Biography

Dr. Christian Koch
Director of International Studies

Dr. Christian Koch is the Director of International Studies at the Gulf Research Center located in Dubai, UAE. Prior to joining the GRC, he worked as Head of the Strategic Studies Section at the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, Abu Dhabi. His work at the Gulf Research Center combines the various international and foreign relations issues of the GCC states with a particular interest in GCC-EU Relations. He currently manages a two-year project named “Al-Jisr” pertaining to GCC-EU Public Diplomacy and Outreach Activities with the support of the European Commission.


Dr. Koch collaborated on the World Economic Forum’s Middle East@Risk report in 2007. He regularly writes articles for the international media including the Financial Times, Handelsblatt and Süddeutsche Zeitung. He is also a contributor to Jane’s Sentinel Publications on Gulf issues. His media appearances include the BBC, Deutsche Welle, Dubai One, Al-Hurra and Al-Arabiyya television.

Dr. Koch received his Ph.D. from the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany with a thesis on the role of voluntary association in the political development of Kuwait. He also studied at the American University in Washington, D.C. and the University of South Carolina. In January 2007, he joined the advisory board of the German Orient Foundation.