

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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# THE GULF IN-DEPTH

**Executive Learning Program**

**6-10 October, 2024**

**Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

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ORGANIZED BY:



**Gulf Research Center**  
Knowledge for All

## Welcome Message

### Dear Participants,

Welcome to the Gulf In-Depth Executive Learning Program. I am delighted to welcome you to this week-long journey of discovery and learning. This program has been carefully designed to offer an in-depth understanding of the Arabian Gulf's evolving role in global affairs, focusing on the political, economic, and social dynamics that define our region.

Throughout this week, you will engage with leading experts from across the GCC states, each bringing unique insights into the challenges and opportunities that shape the Gulf's interaction with the international community. I hope the knowledge shared during these sessions will broaden your perspectives and equip you with valuable tools to address the complexities of today's global environment.

We believe that this program will foster meaningful discussions, inspire collaboration, and create lasting networks.

We wish you a productive and enlightening experience.

Sincerely,

Dr. Abdulaziz Sager  
Chairman  
Gulf Research Center

## Day 1

### The Gulf in Transition

Sunday, October 6, 2024

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM | Registration and Welcome Coffee

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM

#### Opening Remarks & Program Introduction

*Dr. Abdulaziz Sager – Chairman, Gulf Research Center.*

*Prof. Saleh AlKhathlan – Senior Advisor, Gulf Research Center.*

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM | Session 1:

#### An Overview of the Arab Gulf's Historical Development

*Dr. Abdulaziz Sager – Chairman, Gulf Research Center.*

This session will provide a comprehensive overview of the historical trajectory of the Arab Gulf region, tracing the evolution of its political, economic, and social structures. Participants will gain insights into the key events and forces that have shaped the region's current dynamics, including the discovery of oil and the formation of modern nation-states.

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM | Coffee Break

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM | Session 2:

#### Exploring Visions and Plans in the GCC states

*Dr. Tahani Alterkait – Advisor for Research and Studies, Secretariat General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).*

This session examines the ambitious educational reforms and initiatives undertaken by GCC countries as part of their national visions, such as Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 and the UAE's Vision 2021. Dr. Alterkait will delve into how these initiatives aim to transform the educational landscape to meet the needs of a knowledge-based economy, including curriculum overhauls, investment in higher education, and the integration of technology in classrooms. The discussion will also address challenges and opportunities in aligning these educational initiatives with broader socio-economic goals.

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | Lunch Break

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM | Session 3:

#### Gulf Society as a Driver of Change

*H.E. Hoda Al-Helaissi – Member, Saudi Shura Council in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.*

This session will analyze the evolving role of Gulf society as a catalyst for change in the region. H.E. Hoda Al-Helaissi will discuss how demographic shifts, increased youth engagement and the empowerment of women are reshaping societal norms. The session will highlight the interplay between tradition and modernity, exploring how Gulf societies are navigating these dynamics to foster progress while maintaining cultural integrity.



## Day 2

### The Political Environment in the Gulf Region

Monday, October 7, 2024

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM | Coffee and Networking

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM | Session 4:

#### The Gulf in a New World Order

*Prof. Saleh AlKhathlan – Senior Advisor, Gulf Research Center.*

This session will analyze the Gulf's position and role in the emerging global order. Prof. Saleh Al-Khathlan will discuss the shifts in global power dynamics, the rise of new economic and political blocs, and the implications of these changes for the Gulf region. The session will explore how GCC countries are navigating the complexities of a multipolar world, balancing their relationships with traditional allies and emerging powers. Participants will gain insights into the strategic adjustments required for the Gulf to maintain its influence and secure its interests in this evolving international landscape.

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM | Coffee Break

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM | Session 5:

#### Public Policy in the Gulf

*Prof. Suzan AlQurashi – Full Professor of Public Administration & Public Policy, King Abdulaziz University.*

This session will provide an overview of public policy formulation and implementation in Gulf countries, using Saudi Arabia as a case study. Prof. Suzan AlQurashi will explore the mechanisms through which policies are developed, the role of government institutions, and the impact of public policy on national development goals. The session will also provide examples from across the Gulf to illustrate the challenges of policy-making in a rapidly changing environment, including the need for policy innovation and cross-sectoral collaboration.

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | Lunch Break

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM | Session 6:

#### Outlook and Role of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

*Prof. Asa'ad AlShamlan – Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for European Studies, Prince Saud Al Faisal Institute for Diplomatic Studies.*

This session will examine the role of the GCC as a regional organization, its achievements, and its challenges in fostering cooperation among member states. Professor Asa'ad AlShamlan will discuss the GCC's influence on regional stability, economic integration, and collective security. The session will also consider the future trajectory of the GCC in light of evolving geopolitical dynamics and the need for greater coordination among its members.

## Day 3

### The Gulf Economy

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM | Coffee and Networking

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM | Session 7:

#### The Gulf in the Global Economic Context

*Dr. Omar Al-Ubaydli – Director of Research, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat).*

This session will explore the Gulf region's strategic position and influence in the global economy. Dr. Omar Al-Ubaydli will analyze the region's economic ties with major global powers and the impact of global economic trends on the Gulf. The session will also address the region's efforts to diversify its economies and integrate into the global economic system, highlighting key challenges and opportunities in this process.

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM | Coffee Break

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM | Session 8:

#### Oil, Gas, and Energy Markets in the Gulf

*Dr. Aisha Al-Sarihi – Research Fellow, Middle East Institute (MEI) of the National University of Singapore (NUS).*

This session will provide a detailed examination of the Gulf region's energy sector, focusing on oil, gas, and emerging energy markets. Dr. Aisha Al-Sarihi will discuss the current state of the energy markets, the role of the Gulf as a leading energy supplier and the impact of global energy transitions on the region. The session will also explore the challenges facing the energy sector, including fluctuating oil prices, the shift towards renewable energy.

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | Lunch Break

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM | Session 9:

#### Challenges to Economic Diversification in the GCC States

*Dr. Raja Al Marzooqi – GCC Chief Negotiator & Chief Economic Advisor, Saudi Ministry of Economic and Planning (MEP).*

This session will address the obstacles and opportunities related to economic diversification in GCC countries. Dr. Raja Al Marzooqi will examine the region's reliance on oil revenues and the efforts to diversify into sectors such as finance, tourism, and technology. The session will also discuss the long-term sustainability of diversification strategies.

## Day 4

### The Gulf Foreign and Security Issues

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM | Coffee and Networking

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM | Session 10:

#### The Foreign and Security Policies of the GCC States

*Amnah Ibraheem – Senior Advisor to the Emergency Management Center, Secretariat General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).*

This session will provide an overview of the foreign and security policies of GCC countries, focusing on their strategic priorities and responses to regional and international challenges. Amnah Ibraheem will analyze the key factors shaping these policies and their impact on regional stability and the broader Middle East.

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM | Coffee Break

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM | Session 11:

#### Security Challenges in the Middle East and GCC Responses: The GCC States and External Powers

*Dr. Yousuf Al-Bulushi – Geopolitical Analyst, Independent.*

This session will analyze the security challenges facing the Middle East and the responses of GCC states, particularly in the context of their relations with external powers. Yousuf Albulushi will discuss the evolving security landscape, including the rise of non-state actors, regional conflicts, and the influence of global powers in the region.

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | Lunch Break

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM | Session 12:

#### Regional Security Structure: GCC Perspectives

*H.E. Manal Radwan – Senior Advisor on Iran, Regional Security & Middle East Peace Process, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (MOFA).*

This session will delve into the regional security structures from the perspectives of GCC countries. Dr. Manal Radwan will discuss the frameworks and mechanisms that GCC states have developed to ensure regional security and multilateral security cooperation. The session will also examine the challenges and opportunities in enhancing these structures in response to emerging threats, offering insights into the future of regional security in the Gulf.

3:30 PM | Site Visit to Diriyah

At the end of Day 4, participants will be transported via shuttle to Diriyah, approximately a 30-minute drive. Upon arrival, we will embark on a one-hour guided tour of the At-Turaif District, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the birthplace of the first Saudi state.

