GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF FOREIGN SERVICE IN QATAR

The Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, opened in August 2005, is a branch campus of Georgetown University, the oldest Catholic and Jesuit university in America, founded in 1789. The program builds on Georgetown University’s long tradition of educating future leaders for careers in the international arena through a liberal arts undergraduate program focused on international affairs.

For more information about the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, please visit http://qatar.sfs.georgetown.edu.

THE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL STUDIES

Established in 2005, the Center for International and Regional Studies at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service 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.

Guided by the principles of academic excellence, forward vision, and community engagement, 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.

QATAR FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private, non-profit organization that serves the people of Qatar by supporting and operating programs in three core mission areas: education, science and research, and community development. The Foundation strives to nurture the future leaders of Qatar. By example and by sharing its experience, the Foundation also contributes to human development nationally, regionally, and internationally. In all of its activities, the Foundation promotes a culture of excellence in Qatar and furthers its role in supporting an innovative and open society that aspires to develop sustainable human capacity, social, and economic prosperity for a knowledge-based economy.

This publication is made possible by the generous support of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development.
Activities and Initiatives 2013-2014

Research and Scholarship

Working Groups

1. Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC, Working Group I
2. The Evolution of Gulf Global Cities, Working Group I
3. The State and Innovation in the Gulf, Working Group I
4. Social Currents in the Maghreb, Working Group I
5. Transitional Justice in the Middle East, Working Group I
6. Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC, Working Group II
7. Prehistoric Myths in Modern Political Philosophy, Faculty Workshop
8. The Evolution of Gulf Global Cities, Working Group II
10. The State and Innovation in the Gulf, Working Group II
11. World Regions: The Middle Eastern Pivot
12. Social Currents in the Maghreb, Working Group II

Research Affiliates

13. CIRS Research Grant Recipients
14. Qatar University Fellow
15. SFS-Qatar Faculty Fellow
16. Post-Doctoral Fellow

Publications

Occasional Papers
16. Books
17. Summary Reports
18. English Language Reports
18. Arabic Language Reports
19. Newsletters
19. Annual Report
19. Digital Media

Public Affairs Programming

Lectures and Events

17. Monthly Dialogue Series
18. Focused Discussions
19. Panel Discussions
20. CIRS Conference Attendance and Exhibitions

Appendix 1

19. CIRS Staff Directory
28. CIRS Advisory Board
32. CIRS Program Committee

Appendix 2

34. Research and Scholarship
34. Public Affairs Programming
43
CIRS Activities and Achievements 2013-2014

The Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS) sponsors major studies of regional and international significance, including research initiatives in the areas of international relations, political economy, and the domestic politics of the Gulf.

CIRS focuses on research and scholarship, publications, and public affairs programming, including the organization of a variety of intellectually-driven lectures and events. The following pages outline CIRS achievements in these areas.

“...a forum for scholarship & research on international and regional affairs...”
Research and Scholarship

Every academic year, CIRS identifies emerging socioeconomic and political trends in the region, and develops research initiatives designed to offer original contributions to each topic. In the 2013-2014 academic year, CIRS headed several new major research initiatives involving experts and scholars from around the world. Our goal is to explore questions related to the Gulf region and the Middle East through supporting empirically-grounded, theoretically informed research. In addition, CIRS supports a variety of research fellowships, including programs at CIRS, the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, and Qatar University.

Working Groups

Please see Appendix 2 for a full list of participants at each event.

As an ongoing part of its research initiatives program, CIRS organizes several working groups that convene in Doha to examine a variety of issues pertinent to the Gulf region and of international significance. The primary purpose of these projects is to fill in existing research gaps and to contribute toward furthering knowledge on prevailing issues related to the security, economic stability, and politics of the Gulf region. Each CIRS research initiative involves prominent scholars, practitioners, and policymakers from the Middle East, the Gulf region, and beyond. Each participant contributes to the project by attending a CIRS working group meeting and submitting papers written on a specific topic related to the project.

In conjunction with its working group meetings, CIRS funds empirically-based, original research projects in order to address existing gaps in the literature. Under these broader initiatives, CIRS awards grants and creates a scholarly forum for studying a variety of issues related to the Middle East. Through regular CIRS-sponsored research meetings, the grant recipients are able to share their research findings with other academics, policymakers, and practitioners.

In each of the following working group meetings, experts from the Middle East region, Europe, and the United States were invited to Qatar or Washington, DC, to engage in discussion and analysis of particular scholarly research projects.
In contrast to the burgeoning literature on Asian immigrants in the Gulf, Arab migration to the region has been a neglected area of study. In order to fill this gap in the literature, in early 2013 CIRS launched a grant-based research initiative on “Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC.” Five grant proposals were awarded to scholars to conduct fieldwork and original research on various topics related to Arab migration in the region.

In conjunction with the grant cycle, CIRS held a two-day working group on September 7-8, 2013, to discuss, amongst other things, 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. Along with the five teams of research grant recipients who updated the group on their ongoing research and preliminary findings, the working group participants consisted of a cohort of regional and international experts on the topic of Arab migrants to the GCC.

The advent of the Gulf oil economy in the 1950s brought with it an influx of migrants, initially predominantly from the Arab world. As the literature documents, the stocks and flows of regional migration have altered throughout the years, with the first Gulf War demonstrating a break in the inflow of Arabs and a dramatic increase in the import of an Asian work force. While perceptions embedded in historical events or narratives impact the governance of migration, they too influence the relations between the locals and the expatriate Arab. Mapping the historical-political consequences of the first Gulf War and more recently the Arab uprisings provides a lens to assess how certain Gulf states have negotiated their tenuous relationship with their migrant Arab communities. Investigating intergroup-relations and particularly the relationship between Arab workers and GCC employers within the workplace was also discussed as a point of interest.
During this two-day meeting, scholars from various multi-disciplinary backgrounds as well as urban practitioners and architects examined historical, social, economic and political aspects of urban transformations in the Persian Gulf.

Discussions bridged past and present conditions of Gulf societies in order to understand the evolution of urban centers across the region. Before the advent of 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 contemporarily 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. Oil has served as a vital globalizing factor, as its discovery brought an influx of international oil companies to the Gulf and led to the localization of global forces of international capitalism. This was manifested in the development of company towns across the region, which also provided new modes of institution building and urban planning. Many of these company towns enforced socio-spatial segregation amongst its residents based on ethnicity, occupational standing, and socioeconomic status.

The contrast between the rigidity present in today’s cities and the mobility that Gulf port cities historically exemplified may be paralleled to ramifications of planned cities versus naturally created urban spaces. With the advent of state centralization, master urban plans were introduced, and increasingly the state managed the inflow of migrants through socio-spatial engineering. Of growing interest and importance is assessing the political economy of governance and its impact on the urban fabric. Various stakeholders, including the ruling regimes, governmental and political institutions, the business community, foreign consultants and local urban practitioners collectively affect the urban landscape.
Regional and international scholars and experts from various multi-disciplinary backgrounds convened to discuss issues related to the pursuit of a knowledge-based economy (KBE) throughout various states of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

GCC states have drafted, formulated, and launched development plans that convey the common drive among these states to create a knowledge-based economy. Although they have experienced large-scale rapid development due to abundant hydrocarbon rents, rulers and public officials of these states have increasingly stated that economic diversification is necessary for the sustainability of economic growth. Diversification has been used almost interchangeably with the concept of developing a KBE, underscoring the ultimate goal to reform education, R&D, ICT, and other sectors that enhance productivity and scientific progress.

