



**THE BEGIN-SADAT CENTER  
FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES**



**International Conference on**

# **Saudi Arabia, the Gulf, and the New Regional Landscape**

**June 21-22, 2016 at Bar-Ilan University and the University of Haifa**

***In English, with simultaneous Hebrew translation  
Webcast live***

*Tuesday, June 21 (Bar-Ilan University, Nano-Technology Auditorium, Building 206)*

9:15 am

## **Greetings**

**Prof. Miriam Faust**, Rector, Bar-Ilan University  
**Prof. Joshua Teitelbaum**, BESA Center

9:30 am

## **Saudi Arabia: Internal Challenges**

Chair: **Prof. Efraim Inbar**, BESA Center  
**Prof. Gregory Gause**, Texas A & M: *King Salman and the Future of the Kingdom*  
**Dr. Guido Steinberg**, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik: *AQAP, IS, and Domestic Security in Saudi Arabia*  
**Prof. Joshua Teitelbaum**, BESA Center: *The Shiites of Saudi Arabia: The Ultimate Other*

11:15 am

## **Inside the GCC: Alliances and Tensions**

Chair: **Joshua Teitelbaum**, BESA Center  
**Prof. Kristian Coates Ulrichsen**, University of Washington: *Qatar Under Amir Tamim*  
**Ms. Anna Sunik**, German Institute of Global and Area Studies: *Need for Cooperation, Fear of Hegemony: Agreement and Discord in the GCC*  
**Dr. Yoel Guzansky**, Institute for National Security Studies: *Nuclear Proliferation in the Arabian Peninsula after the Iran Deal*

2:15 pm

## **The GCC and Actors Further Afield**

Chair: **Prof. Hillel Frisch**, BESA Center  
**Prof. P.R. Kumaraswamy**, Jawaharlal Nehru University: *India and the GCC: The Geostrategic Shift*  
**Dr. Theodore Karasik**, Gulf State Analytics: *Eastern Geo-Economics and the GCC's Future*  
**Dr. Alon Levkowitz**, BESA Center: *China, Asia and the GCC: Balance of Business and Power*  
**Mr. Aymenn Jawad al-Tamimi**, Middle East Forum: *The GCC & the Syrian Civil War*

Wednesday, June 22 (University of Haifa, Hecht Museum Auditorium, Main Building)

9:00 am

### Greetings

**Prof. Gustavo Mesch**, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Haifa  
**Dr. Dan Schueftan**, National Security Studies Center

9:15 am

### Low Oil Prices and Political Economy: How Are the GCC States Coping?

Chair: **Prof. Norman Bailey**, University of Haifa

**Prof. Michael Herb**, Georgia State University: *The Political Economy of Low Oil Prices in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf*

**Dr. René Rieger**, University of Munich: *GCC Economies in the Face of Low Oil Prices*

**Dr. Paul Rivlin**, Moshe Dayan Center: *Gulf Economies – Between the Arab Spring and Low Oil Prices*

11:15 am

### The GCC, US and Europe: Time for a New Arrangement?

Chair: **Prof. Eli Salzberger**, University of Haifa

**Prof. Robert Lieber**, Georgetown University: *Saudi Arabia and US Middle East Policy*

**Dr. Efrat Aviv**, BESA Center: *The Saudi-Turkish Alliance: Cooperation or Competition?*

**Prof. Dr. Robert Kappel**, German Institute of Global and Area Studies: *In Search of a German and EU Gulf Policy*

Respondent: **Clarisse Pasztory**, European External Action Service

*This session is sponsored by the Haifa Center for German and European Studies*



2:15 pm

### The GCC in the Middle East: A Changing Regional Balance of Power

Chair: **Dr. Dan Schueftan**, National Security Studies Center: *Israel's Regional Strategic Partners*

**Prof. Meir Litvak**, Alliance Center for Iranian Studies: *Iran Against Saudi Arabia: Religious and Strategic Rivalry*

**Maj. Gen. (res.) Yaakov Amidror**, BESA Center: *Why Saudi Arabia Had to Change Its Regional Role*

**Ambassador John Jenkins**, International Institute for Strategic Studies: *The GCC and the Middle East*

4:15 pm

### Summation

**Prof. Gabriel Ben-Dor**, University of Haifa

The conference is open to the public and will be webcast live at [www.besacenter.org](http://www.besacenter.org) and <http://live.haifa.ac.il/hecht/>.