



The 10th Annual International Interdisciplinary Conference
of the Gulf Studies Center in the College of Arts and Sciences
at Qatar University:

Bridging Tradition and Progress: Social Transformation Trends in the GCC States

 16 - 17 November 2025

 8:30 am - 3:00 pm (Doha Time)

 Qatar University, College of Law Building (I09), Auditorium (B239)



The 10th Annual International Interdisciplinary Conference Schedule
Bridging Tradition and Progress: Social Transformation Trends in the GCC States
First Day Program
November 16, 2025

Opening Ceremony and Welcoming Remarks

8:30 – 9:00 Registration

- Mr. Mubrak Al- Kubaisi- MC

9:00 – 9:30

- Dr. Fatima Al-Kubaisi
Dean of College of Arts and Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences- Qatar University
- Dr. Maryam Al Kuwari
Director of the Gulf Studies Center, College of Arts and Sciences - Qatar University

Panel 1 - Economic Development and Social Change

Moderator: Dr. Mazhar Al-Zoubi, Director of Student Data Analysis, Evaluation, and Planning - Qatar University

- Prof. Yagoub Al-Kandari
Director of Center of the Gulf & Arabian Peninsula Studies - Kuwait University
Economic Development and Social Change: A Study of Social Changes in Kuwaiti Family Structure
- Prof. Haider Saeed
Director of Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies Unit - Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies
The Middle Class and Political Development in the Arab Gulf Countries
- Dr. Maryam Al Kuwari
Director of Gulf Studies Center, College of Arts and Sciences - Qatar University
The Securitization of Citizenship Policies in the GCC: Drivers & Implications for State -Society Relations

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee Break

Panel 2 – The Legislative Frameworks in Building National Identities in the GCC States

Moderator: Dr. Aisha Al-Rashidi, Head of Department of International Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences - Qatar University

- Prof. Hassan Al-Sayed
Professor of Public Law, College of Law - Qatar University
The Philosophy of Law in Social Cohesion and Integration: A Study of Nationality Laws in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries
- Mr. Mohammed Al-Kubaisi
Judge and PhD candidate, College of Law - Qatar University
The Legislative Framework of Linguistic Security as a Tool to Protect National Identity in GCC Countries

11:40 – 12:50

Lunch Break

Panel 3 - Policies and Practices in Preserving the Gulf's Cultural Traditions

Moderator: Dr. Hamad Al Ghadeed , Humanities Department, College of Arts and Sciences - Qatar University

- **Dr. AlAnood AlShaikh**
Cultural Advisor and Regional Expert at the UNESCO
The Role and Impact of Heritage Practitioners within a Tribal Structure on the Interpretation and Presentation of National Heritage
- **Dr. Constantine Andoniou**
Associate Professor of Education and the Chair of the Department of Education and Social Sciences - Abu Dhabi University
Algorithmic Heritage: AI Modernization and Cultural Identity in the Gulf States

12:50 – 14:15

- **Prof. Andrew Gardner**
Professor of Anthropology, University of Puget Sound – USA
A New Vista Point on Transnational Labor Migration to the Qatari Peninsula
- **Mr. Said Al Hashmi**
PhD Candidate - Huston University, USA
Past, History, Heritage: A Preliminary Approach to the Contradictions of the Present and Questions of the Future in the Arab Gulf Countries

Panel 4 - The Role of Family and Marriage Institutions in Social Development

Moderator: Dr. Noora Al Mannai , Director of SESRI- Qatar University

- **Dr. Noora Al Saai**
Assistant Professor at the College of Law - Qatar University
The Multiplicity of Institutions and State Instruments Governing Marriage and the Family and their Impact on Social Development
- **Prof. Maha Al Sejari**
Department of Sociology and Social Work - Kuwait University
Economic and Social Changes and Their Impact on Gulf Women's Health: The Case of Kuwait
- **Ms. Fatima Elhag**
Ph.D. Candidate at the Center for Socio-Legal Studies- Oxford University
The Role of Family and Marriage Institutions in Social Development

14:15 – 15:15

The 10th Annual International Interdisciplinary Conference Schedule
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Second Day Program
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Panel 1 - Youth Identity in a Changing World

Moderator: Dr. Saleh Al-Khulaifi , Gulf Studies Center, College of Arts and Sciences - Qatar University

- **Prof. Maryz Younes**
Professor of Sociology - Lebanese University
Transformations of Gulf Youth Between Policies and Representations: A Sociological Reading

9:00 – 10:00

- **Dr. Mansour Al-Maswari**
Postdoctoral Fellow at the Global Center of Middle Eastern Studies - Columbia University
Identity and Cultural Regeneration in Contemporary Arab Gulf Societies: A Critical Study
- **Dr. Ugur Ozdemir**
Senior Lecturer in Quantitative Political Science - University of Edinburgh
Between Pride and Pluralism: National Identity and Global Openness Among Gulf Youth

10:00 – 10:30

Coffee Break

Panel 2 - Cultural Diplomacy in the Face of Unconventional Threats

Moderator: Prof. Saban Kardas, Program Coordinator at the Gulf Studies Center, College of Arts and Sciences - Qatar University

- **Dr. Pinar Akpınar**
Assistant Professor at the Gulf Studies Center, College of Arts and Sciences - Qatar University
Humanitarian Diplomacy as Soft Power: Qatar's Cultural Strategy in Global Aid

10:30 – 11:30

- **Mr. Mohammed Hanif**
Adjunct Lecturer of Architecture -University of Bahrain
Redefining Historic District through "Staged Authenticity" in the Gulf: Heritage Boutiques, Curated Museums and Waterfronts
- **Ms. Aisha Ahmadi**
Ph.D. Candidate at the Gulf Studies Program - Qatar University
The Digital Battlefield of FIFA 2022: Cybersecurity Challenges and Qatar's Response

11:30 – 12:45

Lunch Break

Panel 3 - Social Identity in Urban Futures

Moderator: Dr. Lulwa Al - Abdullah, Dean of Student Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences - Qatar University

- **Dr. Djamel Boussaa**

Associate Professor at the College of Engineering - Qatar University

The Interaction of Tradition and Progress: Lessons from the Msheireb Downtown Project in Doha, Qatar

12:45 – 13:45

- **Ms. Amna Al Shahwani**

Researcher in Sociology and Anthropology

A Study of the Transformation of Mobility Patterns in Gulf Cities: Doha and Modern Housing as a Case Study

- **Mr. Mahdi Laadhari**

Researcher in Anthropology and Sociology - Doha Institute

Qatari Majlis: Between Intimate Bonds, Belonging, and the Centrality of Discourse in a Changing Society

Closing Remarks

13:45 – 14:15

- **Prof. Fahad Al-Naser**

Professor in the Department of Sociology and Social Work – College of Social Sciences – Kuwait University

- **Dr. Maryam Al Kuwari**

Director of the Gulf Studies Center, College of Arts and Sciences, Qatar University