# CIRS at a Glance

## July 2017 - June 2018

### Research and Scholarship Initiatives

- **8** Research Initiatives
- **11** Working Group Meetings
- **89** Affiliated Scholars
- **5** Granted Research Projects
- **$82k** Granted Funds

### Publications

- **10** Published Books
- **2** Occasional Papers
- **2** Journal Special Issues
- **6** English Summary Reports

### Faculty Engagement

- **2** Faculty Workshops
- **4** Faculty Lectures
- **1 GU-Q Fellow**
- **1 QU Fellow**

### Community Outreach

- **2** CIRS Dialogues
- **8** Focused Discussions
- **2** Panels
- **800+** Attendees

### Student Enrichment

- **14** Total CIRS Students
- **3** Student Assistants
- **5** Publications Interns
- **3** Research Interns
- **3** Faculty Fellow Research Assistants
- **1 CURA Seminar Talk**
About Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q)

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

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

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

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

About the Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS)

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.

About Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development

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

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

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

“...a forum for scholarship and research on international and regional affairs...”
CIRS ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS 2017-2018

The Center for International and Regional Studies sponsors major studies of regional and international significance by regularly identifying emerging socioeconomic and political trends, and developing research initiatives towards further focused scholarship. Our goal is to explore questions related to the Gulf region, the broader Middle East, and Asia, through supporting original and theoretically informed research. The following pages outline CIRS activities and achievements in five key areas:

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

1. RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

WORKING GROUPS & ROUNDTABLES

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

CIRS research initiatives involve prominent scholars, practitioners, and policymakers from the Middle East, the Gulf region, Asia, and beyond. Invited participants contribute by conducting original investigations and submitting the results of their research for publication. CIRS adds to the existing body of knowledge through supporting and funding a wide variety of original and empirical research. Through regular working group meetings throughout the year, CIRS creates a scholarly forum where grant recipients share their findings with other international academics, policymakers, and practitioners.

Please see the Appendix for a full list of participants at each working group meeting.
Scholars discussed key gaps in the literature on the international relations of the Middle East through the lens of middle power theory. The participants discussed a number of related subtopics, including the role of Middle Eastern middle powers in the international system; in relation to the 2011 Arab uprisings; in terms of their domestic politics; their cooperation and competition and norm entrepreneurship; their efforts at humanitarian diplomacy; and their forays in mediation and conflict resolution.

The group commenced with an exploration of middle power theory in both regional and global hierarchies, which was followed by a discussion of the constitutive and behavioral elements of middle powers in the Middle East. The scholars presented case studies of conflict-resolution initiatives promoted by Algeria, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt since the 1980s and examined the rise and decline of Saudi overseas humanitarian charities as an expression of soft power. The participants also interrogated the relationship between domestic governance and international action for middle power status.

The discussion shifted to an examination of the foreign policy of Egypt under President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi from the perspective of middle power theory. The scholars also discussed Iran's ability to impact geopolitical developments within its region, and reflected upon the extent to which Saudi Arabia can be considered a middle-ranking power. In addition, the scholars argued that small states such as Qatar and the UAE can break the mold of small-state classification. In conclusion, the participating scholars argued that, despite its qualifying capacity and capabilities, Algeria is unwilling to play a regional or international role concomitant with its military and economic capacities.

The scholars submitted their original research papers to CIRS for publication as an edited volume.
CIRS held a second two-day working group towards its research initiative on the dynamics of sports, society, and the state in the Middle East. Experts discussed subtopics related to their areas of interest, and received feedback and comments on their papers from their peers. The group discussion began with an exploration of the complicated history of sports in the region, which was followed by a discussion of how, despite the large amount of financial and human resources at their disposal, Arab countries have achieved only modest results in the Olympics.

The participating scholars described the trends, attitudes, behaviors, and changing configuration of sports participation in the region and examined the development of the diverse ways in which regional sportswomen are engaging with social media to represent themselves. Case studies by the participants analyzed the rhetoric of Hapoel Tel Aviv’s hardcore fans and the demography of its wider circle of sympathizers, focused on Jordanian-Palestinian football, and discussed how the football stadium has been a dominant arena for battles over national memories. This was followed by a discussion of the importance of physical education classes for the state-building project in the young Turkish republic and an assessment of Turkey’s recent sport policies. Scholars also provided case studies on experiences with hosting mega-sporting events in developing countries and analyzed the sports industry within the GCC.

In conclusion, participants examined the effect that sports mega-events will have on Qatar’s free expression norms and discussed a case study of the beIN Sports TV channel. The discussion ended with an examination of how Qatari female footballers are enabling themselves to play in a culturally acceptable way by maneuvering established social norms.
Invited experts engaged in group discussions aimed at identifying a series of original research questions related to competition and cooperation over water in the Middle East. The subject of water was discussed both with a focus on domestic political dilemmas faced by different Middle Eastern countries contending with scarce water resources at a national level, as well as how inter-state relations in the region are influenced by tensions or competition over shared water resources.

Over the two days, topics discussed included: water conflict in the Middle Eastern context; transboundary water conflicts and cooperation in the Middle East; water scarcity and conflict in Iraq, Yemen, Jordan, and Lebanon; and the political and social constraints on food production in water-scarce areas. Scholars also discussed how the Islamic State (IS) attempts to strategically control water in parts of the Middle East, as well as how Turkey’s attempts to build dams on the Euphrates are affecting its relations with Iraq and Syria.

The scholars stressed the need to examine shared groundwater, particularly with regards to conflict and cooperation. The region has a large number of groundwater aquifers, both renewable and nonrenewable, that are shared across multiple national borders. Aquifers are shared between Turkey and Syria, Syria and Jordan, Lebanon and Israel, Egypt and Libya, as well as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq. The initiative stressed the importance of gaining a greater understanding of how states are navigating shared use of groundwater resources in the Middle East. Two presentations had a specific focus on water and politics in the GCC states, and the research meeting concluded with a session on the GCC crisis that began in June 2017, and its impact on Qatar’s water security.
Supporting Social Science Research in a Turbulent Middle East
Research Roundtable
November 29, 2017

During a day-long discussion, scholars engaged in a vibrant conversation on how the research community can address the multiple challenges encountered when carrying out studies on the Middle East. In the introduction to the meeting, CIRS urged scholars participating in the discussions to not only highlight and reiterate the difficulties and dismal prospects for social science research in the Middle East, but to also share their own experiences in navigating challenges.

The participants discussed the value, replicability, and statistical significance of Middle Eastern case studies; methodological issues relating to the merits of quantitative and qualitative research, as well as the potential usefulness of alternative methodological approaches adapted to conflict zones; challenges due to lack of existing data or lack of access to (and confidence in) existing data; challenges of supporting and funding safe fieldwork in war-torn countries or those facing authoritarian restrictions; challenges related to censorship and academic freedom; the impact of immigration controls that limit travel and mobility of researchers both within the region and to the West; issues related to limited research collaboration across borders; and the role of sanctions and the constraints of funding.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the participants discussed a host of ethical and moral challenges related to conducting social science research in the Middle East, including protections for researchers, informants, scholars at risk, sensitive data, and vulnerable communities, and also protecting the rights of scholars attempting to carry out “sensitive research” that critiques or confronts social values and norms in some parts of the Middle East.
CIRS held the second working group meeting related to its research initiative on mobility, displacement, and forced migration in the Middle East. The region is currently facing one of its most critical migration challenges, and has become a simultaneous producer of, and host to, the world’s largest population of displaced people. Exploring the conditions, causes, and consequences of ongoing population displacements in this part of the world is key to understanding some of the profound social and political changes currently underway.

