues on Civilizations
February 26, 2008

This meeting featured an intensive set of discussions in which experts from the fields of academia, media, journalism, international relations, and film studies came together to deliberate the consequences of using international media as a weapon of war. Opening remarks were made by H.E. Giuseppe Buccino Grimaldi, Ambassador of Italy to Qatar. Speakers taking part in the symposium included Giuliano Amato, the Italian Minister of Interior, and Otto Schilly, member of the German parliament.

Global Development, Organizations, & Faith in the Muslim World
Co-sponsored with the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs
December 17, 2007

This working group was part of a joint Luce/Georgetown University School of Foreign Service multi-year research project focusing on institutions inspired by and linked to faith. This project focused on institutions; relationships among public, private, and religiously inspired actors; financing issues; and other topics related to children, education, health, and gender.

International Relations of the Gulf – working group I
June 18-19, 2008

This initial round of talks consisted of preliminary thoughts on chosen topics and brainstorming sessions to critically assess the project’s focus, parameters of analysis, and thesis. CIRS hosted academics researching issues affecting the international relations of the Gulf region, and invited Gulf studies scholars to attend the working group meeting and contribute individual chapters to a book covering topics such as the history of Gulf sheikhdoms, Gulf security strategies, and political reform in the region.
Comparative Ethics of War
Co-sponsored with International Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO)
May 3-4, 2009

CIRS and PRIO convened the “Comparative Ethics of War” working group, which examined the question of ethics during times of war. Eleven experts on the subject traveled from all over the world to deliberate the topic from a multitude of disciplinary and theoretical angles. Each scholar represented a different theoretical and religious tradition and discussed the question of ethics during times of war from Islamic, Christian, Sikh, and Buddhist perspectives as well as from feminist, postmodernist, historical, and socialist standpoints. The working group members agreed that in order to understand the ethics of war, the underlying social structure at particular historical periods must also be examined, thus paying homage to the inextricable links between religion and social models.

International Relations of the Gulf – Working Group II
January 8-9, 2009

This working group meeting was part of a year-long research initiative that focused on analyzing key aspects of the international relations of the Gulf from different analytical angles. CIRS invited distinguished Gulf studies scholars to contribute individual chapters towards the book, *International Politics of the Persian Gulf*, edited by Mehran Kamrava (Syracuse University Press, 2011). The book breaks new ground and contributes to the literature on the international relations of the Middle East in general and the Gulf region in particular.

Migrant Labor in the Gulf – Working Group I
May 16-17, 2009

The working group was made up of academics, experts, labor organizations, and representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations. Central themes included: the difficulty of data-collection and analysis; the need to problematize and critically assess the casual use of particular terminologies; the need to address issues of belonging and fitting into the cultural paradigms of the host country; and the need to place Gulf migrant labor within broader international scholarship and comparative trends.

Al-Jisr Project for GCC-EU Relations
Co-sponsored with the Gulf Research Center
October 11-12, 2009

Al-Jisr working group participants were invited to Doha by CIRS and the Gulf Research Center to conduct the project’s second meeting. The working group conducted research on a multitude of issues related to the EU and GCC. Supported by the European Commission, Al-Jisr is a two-year project on public diplomacy and outreach. Topics under discussion focused on the economic status of GCC countries and an in-depth analysis of particular economic enterprises ranging from oil and gas production and exports to exchange rate policies and joint venture formations between the EU and GCC countries. A wide range of related subjects such as economic diversification into alternative and nuclear energies, tourism, and other socioeconomic initiatives were also discussed.
Migrant Labor in the Gulf – working group II
January 9-10, 2010

Scholars met for a second time to discuss issues related to migrant labor in the Gulf. In conjunction with this research initiative, CIRS also awarded grants to experts in the field. The group emphasized the need for case-based research because of striking differences across migrant labor communities. They highlighted differences between domestic and industrial labor; high-income and low-income workers; physical and linguistic boundaries; the reconstruction of social identities and senses of place; as well as the cultural and social practices of local and migrant communities.

The Political Economy of the Gulf – working group I
January 23-24, 2010

This research initiative examined key aspects of the Gulf’s contemporary economic and political conditions and analyzed the region’s long-term transition from an oil-based economy to a knowledge-based one. Some of the topics discussed include: the prominence of so-called rentier states; Sovereign Wealth Funds in Gulf economies and the lack of solid data regarding their exact size; Islamic banking systems and how they fit within contemporary Gulf states’ overall financial infrastructures and capital markets; the prospects of a monetary union among GCC states; the diversification of Gulf state economies, with a special emphasis on the move away from oil and gas toward knowledge-based economies; and the rise and fall of the “Dubai Model” of diversification.

The Nuclear Question in the Middle East – working group I
May 23-24, 2010

After giving situational and historical analyses, the scholars examined past, current, and future concerns regarding countries that have, or seek to acquire, nuclear capabilities. Participants discussed macro decision-making in relation to securitization across borders, and analyzed how the characteristics of a state’s leader can influence a country’s abstinence from, or embracing of, a nuclear weapons program. Also discussed were matters related to global security, the prestige of gaining nuclear capabilities, and the role of NGOs and civil society groups in pressuring governments to abstain from nuclear energy initiatives.

Migrant Labor in the Gulf – working group III
October 10-11, 2010

Participants submitted draft papers of their research, some of which focused on macro trends driving migration and labor patterns within the GCC and among sending countries, while others employed ethnographic methods to analyze the personal and lived experiences of migrants. The term “migrant labor” was historicized in order to analyze how the relationship between the citizen and the migrant has centered around the question of labor. Migrant labor is usually depicted as a transient activity although there are long-term and more culturally and socially integrated forms of labor that exist in the Gulf. The project resulted in an edited volume, titled Migrant Labor in the Persian Gulf, edited by Mehran Kamrava and Zahra Babar (Hurst, 2012).
The Nuclear Question in the Middle East: Regional Perspectives
November 7, 2010

The research for this project was divided into several broad thematic sections, including: regional security and arms control; civilian nuclear energy programs; Israel’s nuclear program and security in the Middle East; and regional perspectives of Iran’s nuclear energy program. The working group participants discussed how oil and gas prices have caused a “nuclear renaissance” in the Middle East, and how interest in nuclear programs is based on actual nuclear power rather than on the fuel cycle, which could alleviate fears of enrichment possibilities.

The Political Economy of the Gulf – Working Group II
December 11-12, 2010

The group discussed various issues within the overarching framework of rentierism and the relationships of mutual interdependence that are established between states and societies. Mutually beneficial rentier arrangements have guided the means by which the GCC countries have formed their oil-based economies and labor relations. The group examined the political and economic possibilities of the GCC states forming a monetary union and how moving away from the dollar peg could result in global imbalances in the value of the dollar. The initiative resulted in the publication of The Political Economy of the Persian Gulf, edited by Mehran Kamrava (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2012).

The Nuclear Question in the Middle East Working Group II
January 9-10, 2011

Participants delivered their chapter submissions and critiqued each other’s findings. They argued that nuclear energy will always be of dual character, and although many countries claim that they will establish a peaceful civilian program, there always remains suspicion that the program can be used for purposes of proliferation. Because a civilian nuclear program can be modified into a military one, there are strict international nonproliferation laws to which countries must adhere. The initiative resulted in The Nuclear Question in the Middle East, edited by Mehran Kamrava (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2012).

Sectarian Politics in the Gulf – Working Group I
October 9-10, 2011

Experts on sectarian politics debated the importance of overall thematic issues pertaining to the project. One of the main objectives for the meeting was to identify gaps in the literature. Although sectarian issues are not new to the Middle East region, exclusive and detailed academic studies are still lacking and need to be addressed. For many people in the Gulf, sectarianism is still a taboo subject and has not been addressed with the necessary academic rigor. One important issue that was raised was contestation regarding the term “sectarianism” and whether or not this should be qualified and broadened to include “identity politics,” as ethnicities and tribal linkages are often bound together.
Food Security and Food Sovereignty in the Middle East

Working Group I
November 13-14, 2011

The participants cautioned that governments’ sudden interest in food security as an area of investment should be viewed critically. Due to the unfavorable natural conditions in many Middle Eastern and Gulf countries, these states have never been fully self-sufficient in terms of food and have always had a strong dependence on imported food stuffs. This relationship of dependence on others for a basic human right makes issues of food and food security highly politicized concerns. Historically, food and access to food have played pivotal roles in the social contract between governments and their populations and have had major effects on the domestic politics of Arab countries.

Food Security and Food Sovereignty in the Middle East

Working Group II
April 22-23, 2012

Current food security issues are shifting from a largely economics-dominated model to one where sociopolitical factors are becoming increasingly active in how food is conceived, valued, and distributed as a human right rather than a market force. Participants in this multidisciplinary initiative include economists, anthropologists, historians, and experts in agriculture and nutrition. Papers included case studies on the characteristics of food security projects in Qatar, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Yemen, Egypt, and Iran. The initiative resulted in the publication of Food Security in the Middle East, edited by Zahra Babar and Suzi Mirgani (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2014).

The Evolving Ruling Bargain in the Middle East

Working Group I
February 19-20, 2012

Participants questioned the terms of the debate and offered analyses of what a “ruling bargain” might mean in different contexts and how this term differs from the notion of a “social contract.” There was consensus that state–society relationships are bound by an unwritten hegemonic understanding in the form of a social pact between the ruler and the ruled. In many countries of the Arab world, this understanding has been less of a “bargain” and more of a top-down “imposition” of governance. However, participants acknowledged that whether in authoritarian or democratic countries, the terms of a social contract are in constant flux and are negotiated daily, whether peacefully or through violent means.

Sectarian Politics in the Gulf

Working Group II
May 15-16, 2012

Analyzing the varied sectarian communities in the Gulf is especially relevant in order to understand marginalized groups that found a space to voice their discontents as a result of successful public uprisings elsewhere in the Middle East and North Africa. The CIRS initiative was designed to not only study the different social groups that felt marginalized, but to also highlight those that have existed peacefully and perceived themselves to be an inherent part of the social fabric of the Gulf states in question. The project resulted in the publication of Sectarian Politics in the Persian Gulf (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2014), edited by Lawrence G. Potter.
The working group participants employed a multidisciplinary approach to analyze the terminology of weak and failing states. In addition to exploring cross-cutting themes on weak states discourse, individual case studies of Middle Eastern countries were discussed to highlight the range of domestic, regional, and global causes and consequences of state fragility. Through the lenses of standardized classifications of states and their capacity, weak states are defined as those that are considered to lack certain distinct qualities and the ability to provide adequate social, economic, and political goods to their citizenry.

This project explored the role of traditional and new media in the events leading up to the Arab Spring. Working group participants discussed how Arab publics are becoming active participants in media processes, in what is indicative of a move from centralization to decentralization of information and translating into a society that is increasingly active. This research initiative resulted in a book titled *Bullets and Bulletins: Media and Politics in the Wake of the Arab Uprisings*, edited by Mohamed Zayani and Suzi Mirgani (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016).
In contrast to the burgeoning literature on Asian immigrants in the Gulf, Arab migration to the region has been a neglected area of study. Five grant proposals were awarded to scholars to conduct fieldwork and original research on various topics related to Arab migration in the region. Topics discussed included the economic and political push-and-pull factors of Arab migration to the region; the historical migration trajectory; the current conditions and varied experiences of Arab expatriates residing and working in the Gulf; as well as future trends in regional migration.

Discussions bridged past and present conditions of Gulf societies in order to understand the evolution of urban centers. Before the oil economy, Gulf port cities were considered “cosmopolitan,” with fluid borders and territories that deemed them centers of cultural and economic exchange. While these cities are integrated into global networks and continue to host large populations of foreign migrants from around the world, the diversity and hybridity of the Gulf city have evolved into what participants characterized as “hyper-segregated and divided” spaces. Aspects of these modern urban developments and features may be understood in relation to historical modes of globalization.
Transitional Justice in the Middle East – working group I
February 15-16, 2014

Within transitional justice processes, there is a myriad of objectives related to retributive justice, deterrence, vindication of victims, and reconciliation. However, each of these benchmarks remains elusive with regard to whom they address, what form or shape they take, and the mechanisms and institutions that are used to address them. While discussing constitutional development and transition, participants noted the faulty assumption that transitional justice is linked to democratization, and that the end point to the transition is in the form of a liberal democratic system.

Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC – working group II
March 15-16, 2014

Participants discussed outlooks and perceptions of second-generation Arab migrants in comparison to other expatriate nationalities. Labor data from Qatar indicates that non-national Arabs in the Qatari labor force predominantly feature in managerial and administrative sectors, in professional, scientific, and technical activities, and in services. Within particular occupations—such as teaching—Arab nationals have a dominating presence due to shared linguistic and cultural affinities with local GCC populations. The study resulted in an edited volume titled Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017), edited by Zahra Babar.
The State and Innovation in the Gulf – working group II
June 3-4, 2014

Participants discussed how dependence on hydrocarbons has led to the development of national strategies that seek to diversify GCC economies. These efforts are increasingly intertwined with elements associated with knowledge-based economies—namely job creation and the development of sectors with high knowledge content. Increasingly, what is lacking is not necessarily the investment in pillars of a knowledge-based economy, but an environment that is conducive to knowledge creation. The initiative resulted in the publication of “The State and Innovation in the Gulf,” a special issue of The Muslim World 105, no. 1 (2015), edited by Dionysis Markakis.

World Regions: The Middle Eastern Pivot
Co-Sponsored with the Stony Brook Institute for Global Studies (SBIGS)
June 8, 2014

This working group took place under a broader research initiative on world regions and civilizations launched by CIRS and the Stony Brook Institute for Global Studies. Integration of social theory and regional studies is a major project of SBIGS, and a pioneering volume on this subject, Social Theory and Regional Studies in the Global Age, was published with SUNY Press. The volume highlights the promise of civilizational analysis/multiple modernities, and also singles out two concepts for further analysis: that of world regions and regional unity, on the one hand, and the civilizational constituents of power and the geopolitics of regional divides, on the other.
The Digital Middle East – working group I
September 27-28, 2014
Working group participants focused on how the sociopolitical landscape of the Arab world has changed in part due to information and communications technologies (ICT). In Egypt and Iran, youth have taken to ICTs to express their discontent towards political regimes, economic conditions, and social injustices. The decentralized nature of digital media has led to mass social movements in several Arab states, helping to facilitate the fall of some regimes and the severe weakening of others. In the Gulf states, digital anonymity in places such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait has provided an outlet for the youth to articulate themselves online without fear of reprisal. As a result, political experiences are no longer isolated to the offline world.

The Changing Security Dynamics of the Persian Gulf
working group I
October 25-26, 2014
Academics from various disciplines gathered in Doha to discuss evolving national and regional security dynamics, and to identify research gaps that are need of being addressed. The group drew attention to different prevailing definitions of security, including military, regime, and human security. Among other themes, the participants debated existing security arrangements in the Gulf and how regional relations may pose threats to individual Gulf states’ national interests. Commonalities regarding security concerns amongst the ruling Gulf regimes reinforce the shared security interests and the institutional importance of the Gulf Cooperation Council in highlighting these concerns.
Healthcare Policy and Politics in the Gulf – working group II
February 8, 2015

Participants discussed a range of issues, including the historical transformation of health services in the Gulf and the status of mental health and substance abuse that have arisen as a result of changing lifestyle patterns. Participants gave an historical overview of the healthcare systems of GCC states, and detailed the phases of their evolution. Provision of free healthcare constitutes a facet of the social contract that is provided alongside education and housing by the Gulf ruling families. The research initiative resulted in the publication of Critical Issues in Healthcare Policy and Politics in the Gulf Cooperation Council States, edited by Ravinder Mamtani and Albert B. Lowenfels (Georgetown University Press, 2018).

Youth in the Middle East – working group I
November 20-21, 2014, Washington, DC

In partnership with Silatech, CIRS launched this research initiative hosted by the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies (CCAS) at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. Experts from a multitude of disciplinary backgrounds met to discuss the need to expand collective understanding of the lives of young people in the MENA region, and examine factors that affect their normative transitions to adulthood. The narrative around Middle Eastern youth often centers on their social, political, and economic exclusion and marginalization. Living through decades of authoritarian rule and political instability, youth in the Middle East have struggled to fulfill aspirations related to citizenship, livelihood, and social and political participation.

Gulf Family – working group I
March 14-15, 2015

Few studies have explored the challenges facing the Gulf family in the context of the global forces at play in the region. The characteristics of families in the GCC have been influenced by urbanization, technology transfer, educational progress, migration patterns, globalization, the changing status of women, and new ideological implications relating to social equality, social justice, and human rights. To contribute original research, CIRS awarded five grants to scholars to conduct fieldwork on topics related to the Gulf family. Participants discussed gaps in the scholarship, including issues related to tribalism, mixed marriages, and the effects of religious education on family dynamics.

Re–Emerging West Asia – working group I
January 10-11, 2015

Broadly, West Asia refers to the Arab states of the Persian Gulf, the Levant, Iran, Turkey, and the Southern Caucasus states of Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. The logic of grouping together countries that, at first glance, appear so diverse and share little in common can certainly be debated. Yet, the clustering of the states of West Asia is neither arbitrary nor irrational but a function of history, geography, politics, and culture. Some of the topics discussed in this working group included the new geopolitical competition in the South Caucasus and the role of external actors, energy diplomacy, soft power politics, and a variety of societal and ethnic dynamics shaping the region.
The Digital Middle East Working Group II
April 11-12, 2015

Even though the states of the Middle East have often greatly benefited from the digital environment as a domain to exert their power, this initiative covers a variety of issues related to how members of the public are using these platforms to their own advantage, including, for example, how video games act as cultural artifacts and alternative spaces for contestation. The research also examines how regional governments are increasingly engaging in e-governance and e-commerce platforms to connect with citizens. The initiative resulted in the publication of Digital Middle East: State and Society in the Information Age, edited by Mohamed Zayani (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2018).

China and the Middle East – Working Group I
April 25-26, 2015, Washington, DC

A group of scholars from China, the Middle East, and the US met to discuss the main features, trends, and implications of the multifaceted relationship between China and the Middle East. The Middle East has assumed an important position in China’s global economic vision, which sees the region as a key part of its contemporary “Silk Road” initiative, an effort to better connect China to the rest of the world. This economic relationship is evolving steadily, and China is increasingly investing capital in the region. Participants highlighted the need to fully interrogate the impact of China’s economic embedment in the region in political, economic, and social terms.

Changing Security Dynamics of the Persian Gulf Working Group II
May 13-14, 2015

This project scrutinized the ways in which domestic security threats are evolving, and how newer challenges related to human security are being reinforced by—and in some ways replacing—military threats from regional and outside actors. Academic interest in Gulf security has continued to focus on traditional zero-sum security threats from Iran or Iraq, or the role of the United States. There has been limited exploration of the structural issues threatening the region. The initiative resulted in the publication of The Changing Security Dynamics of the Persian Gulf, edited by Kristian Coates Ulrichsen (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017).

Re-Emerging West Asia – Working Group II
June 14-15, 2015

Participants discussed the impact of history and empire on the structure of West Asia. While the post-Soviet countries of Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia remained stable since the fall of the Soviet Union, a new regional hegemon has not emerged. Scholars suggested the need for a more nuanced definition of nationalism in relation to the South Caucasus. They highlighted the different experiences of autonomous regions in West Asia regarding colonizing powers, and the impact on territorial bids for self-determination. The research initiative resulted in the publication of The Great Game in West Asia: Iran, Turkey and the South Caucasus, edited by Mehran Kamrava (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017).
Art and Cultural Production in the GCC – Working Group I
August 30-31, 2015

Rapid demographic, economic, and social changes in the countries of the GCC continue to challenge traditions. This has not only affected social and political institutions underpinning Gulf societies, but also artistic and cultural institutions and their undertakings. CIRS invited academics, art historians, museum specialists, as well as a selection of curators and visual culture specialists to take part in this research initiative. Topics discussed included, among other things, the viability of art as soft power in the GCC region; the role of Gulf states as patrons of the arts; perceptions of public art; and authenticity, cultural appropriation, and censorship in the region.

The Geopolitics of Natural Resources in the Middle East – Working Group I
September 27-28, 2015

This two-day working group meeting was attended by ecologists, geologists, economists, political scientists, and other scholars with expertise on environmental issues in the Middle East. Participants presented regional geopolitical and environmental concerns and discussed how natural resources have affected economic diversification in the region, not only within the GCC but also across the broader Middle East. Gulf economies are built around capital derived from an abundance of natural resources and an unlimited access to relatively cheap labor. As a result, the theory on economics of scarcity does not appear to apply in this context.

China and the Middle East – Working Group II
October 4-5, 2015

Contributors met to receive critical feedback on their draft chapters, which covered a range of topics, including the nature of Chinese foreign policy interests in the Middle East; China’s increasing security engagements in the region; the applicability of the “Chinese Model” to Middle Eastern states; and China’s role in the Iranian nuclear deal negotiations. A variety of case studies were also presented on Israel’s role in Taiwan’s military and defense capabilities, and on the Sino–Saudi relationship. The research initiative resulted in the publication of The Red Star and the Crescent: China and the Middle East, edited by James Reardon-Anderson (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2018).

