

Workshop No. 7

Power Relations Between the GCC and the Horn of Africa in an Uncertain World

Workshop Schedule

Workshop Directors

Muez Ali

Earthna: Center for a Sustainable Future at Qatar Foundation, Qatar

Prof. Dr. Alden Young
Yale University, USA

First Workshop Day - Wednesday, 23 July 2025

08:15 - 08:30 – Welcome coffee and tea

08:30 - 09:00– Introduction of Workshop and Participants

09:00 – 09:45 – Gussai Sheikheldin, Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Research Organization, Tanzania and Husam Mahjoub, Sudan Bukra TV Channel, Tanzania

Models of expansion and techno-social systems in inter-regional relations: Examining dynamics between Gulf countries and the Horn of Africa

Discussant: Chakib Bourayou, Hamisu Salihu, Behar Sadriu

09:45 - 10:30 – Amr Ibrahim and Heba Elnasharty, Arab academy for Management, Banking and Financial Science, Egypt

Strategic Dynamics and Economic Diversification The Role of GCC Investment in the Horn of Africa

Discussant: Hessa Alnuaimi

10.30 - 10.45 – Coffee break

10:45 - 11:30 – Yasir Zaidan, University of Washington, USA [RECORDED]

Navigating Power and Ports: Djibouti and the UAE's Struggle for Influence in the Horn of Africa

Discussant: Altea Pericoli

11:30 - 12:15 – Chakib Bourayou, University of London, UK, Hamisu Salihi, University of Warwick, UK, and Behar Sadriu

Ports, Power, and Patronage: The Geopolitical Significance of GCC Investments in the Red Sea and the Horn of Africa

Discussant: Amr Ibrahim and Heba Elnasharty

12:15 - 13:00 – Mona Ibrahim, University of Oxford, UK

Ports and Profit: Examining Gulf Debt Diplomacy in the Horn of Africa

Discussant: Gussai Sheikheldin and Husam Mahjoub

13:30 - 15:00 – Lunch break (lunch is served at 13.45, please make sure to be on time as it is roughly a 15 minutes' walk to King's College from the workshop venue)

15:15 - 16:00 – Rufei Li, Peking University, China

The Saudi-Emirati-Ethiopian Triangle: Changing dynamics of unbalanced relations

Discussant: Mona Ibrahim

16:00 - 16:15 – Coffee break

16:15 - 17:00 – Anwar Abdifatah Bashir, East African Institute for Peace and Governance, Somalia

Horn and GCC Relations: A Strategic Alliance or Confusing Interference

Discussant: Ismail Numan

End of First Workshop Day

Evening Free

Second Workshop Day - Thursday, 24 July 2025

08:15 – 08:30 – Welcome coffee and tea

08:30 - 09:15 – Ismail Numan, Sakarya University, Türkiye and Mustafa Caner, Sakarya University, Türkiye

Resurgence of Piracy in the Red Sea: Threat Dynamics and Cooperation Prospects between the Gulf and the Horn of Africa

Discussant: Rufei Li

09:15 - 10:00 – Zinab Roweha, Cairo University, Egypt [RECORDED]

Security cooperation between the Gulf and the Horn of Africa countries...opportunities and challenges (Council of Red Sea and Gulf of Aden States)

Discussant: Alden Young

10:00 - 10:45 – Faozi Al Goidi, Middle East Council on Global Affairs, Qatar [RECORDED]

Why Has the Strategy to Counter the Houthis in the Red Sea Failed and Why Will the Failure Continue?

Discussant: Muez Ali

11.00 - 11.15 – Coffee break.

11:15 - 12:00 – Jamal Hussein, Johns Hopkins University, USA

Somaliland's Strategic Role in Trade and Security in the Red Sea Corridor

Discussant: Anna Reumert

12:00 - 12:45 – Anna Reumert, The New School for Social Research, USA

Future Returns? Notes on Sudan's Unpayable Debt

Discussant: Anwar Abdifatah Bashir

12:45 - 14:15 – Lunch break (lunch is served from 13:00 till 14:00 at the workshop venue)

14:30-15:15 - Hessa Alnuaimi, University of Sharjah, UAE

The British Empire and the Historical Politics of the Red Sea

Discussant: Jamal Hussein

15:30-16:15 - Altea Pericoli, Lund University, Centre for Middle Eastern Studies, Sweden

*Responding to humanitarian crises: Gulf and Western donors in the Horn of Africa
Next Steps and Submission of Online Evaluation Forms*

Discussant: Yasir Zaidan

16:00 - 16:15 – Coffee break

End of Second and Final Workshop Day

19:00 Farewell Dinner at King's College