

# 5<sup>th</sup> German–Arab Gulf Dialogue on Security and Cooperation

focusing on  
“Strategic Partnership in Foreign, Security and Economic Relations”

19 and 20 June 2023

**Akademie of the Konrad–Adenauer–Stiftung**  
Tiergartenstraße 35, 10785 Berlin

**Program**

Monday, June 19, 2023

10:15 – 10:50 *Welcome coffee and registration*

10:50 – 11:10 *Welcoming Remarks*

- **Dr. Gerhard Wahlers**, Deputy Secretary General and Head of the Division European and International Cooperation, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)
- **Ambassador Ekkehard Brose**, President of the Federal Academy for Security Policy (BAKS)
- **Dr. Otto Wiesheu**, President of the German-Arab Friendship Association (DAFG)
- **H.E. Dr. Mustapha Adib**, Ambassador of the Lebanese Republic, Dean of the Arab Diplomatic Corps

11:10 – 11:25 *Keynote Speech*

- **H.E. Jasem Mohamed al-Budaiwi**, Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

11:25 – 11:40 *Opening Input*

- **Niels Annen MP**, Parliamentary State Secretary, Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

11:40– 12:50 *Panel Discussion: A Common Agenda for European-Gulf Cooperation I*

Chair:

**Dr. Canan Atilgan**, Head of the Department Middle East and North Africa, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

- **H.R.H. Prince Turki AlFaisal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**, Chairman of Board of Directors, King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies (KFCRIS), Honorary Chairman of the German–Arab Gulf Dialogue on Security and Cooperation, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- **H.E. Jasem Mohamed al–Budaiwi**, Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
- **Niels Annen MP**, Parliamentary State Secretary (SPD), Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
- **H.E. Dr. Ali Rashid Al Nuaimi**, Chairman of the Defense Affairs, Interior & Foreign Affairs Committee, Federal National Council, United Arab Emirates
- **H.E. Sheikh Thamer Ali Sabah Al–Salem Al–Sabah**, former Interior Minister, State of Kuwait
- **Dr. Johann Wadepful MP**, Deputy Head of CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag (CDU)

12:50 – 13:00

*Coffee Break*

13:00 – 14:00

*Panel Discussion: A Common Agenda for European–Gulf Cooperation II*

Chair:

**Dr. Shareefa Al–Adwani**, Chair of the Department of International Relations and Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, American University of Kuwait, State of Kuwait

- **Antonio López–Istúriz White MEP**, Member of the European Parliament (EPP) and the Delegation for Relations with the Arab Peninsula, Spain
- **Jürgen Trittin MP**, Foreign Policy Spokesperson of the Alliance 90/The Greens faction in the German Bundestag
- **Dr. Ebtesam Al–Ketbi**, President and Founder of the Emirates Policy Center, United Arab Emirates

- H.E. Sheikh Mohamad bin Abdullah bin Hamad Al Harthy, State Council, Sultanate of Oman
- H.E. Abdulla Abdullatif Al Shaikh Abdulla, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain

14:00 – 15:00

*Lunch break*

15:00 – 16:00

***Panel Discussion: Shifting Alliances in the Gulf and Regional Security Cooperation I***

Chair:

**Ambassador (ret.) Bernd Mützelburg, DAFG Board of Directors**

- H.E. Hazah Al-Qahtani, Member of the Shura Council, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- H.E. Hatim Hamed Issa Al Tai, State Council, Sultanate of Oman
- Prof. Dr. Abdulkhaleq Abdulla, Professor emeritus, United Arab Emirates University (UAEU), United Arab Emirates
- Ambassador Ekkehard Brose, President of the Federal Academy for Security Policy (BAKS)
- Dr. Cinzia Bianco, Visiting Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)

16:00 – 17:00

***Panel Discussion: Shifting Alliances in the Gulf and Regional Security Cooperation II***

Chair:

**Abdulla Aljunaid, Political Analyst, Kingdom of Bahrain**

- General Nasser Al Zadjali, former Deputy Chief of the Royal Air Force of Oman, Sultanate of Oman
- Shaikha Najla Al-Qassimi, Director Global Affairs Departement, B'huth Dubai Public Policy Research Centre, United Arab Emirates

- **Lamya Kaddor MP**, Deputy Chairman, Parliamentary Friendship Group for Relations with Arabic-Speaking States in the Middle East, German Bundestag (Alliance 90/The Greens)
- **Alexander Radwan MP**, Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the German Bundestag (CSU)
- **Dr. Mohammed Al-Sulami**, Head of the International Institute for Iranian Studies (Rasanah), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

17:00 – 17:15 *Coffee Break*

17:15 – 18:15 *Panel Discussion: Joining Hands in Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid*

Chair:

**Mona Saad AlResais**, Research Associate, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat), Kingdom of Bahrain

- **H.E. Dr. Samer al-Jatili**, Director of Resources and Investment Department & official Spokesman for the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- **Dr. Oliver Wils**, Head of Department, MENA & Yemen, Regional Peace Support, Berghof Foundation
- **Dr. Hamad Al-Abdulla**, Executive Director of the Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat)
- **Dr. Yousuf Mohamed Al Bulushi**, Researcher, Sultanate of Oman
- **Abdulaziz al-Khamis**, Researcher and Journalist, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

18:30 – 20:30

*Evening reception at Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung*

*Welcoming remarks*

**Prof. Dr. Norbert Lammert**

President of the German Bundestag (ret.),  
Chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

