



The Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington

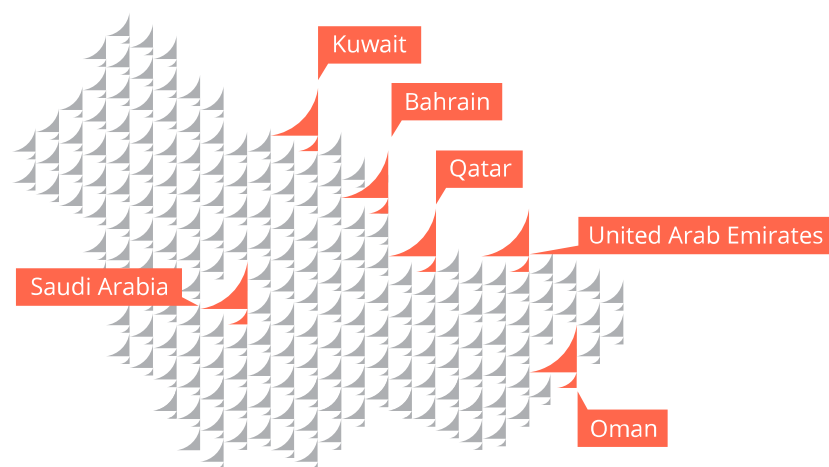
Building bridges of understanding

Annual Report 2021





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Letter From the Chair



A Message From AGSIW Board Chair Ambassador Frank G. Wisner

This report examines the work of the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington in 2021, but events in early 2022 have already deeply affected the world and the dynamic between the United States and the Gulf. Attacks on infrastructure in the Gulf brought again to the fore the threat that Iran-supported militias pose to stability and U.S. interests. Washington's perceived ambivalence as it grapples with other issues in Asia and Europe has raised questions about the future role of the United States in the Gulf. The coronavirus has not yet relinquished its grip on humanity or left its final mark on history. Climate change continues to produce never-before-seen extremes. And Russia's invasion of Ukraine has shaken the foundations of the international energy, trade, and security systems on which the Gulf Arab

states have depended and built their stability and prosperity over the past several decades.

The Gulf region is certain to face profound change and uncertainty in the coming year, and AGSIW is uniquely positioned to convey a deeper understanding of the dizzying range of developments. AGSIW's acclaimed scholars, seasoned former diplomats, and accomplished professional staff stand ready to provide the breadth and depth of written analysis and informative programs that business leaders, governments, scholars, journalists, and others need to make crucial strategic decisions.

AGSIW's board of directors, on which I am privileged to serve, continues its deep commitment to propel the institute into the future. The impressive professional backgrounds and diverse origins of the board add strength, depth, and experience to AGSIW's mission and performance.

Finally, it is with sincere gratitude that the board and I thank all the individuals and organizations, particularly our corporate sponsors, that supported the institute in 2021 and drove AGSIW's stellar performance.

It is in times of change and uncertainty that an organization like AGSIW is most needed. The institute's solid record of innovation and analysis, with the highlights of the past year outlined in this document, will be the touchstone and guide for its work in the coming year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank G. Wisner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Letter From the President



A Message From AGSIW President Ambassador Douglas A. Silliman

2021 was a year of impressive accomplishment, collaboration, and new initiatives for the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington, despite the continuing challenges related to the coronavirus pandemic. We expanded our publication audience, added more Arabic translations, and intensified our robust slate of virtual programs, nearly 50 in total, even as we planned for a gradual return to in-person and hybrid programs in the coming year.

Our scholars have been incredibly active with publications, roundtables, workshops, book launches, and headlining our special annual events, such as Petro Diplomacy and the UAE Security Forum. Their media activity, podcasts, and social media have helped expand AGSIW's reach and strengthened our affiliations with other institutions and journals. Robert Mogielnicki, named a senior resident scholar in 2021, received the "40 Under 40 Award" for individuals shaping U.S. and Middle Eastern relations and published his well-received book on Gulf free zones. We focused over the year on breaking developments as well as longer-term trends, including Senior Resident Scholar Kristin Smith Diwan's illuminating examination of Gulf succession issues, "All the Kings' Sons." All of this stimulating publications work – including nearly 200 blogs – benefitted from Chief Content Officer and Executive Editor Mary Casey-Baker and her team's careful editing and visually appealing layouts.