Over the course of two days, invited scholars discussed various topics, including borders and mobility of Syrian refugees in the Levant; livelihood and identity politics of Syrian refugees in northern Lebanon and southern Turkey; mobility patterns of Syrian refugees in Dayr al-Ahmar region in Lebanon; the experiences of displaced Syrian refugees in Jordan from a gender perspective; the situation of Yezidi, Christian, and other religious communities from Sinjar; migration within and from Libya and Tunisía; African migrants in Morocco and Tehran; and Yemeni refugees in Djibouti.

This project recognizes regional migration as a complex, widespread, and persistent phenomenon in the Middle East that is best studied from a multidisciplinary approach. Migration can be applied to the process of people moving as a result of their own agency, voluntarily and as a choice. It can also be used to describe the process of having to move under duress, and this includes the categories of forced migrants, internally displaced persons, refugees, and asylum seekers.
The assembled participants examined various social and political processes that have been taking place in Central Asia following the dismantling of the Soviet Union. Former constituent republics, particularly those in Central Asia, were left to contend with artificial borders as well as with populations that were by-products of the state-building enterprise of the Soviet Union and its social engineering endeavors. Scholars presented original research to explore how these young states launched efforts to build their new, unified, and modern nations. They further discussed the ways in which these states established political and social cohesion, and how they engaged in the processes of administrative and institutional consolidation.

With the establishment of the new successor states in the early 1990s, Central Asian powers undertook the enormous task of building cohesive, unified states, while still contending with the legacy of the USSR and the challenges of trying to accommodate various minority groups and dislocated populations, all while struggling to assert full sovereign control over their newly established territories. These efforts introduced or mobilized competing ethnic, nationalistic, and territorial claims, the effects of which are still emerging. During the working group, the assembled experts identified original research questions in relation to Central Asian nation-building processes and provided guidance on the focus of the project and its future direction.

Some of the topics addressed include: migration and transnationalism; regional integration; food culture and identity; national identity in Kazakhstan; religion and identity in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan; and language policies in Kyrgyzstan. A second, concluding working group meeting is scheduled for later in the year.
CIRS convened a day-long research roundtable devoted to examining “Science and Scientific Production in the Middle East.” In order to enrich the discussions with theoretical foundations as well as practical experiences, CIRS invited academic experts and professionals in the science sector, including engineers, mathematicians, and other scientists. Several representatives of science research centers and grant-funding bodies took part in the conversation. This was a preliminary research roundtable in which local, regional, and international scholars gathered to brainstorm ideas and research questions for a larger research initiative that will launch fully in the coming year.

The introductory discussions were framed around the broader principles of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), in which the participants discussed the educational imperatives of such a science-focused initiative. They further explained the practical application of science and scientific production in the education, research, and commercial sectors. Enhancing homegrown science skills is a means of ensuring that the countries of the Middle East region in general, and the Gulf specifically, are able to compete on the international level regarding scientific knowledge and innovation.

During the meeting, the invited scholars discussed a series of overarching topics including, among others: scientific innovation in the Middle East; regional networks and transnational scientific communities in the Middle East; scientific indigeneity and internationalization; women in STEM in the Middle East, Islam and scientific ethics; the impact of the Arab Spring on science and innovation; and the impact of the sanctions regime on science and scientists.
CIRS held its first working group meeting studying informal politics in the Middle East. During the working group, a number of scholars were convened to discuss various related topics, including tribes and the Yemeni state; women and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in Iran; the role of the *diwaniyya* in Kuwait; the informal politics around access to natural resources; and spaces for activism and inclusion in the Middle East.

The group discussion began with a session on the topic of tribes and the Yemeni state in which scholars debated the major differences that stand between tribes based on where they are geographically located. The state has been using tribes as administrative circles, and often distributes “tribal subsidies” to tribal leaders to take care of their communities’ needs. The scholars then covered the issue of citizenship and women in Iran, the history of NGOs, and women who established NGOs in Iran. This was followed by a discussion on the social and political influence of the *diwaniyya* in Kuwait, and how the tribal *diwaniyya*’s role remains central to Kuwaitis’ lives by serving as a medium of communication between the state and the tribe. The scholars also focused on issues of access to natural resources in the Middle East from which three main issues arose: voluntary association, infrastructures, and local customary regulations.

The scholars concluded the discussion with a session on the issue of spaces for activism and inclusion in the Middle East in light of the Arab uprisings of 2011. A second, concluding working group meeting is scheduled for the coming year for which participating scholars will submit original research papers for publication.
The issue of water scarcity continues to be one of the critical challenges that the Middle East faces. The region is arguably the most water impoverished in the world, and the effects of changes in climate, consumption, and agricultural practices, as well as poor governance over water allocation have exacerbated concerns regarding the future of water resources in the Middle East. The United Nations estimates that eighteen out of the thirty nations that will be water scarce by 2025 are located in the Middle East and North Africa. These bleak projections are especially troublesome considering the foundational role that water serves for socioeconomic needs such as food, energy, sanitation, and industry.

The working group meeting combined a variety of multidisciplinary perspectives that add original insight into the subject. The participants addressed the role of water in the context of the economic and political transformations that the Middle East is currently undergoing and will continue to experience in the near future. Participating scholars also looked at nations currently entrenched in civil conflict, such as Syria and Yemen, to develop a further understanding of the role that water scarcity has played in the origin of these conflicts. The participants also tried to gain insight into the future of water allocation in the context of inequalities in the Middle East, both between and within these nations.

During the course of this project, CIRS supported scholars examining the relationship between politics and water in Iraq, Yemen, Libya, and Syria to provide greater understanding of whether there is a legitimate connection between water and conflict. The participants contributed to these debates around society, water, and politics and discussed original research questions on water and conflict in the Middle East.
CIRS collaborated with Qatar Foundation to study the health of migrant workers in Qatar. The project considers the state of healthcare provision to this segment of the population with a goal of contributing to the formulation of policy guidelines with suggestions for improvements to the state of migrants’ health. The research roundtable included participants from Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar, the Doha International Family Institute, Qatar University, Hamad Medical Center, the World Innovation Summit for Health, and representatives from Georgetown University’s O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law.

Currently, there is limited scholarship on health and temporary labor migration in the context of the Gulf region, most of which is anecdotal and journalistic. These accounts highlight the poor conditions of migrant workers’ health, particularly in relation to their vulnerable position in Gulf society. The research roundtable served as a preliminary brainstorming session with discussants from a variety of academic, policy, legal, and healthcare backgrounds who addressed some of the broader issues on the overall state of migrants’ health in Qatar.

The discussion was divided into broad themes regarding the social and political contexts of labor migrant conditions and healthcare in Qatar and the legal and regulatory framework. The participants highlighted areas in need of improvement and pointed out shortcomings that need to be addressed. The experts presented their research to provide a better understanding of migrant workers’ health conditions and healthcare delivery within Qatar. The primary research questions that emerged from this session will inform the agenda of a second research meeting, to be hosted by Qatar Foundation in the near future.
Through controlling legal access to citizenship rights, many Middle Eastern states have contributed to the formation and reproduction of systematic inequalities in their societies. The resulting segmentation has served states to exercise hegemony, as well as to maintain allegiance from certain classes and segments of society. Such a strategy has transformed the concept of citizenship into a privilege given by the state, rather than a birthright. Furthermore, the revocation and withdrawal of citizenship rights have become tools to discipline segments of society that do not actively cooperate with the state.

The evolution of citizenship in the Middle East has been impacted by historical legacies, as well as by ongoing crises. Civil and transnational wars, revolutions, foreign occupations, and waves of migration all still challenge the development of citizenship rights. The artificial borders that are by-products of colonial machinations, and the continuous flight of refugees and displaced people within the region as well as to the West have been further challenging the conception of citizenship in the Middle Eastern countries.

