



## GRC Events & Activities

### 16th Gulf Research Meeting 2026 Call for Workshop Proposal: **NOW OPEN**

GRM 2026 – Call for Workshop Proposals

**16th Annual Gulf Research Meeting**

The Most Prominent Global Academic Meeting on the Gulf

Cambridge, UK, 21-23 July, 2026



Gulf Research Centre Cambridge  
Knowledge for All

Deadline: 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025



### The Gulf Research Center Announces the 16th Gulf Research

The Gulf Research Center (GRC) is delighted to announce that the **16th Gulf Research Meeting (GRM)** will take place from **July 21–23, 2026**, at the University of Cambridge, UK.

Since its inception, the GRM has become a leading international platform for in-depth academic exchange and policy debate on the Gulf region. It brings together scholars, experts,

policymakers, and practitioners to share research, explore critical issues, and advance collaborative solutions on the most pressing topics facing the Gulf and its international partners.

**The Call for Workshop Proposals** is now open, and we warmly invite scholars and specialists from around the world to submit proposals to direct a workshop. Proposals may address a

#### ◆ GRC Events & Activities

16th Gulf Research Meeting 2026: Call for Workshop Proposals

#### ◆ GRC Publications

#### ◆ GRC Programs

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

Environmental Security and Sustainability Program

Cultural & Media Program

#### ◆ GRC Participations

#### ◆ GRC in the Media



wide range of themes, including but not limited to:

- Societies and culture
- Economies and trade
- Politics and governance
- International relations and diplomacy
- Defense and security
- Energy and resources
- Sustainable development
- Climate and the environment

While a number of suggested themes are listed on the

call poster, we emphasize that the Call is open to **all topics in the social sciences related to the Gulf**, and we encourage innovative, high-quality proposals that push new boundaries of research and policy thinking.

**Access the Call for Workshop Proposals [here](#).**

**Click [here](#) to submit your Workshop Proposal Application.**

The deadline for receipt of proposals is **September 29, 2025**.

We look forward to receiving your proposals and to welcoming participants to Cambridge in 2026 for what promises to be a dynamic and impactful meeting.







The Gulf Research Center (GRC) continues to provide in-depth analysis and thought leadership on key regional and global developments. Our latest publications in March cover a wide range of topics, from U.S. foreign policy under Trump's second term to Saudi Arabia's evolving diplomatic role in global affairs. We also explore sustainable development in the Gulf, Russia's repositioning in the Middle East, and Gulf relations with Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

Below are some of our most recent works:

## Commentary & Analyses



### The "Greater Israel" Vision and the Urgency of Regional and International Action

Hannan Alghamdi  
August 2025



### The International North-South Transport Corridor

Emil Avdaliani  
August 2025



### Values, Symbolism, or Strategy? Europe's Fault Lines on Palestinian Statehood

Houda Barroug  
August 2025



The "Greater Israel" Vision and the Urgency of Regional and International Action

Hannan Alghamdi

August 2025



[The International North-South Transport Corridor](#)

Emil Avdaliani

August 2025



[Values, Symbolism, or Strategy? Europe's Fault Lines on Palestinian Statehood](#)

Houda Barroug

August 2025



### AI, Work and the Future of Employment

Dr. John Sfakianakis  
Originally Published on Arab News [here](#)  
August 2025



### The Global Plastics Treaty: Optimism amidst Frustration

Mohamed Abdelraouf\*  
August 2025



### Bridging the Caucasus: Gulf Perspectives on the Armenia-Azerbaijan Peace Deal and Its Geostategic Implications

Layla Ali  
August 2025



[AI, Work and the Future of Employment](#)  
[Originally Published on Arab News](#)

Dr. John Sfakianakis

August 2025



[The Global Plastics Treaty: Optimism amidst Frustration](#)

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf

August 2025



[Bridging the Caucasus: Gulf Perspectives on the Armenia-Azerbaijan Peace Deal and Its Geostategic Implications](#)

Layla Ali

August 2025



## Commentary & Analyses



Gulf Research Center  
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### The FIBA Asia Cup in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Amnah Mosly  
August 2025



Gulf Research Center  
Knowledge for All

### Dubai's High-Rise Paradox: Peak, Pause, or the New Normal?

Dr. John Sfakianakis  
August 2025



Gulf Research Center  
Knowledge for All

### The Great Corridor Conundrum

Originally Published on Arab News  
Dr. John Sfakianakis  
August 2025

### [The FIBA Asia Cup in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia](#)

Amnah Mosly  
August 2025

### [Dubai's High-Rise Paradox: Peak, Pause, or the New Normal?](#)

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### [The Great Corridor Conundrum](#)