Investment in higher education has been a prominent manifestation of developing KBEs. As a result of the lack of capacity and expertise of national public universities across the region to produce the necessary skill sets in their graduates fit for a KBE, governments have increasingly invested in international branch campuses (IBCs), indicating that the infrastructure to build an R&D culture and economy is present, but retaining the human capital to carry out research has proved to be a much more difficult feat. While GCC states have attempted to create an environment of innovation and knowledge production through financial and infrastructural investment, the ability to seed and harvest innovation with a largely transient population in place is questionable. Achieving sustainability in innovation requires a comprehensive approach that looks at the social dimensions of this transition to knowledge-producing economies.

Tackling the social dimension that is required to transition to a KBE, tailoring these policies to fit the local conditions, and fostering innovation may lead GCC states to revisit their rentier dependency policies aimed at nationals, and to develop motivational mechanisms that incentivize citizens to play a key role in the development of a knowledge-based economy.
While much of the recent scholarship on the Maghreb has focused on the political and security dimensions of the region, participants gathered to discuss the social changes and fluxes in contemporary Morocco, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Mauritania. Much of the recent debate on the Maghreb has revolved around political transformations and their relation to Islamic movements in the context of the Arab Spring. While the historical trajectory of Islamic movements and parties has generally been accounted for, the internal dynamics of political parties have largely been neglected. Participants highlighted the dynamics between Islamists and leaders of various political parties as well as generational dynamics within the parties. Political parties and movements as a unit of analysis need to incorporate internal notions of ideological hybridity that challenge the status-quo of the country’s political landscape as well as the movements’ policies and strategies.

In addition to identity politics, the politics of language and its historical, economic and social salience were discussed. The language of instruction in Moroccan schools for instance, has largely been caught between the seemingly contradictory goals of cultural and linguistic preservation (Arabic or Berber) and equipping graduates with languages that meet global market needs (French or English). This linguistic fragmentation in the education system can be contrasted to the linguistic hybridity that is increasingly incorporated into the artistic expression of the youth.

Sports in relation to migration, identity, and political transitions in the Maghreb were other topics tackled by the participants. These societal threads, from social movements by marginalized groups to the language employed by youth in artistic expression, collectively shed light on the social underpinnings of the contemporary Maghreb. The meeting provided an avenue of deliberation on many of the social issues that precede the recent political transformations of the region and the complex trajectory of existing societal conditions of the Maghreb.
While much of the scholarship on transitional justice has been conducted in other regions of the globe, recent political transitions in the region have invigorated studies on the manifestation and application of transitional justice mechanisms in the Middle East. The multi-disciplinary working group participants discussed various topics ranging from the theoretical underpinnings and scope of transitional justice to specific case-studies of Middle Eastern experiences related to reconciliation, and restorative and retributive justice.

In beginning the discussion on transitional justice in the Middle East, participants drew on past and current experiences of countries from around the globe in order to identify the most salient markers studied in the field. Studying transitional justice in a comparative perspective, however, has revealed that assessing its impact is not a seamless activity since the process continues to have shifting goals. Within transitional justice, there is a myriad of objectives related to retributive justice, deterrence, vindication of victims, and reconciliation that both practitioners and academics discuss and refer to. However, each of these benchmarks remains elusive with regards to whom they address, what form or shape they take, and the mechanisms and institutions that are used to address them. For instance, certain factors concerning the vindication of victims complicate these objectives, such as the diversity in types of victims and the fact that the requirements of victims change over time.

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. In addition to the implementation of transitional justice mechanisms in countries without political change, participants also discussed plans for transitional justice in cases of ongoing conflict—specifically, in Syria where members of the opposition have already drafted detailed plans for transitional justice.
During the final stage of this research initiative, grant recipients gathered with several migration experts and scholars to discuss their research findings and to solicit feedback on their draft paper submissions. The topics investigated ranged from broad migration policies in the GCC and their respective implications on the distribution of nationalities within the population, to specific ethnographic case-studies highlighting the experiences of Arab expatriates in the Gulf.

From the onset of the Gulf oil-economy in the 1950s to the present era, the ebbs and flows of Arab emigration to the GCC have largely been attributed to the Middle East’s regional geopolitical context and its influence on national migration policies. Arab migrants formed a large component of the expatriate community until the 1980s, but their presence in the Gulf has since dwindled, and Asian migrants from the East now outnumber non-GCC Arabs. Participants discussed that although much of the literature attributes this shift to the geopolitical context, rapid development, the ensuing change in Gulf economies, and the aggregate increase in demand for low-skilled labor by the private sector has also contributed to the shift in the composition of the expatriate workforce. Although GCC governments may source labor for low-skilled segments of the economy from various geographic regions, Arab migrants will continue to have a dominant presence within sectors that require certain shared cultural, linguistic, and religious affinities.

Beyond demographics and economic stratification, working group members discussed issues of identity, transnationalism, social inclusion and exclusion, and everyday experiences of Arab expatriates. Participants also discussed outlooks and perceptions of second-generation Arab migrants in comparison to other expatriate nationalities and to GCC nationals within a university setting. Given that the geopolitical context of the region will continue to play a significant role in migratory practices, student perceptions on the Arab uprisings and its socioeconomic impact on the region remains vital.
The Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS) held its inaugural Faculty Research Workshop on April 7, 2014, which was led by Karl Widerquist, Associate Professor of Philosophy at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar. Several participants were invited to Doha to discuss Widerquist’s recently completed book titled, *Prehistoric Myths in Modern Political Philosophy*. Widerquist specializes in political philosophy, and his research is mostly in the area of distributive justice—the ethics of who has what.

The manuscript is currently in its final stages of preparation and it 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 only because they seemed plausible (or even obvious) to Europeans of the early colonial period. Widerquist argues how contemporary theories continue to pass on these fallacious premises, which are often still accepted as truths simply because they have gone unnoticed and unchallenged. In response to these flawed theories, Widerquist assembles anthropological and archaeological evidence to systematically refute them. Finally, he assesses the ramifications of these findings for contemporary justifications of property, inequality, and the state.

The CIRS Faculty Research Workshop, in the form of a closed-door, one-day seminar, gathered together a small number of renowned scholars to engage in a focused discussion on Widerquist’s book manuscript. The gathering consisted of a series of structured brainstorming sessions, through which participating scholars engaged in a thorough and critical discussion of the book manuscript. All participants read the manuscript prior to the meeting and individual scholars prepared and led focused group discussions on different chapters from the book.
CIRS held its second working group meeting of this research initiative on April 12-13, 2014. Academics from various disciplinary backgrounds as well as architects, urban planners, and designers gathered to discuss their research findings and papers. The topics discussed ranged in their geographic coverage of the Persian Gulf and in their temporal analysis extending back to the early twentieth century to the present-day. Elements of continuity and change in the urban landscape were discussed against the political, cultural and historical backdrop of the Gulf region.