Youth in the Middle East – Working Group II
November 8-9, 2015

This multidisciplinary research initiative was launched in collaboration with Silatech to explore the ways in which youth manage and respond to various socioeconomic and political constraints across the region. Consequently, attention is given to the diversity of youth in various socioeconomic and political contexts across the region. Additionally, this research initiative examined the ways in which Middle Eastern youth collectively regenerate a new consciousness and forge novel methods of mobilization. The research results were published in 2017 as “The State of Middle Eastern Youth,” a CIRS special issue of The Muslim World, edited by Islam Hassan and Paul Dyer.
This initiative brought together experts representing a variety of different academic disciplines, including political geography, sociology, history, and political science. Participants identified research questions on the evolving role of the Arab states in the aftermath of the 2011 uprisings and discussed issues such as the definition, conception, and evolution of the Arab state, and the state’s functions and institutions. Key topics such as state sovereignty, legitimacy, capacity, state–society relations, political engagement, and civil–military relations across the Arab world were also examined. The participants debated the validity of the classification “Arab state,” and highlighted the need for further exploration of what constitutes a state as being Arab.

Much of the research on art and culture in the Gulf tends to focus on the rapidly growing museum culture and the acquisition of foreign art as indicative of Gulf states’ use of oil revenue. Rapid development in the GCC states (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates) has not only affected social and political institutions underpinning Gulf societies, but also artistic and cultural institutions and their undertakings. The research results were published in 2017 as “Art and Cultural Production in the GCC,” a CIRS special issue of the Journal of Arabian Studies, edited by Suzi Mirgani.
A number of scholars discussed issues related to ethno-linguistic and religious pluralism in the Middle East. Among the topics discussed, participants examined pluralism and diversity as represented through governance and legal regimes; social inclusion/exclusion and policymaking; the role of iconoclasm in the Middle East; architecture, urban space, and identity; digital culture, political communication, and regional notions of “multiculturalism;” and literature and cultural representation. The Middle East’s pluralistic social and political fabric has gone through several historical changes, and ethnicity, religion, language, and political ideologies play pivotal roles in contemporary identity affiliations across the region.

Participants discussed the politics of natural resources in the Middle East, including the securitization of natural resources; GCC “greening” policies; coastal sand mining in Morocco; piracy and illegal fishing in Somali waters; illegal charcoal trafficking; and patterns of environmental mobilization as seen across the region, situating Middle Eastern environmental mobilization within broader studies of activism, social mobilization, and state-society relations. The research results will be published as Environmental Politics in the Middle East (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2018), edited by Harry Verhoeven.

Over two days, scholars identified a number of key 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 relating to the issue of religious authority across the region as a whole. 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 scholarship, especially in light of the developments that swept the region after the 2011 Arab uprisings.
Pluralism and Community in the Middle East

Participants presented on pluralism and diversity within the Middle East, including 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 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. The papers will be published in an edited volume titled Sites of Pluralism: Community Politics in the Middle East, edited by Firat Oruc.

Strategic Forum on Gulf Security

In collaboration with the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESA) at the National Defense University, CIRS hosted a workshop on Gulf security. Distinguished scholars convened to discuss current threats and concerns, and potential opportunities in the Gulf countries. Participants also discussed the United States’ positions on a number of security concerns and opportunities. Mehran Kamrava, Director of CIRS, and Richard L. Russell, Professor of National Security Affairs at NESA, stressed this forum’s contribution to a greater understanding of the current realities and high stakes of the security environment in the Gulf region.

The “Resource Curse” in the Gulf

The repercussions of the downturn on the oil- and gas-dependent economies of the Gulf states are significant. This impact is consequential not only because of changing economic circumstances of declining revenues and shrinking national budgets, but also because of potential social and political instability. Participants identified gaps in the literature, while leading discussions on related subtopics: rent distribution and development of institutions; political legitimacy; military establishments in the Gulf; stability and instability; human rights in the GCC states; gender equality; and education, occupation and Khaleeji youth.

Climate Vulnerability in South Asia’s Coastal Cities

Urbanists, governance experts, and climate change specialists considered climate change vulnerability and governance in coastal cities of South Asia during a workshop, co-hosted by the University of Texas’ Strauss Center for International Security and Law and CIRS. 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 migration, and governance challenges faced by cities as they attempt (or, in some cases, do not attempt) to address their climate change vulnerabilities.
Participants discussed the role played by religious leaders in the Middle East. While some papers provided nuanced historical depth when tracing the role of religious leaders, others focused on the role of religious leadership in recent times, particularly in the wake of increasing sectarian conflict seen in the wars in Iraq and Syria. A number of case studies were presented, including: the evolution of the marja’ and Shi’i religious leadership in the Middle East, and the role of Sufi religious leaders and orders in the Middle East today. The research results are set for publication as a 2018 special issue of the *Sociology of Islam* journal, edited by Mehran Kamrava.

In the Middle East, sports has been of pivotal importance to players (both professional and amateur), to impassioned fans and supporters, to industry and business stakeholders, to journalists and the media, to physicians and health professionals, to educators and policymakers, and to societies at large. Despite this field of potential sites of research inquiry, there has been a limited amount of scholarly interest in the role that sports has played in the contemporary socioeconomic, cultural, and political milieu of the region. The participants identified gaps in the literature through the lenses of their various disciplines.
Migration is used to describe patterns of human mobility that occur internally within a state or region, as well as those taking place internationally and transcontinentally. 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. CIRS awarded seven research grants to scholars and researchers with the goal of supporting in-depth, empirically-based examinations of mobility and displacement within the Middle East.

A robust literature on the GCC has focused on the causes, manifestations, and consequences of rentierism, which is assumed to inform the region’s political and economic behavior. The debate centers on whether or not resource revenues erode possibilities for institutionalized political accountability, undermine long-term economic efficiency, and increase resource misallocation in the economy. The research results are set for publication as a special issue of the Journal of Arabian Studies, edited by Mehran Kamrava.

CIRS brought together a group of renowned scholars to discuss a book manuscript, which was subsequently published as Inside the Arab State: Institutions, Actors, and Processes (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2018), authored by Mehran Kamrava. The book examines state-society relations in the Arab world, focusing on the institutional makeup and composition of Arab states. Through a historical-institutional lens, Kamrava maintains that critical junctures provide windows of opportunity for state leaders to craft institutions and institutional arrangements that enable them to dominate over societies.

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 Research Workshops
- CIRS Faculty Research Grants
- CIRS Research Grant Recipients
- CIRS Fellows
- CIRS Visiting Scholars
- CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellows
- CIRS-GU-Q Faculty Fellows
- CIRS-Qatar University Faculty Fellows
**Karl Widerquist Faculty Research Workshop**
April 7, 2014

CIRS held its inaugural Faculty Research Workshop led by Karl Widerquist, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University in Qatar. Participants were invited to discuss his book, titled *Prehistoric Myths in Modern Political Philosophy* (Oxford University Press, 2017). The manuscript argues that many prominent contemporary political theories rely on false claims about human origins and life in non-state societies. The book shows how several dubious claims became widely accepted premises because they seemed plausible (or even obvious) to Europeans of the early colonial period. It also shows how contemporary theories continue to pass on those premises, often unnoticed and unchallenged, and it assembles anthropological and archaeological evidence to refute them.

**Ian Almond Faculty Research Workshop**
November 16, 2014

Ian Almond, Professor of World Literature at Georgetown University in Qatar, headed a CIRS Faculty Research Workshop to discuss his work examining the ideas of melancholy, political conservatism, and native informancy. The book takes the figure of a twentieth-century Indian thinker, Nirad C. Chaudhuri, and considers the author’s oeuvre in an attempt to understand how an Indian intellectual such as Chaudhuri was able to defend passionately the legacy of the British Empire, and even slander the culture and mentality of his fellow Indians. The book was published as *The Thought of Nirad C. Chaudhuri: Islam, Empire and Loss* (Cambridge University Press, 2015).

**Jeremy Koons Faculty Research Workshop**
March 8, 2015

Jeremy Koons, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University in Qatar, headed a Faculty Research Workshop to discuss his book, *The Normative and the Natural* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016). which was co-authored with Michael P. Wolf, Associate Professor at Washington & Jefferson College. The study shows the various ways in which descriptive discourses—such as scientific and social-scientific discourses—and normative discourses mutually contribute to each other in fruitful ways. The result is a picture of normativity that is robust and truth-apt, sewn into a new take on the naturalist tradition.
Harry Verhoeven, Assistant Professor at Georgetown University in Qatar, led a CIRS Faculty Research Workshop to discuss his forthcoming book, *Why Comrades Go To War: Post-Liberation Politics and the Outbreak of Africa’s Deadliest Conflict* (Oxford University Press, 2017). The book is co-authored with Philip Roessler, Assistant Professor in the Government Department at the College of William & Mary. The manuscript emerged from field research in Congo, Rwanda, Angola, Uganda, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Tanzania, South Africa, Belgium, Italy, the UK, and the US. It draws on interviews with the protagonists of the most lethal conflict since World War II.

CIRS hosted a workshop to discuss Uday Chandra’s book manuscript, *Negotiating Leviathan: State and Tribe in Modern India*. Chandra is an Assistant Professor of Government at Georgetown University in Qatar. The book explores how and why certain people and places came to be seen as “tribal” in modern India and, in turn, how “tribal” subjects remade their customs and communities in the course of negotiations with colonial and postcolonial states. Chandra argues that the state and tribes make and remake each other recursively in the margins of modern India, with historical processes of modern statemaking shaping and being shaped by myriad forms of resistance by tribal subjects.
**Migrant Labor in the Gulf (2009)**

Trends, Impacts, and Policy Implications of Lesser-Skilled India-Gulf Migrants

Mary Breeding and Susan Martin, Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University

The project assesses trends, impacts, and policy implications of “lesser-skilled” Indian workers migrating to Gulf countries. Detailed data on their demographic characteristics has been extremely limited. The researchers propose to provide the first ever detailed individual-level analysis of Indian migrants going to work in the Gulf region.

**Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC (2013)**

The Experiences of Egyptian Migrants in Kuwait

Abbie Taylor and Susan Martin, Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University

This is an ethnographic study, focusing on the lived experience of Egyptians as migrants in Kuwait, through a literature review, desk analysis of online media sources, and fieldwork comprising interviews and discussion groups with Egyptian migrants in Kuwait, relevant civil society actors, and government officials.

**The Gulf Family (2015)**

The Omani/Zanzibari Family: Its Diasporic Histories, Connectivities and Imaginings

Rogaia Abusharaf, Georgetown University in Qatar

Informed by key anthropological debates on kinship and segmentation of “tribal” and familial identities, this study asks several questions in light of Omani historical trajectory as an imperial power in the Zanzibar Archipelago.

**Mobility, Displacement, and Forced Migration in the Middle East (2017)**

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

Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf, Georgetown University in Qatar

This project tells the story of how the forced migration of Omanis to Muscat after the Zanzibar Revolution in 1964 affected their Swahili identity. The objective of the project is to examine the effects of forced migration on Omani-Zanzibaris in Muscat.
Migrant Labor in the Persian Gulf

This project examines the causes, processes, and consequences of labor migration in the Gulf from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. The outcome of this project is *Migrant Labor in the Persian Gulf* (Hurst, 2012), edited by Mehran Kamrava and Zahra Babar. The volume critically analyzes the effects of migration on native communities through original and empirically grounded research.

1. A Longitudinal Analysis of Low-Income Laborers in Contemporary Qatar
   Andrew Gardner, Qatar University

   This project explores how low-income migrants respond strategically to the challenges and difficulties they face in the Gulf States. Gardner’s ethnography tracks a small group of ten low-income migrants through one year in Qatar. Gardner has conducted extensive semi-structured interviews, most of which have been recorded, translated, and transcribed.

2. Migrants to the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries: Values, Behaviors, and Plans
   Arland Thornton, Dirgha Ghimire, Mansoor Moaddel, and Nathalie Williams, University of Michigan

   This project examines the values and behavior of migrants to the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council. It also examines how these countries are influenced by their migrant populations. The project focuses on five dimensions of migration: the values and behavior of the migrants; migrant spending, saving, and remittances; the plans of migrants concerning return to their home countries or migration elsewhere; comparative assessment of the impact of migrants on the different countries of the Gulf; and comparison of migrants to the Gulf with their counterparts who did not migrate.

3. Migrant Labor and Legal Regulations in Doha and Dubai
   David Mednicoff, University of Massachusetts-Amherst

   Mednicoff examines the regulatory policies adopted by Gulf States to manage labor migrant populations. He also compares these policies to those adopted by states in other parts of the world. This work is based on interviews with attorneys, policy consultants, journalists, academics, and government officials in Qatar and the UAE.

4. Trends, Impacts, and Policy Implications of Lesser-Skilled India-Gulf Migrants
   Mary Breeding and Susan Martin of Georgetown University

   The project assesses trends, impacts, and policy implications of “lesser-skilled” Indian workers migrating to the Gulf. The numbers of Indian migrants to the Gulf have increased dramatically. Yet, to date, detailed data on the demographic characteristics of lesser-skilled Indian migrants has been extremely limited. The researchers propose to provide the first ever detailed individual-level analysis of Indian migrants going to work in the Gulf region.

Food Security and Food Sovereignty in the Middle East

These original investigations offer the most comprehensive study available to date on food security in the Middle East. *Food Security in the Middle East* (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2014), edited by Zahra Babar and Suzi Mirgani examines food regimes, urban agriculture, overseas land purchases, national food self-sufficiency strategies, and nutrition transitions.

1. Industrial Organization of Fresh Foods Value Chains in the Middle East - Two Case Studies from Lebanon and Qatar
   Jad Chaaban, Hala Ghattas, and Karin Seyfert, American University of Beirut

   Food sovereignty is challenged by increasingly globalized supply chains, where international companies dominate national food markets. This study aims to examine Middle Eastern food quality as well as quantity, and addresses questions of governance over the food chain. It attempts to determine what food reaches consumer markets and at which price and where the highest profit margins are accumulated. The researchers will adopt a value chain approach to analyze the industrial organization of fresh food markets in Lebanon and Qatar.

2. An Economic Analysis of the Costs of National Food Sovereignty Policies in the Middle East: The Case of Lebanon and Jordan
   Jane Harrigan, University of London

   This research looks at the economic consequences of current food sovereignty policies in the Middle East with case studies of Lebanon and Jordan. A variety of methodological tools and techniques are applied to evaluate each country’s food security strategy and to assess the economic costs of the drive towards greater food sovereignty. Extensive data collection took place in each country, in order to quantify the economic costs and trade-offs involved in greater domestic food production in the region.

3. External Food Security Strategies: Risks and Opportunities for the Gulf States
   Mary Ann Tétreault, Trinity University; Benjamin Shepherd, University of Sydney; and Deborah L. Wheeler, United States Naval Academy

   Arabian Gulf states are seeking agricultural land in developing countries. This strategy offers the possibility of securing reliable long-term food supplies but has been criticized as risking exploitation of communities in the host countries. This project examines two cases of Gulf-state land investments in developing country agriculture to develop a long-term prognosis for this going-abroad strategy. The questions addressed are: What risks accrue to Gulf state investors in pursuing it? What could increase the likelihood of long-term success?

4. Food Security and Food Sovereignty in the Middle East
   Elisa Cavatorta and Sam Waples, University of London

   This project studies the effect of environmental factors on the spatial patterns of household food security in the Middle East. It is primarily aimed at understanding spatial patterns.
of food consumption and quantifying the impact of environmental constraints on food insecurity in the region. During the course of this project, two case studies were carried out in Syria and the Palestinian Territories.

5. Urban Agriculture: A Sustainable Solution to Alleviating Urban Poverty, Addressing the Food Crisis, and Adapting to Climate Change
Shadi Hamadeh, Salwa Tawk, and Mounir Abi Said, American University of Beirut

The proposed study assesses existing urban agriculture in two low-income neighborhoods in Lebanon and Jordan respectively. The project investigates the presence, forms, and role of urban agriculture in contributing to food security, and to enhancing households’ nutritional and economic levels. In addition, the proposed research aims to examine how urban agriculture may play a role in enhancing environmental sustainability and helping communities adapt to the effects of climate change.

■ CIRS Research Grant Recipients 2012-2014

■ Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC

Since the bulk of research efforts are focused on non-Arab migrants, the Arab migrant communities in the Gulf have been a neglected area that merits further scholarly discussion and focus. This project resulted in original research papers published in Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017), edited by Zahra Babar.

1. The “Other Arab” & Gulf Citizens: The Façade of Mutual Accommodation in Historical Context
Manal Jamal, James Madison University

The expatriate continuum ranges from the affluent privileged Westerners on one end; Arabs ranging in the middle, with the Lebanese, Palestinians, and Syrians at the top of the employment-and-pay hierarchy of the Arab population; and the marginalized South Asian and East Asian laborers at the opposite end of the continuum. This project seeks to explore developments as they apply to Arabs of Palestinian origin in the United Arab Emirates. The objective is to develop a more historically sensitive political chronology culminating in events surrounding the first Gulf War and the Arab Spring. The project builds on archival research conducted in the National Archives of the United Kingdom, and entails semi-structured, open-ended interviews with Arabs of Palestinian origin in the UAE, and additional archival research.

2. Attitudes of Foreign Students in the GCC towards the Arab Spring: Case of Students in the UAE
George Naufal, Ismail Genc, and Carlos Vargas-Silva, American University of Sharjah

This project explores the attitudes of foreign students in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) towards the Arab Spring. Using business school students enrolled at the American University of Sharjah as a case study, the project explores how these attitudes vary according to student characteristics, including migration history. Particular attention is placed on the difference in attitude between Arab and non-Arab students. The results of this research has significant implications on future migration and labor policies.

3. The Experiences of Egyptian Migrants in Kuwait
Abbie Taylor and Susan Martin, Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University

An examination of the migration flows and experiences of Egyptians in Kuwait will provide a fascinating snapshot of Arab migrants in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Researchers at the Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) at Georgetown University in collaboration with the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies (CCAS) also at Georgetown University propose an ethnographic study, focusing on the lived experience of Egyptians as migrants in Kuwait, through a literature review, desk analysis of online media sources, and fieldwork comprising of interviews and discussion groups with Egyptian migrants in Kuwait, relevant civil society actors, and government officials.

4. An Investigation of a New Generation of Hadrami Immigrants in Kuwait
Abdullah M. Alajmi, Arab Open University, Kuwait

This is an ethnographic fieldwork to examine the factors critical to the persistence of Hadrami migration to Kuwait. Research demonstrates that while Hadramis have always formed the majority of Yemeni immigrants in Kuwait, they never have had effective roles in the wider economies of Kuwait migration. Data was collected from direct observation of working conditions and immigrants’ personal accounts of migratory experiences, which was tested against formal documentation of the relevant literature. The proposed study was a departure from the research on Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) migration that mainly concentrates on its structural, legal, and political features. This research examines the micro- and meso-levels of migration using the individual experience, the intra-community conditions, and the immigrant-sponsor relationships as the main units of analysis.

5. High-Skilled Lebanese Migrants in Kuwait
Garret Maher, Gulf University for Science and Technology, Kuwait

High-skilled migration to Kuwait, particularly of other Arab migrants, is a relatively new phenomenon; a significant migration of many, mainly young, highly-skilled and well-educated Lebanese migrants, has taken place in recent decades. This new research project has a number of key objectives, which include gaining a better understanding of high-skilled Lebanese migrant groups in Kuwait; examining the role of transnationalism in their daily lives including the role of social networks in their decision to migrate from Lebanon to Kuwait, and how they were recruited; their experiences in a Kuwaiti work environment; the use of remittances; and the extent to which transnational identities have been created.
These original research projects approach the subject of “The Gulf Family” from multidisciplinary lenses, and include historical, anthropological, sociological, and legal perspectives. The working groups that took place in Doha brought together the grant awardees as well as other scholars with relevant expertise, to identify common areas of research to be addressed as part of this project. Some of the topics that were discussed included: tribalism, consanguineous marriage, sexuality, bilingualism, and other issues which are currently challenging the structure and dynamics of the Gulf family. The research resulted in a collection of papers submitted as a CIRS special issue of *Harunwa: Journal of Women of the Middle East and the Islamic World*.

1. The Gulf Child: A New Phase in Family Reform?
Lena-Maria Möller, Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law

Families are shaped by a variety of factors, including the social, political, and economic context in which they exist and operate. Equally influential for family structures and family transformations is the legal framework that states establish to govern the family. With regard to family laws in Muslim countries, however, scholarship has largely focused on questions of marriage and divorce and has thus excluded legal policies directed at the parent-child relationship. Yet without an adequate understanding of the development of child law regimes and the trends affecting them, we are left with an insufficient analysis of the legal dynamics shaping the family in Muslim-majority countries. This project remedies this gap in the scholarship by examining the notion of “the best interests of the child” as a paramount principle permeating family law in the Arab Gulf in recent years.

2. Tribalism and Gulf Family Affairs
Sebastian Maisel, Grand Valley State University

Tribal values have been a fundamental ingredient in the social structure of families in the GCC states. Prior to the discovery of oil, social life was organized around the tribe, and the (extended) family was the backbone of society. This was layered with the economic component of the urban-rural-nomadic divide. The rapid transformation of the GCC states led most families to enter the urban world. Life styles, occupations, and material things changed; however, traditional customs and practices remained. This study seeks to understand how much of this ancient notion of tribalism is left in current family practices. The study also aims to measure the impact of increased public tribalism on domestic family dynamics and representations. For comparative reasons, the study begins with an overview of past tribal customs from the pre-oil era, while the main body of the study analyzes contemporary expressions of tribalism within the private and public spheres.

3. The Omani/Zanzibari Family: Its Diasporic Histories, Connectivites and Imaginings
Rogaia Abusharaf, Georgetown University in Qatar

Informed by key anthropological debates on kinship and segmentation of “tribal” and familial identities, this study asks several questions in light of Omani historical trajectory as an imperial power in the Zanzibar Archipelago: What is the Omani family? Does the family as an institution of social regulation entrusted with maintaining morality and regulating sexuality vary cross-culturally among Omani-Zanzibari families? What were the social and political forces that impacted the ways in which family networks were forged and/or destroyed? Under what circumstances did the family as a tributary form of an established “tribal” structure prevalent in Oman transform itself into an interest group motivated by politics and economics in both locations on the Indian Ocean Rim?

