Retraining the Middle East?

the wider region, 1918-2010

in Western policies toward Iraq and
values, interests, and security concerns

British Academy, London, 17-19 March 2010
Wednesday, 17 March:

5.00pm - 6.00pm: Registration

6.00pm - 7.30pm: Keynote lecture, Professor Charles Tripp (SOAS)
'The Seductions of Violence and the Making of Iraq.'

8.00pm: Wine and Cheese Reception

Thursday, 18 March:

9.00am - 10.45am: Parallel panel session I

Panel Ia: Iraq and its neighbours
- Chair: Henner Fürtig (GIGA, Hamburg)
- James Denselow (King’s College), Exploring relations between the ‘new Iraq’ and Syria
- Magdalena Kirchner (Heidelberg), Iraqi State Sponsorship of Terrorism, 1979-2003
- Tamir Libel (Bar-Ilan University), From victory to defeat: The change in the Israeli appraisal of the implications of the American occupation of Iraq
- Discussant: Henner Fürtig (GIGA, Hamburg)

Panel Ib: EU Policies towards Iraq and the Middle East I
- Chair: Michelle Pace (Birmingham)
- Annette Juenemann (Hamburg), Rethinking the Mediterranean: Interactions within the Union for the Mediterranean (UFM)
- Christian Kaunert (Salford), European Neighbourhood Policy towards the Middle East: Counter-terrorism versus Human Rights?
- Kamil Zowolski (Salford), Piracy off the Somali coast: Assessing EU’s comprehensive security actorness
- Discussant: Michelle Pace (Birmingham)

10.45am - 11.15am: Coffee

11.15am - 1.00pm: Parallel panel session II

Panel Ic: Western policies during the First World War
- Chair: Gaynor Johnson (Salford)
- Vladimir Boyko (Aftal State Pedagogical Academy), Afghanistan in focus of British and Russian politics: The Middle Eastern context of 'irregular game' (1919 – 1950s)
- Roberto Mazza (Western Illinois University), For God and La Patrie: Antonin Jansen, Dominican and French Agent 1914-1918
- Andrew Patrick (Manchester), The United States and the Middle East, 1919: Illuminating the Discursive Foundations of America’s Evolving Role in the Region
- Discussant: Gaynor Johnson (Salford)
Panel IIb: Turkey and the broader neighbourhood

Chair: Dietrich Jung (University of Southern Denmark)
Muge Kinacioglu, Emel Oktay (Hacettepe University, Ankara), Turkey's new engagement in the Middle East: Can Turkey play a constructive role in the region's stability?
Melekin McFitter-Bac (Sabanci University, Istanbul), The Turkish Foreign Policy Towards Iraq: Challenges and Dilemmas
Mesut Özacan (Istanbul Commerce University), From Distance to Engagement: Turkish Policy toward Iraq in the last decade
Discussant: Dietrich Jung (University of Southern Denmark)

1.00pm - 2.15pm: Lunch

2.15pm - 3.30pm: Plenary session
"Iraq's Role in Western Policies toward the Middle East"
Moderator: Professor Eric Davis (Rutgers University)
Ambassador Christopher Prentice (former UK ambassador to Iraq)
Dr Mowaffak Al Rubaie (former National Security Advisor, Government of Iraq)
Dr Mouyad al-Windawi (formerly United Nations Assistance Mission, Iraq)

3.30pm - 4.00pm: Coffee

4.00pm - 5.45pm: Parallel panel session III
Panel IIia: EU Policies towards Iraq and the Middle East
Chair: Christian Kaunert (Salford)
Esra Bulut, Rouzbah Parsi (EU Institute for Security Studies, Paris), Steering with a Faulty Compass: European Mapping of Nation and Religion in the Middle East
Sarah Leonard (Salford), The European Union's Policy towards Iraqi Refugees
Hassan Turune (Royal Holloway, London), European Union and the Middle East: Isn't it time to move from crisis management to crisis solution?
Discussant: Christian Kaunert (Salford)