Following the tour, we will have an early dinner at Takya Restaurant at Bujairi Terrace in Diriyah.

7:00 PM

We will head back, with the shuttle making two stops:

- First at the GRC office
- Second at Centro Olaya, arriving around 8:00 PM.

\*All materials and further information can be accessed through the GID platform using your login user details.



## Day 5

### The Gulf Moving Forward

Thursday, October 10, 2024

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM | Coffee and Networking

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM | Session 13:

#### The Post-Oil Gulf: Climate Change and the Environment

*Prof. Waleed Khalil Zubari – Professor of Water Resources, Regional Arabian Gulf University (AGU).*

This session will delve into the interconnected challenges of water, food, and energy in the Gulf region within the context of climate change impacts in a post-oil era. Prof. Waleed Zubari will analyze the region's vulnerability to climate change, focusing on how these environmental shifts affect water resources, food security, and energy sustainability. The discussion will also highlight the efforts of GCC countries to mitigate environmental risks through innovative practices aimed at fostering a resilient and sustainable future.

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM | Coffee Break

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM | Session 14:

#### Understanding the Gulf: The Role of the Media

*Faisal J. Abbas – Editor-In-Chief, Arab News.*

This session will explore the critical role of media in shaping perceptions and understanding of the Gulf region, both within and beyond its borders. The session will examine how media narratives influence public opinion and international relations. The session will also discuss the challenges and opportunities for the Gulf media landscape in the digital age and the need for effective communication strategies to project the Gulf's image and interests on the world stage.

1:00 PM – 1:15 PM | Program Evaluation

**Participants will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the program, helping to improve future editions.**

1:15 PM – 2:00 PM | Closing Lunch

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM | Program Closing Session

#### Closing Session and Reflections

*Prof. Saleh AlKhathlan – Senior Advisor, Gulf Research Center.*



## Speaker Biographies



**Dr. Abdulaziz Sager** is a Saudi strategic expert specializing in international politics and regional security issues, and he is the Founder and Chairman of the Gulf Research Center. Dr. Sager has also been a visiting professor at a number of universities, and member of various councils, advisory and academic committees, institutes and international research centers. He participates in international and regional conferences that address issues pertaining to the Gulf region. Notably, he has authored and edited numerous

publications and has many articles in local and international newspapers related to Gulf affairs and regional issues, and he frequently contributes to major international media outlets. He is also the editor-in-chief of “Araa” a monthly Arabic-language magazine focused on Gulf affairs and is the editor-in-chief of “The Gulf Yearbook.” Dr. Sager holds a PhD in politics and international relations from Lancaster University.



**Dr. Tahani Nouri Alterkait** is the Secretary's General Advisor for Research and Studies at the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf – Riyadh. Since January 2023, Dr. Alterkait is an Honorary Research Fellow at the School of Government and International Affairs – Durham University – UK. Before joining the GCC, Dr. Alterkait was teaching politics and international relations at the American University of Kuwait – Department of International Relations. She earned her PhD in Politics and

International Affairs from Durham University-UK. She defended her thesis in 2017 titled: ‘The Conceptual and Constitutional Underpinnings of Kuwait’s System of Government’. She is also a member at the London based Centre of international Studies and Diplomacy (CISD) where she received her master’s degree in International Studies and Diplomacy from School of Oriental and African Studies – University of London. Before pursuing her higher education, Dr. Alterkait worked for Kuwait’s public sector for 15 years serving her country as a diplomat, researcher and consultant in International relations and public diplomacy. The hallmark of her career was when she served Kuwait as the first female Press attaché at the Information Office of the Embassy of Kuwait in Washington DC (2001-2007). Both her academic and professional experiences have shaped her research interests in politics and society with special focus on the Gulf region and the Arab World. Her published work covered areas in democracy, political and constitutional reforms in Kuwait and the Arab World and gender politics. Through her current position at the GCC, Dr. Alterkait is aiming to promote the joint Gulf action by focusing on research, culture, women issues and environment. She profoundly believes that investing in youth, education and research are the pillars for a thriving, prosperous future for all.



**H.E. Ms. Hoda Al-Helaissi** has been a member of Saudi Arabia's Shura Council from 2013 to 2024, being among the first 30 women to be appointed. Her membership was renewed in 2016 and 2020 and the maximum service period on the Shura Council is 3 terms of 4 years, totalling 12 years. She served as vice-chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee from 2014 to 2021. Before joining the Shoura Council, Ms. Al-Helaissi was a lecturer at the College of Languages and Translation at King Saud University, where she also served as vice-chairperson from 1999 to 2012. She

holds a master's degree in French Language and Literature from Colorado State University and a bachelor's degree in French with an English subsidiary from Queen Mary College, University of London. Ms. Al-Helaissi has been recognized internationally, receiving the Order of the Academic Palm in 2009 and the Knight of the Legion of Honor for her contributions to Saudi-French relations.



**Prof. Saleh Mohammed Al Khathlan** is a Professor of Political Science and Senior Advisor at the Gulf Research Center. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Kansas, USA, in 1993. Dr. Al-Khathlan's career spans academia, governance, and human rights advocacy. In academia, he served as the Dean of the College of Law and Political Science at King Saud University from 2011 to 2013, and previously headed the Department of Political Science from 2006 to 2008. His governmental experience includes membership in the Shura Council from 2017 to 2020, where he chaired the Foreign Affairs Committee

from 2018 to 2020. Dr. Al-Khathlan has been actively involved in human rights work, serving as Vice President of the National Society for Human Rights from 2012 to 2022 and as a member of the Independent Permanent Commission for Human Rights of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation from 2011 to 2017. He also represented the Arab Group in the Committee for the Promotion of Respect for International Humanitarian Law in the Inter-Parliamentary Union from 2017 to 2020. His research focuses on Saudi foreign policy, Middle Eastern politics, and international relations. Dr. Al-Khathlan has authored numerous papers and studies on topics ranging from Saudi-Russian relations to the impact of the Arab Spring on the Gulf region.





**Dr. Suzan Al Qurashi** is a Full Professor of Public Policy and Organizational Behavior at King Abdulaziz University, where she held the position of Department Chair for the Department of Public Administration for three terms. She is also a member of the King Abdulaziz Board of Trustees (the first board of trustees in the Saudi government universities) and a part time consultant at the Gulf Research Center (GRC). She holds a Ph.D. from Brunel University, London, and a master's degree in public administration from King

Saud University, as well as a certificate in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School. Dr. Suzan led the Social Cohesion and State Team during Saudi Arabia's G20 Presidency in 2020 and was a member of the Saudi delegation at the Arab Women and South American Women Forum in Peru. Dr. Suzan's work includes numerous publications in ISI-indexed journals. She received the University President's Award for Excellence in ISI Publishing in Social Sciences (2016-2017) and the Excellence in Scientific Publishing Award (2018). She has led research teams on public policy implementation in Saudi ministries and served as a consultant for research centers. Dr. Suzan is a member of the British Academy of Management (BAM), the Academy of Management (AOM), and the editorial board of the International Journal of Business and Public Administration. She is also affiliated with the European Institute for Advanced Studies in Management (EIASM) in Brussels.



**Dr. Asaad Alshamlan** is Associate Professor of Political Science & International Relations and Director of the Center for European Studies at Prince Saud Al Faisal Institute for Diplomatic Studies in Riyadh. He worked (among other things) as a political consultant for the General Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) from 2012-2014. His teaching, research and publications relates to: Gulf security, Saudi-American relations, Saudi-British relations, GCC-EU relations, Saudi-Russian relations, Saudi-Chinese relations, Political Islam, Foreign Policy Analysis, contemporary theories of international politics, The Concept of The Political, and Post-Structuralist

approaches in political analysis. He holds a BA(Honors) from Carleton University-Canada, and MA. and Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Essex-UK.