4. The Soaring Bride-Price (*Mabr*) in a Context of Modernization: A Complex Variable that is Affecting the Formation of the Gulf Family—Case Studies in the Sultanate of Oman, Qatar, and Bahrain
Jihan Safar and Laurent Pouquet, Science-Po

The Gulf family is facing a key challenge as a result of higher marriage costs. The bride-price (*mabr*)—which is the sum of money a man has the obligation to offer to his future bride—is becoming a major concern for youth, family, and state. The *mabr*’s dramatic boom is affecting the whole marriage equilibrium, increasing the celibacy rate and increasing the age at first marriage. The consequences range from more frequent mixed marriages and non-conventional ones (*misya*), to psychological problems and conjugal conflicts. Despite modern influences in the Gulf, the traditional practice of the *mabr* seems resilient. Using qualitative and quantitative approaches to be conducted in Oman, Qatar and Bahrain, this study answers fundamental questions regarding matrimonial decision-making, and the evolution and main drivers of the bride-price.

5. Mixed Marriages Among Qataris
Mohamed Mohieddin, Sanaa Al Harahsheh, and Feras Al Meer, Doha International Family Institute

This research project constitutes the first attempt to study this phenomenon among Qataris, thus filling a gap in academic literature and providing bases for policy debate. This research raises questions concerned with the trends and characteristics of those involved in mixed marriage, its structural determinants and consequences for the individual, family of spouses, the community and the Qatari society as a whole. This research project adopts multiple research methods and techniques to collect quantitative and qualitative data, including thirty face-to-face case studies and a questionnaire on a sample of six hundred cases for comparison purposes.
MOBILITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND FORCED MIGRATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Middle East is facing one of its most critical migration challenges, and the region has become the simultaneous producer and host to the world’s largest population of displaced people. Exploring the conditions, causes, and consequences of population displacements is key to better understanding some of the profound social and political changes currently underway in the region. This project recognizes regional migration as a complex, widespread, and persistent phenomenon, and a topic best studied from a multidisciplinary approach. This project aims to broaden our understanding of the complex population movements that are seen in the Middle East, and to include the movements of those who may be identified in multiple different ways—migrants, migrant workers, guest workers, temporary migrants, low and highly skilled economic migrants, trafficked persons, forced migrants/forced workers, smuggled persons, refugees, and asylum seekers. The research resulted in a collection of papers submitted as a CIRS special issue of the *The Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* (JEMS).

1. A Story Worth Telling: Omani-Zanzibari Identity at the Intersection of Ethnic Cleansing and Forced Migration
   Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf, Georgetown University in Qatar

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-Zanzibaris 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. I ask three main research questions: How did they think of themselves politically? How did they think of themselves socio-culturally? How do they think of themselves linguistically?

2. From Mobility to Refuge: Exploring the Multi-layered Patterns of Syrian Refuge and Mobility in the Northern Bekaa, Lebanon. The Case of the Dayr al-Ahmar District
   Leïla Vignal, University of Oxford; and Emma Aubin-Boltanski, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France

This project aims to illuminate the dynamics and the patterns of the Syrian refuge in Syria’s neighboring countries. In particular, it concerns itself, on the one hand, with putting the current forced displacement of Syrians into the larger theoretical framework of migration and mobility and, on the other, with connecting 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).

3. 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

In increasingly hybrid social settings, the transformation of local, international, and refugee sociocultural practices—traditions, habits, and public behavioral codes—is underresearched while able to unheard 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.

4. 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 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 men and women to radicalize, as a means of moral restoration based on Islamic ideology?

5. 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 project examines mobility, displacement, and forced migration in Libya and Tunisia. Though significant work has studied the impact of trans-Mediterranean migration on Europe, little to no research has examined its effects on North Africa. This landmark study 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, then, both researchers and policymakers alike need to understand these migrants, their experiences, and the communities they have formed.
Fred Lawson is Rice Professor of Government at Mills College, a position he has held since 1985. He also acts as head of the department. Lawson is author of numerous articles and books, including *Social Origins of Egyptian Expansionism during the Muhammad 'Ali Period* (Columbia University Press, 1992) and *Constructing International Relations in the Arab World* (Stanford University Press, 2006).

James Onley is Visiting Associate Professor of Gulf History and Heritage at Qatar University. Previously, he was Director of the Exeter Centre for Gulf Studies from 2005–2012. Onley specializes in Gulf history, heritage, culture, society, and politics, and is the author of numerous publications. He is Founding Editor of the *Journal of Arabian Studies* published by Taylor and Francis, and the *Britain and the World* book series published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Fred Lawson is Rice Professor of Government at Mills College, a position he has held since 1985. He also acts as head of the department. Lawson is author of numerous articles and books, including *Social Origins of Egyptian Expansionism during the Muhammad 'Ali Period* (Columbia University Press, 1992) and *Constructing International Relations in the Arab World* (Stanford University Press, 2006).

Ran Françis is a Senior Visiting Scholar. From 2008 to 2013, CIRS hosted visiting scholars in any discipline working on the Middle East. Priority was given to projects with demonstrated relevance to the Persian Gulf. The position was open to mid-career and senior scholars in all disciplines working on any area of the Middle East, with priority given to those working on the Gulf.

**CIRS Visiting Scholars**

**James Onley** (2008–2009)

James Onley is Visiting Associate Professor of Gulf History and Heritage at Qatar University. Previously, he was Director of the Exeter Centre for Gulf Studies from 2005–2012. Onley specializes in Gulf history, heritage, culture, society, and politics, and is the author of numerous publications. He is Founding Editor of the *Journal of Arabian Studies* published by Taylor and Francis, and the *Britain and the World* book series published by Palgrave Macmillan.

**Fred H. Lawson** (2009–2010)

Fred Lawson is Rice Professor of Government at Mills College, a position he has held since 1985. He also acts as head of the department. Lawson is author of numerous articles and books, including *Social Origins of Egyptian Expansionism during the Muhammad 'Ali Period* (Columbia University Press, 1992) and *Constructing International Relations in the Arab World* (Stanford University Press, 2006).

**Mary Ann Tétreault** (2010–2011)

Mary Ann Tétreault, Una Chapman Cox Distinguished Professor of International Affairs at Trinity University in San Antonio, is author of *The Kuwait Petroleum Corporation and the Economics of the New World Order* (Praeger, 1995), and *Stories of Democracy: Politics and Society in Contemporary Kuwait* (Columbia University Press, 2000), and co-editor of *Political Change in the Arab Gulf States: Stuck in Transition* (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2011) with Gwenn Okruhlik and Andrzej Kapiszewski.
#### Lawrence G. Potter (2011-2012)


#### Shahla Haeri (2011-2012)

During her fellowship, Haeri was invited to the Georgetown University in Qatar campus where she gave a Focused Discussion and was a guest lecturer in several classes. Her research interests include Iran, Pakistan, and India, and she has written extensively on religion, law, and gender dynamics in the Muslim world. Haeri is the author of *No Shame for the Sun: Lives of Professional Pakistani Women* (Syracuse University Press in the United States, and Oxford University Press in Pakistan, 2004).

#### Manochehr Dorraj (2012-2013)

Dorraj is Professor of Political Science at Texas Christian University and has published on the politics and culture of the Middle East and North Africa and the regional foreign policies. He has been an invited speaker to universities throughout the United States, Europe, and the Middle East. He has also granted numerous interviews on Middle Eastern affairs and their global impacts to local, national, and international media.

#### Mansoor Moaddel (2012-2013)

Moaddel is Professor of Sociology at Eastern Michigan University. His interests include culture, ideology, political conflict, revolution, and social change. He focuses on the causes and consequences of values and attitudes of the Middle Eastern and Islamic publics. His previous research projects analyzes the determinants of ideological production in the Islamic world. He teaches sociology of religion, ideology, revolution, Islam, and the Middle East, as well as statistics and research methods.

#### CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellows

Between 2008 and 2014, CIRS supported recent PhD recipients in any discipline working on the Middle East, with priority given to projects that demonstrated relevance to the Persian Gulf. In the absence of teaching responsibilities, the fellow was expected to work on turning his or her dissertation into a book manuscript for publication for the duration of the fellowship.

#### Katja Niethammer (2008-2009)

CIRS welcomed Katja Niethammer as the first Post-Doctoral Fellow in the 2008-2009 academic year. During her fellowship, spent within the framework of CIRS research and scholarship initiatives, Niethammer was involved in three major projects. After completing her fellowship at CIRS, Niethammer took a new position as Interim Director of the Institute for Islamic Studies at Hamburg University.

#### Attiya Ahmad (2009-2010)

Ahmad completed her PhD in Cultural Anthropology at Duke University. Based on over two years of fieldwork conducted in Kuwait, Nepal, and Pakistan, her research focuses on South Asian migrant domestic workers in Kuwait who have converted to Islam. After a year spent at CIRS, Ahmad took a position as Assistant Professor of Feminism, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

#### Debra Shushan (2010-2011)

Debra Shushan came to CIRS from the College of William & Mary in Virginia. During her fellowship, she worked on a book manuscript on Arab foreign policies during the Gulf Wars, submitted for publication an article on Gulf states as donors of foreign aid, and she presented a paper on Qatari foreign policy at the International Studies Association conference in Montreal in 2011.
Driessen obtained his PhD in Political Science from the University of Notre Dame, and holds a position as Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at John Cabot University in Rome. While at CIRS, Driessen prepared a book manuscript on “religiously friendly democratization processes” in the Mediterranean region, delivered a CIRS Monthly Dialogue, and was a guest lecturer in several classes at GU-Q.

Luomi holds a PhD in Middle Eastern Studies from Durham University. At CIRS, she delivered a CIRS Monthly Dialogue and was invited to guest lecture in several courses at GU-Q and other Qatar Foundation institutions. She also published a book titled *The Gulf Monarchies and Climate Change: Abu Dhabi and Qatar in an Era of Natural Unsustainability* (Hurst, 2012).

Manata Hashemi is a Research Associate at the Center for Ethnographic Research at the University of California, Berkeley. She received her PhD in Sociology from UCB. Her research interests include issues of poverty, development, stratification, and socioeconomic mobility in the Middle East. She has conducted fieldwork for the United Nations Children’s Fund on the situation of adolescents and youth in the Middle East.

Buehler received his PhD from the University of Texas at Austin. While at CIRS, he expanded his PhD dissertation into a book titled *The Social Base of Divide-and-Rule: Left-Islamist Opposition Alliances in North Africa’s Arab Spring*. His research examines the success and failure of opposition coordination between Islamists and leftists, drawing on original interviews, archival research, and statistical data from Tunisia, Morocco, and Mauritania.

Mohamed Zayani is Associate Professor of Critical Theory at the Georgetown University in Qatar and Affiliate Faculty with the Communication, Culture and Technology Program. His works include *Reading the Symptom* (Peter Lang Publishing, 1999), *Arab Satellite Television and Politics in the Middle East* (Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, 2004), *The Al Jazeera Phenomenon: Critical Perspectives on New Arab Media* (McFarland & Company, 2005), and *The Culture of Al Jazeera: Inside an Arab Media Giant* (McFarland & Company, 2007).

El-Zein is Associate Professor at Georgetown University in Qatar, and author of *Islam, Arabs, and the Intelligent World of the Jinn* (Syracuse University Press, 2009). She is a published poet in Arabic, French, and English. During her fellowship, she worked on a project titled, “Contemporary Saudi Literature: The Grueling Adaption to Modernity.” The research argues that contemporary Saudi literature conveys the dilemma of Saudi society torn between fascination with everything Western and obligations to unbending traditions.
CIRS launched an annual fellowship to be awarded to a member of Qatar University’s faculty. The fellowship supports QU faculty members in pursuing original research projects, with the aim of publishing research outcomes in leading journals or with university presses. Any member of the Qatar University full-time faculty engaged in the Humanities, Social Sciences, Law, and Islamic Studies is eligible for this fellowship.

**FIRAT ORUC (2015-2016)**
Oruc is Assistant Professor of English and Humanities at Georgetown University in Qatar. He received his PhD in Literature from Duke University in 2010. His scholarly interests center on the intersections of cultural globalization and transnationalism, postcolonial studies, world literature theory, and translation studies.

**ABDULLAH AL-ARIAN (2016-2017)**
Al-Arian is an Assistant Professor of History at Georgetown University in Qatar. He received his doctorate in history from Georgetown University. He is author of *Answering the Call: Popular Islamic Activism in Sadat’s Egypt* (Oxford University Press, 2014), and is co-editor of the “Critical Currents in Islam” page on Jadaliyya.

**Maha Al-Hendawi (2012-2013)**
Al-Hendawi is Assistant Professor of Special Education at Qatar University. She received her PhD in Special Education and Disability Leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University. Her research interests include educational policies and reform initiatives in the region, and academic interventions for at-risk children and those with special needs. Al-Hendawi is the principal investigator of several research grants that promote special education for students with disabilities in Qatar.

**Mohammed Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi (2013-2014)**
Mohammed Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi is Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Assistant Professor of Commercial Law at Qatar University, College of Law. He offers several courses related to his field of study and research at QU Law, such as drafting business contracts, alternative dispute resolution, and commercial companies law. Besides his academic work, he is an authorized Qatari lawyer at Abdulaziz Saleh Al-Khulaifi’s law office in Doha.

**Abdullah Al-Arian (2016-2017)**
Al-Arian is an Assistant Professor of History at Georgetown University in Qatar. He received his doctorate in history from Georgetown University. He is author of *Answering the Call: Popular Islamic Activism in Sadat’s Egypt* (Oxford University Press, 2014), and is co-editor of the “Critical Currents in Islam” page on Jadaliyya.

**Reem Al-Ansari (2015-2016)**
Al-Ansari is a Professor at Qatar University’s College of Law. She received her LLM from the University of Michigan Law School in Ann Arbor, and earned her Doctorate degree from Georgetown University’s Law Center in Washington D.C., making her the youngest Qatari lawyer and doctorate degree holder in the state. She is currently working on a book tackling the issue of money laundering and corruption.

**Hadeel Al-Khatib (2016-2017)**
Al-Khatib is Assistant Professor in the College of Education at Qatar University. Her Doctorate degree is from University College London, where she researched the impact of neoliberalism on Qatar’s language policy and language planning. Her research interests include language policies with particular reference to relationships between national identity and discourse.
Comparative politics has undergone significant theoretical changes in recent decades. Particularly since the 1980s, a new generation of scholars have revamped and rejuvenated the study of the subject. Mehran Kamrava examines current and past approaches to the study of comparative politics and proposes a new framework for analysis. This is achieved through a comparative examination of state and social institutions, the interactions that occur between them, and the political cultures within which they operate.

Understanding Comparative Politics: A Framework for Analysis (Routledge, 2008)  
By Mehran Kamrava

With the death of Ayatollah Khomeini, a more relaxed political environment opened up in Iran. This encouraged political debate between learned elites and religious reformers. Emerging from these interactions were three competing ideologies, which Kamrava categorizes as conservative, reformist, and secular. As the book aptly demonstrates, these developments, amounting to an intellectual revolution, will have profound and far-reaching consequences for the future of the Islamic republic, its people, and very probably for countries beyond its borders.

Iran's Intellectual Revolution (Cambridge University Press, 2008)  
By Mehran Kamrava

Iran dominates the media headlines and has taken center stage in the US and European Union strategy toward the Middle East. A nuanced understanding of Iranian society has assumed even greater significance and urgency. Iran Today offers crucial insight for students and the general reader into an often misunderstood and complex country that is shrouded in mystery and misperception. Heir to a long history and a great culture and civilization, Iran embodies a rich, complex, and diverse mosaic that defines its national identity. This encyclopedia is published as two volumes.

Iran Today: An Encyclopedia of Life in the Islamic Republic. 2 Vols. (Greenwood, 2008)  
Edited by Mehran Kamrava & Manochehr Dorraj
The Modern Middle East: A Political History Since the First World War
(University of California Press, 2011), 3 Editions
By Mehran Kamrava

This book examines the political history of the contemporary Middle East. Although it focuses primarily on the period since the demise of the Ottoman Empire, shortly after World War I, it includes some discussion of pre-Ottoman and Ottoman histories to clarify the context in which modern Middle Eastern political history has taken shape. This revised edition of Kamrava's classic treatise remains essential reading for students and general readers who want to gain a better understanding of this diverse region.

Innovation in Islam: Traditions and Contributions
(University of California Press, 2011)
Edited by Mehran Kamrava

This publication is a result of the "Innovation in Islam" conference hosted by CIRS in 2008. Focusing on the ways through which the teachings of Islam have been produced and perpetuated over time, the contributors investigate the arts, jurisprudence, personal status, hermeneutics and epistemology, and Muslims' perceptions of the self in the modern world. Innovation in Islam illuminates a debate that extends beyond semantics into everyday politics and society—and one that has ramifications around the world.

The International Politics of the Persian Gulf
(Syracuse University Press, 2011)
Edited by Mehran Kamrava

This volume is the result of a multiyear CIRS research initiative. It presents a comprehensive account of the international politics of the region. Focusing on the key factors that give the Persian Gulf its strategic significance, contributors look at the influence of vast deposits of oil and natural gas on international politics, the impact of the competing centers of power of Iran and Saudi Arabia, the nature of relationships among countries within the Persian Gulf, and the evolving interaction between Islam and politics.

The Nuclear Question in the Middle East
(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2012)
Edited by Mehran Kamrava

This book combines thematic and theoretical discussions regarding nuclear weapons and nuclear energy with case studies from across the region. The contributors are renowned specialists of nuclear politics in the Middle East who tackle a contentious issue with informed scholarly insight. Topics include case studies of Israel, Turkey, the UAE, Libya, Egypt, and Iran's nuclear ambitions; the role of nuclear energy in economic development; and the possibility of a nuclear weapons free zone in the Middle East. This volume is the result of a multiyear CIRS research initiative.

Migrant Labour in the Persian Gulf
(Columbia University Press/Hurst, 2012)
Edited by Mehran Kamrava & Zahra Babar

This is an edited volume of academic articles that were crafted during the "Migrant Labor in the Gulf" research initiative that took place over three meetings in Doha. The book highlights the macro trends that drive international migration and that define overarching labor patterns within the GCC and the sending countries, and includes individual ethnographies and personal stories regarding the lived experiences of the migrants themselves. The book also contains the research results of four original projects funded by CIRS.

The Political Economy of the Persian Gulf
(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2012)
Edited by Mehran Kamrava

This is a CIRS book containing academic articles that were delivered at the "Political Economy of the Gulf" research initiative that took place over two meetings in Doha. The book covers topics such as the demographic aspects of the GCC, the GCC monetary union, the "Dubai Model" of economic diversification, attempts at establishing knowledge-based economies in the GCC, the effects of rentierism on state autonomy, sovereign wealth funds, and Islamic banking models across the GCC.
Food Security in the Middle East
(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2014)
Edited by Zahra Babar & Suzi Mirgani

This volume offers the most comprehensive study available to date on food security in the Middle East. The book proposes a theoretical framing of the phenomena of food security and food sovereignty and presents case studies from Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Egypt, Yemen, the Gulf states, and Iran. Major themes examined include the ascent and decline of food regimes; urban agriculture; overseas agricultural land purchases; national food self-sufficiency strategies, distribution networks, and food consumption patterns; and nutrition transitions and healthcare.

Networked Publics and Digital Contention: The Politics of Everyday Life in Tunisia
(Oxford University Press, 2015)
By Mohamed Zayani

Taking Tunisia as a case study, in this book Zayani offers an ethnographically nuanced and theoretically grounded analysis of the digital culture of contention that developed in an authoritarian context. This book is winner of the ICA Global Media and Social Change Best Book Award; the NCA Sue DeWine Distinguished Book Award; and the ASA Communication, Information Technologies and Media Sociology Book Award.

Beyond the Arab Spring: The Evolving Ruling Bargain in the Middle East
(Oxford University Press/Hurst 2014)
Edited by Mehran Kamrava

The Arab Spring occurred within the context of the unravelling of the dominant “ruling bargains” that emerged across the Middle East in the 1950s. Across the Arab world today, “authority” and “political legitimacy” are in flux. This volume is the result of a multiyear CIRS research initiative examining the evolution of ruling bargains, the political systems to which they gave rise, the steady unravelling of the old systems and the structural consequences thereof, and the uprisings that began in December 2010.

Qatar: Small State, Big Politics
(Cornell University Press, 2013)
By Mehran Kamrava

Qatar has two million inhabitants, virtually no potable water, and has been an independent nation only since 1971. Yet its enormous oil and gas wealth has permitted the ruling al Thani family to exert a disproportionately large influence on regional and even international politics. Qatar is a “tiny giant;” although severely lacking in most measures of state power, it is highly influential in diplomatic, cultural, and economic spheres. Kamrava presents Qatar as an experimental country, building a new society while exerting what he calls “subtle power.”

Qatar: The Gulf Monarchies and Climate Change: Abu Dhabi and Qatar in an Era of Natural Unsustainability
(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2012)
By Mari Luomi

Some Gulf states have reached the limits of natural sustainability. Water resources are dwindling and food import dependence is high. Surging electricity and water demand have exerted unexpected pressures on domestic energy supply. Simultaneously, climate change on the international agenda has created a new uncertainty for local rulers whose survival depends on sales of oil and gas. Luomi questions whether hydrocarbon-dependent monarchies can keep their natural resource use and the environment in balance.

Sectarian Politics in the Persian Gulf
(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2014)
Edited by Lawrence G. Potter

The contributors to this book examine sectarian politics in the Persian Gulf, and consider the origins and consequences of sectarianism as it affects ethnic, tribal, and religious groups. A theoretical and comparative framework for understanding sectarianism is presented, as well as country-specific chapters based on recent research in the area. Key issues include the nature of sectarianism, how identity moves from a passive to an active state, and the mechanisms that trigger conflict. This book is the result of a multiyear CIRS research initiative on the topic.
**Fragile Politics: Weak States in the Greater Middle East**  
(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016)  
*Edited by Mehran Kamrava*

Fragile Politics is the result of a CIRS research initiative. It provides a comprehensive study of state weakness across the Greater Middle East. It examines how the Arab uprisings precipitated the collapse of Middle Eastern states once perceived as invincible, and how Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, and Syria all succumbed to revolutionary upheavals. The book explains how the uprisings highlighted weaknesses in the capacity and legitimacy of states across the Arab Middle East, and considers the international implications of weak states.

**The Impossibility of Palestine: History, Geography, and the Road Ahead**  
(Yale University Press, 2016)  
*By Mehran Kamrava*

The “two-state solution” is the official policy of Israel, the US, the UN, and the Palestinian Authority alike. However, Kamrava argues, Israel’s “state-building” process has never risen above the level of municipal governance, and its goal has never been Palestinian independence. Based on detailed fieldwork, exhaustive scholarship, and an in-depth examination of historical sources, the author explains that a coherent Palestinian state has already been rendered an impossibility.

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

This is a scholarly investigation of the lesser and greater port cities of the Persian Gulf, their hinterlands, and their wider influence and future prospects. Alongside such aspiring global cities as Doha, Abu Dhabi, and Dubai, there are port cities that appear to have their best days behind them, and others that have largely retained their traditional fabrics. Gateways to the World is the result of a multiyear CIRS research initiative, and presents a comprehensive account of the nature and variety of port cities along the Gulf.

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

This book is the result of a multiyear CIRS research initiative. It examines the intersections between media and politics before, during, and in the reverberations of the Arab uprisings. What added 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.

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

The result of a CIRS research initiative, this book discusses the noticeable transition in power since 1989. This is exacerbated by the global communication trends and information expansion, as Iran has increasingly become the site of the 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.

**Transitional Justice in the Middle East and North Africa**  
(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017)  
*Edited by Chandra Lekha Sriram*

This volume brings together leading experts in the fields of human rights and transitional justice. While MENA countries have diverse histories, political institutions, and experiences with accountability, most have experienced non-transition, stalled transition, or political manipulation of transitional justice measures. These studies inform reflection not only on the role of transitional justice in the region, but also on challenges to its operation more generally. This book is the result of a multiyear CIRS research initiative.
This book explores the points of convergence between corporate capitalism and terrorist practices. 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, 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.

This book examines the strategic competition between Iran and Turkey for power and influence in the South Caucasus: Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Armenia. These neighboring Middle East powers have vied for supremacy and influence throughout the region and especially in their immediate vicinity, while contending with ethnic heterogeneity both within their own territories and across their borders. Turkey and Iran have sought to deepen their regional influences and power, and in the South Caucasus each has achieved a modicum of success.

This original work of scholarship sheds light on a topic both highly relevant and woefully understudied. It focuses on the earlier community of Arab immigrants within the GCC, who are among the politically most significant and sensitive of migrant groups in the region. The book presents original data and provides analyses of the settlement and continued evolution of migrant Arab communities across the GCC, their work in and assimilation within host societies and labor markets, and their political, economic, social and cultural significance both to the GCC region and to their countries of origin.

Fundamental to the lives of the vast majority of Iraqi refugees, the study calls on the international community to launch a more robust humanitarian response to assist and protect the Iraqi refugees while addressing the legitimate economic, political, and security concerns of Jordan and Syria as hosts to such large numbers of refugees. Due to the interest shown in Fagen’s 2007 paper, CIRS printed a second edition in 2009, which includes a postscript update on the situation.

Industrial development in Qatar is putting the environment at risk, threatening ecosystem services and biological diversity. While Qatar is currently developing the legislation, regulatory bodies, and management agencies for successful ecosystem management and conservation efforts, the full implementation of these protective measures has yet to be achieved. This is in part due to a lack of scientific expertise and trained personnel as well as the early stage of environmental development in the country.

Bahrain has entered into a more “progressive” phase of its history under King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. Various parliamentary and legislative restructuring, in addition to discernible changes within civil society, have taken place. Yet genuine socioeconomic challenges remain on the horizon, which may pose risks to the political order. This study examines how internal power politics within Bahrain’s ruling elite largely explain the manner in which the reforms have been implemented in the initial years of King Hamad’s reign.
Workforce Nationalization in the Gulf Cooperation Council States
CIRS Occasional Paper No. 9 (2012)
Kasim Randeree, University of Oxford

GCC states have become reliant on migrant workers to the extent that foreign inhabitants constitute nearly one-third of the total GCC population. Kasim Randeree argues that closer cooperation and unified policy structures on nationalization are needed across the GCC countries. Education, training, the transfer of knowledge from expatriate to citizen, better approaches to encouraging citizens into the private sector, and the greater inclusion of women, are all significant issues to fulfill the desired goal of nationalizing the labor force across the GCC.
The paper analyzes Iran's evolving interest and geopolitical challenges in Central Eurasia. As an emerging power with its own political agenda, perception, and calculus of interests, Iran uses identity politics and shared cultural and religious values to forge closer relations with Central Eurasian countries. The authors explore religious, political, economic, and strategic variables affecting Iran's foreign policy decisions in Central Eurasia.

Implications of the 2011–13 Syrian Uprising for the Middle Eastern Regional Security Complex
Fred Lawson, Mills College

The paper focuses on the new configuration of the Middle Eastern regional security complex (RSC) in the context of the uprisings that broke out across the Arab world in 2010-11. The reconfigured RSC that emerged out of the “Winter of Arab Discontent” is only beginning to be explicated, and can best be addressed by tracing the connection between domestic political conflicts and shifts in external belligerence and alignment across the region.

Water, State Power, and Tribal Politics in the GCC: the Case of Kuwait and Abu Dhabi
Laurent A. Lambert, Europaeum, Oxford University

Lambert argues that the GCC’s remarkable capacity to provide water to all their inhabitants, despite the regional aridity, should not be explained solely by apolitical factors such as the availability of desalination technologies and massive energy resources. This research demonstrates that the historical evolutions and achievements of the water sectors in Abu Dhabi and Kuwait City over the twentieth century are the product of local and regional politics and of reformist leaders’ agency at various times.
In this paper, Robert Wirsing and Samir Kumar Das assess five major transboundary-related problems currently troubling the Bengal region and bedeviling, in particular, the relationship between Bangladesh and India. The paper’s focus is on the potential and capacity of the political entities sharing the Bengal region to identify, agree upon, and implement effective and sustainable solutions to these problems. It argues that such solutions, to be sustainable, would have to prioritize cross-border cooperation and mutual benefit—objectives that have thus far neither been aggressively nor consistently pursued in this region.

**Bengal’s Beleaguered Borders**
CIRS Asia Paper no. 1 (2016)
Robert G. Wirsing, Georgetown University in Qatar & Samir Kumar Das, University of Calcutta

Ernst David Bergmann facilitated some of Israel’s conventional military transfers to Taiwan. While some of his activities in Taiwan may have been approved by the Israeli Ministry of Defense (which followed its own foreign policy), the Foreign Ministry took exception well before Jerusalem’s rapprochement with Beijing. Israel’s military relations with the Republic of China (ROC, Taiwan) had been aborted by the mid-1990s, even though attempts have been made to resume defense links. Since his death in 1975 (one day after Chiang Kai-shek’s) and definitely before, Bergmann has been considered, implicitly but lately explicitly, a prominent player in Taiwan’s defense modernization and one of the forefathers of its nuclear program.

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

Ongoing expansions of hydro-infrastructure in the Nile basin, combined with infrastructure completed in the past decade, are increasing the capacity to regulate the Nile as well as the benefits accrued to the Nile waters. No longer reliant on funding from the World Bank and Western donors alone, Nile water development is accelerating in a number of upstream riparian states. Hence, the river Nile upstream of the Aswan High Dam is gradually being transformed from a natural to a regulated river.

**Water Management in the Nile Basin: A Fragmented but Effective Cooperative Regime**
CIRS Occasional Paper No. 17 (2016)
Bart Hilhorst, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Given the shortcomings of prevailing theories, this paper approaches and assesses the social conduct of poor youth in the Middle East from the perspective of aspirations-bounded rationality. From this vantage point, the behaviors of poor youth are not determined by individual economic interests, nor by pure emotion, but by aspirations. In this paper, Hashemi proposes that these youth struggle and create strategies to improve their lives that are conditioned by experience and observation of those who inform their social worlds.

**Studying Disadvantaged Youths in the Middle East: A Theoretical Framework**
CIRS Occasional Paper No. 16 (2015)
Manata Hashemi, University of Oklahoma
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE GULF
CIRS Summary Report no. 1 (2009)

This report includes synopses of the papers delivered at two “International Relations of the Gulf” working group meetings in 2008 and 2009. The research explores critical issues in the Gulf region such as security strategies and foreign policy implications of political reforms; questions of sovereignty and borders; American policy, and the foreign and security policies of Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and other regional actors. An edited volume of these papers, The International Politics of the Persian Gulf, was published by Syracuse University Press in 2011.

MIGRANT LABOR IN THE GULF
CIRS Summary Report no. 2 (2011)

Research findings were presented by working group participants over three meetings in Doha. CIRS launched the initiative in 2008, and the group was comprised of experts in the field of migrant labor from a variety of academic disciplines, including anthropology, sociology, economics, and political science. The group included CIRS research grant recipients. The edited volume, Migrant Labour in the Persian Gulf, was published by Hurst in 2012.

THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE GULF
CIRS Summary Report no. 3 (2011)

This report details research conducted by CIRS, which resulted in an edited book titled The Political Economy of the Persian Gulf (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2012). Explaining the different ways in which globalizing forces have shaped new dimensions to the political economy of the Gulf states, this research initiative proposes to evaluate the changes that have occurred, especially in light of the global economic crisis. This report also contains background information about the research initiative, a collection of paper synopses, and participant biographies.

THE NUCLEAR QUESTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
CIRS Summary Report no. 4 (2012)

This report highlights research participants’ discussions on balancing the need for civilian nuclear technology against the concerns of weaponization programs. Topics included global security, regional mistrust, the prestige of gaining nuclear capabilities, and the role of NGOs and civil society groups in pressuring governments to abstain from nuclear energy initiatives. CIRS engaged with academics in the field who contributed individual chapters to a book, The Nuclear Question in the Middle East (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2012).

GCC STATES’ LAND INVESTMENTS ABROAD: THE CASE OF CAMBODIA
CIRS Summary Report no. 5 (2012)

With CIRS grant funding, Benjamin Shepherd traveled to Cambodia to conduct investigations into GCC land investments and to pose recommendations for further research into these projects. Despite the critical interest in food security and food sovereignty, there is a dearth of available information as it relates to the Gulf states. This scarcity and non-reliability of data means that academic work on the subject remains limited to non-existent. Supported by a CIRS grant, this report contains primary data and research findings.

FOOD SECURITY AND FOOD SOVEREIGNTY IN THE MIDDLE EAST
CIRS Summary Report no. 6 (2012)

Supported by five CIRS research grants, the findings presented in this report comprise original investigations that collectively offer the most comprehensive study available to date on food security in the Middle East. Participants included economists, anthropologists, historians, and experts in agriculture and nutrition. The initiative resulted in the publication of Food Security in the Middle East (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2014).
Fragile Politics: Weak States in the Greater Middle East
CIRS Summary Report no. 11 (2014)

This project contains critical analyses regarding weak and fragile states, and scrutinizes the political implications of the prevailing discourse. Employing multidisciplinary perspectives, this research examines conceptual notions of state fragility in relation to politics and security; natural resources; migration and population movements; and the broader regional and global political economies. The research resulted in the book Fragile Politics: Weak States in the Greater Middle East (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016).

GCC States’ Land Investments Abroad: The Case of Ethiopia
CIRS Summary Report no. 8 (2013)

Supported by a CIRS grant, Benjamin Shepherd uses data from fieldwork in Ethiopia to evaluate the country as a potential long-term source of agricultural staples for GCC states, as part of their national food security strategies. Part of a CIRS research initiative on “Food Security and Food Sovereignty in the Middle East,” the report identifies the risks as well as the opportunities of investing in the agricultural sector of Ethiopia. There are opportunities for the GCC to invest in developing-country agriculture, as long as they are approached in constructive and regulated ways.

Social Change in Post-Khomeini Iran
CIRS Summary Report no. 10 (2013)

This project examined some of the most important topics within contemporary Iran, focusing on its social, cultural, economic, and political domains. In line with this body of nascent scholarship, CIRS launched an empirically grounded research initiative aimed at studying the variety of changes and developments currently underway in Iranian society. This comprehensive study of contemporary Iranian society resulted in the publication of Inside the Islamic Republic: Social Change in Post-Khomeini Iran (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016).

Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC

As part of this research, CIRS invited scholars to question assumptions about the Gulf and the Arab world’s exceptionalism insofar as the study of global migration is concerned. Vast economic disparities, chronic political instability, linguistic and cultural affinities, and a jealous guarding of finite economic and citizenship benefits inform push-and-pull factors and integration possibilities in the Gulf region as they do elsewhere. The study resulted in Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017).

The Evolving Ruling Bargain in the Middle East
CIRS Summary Report no. 9 (2013)

This initiative examines the ways in which domestic political arrangements in the Middle East are evolving, and how authoritarian bargains are being challenged. Key topics include: the need for modifying theoretical paradigms explaining authoritarian perseverance in the Middle East; the role of actors and institutions; sources of political legitimacy; and the dynamics of the domestic and international political economy. This research resulted in the book Beyond the Arab Spring: The Evolving Ruling Bargain in the Middle East (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2014).

Sectarian Politics in the Gulf
CIRS Summary Report no. 7 (2012)

This study examined the ways in which evolving sectarian identities and politics in the Gulf region intersect. The research focuses on how sectarian issues play out in the realms of domestic politics within Gulf states, as well as those that address sectarianism’s impact on inter-state relations in the region. Scholars consider religious, communal, and ethnic identities, and how these are imposed on domestic and international politics. The project resulted in the publication of Sectarian Politics in the Persian Gulf (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2014).
Summary Report

Gateways to the World: Port Cities in the Gulf

Academics from various disciplinary backgrounds as well as architects, urban planners, and designers were invited by CIRS to discuss the dynamics of urban configurations in the Gulf region in order to understand the city as a cultural and social space. The research initiative resulted in an edited volume titled *Gateways to the World: Port Cities in the Persian Gulf* (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016). This summary report contains background information about the research initiative, as well as chapter synopses.

Media and Politics in the Wake of the Arab Uprisings
CIRS Summary Report no. 14 (2016)

This CIRS initiative examines media and politics in the wake of the Arab uprisings. It takes a sobering look at the intersections between media and politics before, during, and in the reverberations of the Arab Spring. It is a multidisciplinary approach to the topic, with the research backed up by in-depth and rigorous case studies of the key countries of the Arab uprisings. This study resulted in *Bullets and Bulletins: Media and Politics in the Wake of the Arab Uprisings* (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016).

Youth in the Middle East
CIRS Summary Report no. 15 (2016)

As many of the region’s youth are contending with the effects of social and economic exclusion, this study explores how youth manage and respond to various socioeconomic and political constraints. It examined the ways in which Middle Eastern youth collectively regenerate a new consciousness and forge novel methods of mobilization. CIRS launched this project in collaboration with Silatech, a Doha-based youth-oriented social initiative organization. The original research papers were published as a special issue of *The Muslim World*.

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

This research initiative brought together leading experts in the fields of human rights and transitional justice. While these countries have diverse histories, political institutions, and experiences with accountability, most have experienced non-transition, stalled transition, or political manipulation of transitional justice measures, highlighting the limits of such mechanisms. The research initiative resulted in an edited volume titled *Transitional Justice in the Middle East and North Africa* (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2016).

The Great Game in West Asia
CIRS Summary Report no. 17 (2017)

This report contains information about the “Re-Emerging West Asia” initiative, which examined the competition between Iran and Turkey in the South Caucasus. These regional powers have vied for supremacy and influence throughout the region, while contending with ethnic heterogeneity both within and across their borders. Turkey sees itself as a bridge between Asia and Europe, while Iran’s ambitions for strategic centrality have only been masked by its own inarticulate foreign policy agendas. The study resulted in *The Great Game in West Asia: Iran, Turkey and the South Caucasus* (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017).

Art and Cultural Production in the GCC
CIRS Summary Report no. 18 (2017)

In an effort to explore the evolution of the art and cultural scene in the GCC states, and to understand the complexities of these fields, CIRS undertook a two-year research initiative titled “Art and Cultural Production in the GCC.” Artists, cultural administrators, curators, critics, and academics were invited to Doha to attend two separate meetings in which they debated topics of relevance to the GCC’s cultural field. The research culminated in the publication of original studies in a special issue of the *Journal of Arabian Studies* in 2017.
المسألة الدوّرية في الشرق الأوسط
تقرير موجز رقم 4 (2012)

يتفق مراقبو الوضع في الخليج على أن المنطقة التي تكتسب أهمية بالغة من الناحية الاستراتيجية تمر بفترات جريرة، حيث يحل في هذه الفترة اتفاقية SHIP 2012. يذكر بشكل جامع، هيرست، 2012. حيث يذكر هذا الملف في تطور الضوء على قضايا مثل الأمن الداخلي، الهيكلة الاقتصادية والملكية من فوراً، مما يشكل دوريًا، بالإضافة إلى دور المنظمات غير الحكومية ومنظمات المجتمع المدني في الضغط على الحكومات، التي تستنطع عن مبادرات الطاقة الدوّرية.

العمالة المهاجرة في منطقة الخليج
تقرير موجز رقم 5 (2013)

تم إعداد هذا التقرير عبر استخدام البيانات التي تمضخت عن العمالة المهاجرة في كمبوديا، ويعتبر إلى تقدير البلاد كجزء من الدراسات الاستراتيجية الأساسية. للدول الأعضاء في مجلس التعاون الخليجي كجزء من استراتيجيتها في مجال السياسة الداخلية للأمن الغذائي، وقد أجّر هذا البحث في إطار المبادرة البحثية بعنوان "الأمن الغذائي والسيادة الغذائية في الشرق الأوسط".

الاقتصاد السياسي لمنطقة الخليج
تقرير موجز رقم 6 (2013)

يوضح هذا التقرير تفاوت الفضاء المتعدد في المركز "الاقتصاد السياسي لمنطقة الخليج" من خلال مجموعة العمل التي تمت في تحري كتب حول "الاقتصاد السياسي في الخليج العربي"، (مطبعة جامعه كولومبيا، هيرست 2012). حيث يبين التقرير الطابع المختلط، وهو الذي تميزه، حيث يبرهن على العديد من التغيرات الحادة، خاصة في ضوء الأزمة الاقتصادية العالمية الحالية.

العلاقات الخليجية الدولية
تقرير موجز رقم 7 (2010)

تؤكد مراقبون على ضرورة التأكد من أن المنطقة التي تكتسب أهمية بالغة من الناحية الاستراتيجية تمر بفترات جريرة، حيث يظل في هذه الفترة "الاجتماعات الدولية والإقليمية مع عدد من الأطراف الذين تساهم في وضع صور فردية لكل من "المسألة الدوّرية في الشرق الأوسط". يذكر بشكل جامع، هيرست، 2012. حيث يذكر هذا الملف في تطور الضوء على قضايا مثل الأمن الداخلي، الهيكلة الاقتصادية والملكية من فوراً، مما يشكل دوريًا، بالإضافة إلى دور المنظمات غير الحكومية ومنظمات المجتمع المدني في الضغط على الحكومات، التي تستنطع عن مبادرات الطاقة الدوّرية.
التغير الاجتماعي في إيران بعد حقبة الخميني
تقرير موجز رقم 10 (2015)

شُكلت الثورة الإيرانية أحد أهم الأحداث التي شهدتها منطقة الشرق الأوسط خلال الخمسين سنة المنصرمة. فقد أفضت هذه الثورة إلى تحول جزئي في أحكام أكثر من المثلجة وأكثرها نفوذاً، واستمرت تداعيات عميقة في الدول المجاورة لإيران وفي كافة أنحاء العالم.

والإحداث الثلاثة المنصرمة، بطرأت تحوّلات ثقافية، الاقتصادية، والسياسية، والاجتماعية، واعدة محظورة ووجدية في الدولة الإيرانية والمجتمع العربي على مدار، ولا يقتصر ذلك على القضايا السلمية والسياسية والاقتصادية والاجتماعية، بل يندي بهم أيضًا القضايا الأخرى في الموضوعات الآتية: تطور في دولة إيران المعقدة، مع التركيز على المجالات الاجتماعية والثقافية، والاقتصادية والسياسية.

الدول الضعيفة في الشرق الأوسط الكبير
تقرير موجز رقم 7 (2015)

إقتربت ثواني تعنيت من النشرات التي تصدرات حول الهوية الطائفية تكتنف إلى حد كبير في جوهر السياسة الشرقية، وبواسطة بعض الدعاة في التأكد على التأثير المستمر للاختلافات الثقافية الدينية، وأيضًا، بعدم الاستقرار الاجتماعي والسياسي، في القرن النسبي عن أدواته تماماً. يعود هذا التأثير المستمر إلى تأثير الهوية الطائفية على النظرادات السياسية الخليجية، والدبلوماسية، والدبلوماسية، واتخاذ أن التعايشات الطائفية قد تغيرت فجر هلالًا على مدى العقود الأخيرة، في المنطق الخليج، استفاجة في الغالب، أو العضوية السياسية داخل المنطق. وتبدو أن النقص الأكبر في "الإوبلك" ما زالت لم تطهر بعد، فإن، ويعرفة بين السياسة والهويات الطائفية في الخليج قد أن تُشدد.

استثمارات دول مجلس التعاون الخليجي في الأراضي الزراعية بالخارج: حالة أثيوبيا
تقرير موجز رقم 8 (2014)

يرتكز التقرير على استخدام البيانات التي تمكنت من العمل السريع في إثيوبيا، ويسعى إلى تقييم البلاد كمصدر محتمل للстранات الأعضاء في مجلس التعاون الخليجي، كجزء من استراتيجياتها في مجال السياسة الأمنية للأمن الغذائي.

التغيير الاجتماعي في إيران بعد حقبة الخميني
تقرير موجز رقم 10 (2015)

يمكن القول في تفكك الافترادات الحالية لما تعنيه كلمة الدول الضعيفة والهشة. كما ينظر التقرير في التداعيات السياسية للخطاب السائد ضمن الشرق الأوسط الكبير.

الدول الضعيفة في الشرق الأوسط الكبير
تقرير موجز رقم 7 (2015)

صدّرت الثورة الإيرانية أحد أهم الأحداث التي شهدتها منطقة الشرق الأوسط خلال الخمسين سنة المنصرمة. فقد أفضت هذه الثورة إلى تحول جزئي في أحكام أكثر من المثلجة وأكثرها نفوذاً، واستمرت تداعيات عميقة في الدول المجاورة لإيران وفي كافة أنحاء العالم.

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التغيير الاجتماعي في إيران بعد حقبة الخميني
تقرير موجز رقم 10 (2015)

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التغيير الاجتماعي في إيران بعد حقبة الخميني
تقرير موجز رقم 10 (2015)

يمكن القول في تفكك الافترادات الحالية لما تعنيه كلمةدول الضعيفة والهشة. كما ينظر التقرير في التداعيات السياسية للخطاب السائد ضمن الشرق الأوسط الكبير. كيف يمكن القول في تفكك الافترادات الحالية لما تعنيه كلمةدول الضعيفة والهشة. كما ينظر التقارير في التداعيات السياسية للخطاب السائد ضمن الشرق الأوسط الكبير. كيف يمكن القول في تفكك الافترادات الحالية لما تعنيه كلمةدول الضعيفة والهشة. كما ينظر التقارير في التداعيات السياسية للخطاب السائد ضمن الشرق الأوسط الكبير. كيف يمكن القول في تفكك الافترادات الحالية لما تعنيه كلمةدول الضعيفة والهشة. كما ينظر التقارير في التداعيات السياسية للخطاب السائد ضمن الشرق الأوسط الكبير. كيف يمكن القول في تفكك الافترادات الحالية لما تعنيه كلمةدول الضعيفة والهشة. كما ينظر التقارير في التداعيات السياسية للخطاب السائد ضمن الشرق الأوسط الكبير. كيف يمكن القول في تفكك الافترادات الحالية لما تعنيه كلمةدول الضعيفة والهشة. كما ينظر التقارير في التداعيات السياسية للخطاب السائد ضمن الشرق الأوسط الكبير. كيف يمكن القول في تفكك الافترادات الحالية لما تعنيه كلمةدول الضعيفة والهشة. كما ينظر التقارير في التداعيات السياسية للخطاب السائد ضمن الشرق الأوسط الكبير. كيف يمكن القول في تفكك الافترادات الحالية لما تعنيه كلمةدول الضعيفة والهشة. كما ينظر التقارير في التداعيات السياسية للخطاب السائد ضمن الشرق الأوسط الكبير.
بوابات إلى العالم: مدن الموانئ في الخليج

تغريز موجز رقم 13 (2016)

تتنوع الأطر التاريخية والجغرافية والسياسية والاجتماعية الاقتصادية في المنطقة، وتوضع مدن الخليج في سياق يتماشى مع تبنيها العمراني الخاص. فالشبكات العمرانية المعقدة في المدن الإقليمية مثل الرياض وجدة، ومنتزهات عمان وبغداد، تكشف عن استمرارية تاريخية وثقافية تختلف عن حواضر الخليج مثل الدوحة والكويت. من هنا، فإن دراسة المشهد العمراني لمدن الخليج في سياقها المحدد ومن منظور مقارن تقدم لنا رؤية إضافية تغوص في السياقات السياسية والثقافية والاجتماعية الاقتصادية التي صاغت شكل العمران في المنطقة.

طلقات ونشرات: الإعلام والسياسة في أعقاب الانتفاضات العربية

تغريز موجز رقم 14 (2016)

لا شك أن الأحداث التي جرت أثناء الانتفاضات العربية، إذ أن التغريز أكثر بكثير من مجرد مشهد إعلامي. فهي أحدثت ثورات عالمية وسياسية، التي تلتبت عبر الزمن، وأنتجت أن تشعر بها أوساط أخرى كانت محرومة سابقاً سواء داخل السلك الأكاديمي أو الإعلامي أو غيرها من أوساط الفضاء العام. لكن العالم العربي، ومنذ 2010، شهد طفرة مكثفة في الاهتمام المحلي والإقليمي والدولي، الذي يتميز بتنوع ودقة ووضوح، إلى تحقيق كل جوانب حالات الوجود اليومي للعمران العربي. وبغض النظر عن أن المبادئ والرومانسية الزرقاء نابذة معبرة عن تطلعات الإعلام بالانتفاضات العربية، فإن ما الحاضر العالميق، فممكن أن أشك دقياً من الدراسات والتحليلات الثقافية الحديثة والمثيرة التي تتناولها نصاً كثراً ما يمثل صمتاً في منطقة الشرق الأوسط الشمال الأفريقي.


Edited by Dionysis Markakis

This special issue evolved from a multidisciplinary research initiative on examining innovation in the GCC. Reliant on their abundant, but ultimately finite, hydrocarbon reserves, these states have sought to diversify their economies, initiating transitions to more sustainable “knowledge-based” economies. GCC innovations emphasize investment in higher education, entrepreneurship, research and design, and information and communications technology.

CIRS Special Issue of The Muslim World (2017): “The State of Middle Eastern Youth”

Edited by Islam Hassan and Paul Dyer

This publication evolved from a multidisciplinary research initiative launched by CIRS in collaboration with Silatech to explore the ways in which youth manage and respond to various socioeconomic and political constraints. This issue focuses on the ways in which the experiences of Middle Eastern youth shape their worldviews. The contribution it makes to the burgeoning literature enhances our understanding of the youth in the MENA region, and examines their novel methods of mobilization and regeneration of a new consciousness.
**NEWSLETTERS**
Between 2007 and 2017, CIRS published a newsletter every semester detailing many of the center’s recent and ongoing activities, publications series, research and scholarship initiatives, as well as lectures, events, and public affairs programming. All Fall and Spring editions of the CIRS Newsletter are available in hard copy format, and can also be downloaded for free from the CIRS website. Since 2017, CIRS transformed its traditional printed newsletter into an electronic E-Bulletin sent out to an international database of subscribed readers.

**ANNUAL REPORTS**
CIRS Annual Reports contain information about all the activities, research initiatives, publications, lectures, and events that CIRS organizes over each academic year. Highlights include descriptions of all the CIRS activities in five key areas, including research, publications, faculty engagement, community outreach, and student enrichment. The reports also highlight grant-awarded projects; the successful conclusion of past CIRS research initiatives; a robust public lecture series; and the publication of a variety of books, papers, and reports resulting from CIRS research initiatives.

**BRIEFS**
CIRS Briefs are edited transcripts of lectures hosted by CIRS, or concise academic articles, designed to extend CIRS activities towards non-academic members of the public. Past briefs include: “America, the Middle East, and the Gulf: An Arab View of Challenges Facing the Next U.S. Administration” by Rami Khouri (2008); “American Public Diplomacy After the Bush Presidency” by Cynthia Schneider (2008); “Reflecting on the Life and Work of Mahmoud Darwish” by Munir Ghanam and Amira El-Zein (2008); “New Directions in Islamic Thought” by Hassan Hanafi (2010); and “The Masjid, Yesterday and Today” by Zakaryya Abdel-Hady (2010).

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**
CIRS has welcomed over 13,000 members of the community in Qatar to attend various lectures and events. This diverse audience includes students, faculty, staff, academic and diplomatic communities, and the general public.

- Distinguished Lecture Series
- Monthly Dialogue Series
- Focused Discussions
- Panel Discussions
Between 2007 and 2012, CIRS had the honor of inviting distinguished authors and academics as well as respected public figures to visit Qatar and engage with the community.

Mehran Kamrava
The United States and Iran: A Dangerous but Contained Conflict
September 10, 2007

Painting in broad historical strokes, Mehran Kamrava, Director of CIRS, outlined the guiding principles, or “logics,” animating US foreign policy in the Middle East, including ready access to oil, the security of the state of Israel, and the containment of threats to US interests. Iran’s own strategic ambition of being a regional superpower whose security is guaranteed by proxies operating inside of Iraq and Lebanon, as well as Tehran’s insistence on a continued nuclear program, set the stage for intractable conflict of interests between the US and Iran. In conclusion, Kamrava cautioned against reading too much into the positions of American and Iranian political leaders.

Thomas Pickering
America and the Middle East
After the Bush Presidency: The View from the Outside
October 24, 2007

The former United States Ambassador to the United Nations gave a keynote speech and distinguished lecture held in conjunction with Georgetown University’s Institute for the Study of Democracy (ISD). Pickering was co-chair of the “America’s Role in the World” working group with Chester Crocker, former US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs. CIRS and ISD also hosted a working group meeting in which Pickering participated, along with other prominent scholars and observers of US foreign policy from across the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and East Asia.
HANY EL BANNA & AZHARI GASIM AHMED
GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT, ORGANIZATIONS, & FAITH IN THE MUSLIM WORLD
December 17, 2007

Hany El Banna, co-founder and president of Islamic Relief Worldwide, and Azhari Gasim Ahmed, Senior Economist at the Islamic Development Bank, gave the keynote speech as part of a working group on Global Development, Organizations, and Faith in the Muslim World. The event was co-sponsored with the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs, Georgetown University.

ANDREW NATSIOS
SUDAN IN CRISIS AND THE INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE
January 24, 2008

The Professor of Diplomacy at Georgetown University and former US Special Envoy to Darfur detailed the tensions that fueled conflicts in Darfur, building on his firsthand knowledge of Sudan and its political actors. Besides the tensions that exist between Sudanese of Arab and African descent, he discussed issues such as the strained relations between the central government and the Janjaweed (tribal militias).

JOHN ESPOSITO
WHO SPEAKS FOR ISLAM? WHAT A BILLION MUSLIMS REALLY THINK
February 17, 2008

Georgetown University Professor and co-author of Who Speaks for Islam? What a Billion Muslims Really Think, presented his findings, which were based on more than 50,000 interviews representing 1.3 billion Muslims who reside in more than thirty-five nations with sizable Muslim populations. This poll is the most comprehensive study of its kind, highlighting a clash of perceptions between what Muslims admire about the West, and what Westerners admire about the Muslim world.

STEPHEN WALT & JOHN MEARSHEIMER
THE ISRAEL LOBBY AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY
June 17, 2008

Professors John J. Mearsheimer of the University of Chicago and Stephen M. Walt of Harvard University presented some key findings from their book The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008). The authors stressed the importance of studying the key role played by the Israeli lobby in U.S. foreign policymaking. The Israel lobby is one of the most influential forces in American politics shaping American policy toward Israel.

RAMI KHOURI
AMERICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THE GULF: AN ARAB VIEW OF CHALLENGES FACING THE NEXT U.S. ADMINISTRATION
August 24, 2008

The Director of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut offered recommendations for how the post-Bush administration might overcome the challenges it will face in the years to come. Khouri named immediate changes on the horizon with profound consequences for the Middle East: the election of a new US president; the likelihood of the US and coalition troops withdrawing from Iraq and its consequences; a possible resolution of the Iranian nuclear issue; and movement on the Arab-Israeli conflict.
Seyyed Hossein Nasr  
Faculty Distinguished Lecture  
Islam and the Preservation of the Natural Environment  
January 26, 2009

Nasr is one of the foremost scholars of Islam and Religious Studies. His lecture emphasized that caring for the natural environment was a central theme in Islam. He outlined daily environmental struggles within an elaborate frame of spiritual Islam and explained how it could alleviate many current problems. Religious teaching, he said, is paramount for human survival as it informs people about how to be respectful of their natural environment.

Edward Djerejian  
US Policy Toward the Arab and the Muslim World: The Challenges the Obama Administration Faces  
March 17, 2009

The former US ambassador to Syria and Israel offered analysis of current foreign policy challenges facing the US in the Middle East and South Asia. He relayed some of the themes examined in his book, Danger and Opportunity: An American Ambassador’s Journey through the Middle East (Simon & Schuster, 2009), detailing his experiences in the region.

Nabil Fahmy  
US–Arab Relations in a Changing World: Opportunities and Challenges  
April 29, 2009

Nabil Fahmy was Ambassador-at-Large in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and former Egyptian Ambassador to the US. He gave his analysis and insight into the foreign policy challenges facing the US and the Arab world. The Arab world suffers from a lack of unity, which has been created by conflicts and petty rivalries, he said. Arabs need to look to the model of the European Union in order to speak in one voice, even if they do not take identical positions. Fahmy stressed the inter-connectedness of the challenges facing the region and suggested that developments on both the US and Arab political landscapes have presented new opportunities.

Carol Lancaster  
Wealth and Power in the “New International Order”  
October 12, 2009

The Dean of the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University elaborated on the reasons for paradigmatic shifts in the “new world order.” She argued that globalization in the form of international social and economic integration has been vital to the de-concentration and distribution of wealth as well as the redefinition and decentralization of power. As a result, there has been a dynamic emergence and influence of non-state actors, including international organizations, informal networks, and individuals connecting with one another across boundaries. Lancaster argued that there is simultaneous strength and vulnerability in such an interdependent world.
**President Danilo Türk**  
*State of Democracy*  
January 10, 2010

The President of the Republic of Slovenia noted that although there is certainly much more that needs to be done to strengthen democracy on a global level, it is clear that much progress has been made over the past three decades, particularly in Europe. He said that democracy must come from within a country, and cannot be imposed from abroad. He also noted that democracy can and should be assisted internationally in a way that is respectful of international principles and standards, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In evaluating successful democratic transitions, Türk suggested that a democracy’s efficiency and legal quality should be examined.

**Thomas L. Friedman**  
*The World is Flat 3.0*  
February 1, 2010

The Foreign Affairs columnist for *The New York Times* discussed his book, *The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*. He argued that a connected, or “flat” world, provides equal opportunity for everyone to take part. The digital revolution’s power is that an individual can create digital content, upload it to the internet, and have other people from other countries collaborate on it. Production through these developed communication technologies is not hierarchical; individuals now have the ability to create and collaborate in vast decentralized networks. Friedman argued that to “horizontalize” is to move away from stocks of knowledge towards more flexible flows by tapping into more brain power and collaborative networks worldwide.

**Michael Nelson**  
*The Cloud, the Exaflood, and the Internet of Things – Preparing for the Next Digital Revolution*  
April 12, 2010

CIRS, in partnership with Qatar’s Supreme Council of Information and Communication Technology (ictQatar), hosted Michael Nelson, Visiting Professor of Internet Studies in Georgetown University’s Communication, Culture, and Technology Program. An expert in the areas of business, culture, and technology, he gave an overview of what is shaping the internet by delving into the policy, technology, and business decisions that are determining what the internet will become in the future, and how it will be used. He highlighted the strategic use of words in order to make or break certain initiatives, and said language can be used tactically to shape policy decisions.

**Robert Fisk**  
*Faculty Distinguished Lecture*  
*State of Denial: Western Journalism and the Middle East*  
April 20, 2010

In his lecture, the award-winning journalist and Middle East correspondent for *The Independent* newspaper argued that Western governments represent themselves as exporters of democracy, but that non-Western voices want nothing more than justice. Currently, the enemies of the Western world are predominantly framed as Islamist, Fisk said, and this is cause for unjust representations in Western media and can lead to negative policy initiatives. He argued that in Western journalism, there is a parasitic relationship between journalists and power. “Through our journalistic cowardice, we make it easier for those who suffer to become the aggressors and those who are the occupiers to become the victims,” he said.
In its inaugural International Lecture, CIRS travelled to Bahrain, emphasizing the objective of providing a forum for exchange of ideas with other communities in the Gulf region and beyond. Mehran Kamrava, Interim Dean of Georgetown University in Qatar, lectured on the future trends that the GCC states are likely to experience as they head into the second decade of the twenty-first century. The areas that he focused on were related to the nature of the state that currently exists across the Middle East; the role and the nature of the relationship between the US and the region; the ongoing challenges of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; as well as other significant issues affecting the Gulf region in particular and the Middle East in general.

Mehran Kamrava
International Lecture in Bahrain
A 2020 Vision of the Middle East
April 26, 2010

Ambassador Khalilzad served as US Permanent Representative to the United Nations (2007–2009), US Ambassador to Iraq (2005–2007), and US Ambassador to Afghanistan (2003–2005). He spoke about the relationship between the US and the Middle East within two different contexts. The first was a particular type of framework and thinking about the Middle East that was engendered after 9/11, a decisive moment in American history in terms of its approach to this part of the world. The second was a transition to a new approach still in formation. He explained, the word “transition” implied continuity and change of current policies as the US adjusts to shifts in the global order.

Zalmay Khalilzad
America and the Middle East: Future Challenges and Opportunities
December 13, 2010

Seymour Hersh is a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalist and author on national security issues for *The New Yorker* magazine. He delivered a distinguished lecture before an audience of eight hundred people in Doha.

Hersh highlighted key themes from his book in which he argues that the heightened sentiments of fear and reprisal after September 11, 2001, paved the way for a handful of neo-conservatives to take control of the White House with anti-Islam ideologies and policies. According to Hersh, the US invasion of Iraq was presented to the public, both locally and internationally, as a justified crusade.

Hersh argued that there was hope that much of the damage done during the Bush era would be fixed when the new administration was sworn in, but not much had changed since Obama took office. Many questionable acts and extraordinary renditions continued unabated, he said. He expressed his disappointment in what he saw as Obama’s inability to deliver on his many political promises.

Seymour Hersh
The Obama/Bush Foreign Policies: Why Can’t America Change?
January 17, 2011

Karen Armstrong is a former Roman Catholic nun who left a British convent to pursue a degree in modern literature at Oxford. She is also a best-selling author and UN Ambassador for the Alliance of Civilizations. In a joint CIRS and Georgetown faculty Distinguished Lecture, she shared her thoughts on religious traditions.

Armstrong defined the contradictory role of religion in today’s globalized world by saying that, although it contributes towards the building of a global community and teaches tolerance among disparate people, it is also regarded as the main cause of global violence and conflict. She acknowledged the history of international conflict based upon religion and argued that their specific motivations usually stem from the more individualistic concerns of a selfish few.

“T’im convinced that religion has a major contribution to make to one of the chief tasks of our time, which must surely be to build a global community where people of all persuasions can live together in harmony and respect,” she said.
Rashid Khalidi, the Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies at Columbia University, delivered a lecture on the Arab revolutions of 2011. Khalidi explained that not enough time had passed to be able to truly analyze the impact of the events, so he offered some preliminary observations on the uprisings.

The Arab uprisings, he said, stemmed from the public’s frustration not only with despotic Arab regimes, but also with injustices made global through corporate privatization of public resources at the expense of social welfare.

He concluded that any new governments formed after the ousting of old regimes must attempt to fulfill the economic and social needs of their populaces as they resist Western-style economic globalization practices. Khalidi pointed out that many of these Arab countries were still unstable and that nothing had been concretely decided about their future political paths.

Fouad Ajami, Senior Fellow at The Hoover Institution in Stanford University and Co-chair of Hoover’s working group on Islamism and the International Order, discussed the effects of the Arab Spring in the Middle East. He addressed the “Arab Awakening,” how it started in Tunisia, traveled to Egypt, and then spread to other countries, including Syria and Libya.

“I am all in with the Arab Spring, I believed in it and still do,” he said. “If the Arab awakening did not succeed in Egypt, it will definitely affect the political, social, and economic situations in the other Arab countries… The economic freedom is linked to the political one; there is no political freedom in the absence of economic freedom,” he explained.


In addition to being CNN’s security analyst, Peter Bergen is a Schwartz Fellow at the New American Foundation. He lectured on how the Arab Spring was an interesting backdrop for understanding how weak and out of touch Al Qaeda was with Arab societies across the Muslim world. The fall of Arab regimes signaled some of the most significant events in the region in decades, and yet, Osama Bin Laden was silent on these issues, despite his penchant for commenting on important world events over the years. Thousands of people marched through cities in Egypt, Tunisia, and Libya, and yet none voiced any affiliations with Al Qaeda’s anti-Western ideologies.

On what the future governance of the Middle East will look like, Bergen suggested, “the monarchies in the Middle East, for a variety of reasons, are going to be able to weather the Arab Spring fairly well,” because monarchies have the benefit of being able to transform themselves from absolute to constitutional, unlike dictatorships, which are by definition absolute.

Al Thani, Chair of the Board of Directors for Qatar Telecom, gave an overview of Qtel and the changes it had undergone since being restructured in the year 2000. As the national telecommunications carrier, the long-term plans of the company are aligned with the vision that the emir has set for Qatar.

