

# The Statecraft of Small States: Foreign Policy and Survival Strategies

Conference  
Programme

Jointly organised by:



مركز بروكنجز الدوحة  
BROOKINGS DOHA CENTER

27 FEB 2019  
9AM TO 5PM

MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE  
CONFERENCE ROOM, LEVEL 6  
29 HENG MUI KENG TERRACE  
SINGAPORE 119620



# Conference Statement

With the emergence of a multi-polar world, shifting international norms, uncertain geopolitical trends and fears of great power rivalries abounding, small states are being placed in increasingly vulnerable positions – as most dramatically illustrated in the case of Qatar. This workshop looks at the statecraft of small states and the various strategies and policies that small states rely on to navigate their regional environments.

The key points of the workshop are:

- The impact of small states in international relations.
- Small states and perspectives of international relations theory; self-interest, cooperation and impartiality.
- Thinking big: small states and power projection.
- Strategic alliances and co-operative structures.
- Economic, social and energy challenges of small states.

# Conference Schedule

## FEBRUARY 27, 2019

9.00	<b>Registration</b>
9.20	<b>INTRODUCTORY REMARKS</b>  Bilahari Kausikan Chairman, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore  Nader Kabbani Director of Research, Brookings Doha Center
9.45	<b>PANEL ONE: THINKING ABOUT SMALL STATES</b>  Chair: Fanar Haddad Senior Research Fellow, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore  Bilahari Kausikan Chairman, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore <i>Why Small States Should Not Behave Like Small States.</i>  Rory Miller Professor of Government, Georgetown University, Qatar <i>Negotiating Insecurity: Small States and Informal Security Coalitions in the Middle East</i>  Heinz Gärtner Lecturer, Department of Political Science, University of Vienna and Danube University <i>Engaged Neutrality: A Small State's Strategy</i>  Luiz Pinto Economist, BRICS Overseas <i>Sovereign Economic Dominance and Resiliency in Resource-Rich States</i>
11.30	<b>Coffee Break</b>

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### 11.45 **PANEL TWO: CASES FROM THE GULF**

Chair: To Be Announced

Mehran Kamrava

Professor and Director, Center for International and Regional Studies,  
Georgetown University, Qatar

*Qatari Foreign Policy and the Exercise of Subtle Power*

Abdallah Baabood

Former Director, Centre for Gulf Studies, Qatar University

*Oman Foreign Policy: Omni Balancing in a Turmoil Region*

Ranj Alaaldin

Fellow, Brookings Doha Center

*The Securitization of Small States and Security Interdependency*

Ahmed S. Hashim

Associate Professor, Military Studies Programme,

Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, NTU

*The Creation of Security by Small States: A Comparative Analysis of Singapore, the UAE and Qatar*

### 1.30 **End of Panel Two and Lunch**

### 3.00 **PANEL THREE: ISRAEL AND BEYOND**

Chair: Ranj Alaaldin

Fellow, Brookings Doha Center

Yaniv Voller

Assistant Professor, School of Politics and International Relations, University of Kent

*Israel: A Small State in Search for a Periphery*

Jacob Eriksson

Al Tajir Lecturer, Department of Politics, University of York

*The Northern Lights: Swedish and Norwegian Foreign Policies of Peace*

Juergen Braunstein

Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center

*Singapore in the Global Energy Transition*

Baldur Thorhallsson (via Webex)

Professor, Faculty of Political Science, University of Iceland

*Small States and Shelter Theory: Iceland's External Affairs*

### 4.45 **Roundup**

### 5.00 **End of Conference**