The institute, with an initial publication by Senior Resident Scholar Hussein Ibish, launched a key initiative seeking to shape the debate on a new U.S. force posture for the Gulf. We also initiated new collaborations, including a yearlong series of workshops with the University of Haifa exploring the impact of the Abraham Accords, ably coordinated by our Chief Program and Development Officer Raymond Karam and his team. In our *Millennial Gulf* blog and other publications, we kept a focus on arts and culture, whether experimental film in Yemen, Bahraini digital art, or indie music in the Gulf.

I am grateful for the collaborative support of our dedicated board of directors. In addition to their pivotal leadership, board members played a direct role in 2021 as panelists and authors. And as always, none of the institute's accomplishments could have been possible without the continued generous support of our sponsors, Corporate Circle members, and individual donors. Thank you to every individual and institution that contributed to AGSIW's success in 2021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Silliman".

The Gulf in the World



2021 brought several important political developments to the Gulf region, from the Al Ula agreement, to consequential elections in Iraq and Iran and the first legislative elections in Qatar, to expanding bilateral initiatives between the signatories of the Abraham Accords, and finally a new U.S. administration with its own set of interests and priorities in the region. AGSIW analyzed how Gulf countries responded to these developments and how they sought to build, maintain, and use the tools at their disposal to advance their foreign policy and regional security goals.

GCC Secretary General Nayef Falah M. Al-Hajraf, left, and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan al-Saud speak during the 41st GCC meeting in Al Ula, Saudi Arabia, Jan. 5, 2021. (AP Photo/Amr Nabil)

Featured Programming

- ▶ **The Gulf Cooperation Council at 40**
Abdullah Baabood, Matteo Legrenzi, Emma Soubrier, and Kristin Smith Diwan examined the Gulf Cooperation Council's impact on its member states, the Gulf, and international relations 40 years after its founding.
- ▶ **The Outlook for U.S. Foreign Policy Under the Biden Administration**
AGSIW hosted a session with Tim Lenderking, Mina Al-Oraibi, and Ambassador Douglas A. Silliman as part of Gulf Intelligence's Global UAE Energy Forum 2021: "Outlook on the Year Ahead."
- ▶ **Viennese Waltz: How Can the U.S. Balance Its Priorities With Gulf Arab Concerns as It Engages Iran?**
AGSIW hosted a discussion with Thomas L. Friedman, Suzanne Maloney, Ambassador Frank G. Wisner, and Hussein Ibish on the negotiations aimed at reviving the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action nuclear agreement.

Featured Publications

Abraham Accords Face Early Test | Kristin Smith Diwan

Israeli expansionism in East Jerusalem and the attack on Al-Aqsa Mosque prompted sharp condemnation and popular support for Palestinians from Gulf signatories to the Abraham Accords.

Saudi Arabia's New Dialogue With Iran was Long in the Making Hussein Ibish

Talks between Saudi Arabia and Iran reflect a broad range of regional and international developments in recent years.

Iraq's Elections: Will Boycott Efforts Delegitimize or Entrench Discredited Status Quo? | Geneive Abdo

Iraq's October 2021 parliamentary elections showed that a young generation has altered the country's political landscape.

Related Publications

- Qatar's Shura Council Elections: Incrementally Strengthening Local Politics
- Is India Abandoning Iran for a Middle Eastern Quad, or Merely Signaling China?
- Russia and the UAE: Monetization, Economization, and Militarization in the Gulf and Red Sea
- Gulf Reengagement With Syria: Heading Into the Wall

Related Programming

- Iraq's October Elections: A Game Changer or More of the Same?
- What to Expect From Qatar's First Legislative Elections
- Escaping a Zero-Sum Struggle Between Iran and Saudi Arabia
- The Arab Gulf's Pivot to Asia: From Transactional to Strategic Partnerships
- Reengaging Assad: What's Behind Arab Outreach to Syria?

Ambassadors Series

With its *Ambassadors Series*, AGSIW provides a unique platform for international leaders to engage in thoughtful debate and inform the U.S. and Gulf foreign-policy, business, and academic communities about events shaping their respective societies, economies, and political systems.

- Roundtable With Ambassador Leslie M. Tsou, U.S. Ambassador to Oman
- A Conversation With H.E. Nayef Falah M. Al-Hajraf, Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council
- Roundtable With H.E. Anwar Gargash, Diplomatic Advisor to the President of the UAE
- Roundtable With Joey Hood, U.S. Department of State
- A Conversation With H.E. Motaz Zahran, Ambassador of Egypt to the United States



Video

F. Gregory Gause, III and Kristin Smith Diwan discussed U.S.-Saudi relations and offered recommendations for how the Biden administration can work with Saudi Arabia.

