



Emirates Policy Center

Fourth Abu Dhabi Strategic Debate

November 11-13, 2017

Emirates Palace, Abu Dhabi

Saturday, 11 November

12:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Pre-registration
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM	Reception
8:30 PM	Welcome Dinner Guest of Honor Speech <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Sheikh Nahyan Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Tolerance

Day 1, Sunday 12 November

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Registration
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Opening Speech <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Ebtessam Al Ketbi, President of the Emirates Policy Center Keynote Speech <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Dr. Anwar Gargash, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs

Panel One

10:00 AM–11:15 AM	<i>Gulf Security: Issues and Scenarios</i> Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Abdullah Bishara, Former Diplomat and President of the Diplomatic Center For Strategic Studies in Kuwait• Dr. Abdulkhaleq Abdullah, Academician and Researcher in Arab Gulf Affairs• Dr. Ayed Al-Manna, Academician and Political Researcher• Salem Alyami, Political Analyst Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Faisal Bin Huraiz, Anchorman and show host at Sky News Arabia
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Panel Two

11:30 AM–12:45 PM	<p><i>Fires and Flames in the Middle East (1): Decoding Iran</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Khalid Al-Dakhil</i>, Academician and Columnist for <i>Al-Hayat</i> Newspaper • <i>Dr. Mohsen Milani</i>, Executive Director of the Center for Strategic & Diplomatic Studies at the University of South Florida • <i>Alex Vatanka</i>, Senior Fellow at the Middle East Institute in Washington • <i>Dr. Sultan Al Nuaimi</i>, Expert on Iranian Affairs and Faculty Member of the University of Abu Dhabi <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mohannad Al Khatib</i>, Senior News Anchor at Sky News Arabia
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Panel Three

12:45 PM–14:00 PM	<p><i>Fires and Flames in the Middle East (2): Turkey: A Rebirth or a Decline of a Nation?</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ersat Hurmuzlu</i>, Former Senior Advisor to Turkish President for Middle East Affairs • <i>H.E. Unal Cevikoz</i>, Former Turkish Diplomat and Columnist • <i>Muhammed Zahid Gul</i>, Head of Sarkiyat Research Center in Istanbul • <i>Cengiz Candar</i>, Professor and Columnist for <i>Al Monitor</i> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Yusuf Al Sharif</i>, Presenter/Producer at Sky News Arabia
14:00 PM–15:00 PM	Lunch Break

Panel Four

15:00 PM–16:00 PM	<p><i>Soft Power in International Politics: UAE as a Model</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>H.E. Noura Al Kaabi</i>, Minister of Culture and Knowledge Development • <i>Dr. Ebtessam Al Ketbi</i>, President of the Emirates Policy Center <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Turki Al Dakhil</i>, General Manager of <i>Al Arabiya</i> News Channel
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16:00 PM–16:15 PM	<p><i>Decoding the Future: Geostrategic Predictions and Political Risk Analysis</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Mark Abdollahian</i> CEO of ACERTAS and Professor in the School of Social Science, Policy & Evaluation at Claremont Graduate University
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Panel Five

16:15 PM–17:45 PM	<p><i>The Arab World: Competing Futures (Syria, Yemen, Libya, Iraq and Qatar)</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>H.E. Khaled Bahah</i>, Former Yemeni Vice President and Prime Minister • <i>H.E. Dr. Mahmoud Jibril</i>, President of the National Forces Alliance and former Prime Minister of Libya • <i>H.E. Bernardino Leon</i>, Director General of the Emirates Diplomatic Academy and former Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General to Libya • <i>Dr. Yousef Al Hassan</i>, Researcher and former Diplomat • <i>Dr. Hussein Ibish</i>, Senior Resident Scholar at the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington • <i>Ali Khedery</i>, Chairman of Marathon FZ LLC, and former Special Assistant to five American ambassadors in Iraq <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Randa Slim</i>, Director of the Program on Conflict Resolution and Track II Dialogues at the Middle East Institute in Washington DC
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Day 2, Monday 13 November

Panel Six

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM	<p><i>U.S. Policy in the Gulf: Troubled Cruise</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ed Rogers</i>, Expert in Political Campaigns and former Deputy Assistant to the President and Executive Assistant to the White House Chief of Staff • <i>Dr. James Lindsay</i>, Senior Vice President, Director of Studies and Maurice R. Greenberg chair at the Council on Foreign Relations • <i>Abdulrahman Al Rashed</i>, Columnist for <i>Asharq Al-Awsat</i> Newspaper <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sheikh Sultan Sooud Al Qassemi</i>, Political Analyst and Columnist
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Panel Seven

<p>10:15AM–11:30 AM</p>	<p><i>Back to the Future: Asia's Return? (China, Japan and India)</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Kei Hakata</i>, Professor of Politics and Security at Seikei University • <i>Dr. Meena Roy</i>, Head of West Asia Centre at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses • <i>Dr. Wu Bingbing</i>, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for International and Strategic Studies (IISS), Peking University <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Roy Kamphausen</i>, Senior Vice President for Research at the National Bureau of Asian Research
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Panel Eight

<p>11:45 AM–13:00 PM</p>	<p><i>Russia: Old Lenses for a New World</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Sergey Karaganov</i>, Dean of the Faculty of International Economics and Foreign Affairs at the National Research University-Higher School of Economics • <i>Paul Saunders</i>, Executive Director of the Center for the National Interest and member of the Center's Board of Directors • <i>Dr. Andrey Bystritskiy</i>, Chairman of the Board of the Foundation for Development and Support of the Valdai Discussion Club in Moscow • <i>Dr. Timur Makhmutov</i>, Deputy Director of Programs, Russian International Affairs Council <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Steve Clemons</i>, Editor at Large of The Atlantic and Editor-in-Chief of AtlanticLIVE
<p>13:00 PM–14:00 PM</p>	<p>Lunch Break</p>

Panel Nine

<p>14:00 PM–15:30 PM</p>	<p><i>Radicalization, Extremism and Terrorism: The Future of Political Islam</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Ridwan Al-Sayyid</i>, Visiting Professor of Islamic Studies at the American University of Beirut • <i>Dr. Abdullah Al Seyid Wald Abah</i>, Professor of Philosophy and Social Studies at the University of Nouakchott
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Dr. Mustafa Al Ani</i>, Senior Advisor and Program Director in Security and Terrorism Studies at Gulf Research Center <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mohammed Al Hammadi</i>, Editor-in-Chief of the UAE-based Al Ittihad Newspaper.
15:30 PM - 16:00 PM	Conclusions