

## Workshop No. 3

# Securing the Future: The GCC States' Endeavors in Defense Industry, Warfare Technologies and Policy

## Workshop Schedule

### Workshop Directors

#### Dr. Ali Bakir

Ibn Khaldon Center for Humanities and Social Sciences  
Qatar University  
Qatar

#### Dr. Robert Mason

The Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington  
United State

### Wednesday, 10 July 2024

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9:00-9:15	<b>Introduction</b>
9:15-10:00	<b>Paper One</b> <b>Charles Forrester (Independent Scholar, UK):</b> “Changing Tack: The new approach to leveraging procurement cycles for defence technology industrial development in the GCC”  Discussant: Nitin Agarwala (Centre for Joint Warfare Studies, New Delhi, India)
10:00-10:45	<b>Paper Two</b> <b>Nitin Agarwala (Centre for Joint Warfare Studies, New Delhi, India):</b> “Challenges and Opportunities in developing an Indigenous Defence Ecosystem in the GCC countries”  Discussant: Charles Forrester (Independent Scholar, UK)
10.45-11.15	Coffee break

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- 11:15-12:00 **Paper Three**  
**Albert Vidal (International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), UK):** “EDGE and SAMI: How do the Gulf’s Defence Champions Differ?”
- Discussant: Leonardo Jacopo Maria Mazzucco (Gulf State Analytics, US) & Kristian Alexander (Rabdan Security and Defense Institute (RSDI), UAE)
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- 12:00-12:45 **Paper Four**  
**Leonardo Jacopo Maria Mazzucco (Gulf State Analytics, US), Kristian Alexander (Rabdan Security and Defense Institute (RSDI), UAE):** “Building Defenses, Marketing Brands: The Interplay of Defense Localization and Arms Fairs in Saudi and Emirati Military-Industrial Ambitions”
- Discussant: Albert Vidal (International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), UK)
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- 12:45-14:30 Lunch break (lunch is served at 13.00, please make sure to be there on time as it will roughly be a 15/20 minutes walk to King’s College)
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- 14:30-15:15 **Paper Five**  
**Furkan Guldemir (American University of Beirut, Lebanon):** “Echoes of Competition: Deciphering “Arms Race” dynamics among the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries”
- Discussant: Ozgur Pala (KOÇ University, Turkey)
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- 15:15-16:00 **Paper Six**  
**David B. DesRoches (Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, US):** “Professional Military Education and Underperforming Gulf Militaries”
- Discussant: Engin Koc (Bursa Technical University, Turkey)
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- 16.00-16:30 Coffee break
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- 16:30-17:15 **Paper Seven**  
**Abdullah Eren (University of Essex, UK):** “Defence Cooperation Between Türkiye and the Gulf States: An Analysis of a Win-Win Opportunity Amidst Shifting Dynamics”
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Discussant: Furkan Guldemir (American University of Beirut, Lebanon)

17:15-18:00

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**Paper Eight**

**Ozgun Pala (KOÇ University, Turkey):** “Qatar's Quest for an Indigenous Defence Industry in Cooperation with Turkish Companies: A framework for justifications, benefits and challenges”

Discussant: Saoud Al-Eshaq (Qatar)

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**END OF FIRST DAY**

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**Thursday, 11 July 2024**

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09:00-09:15 **Workshop Summary for Day 1**

09:15-10:00

**Paper Nine**

**Engin Koc (Bursa Technical University, Turkey):** “Türkiye's Growing Engagement in Arab Gulf Security: Defense Collaboration with Kuwait”

Discussant: Abdullah Eren (University of Essex, UK)

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10:00-10:45

**Paper Ten**

**Saoud Al-Eshaq (Independent Researcher, Qatar):** “Real Diplomatic Relations or an Enhanced Covert Relationship in an Overt Disguise? The United Arab Emirates and the Abraham Accords”

Discussant: Faris Almaari (School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University, US)

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10.45-11:15 *Coffee break*

11:15-12:00

**Paper Eleven**

**Faris Almaari [recorded] (School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University, US):** “Establishing a Saudi Arabian Military Reserve Component: an unexplored opportunity”

Discussant: David B. DesRoches (Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, US)

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12:00-12:45

**Paper Twelve**

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**Islam Elsayed (Jindal Global University, India):** “The Quest for a Security Paradigm Shift: KSA’s Abandonment of the finance-for-security Interdependency with Egypt and Pakistan”

Discussant: Javad Heiran Nia (Center for Scientific Research and Middle East Strategic Studies, Iran) & Hessam Habibi Doroh (FH Campus Wien, Austria)

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12:45-14:30 Lunch break at workshop venues

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14:30-13:15 **Paper Thirteen**  
**Hessam Habibi Doroh (FH Campus Wien, Austria):** “China and localization of Saudi military industries”

Discussant: Islam Elsayed (Jindal Global University, India)

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13:15-13:35 **Publication Plans, Questionnaire, Conclusion**

All Authors and Participants

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**END OF SECOND DAY**

**DINNER JULY 11<sup>TH</sup> 19:00 (BST) AT KING’S COLLEGE**