Gulf Economies in Transition



As Gulf countries eased pandemic restrictions, AGSIW analyzed how Gulf states worked to stabilize their economies and ultimately resume and grow their ambitious economic diversification agendas. Scholars explored new and existing regional partnerships, shifting investment strategies, the role of private investment and state-led economic initiatives, and how Gulf countries are working to create a more sustainable economic future.

UAE Economy Minister Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri speaks at an event announcing new economic programs in the United Arab Emirates, Dubai, Sept. 5, 2021. (AP Photo/Jon Gambrell)

Featured Programming

Book Launch: A Political Economy of Free Zones in Gulf Arab States

AGSIW hosted a discussion of Robert Mogielnicki's 2021 book, *A Political Economy of Free Zones in Gulf Arab States*.

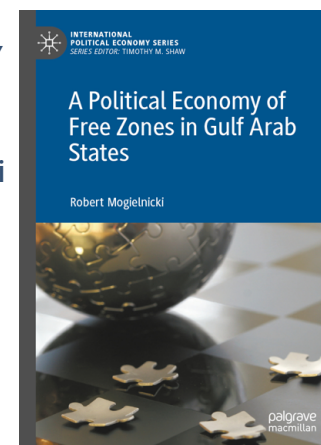
The Future of OPEC+ and Saudi-UAE Relations

AGSIW hosted a briefing with Ben Cahill, Kate Dourian, Hussein Ibish, and Ambassador William Roebuck on the 2021 OPEC+ dispute and the repercussions for the future of the alliance as well as Saudi-UAE relations.

A New Era for Gulf Sovereign Wealth Funds?

AGSIW, in partnership with the Arab Bankers Association of North America (ABANA), hosted a discussion with Zubaid Ahmad, Omar Syed, Rachel Ziemba, and Robert Mogielnicki examining the role of Gulf sovereign wealth funds in the world economy.

In his 2021 book, *A Political Economy of Free Zones in Gulf Arab States*, Robert Mogielnicki explains why free zones are likely to remain key features of Gulf Arab economies over the coming years.



Featured Publications

▶ Saudi Arabia's Ever More Ambitious Investment Strategy | Robert Mogielnicki

There is still time for Saudi Arabia to accomplish many of Vision 2030's foreign investment objectives, but the window of opportunity is closing quickly.

▶ Is the Sky the Limit to the China-Gulf Partnership? | Robert Mason

China's engagement in the Gulf could help Gulf states meet economic diversification goals, yet it could also exacerbate existing security challenges.

▶ For UAE Economic Planning, Timing is Everything | Robert Mogielnicki

The UAE's push to reinvigorate its economy, in this manner and at this time, is linked to Expo 2020 Dubai, regional competition, and a broader realignment of Emirati foreign policy to better serve economic interests.

Related Publications

- Saudi-Emirati Competition Lays Bare State-Led Pursuit of Economic Interests
- Keeping the Spirit Alive: Vision 2030 Five Years On
- The Line: A Promising Vision for a Progressive Future?
- What Will Become of the GCC?
- Toward a Portfolio-Based Gulf Economy?
- VAT Hike in Bahrain Points to Fiscal Challenges, Unattractive Choices Government Faced

Related Programming

- A Conversation With H.E. Nayef Falah M. Al-Hajraf, Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council
- The European Union and Gulf Cooperation Council: A New Path for Cooperation?
- Reaching for the Golden Ticket: Long-Term Residency and Citizenship Schemes in the Gulf



Video

On April 27, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman sat down for a television interview five years after the announcement of Vision 2030. In a video, Kristin Smith Diwan discussed the messaging behind the interview.

"After two beautiful years as a visiting scholar at the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington, where I have enjoyed working with such wonderful people and learning so much, I am delighted that I get to stay a part of the AGSIW family, and I look forward to continuing our fruitful cooperation."

– Emma Soubrier on becoming a non-resident fellow at AGSIW

Evolving Gulf Security Perceptions



AGSIW monitored and analyzed important security developments in the Gulf, including the ongoing war and humanitarian crisis in Yemen, missile and drone attacks launched by the Houthis, and Gulf reengagement with Syria, and considered what these developments mean for regional security. Additionally, with the inauguration of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. in January 2021, AGSIW launched a series examining U.S. force posture in the region and the future of security cooperation between the United States and its regional partners.

A member of the U.S. Air Force stands near a Patriot missile battery at the Prince Sultan air base in al-Kharj, Saudi Arabia, Feb. 20, 2021. (Andrew Caballero-Reynolds/Pool via AP)

Featured Programming

Can a New U.N. Envoy Produce Peace in Yemen?