*Guest of Honor and Keynote Speaker*

**H.R.H. Prince Turki AlFaisal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**

Chairman of Board of Directors, King Faisal Center for  
Research and Islamic Studies (KFCRIS), Honorary Chairman of  
the German-Arab Gulf Dialogue on Security and Cooperation,  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**Venue:** Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Tiergartenstraße 35, 10785  
Berlin

**Tuesday, June 20, 2023**

09:15 – 10:00 ***Welcome coffee***

10:00 – 10:15 ***Opening and Keynote Speeches***

- **Dr. Abdulmajeed bin Abdullah Albanyan**, President of Naif Arab University for Security Sciences, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- **Dr. Dorothea Schütz**, Deputy Director–General for Africa, Middle East, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action
- **H.E. Dr. Ali Rashid Al Nuaimi**, Chairman of the Defense Affairs, Interior & Foreign Affairs Committee, Federal National Council, United Arab Emirates

10:15 – 11:15 ***Panel Discussion: Unlocking the Potential of Economic Cooperation***

Chair:

**RA Wolf R. Schwippert**, Lawyer, DAFG Board of Directors

- **Dr. Dorothea Schütz**, Deputy Director–General for Africa, Middle East, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action
- **H.E. Dr. Ghazi bin Faisal bin Zagr**, Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the Shura Council, Kingdom of Saudi–Arabia
- **H.E. Marwan Obaid Al Muhairi**, Federal National Council, United Arab Emirates
- **Khalid Al Othman**, CEO, Saudi Mubadara Development Company, Kingdom of Saudi–Arabia
- **Christian Hanelt**, Senior Expert Europe, Neighbourhood and the Middle East, Program “Europas Zukunft”, Bertelsmann Stiftung

10:15 – 12:30

***Exclusive side event: Germany–GCC Youth Forum***

*– for young leaders and young professionals & experts –  
Room: 6/7*

The German–GCC Youth Forum aims to put relations between both regions on a broader basis in order to build and strengthen exchange. By engaging youth and young leaders from both sides, the forum works toward the development of a partnership and network built on mutual cross-cultural understanding. For this, young professionals and experts from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Kuwait will be joined by German young leaders from key German institutions. Participants will discuss three preeminent issues in the affairs of both sides.

*– Please see attachment –*

11:15 – 11:30

***Coffee Break***

11:30 – 12:30

***Panel Discussion: Powering the Future – Opportunities for Energy Transformation and Cooperation***

Chair:

**Nabil Al-Khowaiter**, Global Business Development Director,  
WorleyParsons Energy & Resources, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

- **H.E. Sara Falaknaz**, Member of the Federal National Council, UAE
- **Dr. Nils Schmid MP**, Member of the German Bundestag, Foreign Policy Spokesman of the SPD Faction
- **Dr. Mohammad Al-Ali**, CEO and Founder, TRENDS Research & Advisory, UAE



- **Abdulaziz Al-Moqbel**, Energy Consultant, Writer, Columnist and Opinion editor Alriyadh newspaper, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- **Dr. Ahmed Al Hooti**, Board Chamber of Commerce, Sultanate of Oman
- **Dr. Hamza Jammoul**, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Lebanon in Berlin and author of “Climate Diplomacy, International and National Responses”

12:30 – 12:45

*Closing remarks*

- **Ambassador Dr. Christian Buck**, Director-General for Political Affairs (Africa, Latin America, Near and Middle East), Special Envoy for Libya, Federal Foreign Office
- **Abdel Aziz Abu Hamad Aluwaisheg**, Assistant Secretary General for Political and Negotiation Affairs, Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

12:45

*Light lunch*

*End of the conference*

## Attachment

### German–GCC Young Professionals Forum

An Exclusive Side Event of the German–Arab Gulf Dialogue on Security and Cooperation

**Tuesday, 20 June 2023**

**Academy of the Konrad–Adenauer–Stiftung, Tiergartenstr. 35, 10785 Berlin**

The German–GCC Youth Forum aims to put relations between both regions on a broader basis in order to build and strengthen exchange. By engaging youth and young leaders from both sides, the forum works toward the development of a partnership and network built on mutual cross-cultural understanding. For this, young professionals and experts from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Kuwait will be joined by German young leaders from key German institutions. Participants will discuss three preeminent issues in the affairs of both sides.

Moderator: Ruben Giuliano, Journalist & Podcaster

### Program

10:15      Opening remarks

10:30      Session I: German–GCC cooperation in international aid

Both, the GCC and Germany belong to the largest donors of international humanitarian and development aid. Often engaging in similar geographical areas from the Middle East to Africa and South Asia, approaches and instruments vary between the two. For instance, while Germany conducts most of its international assistance through multilateral frameworks, the Gulf States have chosen direct, bilateral means of engagement. Therefore more exchange is needed, in order to improve mutual understanding.

11:00      Session II: Middle powers in times of shifting geopolitics

As the current world order is undergoing significant changes, both the Gulf States and Germany as middle powers need to adapt to such a new geopolitical situation in different policy fields. While strategic outlooks of both sides might vary, there are overlapping security interests both have in times of new great power competition, especially the

preservation of the international rules-based system. The second session shall explore different geo-strategic positions while outlining avenues for collaboration.

11:30 Short break

11:45 Session III: Germany and the Gulf in times of socio-economic transformation

The Gulf, finds itself in a period of historical socio-economic transformation outlined by ambitious agendas of economic diversification beyond oil and gas. Also Germany needs to find solutions for fundamental challenges of modernisation, innovation and sustainability, in order to preserve social cohesion and economic growth. In this context both sides shall discuss dimensions of socio-economic change especially relevant to the youth, such as the promotion of entrepreneurs, sparking innovation and pushing forward digitalisation.

12:15 Closing

12:30 Continuation of the main program