

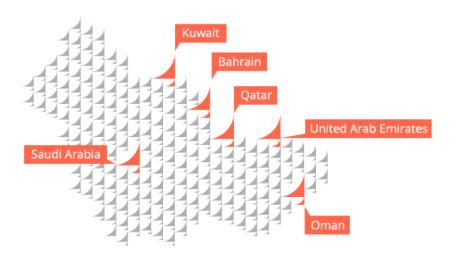
The Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington

Building bridges of understanding

Annual Report 2023



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Letter From the Chair



A Message From AGSIW Board Chair Ambassador Frank G. Wisner

It is my immense pleasure to present the work of the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington in 2023. Over the year, numerous events challenged – and provided opportunities for – the Gulf: the Gaza war, climate change, and shifting ideas on international alliances and partnerships, to name just a few. Throughout the year, AGSIW brought you the most comprehensive and detailed analysis of the trends affecting the Gulf, both negative and positive.

The October 7 Hamas attacks on Israel and the massive Israeli military response brought serious repercussions for the region, from Houthi attacks on international shipping to the efforts of Gulf states to bring an end to fighting and improve the humanitarian situation in Gaza. AGSIW launched a series of deep discussions examining different

perspectives on the war, how the fighting and humanitarian crisis might be ended, and what roles Gulf states could play.

Through Looking East: The China-Gulf Initiative, AGSIW explained China's strategic and commercial goals in the region as well as China's role in bringing to closure an agreement to restore Saudi-Iranian diplomatic relations. AGSIW also greatly expanded its detailed coverage of the Saudi economy to help policymakers and businesses debunk widely held myths and identify new opportunities.

AGSIW also widened its coverage of arts, culture, and society – topics that touch hearts and build real bridges of understanding between people. The institute launched the Culture Column and an Instagram page, both efforts dedicated to bringing to new audiences the latest in art, music, and sports from the Gulf and providing a platform for authentic young voices from the region.

After nine years, I plan to step away from my duties as chair of the board of AGSIW in 2024. I will, nonetheless, remain engaged in AGSIW's important work to bring deeper understanding of the societies, economies, and politics of this important region to audiences in the United States and around the world. I hope that you will join me and AGSIW on this continuing journey.

Sincerely,

Frank H. Wisier

Letter From the President



A Message From AGSIW President Ambassador Douglas A. Silliman

For the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington, 2023 was a year of strong and prolific analysis, stimulating programs, fresh input from new scholars, and impressive institutional growth, bolstered by energetic fundraising and collaboration with U.S.- and Gulf-based institutions. Having wrapped up our ninth year of operations, we hope this report will give you a taste of all this activity.

Coverage of the Israel-Hamas war dominated our efforts toward the end of the year, a reflection of the unprecedented violence and suffering that marked the October 7 Hamas attacks and Israeli military response. Through programs, publications, and media appearances, we focused on Gulf efforts to respond to the crisis, the ensuing humanitarian

catastrophe in Gaza, and Houthi efforts to disrupt shipping in the Red Sea.

Throughout the year, AGSIW probed Gulf security issues and dynamics surrounding efforts to normalize relations with both Israel and Syria, through publications, programs, and our popular *Ambassadors Series* of conversations with U.S. ambassadors and senior policymakers. A new visiting fellow used his extensive experience as a former International Monetary Fund mission chief for Saudi Arabia to provide sustained, insightful coverage of economic challenges and opportunities for the kingdom. With the United Arab Emirates hosting COP28, AGSIW launched the *Energy and Climate Initiative* covering pressing issues related to energy and the environment.

At a pivotal and dynamic time, prominent institutions and media outlets turned to AGSIW first. Our scholars and leadership spoke at prestigious universities, including Johns Hopkins, Texas A&M, Princeton, Fordham, Georgetown, and National Defense University, and were interviewed or cited by top-tier U.S. and international media outlets and academic journals hundreds of times during the year. AGSIW also held briefings with members of Congress and their staff, the National Security Council, the Department of State, Foreign Service Institute, Gulf-based institutions such as the Emirates Policy Center and Bahrain's Academy of Diplomatic Studies, and the foreign and defense ministries of several other countries.

We were honored to conclude the year with a fundraising gala honoring outgoing Board Chair Ambassador Frank G. Wisner for his consequential diplomatic career and many contributions to the institute. The event was a powerful reminder of the indispensable leadership of our board of directors, the generous support of our donors, and the impressive, deeply appreciated efforts of AGSIW staff throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Gulf Security Amid Uncertainty



crisis in Yemen, and Iranian protests, and considered what these developments mean for regional security and stability.

AGSIW monitored important security developments affecting the Gulf, including the Gaza war, the ongoing war and humanitarian

Houthi followers hold a cutout banner portraying the Galaxy Leader cargo ship, which was seized by Houthi forces, during a parade in Sanaa, Yemen, February 7, 2024. (REUTERS/Khaled Abdullah)

Featured Programming



The Future of Security in the Middle East

AGSIW and the Middle East Policy Council co-hosted a Capitol Hill conference on security in the Middle East. Amb. Richard J. Schmierer gave introductory remarks, and discussants included Bassima Alghussein, Asha Castleberry-Hernandez, DB Des Roches, Mary Beth Long, and Amb. Douglas A. Silliman.



Is the End in Sight for the Yemen Conflict?

Eleonora Ardemagni, Gregory D. Johnsen, Ahmed Nagi, and moderator Hussein Ibish discussed the prospects for the end of the conflict in Yemen.



Iranian Protests and Tehran's Regional Role

Ali Alfoneh, Mohammed Al Sulami, Sanam Vakil, and moderator Amb. William Roebuck discussed Iran's regional relationships amid ongoing protests.

Featured Publications

Has Regional Detente Paved the Way for Collective Maritime Security in the Gulf? | Leonardo Jacopo Maria Mazzucco

While a regional naval alliance remains distant, de-escalation has created an opening for maritime security cooperation.

✓ Gulf States at Center Stage in the Conflict in Sudan | Umer Karim

Saudi Arabia and the UAE have emerged as key players in the military confrontation in Sudan, highlighting the leverage of Gulf stakeholders.

The Houthis' Economic War Threatens Lasting Peace in Yemen | Eleonora Ardemagni

The Houthi campaign to deny revenue and resources to Yemen's U.N.-recognized government threatens the country's long-term stability.

China's Saudi Arabia-Iran Mediation: An Important but Slender
Achievement | Amb. William Roebuck

China may be able to build on its breakthrough with more ambitious Gulf diplomacy, but, in the meantime, it appears Saudi Arabia and Iran are forging ahead on their own.

Continuity or Change: Qaani's Quds Force

In this series, AGSIW Senior Fellow Ali Alfoneh looked at how the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Quds Force has evolved since the 2020 appointment of Brigadier General Ismail Qaani as chief commander.

- Arab-Israeli Tragedy, Quds Force Chief's Victory
- A Method to Movements? Tracking Quds Force Chief Qaani
- Is Quds Force Chief Qaani Likely to Open a Hezbollah Front Against Israel?
- Deciphering Quds Force Chief Qaani's Words



Smoke rises in the air above Gaza following Israeli bombings, as seen from Israel's border with the Gaza Strip, in southern Israel, October 16, 2023. (REUTERS/Amir Cohen)

The Israel-Hamas Conflict

The devastating humanitarian crisis in Gaza and other aspects of the aftermath of Hamas' October 7 attack on southern Israel continue to reverberate throughout the Middle East. AGSIW scholars covered how policies and strategic calculations have been reshaped in response to this ongoing conflict.

- Will the Israel-Hamas Conflict Spell the End of Regional Reconciliation? (Program)
- How Is the Israel-Hamas Conflict Affecting Gulf Arab States and Their Strategic Calculations? (Program)
- The Hamas-Israel Conflict May Upend Saudi and U.S. Calculations | Hussein Ibish
- The Gulf Finds Its Voice on Gaza and Considers the Path Ahead | Amb. William Roebuck
- The Houthi War on Israel | Gregory D. Johnsen

Shifting Domestic Politics and International Alignments



AGSIW analyzed several important political developments within and involving the Gulf region, including the expansion of BRICS to include Iran, the UAE, and likely soon Saudi Arabia, the political standoff in Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia's normalization of ties with Syria, and considered what these developments mean for Gulf countries' domestic and foreign policy goals.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken poses for a photo as he meets with GCC ministers at the GCC Secretariat in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, June 7, 2023. (Ahmed Yosri/Pool via AP)

Featured Programming

How Will Presidential Election Results Affect Turkey's Regional Outlook?

AGSIW and the Middle East Institute co-hosted a discussion on Turkey's presidential election results and the effects on the region. Moderated by Amb. Douglas A. Silliman, discussants included Hussein Ibish, Alan Makovsky, and Gönül Tol.

The Abraham Accords at Three: Are They Successful and Will More Gulf Arab Countries Join?

Amb. Daniel C. Kurtzer, Noga Tarnopolsky, Shibley Telhami, and moderator Hussein Ibish discussed the Abraham Accords and Israel's relations with the Arab world.

BRICS+: Seeking an Alternative World Order?

Mohammed Baharoon, Narayanappa Janardhan, Mansour Almarzoqi, Tingyi Wang, and moderator Kristin Smith Diwan discussed the potential expansion of the BRICS forum of emerging economies.

Featured Publications

UAE in BRICS Expansion Amplifies Multialignment Trend |
Narayanappa Janardhan and Mohammed Baharoon

Joining BRICS will epitomize the UAE's pursuit of strategic autonomy and equidistant ties.

New Elections and Frustration Within Kuwait's Elite | Kristin Smith Diwan

Amid an ongoing political standoff and governing malaise, some within Kuwait's elite have challenged the Al Sabah family-led government.

Chronicle of a Normalization Foretold: Saudi Arabia and Syria Ease
Toward Restoring Ties | Amb. William Roebuck

Riyadh appears set to consolidate Arab consensus on Syria, raising further questions about U.S. regional influence.

Erdogan Overcomes Opposition – and Economy – to Prevail in Presidential Runoff | Alan Makovsky

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has proved he can win a national election without a successful economy; however, he cannot begin to achieve his vision of Turkish greatness without economic greatness as well.

Book Talks

AGSIW's book talks provide a platform for scholars to highlight their latest publications and take a deep dive into research on topics of importance to the Gulf and U.S.-Gulf relations.

- Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates: Foreign Policy and Strategic Alliances in an Uncertain World by Robert Mason
- The UAE after the Arab Spring: Strategy for Survival by Khalifa Al Suwaidi
- The Struggle for Supremacy in the Middle East by Simon Mabon



Amb. Barbara A. Leaf, left, and Amb. Douglas A. Silliman, right

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.

- A Conversation With Barbara A. Leaf, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs
- A Conversation With Dana Stroul, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Middle East
- A Conversation With Steven Fagin, the United States Ambassador to the Republic of Yemen

Building Ties: Gulf Economic Growth and Expanding Vision



From the fallout of the Gaza war to the announcement of an India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor to the Gulf's growing economic relationship with China, Gulf economies saw significant movement in 2023. AGSIW analyzed these developments as well as regional diversification efforts, policy challenges, and collaboration and competition within and outside of the Gulf.

People walk past a banner showing Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman outside a mall in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Feb. 5, 2020. (AP Photo/Amr Nabil)

Featured Programming

Sovereign Wealth Funds in the Middle East and Asia

Led by Robert Mogielnicki, AGSIW hosted a private workshop on sovereign wealth funds.

▲ Economic Outlook and Future Policy Challenges in Saudi Arabia

Garbis Iradian, Amine Mati, and moderator Tim Callen discussed the International Monetary Fund's 2023 Article IV report and the policy challenges that Saudi Arabia needs to overcome to ensure continued strong economic growth.