Rapid urbanization and rising skylines have invigorated academic focus on cities of the Gulf. The participants questioned the way in which Gulf cities are discussed in a highly depoliticized manner in popular discourse. Gulf cities are categorically described as transnational and global cities that are also “prosperous, modern and stable in a larger, more volatile and impoverished region”—how do these depictions diffuse images of the Gulf that constitute a certain ideological substrate? The discussants problematized the category of “city” itself, and pushed their analysis further to incorporate more socially and politically nuanced understandings of space. Questions raised included: How do non-citizens live and fit within the space of the city? How do construction workers who help build the city find their place in these spaces that are generally depicted as transnational and metropolitan yet are highly segregated and limit the mobility of many of its inhabitants? These questions reflect on the current unspoken discursive formations of cities in the Gulf—formations that define “cities” based on narrow and depoliticized interpretations.

Although current depictions of Gulf cities as “transnational” and “global” assume a historical break and disjuncture with urban characteristics of the pre-oil Gulf, participants raised the topic of forms of transnational urbanism that were present in the early twentieth century port cities. With its vast global networks, the region has always exhibited elements of transnationalism.
Healthcare practitioners, strategists, and social scientists from various disciplinary backgrounds gathered over two days to discuss the rapidly changing health profile of the region, the existing conditions of health systems, and the challenges posed to healthcare management.

In recent decades, GCC governments have heavily invested in socioeconomic development and have increasingly played an instrumental role in the development of healthcare systems. While GCC healthcare expenditure continues to rise, there remains a significant gap between investments in healthcare and health outcomes of Gulf citizenry. Rapid urbanization rates and changes in lifestyle have resulted in populations that exhibit a high prevalence of diabetes and obesity. In Qatar, for instance, 70% of nationals are overweight and 40% are obese. Chronic non-communicable disease is also on the rise in the Gulf and, as such, preventive medicine and lifestyle health are of growing importance, emphasizing a necessary shift from the current focus on secondary curative care.

Gulf nationals predominantly suffer from lifestyle diseases, yet the expatriate and migrant populations of the GCC have different health concerns. The three tiered population of the region—comprised of locals, long-term residents, and more transient migrant workers—requires Gulf governments to plan accordingly for the health needs of each population. Short-term migrants are largely employed in the construction sectors of the GCC and the Gulf has therefore begun to focus more on the incorporation of occupational health and safety in the healthcare model.

While participants of the working group tackled a multitude of topics—ranging from substance abuse in the Gulf to social organization of nursing practices—a common challenge facing scholars studying healthcare in the region is the lack of both available and published data. The industry is rapidly evolving, but scholarship on the topic still remains limited and is constrained by the dearth of available information, underscoring the need for additional research on the area.
Participants reconvened in Doha to discuss their paper submissions that collectively analyze efforts of GCC states to diversify their oil-based economies into knowledge-based economies (KBEs), the manifestation of these efforts on the ground, and the structural realities that facilitate or hinder this transition.

Significant dependence on the oil and gas industry has led to the development of national visions and strategies that actively seek to diversify GCC economies. These efforts are not merely related to the diffusion of risk by decreasing dependence on the volatile oil and gas sector, but are rather increasingly intertwined with elements associated with KBEs—namely job creation and the development of sectors with high knowledge content. The core cause of this rapid transition in the region can be attributed to the concurrent discovery of oil and establishment of nationhood, leading Gulf rulers to focus on strengthening their rule by building physical infrastructure, providing basic services, and essentially suspending the diversification process. Production oriented structures and practices were thus sidelined by robust oil earnings.

Gulf states are attempting to build the foundations of their respective KBEs by heavily investing in human capital and intangible assets through the establishment of vast educational and research facilities. By replicating and adopting models of education from abroad, Gulf states have essentially “leapfrogged” the long, costly process that ultimately leads to indigenous growth and state maturity. This indicates the GCC states’ strong motivation to catch up with the developed world and compete in the global race for innovation.

It is apparent that what is lacking in the GCC is not necessarily the infrastructure or the investment in pillars of a knowledge based economy but rather creating an environment and a national system that is conducive to knowledge creation and innovation.
WORLD REGIONS: THE MIDDLE EASTERN PIVOT
CO-SPONSORED WITH THE STONY BROOK INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL STUDIES
June 8, 2014

This working group took place under a broader research initiative on world regions and civilizations jointly launched by CIRS and the Stony Brook Institute for Global Studies (SBIGS). Integration of social theory and regional studies is a major project of SBIGS, and a pioneering volume on this subject has recently been published in the Institute’s Pangaea II: Global/Local Studies 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. As a world region, the Middle East and North Africa has been the cradle of powerful civilizations and empires, as well as the Abrahamic religions. As such, it is a crucial region for examining the very concept of a region in comparative perspective, constituted by its historical, civilizational, and religious continuity, and for a comparative understanding of the Islamicate legitimation and its transmutations of power. With its focus on the Middle East and North Africa, CIRS shares obvious interests with SBIGS in this area of inquiry, and welcomes this opportunity to collaborate on the “World Regions: The Middle Eastern Pivot” research initiative.

The working group, in the form of a closed-door, one-day seminar, gathers together a small number of renowned scholars in order to start work on an edited volume. CIRS’ goal is to look at the subject from a multi-disciplinary perspective, and to examine, topics such as: world regions and civilizational analysis, a Pangaenan approach to world regions, world regions and comparative sociology, the Middle East and international theory, Islamicate political thought as civilizational dialogue, the Indo-Persianate World as an Asian civilizational zone, India as a world region, regional studies and knowledge production, and Central Asia as a world region.
Participants gathered for the second time to discuss their research findings and solicit feedback from a multi-disciplinary cohort of working group members. The topics and themes discussed ranged from the mobilization of social movements in the Maghreb to language as politics and dissent in cultural production.

Following the Arab uprisings, the rise of Islamist parties led to renewed interest in Islamist politics and a proliferation of debates surrounding the role of Islamist parties and movements in North African politics and society. Despite increased scholarly attention to Islamist politics, the literature remains predominantly narrow in its scope, neglecting ideological and political innovations within Islamist parties, and the diversity and divisions that exist within the Islamist sphere as a whole.

Working group members also discussed the Polisario movement and the question of the Western Sahara. While the Polisario is predominantly thought of as an “Algeria-backed movement,” it has increasingly diversified its support base since the 1990s, to include non-state actors such as activist NGOs, the Sahrawi diaspora and international aid agencies.

