

# Curriculum Vitae

## Dr. Abdulaziz Sager

### Chairman, Gulf Research Center



**Date of birth** : 1959  
**Place of birth** : Makkah  
**Family status** : Married with four children  
**Profession** : Chairman, Gulf Research Center  
**Address** : P.O. Box 10501 Jeddah 21443  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
19 Rayat Al-Ittihad Street, Hamra

### **Qualifications**

- ❖ Doctorate in International Relations (Gulf Security: Dynamics, Perceptions and Policies, 1968-2003). Comparative Study of GCC Countries, University of Lancaster, United Kingdom.
- ❖ Master of International Relations (external forces affecting the security and stability of the Gulf region), Kent University, United Kingdom.
- ❖ Bachelor's Degree from the Faculty of Economics and Administration of King Abdulaziz University
- ❖ Primary and secondary education in Jeddah governmental schools
- ❖ Several advanced leadership and management courses, including courses at the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) in Lausanne, Switzerland

### **Honors and Visiting Professorships**

- January 2018: Awarded the prestigious Rawabi Holding Award, which are given annually to one Saudi and one British citizen for their contribution to promoting Saudi-British relations and are generously donated by Mr. Abdulaziz al Turki.
- May 2011: Honorary fellowship from the Università Ca'Foscari in Venice, Italy.
- April 2013: Honorary professorship from the University of Osaka, Japan.

### **Memberships**

- ❖ Board of Trustees of the King Abdul Aziz Center for National Dialogue.
- ❖ Council of Makkah Region from November 2003- March 2009.
- ❖ Advisory Board of the Geneva Center for the Democratic Management of Armed Forces ( DCAF Switzerland) since 2006.
- ❖ Consultative Board of the Geneva Center for Security Policies (GCSP) since 2006.
- ❖ Board of the German Orient Foundation from 2007-2012 (UNDP).
- ❖ Advisory Board of the Arab Thought Foundation since 2005.
- ❖ Advisory Group of the National Program for Exhibitions and Conferences.
- ❖ Advisory Board of the Faculty of Economics, United Arab Emirates University (UAE) from 2006-2008.
- ❖ Advisory Board for the Fourth Human Development Report of the United Nations Development Program.
- ❖ Strategic Council of the Global Alliance for Information Technology and Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA-GAID)
- ❖ Advisory Committee of the Faculty of Economics and Administration, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ Turkish Arab Society for Science, Culture and Arts, Ankara, Turkey.
- ❖ Honorary Council of Dar Al-Hekma University, Jeddah.
- ❖ Vice-Chairman of the Academic Committee, Prince Muqrin Bin Abdulaziz University, Medina.
- ❖ Membership in the following international research institutes and centers:
  1. International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), London, United Kingdom
  2. Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, London, United Kingdom
  3. British Association for Political Sciences
  4. The Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies (RUSI)
  5. RAND Corporation, United States
  6. Middle East Institute, Washington, DC

7. International Institute of Management Development (IMD), Lausanne, Switzerland
  8. International Security Network, Zurich, Switzerland
- ❖ Numerous presentations in universities, institutes and research centers in different regions around the world including the United States, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, India and Pakistan.

### **Founder and Chairman of the Gulf Research Center**

Founded in July 2000, the Gulf Research Center (GRC) is an independent, non-governmental, non-profit research organization (Knowledge for All), whose priorities are to serve the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the GCC at the local and international levels, in addition to Iraq, Iran, and Yemen.

The GRC is a global organization with a strong international network of partners and liaison offices in the Gulf and Europe. It has branches in Geneva (GRCF), Cambridge (GRCC) and its headquarters in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. On January 30, 2019, for the ninth year in a row, its status as a leading global think tank was ranked among top think tanks in foreign policy, international affairs, international relations and community outreach programs by the International Relations Program at the University of Pennsylvania. It is one of the top 150 think tanks in the world and is among the world's foremost think tanks on foreign policy and international affairs.