Germane to this discussion, scholars convened to discuss several topics, including: passive and active citizenship in the Middle East; securitization of citizenship and sectarianism in the Gulf; political participation in the post-2011 constitutions; race, ethnicity, and citizenship in Sudan and South Sudan; the Iranian diaspora and dual citizenship; Palestinian citizenship and non-citizenship; citizenship and the Sinai Bedouins; and national identity formation through cultural and consumptive practices.
2. FACULTY ENGAGEMENT

CIRS provides a number of engagement opportunities to the faculty of Georgetown University in Qatar and elsewhere, including annual fellowships, research workshops designed for in-depth discussion of a forthcoming publication, grants awarded for original research projects, and other outreach opportunities.

■ CIRS FACULTY FELLOWS

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

CIRS GU-Q Faculty Fellow
Mongoljin Batsaikhan

Mongoljin Batsaikhan is an Assistant Professor of Economics at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service in Qatar. He received his Masters and Doctorate in Economics from Brown University after his BA in Economics from the University of Tokyo. His research interests include development and experimental economics, with a special focus on industrial organization, entrepreneurship, small and medium size enterprises, and social capital. His publications include several scholarly articles in international scientific journals such as Management Science, Economic Inquiry, and Journal of Public Economics.

CIRS Qatar University Fellow
Muna Al-Marzouqi

Muna Al-Marzouqi is an Assistant Professor of maritime and commercial law at Qatar University's College of Law. She received her LL.B from Qatar University, and a Masters in law from University of California, Berkeley. She obtained her doctorate degree (S.J.D.) in Maritime Law from Tulane University with a study on the contract of carriage of goods by sea, which examined the scope of application, carrier obligations, and liabilities. She teaches maritime law and commercial law at Qatar University College of Law. In 2017, Al-Marzouqi taught a course on Qatari Maritime Law at Qatari Emiri Naval Forces.
A new book manuscript by Jeremy Koons, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University in Qatar, was offered for discussion at a CIRS Faculty Research Workshop. The manuscript titled *The Ethics of Wilfrid Sellars* was studied and discussed by specialist scholars from Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia. The study explains that, suitably developed, Sellars’s ethical theory has the potential to develop the tools to answer pressing moral questions. These include questions on moral statements, moral reasoning, and moral judgments, and motivation, and how humans fit morality into a scientific view of the world.

Koons shows that elements of Sellars’s theory can be enriched by contemporary philosophy—work by later Sellarsian philosophers, by philosophers working on group intentions and cooperative rationality, and more. In resolving these tensions, and updating Sellars’s theory with more recent work in the field, what emerges from the manuscript under examination is a strikingly original and comprehensive theory that has much to contribute to contemporary debates.

The workshop featured a talented group of internationally recognized philosophers who specialize in Sellarsian and pragmatist philosophy, including Bana Bashour, Arudra Burra, Dionysis Christias, Anjana Jacob, Bhaskarjit Neog, Amir Saemi, Lucas Thorpe, Jack Woods, and Bill Wringe. The participants were invited to Doha to engage in a series of structured sessions on how this largely neglected body of ethical theory has the potential to contribute to current philosophical debates on how best to answer crucial moral questions.
CIRS hosted a Faculty Research Workshop on the topic of Universal Basic Income (UBI) experiments. The workshop was divided over four sessions, in which eleven scholars from around the world critically assessed and provided suggestions on the manuscript, *The Devil’s in the Caveats: A Critical Analysis of Basic Income Experiments for Researchers, Policymakers, and Citizens*, authored by Karl Widerquist, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown University in Qatar.

The book discusses an important new topic in social science, large-scale experiments devoted to testing UBI—a policy that would assure every citizen a steady income regardless of whether they work or not. Several similar experiments were conducted in the United States and Canada in the 1970s, and recent interest in UBI experiments has returned with a number of experiments underway or under consideration in countries around the world.

The book discusses the difficulty of conducting UBI experiments and communicating results to nonspecialists in ways that raise the levels of debate. This is due to the inherent limits of experimental techniques, the complexity of the public discussion of UBI, and the many barriers that make it difficult for specialists and nonspecialists to understand each other. The book suggests that researchers stay focused on the public’s bottom line: an evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of a permanent, national UBI policy. Even if experiments can examine only a few questions relevant to that overall evaluation, they need to draw the connection between what they can do and what citizens evaluating a policy option really need to know.
In order to fill existing gaps in the literature of the region, CIRS awards research grants to scholars interested in the study of issues pertinent to the broader Middle East as well as the Gulf more specifically. CIRS aims to contribute to the existing body of knowledge through supporting original research, and, through regular sponsored meetings, CIRS creates a scholarly forum where grant recipients share their research findings with other academics, policymakers, and practitioners.

**Mobility, Displacement, and Forced Migration in the Middle East**

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

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

Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf, *Georgetown University in Qatar*

Although commonly associated with the official transfer of the capital from Muscat to Zanzibar by Sayyid Sultan in 1832, many Omanis refer to a migratory pattern that spanned centuries. These migrations both before and after of the settlement of the Al-Busaidi dynasty in the Zanzibar archipelago lie at the heart of the creation of a distinctly Omani-Swahili identity and political subjectivity. This project tells the story of how the forced migration of Omanis to Muscat after the Zanzibar Revolution in 1964 affected their Swahili identity. On January 12, 1964, hundreds of Africans attacked Unguja, the seat of the Omani empire armed with machetes, automatic rifles, and guns. Within a few hours of an attack that included the massacre and rape of Arabs, the sultan and other Omani-Zanzibari fled the island. The objective of the project is to examine the effects of forced migration on Omani-Zanzibaris in Muscat. Three main research questions ask: How did they think of themselves politically, socio-culturally, and linguistically? The project will continue a multi-sited ethnography in Muscat and Zanzibar. It will gather personal narratives to elucidate the base theme of the trajectory of Swahili identities in Oman and the extent to which they have been modulated by their forced migratory experience from Zanzibar.
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 illuminates the dynamics and the patterns of the Syrian refuge in Syria’s neighboring countries. In particular, it puts the current forced displacement of Syrians into the larger theoretical framework of migration and mobility and connects the current forms of the Syrian displacement and refugeism to a longer history of crossborder mobility, transnational connections, and migration in the Middle East. It will be based on in-depth fieldwork in the Dayr al-Ahmar region, in the north of the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon (muḥafaza of Baalbek-Hermel).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

□ Occasional Paper no. 18 (2017)

- Society in the Persian Gulf: Before and After Oil
  Lawrence G. Potter, Columbia University

This study takes as its focus the society in the Persian Gulf over the long term, both before and after oil, and reviews the region’s historical evolution and the ways in which society in the Gulf today differs from that of the pre-oil era. The paper explains that the region is already moving into a post-oil era, and how the regional states are preparing for this. In order to have a foundation for understanding the transitions society has gone through—what has changed and what has remained the same—the paper argued the necessity of reviewing the region’s historical evolution.


- A Holistic Assessment of the Water-for-Agriculture Dilemma in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
  Ameen Kim, Handong International Law School
  Hans van der Beek, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Riyadh

Prior to the emergence of the oil industry and the subsequent rapid agricultural expansion of the 1970s, there had been little to no concern about water for agriculture in Saudi Arabia since prehistoric times. However, a rapid expansion—a so-called “agricultural revolution”—introduced rampant use of highly water-consuming irrigation systems, mainly by center pivots, without any limitation, which has compromised the future of nonrenewable water availability for agriculture. This article proposes a holistic approach that combines both technical and sociopolitical recommendations for alleviating the predicament.
**Books**

- **The Great Game in West Asia: Iran, Turkey and the South Caucasus**  
  *(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017)*  
  Edited by Mehran Kamrava

  This book examines the strategic competition between Iran and Turkey for power and influence in the South Caucasus as both powers vie for supremacy and influence throughout the region and especially in their immediate vicinity. As much of the world’s attention has been diverted to conflicts and flashpoints near and far, this study demonstrates that a new great game has been unravelling between the two countries.