In questioning dominant conceptions of North Africa, participants further problematized terms such as the “Arab” uprisings, which fail to recognize the linguistic and cultural heterogeneity of the region. While official promotion of multiculturalism has largely led to celebratory interpretations that presume it as a precursor to social justice and democratization, its intersection with elements of neo-liberalism masks deeper negative socioeconomic repercussions. In the context of sport and migrant communities, participants discussed GCC states are increasingly becoming part of the Maghrebi social imaginary, and in some ways replacing Europe as the prime target for migration.
CIRS Research Grant Recipients 2013-2014

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

Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC

In January 2013, CIRS launched a multidisciplinary research initiative titled “Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC.” Since the bulk of ongoing research efforts are focused on non-Arab migrants, the Arab migrant communities present in the Gulf have been a neglected area that merits further scholarly discussion and focus. Some of the questions that are addressed in this research initiative include:

• What type of work opportunities do most Arab migrant workers seek in the GCC states?
• Are working conditions any different from that of non-Arab migrant workers?
• How have various labor nationalization programs (e.g. Qatariization, Saudization) impacted Arab migrants in the GCC states?
• What are the patterns of sociocultural integration?
• What are the overall living, employment, and residential conditions of these communities?

To investigate some of these issues, CIRS has awarded grants to the following five projects:

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

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

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

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

5. High Skilled Lebanese Migrants in Kuwait
   Garret Maher, Gulf University for Science and Technology, Kuwait
CIRS Fellows 2013-2014

In order to enhance research opportunities for members of Qatar University and the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar (SFS-Qatar), CIRS launched two annual fellowships to be awarded to faculty members of these institutions. In addition, CIRS completed a successful search for a Post-Doctoral Fellow.

Qatar University Fellow
Mohammed Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi

Mohammed Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi is the 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, Al-Khulaifi is an authorized Qatari Lawyer at Abdulaziz Saleh Al-Khulaifi’s law office in Doha.

SFS-Q Faculty Fellow
Mohamed Zayani

Mohamed Zayani is an Associate Professor of Critical Theory at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar and an Affiliate Faculty with the Communication, Culture and Technology Program. His works include Reading the Symptom (1999), Arab Satellite Television and Politics in the Middle East (2004), The Al Jazeera Phenomenon: Critical Perspectives on New Arab Media (2005), and The Culture of Al Jazeera: Inside an Arab Media Giant (2007).

Post-Doctoral Fellow
Matt Buehler

Matt Buehler is the 2013-2014 CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellow. He holds degrees in government from the University of Texas at Austin (Ph.D. and M.A.) and Willamette University (B.A.). While posted at the Center for International and Regional Studies, Buehler worked on turning his Ph.D. 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.
CIRS publishes research and related materials in a variety of formats throughout the academic year. These include books, Occasional Papers, Annual Reports, Newsletters, and English and Arabic language Summary Reports. Through its publications, CIRS provides a forum for in-depth examination of ideas and issues of contemporary academic and political significance, both in the Gulf region and beyond.

Occasional Papers 2013-2014

Iran’s Northern Exposure: Foreign Policy Challenges in Eurasia (2013)
Manochehr Dorraj, Texas Christian University, and Nader Entessar, University of South Alabama

The paper analyzes Iran’s evolving interest and the geopolitical challenges to its foreign policy in Central Eurasia. As an emerging regional power with its own political agenda, perception, and calculus of its interests, Iran uses identity politics and shared cultural and religious values, where appropriate, to forge closer relations with Central Eurasian countries. This CIRS Occasional Paper concentrates on 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 large-scale popular uprisings that broke out across the Arab world in the winter of 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.
Qatar has fewer than 2 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, as Mehran Kamrava explains, 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.”

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

Long a taboo topic, as well as one that has alarmed outside powers, sectarian conflict in the Middle East is on the rise. The contributors to this book examine sectarian politics in the Persian Gulf, including the GCC states, Yemen, Iran, and Iraq, and consider the origins and consequences of sectarianism broadly construed, as it affects ethnic, tribal, and religious groups. They also present a theoretical and comparative framework for understanding sectarianism, as well as country-specific chapters based on recent research in the area. Key issues that are scrutinized include the nature of sectarianism, how identity moves from a passive to an active state, and the mechanisms that trigger conflict.
This Summary Report critically examines some of the most important topics within contemporary Iran, focusing on its social, cultural, economic, and political domains. A few recent efforts have been undertaken by scholars to engage in in-depth research on domestic development within Iran. 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. Through this multi-disciplinary research initiative, our goal is to present a comprehensive study of contemporary Iranian society.

social change in post-Khomeini Iran (2013)

In conjunction with its research objectives, CIRS produces Summary Reports containing background information on CIRS research initiatives, collections of paper synopses delivered at CIRS working group meetings, as well as participant biographies.

arabic language reports

شئون باللغة العربية

بالتزامن مع المبادرات البحثية، يقوم مركز الدراسات الدولية والإقليمية بإنتاج تقارير موجزة تشتمل العديد من المعلومات المتعلقة بخلفية المبادرات البحثية التي يتبناها المركز، إضافة إلى ملخصات الأوراق البحثية التي قدمتها مجموعات العمل إلى المركز خلال إجتماعاتها، وكذلك تحتوى هذه المبادرات البحثية على السير الذاتية للمشاركين.

استثمارات دول مجلس التعاون الخليجي في الأراضي الزراعية بالخارج: حالة إثيوبيا

تم إعداد هذا التقرير عبر استخدام البيانات التي تمت خصصت من العمل الميداني في إثيوبيا. ويستند إلى تقييم البلاد كمصدر محتمل لتطوير الأجل للمواضيع الأساسية لدول الأعضاء في مجلس التعاون الخليجي، كجزء من استراتيجياتها في مجال السياسة الوطنية للأمن الغذائي. كذلك، يسلط هذا التقرير الضوء على فرص الاستثمار في القطاع الزراعي في إثيوبيا، وهذه الفرص تدعم بدورها الإجابة بأن الاستثمار في الحوارات الزراعية الصغيرة هو خيار مثير للإهتمام. إنها توفر مساراً أكثر عريضاً وموثوقية لتحسين الإنتاجية وتحقيق الأهداف المرجوة في مجال الأمن الغذائي. إذا كانت استراتيجية الاستثمار هذه قادرة على تحقيق غو كاف في الإنتاجية بحيث توفر الأمن الغذائي في إثيوبيا في الدولة المستثمرة على السواء.
Newsletters

Every semester, CIRS publishes a newsletter detailing all of its recent and ongoing activities, publications series, research and scholarship initiatives, as well as all of the semester’s lectures, events, and public affairs programming.

Both the Fall 2013 and the Spring 2014 editions of the CIRS Newsletter are available in hard copy format and can also be downloaded for free from the CIRS website.

Annual Report

The 2012-2013 CIRS Annual Report contains information about all the activities, research initiatives, publications, lectures, and events that CIRS organized throughout the year. Highlights include a Distinguished Lecture by Sheikh Abdullah Al Thani; the conclusion of several research initiatives; a robust public lecture series; and the publication of books and reports resulting from CIRS research initiatives.

Digital Media

CIRS Website: Contains detailed information on all CIRS activities, publications, and research initiatives. Visit: http://cirs.georgetown.edu/.

E-Bulletins: CIRS produces an electronic newsletter delivered to a comprehensive regional and international research list-serve. To be added to the mailing list, please contact: cirresearch@georgetown.edu.

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/CIRSSFSQ
Twitter: @CIRSSFSQ
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/user/CIRSSFSQ
The CIRS Monthly Dialogue Series is designed to present interested community members with a forum for quiet, 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 with the community.

**The Economics of Migration in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries**

George Naufal, Assistant Professor of Economics at the American University of Sharjah, and a research fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor, mapped the history of non-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Arab workers migrating to GCC states to explain why these countries became a uniquely attractive destination for large numbers of foreign laborers. He examined how and why there were such dramatic changes to these migration patterns since the 1970s.

**From Revolution to Coup: Egypt and the Muslim Brotherhood**

Abdullah Al-Arian, Assistant Professor of History at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, delivered a lecture that addressed three key areas: first, he traced the trajectory of the Muslim Brotherhood over the last four decades of its history. Second, he evaluated how that history shaped the decisions and performance of the Muslim Brotherhood over the course of the last few years in Egypt. Finally, he ventured some possible scenarios for the future of the Brotherhood and its place in Egyptian politics and society.
Micha Kurz, a 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 on the ground. Issues of escalating Palestinian 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.

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

Drawing on his experience as the head of Doha Bank, Seetharaman 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*

Matt Buehler, the 2013-2014 CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellow, warned against the simplistic categorization of Arab states, and argued that there was no definitive answer to why some regimes fell, whilst others overcame popular unrest in the long run. As his research in Morocco and Mauritania attests, both governments exhibited resilience in the face of the uprisings, despite their fundamental differences in terms of political structure, resource wealth, military loyalty, and ethnic integration.

**Gas and Alternative Fuels: Present & Future Share and Challenges**

*H.E. Seyed Mohammad Hossein Adeli*

*March 24, 2014*

H.E. Dr. Seyed Mohammad Hossein Adeli, Secretary General of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF), discussed gas market dynamics, the latest revolutions in the energy sector, and the challenges faced by the sector, including security of demand, environmental impact of coal, safety issues associated with nuclear energy, and the hurdles of subsidies and high infrastructure investment requirements to make renewable energy profitable.

**New Paradigms for a Palestine in Perpetual Limbo?**

*Sam Bahour*

*April 21, 2014*

Sam Bahour, Managing Partner at Applied Information Management (AIM), Director at the Arab Islamic Bank and a policy adviser 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, but the “peace industry” itself that has been built around the problem and that paradoxically sustains the struggle even as it attempts to aid in its resolution.
Focused Discussions

Through its *Focused Discussion* series, the Center for International and Regional Studies provides an intellectual forum for academics, diplomats, and opinion-leaders to engage with Georgetown University in Qatar faculty, students, and community members on a particular topic of interest.


Luciano Zaccara, Visiting Assistant Professor at Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar and the director of the OPEMAM-Observatory on Politics and Elections in the Muslim and Arab World, explained why elections are of such importance to the Iranian political system. Having conducted extensive fieldwork in Iran, Zaccara observed in-situ the last six electoral processes in Iran. The most recent elections in Iran in 2013 provided a re-legitimation of the political system and a recuperation of the population’s trust after the controversial and contested events of 2009.
Mohamed Zayani, Associate Professor at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, delivered a talk based on his ongoing book project, which analyzes the changing relationship between media and politics in the Arab world, especially as it relates to the Arab uprisings in Tunisia. Examining the media’s role in the Arab uprisings, Zayani highlighted the importance of conducting country-specific studies.

Omran Al-Kuwari, co-founder and CEO of GreenGulf, discussed the drivers of investing in renewable energy in the context of Qatar, and how these have been radically transformed over recent years. Qatar is in a favorable position because of its large natural gas reserves, which 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.

Mohamed Zayani, Associate Professor at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, delivered a talk based on his ongoing book project, which analyzes the changing relationship between media and politics in the Arab world, especially as it relates to the Arab uprisings in Tunisia. Examining the media’s role in the Arab uprisings, Zayani highlighted the importance of conducting country-specific studies.

Gary Wasserman, professor of Government at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, 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. This is what political scientists call hard power of economic wealth and military weapons as well as soft power of ideas and imitation.
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. Please see Appendix 2 for a full list of participants at each event.

△ **Panel Discussions**

CIRS hosted a “Research Roundtable” to enhance local research productivity, and build upon its established collegial relationship with other research entities in Qatar. During this one-day event, academics, policy analysts, and representatives of research institutions and think tanks discussed their respective research initiatives and activities in an attempt to identify research synergies across institutions. Participants also discussed the extent to which their research endeavors align with Qatar’s National Research Strategy, and the linkages between their research output and policy making in the country.

△ **Knowledge Translation: Bridging the Gap between Research and Policy**

Co-organized with 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 the American University of Beirut.

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 from around the region to understand the linkage between knowledge production and policy-making in the Arab world. The incentive system of research in the region is evolving, so that universities are engaging in areas of inquiry that are policy relevant.

△ **CIRS Research Roundtable**

November 17, 2013

CIRS hosted a “Research Roundtable” to enhance local research productivity, and build upon its established collegial relationship with other research entities in Qatar. During this one-day event, academics, policy analysts, and representatives of research institutions and think tanks discussed their respective research initiatives and activities in an attempt to identify research synergies across institutions. Participants also discussed the extent to which their research endeavors align with Qatar’s National Research Strategy, and the linkages between their research output and policy making in the country.
Qatar Foundation Annual Research Forum
Doha, Qatar, November 24–25, 2013: CIRS held an exhibition booth where CIRS staff met with conference participants to discuss research initiatives related to the Gulf and the Middle East.

Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting
New Orleans, LA, USA, October 10–13, 2013: Mehran Kamrava, Director of CIRS, delivered a paper titled, “Qatari Foreign Policy and the Exercise of Subtle Power;” Zahra Babar, Assistant Director for Research at CIRS, delivered a paper titled, “Negotiating the Alien Arab: Labor Mobility in the State of Qatar;” and Dwaa Osman, Research Analyst at CIRS, delivered a paper titled, “Agency of the Socially Excluded: Women in Pakistan and Sudan.” Additionally, CIRS held an exhibition booth where CIRS staff distributed publications and networked with conference participants and scholars.

International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention
Toronto, Canada, March 26–29, 2014: Mehran Kamrava chaired three panels focusing on the security implications of the Arab Spring, the Iranian nuclear program, and the international relations of Iran. Suzi Mirgani, Manager and Editor of Publications at CIRS, presented a paper titled, “Globalized Uprisings and Mediated Resistance: Digital Space and Unofficial Cultural Production.” CIRS also held an exhibition booth where CIRS members displayed latest publications and met with conference participants to discuss research initiatives related to the Gulf and the Middle East.

God’s Century: Assessing The Clash of Secular and Religious Trends in the Middle East and North Africa

EU-GCC Regional Security Cooperation - Lessons Learned & Future Challenges
Sharaka Security Conference in Cooperation with Qatar University, Doha, Qatar, October 28–29, 2013: Zahra Babar, Associate Director for Research at CIRS, chaired a panel on “Food and Energy Security.”

Law and Citizenship in the Gulf Roundtable
Chatham House Middle East and North Africa Programme in partnership with Qatar University, Doha, Qatar, December 2–3, 2013: Zahra Babar, CIRS Associate Director for Research, participated.
World Food Security Summit
Dubai, February 23-24, 2014: Zahra Babar, Associate Director for Research at CIRS, participated in a panel discussion titled, “Responding to Emergencies: Delivering the Food.”

Visions of Gulf Security, Project on Middle East Political Science (POMEPS) Studies 25

Roundtable on Labor Migration in Arab Gulf Countries
Qatar University, Doha, Qatar, March 9-10, 2014: Zahra Babar, Associate Director for Research at CIRS, participated in a panel discussion.

New York University, Abu Dhabi, March 18-20, 2014: Mehran Kamrava, CIRS Director, participated in panel discussions.

Taking Stock and Moving Forward on Labor Recruitment in the Arab States, International Labour Organisation (ILO) MAGNET
Istanbul, Turkey, April 29-30, 2014: Zahra Babar, CIRS Associate Director for Research, participated in a panel discussion.

CIRS Research Trip to India
New Delhi, India, May 13-17, 2014: In order to foster academic and institutional linkages with organizations around the world, members of the CIRS, SFS-Q faculty, and Georgetown University staff held an alumni reception and met with various research foundations, policy think tanks, and universities in India including: the Observer Research Foundation, Delhi Policy Group, and Jindal Global University – School of International Affairs. SFS-Q faculty and CIRS researchers—Mehran Kamrava, Abdullah Al-Arian, Mark Farha, and Zahra Babar—gave talks pertaining to their respective areas of research and engaged in academic discourse with professors, researchers, dignitaries, and students based in India.

Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Doha Dialogue on Migration
Doha, Qatar, June 15, 2014: Zahra Babar, CIRS Associate Director for Research, participated in a panel discussion on “Latest developments in protection laws and legislation relating to the status of expatriate workers in the Middle East and Asia region.”
APPENDIX 1

CIRS STAFF DIRECTORY 2013-2014

MehrAn kamrava
Director

ZaHra Babar
Associate Director for Research

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

Matt Buehler
Post-Doctoral Fellow

- Takes part in CIRS research initiatives
- Collaborates with SFS-Q Faculty
- Prepares Ph.D. dissertation for publication

Nerida Child Dimasi
Finance and Budget Analyst

- Manages CIRS administrative operations
- Manages CIRS financial operations
- Manages CIRS grant administration
Barb Gillis  
CIRS Coordinator

- Handles logistics for fellows, lecturers, and working group participants
- Organizes and updates the CIRS Database Management System
- Manages student workers and interns

Mohammed Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi  
Qatar University Fellow

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

Suzi Mirgani  
Manager and Editor for CIRS Publications

- Writes, edits, and designs academic publications and publicity materials
- Manages the CIRS website
- Collaborates on CIRS research initiatives

Dwaa Osman  
Research Analyst

- Conducts background research for CIRS research initiatives
- Contributes to CIRS academic publications
- Develops CIRS online research profile
**Nadia Talpur**  
Project Manager  
- Manages CIRS grant cycles  
- Organizes CIRS Working Groups  
- Assists with CIRS research initiatives

**Maha Uraidi**  
CIRS and SFS-Q Events Manager  
- Organizes all academic and public events  
- Primary contact for speakers and event-related vendors  
- Coordinates with other Education City event managers

**Elizabeth Wanucha**  
Project Manager  
- Manages CIRS grant cycles  
- Organizes CIRS Working Groups  
- Assists with CIRS research initiatives

**Mohamed Zayani**  
SFS-Q Faculty Fellow  
- Takes part in research initiatives and contributes to the intellectual life of CIRS  
- Collaborates with SFS-Q Faculty  
- Gives public talks to the Qatar community
INTERNS 2013-2014

ARWA ELSANOSI  
Publications Intern

SARAH ELZEINI  
Research Intern

SALMAN AHAD KHAN  
Publications Intern

STUDENT ASSISTANTS 2012-2013

HAZIM ALI

AIDA TARIQ NASIR

UMBER LATAFAT

LEENA ZAHIR

MOHAMED SIRELKHATIM

KEVIN MARK LEE

OFFICE ASSISTANTS 2013-2014

JEFFERSON FERNANDO

VAN RUDOLF
CIRS Advisory Board

- Osama Abi-Mershed, Director, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies
- Sheikha Abdulla Al-Misnad, President, Qatar University
- Barton Cahir, President and General Manager, ExxonMobil Qatar
- Stanley N. Katz, Director, Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies, Princeton University
- Rami Khouri, Director, The Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut
- Carol Lancaster, Dean, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University
- Sir Tim Lankester, Chairman of the Council, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London University
- Gerd Nonneman, Dean, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Gary Sick, Research Scholar, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University
- John Waterbury, Global Professor, New York University Abu Dhabi
CIRS Program Committee

- Rogaia Abusharaf
  Georgetown University
  School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Talal Abdulla Al-Emadi
  Qatar University

- John Crist
  Georgetown University
  School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Firat Oruc
  Georgetown University
  School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Robert Wirsing
  Georgetown University
  School of Foreign Service in Qatar

- Mohamed Zayani
  Georgetown University
  School of Foreign Service in Qatar
APPENDIX 2

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

WORKING GROUPS

ARAB MIGRANT COMMUNITIES IN THE GCC, WORKING GROUP I
Working Group Meeting: September 7-8, 2013

Participants and Discussants:

- Abdullah M. Alajmi, Arab Open University
- Mohammed Al-Waqqi, United Arab Emirates University
- Heba Arafa, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Nerida Child Dimasi, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Françoise De Bel-Air, Institut français du Proche-Orient (IFPO)
- Ismail H. Genc, American University of Sharjah
- Barb Gillis, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Manal A. Jamal, James Madison University
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Sulayman Khalaf, Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority
- Garret Maher, Gulf University for Science and Technology
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Heba Nassar, American University in Cairo
- George Naufal, American University of Sharjah
- Michael Newson, International Organization for Migration
- Gwenn Okruhlik, Middle East Institute – National University of Singapore
- Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Natasha Ridge, Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research
- Ganesh Seshan, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Nasra Shah, Kuwait University
- Nada Soudy, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar
- Paul Tacon, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
- Abbie Taylor, ISIM – Georgetown University
- Luciano Zaccara, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

THE EVOLUTION OF GULF GLOBAL CITIES, WORKING GROUP I
Working Group Meeting: October 5-6, 2013

Participants and Discussants:

- Ala Al-Hamarneh, University of Mainz
- Nadia Al-Khater, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Farah Al-Nakib, American University of Kuwait
- Pooya Alaeddini, University of Tehran
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Samer Bagaeen, University of Brighton
Nerida Child Dimasi, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Nelida Fuccaro, University of London
Barb Gillis, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Ahmed Kanna, University of the Pacific
Arang Keshavarzian, New York University
Catherine Lechicki, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Stephen J. Ramos, University of Georgia
Mohammad Reza Farzanegan, Philipps-University of Marburg
Ashraf M. Salama, Qatar University
Marcus Stephenson, Middlesex University Dubai
Florian Wiedmann, Wiedmann Mirincheva Associates

