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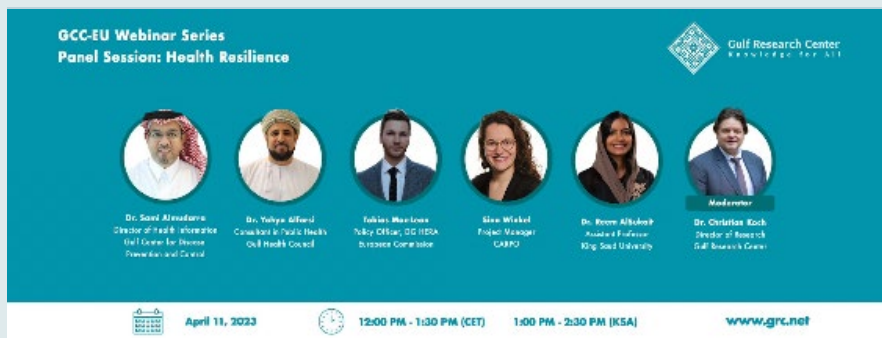
GULF RESEARCH CENTER Newsletter

May 2023

GRC Project

GCC-EU Relations: Toward the Strategic Partnership Webinar Series

Panel Session 9: Digital Connectivity



The ninth session of the GCC-EU webinar series entitled “Enhancing Digital Connectivity” was held by the Gulf Research Center (GRC) on May 23, 2023. The event focused on the status of relations and the priorities in the health field as they relate to the EU’s Joint Communication on a “Strategic Partnership with the Gulf.” The speakers of the session were Mr. Arpad Cseko, Connectivity and Digital Transition, MD Global, at the European External Action Service; Dr. Mohammed Baharoon, the Director General of B’huth; Dr. Jean-Marc Rickli, the Head of Global and Emerging Risks at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy; and Dr. Amany Alnahdi, Assistant Professor of Computing and Information

Technology at King Abdulaziz University. Dr. Christian Koch, the Director of Research at the Gulf Research Center, moderated the session.

The session highlighted that connectivity is a comprehensive agenda for both the GCC and the EU and that connectivity can be classified into four significant areas:

1. The movement of goods, which includes energy
2. The movement of money, which supports trade
3. The movement of people, such as people-to-people relations and personal exchanges
4. Digital connectivity, which was the main focus of this webinar

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- Gulf Labour Markets, Migration, and Population (GLMM) Programme
- GRC’s Cultural & Media Program

GRC Publications

GRC Participations



Enhancing Multi-Track Dialogue and Cooperation in West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula 2nd High-Level Policy Workshop May 10-11, 2023

The Tafahum wa Tabadul project organized the second high-level policy workshop in Montreux, Switzerland, which aimed at building a comprehensive assessment of the current regional dynamics. This constructive workshop brought together official representatives from the West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula (WAAP) region. The

workshop also looked at the ten proposals for regional dialogue that emerged from the previous workshop and the steps required to activate them. After the workshop, eight outcomes were put together as steps to take into account when anticipating pitfalls and clear visions that are needed to translate regional dialogue into regional cooperation.



Media Literacy in West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula - Enhancing Regional People-to-People Relations Through Joint Work on Media Competencies

On May 8-9, 2023, the Tafahum wa Tabadul project organized a workshop in Doha, Qatar in cooperation with the Ibn Khaldoun Center for Humanities and Social Sciences, focused on enhancing media literacy of both media producers and consumers in the WAAP region. The workshop stressed that there is an emerging need for media literacy that is more important than ever before, as the prevalence of fake news and misinformation has increased, and social media has become a primary source of news and information for many people. The workshop dealt with the following topics and questions:

- Concepts and approaches to media literacy
- Status quo and context(s) of media literacy in the WAAP region
- How media literacy can be promoted (tools, best-practices and materials)
- Concrete steps to set up initiatives to enhance media literacy and people-to-people relations



Global Leadership Program



The Gulf Research Center Foundation (GRCF) and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) are delighted to launch **the Global Leadership Program**, which will take place in Geneva, Switzerland.

A primary focus of the GRCF is to conduct a variety of high-level executive learning and leadership programs that contain practical policy value.

The Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) is an international foundation supported by the Swiss government. The GCSP's mission is to advance peace, security, and international cooperation by providing the knowledge, skills, and network for effective and inclusive decision-making.

This Global Leadership Program features three one-week modules that address the core political, security, and economic challenges in the international system today. The modules are convened at regularly spaced out intervals throughout the year.

Intensive 3-module leadership course dates:

Global Politics Module: 11-15 September 2023

Global Security Module: 13 – 17 November 2023

Global Economics Module: 4 – 8 March 2024

The program offers participants the opportunity to:

- Improve knowledge about global developments in politics, security, and economics, as well as their impact on the state and society.
- Analyze current, past and anticipated changes occurring in the fields of global politics, security, and economics.
- Build critical thinking within a unique learning environment, by joining experienced practitioners and scholars from diverse fields in an interactive atmosphere of exchange and debate.
- Broaden professional networks across cultures and professional domains, through interaction with peers and experts within the program environment.



To find more information, please visit the program's website: <https://programs.grc.net/>

Register [HERE](#)

Download brochure [HERE](#)

Gulf Labour Markets, Migration, and Population (GLMM) Programme

Activities May 2023

The Gulf Labour Markets, Migration, and Population (GLMM) programme is an international independent, non-partisan, non-profit programme promoted and hosted by the GRC. You can access the GLMM website [here](#).

Access GLMM recent and past publications [here](#).



Publications



GLMM Factsheet No. 6 - May 2023: “GCC: Are Oil Prices No Longer a Driver of Population Growth?” by Françoise De Bel-Air, GLMM Senior Fellow. Access the full paper [here](#).

Data

GLMM gathers, analyses, and republishes weekly national official statistical data concerning population, labour markets, and migration from dozens of websites of the GCC countries. All these data can be viewed, downloaded, and printed in MS Excel. Having done this for more than a decade, GLMM’s database contains data that is no longer publicly available online except from the GLMM website, accessible [here](#).

Recently, notable data for Bahrain, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia were added to the database.

Bahrain: Access the data for Bahrain [here](#).

Kuwait: Access the data for Kuwait [here](#).

Saudi Arabia: Access the data for Saudi Arabia [here](#).

Based on these data, GLMM produces unique GCC regional tables, accessible [here](#).

GLMM also gathers, analyses, and republishes weekly national official legal documents concerning population, labour markets, and migration. Access these documents [here](#).

Webinar

GLMM announced its first webinar which will be held on 14 June 2023 from 1:00pm – 2:30pm CET.

Title: GCC Data for Evidence-Based Policymaking

Abstract: To what extent do available data and statistics on labour and labour migration in GCC states allow policymakers, as well as the general public, to monitor and understand the rapid changes affecting GCC states’ labour markets since 2010? The webinar will review recent innovations and improvements in the collection, processing,

and dissemination of statistical data on labour, migration, and labour migration in the six GCC states. It will assess progress made in the use of statistical data for socio-economic and demographic policy making in the region. It will highlight challenges met by GCC National Statistical Organisations and other statistics producers in the region and reflect on possible ways to overcome these challenges.

Speakers: Data producers and data users from the GCC and elsewhere

Register for the webinar [here](#).

Workshop

GLMM is organizing a workshop in the framework of the 13th Gulf Research Meeting (GRM, Cambridge 11-13 July 2023) on “Recent Labour and Migration Reforms and Policies in the Gulf: Impact on Economies and Societies at the 13th Gulf Research Meeting.” Access the full details of the workshop [here](#).

The deadline for applications for paper presenters has passed. Fifty-two paper proposals were received of which twenty were selected.

Limited places are available for non-paper presenters (against a fee). Register [here](#).

Further information is available on the GLMM website found [here](#).

Contact: info.glmm@grc.net

Gulf Research Center (GRC) Podcast

The GRC hosted three episodes under the Cultural & Media program this month. Access all the podcasts on the GRC Podcast YouTube channel [here](#).

May 6, 2023



The GRC Podcast hosted part one of the interview series that focused on the cultural movement in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in which Dr. Saeed Al-Sarihi participated as a speaker. Watch the full episode of part one [here](#). Watch the full episode of part two [here](#).

May 18, 2023



Dr. Sadaqa bin Yahya Al-Fadhel participated in an episode for the 'Opinions Program' with Dr. Zaid Al-Fadeil, Director of the Cultural Program at the GRC. The interview is entitled 'New Era in Joint Arab Action.' Watch the full episode [here](#).

Gulf Dialogue Lab



May 30, 2023

The Gulf Dialogue Lab hosted a webinar focusing on theater and performing arts. The title of the webinar was 'Gulf Theatrical Festivals: Impacts.' The speaker of the webinar was Dr. Sami Al-Jamaan along with the participation of a number of professors from across the region.



May 28-30, 2023

Under the Gulf Dialogue Lab, the GRC hosted a webinar entitled 'The Role of Media in Promoting Intercultural Dialogue and Mutual Understanding.' The speakers of the webinar were Ms. Lina Al-Shalhoub and Ms. Al-Shaimaa Al-Maddah from King Abdulaziz University.



May 9, 2023

Under the Gulf Dialogue Lab, the GRC held a webinar entitled 'The Young Arab Gulf Thought, Between Importing Ideas and Innovating Them.'

GRC Publications

The Gulf Research Center produces a wide variety of publications through its research programs, projects, and Gulf Research Meetings. The GRC's publications can be accessed on its website via [this link](#), and the commentary and analysis can be found [here](#).