**Dr. Omar Al-Ubaydli** is the Director of Research at the Bahrain Center for Strategic, International, and Energy Studies (Derasat). He also serves as the Director of Economics and Energy Studies at the center. In addition to his work at Derasat, he is an affiliated associate professor of economics at George Mason University and an affiliated senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center. Dr. Al-Ubaydli earned his BA in Economics from the University of Cambridge and his MA and PhD in Economics from the University of Chicago. His research focuses on political economy, experimental economics, and the economics of the GCC countries.



**Aisha Al-Sarihi** is a Research Fellow at the Middle East Institute (MEI) of the National University of Singapore (NUS). She is also a Research Associate at Chatham House, and a Non-Resident Fellow the Middle East Council on Global Affairs (MECGA) and the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington (AGSIW). Her other areas of research include political economy, geopolitics, policy and governance of energy transition, climate and environment, with a focus on the Middle East and Southeast Asia. She authored several publications, including articles in Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, Environmental Policy and Governance, Renewable Energy and Climate Policy journal. Her research has been featured in different international media outlets including The New York Times, Financial Times, Reuters, Associated Press, AFP, Al Arabiya, Asia Times, China Daily among many others. Dr Al-Sarihi holds a PhD from the Centre for Environmental Policy at Imperial College London.



**Dr. Raja M. Almarzoqi** is the GCC Chief Negotiator, the Chief Economic Advisor at the Ministry of Economic and Planning, faculty member in Economic Division at Prince Saud Alfaisal Institute for Diplomatic Studies, and Expert at the IMF. He was a president of Gulf Monetary Council (GMCO); prior to GMCO he was an Advisor at the IMF, Washington, DC. In addition, Raja worked as a consultant to many government, private organizations, Regional and International Organizations (World Bank, ARAMCO, General Investment Authority (SAGIA), Supreme Commission for Tourism, Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the

Gulf (GCC), Alkhabeer Capital and KACST...etc). He has teaching/lecturing experience at (King Saud University; MIT Sloan Management School; International Monetary Fund; Thunderbird Global Business School) in several subjects in economics. Also, he was a board member in several organizations and Funds. Mr. Almarzoqi is specialized in policy modeling for macroeconomic impact assessment, Money and Banking, international finance, and Finance. He presented research papers at major local and international conferences and published papers in major Middle East journals and book and chapter in books. Mr. Almarzoqi holds a B.A. from King Saud University in economics, M.A. from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in Quantitative economics and Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater in economics and finance



**Dr. Amnah Ibraheem** is a Senior Advisor to the GCC Emergency Management Center. She was previously a researcher at the IISS and the Head of the IISS Manama Dialogue Young Leaders' Programme. She specializes in the nuclear and energy policies of the Gulf states. Her expertise includes Gulf energy policy, nuclear security, and Gulf regional security. She previously worked at the Global Security Directorate of Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, and attended multiple trainings at US National labs including Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York and Sandia National Laboratory in New Mexico. She

is a member of Middle East Next Generation of Arms Control Specialists (MENACS), a program of the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey.





**Yousuf Al-Bulushi** is a scholar, educator, and academic luminary, with a postgraduate degree in Political Economy from Bradford University, Leeds Bradford, UK. His career is marked by significant contributions to academia and an unwavering commitment to advancing knowledge in key areas of economic and political significance. As a respected faculty member at the Modern College of Business in Muscat, Yousuf plays a pivotal role in shaping the minds of future leaders. He imparts his wealth of knowledge in Economics and Political Economy to inspire and educate the next generation in Oman. His dedication to academic excellence is evident in his teaching and mentorship.

Yousuf's impact extends beyond the classroom, as he actively engages with prestigious international think tanks. He has expertise in regional security and GCC international relations, with a particular focus on Yemen, Iraq, and Iran. His insights and contributions in these critical areas have garnered the respect of experts and policymakers alike. His research pursuits primarily revolve around the GCC region, with a special emphasis on Oman. Yousuf's academic interests encompass diverse fields, including international relations, regional security, and regional geoeconomics. His research has delved into the intricate web of politics, social and economic development, and Oman's developmental plans and foreign policy. In addition to his academic and research pursuits, he actively contributes to the discourse on Oman's historical status and its prospects in the contemporary geopolitical landscape of the GCC and the world. His views and insights are sought through personal interviews, further solidifying his role as an influential voice in the region. Yousuf Al-Bulushi's academic credentials, dedication to education, and substantial contributions to international think tanks make him a noteworthy figure in the field of Regional Security, GCC intra relations, Economics and Political Economy.