- **Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC**  
  *(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017)*  
  Edited by Zahra Babar

  Employing multidisciplinary lenses of social history, cultural studies, economics, and political science, this book examines communities of Arab immigrants in the GCC. It presents original data and provides analyses of the settlement and continued evolution of Arab migrant communities across the Gulf states, their work in and assimilation within host societies, and their cultural significance both to the GCC region and to their countries of origin.

- **The Changing Security Dynamics of the Persian Gulf**  
  *(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017)*  
  Edited by Kristian Coates Ulrichsen

  This volume provides a comparative study of how security in the Persian Gulf has evolved and adapted to the growing uncertainty of the post-2011 regional landscape. The chapters scrutinize the ways in which domestic security threats in the region are evolving, and how newer challenges related to human security are being reinforced by—and in some ways actually replacing—military threats emanating from regional and outside actors.
Critical Issues in Healthcare Policy and Politics in the Gulf Cooperation Council States
(Georgetown University Press, 2018)
Edited by Ravinder Mamtani and Albert Lowenfels

This is the first book of its kind to examine challenges in the healthcare sector in the GCC countries, and provides a comprehensive study of the rapidly changing health profile of the region, the existing conditions of healthcare systems, and the challenges posed to healthcare management across the region. It examines how new trends and “lifestyle” diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and cancer have replaced old maladies.

The Red Star and the Crescent: China and the Middle East
(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2018)
Edited by James Reardon-Anderson

Providing a comprehensive study of the changing forces driving one of the world’s most important strategic, economic, and cultural relationships, this volume examines the “big picture” of international relations, then zooms in on case studies and probes the underlying domestic factors on each side. The book tackles topics such as China’s security strategy and military relations in the Middle East, its role in the Iran nuclear negotiations, and the significance of the Silk Road strategy.

Digital Middle East: State and Society in the Information Age
(Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2018)
Edited by Mohamed Zayani

This book discusses how digital technologies are affecting the region, and paints a complex picture of a digital Middle East we are only just beginning to apprehend. It covers topics ranging from the effects of technology on the Arab uprisings to state measures being undertaken to incorporate technology into everyday life. The book also provides a conceptual framework for understanding and analyzing the multiple dimensions and various articulations of the digital turn in the region.
State-driven investments in art and cultural production in the GCC states are figuring prominently in the search for alternatives to the hydrocarbon-based economic development model. This volume offers multidisciplinary analyses of this complex arena through original studies on identity formation and an emerging museology; the aesthetics of censorship; the question of authenticity; cultural projects as state-driven soft-power efforts; the phenomenon of public art; and artistic engagements with migrant labor communities.

This volume offers multidisciplinary analyses of social phenomena unfolding in the Maghreb today. The contributors examine the genealogies of contemporary North African behavioral and ideological norms, and offer insights into post-Arab Spring governance and current social and political trends. The book situates regional developments within broader international currents without forgoing the distinct features of each socio-historical context.

Kamrava examines four dynamics in the Persian Gulf that have contributed to making the region one of the most volatile spots in the world, including the neglect of human dimensions of security, the inherent instability involved in reliance on the United States and the exclusion of Iraq and Iran, the international and security policies pursued by inside and outside actors, and a suite of overlapping security dilemmas. These factors combine to generate long-term volatility and ongoing tensions within the Persian Gulf.
Concerning the nature of power and politics before and after 2011 in the Arab world, this book provides an in-depth, comprehensive, and theoretically informed examination of Arab politics of the last decade by examining some of the central questions facing observers and scholars of the Middle East. The focus of the book revolves around the very nature of politics and the exercise of power in the Arab world, conceptions of the state, its functions and institutions, its sources of legitimacy, and the underlying notions of sovereignty and nationalism.

### Journal Special Issues


“Art and Cultural Production in the GCC”

*Edited by Suzi Mirgani*

This publication is the result of a two-year research initiative titled “Art and Cultural Production in the GCC,” undertaken by CIRS. The long-term unsustainability of a hydrocarbon-based economic future has become a major concern for the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and is one of the main driving forces underpinning the search for alternative modes of economic development, including investing in various art and cultural projects.

**Sociology of Islam** vol. 6, no. 2 (2018)

“Leading the Faithful: Religious Authority in the Contemporary Middle East”

*Edited by Mehran Kamrava*

This issue investigates the role played by spiritual leaders of different religious communities in the Middle East during and after the Arab uprisings. It includes examinations of the leaders of multiple religions and faiths present in the Middle East, including Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Bahá’ísm, Druze, Yazidism, Alevism, and Zoroastrianism. It also discusses the impact of religious leaders in the Middle East through their interactions with both states and publics.
SUMMARY REPORTS

CIRS Summary Reports contain background information on all the center’s research initiatives, as well as synopses of original chapters submitted by working group participants.

ART AND CULTURAL PRODUCTION IN THE GCC
CIRS Summary Report no. 18, 2017

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 (August 2017) as well as a book, both edited by Suzi Mirgani. This report contains synopses of those contributions as well as more detailed background information on the research project.

THE CHANGING SECURITY DYNAMICS OF THE PERSIAN GULF
CIRS Summary Report no. 19, 2017

Interest in Gulf security has focused on zero-sum threats from Iran or Iraq, or the role of the US. This project brought together distinguished scholars to examine a variety of topics, which resulted in original research chapters published in an edited volume titled, The Changing Security Dynamics of the Persian Gulf (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017), edited by Kristian Coates Ulrichsen. This report contains synopses of those chapters.

CRITICAL ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE POLICY AND POLITICS IN THE GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL STATES
CIRS Summary Report no. 20, 2017

This research initiative resulted in the publication of Critical Issues in Healthcare Policy and Politics in the Gulf Cooperation Council States (Georgetown University Press, 2017), edited by Ravinder Mamtani and Albert B. Lowenfels. This report contains synopses of those chapters, which cover a range of healthcare issues from the historical transformation of health services to the status of mental health and substance abuse issues that have arisen as a result of changing lifestyle patterns.
This study provides in-depth and multidisciplinary analyses of the evolving relationship between China and the Middle East. Despite its increasing importance, few studies have examined this dynamic, deepening, and multi-faceted nexus. This two-year research initiative resulted in an edited volume titled *The Red Star and the Crescent: China and the Middle East*, edited by James Reardon-Anderson (Hurst/Oxford University Press, 2017), synopses of which are contained in this summary report.

Invited academics discussed topics ranging from the effects of technology on the Arab uprisings to state measures being undertaken to incorporate technology into daily life. The project offers reflections on how information technologies are affecting a region that is already in the throes of change. The study has been published as *Digital Middle East: State and Society in the Information Age* (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2018), edited by Mohamed Zayani.

This summary report contains synopses of the larger CIRS-sponsored research initiative on the social phenomena unfolding in the Maghreb today. The contributors analyze the genealogies of contemporary North African behavioral and ideological norms, and offer insights into post-Arab Spring governance. The larger study has been published as *Social Currents in North Africa: Culture and Governance after the Arab Spring* (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2018), edited by Osama Abi-Mershed.
4. Community Outreach

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

CIRS Dialogue Series

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

☐ CIRS Book Launch: Contemporary Politics in the Middle East

BEVERLEY MILTON-EDWARDS
March 21, 2018

Beverley Milton-Edwards, a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Doha Center, was invited by CIRS to discuss her book, *Contemporary Politics in the Middle East*, which is now in its fourth edition. In the manuscript, she focuses her research on security-sector governance in the Middle East and the challenges of political Islam. The book covers issues ranging from colonialism, political economy, conflict and lack of peace, nationalism, women, ethnicity, and minorities.

