IRAQI KURDISTAN AT A CROSSROADS: Current Issues of Domestic and Middle Eastern Politics

Erbil – May 24–25, 2017

Conference Programme
08:30 – 09:30 Registration and Refreshments

09:30 – 12:00 PANEL 3: Global Powers’ Strategies towards Iraq and Kurdistan (1/2)

**Chair:** Anwar Anaid, PhD, Dean School of Social Sciences, University of Kurdistan Hewler

**Discussants:** Ms. Bayan Sami Abdulrahman, KRG’s Representative to the USA

**Presentations:**

1. *State and Non-State Interactions in IR: An alternative theoretical outlook*
   Dr. Marianna Charountaki, PhD, Lecturer, University of Leicester

2. *The Heritage of Russian (Soviet) - Kurdish Relations and Critical Analysis of Russia’s Policy towards Iraqi Kurdistan*
   Kirill V. Vertyaev, PhD, Director, Department of Kurdish Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences

3. *The development of British foreign policy on the Kurdistan Region*
   Gary Kent, the Director of the all-party parliamentary group on the Kurdistan Region in Iraq since 2007. The group will be re-established in June.

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch Break
Chair: Hemin Mirkhan, PhD, Director of CRIS, University of Kurdistan Hewler

Presentations:

1. *The Kurdish Issue in the European Union*
   Gérard Chaliand, PhD, Visiting Professor, University of Kurdistan Hewler

2. *Pawns of the Cold War: Kissinger, the Cold War and the Abandonment of the Kurds, 1972-1975*
   Bryan R. Gibson, PhD, Adjunct Professor, Johns Hopkins University, USA

3. *Fostering KRG’s Foreign Relations: Assessment of a Success Story*
   Ms. Sara Mustafa, Lecturer, University of Kurdistan Hewler

4. *Israel's Periphery Doctrine and the Kurds*
   David Romano, PhD, Professor, and Mr. Shivan Rojhilat, Missouri State University

5. *Together We Stand, Divided We Fall: Transcending the Obstacles to Internal Sovereignty in Iraqi Kurdistan*
   Nigel M. Greaves, PhD, Assistant Professor, Middle East Technical University - Northern Cyprus Campus