The GRC also enjoys observer status with the United Nations. For more information on research, studies, conferences and publications, please visit the website: [www.grc.net](http://www.grc.net).

### **Presidency and chief organizer of conferences and forums**

- ❖ Chairs the annual Gulf Research Meeting (GRM), which has been held annually at the University of Cambridge in the UK since 2010, and organized by the Gulf Research Center in Cambridge, focusing on political, economic, security, social, media and education issues related to the Gulf region.
- ❖ Chaired the Knowledge Committee for the Emaar Makkah Region Conference, organized by the Governor of the Makkah Region in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance, Makkah Region Development Authority, the Gulf Research Center and the Ramtan Foundation for Exhibitions and Conferences from December 27-29, 2017.
- ❖ Chaired the sessions of the second expanded conference for Syrian revolution forces and opposition (Riyadh Conference 2) held from November 22-23, 2017 as well as the meeting of all factions of the Syrian opposition (Riyadh Conference 1), which was

held on December 9-10, 2015, with the aim of unifying visions, drawing a safe roadmap and developing a unified position among the Syrian opposition.

- ❖ Gulf Business Forum (GULF), organized by the Gulf Research Center (GRC) in cooperation with the German-Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Federation of GCC Chambers, held from March 11-12, 2014 in Berlin, Germany.
- ❖ Headed the Gulf-Swiss Forum, organized by the Gulf Research Center from September 3-4, 2013 in Geneva.
- ❖ Headed the tenth Jeddah Economic Forum, organized by the Gulf Research Center from February 13-16, 2010.
- ❖ Chaired the first ever Gulf-Africa Investment Forum, held in 2009 in Cape Town, South Africa, to discuss the future of relations between the Gulf States and sub-Saharan African countries.
- ❖ Chaired the second Gulf Investment Conference in 2010, under the patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, and organized by the Gulf Research Center and the Council of Saudi Chambers from December 4-5 2010, in Riyadh with the participation of four African Heads of State, more than forty ministers and senior executive officials, and more than 850 participants from Gulf and African countries.
- ❖ Organized and chaired the "Union of the Arab Gulf States: Prospects for the Future," which began with a conference on February 27, 2014 in Cairo, with the participation of a number of officials, scholars, experts and researchers from the GCC countries, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States.
- ❖ Participated in hundreds of regional and international forums and conferences within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the GCC and the world, which focused on Gulf issues.
- ❖ For more information please visit [www.grc.net](http://www.grc.net).

## **Publications**

- ❖ Reforms in Saudi Arabia: Challenges and Feasible Solutions (GRC, September 2003)
- ❖ GCC Political & Economic Strategy towards Post-War Iraq (GRC, April 2004)
- ❖ "Arab Peacekeeping Forces"
- ❖ Chapter entitled: Political Opposition in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (Part of the book titled "The Future of The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Trends and Challenges / Post-September 11 and the War in Iraq" edited by Gerd Nonneman and Paul Arts)

- ❖ Energy Defines New Features of Gulf Security " (Middle East Geopolitics 2006)
- ❖ "Criteria for Political Reform from an Inner Gulf Perspective," chapter from book: Constitutional Reform and Political Participation in the Gulf.
- ❖ Chapter from the book, The Events of September 11 and its Economic Impact on the GCC Countries.
- ❖ Combating Violence and Terrorism in Saudi Arabia, Gulf Research Center, May 2004
- ❖ Editor-in-Chief of the Gulf Yearbook: A book series on the most important political, security, economic and social developments in the GCC.
- ❖ Editor-in-chief of "Araa Magazine," a monthly periodical specialized in Gulf affairs and published by the Gulf Research Center since its founding.

### **Contributions to the press and television and radio interviews**

He has published numerous articles in newspapers, magazines and scientific journals both inside and outside the Kingdom. He regularly participates in interviews with most Arab satellite channels and international news agencies to comment on the most important political, security and defense issues related to Saudi Arabia, the Gulf region and other important international issues.