Commentary & Analysis



Arab League Summit and the Importance of Saudi Arabia's Presence in Regional and International Order: 'A Time for Renewal and Change'
May 2023
Layla Ali

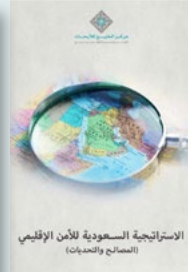


Environment, Security, and Peacebuilding in the West Asia Region
May 2023
Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf

Selected Arabic Articles



The Unity of Yemen in the Face of Challenges
May 2023
Yousef Kamil Khattab



Saudi Strategy for Regional Security (Interests and Challenges)
May 2023
Dr. Abderrezzaq Gherraf

Araa Magazine



185 (May 2023):
Joint Arab Action:
Requirements -
Variables - Indicators

GRC Participations

In May 2023, the GRC participated in numerous international events — both online and in-person — tackling issues pertaining to developments in the Gulf region and its broader neighborhood. The GRC emphasizes participating in such events, as it allows for the inclusion of a regional perspective in the debate. The following is an overview of the critical events in which the GRC participated.



May 31, 2023

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, met with the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Mr. Park Joon Young. They discussed Saudi-Korean relations, ways to develop them, and the importance of the role of Korean companies in contributing to the Kingdom's Vision 2030.



May 29, 2023

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager participated as a speaker in the Arab-Iranian Dialogue Conference, which was organized by the Al Jazeera Center for Studies in cooperation with the Strategic Council for Foreign Relations in the Islamic Republic of Iran, entitled: "The Arabs and Iran... Security, Economy and Crises: Approaches and Solutions" in Doha, Qatar. Dr. Abdulaziz participated in the first session (The Arabs and Iran: Assessment of a Position on the Security Situation in the Region).

GRC Participations

وزارة الخارجية
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
State of Qatar • دولة قطر



May 29, 2023

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, participated in a meeting entitled ‘Roundtable on Islamophobia: Policy Framework to Meet the Challenges’ which was organized by the Qatari Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which brought together a number of experts from different countries.

May 28, 2023

Dr. Ahmed Sager, Dr. Christian Koch, and Ms. Amnah Mosly met with representatives from the Scandinavian countries at the Danish Embassy in Riyadh; Ms. Asmaa Machlah, Political Officer at the Embassy of Denmark; Ms. Monika Thowsen, Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Norway; Mr. Esko Männistö, Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Finland; and Mr. Anton Dahlquist, Second Secretary – Trade, Economic and Cultural Affairs at the Embassy of Sweden. During the meeting, they discussed the GRC’s GCC-NB8 research program and aspects of cooperation.



May 22 to May 31, 2023

Christian Koch and Adnan Tabatabai meeting with Col. Christian Steiner, Defence Attaché, and Alain Luck, Diplomatic Advisor, Embassy of Switzerland to the United Arab Emirates

Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research and Adnan Tabatabai, CEO of the Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient (CARPO), paid a visit and held meetings in the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait under the framework of the Tafahum wa Tabadul Project on “Enhancing Multi-Track Dialogue and Cooperation in West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula.” As part of the visit, they briefed counterparts on the status of the project with a view on future activities and participation.



中国国际问题研究院
CHINA INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

May 26, 2023

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, participated as a speaker in a webinar organized by the China Institute of International Relations entitled “Road to Peace: Prospects for the Political Settlement of the Ukraine Crisis” reflecting the Saudi and Gulf position towards the Ukraine Crisis.



May 25, 2023

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, participated in the podcast episode by the International Crisis Group entitled: Riyadh and the World: What to Make of Saudi Arabia’s Recent Diplomacy. [Click here to access the full episode.](#)



May 22 to May 31, 2023

GRC researcher Ms. Amnah Mosly attended the Forbes Middle East Women’s Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, chaired by H.H. Princess Noura Bint Faisal Al Saud. The Summit featured talks by the region’s most accomplished and talented women from various sectors, including business, technology, healthcare, fashion & beauty, and travel & tourism.



May 9, 2023

Annah Mosly, researcher at the GRC, attended the opening reception of Europe Month 2023 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia on May 9, 2023. The event was organized by the Consulates General of France, Germany, and Italy in Jeddah, represented by their Excellencies Mrs. Catherine Corm-Kammoun, Dr. Eltje Aderhold, and Mr. Leonardo Costa.

May 8, 2023

Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research, held a meeting with Michael Köhler, Deputy Director General of the Directorate-General “European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operation” (DG ECHO) of the European Commission. They discussed the June 12, 2023 EU-GCC webinar on Humanitarian and Development Cooperation as well as the overall status of EU-GCC ties.



May 4, 2023

Dr. Zaid Al Fadeil, director of the Cultural and Media program at the Gulf Research Center participated in the 22nd Forum in Doha of the ‘Cooperation Council Countries, their History and Antiquities Through the Ages,’ which was organized by the Ibn Khaldoun Center with support from the Gulf History and Antiquities Society. More than 160 researchers and 40 papers were presented. The forum was held at Qatar University in Doha.



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