✓ China-GCC FTA Negotiations and Prospects for Broader Economic Collaboration

Moderator Robert Mogielnicki, Sun Degang, Nasser Saidi, and Rachel Ziemba discussed the potential free trade agreement between China and the Gulf Cooperation Council.

Featured Publications

Strong China-Energy Ties Spill Into Key Regional Issues | Robert Mogielnicki

Energy cooperation is a central factor in not only China-Gulf economic relations but also the triangular – and often fraught – relationship among the United States, Gulf states, and China.



Great Expectations: The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor | Umer Karim and Saloni Kapur

The institutionalization of the Gulf-India partnership through the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor has solidified India's shift away from Iran and toward the Gulf states.



The UAE Leads the Way on Gulf-South America Ties | Robert Mason

Gulf state economic diversification, led by the UAE, is driving a surge in relations with South America, reinforced by shared leadership outlooks, bilateral trade, and security considerations.

Exploring Saudi Arabia's Economic Future

Visiting Fellow Tim Callen explores Saudi Arabia's economic diversification efforts and the intricate relationship between the kingdom's fiscal landscape and oil market policy and offers crucial insights on the future of Saudi Arabia's economy.

- A Smaller Saudi Population Puts Key Economic Indicators in a More Favorable Light
- The Breakeven Oil Price Is a Poor Guide to Saudi Arabia's Fiscal and Oil Production Policies
- Signs That Economic Diversification Is Working in Saudi Arabia
- Increased Spending Raises Risks to the Saudi Budget
- Going Big: Assessing the Growth Ambitions of the Saudi Public Investment Fund



Women in Riyadh arrive to watch the launch of a SpaceX Falcon 9 and Dragon capsule from Kennedy Space Center, Florida, May 21, 2023. (REUTERS/Ahmed Yosri)

Economic Growth With a Social Impact

From empowering women to revolutionizing health care to creating smart and sustainable cities, economic diversification efforts and overall economic growth in the Gulf in 2023 have had a catalytic impact on social progress in the region.

- Economic Empowerment of Women in Saudi Arabia
 Assessing Progress and Identifying Constraints (Program)
- The Economic Statecraft of the Gulf Arab States: Deploying Aid, Investment, and Development Across the MENAP (Program)
- Smart and Sustainable: The Gulf Goes All in on Tech Cities | Sussan Saikali
- Revolutionizing Health Care: Saudi Arabia's Digital Health Transformation | Lubna Yousef
- Social Entrepreneurship Begins to Thrive in the UAE | Lauren McMillen

COP28 and the Road to a New Energy Landscape



With 2023 the planet's hottest year on record and the effects of climate change increasingly clear, AGSIW analyzed Gulf energy policies and diversification efforts as well as progress toward climate commitments as Gulf states continue to navigate the energy transition.

An attendee poses for a picture near a model Earth during the COP27 climate summit in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt, November 19, 2022. (REUTERS/Mohamed Abd El Ghany)

Petro Diplomacy 2023: The Energy Transition and the Road to COP28

On June 27 and 28, AGSIW convened its ninth annual Petro Diplomacy conference under the theme "The Energy Transition and the Road to COP28," bringing together private and public sector stakeholders from the United States and the Gulf Arab countries to discuss emerging trends in energy markets and regional politics ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP28.

Sessions

- Decarbonization Pathways in the GCC
- Geopolitical Shift and New Alliances
- Lunch Keynote With Mike Howard, Chair of the World Energy Council
- Presentation IEA Oil 2023 Report: Analysis and Forecast to 2028
- The Future Energy Mix in the Gulf

Related Publications

- Scene Setter The Energy Transition and the Road to COP28
 Kate Dourian
- Event Report Petro Diplomacy: The Energy Transition and the Road to COP28 | Kate Dourian



"COP28 UAE" logo is displayed on a screen during the opening ceremony of Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, in Abu Dhabi, UAE, January 16, 2023. (REUTERS/Rula Rouhana)

Energy and Climate Initiative

The UAE held the U.N. Climate Change Conference, COP28, in November 2023 in Dubai at a critical juncture in the effort to combat global warming. Ahead of COP28, AGSIW launched the *Energy and Climate Initiative*, exploring Gulf energy and climate policies, technological advances, and pressing political, social, and environmental issues.

Featured Publications

From Sharm el Sheikh to Dubai: What to Expect From the UAE as Host of COP28 | Aisha Al Sarihi

COP28 is expected to create momentum for the Gulf states to advance their climate action ambitions and climate policy implementation.

UAE Eyes Economic Gains from Industry Decarbonization | Jamie Ingram

The UAE is seeking to capitalize on the opportunities presented by the energy transition rather than merely avoiding pitfalls along the way.

Conflict and Weak Governance Fuel Yemen's Environmental Crisis |
Hannah Porter

The absence of a functioning state exacerbates Yemen's environmental disasters, compounding the humanitarian crisis caused by years of conflict.

A Warm December as COP28 Gets Underway in Dubai | Kate Dourian While not short on ambition in its energy diversification policy, the UAE faces a particular set of challenges along the pathway to carbon neutrality.



An aerial view of Hadramout, Yemen, (Credit: Hannah Porter)

Related Publications

- Sultan Al Jaber's COP28 Appointment Captures Key Climate Trends and Fault Lines | Amb. William Roebuck
- Five Climate Challenges the Gulf States Might Not Have Time to Solve | Marie van den Bosch
- Fossil Fuels and the Gulf Energy Transition | Robin Mills
- Solar and Wind Energy Driving the Middle East's Energy Transition | Kate Dourian

The Power of Societies: Shaping the Gulf Narrative



From an initiative to preserve modern architecture in Abu Dhabi to the rise of futsal in Bahrain and creative approaches to the climate crisis, 2023 was an active year for the Gulf in terms of art, society, and culture. AGSIW analyzed developments and shifts within the Gulf's creative and social spheres and how they translated into meaningful civic and political transformation.

A man holds up Cristiano Ronaldo jerseys at Al-Nassr Football Club's store in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, January 2, 2023. (AP Photo/Amr Nabil)

Featured Programming

▲ AGSIW Student Open House and Reception

AGSIW hosted a student open house and reception, featuring Emirati and Colombian American visual artist Sara Ahli.

A Conversation With H.E. Sarah Al Amiri, UAE Minister of State for Public Education and Advanced Technology
H.E. Sarah Al Amiri and Amb. Douglas A. Silliman discussed the UAE's space program.

✓ Poll Launch – 20 Years Later: What Do Iraqis Think of the U.S. Invasion and Its Aftermath?

Moderator Amb. Douglas A. Silliman, Munqith Dagher, and Johnny Heald discussed a new poll conducted by Almustakilla, the Independent Institute of Administration and Civil Society Studies.

Featured Publications

Saudi Arabia Storms the World of Football | Kristin Smith Diwan

Saudi Arabia's successful bid to host the 2034 World Cup and aggressive recruitment of top players from elite football clubs across Europe mark another audacious play for state-financed entry into global sports.

Present Pasts: Preserving Modern Architecture in Abu Dhabi | Yasser Elsheshtawy Through its Modern Heritage Initiative, Abu Dhabi has set itself apart from other urban centers in the UAE and region.

Saudi Arabia Amends Its Citizenship Law | Sussan Saikali

Article 8 of Saudi Arabia's citizenship law, in theory, makes it easier for Saudi women married to foreigners to transmit citizenship to their children, but implementation will be key in assessing impact of the measure on broader gender reform efforts.

Gulf Women Closing Ranks in Security and Diplomacy | Sinem Cengiz

Although the entry of women into the Gulf's diplomatic and military ranks was slower than elsewhere, the region is in the midst of a sweeping transformation, largely due to top-down policies and social shifts.

Culture Column

The Culture Column, a new quarterly newsletter by AGSIW showcasing the latest in culture, art, and society in the Gulf, is an opportunity to discover creativity from the Gulf, cultivate inspiration, and help in growing an art- and culture-centered community. Follow AGSIW on Instagram and subscribe to receive the Culture Column and related announcements.





RexChouk, an artist, profiled in Millennial Gulf.

Millennial Gulf

AGSIW's Millennial Gulf reports on youthled initiatives in the realms of culture, politics, technology, and entrepreneurship in the Gulf Arab countries. The goal of Millennial Gulf is to elevate the voices of youth in the region and offer fresh, human insights on the diverse artistic and social perspectives in the Gulf.

Featured publications

- Head in the Clouds or Outer Space, Pop Icon RexChouk Is Relatable and Hilarious | Nada Ammagui
- Picking Up Speed: The Rise of Futsal in Bahrain | Alvssa Kristeller
- Thinking Green in the Gulf: Creative Approaches to the Climate Crisis | Nada Ammagui
- SARAI Gallery Connects Emerging Iranian Artists With the World | Nada Ammagui

Collaborating

AGSIW believes in the importance of collaborating with like-minded partners to support relevant research and expand its reach around the world. In 2023, AGSIW worked with a number of organizations to highlight important studies, deepen expertise on topics of mutual interest, and reach new audiences.

Featured Collaborations



Middle East Institute

How Will Presidential Election Results Affect Turkey's Regional Outlook?

AGSIW and the Middle East Institute co-hosted a discussion on Turkey's presidential election results featuring Hussein Ibish, Alan Makovsky, Gönül Tol, and moderator Amb. Douglas A. Silliman.



Is a U.S.-Brokered Deal Between Israel and Saudi Arabia Possible?

AGSIW and ROPES co-hosted a discussion on the prospects for an agreement among the United States, Saudi Arabia, and Israel with Aziz Alghashian, Nir Boms, Hussein Ibish, and moderator Ksenia Svetlova.

Middle East Policy Council

The Future of Security in the Middle East

AGSIW and the Middle East Policy Council co-hosted a Capitol Hill conference on security in the Middle East. Amb. Richard J. Schmierer gave introductory remarks and discussants included Bassima Alghussein, Asha Castleberry-Hernandez, DB Des Roches, Mary Beth Long, and Amb. Douglas A. Silliman.

2023 Bridgebuilder Award



Amb. Frank G. Wisner, left, and Judy Woodruff, right, at AGSIW's inaugural Bridgebuilder Award Gala.



Amb. Douglas A. Silliman, left, Amb. Frank G. Wisner, center, and Amb. C. David Welch, right, pose during the presentation of AGSIW's inaugural Bridgebuilder Award.

AGSIW was pleased to honor Ambassador Frank G. Wisner's illustrious diplomatic career and his crucial role in founding the institute and serving as its inaugural chair of the board with its inaugural Bridgebuilder Award.

Wisner is the outgoing chair of the board of directors of AGSIW and international affairs advisor for Squire Patton Boggs in New York City. He provides clients with strategic global advice concerning business, politics, and international law from the firm's Washington and New York offices. Ambassador to India, Egypt, the Philippines, and Zambia, Wisner's legendary diplomatic career spans four decades and includes positions of senior leadership at the Department of State and Pentagon. He worked closely with the late Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to launch negotiations with Zimbabwe and Namibia and served as the U.S. special representative to the Kosovo Status Talks in 2005, where he played a crucial role in negotiating Kosovo's independence.

AGSIW Interim Board Chair Ambassador C. David Welch said, "Frank Wisner is a legend, a man who cuts a figure larger than life and whose intellect, experience, and advice ring as true today as in the late 1970s. He merits this honor and the respect it implies. It is fitting that Frank is its first recipient."

AGSIW President Ambassador Douglas A. Silliman said, "I feel an immense amount of gratitude for Frank's leadership of AGSIW as chair of the institute's board of directors. He has been at the forefront of AGSIW's work since the beginning. He has fostered an institutional culture that not only prioritizes being policy relevant and providing practical solutions to our stakeholders, but Frank also values and supports the people on the team who make this work possible. Under his thoughtful, visionary leadership, the institute has developed and thrived and is now the most trusted source for analysis relating to the Gulf and U.S.-Gulf relations, reaching hundreds of thousands of people through its programs and publications each year. As I reflect on the extraordinary impact and legacy of Frank's leadership, I feel exceptionally fortunate to honor him with AGSIW's inaugural Bridgebuilder Award."

Media and Outreach

AGSIW remains a go-to source for prominent outlets for expert commentary on the Gulf. AGSIW scholars and leadership made media appearances for major broadcast networks, such as CNN, BBC, and CNBC, 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, Foreign Policy, and The National.

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

▲ 2023 IISS Manama Dialogue

Amb. William Roebuck, executive vice president, and Robert Mogielnicki, senior resident scholar, participated as delegates in the 2023 IISS Manama Dialogue.

United Nations Climate Change Conference

Marie van den Bosch, visiting scholar, attended the United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP28, in the United Arab Emirates.

AGSIW participated in the Middle East Studies Association's 57th annual meeting in Montreal. Robert Mogielnicki, senior resident scholar, delivered a presentation on Saudi-Chinese economic relations on the panel "The Politics of Trade and Investment in the New Gulf." Kristin Smith Diwan, senior resident scholar, chaired the panel "Advances and Shortcomings in Gulf Studies."

University of Chicago

Hussein Ibish, senior resident scholar, and Ali Alfoneh, senior fellow, presented lectures on U.S.-Saudi-Iranian relations to graduate classes at the University of Chicago.

✓ National Defense University

At the National Defense University, Amb. Douglas A. Silliman delivered the lecture "Securing Iraq's Borders" to an Iraqi capstone class.

U.S. Army War College

Roebuck presented a lecture on Syria for the U.S. Army War College.

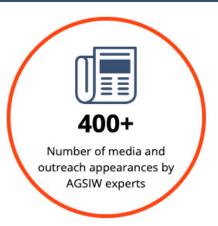
University of Oxford

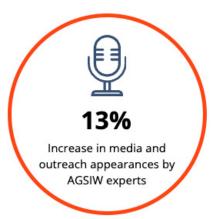
Diwan presented the lecture "Saudi Arabia's Posture Toward the Ukraine War" at the conference "The Ukraine War: A Turning Point for the Gulf's Power?" for the University of Oxford.

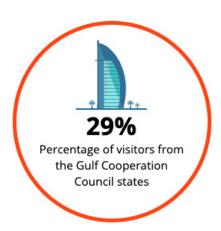


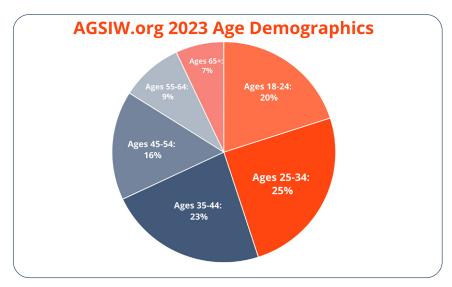
2023 By the Numbers

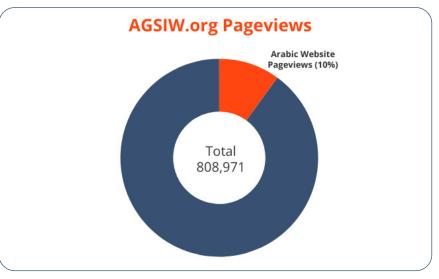
In 2023, AGSIW remained steadfast in its commitment to maintaining and expanding its audience. Its consistent and robust viewership reflects AGSIW's enduring relevance and resonance within the global conversation on Gulf affairs.











AGSIW Developments



Translation Campaign

As the most trusted source of analysis on the Gulf and U.S.-Gulf relations, AGSIW informs a global audience of policymakers, legislators, businesspeople, academics, and the media and provides the foundation for strategic decisions regarding this important region. However, our work is only complete when our analysis is accessible to our entire audience. It is for that reason that AGSIW's publications are available free of charge in English and Arabic, ensuring that AGSIW's analysis reaches all who may benefit from it. Learn more and support this important work at agsiw.org.