“Our success starts from strong leadership and clear vision,” Al Thani said. The restructured organization has become a competitive international player, and its scope has been broadened to include data, media, and technology. Qtel is no longer just domestic, but now has an international agenda. The new strategy focuses on wireless, broadband, and services in three regions across the Middle East, North Africa, the Indian subcontinent, and Southeast Asia. Al Thani outlined how new media and technology impacted the Arab world. He argued that social media access was one of the key driving forces behind the events of the Arab uprisings in 2011.
The Monthly Dialogue Series is designed to present interested community members with a forum for thoughtful dialogue with scholars from Georgetown University and elsewhere, about their latest academic endeavors and research agendas. Each month, a faculty member or guest expert is invited to discuss his or her work.

- **Cairo Women of the Darb**
  Amira Sonbol
  October 30, 2007

In her portrayal of Cairo women, Professor of History at GU-Q, Amira Sonbol, stressed that we must stop viewing women as an object of oppression in the Islamic world and instead focus on the histories that show them to have been a vibrant part of life in Cairo for centuries. Only recently did modern state formation begin to exclude women from professions such as medicine, manual labor, and factories.

- **The Ambassadors of Inner Islam and the Encounter of Religions**
  Patrick Laude
  November 28, 2007

The Professor of French at GU-Q discussed three great scholars of Islam who successfully blended faith with scholarship. The legacy of these ambassadors, Laude said, is some measure of recognition in a spiritual and metaphysical unity of all the great religions; an essential commonality that is in no way contradictory with the formal, theological, and ritual diversity that characterizes the religious world.

- **A Public Good? Palestinian Businessmen and the British Colonial State, 1939–1948**
  Sherene Seikaly
  December 10, 2007

The 2007–2008 Qatar Post-Doctoral Fellow at Georgetown University’s Center for Contemporary Arab Studies (CCAS) in Washington, DC, defended the view that Palestine had a vibrant and diverse economic culture during the British mandate. Seikaly’s research aims to contradict the commonly held notions that pre-1948 Palestine was a flatly divided society between corrupt, feuding elites and poor, ignorant masses.
Democracy and American Foreign Policy: Do Interest Groups Help or Hinder?
Gary Wasserman
February 11, 2008
The Professor of Government at GU-Q explored the role of lobby groups in American foreign policy decisions. He argued that allowing interest groups to lobby helps open up the highly centralized U.S. foreign policy process, which is dominated by the executive branch. Wasserman called this executive hegemony “presidentialism.”

Victims No Longer: Challenges, Dilemmas, and Opportunities in Studying Trafficked Children
Elzbieta Gozdziak
March 2, 2008
Gozdziak is Director of Research at the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University and Editor of International Migration. She shared findings taken from her study on worldwide child trafficking operations. She emphasized the need for in-depth academic research since there is much general writing on the subject but little that yields sufficient results that aid in explaining or easing the current situation.

A Hunger for Trees: Myths of Desecration in Nature
Victoria Pedrick
April 22, 2008
The Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Classics at GU-Q lectured on the importance of trees in ancient Greek mythology. Ancient Greek and Roman myths, although fictional, “offer us a window onto the ancient sensibilities and imagination of nature,” Pedrick said. And beneath their fantastical elements, these myths reveal the truth of how ancient peoples reacted towards their natural environments and how they affirmed their debt to it.

Beauty and the Beast: Environment and Industry in Qatar
Renee Richer
September 15, 2008
The Professor of Biology at Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, lectured on the impacts of industry on Qatar’s natural environment. Richer put into context false assumptions that strict rules automatically reduce environmental damage. Environmental pollution is a regional problem and not one that can be adequately addressed within the borders of just one country. Gulf states should standardize their laws and work in tandem.

Rainfall and the American Civil War
James Reardon-Anderson
November 3, 2008
The Dean of GU-Q explained how geographic particularities and atmospheric trends help to shape human behavior and the means by which nations sustain their various economies. Reardon-Anderson’s lecture focused on the geography of North America and migration trends across the country in the 1800s. He concluded that the levels of rainfall and other similar climatic factors played significant roles in precipitating the American Civil War.

Religion and Legitimization of Political Rule in the Islamic and Christian Worlds: Preliminary Findings
Jo Ann Moran Cruz and Haifaa Khalafallah
December 3, 2008
Two Georgetown University professors shared insights regarding their upcoming book, Religion and the State in the Christian and Islamic Worlds, in which they studied coinciding Islamic and Christian historical experiences by juxtaposing a variety of primary sources. They argued for situating current narratives on Islam and Christianity in their historical contexts in order to better understand their common experiences and differences.
**Democrats and Autocrats, Shi’ites and Sunnis: Political Reform and Confessional Identities in Bahrain**

Katja Niethammer

January 18, 2009

The 2008–2009 CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellow analyzed the differences in strategies and behavior between Shi’ite and Sunni Islamist political organizations in Bahrain. The lecture was part of a larger study undertaken for Niethammer’s book, *Political Reform in Bahrain: Institutional Transformation, Identity Conflict and Democracy*, where she conducted extensive fieldwork in Bahrain, interviewing political and religious activists and the Bahraini parliament.

**The Current Economic Global Depression: Causes and Effects With Reference to the Gulf Economies**

Ibrahim Oweiss

February 10, 2009

The GU-Q Professor of Economics discussed the effects of the global economic decline on the Gulf states and prescribed actions to remedy the current crisis. He reported petro-dollars are declining because the world's industrial machinery is slowing down, hence the demand for oil and the prices of oil are also in decline. He emphasized that no country is immune from the global effects of the depression.

**International Power Realignment in the Gulf**

Mehran Kamrava

March 10, 2009

Mehran Kamrava, Director of CIRS, discussed how Qatar and the UAE go against the prescribed model of how small states should act according to various international relations theories. He explained that the changing dynamics in the Gulf are resulting in the emergence of these small states as major players in the region. In tandem with this trend, the region’s traditional “big powers,” such as Iran and Iraq, are gradually and strategically declining.

**Lebanon as the Mirror of Arab Politics**

Mark Farha

April 7, 2009

The GU-Q professor discussed Lebanon’s unique history and diverse mix of cultures. Farha argued that despite occasional confessional conflict, the liberalism of Lebanon is a function of its pluralism. He said there are few options for a country that is so ethnically and religiously divided, but one of them is to recognize each group and give each its due. He warned that tensions will continue to build if socioeconomic disparities are not adequately tackled.

**Agents of Empire: Britain’s Local Representatives in the Gulf, 1750s-1950s**

James Onley

May 4, 2009

The 2008–2009 CIRS Senior Fellow and Director of the Gulf Studies Program at the University of Exeter elaborated on the role of Britain’s historical residency system in the Gulf protectorates. Onley’s lecture was part of a larger study he conducted towards a book he authored titled, *The Arabian Frontier of the British Raj: Merchants, Rulers, and the British in the Nineteenth-Century Gulf* (Oxford University Press, 2008).

**The Future Global Economy**

Alexis Antoniades

September 8, 2009

The Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics at GU-Q gave an overview of the global economic recession and its relationship to past events. He relayed the consequences of the crisis and its international impact, and outlined several possible short-term and long-term recovery strategies. The global economic crisis that began in 2008 was unlike any of the past international recessions, he argued, and does not fall into any certified pattern.
The Visiting Professor of International Relations at GU-Q spoke on questions related to Afghanistan and Pakistan, and the obstacles confronting the Obama administration. He argued that options open to the Obama administration include pursuing opportunities for talks with the Taliban, endorsing the Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline, and urging consideration of a civilian nuclear agreement with Pakistan akin to that reached with India.

From Gandhi to Twitter: Global Trends in Protest
John T. Crist
November 10, 2009

Crist is Associate Director of Research at CIRS. He spoke on the changing nature of social protest movements in the face of rapid globalization. He pointed to the shift away from activism directed at specific states towards movements and protests that transcend national boundaries. Protest trends in the twenty-first century reflect the seismic influence of globalization, he argued.

Nuclear Ambitions in the Gulf
Kai-Henrik Barth
December 6, 2009

The Professor of Government at GU-Q focused on nuclear proliferation concerns associated with ambitious goals to introduce nuclear power in the Gulf, with an emphasis on the UAE. He analyzed the “puzzle” at the heart of the debate: Why do GCC states, with their massive oil and gas reserves, seek to develop nuclear power? He highlighted the Gulf’s strategic context, emphasizing GCC’s concerns about Iran’s nuclear program.

Why the Declinists are Wrong about America
Robert Lieber
January 11, 2010

The Professor of Government and International Affairs at Georgetown University examined the recurring nature of comments regarding America’s decline, both at home and abroad, and argued that critics have been predicting the fall of the US for decades. The financial crisis and its impact on US economic and geopolitical power has stoked these criticisms, but the US has managed to overcome even greater obstacles, he said.

Explanation is Not the Point: Islamic “Conversions” of Migrant Domestic Workers in Kuwait
Attiya Ahmad
March 8, 2010

Ahmad is the 2009–2010 CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellow. Her lecture was based on long-term ethnographic research, which consists of documenting the everyday activities of female domestic workers resident in Kuwait. She explained that her anthropological approach toward research topics is to examine the underlying machinations of seemingly casual everyday discourses and activities.
The Professor of History at GU-Q, lectured on the biographical research she conducted on the elusive historical figure, Salim the Algerine. She shared an extraordinary "drama of connections among far-flung regions and the displacement of what we might consider a hapless victim of globalization, eighteenth-century style." Through the story of Salim, Tucker was able to construct narratives of displacement and marginalization.

Visiting Associate Professor at GU-Q, focused on the moral and political implications of armed peacekeeping efforts. Howe enumerated the complicating factors when launching a humanitarian mission, including the forces of public opinion and concerns for the preservation of national sovereignty. Regardless of intentions, every intervention has a political dimension in its effect on the balance of power, he argued.

The GU-Q Economics Professor discussed the impact of education in Viet Nam, which is especially significant where labor market depth is greatest. He explained that education pays off in a big way and this indicates a very strong incentive to acquire additional schooling or to invest in the schooling of one's children. Viet Nam's education policies have been advancing along with ambitious goals to support further development, he said.

Tetreault was a 2010–2011 CIRS Visiting Scholar. She lectured on the phenomenon of transplanting foreign universities into the Gulf. She discussed compatibility issues between an American-style education and the Gulf society into which it is transplanted. Long-term issues such as the question of academic freedom, censorship, and the role of women in society are some of the cultural clashes occurring that may have significant outcomes in the future.

Miriam Cooke, Professor of Arab Cultures at Duke University, explained that the historical reference to cultural and tribal purity, or ḥarām, is a symptom of globalization and modernity, as nations attempt to rebuild cultural identities after years of colonial struggle. She argued that in any of the heritage projects, whether architectural, sartorial, or linguistic, it is not an actual tribe that is being revived in many Gulf countries, but the “idea” of one.

Shushan was the 2010–2011 CIRS Post Doctoral Fellow. Her lecture illustrated key differences between Jordan’s foreign policy initiatives in the first and second Gulf wars, which occurred in 1990–1991 and from 2003 onward. In order to explain the drastic change to the foreign policy stance taken, she stressed the importance of understanding the regime survival strategies employed by Jordan.
A Changing Kingdom: Saudi Arabia in 2030

Thomas W. Lippman
January 10, 2011

The Adjunct Senior Fellow for Middle Eastern Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations lectured on the likely future shifts in the religious, strategic, and economic principles of Saudi Arabia. He anticipated that over the next two decades, there will be seismic demographic and economic shifts that will affect all aspects of life in the kingdom. He cautioned that unless serious changes are made, Saudi Arabia will be overwhelmed by its own demography, economy, and climate.

Transnational Arab Media, Regional Politics and State Security: Saudi Arabia between Tradition and Modernity

Mohamed Zayani
February 1, 2011

The Professor of Critical Theory at GU-Q delved into the intricacies of the Saudi media system. He explored how the kingdom has come to be an important media player. The development of Saudi media is tightly connected to internal dynamics, which are social, cultural, and political in nature, and external dynamics, which are related to geopolitical considerations and historical regional rivalries.

The Allure of Mysticism: Kabbalah as Pop-Religious Culture or Serious Religious Practice?

Rabbi Harold White
March 8, 2011

The Senior Jewish Chaplain at Georgetown University discussed the ways in which “Kabbalah” has become popularized. He said this trivializes the mysticism, because to truly engage in Kabbalah one must be a scholar of scripture and familiar with the history and traditions of religious practice. Even though we are products of the modern world, he concluded, religion allows us to live a life filled with mystery.

Natural Resources and Environmental Unsustainability in Qatar and the GCC

Mari Luomi
October 10, 2011

Luomi, the 2011-2012 CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellow, shared her research, which suggests a new conceptual framework for understanding the relationship between sustainability, political economy, and development in the GCC states. She defined sustainability as the use of natural resources in a way that allows for welfare for humans and the environment, presently and in the future.

Arab Food, Water, and the Big Gulf Land-Grab that Wasn’t

Eckart Woertz
November 14, 2011

The Visiting Fellow at Princeton University placed the question of food security within historical and cultural contexts. Food, he said, has always been a highly politicized commodity and has been subject to political maneuvering regardless of the actual resources of food available. He argued that food security is important for the political legitimacy of any government in its ability to satisfy social needs now and in the future.
The Professor of Art History at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst contextualized the concept of "innovation" as something that is, paradoxically, a historical feature of creative endeavors. In much of Islamic art, patterns and forms are not newly designed, but are borrowed from previous times, locales, and traditions that were either forcibly learned or subtly transferred as cultures came into contact with one another across the centuries.

The CIRS 2011-2012 Post-Doctoral Fellow analyzed the relationship between religion and state politics in modern contemporary democracies, and explored the question: "What does religiously friendly democratization look like?" in both Muslim and Catholic societies. He explored the idea of religiously friendly democracies and religiously friendly democratization processes that occur in different political, social, and cultural contexts.

The Professor of Philosophy at Princeton University lectured on how historical intellectual theories of "cosmopolitanism" have a bearing on how people live their lives in the contemporary world. Because cultural diversity is a condition of the world, globalization has made the ancient ideal of cosmopolitanism even more relevant—an individual can now reach millions of international others through communications technologies and global media systems.

The Professor of Politics and Government at Ben-Gurion University of Negev lectured on the results of investigations into historical and archival Israeli documents regarding the management of the Palestinian population. Israeli authorities and academics claim that Israel never conducted systematic control of Palestinian populations, yet documents Sa‘di analyzed rebuke this claim and list extreme measures taken by Israeli authorities.

The Senior Associate in the Middle East Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace examined the different approaches that the international community has taken towards the Libyan and Syrian conflicts through the language used to frame the debate. The lessons learned from Libya are often given as examples of how to deal with Syria, he said, regardless of the key differences that exist between the two countries.
The Khalijis: Iranian-Arabian Biculturalism in the Gulf Region
William O. Beeman
October 22, 2012

The Professor and Chair of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Minnesota and President of the Middle East Section of the American Anthropological Association discussed the disagreement in the recent historical period over whether the body of water between Iran and the Arabian peninsula should be called the Arabian or Persian Gulf. To resolve this contention, he uses the term “Khalij” to describe the body of water, and “Khaliji” to describe the residents of the region.

Women in Qatar: Quotas, Qualifications, and Qatarization
Sheikha Aisha bint Faleh Al Thani
December 4, 2012

Al Thani is chairperson and founder of Al Faleh Group, an organization that provides educational products and services, and also serves on the Board of Directors for the Supreme Education Council, Reach Out to Asia, and Zaytuna Institute and College. She argued that Qatari women are emerging as professionals who contribute to Qatar’s sustainable growth in a knowledge-based economy, due to an emphasis on reforming educational policies.

Southeast Asia’s Role in Global Food Security
H. E. Kasit Piromya
January 22, 2013

The former Foreign Minister of Thailand focused on the role of Southeast Asian countries as major exporters of food, and as the “food cradle” or “food kitchen” of the world. When combined, Southeast Asian countries rank in the top ten global food producers and exporters. Piromya addressed the important connections between Southeast Asian countries and the GCC states, and pointed to the great potential for long-lasting cooperative agreements.

Territorializing when Decolonizing: Britain Tries to Square its Circles in the Gulf, 1968-1971
Richard Schofield
February 5, 2013

The King’s College Professor lectured on the period of the late 1960s and early 1970s when Britain announced its plans to leave the Gulf and end the regional Pax Britannica. At the time, there were territorial issues that Britain needed to confront before its departure. Contemporary requirements for the division of hydrocarbons according to legally demarcated borders are not always commensurable with traditional Gulf claims to land and resources, he said.

Global Travel and Virus Outbreaks 2003-2013
Daniel Lucey
April 22, 2013

The Adjunct Professor of Microbiology and Immunology at Georgetown University Medical Center focused on past global outbreaks of respiratory diseases like SARS and H1N1. Lucey stressed the importance of preventing the spread of the disease, and learning lessons from the 2002-2003 SARS coronavirus epidemic, which can be adapted to mitigate the new coronavirus in the Middle East.

The Economics of Migration in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries
George Naufal
September 9, 2013

The Assistant Professor of Economics at the American University of Sharjah mapped the history of workers migrating to GCC states to explain why these countries became attractive for foreign laborers. He examined why there were such dramatic changes to these migration patterns since the 1970s. One major factor was the oil embargo in the 1970s, when there was a need to import foreign labor in order to fully exploit the nascent oil and gas industry.
From Revolution to Coup: Egypt and the Muslim Brotherhood
Abdullah Al-Arian
October 7, 2013
The GU-Q History Professor outlined the trajectory of the Muslim Brotherhood over the last four decades of its history. That history has shaped the decisions and performance of the organization over the last few years in Egypt. He ventured some possible scenarios for the future of the Brotherhood and its place in Egyptian politics and society, and argued that whatever happens in Egypt has a tremendous impact on the outcomes of movements across the entire region.

Mobilizing Communities in Occupied Jerusalem
Micha Kurz
November 12, 2013
The co-founder of the Grassroots Jerusalem organization lectured on the high degree of misinformation regarding the political realities experienced by the increasingly segregated Palestinian communities. Issues of escalating impoverishment are often marginalized and the daily suffering sanitized under the Israeli political narrative of “security and peace.” Kurz works to support a Palestinian platform for community-based advocacy in Jerusalem.

Working for the Neighbors: Arab Migrants in Qatar
Zahra Babar
December 11, 2013
The Associate Director for Research at CIRS delivered a lecture examining some of the trends in Qatar’s dramatic population increase over recent decades, paying particular attention to the demographic patterns of non-GCC Arab migrant populations. Tracing nationality trajectories in Qatar over the past few decades, Babar explained that ethnic and national compositions of the expatriate presence have gone through a complete transformation.

Sustainable Development for Economies and Corporations
Rahavan Seetharaman
January 20, 2014
The Group CEO of Doha Bank, explained how economic systems all over the world have been shaken to their core and forced to undergo massive transformations at a fundamental level due to the global financial crisis. These global financial institutions have had to align themselves according to a new world order of financial market re-regulation in the interest of creating more conservative, cautious, and sustainable global economies.

Why did the Arab Spring Miss the Maghreb? Continuity through Co-optation in Morocco and Mauritania
Matt Buehler
February 17, 2014
The 2013-2014 CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellow argued that there was no definitive answer to why some Arab regimes fell while others overcame popular unrest. As his research in Morocco and Mauritania attests, both governments exhibited resilience in the face of the 2011-12 uprisings, despite their fundamental differences in terms of political structure, resource wealth, military loyalty, and ethnic integration.

Gas and Alternative Fuels: Present and Future Shares & Challenges
H.E. Seyed Mohammad Hossein Adeli
March 24, 2014
The Secretary General of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum discussed gas market dynamics and the challenges faced by the sector, including security of demand, environmental impact of coal, safety of nuclear energy, and the hurdles of subsidies and high infrastructure investment requirements to make renewable energy profitable. In the global energy mix, only natural gas and renewable energy sources were on the rise, he said.
The policy advisor to the Al-Shabaka Palestinian Policy Network lectured on the persisting nature of the Israel-Palestine conflict. It is not just the overt acts of Israeli injustice that Palestine must overcome, he said, but a “peace industry” (international NGOs, human rights organizations, advocacy groups, etc.) that has been built around the problem that paradoxically sustains the struggle even as it attempts to aid in its resolution.

The Assistant Professor of Commercial Law at Qatar University and the 2013-2014 CIRS-Qatar University Fellow gave an overview of Qatari regulations, the judicial and legislative sectors, and the relationship between legislation and developments in Qatar. Since the establishment of the hydrocarbon industry, the country’s legal system has undergone significant transformations regarding local and foreign corporate and economic investments.

Al Ansari is Founder and Chair of Qatariat T&D Holding and Senior Human Resources Director at Ooredoo. She focused on the status of female leadership in Qatar, and explained that males are largely recognized for their endeavors and achievements, while women are rarely celebrated to the same degree. She shared her insights on what makes a successful businesswoman, with a particular focus on how Qatari women can achieve a more competitive position in the market.

The leader of the Rassed research program at Qatar’s Ministry of Information and Communications Technology lectured on attitudes towards online privacy in the Middle East. Emphasizing the importance of the topic, he noted that, despite their varying characteristics, most countries around the world share similar concerns regarding cybersafety, online privacy, and data security, and is no less relevant to the Middle East and North Africa.

The Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Lafayette College questioned the paradox of how the middle-class Indian communities of Dubai have a strong sense of belonging even though there are no certain paths to citizenship or permanent residence. Such a sense of belonging occurs through “unofficial” ideas of community that are not based on the technicalities of citizenship, she said, but on strong senses of historical and cultural affiliation.
The Politics of National Narratives: The Evolution of “Revolution” in Egypt

Laurie A. Brand
March 23, 2015

The Robert Grandford Wright Professor of International Relations and Middle East Studies at the University of Southern California reflected on the main themes in her book, *Official Stories: Politics and National Narratives in Egypt and Algeria* (Stanford University Press, 2014). She said national narratives are mobilized by state authorities, and are often employed as a re legitimizing force during times of contested succession or political rupture.

Strengthening the Family in Qatar: Challenges & Required Actions

Noor Al Malki Al Jehani
May 25, 2015

The Executive Director of the Doha International Family Institute gave an overview of the evolution of family policies in Qatar. She offered recommendations for strengthening the family as a unit of society in Qatar, including an increase in funding towards civil society organizations, easing the laws governing such entities, and establishing degrees in family studies at educational institutions in order to build national expertise and practical policy.

Environment and Human Insecurity in the Middle East

Jeannie Sowers
September 29, 2015

The Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of New Hampshire highlighted how human wellbeing and health are directly and indirectly affected by environmental challenges. Important issues needing attention, she said, include the provision of urban infrastructures for water and sanitation and the impacts of man-made climate change on the Middle East and North Africa water resources.

The US–Saudi Arabia Relationship: “Special” or Broken?

Anatol Lieven
November 9, 2015

The Professor of International Politics at GU-Q recounted his experiences as a journalist reporting from Afghanistan in the 1980s, and returning there recently. He offered comparisons between the effects of Soviet military withdrawal in 1989 and the withdrawal of most US troops today, explaining that the main difference between the two time periods is that the local government created by the US is arguably weaker than the one the Soviets left behind.

Managing the Saudi-Iranian Regional Rivalry

Ibrahim Fraihat
October 27, 2015

The Senior Fellow in Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution’s Doha Center examined strategies for addressing the Saudi-Iranian rivalry, including mediation, dialogue, confidence-building measures, credible peace plans, zones of peace, developing areas of interdependence, and restoring the balance of power. Fraihat offered an analysis of how to reduce tensions in the Middle East region using different approaches.

Afghanistan: War Without End?

Anatol Lieven
November 9, 2015

The US–Saudi Arabia Relationship: “Special” or Broken?

Michael C. Hudson
January 19, 2016

The Professor Emeritus of International Relations and Arab Studies argued that the Middle East region is in an extremely turbulent condition, necessitating the reexamination of traditional alliances. The US-Saudi relationship, once described as “special,” is now under considerable strain. The rise of sectarian tensions, the machinations of the Islamic State, and the easing of sanctions on Iran, are factors straining the US-Saudi relationship, he said.
**Museums and Modernity in the Arabian Peninsula**
*Karen Exell*
*February 23, 2016*

The Honorary Senior Research Associate at UCL Qatar explained that there are two simultaneous and oppositional discourses of cultural production currently being articulated in the region. These are presented as oppositional in terms of both style and content: modern art is seen as a product of Western art history, while traditional cultural practices draw on the oral histories and traditional practices of the region.

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**Is Black Money Really Black? The International and National Fight against Money Laundering**
*Reem Al-Ansari*
*March 23, 2016*

The Professor at Qatar University’s College of Law and the 2015-2016 CIRS Qatar University Fellow lectured on the illegal transfer of billions of dollars laundered through the global financial system. She argued that the consequences are severe, including increased criminal activity and currency inflation in developing economies, which bear the consequences of economic collapse when critical funds disappear and are moved through laundering processes.

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**The Impossibility of Palestine: History, Geography, and the Road Ahead**
*Mehran Kamrava*
*April 5, 2016*

The CIRS Director discussed the findings of his book, *The Impossibility of Palestine* (Yale University Press, 2016). Kamrava argued that the Oslo Accords, an exciting development in the stalemate of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, offered little to alleviate the struggle of Palestinians and led to further entrenchment of the conflict. One contributing factor is the multitude of civil society and NGOs that have hampered the constitution of a Palestinian state, he stated.

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**Transitions in Qatar’s Architectural Identity**
*Ibrahim Mohamed Jaidah*
*September 26, 2016*

The renowned Qatari architect and Group CEO/Chief Architect of the Arab Engineering Bureau focused on the definitions of Qatari architecture—its history, influences, aesthetics, and the future of its development. Jaidah explained that 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 including Basra, Najd, Zanzibar, India, and Iran, among many others. Qatari culture, he said, has always been a blend of borrowings “from the way we dress, to our dialogue, to our cuisine, to our music,” and to the diversity of the local architecture—all products of historical learning.

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**Did Democracy Lose this Round? And Why?**
*Azmi Bishara*
*November 28, 2016*

The General Director of the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies noted that some of the concerns raised about democracy in Middle East could be equally applied to the failure of liberalism in the West, and the rise of increasingly right-wing tendencies. He gave 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. Although the many political impasses facing the Arab world might seem insurmountable, Bishara concluded on a positive note by arguing that hard times are suitable for rethinking, and for encouraging a new generation of political elites.
The Regional Humanitarian Crisis
Essa Al-Mannai
February 7, 2017

The Executive Director of Reach Out To Asia (ROTA) explained that the organization upholds education as the top priority in humanitarian crises as children are the most marginalized and most vulnerable, and access to education in safe, nurturing environments can enable children to develop critical skills. Al-Mannai discussed ROTA’s development strategies and efforts to build local capacity through youth engagement, community service, and global citizenship. The world is developing, but there is a huge percentage of the globe that is lagging behind. ROTA’s commitment to partnership, sustainability, and building local capacity could go far in reversing this alarming trend, he said.

Brothers Behind Borders: Islamism and Nationalism in the Middle East
Abdullah Al-Arian
April 18, 2017

The Professor of History at Georgetown University in Qatar outlined several reasons for why the current moment—six years after the Arab Spring uprisings—presents a critical juncture in our need to reassess our understanding of Islamist movements. He argued that in the face of a growing regional and global insurgency by groups such as al-Qaeda and the Islamic State, it is perhaps more important now than ever before to distinguish between different strands of political Islam. The historiography of Arab societies has privileged state-centered narratives, and scholars defining nationalism tend to exclude any movements or ideologies that place religious identity at the core of their program, he argued.

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.
Gary Wasserman, Professor of Government at GU-Q, delivered his predictions on the 2008 US presidential elections to a distinguished group of Doha-based diplomats and embassy personnel. Wasserman warned against reading too much into Senator Clinton’s front-runner status, especially if she fails to rein in high expectations of her campaign’s successes in the primary season.

Stephen Day, former Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Tunisia and Qatar, delivered a CIRS Focused Discussion lecture focusing on the underlying dynamics that continue to characterize the basis of British policy globally and in relation to the Middle East. He later met with Georgetown University in Qatar students for an in-depth discussion on diplomacy.

Ed Husain, Deputy Director of The Quilliam Foundation, a Muslim organization against extremism, visited Georgetown University in Qatar to meet with students and to discuss his book *The Islamist: Why I joined Radical Islam in Britain, What I Saw Inside and Why I Left* (Penguin, 2007). The book describes his descent into, and then subsequent break from, radical Islam. He engaged with the students and answered their questions regarding his experiences as a former British Jihadist who managed to disengage from extremism.

B.Z. Goldberg and Justine Shapiro, creators of the multiple award-winning documentary film *Promises*, were invited by CIRS to take part in public screenings of the film. *Promises* is a documentary film that follows the stories of seven children from opposite sides of the Palestinian–Israeli conflict. The film was a nominee in the category of “Best Feature Documentary” at the 74th Annual Academy Awards.
Schneider, Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy at Georgetown University, nonresident Fellow at the Brookings institution, and former US Ambassador to the Netherlands, discussed ways in which the 2008 US administration should use culture as part of its diplomatic efforts. Schneider made three recommendations to the next US administration that would significantly improve its diplomatic efforts in the Arab world. These included aligning values and actions; engaging and not instructing; and taking other nations’ cultures as seriously as they do.

In honor of the Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish, CIRS hosted a literary evening. The Palestinian Ambassador to Qatar, H.E. Munir Ghannam and GU-Q Professor Amira El-Zein were invited to share their thoughts on different aspects of the poet’s life and work. They spoke of the social, political, and economic struggles of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and how the realities and hardships of Darwish’s life figured prominently in his work as he translated his personal experience into poetry.

Partnering with the Embassy of Lebanon in Qatar, CIRS hosted Nabih Berri, Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament. In his talk, Berri provided a theoretical overview of the basis and key characteristics of a “congruent democracy” as well as a practical account of its realization in the Lebanese experience. He highlighted the constitutional provisions ensuring that all sects are equally represented in the cabinet and among public services functions.

Eltahawy is an award-winning syndicated columnist and an international speaker on Arab and Muslim issues. She posed the question: “What is the motivation for women to join a violent group or to become a terrorist?” She argued that inherent in the question is the idea that a woman is different from a man in choosing to join these groups, even though the ideological and political motivations that drive radicalization are largely the same for both men and women.

The Professor Emeritus of Social Anthropology and Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University discussed the ways in which Turkey has increased its prominence as an international player in recent years. He explained the two very powerful yet competing discourses in Turkey: an Islamist resurgence and the secularist drive for modernity. He concluded that this division has caused tremendous tensions that will likely continue into the future.
Mehrzad Boroujerdi, Associate Professor of Political Science, delivered a lecture on the 2009 Iranian presidential election. He framed the electoral process historically before proceeding with an analysis of post-election events and the subsequent public reaction to the results. He concluded the lecture by elaborating on the impact the election might have on the future shape of the Iranian political system.

The Senior Expert on Europe and the Middle East at Bertelsmann Stiftung lectured on Europe–Gulf relations. The GCC is an important political partner, energy supplier, and crucial investor in the EU. He argued that the EU and the Gulf were “islands of stability” that are surrounded by economic and political turbulence. Both depend on functioning global markets and need cooperation and dialogue to work together in the G20.

The Interim Dean of GU-Q and Director of CIRS delivered a lecture for a group of scholars from the Paris-based HEC School of Management. He discussed the geopolitics of the Gulf and gave a broad overview of the relationships between the Gulf states and how these associations are shaped by the geopolitics of the region. He cited examples of how, despite the massive economic wealth in the GCC, these states are not immune to the global economic downturn.

Justin Dargin, Research Fellow with the Dubai Initiative at Harvard University, focused his lecture on the basics of the Gulf Gas/Power Sector and how GCC countries are facing international energy challenges. Projects are in progress to exploit natural resources and to stimulate domestic production, he said, including establishing domestic gas production facilities and investments in renewable and alternative energy plans.

The Herbert Lehman Professor of Government and Anthropology at Columbia University, gave a lecture to Georgetown students, faculty, and staff. The event was sponsored by the Georgetown University in Qatar’s Culture and Politics (CULP) program, headed by Professor Rogaia Abusharaf, the Georgetown University-Qatar African Society student club, and the Arab Democracy Foundation.

In conjunction with Qatar University, CIRS invited David Damrosch as the keynote speaker for the “Mapping the New: Aesthetics, New Directions and Innovations in Literature and Culture” conference. David Damrosch is Professor of Comparative Literature at Harvard University, and has written widely on world literature from antiquity to the present.
The Professor of Government at Mills College and the 2009–2010 CIRS Visiting Scholar delivered an academic overview of US foreign policy in the Gulf region. He explained how much has changed over the last three decades and suggested that, in order to understand US foreign policy, there needs to be an analysis of the international events that have led to a larger US military presence in the region.

The Director of the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies (CCAS) at Georgetown University explained how the concept of time is essential to the structure of Muslim communal life. Ritual and worship are regulated according to lunar and solar celestial events. In the pre-modern era, time sticks were used to calculate prayer times—simple astronomical technologies that use shadow-length to measure daylight hours.

Rauf is a prominent Muslim leader based in the United States and Chair of the Cordoba Initiative, an organization that bridges US–Muslim relations. He argued that there is a misperception that Islam–West relations will take generations to fix, and concluded that the tension and polarization between the West and the Muslim world could be fixed within a decade, provided that there is the will and the resources put behind it.

Birol Başkan, Visiting Assistant Professor of Government at GU-Q, discussed how the September 12, 2010, referendum in Turkey left the country at the crossroads of choice. He questioned whether Turkey had moved towards a more liberal democracy or towards religious authoritarianism. He argued that the decision to vote "yes" or "no" was considered to be a decision between "Islamism" and "secularism" in Turkey.

The Dean of the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service (SFS) at Georgetown University lectured on the results of the 2010 mid-term elections. Lancaster argued that for all US presidential elections, the two main parties are regularly being voted in and out. "It isn't that they are voting for something; it is that they are voting against something and that isn't a very stable way of governing," she said.
The Senior Lecturer at the Center for Arab and Islamic Studies at the Australian National University in Canberra argued that conspiracy theories are real political language and are worthy of serious study. Although the proliferation of unverified stories is a social phenomenon that can easily fall into the exaggerated, he said, these theories remain important indicators of social fears and can reveal underlying ideas often ignored by mainstream discourse.

The Professorial Lecturer with Georgetown University’s Master of Science in Foreign Service program argued that the freedom of speech principles that WikiLeaks is promoting are naive and impractical in the current political climate. He noted that complete transparency is an idealistic principle that is sound in theory, but unsustainable in practice. There are many incidences where secrecy can and should be used as leverage to serve national interest.

CIRS and the faculty of GU-Q held a discussion on the political upheavals in Tunisia and Egypt and the impacts they have on the Arab world. The speakers included Abdullah Al-Arian, a PhD candidate in Georgetown University’s History department; Sharif Elmusa, Visiting Associate Professor in the Political Science department; Daniel Stoll, Senior Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs; and Mohamed Zayani, Visiting Associate Professor of Critical Theory.

The Reader Emeritus of Economics at Georgetown University lectured on the ways in which the euro has shaped and will continue to shape the economies of EU countries. He argued that although the Eurozone is a significant economic region and has a combined population that exceeds that of the United States, the recent bailouts of Ireland and Greece by Germany have indicated a serious weakness in the zone’s strategy.

CIRS, in collaboration with the Student Affairs department of GU-Q, organized a lecture featuring the Head of the Armenian Church in Lebanon, who highlighted the importance of religion in today’s world. He argued that globalization and its ensuing pluralism increase the importance of religious participation, rather than decrease it. Religion is part of the geopolitics of every region, therefore, interreligious dialogue has become a necessity, he said.

The Editor-in-Chief of Arab News delivered a lecture in which he explained the relationship between the Gulf states and the United States, and how each conducts their foreign policies. “The main thrust of the Gulf’s American relations,” he said, “is based on Saudi-American relations, which are now like a dysfunctional marriage” insofar as the two countries get along, but still do not see eye to eye when it comes to certain issues.
The Senior Researcher at the Rift Valley Institute and a specialist on the politics of Africa discussed current events in countries in which he has spent time conducting research and working as an elections observer. He drew parallels between the ways in which media has shaped public perception and responded to events in Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, and Sudan, as well as a history of disappointing interpretations of democratic elections.

Current Events in Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, and Sudan
Aly Verjee
April 10, 2011

Imam Yahya Hendi, the Muslim chaplain at Georgetown University, delivered a two-part CIRS lecture co-sponsored by the Museum of Islamic Art and CIRS. The first lecture was titled “The Paradigms of Islamic Ethics, Human Rights, and Social Justice.” Since Islam’s main goal is to bring peace and social justice, there is a prominent theme that calls for the welfare of all within society, with a particular focus on the poor and vulnerable, he argued.

A Journey with Islam in the 21st Century - Part I
Imam Yahya Hendi
April 19, 2011

The Muslim chaplain delivered a two-part CIRS lecture co-sponsored by the Museum of Islamic Art and CIRS. This second lecture highlighted “Women and Gender in the Islamic Religious Texts and Culture.” He argued that the Qur’an states the respected place that women occupy, and therefore many current instances of sexism are a misinterpretation of religious text for social and political control.

A Journey with Islam in the 21st Century - Part II
Imam Yahya Hendi
April 19, 2011

The Director of the Brookings Doha Center outlined some significant ways in which the Libyan uprising differed from others in the region, and the lessons that could be learned from the success the rebel movement had in gaining international support. Libyans will need technical assistance in terms of policing and demobilization of fighters, he said, in addition to constitutional and electoral reformation to ensure the socioeconomic welfare of its people.

Libya and the International Community: The Way Forward
Salman Shaikh
September 13, 2011

The Vice President for International Relations at Iran’s Islamic Azad University argued that the Arab uprisings can be attributed, in part, to the increased level of education among youth and their growing political awareness, leading to more social demands. In dealing with new developments and patterns of frustration towards leadership, it is necessary to question old political paradigms and come up with new ways of dealing with public pressures.

The Role of Universities in National Awakenings
Mohammad-Javad Zarif
September 14, 2011
Haeri, a cultural anthropologist at Boston University and the 2011-2012 CIRS Visiting Scholar, argued that there is nothing new about Muslim women’s recent participation in the political domain as evidenced by the long and rich history of women in leadership roles. She explained that popular views against women in leadership often emanate from patriarchal and political discourse, and not necessarily from religious or scriptural dictates.

The Ambassador of Palestine in Qatar lectured on the Israeli–Palestinian conflict. After several rounds of failed negotiations, Palestinians found there was no way to reach an agreement with the Israelis to establish a viable contiguous Palestinian state in the West Bank, so they sought a solution at the UN. He said, this new situation gives hope to the Palestinians that a fresh round of negotiations can take place with the support of the international community.

Dyment, Senior Research Associate at the Center on North American Politics and Society at Carleton University, argued that for a new Canadian–American relationship to be forged, Canada must acknowledge its unique contributions as the basis for its engagement in the world. It is important for Canada to offer a particular set of skills and comparative advantage, which will make Canada stronger internationally and will give it more clout with the United States.
H.E. Bader Omar Al Dafa served as Qatar’s Ambassador to Egypt, the US, France, and Russia. Previously, he was Undersecretary General to the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). He is Executive Director of the Global Dry Land Alliance. During the lecture, Al Dafa shared his experiences as a career diplomat and commented on current trends in Qatari diplomacy related to regional developments.

The Syrian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Deputy Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina led an in-depth discussion on the Syrian conflict. Some of the topics discussed included the course and direction of the Syrian conflict; the regional and international responses it has elicited; the pros and cons of outside military intervention; and the rise in the scale of refugees and the humanitarian disaster to which the conflict has given rise.

The Associate Professor of Anthropology at GU-Q and the CIRS Faculty Fellow 2012–2013 focused on the narratives that have been used by the Sudanese government, Western media, and diaspora communities to make sense of the Darfur crisis. She argued that the crisis has become a linchpin for various interest groups, including Western public figures and media outlets, as a cause célèbre often to further ulterior political and ideological goals.

Women from various academic and professional backgrounds met to discuss Qatar’s ratification of the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). The discussion was moderated by Hatoon Al-Fassi, a women’s rights activist and historian at Qatar University. The focus of the discussion was on Qatar’s reservations to CEDAW and its implications for gender equality.

H.E. Bader Omar Al Dafa served as Qatar’s Ambassador to Egypt, the US, France, and Russia. Previously, he was Undersecretary General to the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). He is Executive Director of the Global Dry Land Alliance. During the lecture, Al Dafa shared his experiences as a career diplomat and commented on current trends in Qatari diplomacy related to regional developments.
The Co-founder and CEO of GreenGulf explained the drivers of investment in renewable energy in the context of Qatar, and how these have been radically transformed over recent years. Qatar is in a favorable position, he said, because of its large natural gas reserves. This has provided an increasingly advantageous energy option for a new generation of people. GreenGulf is encouraging the use of solar energy as an efficient and clean energy source.

The Paradox of Renewable Energy in Qatar
Omran Al-Kuwari
February 12, 2014

Networked Arab Publics and Contention in the Digital Age
Mohamed Zayani
April 15, 2014

The Associate Professor at GU-Q delivered a talk based on his book project, which analyzes the changing relationship between media and politics in the Arab world, specifically as it relates to the Arab uprisings in Tunisia. Examining the media's role in the Arab uprisings, he highlighted the importance of conducting country-specific studies. He also examined the emerging digital culture in the Arab world, youth engagement, and youth involvement.

Why Are We Here (in Doha)?
Gary Wasserman
April 27, 2014

The Professor of Government at GU-Q answered the question “Why are we here in Doha?” by presenting five alternative models of possible responses, including the fact that the US offers the Middle East region two of its key capabilities: military bases providing security, and US schools providing education. He explained, this is what political scientists call “hard power” of economic wealth and military weapons, and “soft power” of ideas.

GLOBAL SECURITY IN A POST-WESTERN WORLD
Ole Wæver
October 27, 2014

The Professor of International Relations at the University of Copenhagen and Director of the Center for Resolution of International Conflicts said when world events change so quickly and radically, it is important to understand the basics of international relations theories. The world is increasingly made up of many great powers with fewer superpowers in neither a unipolar nor a multipolar world, he said. There is a greater role for theories that emanate out of different geographic and cultural contexts.

Answering the Call: Popular Islamic Activism in Sadat’s Egypt
Abdullah Al-Arian
January 13, 2015

CIRS hosted a book launch for Abdullah Al-Arian, Assistant Professor of History at GU-Q. Answering the Call: Popular Islamic Activism in Sadat’s Egypt (Oxford University Press, 2014) examines the means by which the Muslim Brotherhood was reconstituted during Anwar al-Sadat’s presidency. Through an analysis of structural, ideological, and social developments a more accurate picture of the “Islamic resurgence” can be developed.

Why Are We Here (in Doha)?
Gary Wasserman
April 27, 2014

The Professor of Government at GU-Q answered the question “Why are we here in Doha?” by presenting five alternative models of possible responses, including the fact that the US offers the Middle East region two of its key capabilities: military bases providing security, and US schools providing education. He explained, this is what political scientists call “hard power” of economic wealth and military weapons, and “soft power” of ideas.