AGSIW hosted a discussion with Nadwa Al-Dawsari, Peter Salisbury, Maysaa Shuja al-Deen, and Gregory D. Johnsen on the top issues and challenges facing the new United Nations special envoy for Yemen.

The Future of U.S. Arms Sales to the Gulf

AGSIW hosted a private roundtable on the future of U.S. arms sales to the Gulf with Jeff Abramson, David B. Des Roches, Emma Soubrier, and Hussein Ibish.

Refining the U.S. Force Posture in the Gulf

In the series *Refining the U.S. Force Posture in the Gulf*, AGSIW helps frame the larger debate on U.S. defense posture in the Gulf and explores options for restructuring the United States' policy goals and military presence in the region.

Featured publications:

- What Does U.S. "Withdrawal" From the Middle East Mean?
- The Debate Over the U.S. Military Role in the Gulf

Featured Publications

Seven Yemens: How Yemen Fractured and Collapsed, and What Comes Next | Gregory D. Johnsen

Yemen's fragmentation will have severe repercussions for U.S. foreign policy, regional stability, and, ultimately, international security.

The Gulf Cooperation Council at 40: Finally Ripe for a Regional Security System? | Emma Soubrier

The signing of the Al Ula agreement ending the GCC crisis may finally allow the Gulf countries to establish a regional security system, an endeavor that has been decades in the making.

Gulf Engagement in Afghanistan's Evolving Political Marketplace: Uneven Investment, Uncertain Prospects | Umer Karim

Gulf countries have deep historical ties with Afghanistan. With the end of the NATO mission, they could have the influence to help stabilize Afghanistan and chart a course toward peace and reconciliation.

Related Publications

- Saudi Arabia's Patriot Buys: The Political Aspects of Missile Defense
- More Arms, Less Influence? Europe-Gulf Relations Amid Regional Militarization
- A New U.S. Weapons Exports Policy: Transformed or Simply Revamped?
- Saudi-Russian Military Cooperation: Signaling or Strategy?
- Kadhimis Triumphs Over the Militias, At Least for Now

Related Programming

- The Evolution of the Armed Forces of the United Arab Emirates
- With Renewed Efforts To End the War, What are the Prospects for Peace in Yemen?



AGSIW's Sixth Annual UAE Security Forum

Held December 7-9, the 2021 forum assessed geopolitical trends in the region. AGSIW brought together academics, policymakers, and practitioners to identify key risks, examine current mitigation efforts, and recommend policy solutions for governments and the private sector.

Sessions included:

- A Conversation With H.E. Anwar Gargash, Diplomatic Advisor to the President of the UAE
- Remarks by Brett McGurk, National Security Council Coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa
- Retrenchment and Realignment: Taking Stock of Regional Developments
- U.S. Security Interests in a Changing Region
- Can Closer Economic Ties Lead to Shared Prosperity?

Learn more at uaesf.org.

From Oil and Gas to a Greening Gulf



When demand for oil plummeted at the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, the danger for Gulf economies that are heavily reliant on energy exports became painfully clear. At the same time, rising temperatures are fueling environmental degradation, weather extremes, food and water insecurity, and rising sea levels, highlighting the importance of climate action and moving toward a net-zero world. AGSIW analyzed how Gulf countries increased efforts to tackle global climate change challenges and began to gear up for this shift to a greener Gulf by diversifying their economies away from oil and gas and prioritizing their environmental agendas.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park, south of Dubai, United Arab Emirates (Strategy and Government Communications of Dubai via AP)

Featured Programming

- ▶ **The Transformation of Abu Dhabi's Oil Industry**
Ben Cahill, senior fellow in the Energy Security and Climate Change Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, discussed the fundamental shift in Abu Dhabi's oil policy since 2016.
- ▶ **Climate Action in the UAE: A Conversation With H.E. Aisha Al Abdooli, UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment**
H.E. Aisha Al Abdooli, acting assistant undersecretary for green development and climate change for the UAE's Ministry of Climate Change and Environment discussed the UAE's and multilateral climate-related initiatives.
- ▶ **A Conversation With H.E. Mohamed bin Mubarak Bin Daina, Special Envoy for Climate Affairs, Bahrain**
H.E. Mohamed bin Mubarak Bin Daina discussed climate-related challenges facing Bahrain.
- ▶ **The Future of Renewable and Low Carbon Energy in the Middle East and North Africa**
AGSIW hosted a discussion with Robin Mills, Li-Chen Sim, Faris Al-Sulayman, and Kate Dourian on the energy transition in the region.

