

Mr Nicolai Due-Gundersen



Short Curriculum Vitae (C.V.)

Mr Nicolai Due-Gundersen is motivated and focused researcher of International Relations seeking to strengthen research skills and geopolitical analysis of the Arab world in a multicultural environment. He is a multicultural understanding bolstered by excellent communication and writing skills, complemented by relevant publishing and editing experience.

MEMBERSHIPS:

- **Arab Institute for Security Studies (ACSIS)**

Advisor and Member of Conference Organising Committee, April 2013 – September 2013

- **Jordanian Interfaith Coexistence Research Center**

Researcher, November 2012 – Present

- **Soliya**

Participant in Soliya Connect Programme, February 2012 – March 2012

- **UNITAR** (United Nations Institute for Training and Research)

Participant, January 2012 – March 2012

PUBLICATIONS:

Reinterpreting Sharia Law under Western Democracy; JICRC, December 2012

[‘Never Mind Oil, Libya could Supply Europe with Solar Power’](#); Oil Price (CNBC Partner Site), April 2013

[Tamoil: Libya’s Stagnating Business Arm](#) (Advance Publication); Oil, Gas & Energy Law Intelligence Journal (OGEL), April 2013

[‘Bahrain: Tourism, Investment and the Arab Spring’](#); Geopolitical Monitor, April 2013

[‘Norway’s Energy Future: Balancing Oil Welfare with Globalization’](#); Geopolitical Monitor, May 2013

[‘Division or Attraction: An Overview of Libya’s Future after Gaddafi’](#); Geopolitical Monitor, May 2013

[Fuel after the Arab Spring: Libya’s Tamoil versus Kuwait’s Q8](#) (Advance Publication); Oil, Gas & Energy Law Intelligence Journal (OGEL), June 2013

[‘The Status of Private Military Companies: When Civilians and Mercenaries Blur’](#); Small Wars Journal, July 2013

[‘Jordan’s crossroads in the Arab Spring’](#); Open Democracy, August 2013

[Jordan’s New Oil Sector: The Cyber Age of Hydrocarbon Security](#) (Advance Publication); Oil, Gas & Energy Law Intelligence Journal (OGEL), August 2013

[‘Iraq’s Oil Police’](#); Journal of Energy Security, September 2013

HONORS & AWARDS

1st Prize for Most Outspoken Student at Level 6

Kingston University, London, June 2011

EDUCATION

- **Geneva School of Diplomacy**

Master of Arts (MA), International Relations and Affairs, 3.74, 2011 – 2012

- **Kingston University**

Bachelor's degree, English Literature (British and Commonwealth), B, 2010 – 2011

- **Oslo International School**

International Baccalaureate, High School/Secondary Diplomas and Certificates, 2005 – 2007

INTERESTS

My interests include combining creative writing with travels to the Arab world, specifically North Africa. I have made repeat trips to Egypt, meeting with religious and political scholars and plan on expanding both my understanding of religious culture and regional security through trips to Beirut and Kuwait City.

LANGUAGES

English, Bokmål, Norwegian, German, French, Arabic

CONTACT DETAILS

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Jordan's New Oil Sector: The Cyber Age of Hydrocarbon Security

The MENA region has traditionally struggled with political precariousness. In the Gulf especially, oil wealth has provided an expedient symbol of socio-economic disparity and a target for political attacks. Since 9/11, the activities of ideologically-driven terrorism have increased. In addition, the so-called Arab Spring has further fuelled contention between the state and aggressive political actors. However, while most attacks by such groups have been traditionally physical, the pervasion of internet dependence in both social and professional settings has given political cells a decentralised and far less tangible weapon that can have systemic socio-economic consequences for hydrocarbon nations, ranging from disruption of refinery output and loss of profit to widespread infrastructural damage and even loss of life.

In 2012, saw the emerging trend of cyber-attacks affecting the hydrocarbon infrastructure of Gulf States such as Saudi Arabia and Qatar, a contemporary example of the so-called 'oil curse'. A proximate contrast to this curse and a leading regional ICT hub is the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Jordan's developing ICT sector continues to succeed in attracting international tech firms, some of which already develop data protection software for international oil companies. With its proximity to Gulf States but relative removal from the complexities of oil politics and related motives of cyber hackers who have attacked Gulf oil infrastructure, Jordan may provide a hub for national oil companies (NOCs) to outsource their ICT security needs, avoiding dependence on international oil firms for access to the latest technology.