

Gulf Stability Now an International Interest, Says GCC Chief

GCC secretary-general says upcoming Gulf-European summit could expand cooperation across multiple sectors

Gulf Cooperation Council Secretary-General Jassim Mohammed Al Budaiwi said on Saturday that Gulf states were continuing efforts to promote security, stability and prosperity through cooperation with regional and international partners amid rapidly changing geopolitical conditions and mounting economic and security challenges.

Speaking during a session on Gulf-European strategic relations at the Globsec Forum 2026 in Prague, Al Budaiwi said the strategic partnership between the GCC and the European Union had contributed to strengthening regional and international stability.

He said the participation of the GCC General Secretariat in the forum reflected its commitment to maintaining an active presence at regional and international platforms and enhancing dialogue with global partners, policymakers and experts.

Al Budaiwi said the region had witnessed several developments in recent months that significantly affected security and stability. He added that GCC states had continued diplomatic

efforts aimed at reducing escalation, containing tensions and advancing dialogue to safeguard regional security and protect populations across the region.

He stressed the importance of protecting air and maritime routes, ensuring freedom of navigation, safeguarding global supply chains and maintaining stability in international energy markets.

Al Budaiwi added that recent developments had demonstrated an unprecedented link between the security of Europe and the Middle East, noting that any disruption in the Gulf region and surrounding maritime corridors directly impacts the European economy, global energy security and international supply chains.

He said Gulf stability was no longer solely a regional matter but had become "a shared international interest".

On future Gulf-European relations, Al Budaiwi said both sides were seeking to broaden cooperation and expand ties into new areas, expressing hope that the upcoming Gulf-European summit would produce tangible outcomes serving the mutual interests of both parties and strengthening existing cooperation.



"The stability of the Gulf region represents a fundamental pillar for the stability of the global economy and the security of international navigation."

- JASSIM MOHAMMED AL BUDAIWI, GCC SECRETARY-GENERAL

UAE Says Strait of Hormuz Must Stay Open to All



The global trading system is facing a "real test" amid ongoing geopolitical tensions, with the closure of the Strait of Hormuz posing a major challenge to international supply chains, a senior UAE official said during a dialogue session in Prague.

Speaking in the Czech capital, the official said the current situation highlighted the need for countries to draw lessons from recent disruptions to global trade and logistics networks.

The discussion focused on the impact of Iran's closure of the Strait of Hormuz and the resulting pressure on the resilience of global supply chains, particularly for energy exports and maritime trade routes.

The official said the United Arab Emirates responded swiftly and efficiently by activating alternative trade corridors, ensuring business continuity and accelerating the development of existing infrastructure.

"Our message to the world is clear: the Strait of Hormuz must remain open to all," the official said.

The UAE also reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining open trade and investment flows despite regional challenges.

"Whatever happens, the UAE will remain open to the world and a key gateway facilitating trade and investment flows across global markets," the official added.

Qatar, Egypt discuss Iran mediation efforts

Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar, held a phone call on Saturday with Badr Abdelaty, Egypt's Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Egyptians Abroad, to discuss bilateral relations and ongoing regional mediation efforts.

According to a statement issued by Qatar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the two officials reviewed cooperation ties between Doha and Egypt and explored ways to further strengthen coordination between the two countries.

The discussions also focused on mediation efforts involving the United States and Iran, including diplomatic initiatives



being pursued through Pakistani mediation channels amid rising regional tensions.

The two ministers discussed coordination aimed at supporting mediation efforts designed to reduce tensions and reinforce security and stability across the region.

During the call, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al

Thani stressed the importance of all parties responding positively to ongoing diplomatic initiatives and mediation efforts.

He emphasized the need to address the root causes of the crisis through dialogue and peaceful means, aiming for a sustainable agreement that would prevent renewed escalation in the region.

Kuwaiti Relief Efforts Support Vulnerable Families

Ambassador says charitable work reflects Kuwait's global humanitarian image

Kuwait's humanitarian work is a national legacy and a responsibility that must be preserved, Kuwait's ambassador to Tunisia, Mansour Al-Omar, said on Saturday, praising charitable institutions for reflecting the country's "honourable image and deep-rooted humanitarian role."

Al-Omar made the remarks while receiving Khaled Al-Shamri, the head of the Development and Relief Sector at Nama Charity (part of the Social Reform Society), following a field visit by a Nama delegation that implemented a series of humanitarian and development projects across several regions in Tunisia targeting underprivileged families and vulnerable groups.

The ambassador stressed that Kuwaiti charitable work is not a temporary activity but a long-standing approach inherited across generations, built on values of generosity and giving embedded in Kuwaiti society.

He added that preserving this humanitarian legacy is a "major national responsibility shared by all," stressing the importance of continued coordination between official bodies and Kuwaiti charities to

ensure humanitarian efforts are properly represented in a way that benefits Kuwait's global standing.

Al-Omar also praised Nama Charity's work in Tunisia, describing it as a model of structured and impactful humanitarian action, while underlining the need to adhere to legal and regulatory frameworks that safeguard credibility and enhance international impact.

For his part, Al-Shamri said Kuwaiti humanitarian work continues to serve vulnerable communities worldwide, reflecting Kuwait's leading global role in charitable and development work.

He said the delegation implemented several relief and development initiatives during its Tunisia visit, including dis-



UAE, Luxembourg deepen cooperation across sectors

Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates met with Xavier Bettel, Deputy Prime Minister of Luxembourg to discuss strengthening relations between the United Arab Emirates and Luxembourg across multiple sectors, officials said.

The two sides also witnessed the signing of an agreement between the two countries during the meeting, aimed at further enhancing bilateral cooperation.

Discussions focused on expanding ties in several areas of



mutual interest, while both ministers also reviewed the latest regional developments.

According to the UAE side, the talks addressed the reper-

ussions of "unprovoked Iranian terrorist attacks" targeting the UAE, and their potential impact on international maritime security, global energy supplies and economic stability.

The meeting comes amid heightened regional tensions and growing concerns over the security of key shipping routes and the stability of global energy markets.