Featured Publications

▲ **Gulf Countries Gear Up for a Net-Zero World | Kate Dourian**

Energy transitions are by their nature disruptive, but the pandemic has introduced a risk factor that might play out for years to come.

▲ **From the Year of Climate Ambition to Action in the Gulf | Mari Luomi**

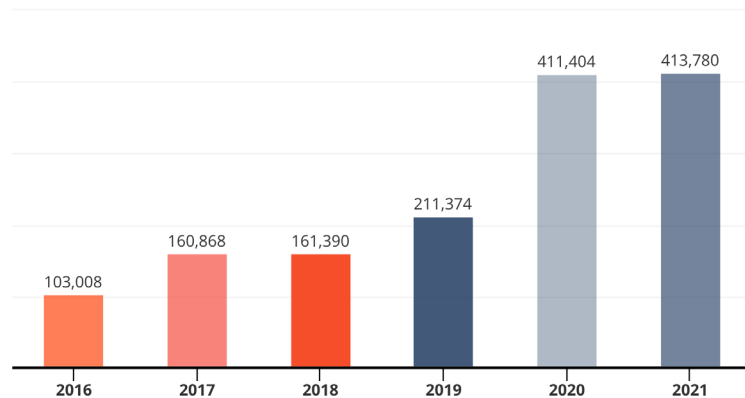
For Gulf countries, 2021 was the year of ambition and new climate targets, and 2022 will be the year of implementation.

Related Publications

- Can Green Transition Help EU Build Better Relations With the Gulf?
- UAE and Saudi Arabia Cut Renewables Deals to Improve Iraq Relations
- The Saudi-UAE Race for Hydrogen: A Play for the Renewables Narrative, Not Profits
- Iraq's Water Crisis: An Existential But Unheeded Threat
- Paradise Lost: An Environmental Tragedy in Iran

AGSIW at a Glance

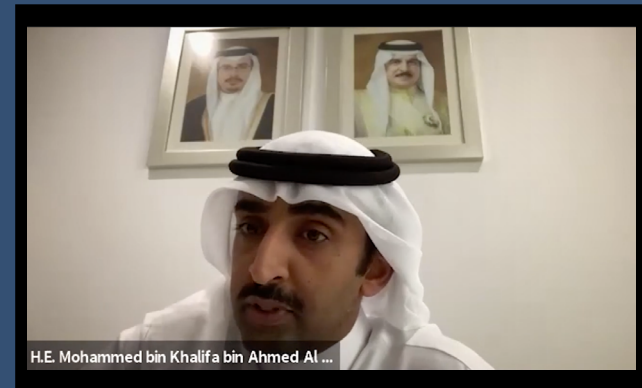
Yearly Total Visits to AGSIW.org



AGSIW's Petro Diplomacy Conference

AGSIW held its seventh annual Petro Diplomacy conference virtually from October 19-21. The conference explored the ways in which the Gulf Arab oil producers are adapting their policies to manage the energy transition and growing drive toward carbon neutrality, and it considered what contribution they can make to the decarbonization effort.

The conference opened with a conversation between Ambassador Douglas A. Silliman and Mohammed bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Bahraini minister of oil and gas, who provided the perspective of a small island kingdom that produces oil and gas while trying to mitigate the impact of climate change.



Keynote Address with H.E. Mohammed bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Bahrain's minister of oil and gas

Expressions of Gulf Societies and Cultures



In year two of the coronavirus pandemic, the arts, culture, and social sectors in the Gulf continued to find new ways to operate and thrive in what was still a largely virtual world. From exploring how Gulf indie music is playing a role in societal transformation, to explaining the significance of labor reforms happening in the Gulf, to discerning new trends in Gulf social media, AGSIW analyzed shifts and celebrated innovation and creativity coming out of the Gulf as well as the role arts and culture play in pandemic recovery, strengthening national identities, catalyzing social change, and supporting economic diversification efforts.