☐ In Pursuit of Security and Influence: The UAE in the Red Sea and East Africa

ISLAM HASSAN
April 11, 2018

Islam Hassan, Research Analyst at CIRS, discussed how the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is extending its regional influence in East Africa. He argued that the country has transformed its foreign policy over the past few years into one that is more assertive. It has taken control of ports and islands, and has established and administered military bases, training centers and economic zones in the Red Sea, the Arabian Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the Mandeb Strait.
Through its Focused Discussion series, CIRS provides an intimate intellectual forum for academics, diplomats, and opinion leaders to engage with Georgetown University in Qatar’s faculty and students, and other community members, on a particular topic of interest. This year, CIRS hosted eight different focused discussions that were attended by various members of the Doha community. The discussions covered topics pertaining to regional and international developments, as well as cultural endeavors through a film screening and a musical recital.

A Taste of Pakistan: Music & Food from the North
Waleed Zahoor
October 9, 2017

Waleed Zahoor, Publications Intern at CIRS and a student at Georgetown University in Qatar (class of 2018), was invited to hold a musical recital on the rabab, a stringed instrument played mainly in Afghanistan, Iran, and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan. Santosh Kulkarni, a seasoned musician, accompanied Zahoor by playing rhythmic beats on the tabla. The session was followed by a discussion about the importance of music to Pakistan’s cultural life.

The Arab Reform Agenda: Challenges, Promises, and Prospects
Rami G. Khouri
October 30, 2017

Rami G. Khouri examined what it means to live in the contemporary Middle East, which is experiencing its second great fragmentation of the past century. He acknowledged that an “Arab world,” as such, does not exist, and preferred to use the term “Arab region,” as a geographic description. Khouri is an internationally syndicated political columnist and author, professor of journalism, and journalist-in-residence at the American University of Beirut (AUB).
**US-Iranian Relations in the Age of Trump: Back to the Future?**

**Daniel Brumberg**  
November 8, 2017

The Co-Director of Democracy and Governance Studies at Georgetown University, Daniel Brumberg, remarked that the Iran nuclear deal is a sound agreement that provides controls, intents, and supervision of Iran’s program for the next twenty to twenty-five years, and possibly longer. He argued that Trump’s projections in domestic and foreign policy were reflective of his narcissism, and warned of its danger.

**Parental Discrimination over Diverse Schools: Evidence from a Randomized Online Survey in Denmark**

**Mongoljin Batsaikhan**  
November 12, 2017

Mongoljin Batsaikhan, Assistant Professor in Economics at Georgetown University in Qatar, argued that the education achievement gap between ethnic minorities and majority populations is persistent, and even widening, in the United States and Europe. He noted that the leading explanations for the gap include segregation, discrimination, peer dynamics, and identity, which are factors that often play out early in children’s lives.

**CIRS Screens Suzi Mirgani’s Film “There Be Dragons”**  
**Suzi Mirgani**  
January 10, 2018

CIRS screened *There Be Dragons*, a short experimental film by Suzi Mirgani, Managing Editor at CIRS. The film premiered at the Doha Film Institute’s Ajyal Youth Film Festival in 2017, and plays on the idea of the unknown in modern times by conceptualizing a “map of modernity.” The short film was conceived in a workshop organized by Georgetown University’s Film Society, where Mirgani is a mentor.
Is the International Criminal Court a Colonial Institution?

Mia Swart  
February 28, 2018

Mia Swart, Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Doha Center, discussed the International Criminal Court (ICC) and its relationship with the United Nations Security Council. She examined the important role the ICC plays in international criminal justice by establishing ad hoc tribunals in the aftermath of large-scale crimes. Swart raised concerns about the performance of the institution and offered suggestions for its reform.

Refusing the Uniform: Immigrant and Ethnic Minority Women’s Activism in Denmark

Emma Mogensen  
March 19, 2018

Emma Mogensen (class of 2018) presented research in which she discussed a period of activism in Danish history. This event inaugurated the CIRS Undergraduate Research Advancement (CURA) initiative. Mogensen argued that immigrant and ethnic minority women challenged Danish feminist organizations, trade unions, and politicians between 1967 and 1997 through their commitment to combating intersecting forms of discrimination.

A Conversation with George Osborne

George Osborne  
March 28, 2018

George Osborne, a former British Conservative Party politician and current editor of the London Evening Standard, was invited to deliver a lecture to Georgetown University in Qatar faculty, staff, and students about the increasingly challenging state of international politics. He talked about a wide array of issues, including the US presidential elections, Brexit, Russia’s expansionism, and the rise of China in the global arena.
Panels

CIRS organizes panels throughout the year where groups of scholars gather to discuss current issues in international affairs.

□ Crisis in the GCC: Causes, Consequences & Prospects

Abdullah Baabood, Shafeeq Ghabra, and Gerd Nonneman

September 17, 2017

Experts on the Middle East and the GCC were invited to share their thoughts on the developments that have occurred since the GCC crisis began on June 5, 2017, when Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Egypt severed ties with Qatar. The panel was moderated by Mehran Kamrava and was attended by over 350 guests who engaged with the panelists in a question and answer session towards the end of the session.

□ Tensions in the Middle East: A Tentative Assessment

Mehran Kamrava and Gerd Nonneman

November 28, 2017

The panelists discussed major developments occurring regionally, particularly in Syria, Iran, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia, and the implications for Qatar and the GCC. Kamrava stated that he does not see a resolution in the foreseeable future for the blockade of Qatar, while Nonneman concurred that there was little left in the toolbox of the boycotting countries.
Panel on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment
Qatar Professional Women’s Network, Doha, May 22, 2017: Zahra Babar was invited to moderate a panel on gender equality and women’s empowerment in the region.

American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting
San Francisco, USA, August 3–September 1, 2017: Mehran Kamrava chaired a panel on “Islam and Politics,” and Zahra Babar presented a paper on “Highly Skilled Migrants in Qatar.”

Qatar: The Economic and Political Role of Oil and Gas in the Middle East and the Gulf
Occidental Petroleum and Society of Petroleum Engineers, Doha, October 18, 2017: Mehran Kamrava delivered a lecture regarding how oil and gas continue to be the defining features of the Gulf’s strategic importance.

The Geopolitical Implications of the Gulf Crisis

Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting
FORTH ANNUAL GULF STUDIES FORUM

WHY THINK TANKS MATTER IN THE ERA OF DIGITAL AND POLITICAL DISRUPTIONS
Al Jazeera Center for Studies, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, January 31, 2018: Zahra Babar participated in a panel discussion on the blockade of Qatar and argued for the important role played by think tanks in the region.

NEW TRENDS IN POWER AND POLITICS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

LIBERAL ARTS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
Texas A&M University at Qatar, February 6, 2018: Mehran Kamrava was invited to be the keynote speaker in the university’s annual conference, titled “Local Dreams, Global Visions: Multidisciplinary Perspectives.”

SAFEGUARDING FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT IN QATAR (SAFE-Q)
Georgetown University in Qatar, March 19, 2018: Mehran Kamrava was invited to moderate a panel discussing the results of this QNRF-funded research project.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONVENTION

DEMOCRACY CONTRA LIBERALISM WORKSHOP
Georgetown University in Qatar, April 22, 2018: Mehran Kamrava chaired a panel on “Interrogating Populism” as part of a workshop conversation on liberalism and democracy.

TALK AT AMERICAN SCHOOL OF DOHA
American School of Doha, April 29, 2018: Mehran Kamrava gave a talk to students in which he reflected on politics and the field of international relations.
5. STUDENT ENRICHMENT

■ RESEARCH INTERNS

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

EMMA MOGENSEN

AMIE HEWKA

abdul rehmaan qayyum

■ 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.

Rawan Al-Khulaidi

Riham Mansour

Khansa Maria
FACULTY FELLOW RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

CIRS supports GU-Q faculty with their ongoing research by pairing them with student research assistants who become trained in rigorous research methods, and assist with collecting and analyzing data for a particular project.

