

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, POST-ISIS IRAQ & THE KRG INDEPENDENCE REFERENDUM

An IRIS guest lecture with Denise Natali, Akeel Abbas, and Barin Kayaoglu



Dr. Natali, Dr. Abbas, and Dr. Kayaoglu will discuss post-ISIS dynamics and current political developments in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region from the United States' and Turkey's foreign policy perspective.

— Denise Natali

is a Distinguished Research Fellow at the Institute for National Strategic Studies (INSS) where she specializes on the Middle East, trans-border Kurdish issue, regional energy security, and post-conflict state building. She spent more than two decades researching and working in the Kurdish regions of Iraq, Turkey, Iran, and Syria. Dr. Natali is the author of numerous publications on Kurdish politics, economy and energy, including *The Kurdish Quasi-State: Development and Dependency in Post-Gulf War*.

— Akeel Abbas

is an Assistant Professor in AUIS's English Department. He worked for several years as a journalist covering Iraq and the Middle East. He was also involved in writing a series of English and Arabic guides on democratization in Iraq for the Washington, D.C.-based non-profit organization, the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies. Previously, Dr. Abbas founded and managed the Ayoon Organization for Human Rights, a non-profit organization that documented human rights abuses in Iraq.

— Barin Kayaoglu

joined AUIS as an assistant professor of world history in 2016. He is currently writing his first book, on U.S. relations with Turkey and Iran from World War II to the present and pro- and anti-American sentiments in the two countries. Aside from his academic work, he has worked as a writer, editor, analyst, and business consultant in Washington, D.C., and he continues to write commentaries for global media outlets such as *Al-Monitor* and *The National Interest*.



RSVP - iris@auis.edu.krd

Tuesday, September 12 • 05:00 PM • A-G-05

Attendance is restricted to members of the AUIS community.