"Bahrain House" at Malja, a Redbull space in Muharraq, Bahrain in 2017 (Photo provided by Too Far)

Featured Programming

- ▶ **The Long Game in Iraq: Are Shia Clerics and Activists Finding Common Cause To Confront the State?**
AGSIW hosted a discussion of Geneive Abdo's paper examining cooperation between influential Iraqi clerics and civil society activists.
- ▶ **Book Launch – Urban Modernity in the Contemporary Gulf**
AGSIW hosted the launch of *Urban Modernity in the Contemporary Gulf*, edited by Sultan Sooud Al Qassemi and Roberto Fabbri, on architectural production in the modernization era in the Arabian Peninsula.
- ▶ **Book Launch – Tribalism and Political Power in the Gulf: State-Building and National Identity in Kuwait, Qatar and the UAE**
AGSIW hosted a discussion with Courtney Freer, Alanoud Al-Sharekh, and Kristin Smith Diwan examining the roles that tribes play in popular participation in government and policymaking in the Gulf.

Featured Publications

▶ **The Gulf's New Sound: Indie Music and Global Change | Sean Foley**

There is a new talented class of musicians in the Gulf states. Their music is a clarion call for personal change along with sociocultural renewal from Jeddah to Manama and New Orleans.

▶ **Latifa Al Khalifa: A Local Curator Showcases Gulf Societies | Joud Al Marar**

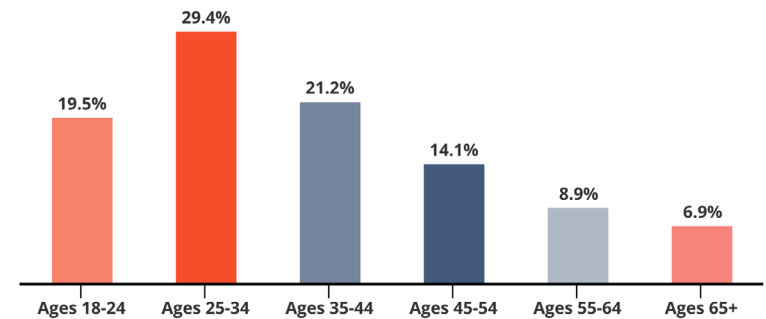
From collecting wedding photos and exploring the evolution of khaleeji music to using humor to write about how people behave during Ramadan, a Bahraini curator brings to light intriguing stories about Gulf societies.

▶ **Oman's Protesters Seek Jobs and Reform | Rafiah Al Talei**

While the high rate of unemployment among youth sparked recent protests in Oman, the problem now goes beyond creating job opportunities.

AGSIW at a Glance

AGSIW.org 2021 Age Demographics



Related Publications

- Kuwait's Ongoing Struggle Against Gender Violence
- Expo 2020 Dubai: By and for UAE Youth
- Joining the Club: New Trends in Gulf Social Media



Abdullah Al Bahrani, profiled in *Millennial Gulf*, hosts a YouTube series teaching applied economics.

Millennial Gulf

AGSIW's *Millennial Gulf* blog reports on youth-led initiatives in the realms of culture, politics, technology, and entrepreneurship in the Gulf Arab countries.

Featured publications:

- Abdullah Al Bahrani: Bringing Economic Education and Financial Literacy to Young Omanis
- Children's Literature in the Gulf: Reviving the Art of Local Storytelling
- Diriyah Contemporary Art Biennale: A New Platform for Saudi Artists on the World Stage
- Revitalizing Yemen's Ancient Traditions of Coffee Cultivation

Collaborating

AGSIW believes in the importance of collaborating with like-minded partners to support relevant research and expand its reach around the world. In 2021, AGSIW worked with a number of organizations, such as the University of Haifa, Konrad-Adenaur-Stiftung, ABANA, the National University of Singapore's Middle East Institute, and SEPAD, to highlight important studies, deepen expertise on topics of mutual interest, and reach new audiences.

Featured Program Collaborations

University of Haifa

International and Regional Involvement in the Middle East is a bimonthly workshop series launched in September 2021, co-hosted by AGSIW and the University of Haifa. Sessions included:

- Mapping the Middle East in 2021
- Regional Influences on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Following the Abraham Accords
- The Abraham Accords: A Buffer Against Turkish and Iranian Influence

Konrad-Adenaur-Stiftung

AGSIW and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung co-hosted a workshop on Shia communities in Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait, and published a report in English and Arabic based on the workshop discussions.

Arab Bankers Association of North America (ABANA)

Panel Discussion: "A New Era for Gulf Sovereign Wealth Funds?"