The State and Innovation in the Gulf, Working Group I
Working Group Meeting: December 8-9, 2013

Participants and Discussants:
Abdulkhaleq Abdulla, United Arab Emirates University
Osama Abi-Mershed, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University
Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Matt Buehler, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Nerida Child Dimasi, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
John Crist, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Crystal A. Ennis, Balsillie School of International Affairs
Barb Gillis, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Martin Hvidt, Zayed University
Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Tanya Kane, Texas A&M University at Qatar
Hiba Khodr, American University of Beirut
Daniel Kirk, Emirates College for Advanced Education
Jim Krane, Rice University
Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Rabi Mohtar, Qatar Foundation
Anne Nebel, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Firat Oruc, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Andy Spiess, GCC Network for Drylands Research and Development
Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Kenneth Wilson, Zayed University
SOCIAL CURRENTS IN THE MAGHREB, WORKING GROUP I
Working Group Meeting: January 7-8, 2014 (in Washington, DC)

Participants and Discussants:
- Osama Abi-Mershed, CCAS - Georgetown University
- Lahouari Addi, Centre de Recherche en Anthropologie Sociale et Culturelle (CRASC)
- Mahfoud Amara, Loughborough University
- Néjib Ayachi, Maghreb Center
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Aomar Boum, University of Arizona
- Charis Boutieri, King’s College London
- Francesco Cavatorta, Université Laval
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Ricardo René Larémont, Binghamton University
- William Lawrence, George Washington University
- Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Zekeria Ould Ahmed Salem, University of Nouakchott
- Paul Silverstein, Reed College
- Loubna Skalli-Hanna, American University
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Alice Wilson, University of Cambridge

TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, WORKING GROUP I
Working Group Meeting: February 15-16, 2014

Participants and Discussants:
- Rogaia Abusharaf, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Mohamed Arafat, Alexandria University
- Omar Ashour, University of Exeter
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Mietek Boduszynski, Pomona College
- Matt Buehler, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Thomas DeGeorges, American University of Sharjah
- Mohammad Fadel, University of Toronto
- Elham Fakhro, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Doris H. Gray, Al Akhawayn University
- Sune Haugbolle, Roskilde University
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Christopher Lamont, University of Groningen
- Clark Lombardi, University of Washington
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Chandra Lekha Sriram, University of East London
- Ibrahim Sharqieh, Brookings Doha Center
ARAB MIGRANT COMMUNITIES IN THE GCC, WORKING GROUP II
Working Group Meeting: March 15-16, 2014
Participants and Discussants:
- Abdullah M. Alajmi, Arab Open University
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Matt Buehler, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Nerida Child Dimasi, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Françoise De Bel-Air, Institut français du Proche-Orient (IFPO)
- Ismail H. Genc, American University of Sharjah
- Barb Gillis, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Manal A. Jamal, James Madison University
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Susan Kippels, Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research
- Garret Maher, Gulf University for Science and Technology
- Susan Martin, ISIM – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service
- David Mednicoff, University of Massachusetts – Amherst
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- George Naufal, American University of Sharjah
- Michael Newson, International Organization for Migration
- Gerd Nonneman, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Natasha Ridge, Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research
- Nada Soudy, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar
- Paul Tacon, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
- Abbie Taylor, ISIM – Georgetown University
- Carlos Vargas-Silva, University of Oxford
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

PREHISTORIC MYTHS IN MODERN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY
Faculty Research Workshop: April 7, 2014
Participants and Discussants:
- James Alexander, Bilkent University
- Bashshar Haydar, American University of Beirut
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Carl Knight, University of Glasgow
- David Lea, American University of Sharjah
- Enzo Rossi, University of Amsterdam
- Assaf Sharon, Tel Aviv University
- Anthony Squiers, University of Kurdistan
THE EVOLUTION OF GULF GLOBAL CITIES, WORKING GROUP II
Working Group Meeting: April 12-13, 2014
Participants and Discussants:
- Pooya Alaedini, University of Tehran
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Marike Bontenbal, German University of Technology in Oman
- Matt Buehler, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Nerida Child Dimasi, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Remah Gharib, Qatar Faculty of Islamic Studies
- Barb Gillis, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Ahmed Kanna, University of the Pacific
- Arang Keshavarzian, New York University
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Stephen J. Ramos, University of Georgia
- Ashraf M. Salama, Qatar University
- Evren Tok, Qatar Faculty of Islamic Studies
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Florian Wiedmann, Wiedmann Mirincheva Associates

HEALTHCARE POLICY AND POLITICS IN THE GULF STATES, WORKING GROUP I
Working Group Meeting: April 27-28, 2014
Participants and Discussants:
- Mohamad Alameddine, American University of Beirut
- Samir Al-Adawi, Sultan Qaboos University
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Matt Buehler, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Nerida Child Dimasi, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Suhaila Ghuloum, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar; Hamad Medical Center
- Barb Gillis, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Cother Hajat, United Arab Emirates University
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Nadir Kheir, Qatar University
- Nabil Kronfol, Lebanese Healthcare Management Association; Center for Studies on Ageing
- Ravinder Mantani, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar
- Tatjana Martinoska, Enertech Qatar
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Janet Rankin, University of Calgary Qatar
Salman Rawaf, Imperial College London; WHO Collaborating Center for Public Health Education and Training
Ganesh Seshan, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Rosemary Sokas, Georgetown University
Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

THE STATE AND INNOVATION IN THE GULF, WORKING GROUP II
Working Group Meeting: June 3-4, 2014
Participants and Discussants:
Haytham Abduljawad, Qatar Petroleum
Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
John Crist, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Crystal A. Ennis, Balsillie School of International Affairs
Martin Hvidt, Zayed University
Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Daniel Kirk, Emirates College for Advanced Education
Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

WORLD REGIONS: THE MIDDLE EASTERN PIVOT
Co-Sponsored with the Stony Brook Institute for Global Studies
Working Group Meeting: June 8, 2014
Participants and Discussants:
Laura Adams, Harvard University
Saïd Arjomand, Stony Brook University
Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Nerida Child Dimasi, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Barb Gillis, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Bahgat Korany, The American University in Cairo
Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Wolf Schäfer, Stony Brook University
Gagan Sood, London School of Economics
Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

SOCIAL CURRENTS IN THE MAGHREB, WORKING GROUP II
Working Group Meeting: June 22-23, 2014 (in Washington, DC)
Participants and Discussants:
Osama Abi-Mershed, CCAS - Georgetown University
Jean R. AbiNader, Moroccan American Trade and Investment Center (MATIC)
Mahfoud Amara, Loughborough University
Panel Discussions

Knowledge Translation: Bridging the Gap between Research and Policy

Co-organized with Consortium of Arab Policy Research Institutes (CAPRI), Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, and the Center on Knowledge-to-Policy for Health at the American University of Beirut.

Panel: September 12, 2013

Participants and Discussants:

- Darwish Al-Emadi, Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI), Qatar University
- H.E. Noor Al-Malki Al-Jehani, Doha International Family Institute (DIFI), Qatar Foundation
- Mohammad Al-Masri, Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies
- Azza O. Abdelmoneium, Doha International Family Institute (DIFI), Qatar Foundation, Qatar
- Hanan Abdul Rahim, Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI), Qatar University
- Marwa Adawi, Smoking Cessation Clinic, Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar
- Sanaa Alharahsheh, Doha International Family Institute (DIFI), Qatar Foundation
- Mansour Almazroui, Center of Excellence for Climate Change Research, King Abdulaziz University
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Rania Baroud, Tobacco Free Initiative Board Member
- Hana A. El-Ghali, Research, Advocacy and Public Policy-making Program, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs
- Fadi El-Jardali, Director, Center on Knowledge-to-Policy for Health
- Nadia Fanous, Tobacco Control Unit, Hamad Medical Corporation
- Nader Kabbani, Silatech
CIRS RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE
Panel: November 17, 2013
Participants and Discussants:
- Hanan Abdul Rahim, SESRI, Qatar University
- Noor Al Malki Al Jehani, Doha International Family Institute (DIFI)
- Sanaa Alharahsheh, Doha International Family Institute (DIFI)
- Zahra Babar, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Tim Cable, Aspire Academy
- Nerida Child Dimasi, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- John Crist, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Barb Gillis, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Simon Hall, Qatar National Food Security Programme
- Ibrahim Sharqieh, Brookings Doha Center
- Nader Kabbani, Silatech
- Mehran Kamrava, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Tatjana Martinoska, Independent Researcher
- Suzi Mirgani, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Dwaa Osman, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Elizabeth Wanucha, CIRS – Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
- Florian Wiedmann, Urban Planning and Development Authority

☐ CIRS RESEARCH AFFILIATES
CIRS Post-Doctoral Fellow 2013-2014:
- Matt Buehler, University of Tennessee

CIRS SFS-Qatar Faculty Fellow 2013-2014:
- Mohamed Zayani, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar

CIRS Qatar University Faculty Fellow 2013-2014:
- Mohammed Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi, Qatar University

CIRS Interns 2013-2014:
- Arwa Elsanosi, Publications Intern
- Sarah Elzeini, Research Intern
- Salman Ahad Khan, Publications Intern
**Publications:**

**Occasional Papers:**
  By Manochehr Dorraj, *Texas Christian University*; Nader Entessar, *University of South Alabama*

  By Fred Lawson, *Mills College*

**Books:**

**Summary Reports:**

**Arabic Publications:**
- “GCC States’ Land Investments Abroad: The Case of Ethiopia” CIRS Arabic Summary Report.

**Newsletters:**
- CIRS Newsletter no. 15, Fall 2013
- CIRS Newsletter no. 16, Spring 2014

**Electronic Media:**
- CIRS Website: http://cirs.georgetown.edu/
- E-Bulletins: contact cirsresearch@georgetown.edu
- Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/CIRSSFSQ
- Twitter: @CIRSSFSQ
- YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/CIRSSFSQ
Public Affairs Programming

September 2013

- **Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC, Working Group I**
  Working Group Meeting: September 7-8, 2013

- **The Economics of Migration in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries**
  George Naufal, *Assistant Professor of Economics at the American University of Sharjah*

- **Knowledge Translation: Bridging the Gap between Research and Policy**
  Co-organized with 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 the American University of Beirut.
  Panel: September 12, 2013

- **Do Elections Matter? Reflections on the 2013 Iranian Presidential Polls**
  Luciano Zaccara, *Visiting Assistant Professor at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar*

October 2013

- **The Evolution of Gulf Global Cities, Working Group I**
  Working Group Meeting: October 5-6, 2013

- **From Revolution to Coup: Egypt and the Muslim Brotherhood**
  Abdullah Al-Arian, *Assistant Professor of History at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar*
  Monthly Dialogue: October 7, 2013

November 2013

- **Mobilizing Communities in Occupied Jerusalem**
  Micha Kurz, *Co-founder of Grassroots Jerusalem*
  Monthly Dialogue: November 12, 2013

- **CIRS Research Roundtable**
  Panel: November 17, 2013
DECEMBER 2013

- The State and Innovation in the Gulf, Working Group I
  Working Group Meeting: December 8-9, 2013

- Working for the Neighbors: Arab Migrants in Qatar
  Zahra Babar, Associate Director for Research at the Center for International and Regional Studies – Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service in Qatar
  Monthly Dialogue: December 11, 2013

JANUARY 2014

- Social Currents in the Maghreb, Working Group I
  Working Group Meeting (in Washington, DC): January 7-8, 2014

- Sustainable Development for Economies and Corporations
  R. Seetharaman, Group Chief Executive Officer of Doha Bank
  Monthly Dialogue: January 20, 2014

FEBRUARY 2014

- The Paradox of Renewable Energy in Qatar
  Omran Al-Kuwari, Co-founder and CEO of GreenGulf
  Focused Discussion: February 12, 2014

- Transitional Justice in the Middle East, Working Group I

- Why did the Arab Spring miss the Maghreb? Continuity through Co-optation in Morocco and Mauritania
  Matt Buehler, 2013-2014 Post-Doctoral Fellow at CIRS
  Monthly Dialogue: February 17, 2014

MARCH 2014

- Arab Migrant Communities in the GCC, Working Group II
  Working Group Meeting: March 15-16, 2014

- Gas and Alternative Fuels: Present & Future Share and Challenges
  H.E. Seyed Mohammad Hossein Adeli, Secretary General of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum
  Monthly Dialogue: March 24, 2014

APRIL 2014

- Prehistoric Myths in Modern Political Philosophy
  CIRS Faculty Research Workshop: April 7, 2014
THE EVOLUTION OF GULF GLOBAL CITIES, WORKING GROUP II
Working Group Meeting: April 12-13, 2014

NETWORKED ARAB PUBLICS AND CONTENTION IN THE DIGITAL AGE
Mohamed Zayani, *Associate Professor at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar*
Focused Discussion: April 15, 2014

NEW PARADIGMS FOR A PALESTINE IN PERPETUAL LIMBO?
Sam Bahour, *Managing Partner at Applied Information Management (AIM)*
Monthly Dialogue: April 21, 2014

WHY ARE WE HERE (IN DOHA)?
Gary Wasserman, *Professor of Government at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar*
Focused Discussion: April 27, 2014

HEALTHCARE POLICY AND POLITICS IN THE GULF STATES, WORKING GROUP MEETING I
Working Group Meeting: April 27-28, 2014

MAY 2014

CIRS ANNUAL BOARD MEETING
May 11, 2014

INSIGHTS INTO THE QATARI LEGAL SYSTEM
Mohammed Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi, *Dean of Academic Affairs and Assistant Professor of Commercial Law at Qatar University*
Monthly Dialogue: May 12, 2014

JUNE 2014

THE STATE AND INNOVATION IN THE GULF, WORKING GROUP II
Working Group Meeting: June 3-4, 2014

WORLD REGIONS: THE MIDDLE EASTERN PIVOT
Co-Sponsored with the Stony Brook Institute for Global Studies
Working Group Meeting: June 8, 2014

SOCIAL CURRENTS IN THE MAGHREB, WORKING GROUP II