Panel IIib: Western democracy and human rights promotion I
Chair: Katerina Dalacoura (LSE)
Bezen Koskun (Zirve University, Gaziantep), Values and Security:
European Union's Democracy Promotion in the Middle East
Thomas Dammelhuber (Erlangen), Tradition, Authoritarianism, and Liberal Thought in the Gulf Region: What Role for Europe?
Michelle Pace (Birmingham), Liminality in EU-Hamas relations
Frederic Volpi (St Andrews), Framing Islamism in Western Approaches to Democratization
Discussant: Katerina Dalacoura (LSE)

5.45pm - 6.00pm: Short break

6.00pm - 7.30pm: Keynote lecture, Professor Erik Goldstein (Boston University), "Britain's Plans for a New Eastern Mediterranean Empire, 1916-23"

8.00pm: Conference Dinner

Friday, 19 March:

9.00am - 10.45am: Parallel panel session IV
Panel IVA: Western policies during the Cold War
Chair: Lars Berger (Salford)
Christopher Dietrich (University of Texas at Austin), A New Resource Diplomacy: The United Nations, Natural Resources, and Decolonization in the Persian Gulf, 1967-1973
Massimiliano Trettin (Padua), East and West Germany's presence in Syria and Iraq in the Sixties and early Seventies
Paolo Wulzer (Roma Tre), Italy's Middle East Policy during the Cold War: Constants and constraints
Discussant: Lars Berger (Salford)

Panel IVB: US/UK policies toward Iraq pre-1945
Chair: Brandon King (University of Toronto)
Gaynor Johnson (Salford), Britain, the League of Nations and Iraq
Prince Sattar (Stanford), Air Control in Iraq: Past, Present and Future
Stephanie Wichhart (Niagara University), A "New Deal" for the Kurds: Britain's Kurdish Policy in Iraq, 1941-1945
Discussant: Brandon King (University of Toronto)

10.45am - 11.15am: Coffee

11.15am - 1.00pm: Parallel panel session V
Panel IVB: US/UK and Iraq (post 1945)
Chair: Isam al Khafaji (Amsterdam University)
Johan Franzén (University of East Anglia), The Failure of British Policy towards Iraq, 1945-58
Bryan Gibson (LSE), The Turning Point: The American Decision to Covertly Aid the Kurds, 1970-1972
Brandon King (University of Toronto), In the Eye of the Storm: Ambassador James Richards' Mission to Iraq in April 1957
Discussant: Isam al Khafaji (Amsterdam University)
Panel Vb: US policies toward the Middle East
- Christine Issa Al-Asmar (American University Paris), Dilemmas and contradictions of America's Middle East policy
- Maysam Behravesh/Mohammad Reza Kiani (Tehran University), Western Iranophobia and Iranian Westophobia
- Bartosz Bialozerczyk (Marie Curie University, Lublin), US penetration of the Persian Gulf
- Yevgenija Gaber (Odessa National Mechnikov University), Turkish-American Relations in the Middle East: Balancing Between Power Politics and Interdependence
- Azzurra Meringola (Roma Tre), From Carter to G.W. Bush: US resources based conflicts in the Middle East
- Discussant: Lars Berger (Salford)

1.00pm - 2.15pm: Lunch

2.15pm - 4.00pm: Parallel panel session VI
Panel Vla: Iraqi Politics post 2003
- Chair: Riyadh Aziz Hadi (Baghdad University)
- Eric Davis (Rutgers), Taking Democracy Seriously in Iraq
- Stacey Gutkowski (Cambridge), British encounter with the Jaish al-Mahdi
- Isam al-Khaafaji (Amsterdam University), Building professional state institutions in Iraq
- Reider Visser (Norwegian Institute of International Affairs), Electoral Politics in Iraq
- Discussant: Riyadh Aziz Hadi (Baghdad University)

Panel Vlb: Western policies and Women's Rights
- Chair: Glen Rangwala (Cambridge)
- Nadje Al-Ali (SOAS), Women & Gender in Iraq: Transnational Perspectives
- Kelly Shannon (Temple University), "I'm Thankful I'm Not a Saudi Woman": American Cliché of Saudi Gender Relations During Operation Desert Storm
- Nicola Pratt (Warwick), "Women's empowerment" as a foreign policy goal in Iraq
- Discussant: Glen Rangwala (Cambridge)

End of conference