National University of Singapore's Middle East Institute

Panel Discussion: "Transitioning to Non-Oil Economies in the Gulf: Successes, Failures, and the Path Forward"

Sectarianism, Proxies and De-sectarianisation Project (SEPAD)

Panel Discussion: "Sectarian Identities and the Rise of Nationalism in the Middle East"

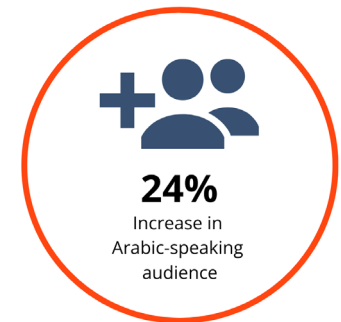
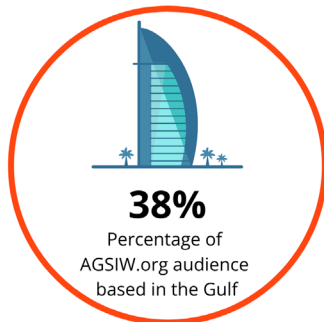
Building Bridges

AGSIW Goes Global

With health and safety restrictions imposed in response to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, AGSIW continued to utilize a virtual platform for its programs. In addition to keeping audience members safe, it enabled AGSIW to host discussions with officials and experts from around the world on timely and relevant issues and at the same time attract record audiences.

Responding to 21st Century Challenges

The coronavirus pandemic continued to disrupt societal well-being and economic activity in the Gulf in 2021. AGSIW examined the challenges for Gulf security and economic stability and the new and creative measures Gulf states introduced to move toward recovery.









Team Spotlight: Nada Ammagui

In September, AGSIW welcomed Nada Ammagui to its team as a research associate focused on politics, society, and culture. Ammagui's interests include artistic and cultural spaces in Gulf countries, particularly the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, contemporary Arab art, and cultural diplomacy in the region. Ammagui graduated from New York University Abu Dhabi in 2020 with a BA in Arab crossroads studies and minors in art history and Arabic and is currently a first-year MA student in Arab studies at Georgetown University.

Informing

AGSIW remains a go-to source for prominent outlets for expert commentary on the Gulf. AGSIW experts have frequently appeared on major broadcast networks, such as CNN, BBC, NBC News, France 24, and Al Arabiya, in addition to being interviewed by prominent media outlets, such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, Reuters, Financial Times, AFP, The National, and Bloomberg.

Highlights From AGSIW's U.S. and International Outreach

-  **United Nations**
Senior Resident Scholar Hussein Ibish briefed Middle East political staffers at the United Nations Secretariat.
-  **NATO**
Ambassador Douglas A. Silliman, AGSIW president, delivered a lecture on the security situation in Iraq to the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.
-  **Gulf Research Meeting**
At the 2021 Gulf Research Meeting, organized by the Gulf Research Centre Cambridge, Senior Resident Scholar Kristin Smith Diwan presented her paper “Re-thinking Diriyah: Heritage and Entertainment in the new Saudi Nationalism.” Senior Resident Scholar Robert Mogielnicki presented his paper “High-Tech Nationalization of Gulf Employment: A New Sector-Based Approach in Dubai.” Visiting Scholar Emma Soubrier co-directed the workshop “Europe and the Multipolarization of the Gulf.”
-  **Middle East Institute**
Ambassador William Roebuck, AGSIW executive vice president, spoke on the panel “Syria Policy: Charting a Path Forward” as part of the MEI Syria Annual Conference.
-  **UAE USA United**
Ambassador Marcelle M. Wahba, AGSIW president emeritus and distinguished fellow, was recognized as part of the “50 Years | 50 Faces” campaign showcasing 50 Emiratis, UAE residents, and Americans sharing their thoughts on the UAE’s history and U.S.-UAE relations.
-  **Middle East Policy Council**
Non-Resident Fellow Aisha Al-Sarihi spoke on the panel “The Impact of Climate Change on the Middle East” at the MEPC’s Capitol Hill conference. Senior Resident Scholar Robert Mogielnicki received the MEPC’s “40 Under 40 Award” for individuals shaping U.S.-Middle East relations.

Partnering

Membership in AGSIW's Corporate Circle provides unique access to exclusive programming and bespoke briefings on the major issues shaping the Gulf Arab states that have direct implications for U.S. political and commercial interests in the region. Members receive opportunities to attend invitation-only discussions with U.S. and Gulf policymakers and experts and may request briefings with AGSIW scholars to dive deeper into areas of interest. For more information, please contact Michela Roberts, development manager, at michela.roberts@agsiw.org.

Chairman's Circle

Raytheon



President's Circle



Friends of AGSIW



AGSIW.org in Arabic

Arabic translations present an important avenue for AGSIW to make its expertise and analysis available to English and Arabic speakers alike. In 2021, multiple investments in AGSIW's translation efforts, including from the embassies of the United Arab Emirates and Kingdom of Bahrain in Washington, DC as well as individual donors, allowed AGSIW to continue to expand its Arabic translation work. As a result, a record 24% of AGSIW's website audience now reads the institute's work in Arabic.

