

German and American Perspectives on the Middle East

11-12 February 2019

Berlin – KAS Akademie (Tiergartenstraße 35, 10785 Berlin)

Monday, 11 Feb. 2018

08.30	Registration and coffee
09.00-09.30	Welcome remarks and introduction Gerhard Wahlers Deputy General Secretary, Head of European and International Cooperation, KAS Paul Salem President, MEI
09.30-10.30	Session I: Stability versus change – what do we want for and in the Middle East? Chair: Thomas Birringer Head of Middle East and North Africa Department, KAS The view from Berlin Christian Buck Director of the Middle East and North Africa Department, German Foreign Office The view from Washington Gerald Feierstein Senior Vice President, MEI
10.30-11.00	Coffee break

11.00-13.00

Session II: Choosing sides at the Gulf? Saudi-Arabia and IranChair: **Edmund Ratka**

Desk officer Middle East and North Africa Department, KAS

German-Saudi relations**Sebastian Sons**

Associate Fellow, German Council on Foreign Relations, DGAP

Iran – internal constraints and regional ambitions**Alex Vatanka**

Senior Fellow, MEI

Germany and Iran**Adnan Tabatabai**

CEO, Center for Applied Research with the Orient, CARPO

US foreign policy toward Iran**Michael Doran**

Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute

13:00-14:15

Lunch break

14:30-16:00

Session III: What's next for Syria? Between negotiations, reconstruction, and the quest for influenceChair: **Lucas Lamberty**

Advisor to the Executive Office, KAS

Negotiations on Syria: stake-holders and leverage**Hanna Notte**

Political Officer, The Shaik Group

Turkey's role in Syria**Gonul Tol**

Director Turkey Program, MEI

The US approach toward Syria**Brian Katulis (tbc)**

Senior Advisor, Albright Stonebridge Group

16.30-17:30

**Session IV: Does the Middle East conflict still matter?
Regional and international realignments**

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Chair : **Edmund Ratka**,
Desk officer Middle East and North Africa Department, KAS

US-Israeli relations under Trump

Gerald Feierstein

Senior Vice President, MEI

Germany and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Marc Frings

Head of KAS office in the Palestinian Territories

Tuesday, 12 Feb. 2018

09.00-10.45

**Session V: The Maghreb's uncertain trajectories – What
can the West do?**

Chair: **Anna Jandrey**
Desk officer Middle East and North Africa Department, KAS

Internal dynamics and external influence

William Lawrence

Professor, Elliot School of International Affairs, George
Washington University

The US and North Africa

Sarah Feuer

Senior Fellow, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy

Europe and North Africa

Canan Atilgan

Head of Regional Program "Political Dialogue South
Mediterranean"

The case of Algeria

Isabelle Werenfels

Senior Fellow, German Institute of International and Security
Affairs (SWP)

10:45-11:00

Coffee break

11.00-12.45

Session VI: How to fight Islamist radicalization and terrorism? Responses at home and abroad**Trends of Islamism and dynamics of radicalization****Annette Ranko**

Head of Jordan office, KAS

Germany's response on the threat of Jihadist terrorism**Andreas Jacobs**

Coordinator Islam and politics, KAS

The future of the "Islamic State"**Nils Wörmer**Head of Foreign, Security and European Affairs Department,
KAS**US counterterrorism policy in the Middle East****Matthew Levitt**Director, Reinhard Program on Counterterrorism &
Intelligence, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy

12.45-13.45

Lunch break

13.45-14.30

Session VII: Policy coordination between Washington and Berlin & ConclusionsChairs: **Thomas Birringer** / **Paul Salem**