**Ms. Manal Radwan** is an Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on Iran and Regional Security. A career diplomat, Ms. Radwan served in senior positions at the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C. and the Permanent Missions of Saudi Arabia to the Arab League, in Cairo, and the United Nations, in New York. She was also Senior Advisor to the Minister of State for Foreign Relations and the Minister of State for African Affairs. She holds multiple graduate degrees in political science, international relations, conflict resolution and international human rights law from the George Washington University, Catholic University, George Mason University and the American University in Cairo.





**Prof. Dr. Waleed Khalil Zubari** is a Professor of Water Resources at the regional Arabian Gulf University (AGU), Bahrain. Currently serves as the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies, Coordinator of the Water Resources Management Program and the UN Water Learning Center for the Arab Region hosted by AGU, and serves as a member of the Permanent Advisory Committee of the Water Resources Council in Bahrain. He obtained his MSc and PhD from Ohio University (1987) and Colorado State University (1990) in the field of groundwater systems mathematical modeling, respectively. He teaches graduate courses in Hydrogeology

and Water Resources Development, Management and Planning in Arid Regions; published more than 100 research papers in peer-reviewed journals, book chapters, conferences, and seminars; and supervised more than 45 MSc and PhD theses. His research interests include the Water-Energy-food security nexus; water resources governance, planning and management; use of numerical models in the management of groundwater systems; and the impacts of climate change on the water sector. He has conducted more than 60 contractual research studies and serves as a consultant for many UN (e.g., ESCWA, FAO, UNESCO, UNDP, UNEP), and regional (e.g., GCC SG, LAS) and international organizations (e.g., WB, GIZ). He currently serves as the Vice-President of the GCC Water Science and Technology Association and Chairman of its Scientific and Training Affairs Committee. He serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of the “Yusuf bin Ahmed Kanoo Award” and one of its awards winners for his book “Water Issues and Challenges in the GCC countries”.



**Faisal J. Abbas** is the Editor-in-Chief of Arab News, the leading English-language daily in the Middle East, based in Riyadh. Since taking the helm in 2016, Abbas has successfully transformed the newspaper into a more global and digital-focused publication. He has overseen its international expansion, establishing a wide network of correspondents and regional bureaus across the globe. Before joining Arab News, Abbas was the Editor-in-Chief of the English language service of Al Arabiya News Channel in Dubai. He

is a renowned columnist on Arab-international affairs, having conducted interviews with numerous world leaders, and frequently appears in international media to comment on regional issues. Abbas’s career also includes stints with The Huffington Post, Asharq Al Awsat, Al Hayat, Future Television of Lebanon, and the International Resource Journal in London. His work has earned him several awards, including the Next Century Foundation’s Cutting-Edge Award in 2009 for bridging the communication gap between the Arab world and the West, and the British Council’s Social Impact Award in Saudi Arabia in 2017.

Abbas holds a master’s degree from the University of Westminster, a bachelor’s degree from the Lebanese American University, and has completed the Executive Education Program at Harvard Kennedy School in Global Leadership and Public Policy. He is a member of the editorial board of Al Arabiya News Channel, an associate fellow of the Cambridge Union Society, and a member of the British Society of Authors. In 2017, he published his first book, *Arabi/Englizi*, which explores London through Arab eyes. He also recently launched his latest book, *Anecdotes of an Arab Anglophile*, at the Society of Authors headquarters in London.

## Program Overview

- **Dates:** October 6-10, 2024
- **Venue:** Gulf Research Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- **Contact:** +966 552870049 | [gid@grc.net](mailto:gid@grc.net)

## Participant Guidelines

- **Full attendance at all sessions is required to receive an attendance certificate.**
- **Please arrive promptly for all scheduled activities.**
- **Dress code: Business casual.**



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