Special Thanks

AGSIW extends a special thanks to the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Syria-Iraq Office for its support that funded activities and publications related to the joint workshop: "Arab Shia Communities in Transition: A Peacemaking Opportunity for the International Community?"

About

About AGSIW

The Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington (AGSIW) is an independent, nonprofit institution dedicated to highlighting the importance of the relationship between the United States and the Gulf region through free and open exchange of multiple points of view on issues that concern the Gulf.

AGSIW strives to support this goal by:

- Providing expert analysis and thoughtful debate on the economic, energy, environmental, security, social, cultural, and political dimensions of the Gulf Arab states as well as their relations with the United States and other countries.
- Informing a global audience of policymakers, legislators, businesspeople, academics, media, youth, and others as the foundation for strategic decisions regarding this important region.
- Employing multiple avenues to inform public understanding of the importance of the relationship between the United States and the Gulf Arab states.
- Encouraging strong academic coverage by developing scholars who concentrate on the study of the region.

Board of Directors

Abdel Monem Said Aly, PhD, Founding Director and Honorary Chair; Chairman/CEO, Regional Center for Strategic Studies in Cairo

Ambassador Frank G. Wisner, Chair of the Board; Foreign Affairs Advisor, Squire Patton Boggs

Fatima Al-Shamsi, PhD, Vice Chair of the Board; Faculty Member and Former Secretary General, UAE University

Ambassador Douglas A. Silliman, President, AGSIW

Ambassador Marcelle M. Wahba, President Emeritus and Distinguished Fellow, AGSIW

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Khaled Sifri, Former Chief Executive Officer, Emirates Investment Bank

Ambassador C. David Welch, Former Senior Vice President, Bechtel

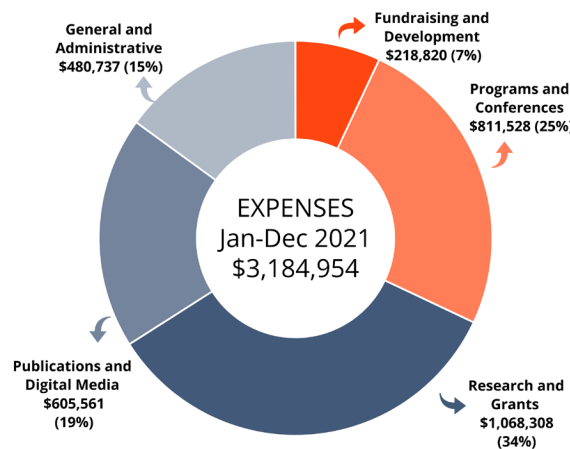
Financials

Statement of Financial Position

As of year ended December 31, 2021

ASSETS	2021
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and short-term investments	4,261,365
Grants and accounts receivable	3,039,763
Property and equipment, net	144,980
Other assets	68,883
TOTAL ASSETS	7,514,991
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	174,528
Deferred rent and other liabilities	93,022
Total current liabilities	267,550
TOTAL LIABILITIES	267,550
NET ASSETS	
Without donor restrictions	4,137,362
With donor restrictions	3,110,079
NET ASSETS	7,247,441
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	7,514,991


2021 Expenses by Function



Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

For January 1 – December 31, 2021

	JANUARY - DECEMBER 2021		
	Unrestricted	Temporary Restricted	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Grants and contributions	135,833	3,000,000	3,135,833
Membership	42,855	54,167	97,022
Interest income	19,579	-	19,579
In-kind contributions	-	-	-
Net assets released from donor restrictions	3,224,088	(3,224,088)	-
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	3,422,355	(169,921)	3,252,434
EXPENSES			
PROGRAM SERVICES			
Programs and Conferences	811,528	-	811,528
Research and Grants	1,068,308	-	1,068,308
Publications and Digital Media	605,561	-	605,561
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	2,485,397	-	2,485,397
SUPPORTING SERVICES			
General and Administrative	480,737	-	480,737
Fundraising and Development	218,820	-	218,820
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	699,557	-	699,557
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,184,954	-	3,184,954
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	237,401	(169,921)	67,480
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	3,899,961	3,280,000	7,179,961
NET ASSETS, AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021	4,137,362	3,110,079	7,247,441



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معهد دول الخليج العربية في واشنطن لبناء جسور التفاهم

