

**SESSION THREE OF MEI-BISA SEMINAR SERIES:
THE WAR AND THE DISRUPTION OF GLOBAL ENERGY MARKETS AND GULF ECONOMIC
STABILITY**

Speakers



Adam Hanieh is director of the Middle East Institute at SOAS, University of London and Professor of Political Economy and Global Development in the Department of Development Studies, SOAS. His current research focuses on petrochemicals, ecology, and the political economy of the Gulf states of the Middle East. He is the author of several books, including *Money, Markets, and Monarchies: The Gulf Cooperation Council and the Political Economy of the Contemporary Middle East* (Cambridge University Press 2018), which was awarded the 2019 British International Studies Association IPE Group Book Prize, and *Crude Capitalism: Oil, Corporate Power, and the Making of the World Market* (Verso Books 2024), which was co-winner of the 2025 Best Book by an International Scholar, Global and Transnational Section of the American Sociological Association.



Rory Miller is Professor of International Politics and Director of both the Energy Studies Program and the Small States Research Program at Georgetown University in Qatar. He is currently a Visiting Professor in the War Studies Department at King's College London and a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Middle East Council on Global Affairs. Co-editor of the Cambridge University Press series on Intelligence and National Security in Africa and the Middle East, he is the author or editor of 13 books, with policy writing published in *Foreign Affairs*, *The Economist*, *Foreign Policy* and *The Wall Street Journal*. He writes a weekly geopolitics column for *The Gulf Times*.



Akram Zaoui is an Associate Fellow, Geopolitics at ORF Middle East (ORF ME), where he also serves as Chief of Staff to the President. His research examines the implications of the current geopolitical transition at the confluence of the African, Arab, and Mediterranean areas, with a particular interest in geoeconomics and its effects on national development and security, as well as regional integration, resilience, and stability. He joined ORF ME in January 2026, bringing over eight years of experience at the intersection of civil society, consulting, and policy research across Africa, Europe, and the Middle East. He previously served as Senior International Relations Specialist and Chargé de Mission (Advisor) to the Executive President of the Policy Centre for the New South (PCNS), a leading African think tank. In this capacity, he played a central role in the centre's strategic development and external positioning, overseeing key partnerships and engagements with peer institutions, international organisations, senior policymakers, and thought leaders.



[Moderator] Ferran Perez Mena is Assistant Professor of the International Relations of East Asia. His research focuses on transnational elite networks and elite studies in world politics, China–West transnational elite networks, China in the Global South, Global IR, and Global disorder.