The Way Forward for Yemen: Saudi Perspectives
The Royal Society, London | 24 May 2017

This event is part of the Yemen Crisis Workshop Series run by the Gulf Research Center and aims to shed light on the status of the political process and negotiations to settle the Yemen conflict, key developments in security and counter-terrorism measures and Saudi Arabia's priorities in the complex challenges of the Yemen crisis. The event aims to provide a forum for a frank discussion on Saudi perspectives on the conflict, bringing together stakeholders and experts to discuss the political, economic and defence angles of the crisis and prospects for conflict resolution mechanisms.

09.00 – 09.15 Welcome and Introduction

Dr Lina Khatib, Head, Middle East and North Africa Programme, Chatham House
Dr Abdulaziz Sager, Chairman, Gulf Research Center

09.15 – 10.45 Session 1: Yemen’s Political Process and Humanitarian Issues

What are the relevant political, economic, social and humanitarian issues in the current Yemen conflict from a Saudi Arabian perspective? What is the status of the political process and relevant negotiations at this moment? How has the policy of Saudi Arabia evolved and what are the current priorities? What are the factors preventing a resolution to the Yemeni crisis from Saudi point of view? What are the prospects for conflict resolution mechanisms?

Amb. Mohammed Al-Jabir, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the Republic of Yemen
Dr Nadia Al Saqqaf, Former Minister of Information, Republic of Yemen
Dr Samer Aljetaily, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Bara’a Shiban, Human Rights Activist, Yemen
Peter Salisbury, Senior Research Fellow, Chatham House

Chair: Dr Lina Khatib, Head, Middle East and North Africa Programme, Chatham House

10.45 – 11.00 Coffee

11.00 – 13.00 Session 2: Defence and Security Issues in Yemen

What are the key developments in terms of the military campaign and counter-terrorism efforts? What are key aspects of the defense approach from Saudi Arabia and how is this integrated in the broader coalition effort? What is the role for the United States and the larger international community in this context?

Dr Mustafa Alani, Senior Advisor & Program Director, Gulf Defense and Security Issues, Gulf Research Center
Saeed Al-Qahtani, Counter-Terrorism Division, Ministry of Interior, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Ahmed Al-Aqeely, Ministry of Defence, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Iain Smailes, Former UK Defence Attaché in Sana’a

Chair: Dr Noel Brehony, Menas Associates

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch