

Britain's C-SIPA accession boosts regional security



HH Lieutenant General Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa

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Representatives from the Kingdom of Bahrain, United Kingdom, and United States convened yesterday for the Comprehensive Security Integration and Prosperity Agreement (C-SIPA) - Defence Working Group (DWG) annual meeting hosted in Bahrain.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Lieutenant General Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, National Security Advisor, Royal Guard Commander, Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Defence of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

'Historic' as UK joins C-SIPA to bolster regional security

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Registration for volunteerism

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The Royal Fund for Fallen Servicemen announced the opening of registration for volunteering in the 2025 Commemoration Day campaign, which includes the sale of the Razji flower pin.

The initiative reflects the Kingdom of Bahrain's values of loyalty, unity, and community engagement.

220 fils (includes VAT)



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Global cultural landmark



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, expressed his appreciation for Egypt's tireless efforts in protecting archaeological remains and underscored that these efforts to preserve humanity's heritage build bridges of communication among peoples and civilisations. HRH Prince Salman was speaking as he attended yesterday the inauguration ceremony of the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM), on behalf of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. Upon arrival to the ceremony, HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister was received by Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi. His Royal Highness affirmed that through its exhibitions, the GEM showcases the rich history of Egyptian civilisations. He emphasised the global cultural impact of the Pharaonic era, highlighting its role in fostering international dialogue and understanding. HRH Prince Salman conveyed the greetings of HM the King to President El-Sisi, and congratulated the Egyptian leader and the people of Egypt on the landmark event, emphasising that the museum reflects the nation's rich civilisation and enduring human heritage.

Peace 'shared duty'

H.E. Dr Al Zayani: A secure Middle East requires Palestinian statehood

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The second day of the IISS Manama Dialogue 2025 unfolded under the compelling theme "Securing the Gulf: Diplomacy, Economics and Defence", drawing the world's eyes to Bahrain as regional and international leaders united to chart a shared vision for peace, prosperity, and collective security in the Gulf.

The discussion, rich with conviction and clarity, echoed one message across the hall of the Ritz-Carlton Bahrain, security is not a solitary pursuit, it is a shared responsibility.

Dialogue Over Division

In a powerful address, His Excellency Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Bahrain's Minister of Foreign Affairs, reminded delegates that the foundation of security lies in dialogue, not discord.

"True security cannot be achieved alone," he said, "It must be built on a vision that unites our peoples, where diversity is strength, and peace is a shared duty."

Dr. Al Zayani underscored Bahrain's unwavering belief that diplomacy and cultural under-



H.E. Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani

standing remain the surest paths to stability.

He spotlighted Bahrain's leadership in regional and global coalitions that combat terrorism, piracy, and cyber threats, including its role as host of the Combined Maritime Forces, a 47-nation coalition safeguarding vital sea lanes in the Gulf and Red Sea.

"Enduring security depends on genuine cooperation," he affirmed, highlighting new milestones such as the Arab Council of Cybersecurity Resilience and the GCC Joint Defence Agreement, which enshrines the principle that an attack on one is an attack on all.

Transitioning to economics, Al Zayani drew a direct line between prosperity and peace.

"Economic development and integration are not luxuries,



Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Al Busaidi, Oman's Foreign Minister

they are lifelines," he declared, noting the GCC's steady progress toward a unified market and deeper global partnerships.

Reiterating Bahrain's steadfast stance on Palestine, he warned that "the dream of a secure and prosperous Middle East will remain incomplete until the Palestinian people achieve their legitimate right to statehood."

Inclusion and Engagement

Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Al Busaidi, Oman's Foreign Minister, took the stage with a message of inclusion, arguing that the Gulf's long-term stability depends on drawing regional powers closer, not pushing them apart.

"Security cannot be achieved through isolation or exclusion," Reflecting on decades of strained relations with Iran, Al



Georgios Gerapetritis, Greece's Minister of Foreign Affairs

Busaidi urged a new approach, one rooted in engagement and respect. "History has shown that isolating Iran has never delivered peace. Constructive dialogue, however, can," he said, calling for a comprehensive regional security framework that includes every voice, from Iran to Iraq, to address shared threats such as extremism and trafficking.

Maritime Security and Connectivity

From Europe's vantage point, Georgios Gerapetritis, Greece's Minister of Foreign Affairs, emphasized that the peace and prosperity of the Gulf are inseparable from global stability.

"With one of the longest coastlines in Europe, Greece understands that freedom of navigation is not just a principle,



Luigi Di Maio, the European Union's Special Representative for the Gulf Region

it's a promise," he said.

Commending recent progress toward peace in Gaza, he praised the mediation efforts of the United States, Egypt, and Qatar. "The silence of the guns, however partial, is the first whisper of hope," he remarked, reaffirming Greece's commitment to a two-state solution and post-conflict reconstruction.

Gerapetritis also celebrated deepening partnerships with Gulf states, from joint defense projects with Saudi Arabia and the UAE to renewable energy cooperation across the region.

Concluding the session, Luigi Di Maio, the European Union's Special Representative for the Gulf Region, offered a forward-looking perspective: "Securing the Gulf begins with the Gulf itself."



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