YARA ALKAHALA  ZOHAIB TAHIR  WESLEY CHEN

PUBLICATIONS INTERNS

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

MOHAMMED AL-JABERI  WALED ZAHOOR  CHAÎMAA BENKERMI

HALA ASHRAF EID  MONA SAIF
CIRS Undergraduate Research Advancement (CURA)

Launched in 2018, the CIRS Undergraduate Research Advancement (CURA) program supports the research needs of Georgetown University in Qatar’s undergraduate students. CURA provides students with opportunities to develop their research skills, present their findings at public venues, and publish their research results. A number of different activities are envisioned as taking place under CURA, including Discussion Seminars; a Peer Mentorship Program; Training Modules; Lunch Talks; and a Paper Series.

Refusing the Uniform: Immigrant and Ethnic Minority Women’s Activism in Denmark

Emma Mogensen
March 19, 2018

Emma Mogensen (class of 2018) was invited by CIRS to present her senior thesis in which she discussed an often overlooked period of women’s activism in Danish history. This event formally inaugurated the CIRS Undergraduate Research Advancement (CURA) initiative. Mogensen argued that immigrant and ethnic minority women have challenged Danish feminist organizations, trade unions, and politicians between 1967 and 1997 through their commitment to combatting intersecting forms of discrimination.

Mogensen argued that immigrant and ethnic minority women pushed for more complex understandings of how various forms of discrimination functioned simultaneously in Danish society based on a variety of factors, including gender, race, class, etc. Immigrant women activists forged international networks with immigrant women and feminist organizations, understanding how oppressive systems like sexism were not territorially limited.
For its first student-led working group under the CIRS Undergraduate Research Advancement (CURA) program, CIRS convened its inaugural student seminar. The CURA program was introduced to serve Georgetown University in Qatar’s undergraduate student community by developing their academic, research, and publications skills.

The initiative took off with a Working Group simulation of an ongoing CIRS research initiative on “Water and Conflict in the Middle East.” As part of the Center’s student enrichment activities, in conjunction with Georgetown University in Qatar, the group of undergraduate students who were invited to participate in the first CURA seminar were all CIRS student interns and assistants, including: Rawan Al-Khulaidi (class of 2018), Mohammed Al-Jaberi (class of 2019), Chaïmaa Benkermi (class of 2021), Hala Eid (2019), Amie Hewka (class of 2019), Khansa Maria (class of 2021), Emma Mogensen (Class of 2018), Riham Mansour (class of 2019), Abdul Rehman Qayyum (class of 2021), Mona Saif (class of 2021), and Waleed Zahoor (class of 2018).

Mohammed Al-Jaberi and Rawan Al-Khulaidi presented the papers and highlighted the main arguments. This was followed by an engaging discussion by all students aimed at identifying areas of improvement in the studies.
APPENDIX

ANALYTICS: ACADEMIC OUTREACH

CIRS AT A GLANCE (2017-2018)

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVES
- 8 Research Initiatives
- 11 Working Group Meetings
- 5 Granted Research Projects
- 89 Affiliated Scholars
- $82k Granted Funds

PUBLICATIONS
- 10 Published Books
- 2 Occasional Papers
- 2 Journal Special Issues
- 6 Summary Report EN

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
- 2 CIRS Dialogues
- 2 Panels
- 800+ Attendees

FACTORY ENGAGEMENT
- 2 Faculty Workshops
- 4 Faculty Lectures
- 1 GU-Q Fellow
- 1 QF Fellow

STUDENT ENRICHMENT
- 14 Total CIRS Students
- 3 Student Assistants
- 3 Research Interns
- 5 Publications Interns
- 3 Faculty Fellow Research Assistants
- 1 CURA Seminar
- 1 CURA Talk

ACADEMIC PARTNERS BY REGION (2017-2018)

*Total number of scholars: 89

- Asia
- Europe
- Other GCC States
- Qatar
- MENA
- New Zealand
- United States
- Turkey

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018 37
## Downloads of CIRS Publications

### Digital Georgetown Institutional Repository (2017-2018)

![Digital Georgetown Institutional Repository](image)

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### Top 5 CIRS Publications on Social Science Research Network (SSRN)

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<td>Author: Kasim Randeree</td>
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![Academia.edu](image)

2.5k Views 1.2k Downloads
## Academic Citations of CIRS Publications

### Top 15 CIRS Publications Citations (as of June 2018)

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**Author:** Mehran Kamrava | Book | 203 |
| **Title:** Qatar: Small State, Big Politics (2015)  
**Author:** Mehran Kamrava | Book | 169 |
| **Title:** A Theory of “Late Rentierism” in the Arab States of the Gulf (2011)  
**Author:** Matthew Gray | Occasional Paper | 137 |
| **Title:** The Arab Spring and the Saudi-led Counterrevolution (2012)  
**Author:** Mehran Kamrava | Journal Article | 121 |
| **Title:** Iran’s Intellectual Revolution (2008)  
**Author:** Mehran Kamrava | Book | 109 |
| **Title:** Royal Factionalism and Political Liberalization in Qatar (2009)  
**Author:** Mehran Kamrava | Journal Article | 89 |
| **Title:** Mediation and Qatari Foreign Policy (2011)  
**Author:** Mehran Kamrava | Journal Article | 89 |
| **Title:** Iraqi Refugees: Seeking Stability in Syria and Jordan (2009)  
**Author:** Patricia Fagen | Occasional Paper | 79 |
| **Title:** Understanding Comparative Politics (2012)  
**Author:** Mehran Kamrava | Book | 74 |
| **Title:** Workforce Nationalization in the Gulf Cooperation Council States (2012)  
**Author:** Kasim Randeree | Occasional Paper | 67 |
| **Title:** Iranian National-Security Debates: Factionalism and Lost Opportunities (2007)  
**Author:** Mehran Kamrava | Journal Article | 45 |
| **Title:** Fixing the Kingdom: Political Evolution and Socio-Economic Challenges in Bahrain (2010)  
**Author:** Steven Wright | Occasional Paper | 40 |
| **Title:** Migrant Labor in the Persian Gulf (2012)  
**Editors:** Mehran Kamrava & Zahra Babar | Book | 39 |
| **Title:** Britain and the Gulf Shaikhdoms, 1820-1971 (2009)  
**Author:** James Onley | Occasional Paper | 39 |
| **Title:** The War on Piracy: Analyzing the Discursive Battles of Corporate and Government-Sponsored Anti-Piracy Media Campaigns (2011)  
**Author:** Suzi Mirgani | Journal Article | 37 |

Source: Google Scholar

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Total citations (2008-2018): 1,705
CIRS Website

20k Users
105k Page Views

Visitors by Geographic Location

Overview
Active Users
Lifetime Value
BETA
Cohort Analysis
Audiences
NEW
User Explorer
Demographics
Interests
Geography
Language
Location
Behavior
Technology
Mobile
Custom
Benchmarking
Users Flow
ACQUISITION
BEHAVIOR
CONVERSIONS
DISCOVER
ADMIN

Primary Dimension: Country City Continent
Sub Continent

Acquisition Behavior Conversions
Users New Users Sessions Bounce Rate
Pages / Session Avg. Session
Goal Conversion Goal Completions Goal Value

Gender
Twitter
Men: 55% Women: 45%
18-24 years 22.26%
25-34 years 34.14%
35-44 years 19.96%
45-54 years 10.82%
55-64 years 7.42%
65+ years 5.39%

0 5 10 15 20 25 30
CIRS Twitter Account


2.2k
Followers

254k
Tweet Impressions
### CIRS YouTube Channel

- **Number of views**: 42k
- **Number of shares**: 674
- **Number of subscribers**: 216

![Gender Distribution](image)

| Men: 75% | Women: 25% |

### TOP 10 VIEWED CIRS LECTURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Lecture</th>
<th>No. of Views</th>
<th>Watch Time/Minutes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The World is Flat 3.0</td>
<td>Thomas Friedman</td>
<td>22,656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Denial: Western Journalism and the Middle East</td>
<td>Robert Fisk</td>
<td>4,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Obama/Bush Foreign Policies: Why Can’t America Change?</td>
<td>Seymour Hersh</td>
<td>3,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islam and the Preservation of the Natural Environment</td>
<td>Seyyed Hossein Nasr</td>
<td>1,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did Democracy Lose this Round? And Why?</td>
<td>Azmi Bishara</td>
<td>1,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women in Qatar: Quotas, Qualifications, and Qatarization</td>
<td>Sheikha Aisha Al-Thani</td>
<td>1,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Core of our Religious Traditions</td>
<td>Karen Armstrong</td>
<td>1,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The GCC Crisis 2017</td>
<td>Professors Baabood, Ghabra, Nonneman &amp; Kamrava</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The U.S.-Saudi Arabia Relationship</td>
<td>Michael C. Hudson</td>
<td>407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy</td>
<td>John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CIRS FACEBOOK PAGE

4.6k
Page Likes

Men: 72%  Women: 28%

14%  50%  23%  7%

10  20  30  40  50  60  70  80  90

18-24 years  25-34 years  35-44 years  45-54 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOP FOLLOWERS BY COUNTRY</th>
<th>NUMBER OF FOLLOWERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>1,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOP FACEBOOK POST

Center for International and Regional Studies
October 16, 2017

CIRS Georgetown University in Qatar, intern and student, Waleed Zahoor performed a rabab recital exploring Pashtun culture, music & poetry. Read more at http://bit.ly/2k1qghh

CIRS GEORGETOWN.EDU

A Taste of Pakistan: Music & Food from the North
On October 9, 2017, Waleed Zahoor, Publications Intern at Center for...
CIRS STAFF

Mehran Kamrava
Director

- Directs all CIRS activities
- Authors and edits manuscripts
- Lectures on Middle East politics

Zahra Babar
Associate Director for Research

- Initiates, develops, and oversees CIRS research initiatives
- Oversees fellows program
- Oversees grant cycles

Misba Bhatti
Coordinator

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

Islam Hassan
Research Analyst

- Conducts background research for CIRS research initiatives
- Contributes to CIRS publications
- Develops CIRS online research profiles
SUZI MIRGANI  
Managing Editor

- Manages all CIRS publications
- Operates website and social media
- Collaborates on research initiatives

JACKIE STARBIRD  
Publications and Projects Assistant

- Writes, edits, and designs publications
- Manages publicity
- Assists with research initiatives

ELIZABETH WANUCHA  
Project Manager

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

MICHAELE ANGELO GALANO  
Office Assistant

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

MUNA AL-MARZOUQI  
CIRS Qatar University Fellow

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

MONGOLJIN BATSAIKHAN  
CIRS GU-Q Faculty Fellow

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

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- Ahmad Dallal, Dean, *Georgetown University in Qatar*
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Talal Abdulla Al-Emadi
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Georgetown University in Qatar

Firat Oruc
Georgetown University in Qatar

M. Reza Pirbhai
Georgetown University in Qatar

Daniel Westbrook
Georgetown University in Qatar

Mohamed Zayani
Georgetown University in Qatar
Research and Scholarship Participants

Working Groups & Research Roundtables

Middle Power Politics in the Middle East
Working Group II
August 20-21, 2017

Participants and Discussants:
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Jonathan Benthall, University College London & Royal Anthropological Institute
- May Darwich, Durham University
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Simon Mabon, Lancaster University
- Imad Mansour, Qatar University
- Robert Mason, American University in Cairo
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Marco Pinfari, American University in Cairo
- Amin Saikal, Australian National University
- Adham Saouli, University of St. Andrews
- Sabika Shaban, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Nael M. Shama, Independent Researcher
- Jackie Starbird, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Yahia Zoubir, KEDGE Business School, France

Sports, Society, and the State in the Middle East
Working Group II
September 24-25, 2017

Participants and Discussants:
- Nida Ahmad, University of Waikato, New Zealand
- Mahfoud Amara, Qatar University
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Simon Chadwick, University of Salford, Manchester
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Ferman Konukman, Qatar University
- Craig LaMay, Northwestern University in Qatar
- Charlotte Lysa, University of Oslo
- Nnamdi Madichie, London School of Business and Management
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Nadim Nassif, Notre Dame University in Lebanon
- Danyel Reiche, American University of Beirut
- Sabika Shaban, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Tamir Sorek, University of Florida
- Jackie Starbird, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Cem Tinaz, Istanbul Bilgi University & Turkish Tennis Federation
- Dag Tuastad, University of Oslo
- Murat C. Yıldız, Skidmore College
WATER AND CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST
Working Group I
October 15-16, 2017

Participants and Discussants:
- Farah Al Qawasmi, Qatar University
- Hussein A. Amery, Colorado School of Mines
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Nadim Farajalla, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs & American University of Beirut
- Mark Giordano, Georgetown University
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Bart Hilhorst, Water Resources Specialist
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Marcus DuBois King, George Washington University
- Helen Lackner, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Sabika Shaban, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Tobias von Lossow, German Institute for International and Security Affairs & Freie Universität Berlin
- Paul A. Williams, Bilkent University, Ankara

SUPPORTING SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH IN A TURBULENT MIDDLE EAST
Research Roundtable
November 29, 2017

Participants and Discussants:
- Abdullah Al-Arian, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Abdallah Badahdah, Doha International Family Institute
- Laurie A. Brand, University of Southern California
- Afyare Elmi, Qatar University
- Michael Ewers, Qatar University
- Justin Gengler, Qatar University
- Suzanne Hammad, Qatar University
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Islah Jad, Qatar University
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Milli Lake, London School of Economics
- Beverley Milton-Edwards, Queen’s University Belfast & Brookings Doha Center
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Firat Oruc, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mary Schmiedel, Georgetown University
- Seteney Shami, Arab Council for the Social Sciences
- Shaïda Sonde, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Jackie Starbird, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Valbona Zenku, Georgetown University in Qatar
MOBILITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND FORCED MIGRATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
Working Group II
December 10-11, 2017

Participants and Discussants:
- Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Pooya Aalaeidini, University of Tebran
- Mustafa Attir, University of El-Fatah in Tripoli, Libya, & Center for Sustainable Development Research
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Matt Buehler, Harvard University
- Estella Carpi, University College London
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Ricardo René Larémont, State University of New York, Binghamton
- Aitemad Muhanna-Matar, London School of Economics
- Natalia Ribas-Mateos, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
- Thomas Schmidinger, University of Vienna & Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences
- Jackie Starbird, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Leïla Vignal, University of Rennes-2, France
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar

NATION BUILDING IN CENTRAL ASIA
Working Group I
January 21-22, 2018

Participants and Discussants:
- Aida Alymbaeva, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Aziz Burkhanov, Nazarbayev University, Republic of Kazakhstan
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Nargis Kassenova, KIMEP University, Kazakhstan
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Ruslan Rahimov, American University of Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan
- Mukaram Toktogulova, American University of Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Laura Yerekesheva, R. B. Suleimenov Institute of Oriental Studies

SCIENCE AND SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
Research Roundtable
February 22, 2018

Participants and Discussants:
- Abdul Sattar Al-Taie, Qatar National Research Fund
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Hassan Bazzi, Texas A&M University at Qatar
- Omar Boukhris, Qatar National Research Fund
Informal Politics in the Middle East
Working Group I
March 10, 2018

Participants and Discussants:
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Nejm Benessaiah, Georgetown University
- Clemens Chay, Durham University
- Kristin Smith Diwan, Arab Gulf States Institute, Washington, DC
- Shahla Haeri, Boston University
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- David Ottaway, Wilson Center, Washington, DC
- Marina Ottaway, Wilson Center, Washington, DC
- Charles Schmitz, Towson University, Baltimore
- Deen Sharp, Terreform, Center for Advanced Urban Research & CUNY Graduate Center
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar

Water and Conflict in the Middle East
Working Group II
April 15-16, 2018

Participants and Discussants:
- Hussein A. Amery, Colorado School of Mines
- Mohammed Al-Jaberi, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Marcus DuBois King, George Washington University
- Helen Lackner, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
- Anatol Lieven, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Jackie Starbird, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Tobias von Lossow, German Institute for International and Security Affairs & Freie Universität Berlin
MIGRANT WORKERS AND HEALTH IN QATAR

Research Roundtable
April 26, 2018

Participants and Discussants:
- Amal G. Abdelaal, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar
- Houriya Ahmed, Qatar Foundation
- Sanaa Taha Alharahsheh, World Innovation Summit for Health
- Ibrahim Aljabor, Hamad bin Khalifa University, Qatar
- Noor Al-Malki Al-Jehani, Doha International Family Institute
- Faras Almeer, World Innovation Summit for Health
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Sean Bland, Georgetown University
- Karima Chaabna, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar
- Odette Chagoury, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar
- Maha El Akoum, World Innovation Summit for Health and Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar
- Suhaila Ghuloum, Hamad Medical Corporation & Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Ziad Kronfol, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Walid Qoronfleh, World Innovation Summit for Health
- Hanan Abdul Rahim, Qatar University
- Shahrad Taheri, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar
- Elizabah Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Alicia Yamin, Georgetown University

CITIZENSHIP, CLASS, AND INEQUALITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Working Group I
May 6-7, 2018

Participants and Discussants:
- Fateh Azzam, American University in Beirut
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Islam Hassan, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Amir Idris, Fordham University
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Amy Malek, College of Charleston in South Carolina
- Roel Meijer, Radboud University, Netherlands
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
- Mohamad Sabry, Independent Researcher & Journalist
- James N. Sater, American University of Sharjah
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University in Qatar
CIRS Research Affiliates

CIRS GU-Qatar Faculty Fellow 2017-2018
- Mongoljin Batsaikhan, Georgetown University in Qatar

CIRS Qatar University Faculty Fellow 2017-2018
- Muna Al-Marzouqi, Qatar University

CIRS Grant Awardees 2017-2018
- Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf, Georgetown University in Qatar
- Leïla Vignal, University of Oxford, and Emma Aubin-Boltanski, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique
- Estella Carpi, University College London & Save the Children; Andrea Rigon, University College London; and Fernando Espada, Save the Children
- Aitemad Muhanna-Matara, London School of Economics, Middle East Center
- Ricardo René Laramont, State University of New York at Binghamton, and Mostafa O. Attir, The Libyan Academy for Graduate Studies

CIRS Interns 2017-2018
- Amie Hewka, Research Intern
- Emma Mogensen, Research Intern
- Abdul Rehman Qayyum, Research Intern
- Rawan Al-Khulaidi, Student Assistant
- Riham Mansour, Student Assistant
- Khansa Maria, Student Assistant
- Yara AlKahala, Faculty Fellow Research Assistant
- Wesley Chen, Faculty Fellow Research Assistant
- Zohaib Tahir, Faculty Fellow Research Assistant
- Mohammed Al-Jaberi, Publications Intern
- Chaïmaa Benkermi, Publications Intern
- Hala Eid, Publications Intern
- Mona Saif, Publications Intern
- Waleed Zahoor, Publications Intern

Publications

Books
- Kamrava, Mehran ed. The Great Game in West Asia: Iran, Turkey and the South Caucasus (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017).
- Babar, Zahra, ed. Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2017).

Zayani, Mohamed, ed. *Digital Middle East: State and Society in the Information Age* (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2018).


Kamrava, Mehran. *Inside the Arab State* (Oxford University Press/Hurst, 2018).

**JOURNAL SPECIAL ISSUES**


*Sociology of Islam* 6, no. 2 (2018), special issue on “Leading the Faithful: Religious Authority in the Contemporary Middle East,” edited by Mehran Kamrava, CIRS, Georgetown University-Qatar.

**OCCASIONAL PAPERS**


“A Holistic Assessment of the Water-for-Agriculture Dilemma in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,” CIRS Occasional Paper no. 19 (2018), by Ameen Kim, Handong International Law School, and Hans van der Beek, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Riyadh, KSA.

**SUMMARY REPORTS**


**ELECTRONIC MEDIA**

- CIRS Website: cirs.georgetown.edu
- E-Bulletins: contact cirsrsearch@georgetown.edu
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/CIRSGUQ
- Twitter: @CIRSGUQ
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/CIRSSFSQ
COMMUNITY OUTREACH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 2017

- MIDDLE POWER POLITICS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SEPTEMBER 2017

- CRISIS IN THE GCC: CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES & PROSPECTS
  Panel: September 17, 2017.

- SPORTS, SOCIETY, AND THE STATE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

OCTOBER 2017

- A TASTE OF PAKISTAN: MUSIC & FOOD FROM THE NORTH
  Waleed Zahoor, Publications Intern at CIRS, Georgetown University in Qatar
  Focused Discussion: October 9, 2017.

- WATER AND CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

- THE ARAB REFORM AGENDA: CHALLENGES, PROMISES, AND PROSPECTS
  Rami George Khouri, Professor of Journalism, and Journalist-in-Residence at the American University of Beirut
  Focused Discussion: October 30, 2017.

NOVEMBER 2017

- JEREMY KOONS FACULTY RESEARCH WORKSHOP
  “The Ethics of Wilfrid Sellars”
  CIRS Faculty Research Workshop: November 5, 2017.

- US-IRANIAN RELATIONS IN THE AGE OF TRUMP: BACK TO THE FUTURE?
  Daniel Brumberg, Co-Director of Democracy and Governance Studies at Georgetown University
  Focused Discussion: November 8, 2017.

- PARENTAL DISCRIMINATION OVER DIVERSE SCHOOLS: EVIDENCE FROM A RANDOMIZED ONLINE SURVEY IN DENMARK
  Mongoljin Batsaikhan, Assistant Professor of Economics, Georgetown University in Qatar
  Focused Discussion: November 12, 2017.

- TENSIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST: A TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT
  Gerd Nonneman, Professor of Government, Georgetown University in Qatar
  Mehran Kamrava, Director, Center for International and Regional Studies
  Focused Discussion: November 28, 2017.
SUPPORTING SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH IN A TURBULENT MIDDLE EAST

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

JANUARY 2018
CIRS Screens Suzi Mirgani’s Film “There Be Dragons”
Suzi Mirgani, Managing Editor for CIRS Publications
Focused Discussion: January 10, 2018.

Nation Building in Central Asia

FEBRUARY 2018
Science and Scientific Production in the Middle East

Is the International Criminal Court a Colonial Institution?
Mia Swart, Visiting Fellow, Brookings Doha Center & Research Director, HSRC, South Africa

MARCH 2018
Informal Politics in the Middle East
Working Group I: March 10, 2018.

Refusing the Uniform: Immigrant and Ethnic Minority Women’s Activism in Denmark, 1967–1997
Emma Mogensen, Research Intern at CIRS & Student at Georgetown University in Qatar
Focused Discussion: March 19, 2018.

CIRS Book Launch: Contemporary Politics in the Middle East
Beverley Milton-Edwards, Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Doha Center
Karl Widerquist Faculty Research Workshop
“The Devil’s in the Caveats: A Critical Analysis of Basic Income Experiments for Researchers, Policymakers, and Citizens”
CIRS Faculty Research Workshop: March 26, 2018.

A Conversation with George Osborne
George Osborne, Former British MP & current Editor of the London Evening Standard
Focused Discussion: March 28, 2018.

April 2018

The UAE in the Red Sea and East Africa
Islam Hassan, Research Analyst at Center for International and Regional Studies

Water and Conflict in the Middle East
CURA Student Seminar: April 12, 2018.

Water and Conflict in the Middle East

Migrant Workers and Health in Qatar

May 2018

Citizenship, Class, and Inequality in the Middle East