



**United States Central Command, U.S. Army Directed Studies Office and  
The Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution**

**PARTNERSHIP, STRENGTH AND PRESENCE  
*CONVERGING REGIONAL INTERESTS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE GULF***

**Ronald Reagan Building 1300 Pennsylvania Ave NW – Atrium Ballroom**

**Day 1, July 7: Getting the Lay of the Land**

- 0800-0930**      **Registration (coffee and refreshments available)**
- 0930-0940**      **Opening Remarks and Introduction: LtGen John Allen, Acting Commander,  
United States Central Command**
- 0940-1010**      **Keynote Address: Admiral Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**
- 1010-1030**      **Question and Answer Session**
- 1030-1045**      **Break**
- 1045-1215**      **Panel 1: Iranian Priorities**  
*Moderator: Suzanne Maloney, Saban Center at Brookings*  
Mehrzaad Boroujerdi, Syracuse University  
Babak Rahimi, University of California at San Diego  
Farideh Farhi, University of Hawaii at Manoa
- 1215-1315**      **Lunch**
- 1315-1445**      **Panel 2: Regional Perspectives**  
*Moderator: Daniel Byman, Saban Center at Brookings*  
Shafeeq Ghabra, Kuwait University  
Raad Alkadiri, PFC Energy  
Michael Herzog, Israel Defense Forces
- 1445-1515**      **Break**
- 1515-1645**      **Panel 3: International Perspectives**  
*Moderator: Kenneth M. Pollack, Saban Center at Brookings*  
Erica Downs, The Brookings Institution  
Walter Posch, SWP  
Dmitri Trenin, Carnegie Endowment Moscow

1645-1730 **Regional Maritime Affairs and Diplomacy in the Gulf: VADM William Gortney**

1730-1830 **Social (light hors D ‘Oeuvres)**

**Day 2, July 8: Prospects for Cooperation or Confrontation**

0800-0900 **Registration (coffee and refreshments available)**

0900-0915 **Opening Remarks and Introduction: LtGen John Allen, Acting Commander, United States Central Command**

0915-1130 **Panel 4. Smarter International Pressure**

*Moderator: Suzanne Maloney, Saban Center at Brookings*

Cliff Kupchan, Eurasia Group

Avi Jorisch, Red Cell LLP

Karim Sadjadpour, Carnegie Endowment

Fareed Mohamedi, PFC Energy

1130-1300 **Lunch**

**12:15 – Keynote Address: Honorable Michèle Flournoy, USD(P)**

1300-1430 **Panel 5. Prospects for Regional Cooperation**

*Moderator: Kenneth M. Pollack, Saban Center at Brookings*

Ellen Laipson, The Stimson Center

Daniel Byman, Saban Center at Brookings

Mohsen Milani, University of South Florida

1430-1500 **Break**

1500--1630 **Panel 6. New Security Architectures**

*Moderator: Daniel Byman, Saban Center at Brookings*

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Fred Wehrey, RAND Corporation

Riad Kahwaji, Institute for Near East & Gulf Military Analysis

1630-1700 **Closing Remarks and Conference Wrap-Up: Kenneth M. Pollack, Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution**