



## Global Leadership Program, Module 3: Global Economics

April 22-26, 2024



The Gulf Research Center Foundation (GRCF) and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) held the third one-week module of its Global Leadership Program on Global Economic Issues from April 22-26, 2024, in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Global Economics module focused on topics such as the shifting geo-economic trends; energy security in a time of crisis; sustainable development; effective leadership; Gulf countries in the global economic context; economy of oil and gas; emerging economies; industry, supply chain, role of technology; and monetary systems.

**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 past, current, 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



### ◆ GRC Events & Activities

Global Leadership Program  
- Global Economics Module

Tafahum wa Tabadul  
Workshop

14th Gulf Research Meeting  
2024

Gulf In-Depth Executive  
Learning Program

### ◆ GRC Partnership

Memorandum of  
Understanding with  
The European House -  
Ambrosetti

### ◆ GRC Programs

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

### ◆ GRC Publications

### ◆ GRC Participations

### ◆ GRC in the Media



This workshop was the second workshop dedicated to the concept of healthy urbanism with the idea to jointly develop an 'understanding' (tafahum) of sustainable cities in West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula (WAAP) held in Amman, Jordan. By the end of the century, about 600 million people, or half the population of the MENA region, are said to be exposed to recurrent super- and ultra-extreme heatwaves. It is estimated that over 90% will live in urban areas and have to cope with socially disruptive weather conditions (Zittis et al. 2021). Additionally, as certain groups are more vulnerable to such environmental stresses or have fewer resources, environmental justice is compromised.

In order to promote a multi-layered and interdisciplinary perspective on "healthy cities," different perspectives have been taken into account. These include urban infrastructure, climate change mitigation and adaptation, cities as spaces for cultural and identical belonging, and perspectives on sustainable architecture, mobility, and well-being. Against this backdrop, **the workshop addressed the following key questions:**

1. What does sustainability mean for urban development in the WAAP region?
2. How do you integrate security measures within the framework of urban planning and development aimed at fostering healthy, resilient, and environmentally sustainable cities?
3. How relevant is healthy urbanism for social security and collective resilience?
4. What are fields of mutual interest for enhancing cooperation in sustainable urban development?
5. What could concrete joint actions look like in a fragile region?

Based on those questions, the workshop participants discussed multi-dimensional and interdisciplinary aspects of sustainable urbanism in order to identify potential fields of joint action and avenues for transregional cooperation. The workshop convened distinguished stakeholders from academia, economy, architecture, urban planning, and arts and culture as well as medical experts and representatives from NGOs from the WAAP region.

The Tafahum wa Tabadul project seeks to enhance sustainable regional cooperation in West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula (WAAP). This includes the 6 GCC countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates), as well as Yemen, Iraq, and Iran. Tafahum wa Tabadul is implemented by CARPO – Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient and the Gulf Research Center Foundation (GRCF). The project started in October 2018 and is currently funded by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Switzerland.

# Opening Ceremony Announcement

(GRM) 2024



03

April 2024



Gulf Research Centre Cambridge  
Knowledge for All

Gulf Research Meeting

## Opening Ceremony Announcement

The Gulf Research Center (GRC) is pleased to announce the Opening Ceremony of the Gulf Research Meeting (GRM) 2024, scheduled to take place on July 9, 2024.

### Opening Ceremony Details:

**Date:** July 9, 2024, at 16:00 BST

**Location:** Cambridge, United Kingdom

### The Keynote speakers for the GRM 2024 Opening Ceremony are:

- **H.H. Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al-Saud**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- **H.E. Jasem Mohamed Albudaiwi**, Secretary-General of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf
- **The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland KC**, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth
- **H.E. Lolwah Rashid Al-Khater**, Minister of State for International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State of Qatar

This will be followed by a panel session. Speakers include:

- Ms. Manal Radwan, Senior Advisor to the Foreign Minister, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- H.E. Ambassador Nancy Jamal, The Chief of Strategic Affairs, Director of Human Resources, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Bahrain



For more details on the Gulf Research Meeting, please visit the website [here](http://www.gulfresearchmeetingandworkshops.com).

### GRM 2024 WORKSHOPS

This year's GRM workshops cover a wide range of topics in the fields of politics, economics, energy, security and the wider social sciences as they relate to the wider Gulf region (GCC countries in addition to Iraq and Yemen).

Access each workshop and read its full [description here](#).



#### Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The Gulf Research Center (GRC) is pleased to announce the launch of the 3rd edition of the Gulf In-Depth, a week-long intensive executive learning program focused on the strategic aspects of the Arab Gulf.

#### What is the 'Gulf In-Depth' Program?

- An innovative and in-depth executive learning program focusing on the key strategic aspects of the Arab Gulf region and its linkages to the international community.
- An opportunity to gain unprecedented knowledge and insight into the workings of the Arab Gulf region from knowledgeable practitioners and insiders.
- A program bringing together leaders from government, business, academia, and the independent sector for a week-long session of highly focused presentations and intense debate.
- An initial building block in the establishment of a life-long network of experts.
- Held in Riyadh, the capital of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the program incorporates an understanding of the region's development, including the rapid economic, social, and cultural progress experienced throughout the Gulf. This encompasses various aspects such as urbanization, infrastructure growth, economic diversification, technological advancements, and increased global interactions.

**Date:** The program will run from October 6 to 10, 2024.

**Location:** Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

The Gulf In-Depth is designed for diplomats, business leaders, academics, government officials, and media professionals who are interested in gaining a comprehensive understanding of the political, economic, and social dynamics of the Gulf region.



Fee: 3,200 USD/12,000 SAR.

To apply for the program, a completed online application form must be submitted to the Gulf Research Center. The deadline for registration is three months before the program date.

To register for the program, [click here](#).

For more information and details, [click here](#).



The Gulf Research Center (GRC) and The European House - Ambrosetti (TEHA), the first private think tank in Italy and among the top 10 in Europe, signed a Memorandum of Understanding on April 18, 2024. The goal of this cooperation is to enhance research, consultancy, and business collaborations, and to organize impactful events. To learn more about The European House - Ambrosetti, visit their

## GRC Programs

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

#### GLMM

An international independent, non-partisan, non-profit programme established in 2010, hosted and supported by the Gulf Research Center. The programme provides data, analyses, and recommendations contributing to the improvement of understanding and management of Gulf labour migration, population, and labour markets, engaging with, and respecting the viewpoints of all stakeholders. Website: [www.gulfmigration.grc.net](http://www.gulfmigration.grc.net)

#### Publications

Georges Naufal, "GCC Remittance Flows: Resiliency During Rough Seas," GLMM Policy Brief No. 9, April 2024

Françoise de Bel-Air, "Ageing in the Gulf States," GLMM Factsheet No. 10, April 2024

For all Factsheets: <https://gulfmigration.grc.net/publications/#Factsheets>

For all Policy Briefs: <https://gulfmigration.grc.net/publications/#briefs>

For all GLMM Publications: <https://gulfmigration.grc.net/publications/>

#### Database

For more than a decade GLMM has gathered, analyzed, and republished official data related to labour and migration from multiple sources of all 6 GCC states. The database contains more than 1,000 tables.

#### Country tables

- [Access Bahrain Database here](#)
- [Access Kuwait Database here](#)



- [Access Oman Database here](#)
- [Access Qatar Database here](#)
- [Access Saudi Arabia Database here](#)
- [Access UAE Database here](#)

#### GCC Regional Tables

GLMM also constructs unique GCC regional tables based exclusively on the official country data. [Access the regional tables here.](#)

#### Upcoming

**7 May 2024**

#### Project

Vision 2030 and the Socio-Economic Reform Process: The Future of Labor and Migration in Saudi Arabia

Meeting with national and international experts, national stakeholders, and international organizations

**12 June**

#### Webinar

Co-organized with Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS), Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, Doha

New Trends of Increasing Migration from Africa to the GCC



## GRC Podcast Activities

April 26, 2024

Dr. Zaid Alfadeil, Director of the GRC's Cultural and Media program interviewed Ambassador Essam Abed Al-Thaqafi. Watch the full episode [here](#).





The Gulf Research Center produces various 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 & Analyses



Iran and Russia: Allies to Build a New Order  
Emil Avdaliani  
April 2024

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### Iran and Russia Align to Build a New Order

Emil Avdaliani  
April 2024



Europe and Regional Security in the Gulf  
Dr. Christian Koch  
April 2024

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April 2024



GCC-CIS Relations: Developing Regional Cooperation  
Layla Ali  
April 2024

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### GCC-CIS Relations: Developing Regional Cooperation

Layla Ali  
April 2024



GCC-EU Ties are Progressing but Obstacles Remain  
Dr. Christian Koch  
April 2024

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### GCC-EU Ties are Progressing but Obstacles Remain Original Piece Published by (Arab News)

Dr. Christian Koch  
April 2024



Cultural Cooperation: Saudi Arabia and China  
Amnah Mosly  
April 2024

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### Cultural Cooperation: Saudi Arabia and China

Amnah Mosly  
April 2024



## Selected Arabic Articles and Research Papers



**Israel Bombed the Iranian Consulate in Damascus: A Clear Crossing of the Borders of the Conflict and Violating International Norms**

Dr. Abderrezzaq Gherraf  
April 2024



**The Present and Future of the Russian World: Reading a Russian document**

Prof. Saleh M. Alkhatlan  
April 2024



## Araa Magazine

#196 (April 2024)

The Gulf Vision for Regional Security:  
Starting Points - Goals - Joint Effort





In April 2024, 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 this month.

## April 30, 2024



Her Excellency Ana Milena Muñoz de Gaviria, the Non-resident Ambassador of Colombia to Saudi Arabia, was welcomed at the Gulf Research Center (GRC) office in Riyadh by Chairman Dr. Abdulaziz Sager. Her visit focused on gaining a deeper understanding of the GRC's recent initiatives, with a particular interest in the GCC-Latin America Research Program. This recently launched program aims to foster mutual understanding and promote cooperation between the Gulf Cooperation Council and Latin American countries, as well as enhance partnerships with research centers and official channels.

## April 30, 2024



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), chaired a panel session of the 'Saudi, German and European Perspectives on a Changing World: Middle East Peace, Maritime Security, Multipolar World?' in Riyadh organized by the Center for European Studies at Prince Saud Al-Faisal Institute for Diplomatic Studies (IDS) in cooperation with the German Embassy Riyadh and the German Institute for International and Security Affairs

(SWP). Dr. Sager chaired the session, which discussed multipolarity and the role and influence of the Arab Gulf and Europe in a complex world. Participating in the session was Prof. Volker Perthes, Senior Advisor SWP and former UN Under Secretary-General and Special Representative for Sudan.

## April 29, 2024



On April 29, 2024, Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), met at the GRC's office in Riyadh with the Senior Advisor to the European Institute of Peace (EIP), Mr. Patrick de Vries, accompanied by the EIP's Senior Advisor and former State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Sweden, Ms. Annika Söder, and the Programme Manager of the Middle East Programs at the EIP, Mr. Jamie Pleydell-Bouverie. During the meeting, various regional and international issues of common interest and ways of cooperation between the EIP and the GRC were discussed.

## April 29, 2024



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), received H.E. Mr. Diego Martínez Belío, Secretary of State for Foreign and Global Affairs of Spain, and his accompanying delegation, along with H.E. Mr. Jorge Hevia, Ambassador of Spain to Saudi Arabia at the GRC's office in Riyadh. Both sides discussed ways to enhance bilateral relations in fields of interest and ongoing regional developments.



## The delegation included:

- H.E. Ms. Carmen Magariños Casal, General Director for the Maghreb, Mediterranean and Middle East
- Ms. Maria Luisa Benítez-Donoso Tarascón, Chief of Staff
- Rt. Hon. Mr. Pablo Pérez Guerreira, Deputy Director General of the Middle East
- Mr. Sufyan Barhoum, Embassy Protocol Officer

## April 24 and 25, 2024



Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research attended the Third Conference on Promoting Regional Security in the Gulf/MENA Region hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland and the European External Action Service. The meeting brought together officials from European governments alongside representatives from European think tanks working on the projects related to Middle Eastern and Gulf security. H.E. Luigi Di Maio, the EU's Special Representative for the Gulf region attended the meeting and provided an overview of EU-GCC developments including the High-Level Forum on Regional Security and Cooperation that took place on April 22, 2024 in Luxemburg.

## April 24-27, 2024



Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program Director at the Gulf Research Center, presented a paper titled "Climate Change as an Emerging Security Threat: Cases from MENA Region", organized by Gulf Studies Center Qatar University and the International

Studies and Security Research Association Turkey in Bodrum, Turkey. The workshop was supported by NATO's Emerging Security Challenges Division under the Science for Peace and Security Programme.

## April 17, 2024



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated virtually as a speaker in a panel entitled 'Regional Politics: Shifting Alliances Amid Rising Instability' at the 8th edition of the #Sulaimani\_Forum that took place from April 17-18, 2024, at the American University of Iraq-Sulaimani, organized by the Institute of Regional and International Studies (IRIS). The forum opened with keynote speeches from Barham A. Salih, former President of Iraq, Nechirvan Idris Barzani, President of the Kurdistan Region, and Mr. Ammar al-Hakim, Head of the National Wisdom Movement. Watch Dr. Sager's participation in the panel session here: <https://t.co/Z9wRDmiYA4>



GRC media participation can be accessed at [here](#), at the GRC official YouTube channel.



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated in the Al-Sharq TV (Bloomberg) news channel in an episode entitled 'Blinken's tour and the Arab road map' in which he discussed the meeting between the US and the Six-Party Ministerial Meeting that convened in Riyadh. Watch the full episode [here](#).



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC) participated in the Huna Riyadh News Channel discussing the Six-Party Ministerial Meeting that convened in Riyadh. Watch the full episode [here](#).

Al-Arabiya news program discussing U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken's visit to the Middle East in search of ways to secure a ceasefire in Gaza. Watch the full episode [here](#).



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), was a guest on the 'Politics Time' podcast program with Tariq Al-Humaid on AlArabiyaFM, Access the full episode [here](#).



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated in an Iraqi news program on 'Ras Al-Sat' in an episode entitled 'Iran threatens Israel and Europe with intercontinental missiles.' Watch the full episode [here](#).



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), discussed the Gulf's perspective on the role of Europe in the Red Sea in an interview on DW Arabia during which he examined the remarks made by the EU High Representative for



التشرق الأوسط  
صحيفة العرب الأولى

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the GRC, participated in the



Foreign Affairs/Vice-President of the European Commission, Mr. Josep Borrell at a press conference on EUNAVFOR ASPIDES. Watch the full episode [here](#).



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated on the Radio Monte Carlo International program on the anniversary of the seventh pledge of allegiance for the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman. Watch the full episode [here](#).

الشرق الأوسط  
صحيفة العرب الأولى



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), was interviewed by Asharq Al-Awsat in an article entitled 'Who benefits from destabilizing the security of Jordan? Riyadh stressed that the security of Amman is a red line.' Access the full article [here](#).



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), participated in a TV interview on AlArabiya news channel in an episode entitled 'A new visit by US National Security Advisory Jack Sullivan to Saudi Arabia.' Watch the full interview [here](#).



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# GULF RESEARCH CENTER NEWSLETTER **APRIL 2024**



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