

Online book-talk \

**Kurdistan's De Facto Statehood:  
A New Explanatory Framework**

INVITATION  
12 October 2022

With Dr Kamaran Palani, Salahaddin University, Erbil,  
and Professor Andreas Heinemann-Grüder (discussant), BICC

on 26 October 2022

15:00–16:30 hrs (Berlin time)

More information:  
SUSANNE HEINKE

Chief Officer Public Relations \  
Leiterin der Stabsstelle Presse- und  
Öffentlichkeitsarbeit

+49 228 911 96-44  
pr@bicc.de

For many observers, the current troubled era of the crisis-ridden political landscape in Kurdistan contrasts with the preceding era's aspirations that strove to project Kurdistan as a regional 'model' of prosperity, vibrant economy and functioning state machinery. All of these are compromised at the moment, which raises specific questions about the survival and consolidation of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), a sub-state entity that often acts as a *de facto* state within federal Iraq. Dr Palani's work examines *de facto* statehood in KRG and uncovers the dynamics of *de facto* statehood in Kurdistan at internal, national and international levels. In this online event, Kamaran Palani will talk about the four main factors at play in the fluidity of the *de facto* state of Kurdistan: the balance of power between Erbil and Baghdad; the level and form of internal fragmentation; the change of strategies to gain international recognition; and the uncertain and fluctuating external support. Andreas Heinemann-Grüder will discuss the dynamics of the *de facto* states from a comparative perspective primarily based on Palani's recent book *Kurdistan's De Facto Statehood: A New Explanatory Framework* (Routledge, 2022).

**Kamaran Palani** is a Lecturer in International Relations at Salahaddin University, Erbil, a Prevention of Violent Extremism Advisor at the International Organization for Migration, a Research Fellow at MERI and an Associate Fellow at Al Sharq Strategic Research. He holds a PhD from Leiden University (Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs, 2021).

**Andreas Heinemann-Grüder** is Senior Researcher at BICC and teaches at the University of Bonn. His research focuses on post-Soviet politics, comparative federalism, civil-military relations and irregular armed groups. He has given policy advice to the Chancellery, the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Economic Cooperation of Germany and the German Parliament,

The Zoom event will be moderated by **Osman Bahadir Dincer**, BICC.

Please register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErcu6urjMoGNFggamry-l9YpMjF-JB48oD>

By participating in the Zoom event, you agree that pictures / videos recorded during the meeting can be used for publication on BICC's homepage, social media and in print publications. If you do not wish to be recorded, please turn off your camera and mute your microphone during the event. Please also note our [privacy policy](#).