

Christian Koch

Director of Research for the Gulf Research Center



Dr. Christian Koch is the Director of Research for the Gulf Research Center. He also leads the Tafahum Project on a Security Roadmap for West Asia and the Arabian Peninsula sponsored by the German Federal Foreign Office and is a member of the Bertelsmann Foundation Strategy Group on “The EU and Russia, Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia: Strategies for the EU Neighbourhood”.

From 2018 to 2020, he was a Senior Advisor and Director of Research at the Bussola Institute in Brussels, Belgium. Prior, he served as Director of the Gulf Research Center Foundation, Research Program Leader on Gulf-Europe Relations at the Gulf Research Center in Dubai and as Head of Strategic Studies at the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, Abu Dhabi.

Dr. Koch’s work combines the analysis of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states on pertinent foreign and security issues, with a particular interest in GCC-EU relations. He is particularly interested in better understanding the dynamics driving regional security issues in the Gulf region and promoting aspects of cooperative security among regional and international actors.

Dr. Koch is the editor of eight books; author of *Politische Entwicklung in einem arabischen Golfstaat: Die Rolle von Interessengruppen im Emirat Kuwait*, coauthor of “Establishing a Regional Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Gulf Region”, as well as numerous chapter contributions and journal articles.

Dr. Koch received his PhD from the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg.