



## **Clemens Chay**

*Research Fellow*

Dr Clemens Chay is a research fellow at the National University of Singapore's Middle East Institute. His research focuses on the history and politics of the Gulf states, with a particular emphasis on Kuwait, Oman and Qatar. At MEI he spearheads a public education series entitled "Bridging the Gulf". His recent academic publications include a chapter that examines Kuwait's parliamentary politics in *The Routledge Handbook of Persian Gulf Politics* (2020), a chapter in the edited volume *Informal Politics in the Middle East* (Hurst, 2021), and a study appearing in the *Journal of Arabian Studies*, titled "The Dīwāniyya Tradition in Modern Kuwait: An Interlinked Space and Practice." His commentaries also feature across different outlets, including ISPI, KFCRIS, and AGSIW. He is currently working on a book project related to Kuwait's *divaniyas* (affectionately known as *divawin*, and more widely known as *majalis* outside Kuwait), the reception rooms for informal meetings that have implications for society, politics and diplomacy.

Prior to joining MEI, Dr Chay was the Al-Sabah fellow at Durham University, where he taught and completed his PhD in Middle Eastern and Islamic studies, and where he also received an MSc in defence, development and diplomacy. He is also a Sciences Po Paris alumnus, having read his BA at the Menton campus.