Originally Published on Arab News Dr.  
John Sfakianakis  
August 2025



### Game Changer: Opportunities and Challenges for Saudi Arabia's Sports Diplomacy

Amnah Mosly  
August 2025



Gulf Research Center  
Knowledge for All

### The Lee Jae-myung Administration's Pursuit of Closer Korea-Middle East Relations

Ambassador (Ret.) Joon Yong Park\*  
August 2025



### High-Level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution: The Next Step

Prof. Saleh M. Alkhatlan (Senior Advisor) - Muhammad S. Alzoubi (Researcher)  
Gulf Research Center

### [Challenges for Saudi Arabia's Sports Diplomacy](#)

Amnah Mosly  
August 2025

### [The Lee Jae-myung Administration's Pursuit of Closer Korea-Middle East Relations](#)

Ambassador (Ret.) Joon Yong Park  
August 2025

### [High-Level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution: The Next Step](#)

Prof. Saleh M. Alkhatlan and  
Mohammad S. Alzoubi  
August 2025



## Commentary &amp; Analyses

Gulf Research Center  
Knowledge for All**The End of Ambiguity:  
A Global Call for a Two-State Solution**Amnah Mosly  
July 2025

25

[The End of Ambiguity: A Global Call for a Two-State Solution](#)

Amnah Mosly

August 2025

## Selected Arabic Articles

**مؤتمر نيويورك والامتناع الأمريكي: كيف يمكن دفع الولايات المتحدة للانخراط في حل الدولتين**محمد بن طارق الزمعي  
ياست أول  
مركز الخليج للأبحاث

25

[The New York Conference and the US Abstention: How to Push the United States to Engage in the Two-State Solution](#)

Mohammad S. Alzou'bi

August 2025

**قمة ألاسكا: هل تعيد السلام لأوكرانيا؟**د. صالح بن محمد الختلي  
ياست أول  
مركز الخليج للأبحاث

25

[Alaska Summit: Will it Restore Peace to Ukraine?](#)

Prof. Saleh Bin Mohammed Al Khatlan

August 2025

## Selected Arabic Articles

**الاعتراف الفرنسي بالدولة الفلسطينية «حدود الجدوى»:  
تحول استراتيجي في الموقف من إسرائيل أم إعادة توضع ضمن سياسة اللواتن الحذر**د. عبد الزواق غزاف  
ياست أول  
مركز الخليج للأبحاث

25

[French Recognition of the Palestinian State: "Limits of Usefulness"](#)

Dr. Abderrezzaq Gherraf

August 2025

**الاعتراف البريطاني بالدولة الفلسطينية في مؤتمر نيويورك 2025:  
الأهمية والمراميل والدوافع والأشراطات والسيناريوهات المحتملة  
(ورقة بحثية تحليلية)**يوسف كامل خطاب  
ياست أول  
مركز الخليج للأبحاث

25

[British Recognition of the Palestinian State at the 2025 New York Conference: Significance, Stages, Motives, Conditions, and Possible Scenarios](#)

Dr. Yousef Kamil Khattab

August 2025

**تحول الموقف العراقي تجاه حل الدولتين في ضوء المبادرة السعودية**د. رشا العزاوي  
ياست أول  
مركز الخليج للأبحاث

25

[Iraq's Evolving Stance on the Two-State Solution in the Context of the Saudi Peace Initiative](#)

Dr. Rasha Al Azzawi

August 2025

## Selected Arabic Articles



## Araa Magazine



## Country Updates & Trade Reports



[High-Level International Conference on the Peaceful Settlement of the Palestinian Question and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution: The Next Step.](#)

Prof. Saleh M. Al Khathlan, Mohammad S. Alzou'bi

August 2025

Issue #212 (August 2025)

[The Domination of Power over International Relations and the Decline of International Law and UN Organizations](#)

Netherlands-GCC Relations

Gulf Research Center

August 2025

## Country Updates & Trade Reports



Greece-GCC Relations

Gulf Research Center

August 2025



U.S. - GCC Relations

Gulf Research Center

August 2025



Spain-GCC Relations

Gulf Research Center

August 2025



Hungary-GCC Relations

Gulf Research Center

August 2025



China-GCC Relations

Gulf Research Center

August 2025



India-GCC Relations

Gulf Research Center

August 2025



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



### **GLMM**

The Gulf Labour Markets, Migration, and Population Programme (GLMM) is an international, independent, non-partisan, non-profit programme established in 2010 and is hosted and supported by the Gulf Research Center. The programme provides data, analyses, and recommendations contributing to the improvement of the understanding and management of Gulf labour migration, population, and labour markets, engaging with and respecting the viewpoints of all stakeholders. Visit the website [here](#).

### **Data**

For fifteen years, GLMM has gathered, analyzed, and published official data related to labour and migration from multiple sources of all six GCC states. The database contains more than 1,000 tables.

### **Country tables**

- Access Bahrain Data [here](#)
- Access Kuwait Data [here](#)
- Access Oman Data [here](#)
- Access Qatar Data [here](#)
- Access Saudi Arabia Data [here](#)
- Access UAE Data [here](#)

### **GCC regional tables**

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

**Contact: Mr. Imco Brouwer:** [imco.brouwer@grc.net](mailto:imco.brouwer@grc.net)





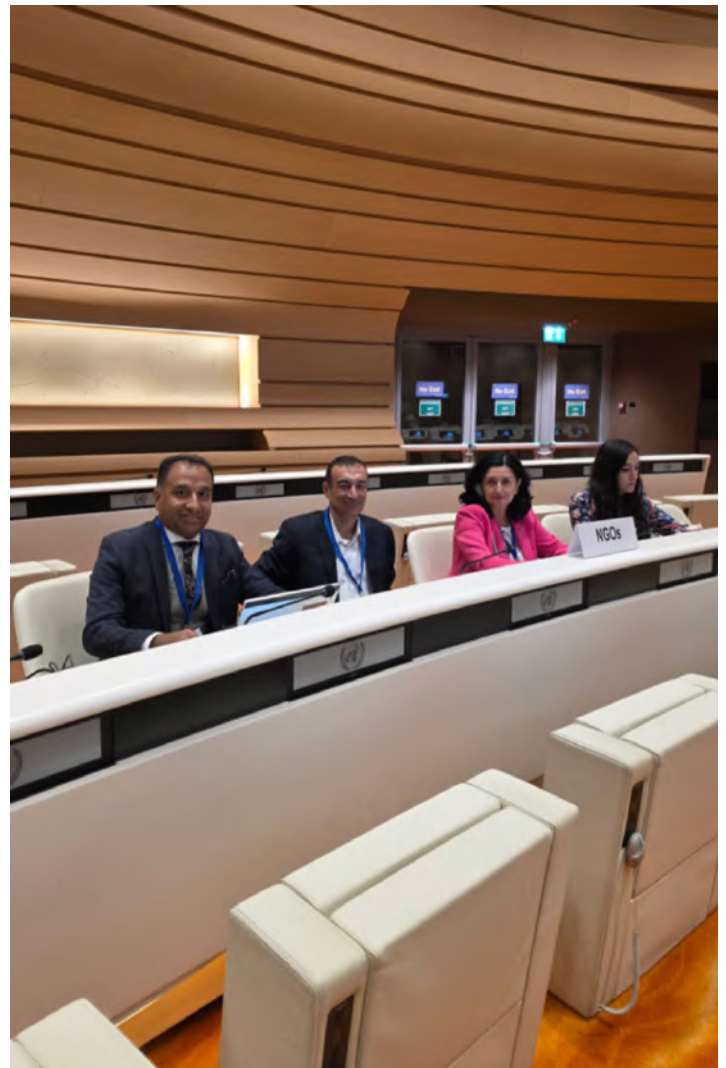
## Environmental Security and Sustainability Program

### 1 August 2025

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program Director at the Gulf Research Center participated in the fifth virtual meeting with the Africa Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace for the project Alternative Jurisdictions and Instruments of Climate Finance for Africa. The meeting focused on preparations and the agenda for the first authors workshop in Abu Dhabi planned to be held in October 2025.

### 10-15 August 2025

Dr. Mohamed Abdelraouf, Environmental Security and Sustainability Research Program Director at the Gulf Research Center participated in The Resumed Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to Develop an International Legally Binding Instrument on Plastic Pollution, including in the Marine Environment (INC-5.2) was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from August 5 to 15, 2025, attended by over 2,600 delegates, representing 183 member states and about 400 observer organizations, including academia, NGOs, waste pickers, indigenous peoples, women, youth, as well as fossil fuel and chemical industry lobbyists. Seventy ministers and vice ministers, as well as 30 other high-level representatives, also attended and participated in informal roundtables on the margins of the session. Dr. Raouf attended the Civil Society coordination and preparations meeting.







## Cultural & Media Program



### Publications

August 20, 2025

The GRC's Cultural & Media Program published a paper titled "Is Culture the Soft Power for Change?" Access the full paper [here](#).





## August 31, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), met with H.E. Mr. Stephen Hitchen, Ambassador of the United Kingdom to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at the GRC office in Riyadh on August 31, 2025. Their discussions covered areas of mutual interest, including the GRC's annual Gulf Research Meeting (GRM) at the University of Cambridge, UK-Gulf relations, and recent regional developments.

## August 28, 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center (GRC), met with Mr. Daniel Gerlach, Chief Editor of Zenith and Head of the Candid Foundation along with HE Mr. Thomas Schneider, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Yemen at the GRC's office in Riyadh on August 28, 2025. The discussions centered on Gulf-German relations and explored areas of mutual interest.

## August 26-27, 2025

Dr. Christian Koch, Executive Manager of the Gulf Research Center Foundation in Brussels and Director of Research at the Gulf Research Center, conducted a series of meetings with senior officials at the European Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS).

The discussions primarily focused on the joint GRC-Bertelsmann Foundation Survey on "Promoting MENA Prosperity and Stability in the Context of EU-GCC Relations" and its potential contribution to the EU's broader regional approach, particularly in relation to the Pact for the Mediterranean. Additional exchanges addressed the current status of EU-GCC ties as well as opportunities for joint activities and avenues for future cooperation.





**Dr. Koch met with the following officials during his visit:**

**Michael Karnitschnig**, Deputy Director-General, DG MENA–Middle East, North Africa, Gulf, European Commission

**Gurvan Le Bas**, Deputy Head, Policy Planning and Strategic Foresight Division, EEAS

**Florin Nita**, Chief of Staff, Office of the EU Special Representative for the Gulf, EEAS

**Lucio Demichele**, Political Advisor, Office of the EU Special Representative for the Gulf Region, EEAS

**Birgit Loeser**, Head of Division MENA.1 Regional Affairs, EEAS

**Ilze Zelgalve**, Desk Officer for Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and League of Arab States (LAS), MENA.1 – Regional Affairs, EEAS

**Ingo Schendel**, Policy Officer, OIC Desk, MENA.1 – Regional Affairs, EEAS

**Georgia Papagianni**, Member of Cabinet, Cabinet of Commissioner Dubravka Šuica, European Commission

**Raül Hernández Sagrera**, Member of Cabinet, Cabinet of Commissioner Dubravka Šuica, European Commission

**Henrike Trautmann**, Principal Advisor for Reconstruction in Gaza, Director of DG MENA B: Middle East

**Ruta Zarnauskaite**, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Yemen, MENA C.2, European Commission

**Leonetta Pae**, Deputy Head of Unit, Gulf Cooperation Council, Strategic Cooperation on Investment Promotion and Financial Instruments, DG MENA – Middle East, North Africa, Gulf, European Commission

**Martin Dudermel**, Desk Officer, Yemen, DG for International Partnerships (INTPA), European Commission

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

25 August 2025



Layla Ali, Senior Research Fellow at the Gulf Research Center published an analysis in Report.az on the Armenia-Azerbaijan peace deal, highlighting its broader significance for Gulf states and the Middle Corridor's geostrategic implications.

[Read here](#)

25 August 2025



Dr. Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center appeared on "World at Noon" on BBC Arabic to discuss "The Extraordinary Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on the Ongoing Israeli Aggression Against the Palestinian People."

[Watch here](#)

17 August 2025



Dr. Abderrezzaq Gherraf, Senior Researcher at the Gulf Research Center intervened on Algeria International TV commenting on the U.S.-Russia Summit in Alaska.

[Watch here](#)

7 August 2025



Dr. Zaid A. Alfadeil, Director of the Cultural and Media Program at the Gulf Research Center appeared on "Eye of Five" on Al-Ekhbariya Channel, discussing the launch of the Libraries Commission's pilot phase of the "Cultural Houses" project in five new cities.

[Watch here](#)





6 August 2025



The Gulf Research Center released a commemorative video titled "GRC at 25: A Legacy of Knowledge and Impact," honoring its 25th anniversary.

[Watch here](#)



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# GULF RESEARCH CENTER NEWSLETTER **AUGUST 2025**



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