Tim Callen Joins AGSIW as Visiting Fellow

Tim Callen is a former assistant director in the Middle East and Central Asia department at the International Monetary Fund. He served as the IMF's mission chief for Saudi Arabia and as the chief of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries' division from 2012-21. He was responsible for the IMF's engagement with the government of Saudi Arabia and for the institution's research and publications on the country. He also led the IMF's research program on the GCC region. From 2021-22, he served as special advisor to the executive director for Saudi Arabia at the IMF's Executive Board. Callen's research interests focus on oil exporting countries and include prospects and policies for economic diversification away from oil, frameworks and institutions to limit procyclical fiscal policy, and appropriate exchange rate policies.



Marie van den Bosch Joins AGSIW as Visiting Scholar

Marie van den Bosch's research currently focuses on green energy and democratization, the effect of climate change on regime survival, and energy transition in the Gulf. She is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University, where she teaches classes on oil and authoritarian politics and literature and politics in the Department of Government. From 2018-19, Van den Bosch was the Qatar Post-Doctoral Fellow at Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies. Before her doctoral studies, she was a researcher for the chief economist for the Middle East and North Africa at the World Bank, a consultant in Qatar for BCG, and a consultant in Yemen for the European Commission.

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 and Cairo

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

Ambassador Douglas A. Silliman, President, AGSIW

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

Christopher J. Davis, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Compass Rose Associates, LLC.

* As of December 2023

Bernard Haykel, PhD, Director, Institute for the Transregional Study of the Treasurer of the Board; Chairman/CEO, Regional Center for Strategic Studies in Contemporary Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia, Princeton University

Fatima Al Jaber, Chief Operating Officer, Al Jaber Group, Abu Dhabi

Ebtesam Al-Ketbi, PhD, Founder and President, Emirates Policy Center, Abu Dhabi

Ambassador Thomas Pickering, Vice Chairman, Hills & Company

Bader AlRezaihan, Founder and Chairman, Mawarid Holding

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

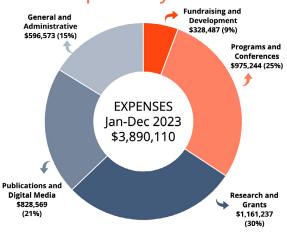
Financials

Statement of Financial Position

As of year ended December 31, 2023

ASSETS	2023
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and short-term investments	3,278,868
Grants and accounts receivable	3,040,250
Property and equipment, net	51,421
Other assets	623,143
Total Current Assets	6,993,682
TOTAL ASSETS	6,993,682
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued expenses Operating lease liability	208,348 542,092
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued expenses	,
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued expenses Operating lease liability Total current liabilities	542,092
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued expenses Operating lease liability	542,092 750,440
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued expenses Operating lease liability Total current liabilities TOTAL LIABILITIES	542,092 750,440
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued expenses Operating lease liability Total current liabilities TOTAL LIABILITIES NET ASSETS	542,092 750,440 750,440
CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued expenses Operating lease liability Total current liabilities TOTAL LIABILITIES NET ASSETS Without donor restrictions	542,092 750,440 750,440 3,237,409

2023 Expenses by Function



Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

For January 1 – December 31, 2023

	JANUARY - DECEMBER 2023			
SUPPORT AND REVENUE	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	
Grants and contributions	160,204	3,005,833	3,166,037	
Membership	4,167	-	4,16	
Interest income	128,759		128,75	
Contributed nonfinancial assets	-			
Net assets released from donor restrictions	3,013,333	(3,013,333)		
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	3,306,463	- (7,500)	3,298,963	
EXPENSES PROGRAM SERVICES				
Programs and Conferences	975,244	-	975,244	
Research and Grants	1,161,237	-	1,161,237	
Publications and Digital Media	828,569		828,569	
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	2,965,050		2,965,050	
SUPPORTING SERVICES				
General and Administrative	596,573		596,573	
Fundraising and Development	328,487		328,487	
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	925,060		925,060	
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,890,110		3,890,110	
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(583,647)	(7,500)	(591,147	

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