Hind’s Dream: Film Screening
Suzi Mirgani
January 15, 2015

Suzi Mirgani, Managing Editor for Publications at CIRS, screened her short film, Hind’s Dream, and engaged in a discussion with the audience. The director and members of the film’s cast and crew were all from GU-Q. The film premiered at the 2014 Abu Dhabi Film Festival, won an award for “artistic vision and poetic screenwriting” at the 2014 Ajyal Film Festival, and was selected for the 2015 Cannes Film Festival short film corner.
The water resource specialist and former Chief Technical Advisor for the FAO project on the Nile basin explained that water management is not technical but political in its ability to dictate the distribution of resources. Since regional water management often results in polarized perspectives, it is important to achieve an alignment of views between the various stakeholders and establish a common ground from which negotiations can emerge.

CIRS hosted a reception for Robert Wirsing, Professor of Government at Georgetown University in Qatar, in honor of his long career. Wirsing’s scholarly pursuits have been defined by internationalism, and his career has been devoted to learning, appreciating, and understanding diverse cultures, and engaging with people of all backgrounds—characteristics that have been equally applied to Wirsing’s classrooms.

The Professor of English and Humanities and the 2015–2016 CIRS GU-Q Faculty Fellow drew on central themes from his book project, which argues that the grand narratives of the discipline of translation have been largely shaped by specific European histories and ideologies. Taking Turkey as a key case study, he discussed the complex tensions and contradictions involved in the formation of world literature in non-Western societies.
CIRS hosted a reception for Gerd Nonneman, who served as Dean of GU-Q for five years. Previously, he was Professor of International Relations and Middle East Politics, and Al-Qasimi Professor of Gulf Studies at the University of Exeter. Nonneman continues at GU-Q as Professor of International Relations and Gulf Studies. The reception was attended by faculty, students, staff, diplomats, and community leaders.

The Deputy Director at the Government Studies’ Center for Effective Public Management at the Brookings Institution stated that it was difficult to gauge the positions of the US presidential candidates on the Middle East region since they were often vague and variable, especially during the primaries. Compared to previous election cycles, however, the 2016 elections are unique due to the rise of foreign policy as a critical issue for both parties’ candidates.

The Chief Economist of the World Bank’s Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region proposed that the widespread concern about plummeting oil prices, particularly among rentier states, is not a predicament to be solved, but an opportunity to be harnessed. He concluded by sharing his optimism for further positive change in a low-oil-price Arab world due to already-demonstrated possibilities for reform in the sector.

The BBC reporter and presenter discussed how journalists navigate and respond to ever-changing news environments, particularly during seismic world events such as the Arab uprisings and the 2016 US presidential elections. She expressed concern about the trend of people becoming dismissive of traditional, established news channels that reach a mass audience, and a growing environment in which people tend to seek news that reinforces their own views.

CIRS Managing Editor screened her short film Caravan to an audience of students, staff, faculty, and guests at GU-Q. The film, which premiered at the Doha Film Institute’s Ajyal Youth Film Festival, tells the story of members of a cross-section of Qatari society stuck in a traffic jam. Featuring vehicles filled with taxi drivers, tourists, and families, the film represents the range of nationalities, interests, and languages present in Qatar.
**Target Markets: International Terrorism Meets Global Capitalism in the Mall**  
**Suzi Mirgani**  
**April 5, 2017**

CIRS Managing Editor and author of *Target Markets: International Terrorism Meets Global Capitalism in the Mall* (Transcript Press, 2017) argued that the shopping mall is a site for the production of desire, but also for the production of contestation. It is a local space filled with global flows and tensions, including international neoliberal policies and terrorist threats. She discussed the 2013 attack on Westgate Mall in Nairobi as a case study to examine the fraught relationship between capitalism and terrorism.

**Migrant Recruitment Fees and the GCC Construction Sector**  
**David Segall**  
**March 19, 2017**

Segall, a research scholar and Policy Associate with the NYU Stern Center for Business and Human Rights, explained that, in the GCC, the current expectation is that construction clients will not pay recruiters for low-wage workers. As a result, 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 laws.

**Higher Education Policies and the Emerging Over-education Crisis in the Middle East**  
**Nader Habibi**  
**February 19, 2017**

The Professor of Economics and Middle East Studies argued for a balance between quality and quantity of education in the Middle East. He explained that the supply of university graduates in many fields of education has exceeded the labor market demand and the unemployment rate among university graduates has increased, creating an over-education crisis.

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**PANEL DISCUSSIONS**

CIRS organizes panels throughout the year where small groups of scholars gather to discuss current issues in global affairs. In each of the following panel meetings, experts from the Middle East region, Europe, and the United States were invited to Qatar to engage in discussion and analysis of particular scholarly research topics.
CIRS hosted a conference involving key members of the “America’s Role in the World” seminar, as well as ambassadors, media experts, and academics. Two panels were held: the first discussed “The United States and the Middle East after the Bush Presidency,” and the second concentrated on “America’s Role in the Middle East.” The goal was to provide a comprehensive agenda of issues that could require attention and on which presidential candidates should be taking positions.

CIRS invited scholars to discuss the environmental consequences of Qatar’s rapid industrialization. Panelists included Timothy Beach, from Georgetown University’s Center for the Environment; Renee Richer from Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar; Patrick Linke from Texas A&M University in Qatar; Deborah Lange of Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh; and Peter Martin, from Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar.

On the Republican side of the debate was James Patti, Director of Strategic Planning & Analysis for the Division of Biology & Medicine at Brown University and early supporter of Senator John McCain’s campaign for the Republican nomination. On behalf of the Democrats was Gary Wasserman, Visiting Professor of Government at Georgetown University in Qatar School of Foreign Service. The debate was moderated by David Foster, seasoned journalist and correspondent at the Al Jazeera English television network.

The panel was comprised of Professor Tim Beach of Georgetown University, Professor Sharif Elmusa of GU-Q, and Mari Luomi, a researcher at The Finnish Institute for International Affairs. The speakers illustrated the state of the world’s biodiversity in the current ecological climate and how its degradation relates directly to issues of diminished resources and, ultimately, to issues of human rights.
**Open-Sea Piracy in the Modern World: Perils and Prospects**

POTTENGA MUKUNDAN, ROGER MIDDLETON, and DANIELE ARCHIBUGI

March 21, 2010

The panel discussed the lack of coordination between countries and law enforcement agencies regarding the criminal prosecution of pirates. The presentations provided an overview of the current attacks off the coast of Somalia, and stressed that piracy is not just a government problem, but needs to be highlighted as a public concern since most goods people consume are delivered via sea routes. Crimes of piracy are so rampant in the Gulf of Aden because the rewards are great, the risks negligible, and the economic outlook of Somalia dire.

**Iraq in the Balance: Security and Democracy After the US Troop Withdrawal**

ANTHONY CORDESMAN, REND AL-RAHIM, AND LAITH KUBBA

October 19, 2010

In light of the US withdrawal of troops from Iraq, CIRS organized a panel discussion to analyze the political upheavals that have taken place in Iraq and to gauge the possible outcomes. The panelists included Anthony Cordesman, Chair in Strategy at the Center for Strategic and International Studies; Laith Kubba, Director of Middle East and North Africa at the National Endowment for Democracy; and Rend Al-Rahim, Executive Director for The Iraq Foundation. Discussions revolved around the security and military operations in Iraq; the threat of violence and the possibility of divisions amongst citizens; democracy becoming the governing ideology; and the impact that the withdrawal will have on Iraq.

**Causes and Consequences of Food Insecurity in the Middle East**

ZAHRA BABAR, RAYMOND BUSH, MARTHA MUNDY, AND JAD CHAABAN

November 14-15, 2012

In collaboration with partner organizations, Qatar’s National Food Security Program hosted the “International Conference on Food Security in Dry Lands.” National, regional, and international institutions participated in the conference and addressed challenges facing dry lands in their pursuit of food security. The Center for International and Regional Studies led a panel presenting three country case studies that addressed economic, social, and political causes of food insecurity in Egypt, Yemen, and Lebanon.

**Who or What Drives Climate Change Policy in the Arab World?**

KARIM MAKDISI, ROULA MAJDALANI, LAMA EL HATOW, AND RABI MOHTAR

December 3, 2012

CIRS and the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut held a panel discussion featuring Karim Makdisi from AUB; Roula Majdalani from the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; Lama El Hatow from IndyACT-The League of Independent Activists; and Rabi Mohtar from the Qatar Energy and Environment Research Institute. The panel stressed the need to examine the drivers behind a reinvigorated interest in climate change among Arab governments. Panelists engaged in discussion of whether the state is the most important player in any issue related to climate change.
War By Other Means? Iran Under Sanctions
Mehran Kamrava, Manata Hashemi, and Mansoor Moaddel
March 12, 2013

The panel featured Mehran Kamrava, Director of CIRS; Mansoor Moaddel, CIRS Visiting Scholar; and Manata Hashemi, CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellow. The objective of the panel was to have an open discussion on the nature of international sanctions on Iran and their consequences for both the Iranian individual and the state. The panelists discussed the history of the sanctions imposed on Iran, as well as their effects on the lives of ordinary Iranians, arguing that the problem with comprehensive and encompassing sanctions is that they do not always differentiate between civilian and military needs.

Knowledge Translation: Bridging the Gap between Research & Policy II
CIRS, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, and the Center on Knowledge-to-Policy for Health
September 12, 2013

The Consortium of Arab Policy Research Institutes (CAPRI) at the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs and the Center on Knowledge-to-Policy for Health at American University of Beirut collaborated with CIRS to bring together academics, representatives from research institutes, policy analysts, and advocates to debate the linkage between knowledge production and policymaking in the Arab world. With over 240 research centers and institutes in the region, the panelists discussed how to strengthen the outreach and communication strategies to enhance their efficacy in impacting policy.

CIRS Research Roundtable
November 17, 2013

CIRS hosted this gathering with the aim of enhancing local research productivity, and building on its established collegial relationship with other entities in Qatar. Academics, policy analysts, and representatives of think tanks discussed their respective research initiatives and activities in an attempt to identify synergies across institutions. The participants also discussed the extent to which their research endeavors aligned with Qatar’s National Research Strategy, and the linkages between their research output and policymaking in the country.

The 2016 US Presidential Election
Joshua Mitchell and Clyde Wilcox
Moderated by Mehran Kamrava
October 18, 2016

Joshua Mitchell and Clyde Wilcox, Professors in Government at GU-Q and authorities in their respective areas of expertise, discussed the upcoming US presidential election. Mitchell analyzed why Donald Trump had earned the nomination so easily and how the sharp, widening divide in the nation factored into his popularity as a presidential candidate. Wilcox discussed the changing political landscape of the US, and noted that the narrowing gap in the polls was due to multiple obstacles stacked against Hillary Clinton. The panel was moderated by Mehran Kamrava, Director of CIRS.
Student Conferences & Training Programs

Model United Nations (MUN) 2007-2009

As part of its student enrichment program, between 2007 and 2009, CIRS sponsored three annual Model United Nations conferences in Doha, which were attended by hundreds of local and international high school students. The programs featured a variety of committees in which students debated, ranging from the African Union to the US National Security Council to onsite press committees. Each opening ceremony featured a keynote speech by a distinguished public figure.

CIRS organized various local, regional, and international Model United Nations training programs in which Georgetown University in Qatar students participated. The aim of these training programs was to prepare students to act as committee chairs in the CIRS-hosted Model UN conferences for high school students. In 2007, CIRS sponsored students to attend the Oxford International Model United Nations to act as delegates from Germany and Sierra Leone in the MUN conference hosted by students of Oxford University. The students met with ambassadors and toured the former Indian Bureau of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, as well as the Parliament to meet with MPs.
CIRS Interns & Student Assistants

Publications Interns
Publications Interns are responsible for designing and formatting CIRS publications, and operating multimedia channels. Through training and practical application, these students gain skills related to publishing software, and website and social media management.

Research Interns
Research Interns are tasked with research roles and responsibilities. These students 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.
STUDENT ASSISTANTS

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 the organization and execution of CIRS events. The competencies gained include organizational skills, time management, and events coordination.
APPENDICES

- Appendix A: Analytics
- Appendix B: CIRS Program Committee
- Appendix C: CIRS Advisory Board
- Appendix D: CIRS Staff

APPENDIX A: ANALYTICS

- Analytics: Academic Outreach
  - Downloads of CIRS Publications
  - Academic Citations of CIRS Publications
- Analytics: Communication & Outreach
  - Website
  - Twitter
  - YouTube
  - Facebook
  - CIRS Mentions in International News
## Downloads of CIRS Publications

CIRS publications downloads
Georgetown University Institutional Repository

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<td>“Transitional Justice in the Middle East and North Africa” CIRS Summary Report no. 16</td>
<td>463</td>
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<td>“Iraqi Refugees: Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan” CIRS Occasional Paper no. 1 by Patricia Weiss Fagen</td>
<td>368</td>
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<td>“Web-Based Learning in Qatar and the GCC States” CIRS Occasional Paper no. 5 by Alan S. Weber</td>
<td>243</td>
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<td>“Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC” CIRS Summary Report no. 12</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td>“Food Security and Food Sovereignty in the Middle East” CIRS Summary Report no. 6</td>
<td>145</td>
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### Downloads

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Views: Number of times CIRS publications were viewed
Unique Visitors: New visitors
Downloads: Number of times CIRS publications were saved

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### Academic Partners by Region

- **Total number of scholars:** 657

- **Africa:** 174
- **Australia:** 55
- **Asia:** 74
- **Canada:** 1
- **Canada (US):** 2
- **Europe:** 1
- **Other GCC States:** 1
- **Qatar:** 1
- **MENA:** 1
- **New Zealand:** 1
- **US:** 57

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### Research and Scholarship Initiatives

- **32** Research Initiatives
- **71** Working Group Meetings
- **24** Granted Research Projects
- **657** Affiliated Scholars
- **470k** Granted Funds

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### Publications

- **25** Published Books
- **17** Occasional Papers
- **18** Summary Reports (EN)
- **14** Summary Reports (AR)
- **2** The Asia Papers
- **22** Newsletters

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### Faculty Engagement

- **5** Faculty Workshops
- **48** Faculty Lectures
- **24** Fellows
- **23** Distinguished Lectures
- **71** Monthly Dialogues
- **70** Focused Discussions

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### Student Enrichment

- **26** Student Assistants
- **3** Summer Interns
- **11** Publications Interns
- **18** Research Interns
- **13k** Announcements

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### CIRS at a Glance

- **Total number of scholars:** 657
- **Research and Scholarship Initiatives:** 32
- **Publications:** 25
- **Community Outreach:** 23 Distinguished Lectures
- **Faculty Engagement:** 5 Faculty Workshops
- **Student Enrichment:** 26 Student Assistants
- **Academic Partners by Region:**
  - Africa: 174
  - Australia: 55
  - Asia: 74
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  - Europe: 1
  - Other GCC States: 1
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  - New Zealand: 1
  - US: 57

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- **Academia.edu:** 3,655 Views, 2,500 Unique Visitors, 1,062 Downloads
- **DigitalGeorgetown:** 41,074 Views, 9,871 Unique Visitors, 41,074 Downloads
- **Georgetown University Institutional Repository:** 31,070 Views, 6,202 Unique Visitors, 31,070 Downloads
- **SSRN:** 27,302 Views, 1,340 Unique Visitors, 27,302 Downloads
### Academic Citations of CIRS Publications

#### Top 5 CIRS publications Citations

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<td>Author: Mehran Kamrava</td>
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<td>Title: A Theory of “Late Rentierism” in the Arab States of the Gulf</td>
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<td>Author: Matthew Gray</td>
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<td>Title: Iraqi Refugees: Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan</td>
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<td>Author: Patricia Weiss Fagen</td>
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**Source:** Google Scholar, 2008-2017.

### Citations of CIRS publications/Year

![Citations Graph]

**Source:** Google Scholar, 2008-2016.

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### Communication Outreach (As of June 2017)

#### Website

**Top Page Views**

- **1.** The "Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC" Research Grant announcement attracted 3,000 pageviews.
- **2.** The "Mobility, Displacement, and Forced Migration in the Middle East" Research Grant announcement attracted 5,000 pageviews.
- **3.** The 2017 article "What Does the UAE Want?" by CIRS Director Mehran Kamrava attracted 43,500 pageviews in June 2017.

**Users:** Visitors who had at least one website session

**Page views:** Total number of times users viewed pages on the CIRS website

**Visitors by Geographic Location**

- **113k** Users
- **500k** Page Views

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**Map Overlay**

Map showing visitors by geographic location with colors indicating different visitor counts.

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**Summary**

The 2017 article "What Does the UAE Want?" by CIRS Director Mehran Kamrava attracted 43,500 page views in June 2017. The "Mobility, Displacement, and Forced Migration in the Middle East" Research Grant announcement attracted 5,000 pageviews. The 2017 article "What Does the UAE Want?" by CIRS Director Mehran Kamrava attracted 43,500 pageviews in June 2017 during the first week of the GCC crisis.
1. The "Mobility, Displacement, and Forced Migration in the Middle East" Research Grant announcement.
2. The 2016 US Presidential Election
3. The 2017 GCC Crisis

**CIRS Twitter Followers**
- **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

**Twitter**

**CIRS Twitter Followers**

**Most viewed CIRS lectures**
1. "New Paradigms for a Palestine in Perpetual Limbo?" CIRS Monthly Dialogue by Sam Bahour
2. "The World is Flat 3.0" CIRS Distinguished Lecture by Thomas Friedman
3. "The Obama/Bush Foreign Policies: Why Can’t America Change?" CIRS Distinguished Lecture by Seymour Hersh

**YouTube**

**Viewership Demographics**

**Top 10 Viewed CIRS Lectures**

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- **Number of minutes watched**
- **Number of shares**
- **Number of subscribers**
Facebook

Top Facebook Posts

- **Center for International and Regional Studies**
  - People Reached: 8,205
  - Likes, Comments & Shares: 95
  - Likes: 69
  - Comments: 6
  - Shares: 24
  - Photo Views: 680

- **Monthly Dialogue Series**
  - Transitions in Qatar's Architectural Identity
  - People Reached: 2,166
  - Likes, Comments & Shares: 12
  - Likes: 7
  - Comments: 0
  - Shares: 3
  - Photo Views: 50

Top Followers by Country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Followers</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
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<td>Egypt</td>
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<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>269</td>
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<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CIRS Audience

- Page Likes: 4.5k

CIRS Ten-Year Report 2007-2017
CIRS mentions in international news

CIRS highest media impact was related to the following topics:
1. The 2009 Iranian Presidential Election
2. The 2014 GCC Crisis
3. The 2017 GCC Crisis
APPENDIX B:
CIRS PROGRAM COMMITTEE

CIRS Program Committee Members

ROGAIA ABUSHARAF
Georgetown University in Qatar
School of Foreign Service

TALAL ABDULLA AL-EMADI
Qatar University

UDAY CHANDRA
Georgetown University in Qatar
School of Foreign Service

FIRAT ORUC
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Georgetown University in Qatar
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Georgetown University in Qatar
School of Foreign Service

MOHAMED ZAYANI
Georgetown University in Qatar
School of Foreign Service
APPENDIX C: CIRS ADVISORY BOARD
CIRS ADVISORY BOARD 2007-2008

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Alexander Dodds, President and General Manager, ExxonMobil Qatar
Robert Galucci, Dean, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University
Michael Hudson, Director, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University
Stanley N. Katz, Director, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University
Sir Timothy Lankester, President, Corpus Christi College, Oxford University
James Reardon-Anderson, Dean, Georgetown University in Qatar School of Foreign Service
Gary Sick, Senior Research Scholar, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University

CIRS ADVISORY BOARD 2008-2009

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Stanley N. Katz, Director, Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University
Sir Timothy Lankester, President, Corpus Christi College, Oxford University
James Reardon-Anderson, Dean, Georgetown University in Qatar School of Foreign Service
Gary Sick, Senior Research Scholar, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University

Back row, left to right: Michael Hudson, Gary Sick, and Sir Tim Lankester.
Front row: Mehran Kamrava and Stanley N. Katz.
CIRS Advisory Board 2009-2010

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Alexander Dodds, President and General Manager, ExxonMobil Qatar
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Stanley N. Katz, Director, Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University
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Stanley N. Katz, Director, *Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University*
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Carol Lancaster, Dean, *Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University*
Sir Timothy Lankester, Chairman of the Council, *London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London University*
Gerd Nonneman, Dean, *Georgetown University in Qatar School of Foreign Service*
Gary Sick, Research Scholar, *School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University*
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Suad Joseph, Professor, University of California
Stanley N. Katz, Director, Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University
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Sir Timothy Lankester, Chairman of the Council, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London University
Gerd Nonneman, Dean, Georgetown University in Qatar
James Reardon-Anderson, Senior Associate Dean, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University
Alistair Routledge, President and General Manager, ExxonMobil Qatar
Invited Guest: Joel Hellman, Dean, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University


CIRS ADVISORY BOARD 2016-2017

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Sir Timothy Lankester, Chairman of the Council, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London University
James Reardon-Anderson, Dean, Georgetown University in Qatar
Alistair Routledge, President and General Manager, ExxonMobil Qatar
Invited Guest: Joel Hellman, Dean, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University

APPENDIX D: CIRS STAFF

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Associate Director for Research

Misba Bhatti
Coordinator

Islam Hassan
Research Analyst

Suzi Mirgani
Managing Editor

Michael Galano
Office Assistant

Jackie Starbird
Projects & Publications Assistant

Elizabeth Wanucha
Project Manager