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**The Rise of the Middle West: The Impact of
Multipolarity on the Arab-Israeli Conflict in the
Biden Era**

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of the Requirements for the Master's Degree**

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DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to the loving memory of my dear aunt, [SAMAH BOUDJELLAL], whose presence is deeply missed. Her support and love continue to inspire me every day. May her soul rest in peace.

To my parents who have provided me with love, encouragement, and support throughout my academic journey.

I also dedicate this work to all my family and friends, whose love and support have been essential during this journey.

Kawther

To the soul of my dear father, I hope you are proud of me
To my family and everyone who supported me all the time.

Soulef

DECLARATION

We, ELHADI Kawther and Bensaadoune Soulef, hereby declare that this thesis, entitled “The Rise of the Middle West: The Impact of Multipolarity on the Arab-Israeli Conflict in the Biden Era”, is our original work and has not been published elsewhere. We acknowledge that we followed academic norms and research conduct. Furthermore, we confirm that this submission has been made exclusively to the University of Mohamed Boudiaf - M'sila, in accordance with its institutional and academic guidelines, and all sources quoted have been properly referenced.

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We accept full responsibility for any errors in this thesis, acknowledging that all outcomes are our own. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this significant achievement.

ABSTRACT

This dissertation examines the shifts from US hegemony to a multipolar world on the Arab-Israeli conflict during the Biden administration. As global power shifts, countries like China and Russia are gaining more influence in the Middle East, challenging the US's traditional dominance. This decline in US power has made the Arab-Israeli conflict more uncertain and complex with the entry of new global players. Emerging powers play significant roles in shaping the conflict's dynamics through direct involvement and strategic alliances with regional actors. The Biden administration's focus on working with multiple countries and resolving conflicts has led to renewed international efforts to address the conflict. However, the rise of multipolar world can lead to increased competition for influence, possible weakening of current alliances, and difficulties for traditional US-led peace efforts. This study offers important insights into how peace might be achieved in the future and helps plan strategies in the Middle East. It also shows the bigger effects on how countries interact and regional stability.

Key words: US hegemony, Multipolar world, Arab-Israeli conflict, Biden administration.

Table of Contents

DEDICATION.....	I
DECLARATION.....	II
ACKNOWLEDGMENT.....	III
ABSTRACT.....	IV
Table of Contents	V
GENERAL INTRODUCTION	1

CHAPTER ONE :

THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF THE RISE OF A MULTIPOLAR WORLD

Introduction	9
1. The Rise of a Multipolar World.....	9
1.1. The Future of a Multi-Order World	10
1.2. Changing Power: The US and the New Multipolar World.....	11
1.3. Creating a Democratic and Multipolar World: China's Strategy with Developing Countries.....	11
1.4. Emerging Powers' Foreign Policies in a Multipolar World: An Introductory Review	12
2. US Middle West Hegemony.....	13
2.1. US Involvement in the Middle West: Promoting Democracy or Seeking Dominance.....	13
2.2. US Efforts to Promote Democracy in the Middle West: A Quest for Dominance.....	14
2.3. Collective Security vs. Hegemonic Security: US Policy in the Middle West During the Gulf Wars.....	15
2.4. Middle West Peace Process During US Hegemony: Understanding the Dynamics	15
2.5. Crisis in American Power: Challenges to US Hegemony in the Middle West.....	16
2.6. US Middle West Policy in the Post-Cold War Era: Hegemony vs. Leadership	17
3. Decline of US Middle West Hegemony	19
3.1. Post-US Hegemony: Russia's Foreign and Security Policy in the Middle West	19
3.2. Challenging Dominance: BRICS Rise and the MENA Region's Shift from US-led Hegemony	19
3.3. US Foreign Policy in the Middle West: Understanding the Withdrawal of Dominance.....	20
4. Arab-Israeli Relations before the Biden Era	21
4.1. Israel in a shifting Middle West.....	21
4.2. Arab-American Relations Under President Trump.....	22

4.3. The Role of the Israel Lobby in US Middle East Policy under Trump.....	23
4.4. President Trump's Approach to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict	23
Conclusion.....	24

CHAPTER TWO:

**THE RISE OF MULTIPOLAR WORLD AND ITS IMPACTS ON ARAB-ISRAELI
RELATION**

Introduction	26
1. Historical Overview of Arab-Israeli Relations	26
1.1 A Historiographic Review of Literature on the Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict	27
1.2. The Roots of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.....	27
1.3. Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Century of Regional Relevance and International Failure	28
1.4. The Beginning of the End: The Arab-Israeli Conflict.....	29
2. Analysis of Key US Policies in the Middle West.....	30
2.1. The United States in the Middle West: Influence and Strategy	30
2.2. Playing the Hegemon: Fifty Years of US Policy in the Middle West.....	32
2.3. Transformations in US Middle West Policy: From Crises to Change	34
3. Unintended Consequences on Arab-Israeli Relations.....	35
3.1. Causes and Consequences of the 1948 Arab-Israeli War	35
3.2. Normalization of Arab-Israeli Relations: Exploring Regional Geopolitical Implications	36
3.3. The Impact of the Arab Spring on Arab Citizenship: Unintended Outcomes.....	38
3.4. Peacemaking Dynamics: The Palestinian-Israeli Case.....	39
4. Biden Administration's Approach and Its Impact	39
4.1. Joe Biden's Foreign Policy Approach to the Gulf Region	39
4.2. US Policy in the Middle East: Systemic Influences on Behavior.....	41
4.3. Emerging Dynamics in US-Iran Relations: The Perspective of the Biden Administration	42
Conclusion.....	42

CHPATER THREE: SHIFTS IN THE DYNAMICS OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

Introduction	44
1. Emergence of Other Global Players	45
1.1. Involving BRICS as emerging global influencers.....	45
1.2. China's role in regional and global governance: A new world emerges	47

1.3. The Future of the Middle East in the Context of US-China and US-Russia Rivalry	49
1.4. China and the Emerging Middle West.....	50
2. Shifts in Geopolitical Alliances	52
2.1. The Geopolitics of the Changing Middle West: Views from Within and Beyond.....	52
2.2. Global Power Dynamics: China's Economic, Military, and Political Ascendancy in the 21st Century	54
2.3. The Impact of Changing Alliances in a Multipolar World on Global Politics.....	55
3. Economic Factors.....	57
3.1. The Impact of US Dominance on Economic Growth in East Asia, the Middle West, and North Africa	57
3.3. Global Views on China's Economic Influence: Benefits and Concerns	58
4. Military and Diplomatic.....	59
4.1. Aspects of Diplomatic Pressure in the Middle West	60
4.2. The Middle West: Increasing Rivalry for Dominance in a Changing Regional Landscape	62
Conclusion.....	63
GENERAL CONCLUSION	65
References:	66
المُلخَص.....	71

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

This dissertation takes a deep look at how global power shifts are affecting the Arab-Israeli conflict, especially during President Biden's time in office. The United States has had a strong influence in the Middle East, often leading peace talks and diplomatic efforts. However, the world is changing to a multipolar order, where several countries have significant power and influence. This shift moves away from US dominance and creates a more complex and competitive international scene. As the world moves towards this multipolar order, new global players like China are gaining more influence in the Middle East.

These emerging powers challenge the United States' traditional control in the region, bringing their own goals, strategies, and alliances into play. Their involvement adds new layers of complexity to the Arab-Israeli conflict as they interact with regional actors and expand their geopolitical reach. The study aims to understand how these changes impact regional stability and the dynamics of the Arab-Israeli conflict. It looks at how the actions and policies of China and other powerful countries affect issues in the region.

This includes examining how these powers form strategic alliances with local actors, provide military and economic support, and influence diplomatic efforts. The dissertation also explores the impact of their involvement on the balance of power in the Middle East and the potential for both conflict and cooperation among regional and global players. Furthermore, the dissertation investigates how the Biden administration's approach to diplomacy and conflict resolution is shaping the situation. President Biden's focus on working with multiple countries and forming alliances represents a shift from previous US policies.

This approach involves collaborating with a broader range of international partners to address the complex challenges in the Middle East. The study analyzes how this strategy affects the dynamics of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the broader implications for peace processes and strategic planning in the region. By exploring these aspects, the research aims to offer

significant understandings into the future of peace efforts in the Middle East. It seeks to highlight the broader effects of a shifting global power structure on international relations and regional stability. Through a detailed examination of the interactions between global and regional actors, this dissertation contributes to a deeper comprehension of the changing geopolitical landscape and its impact on one of the most long-standing and debated conflicts in modern history.

Aims and Objectives:

This thesis explores the impact of a multipolar world order on the Arab-Israeli conflict during the Biden administration. With US dominance in the Middle East waning and new powers like China and Russia emerging, it examines how these changes affect Arab-Israeli relations.

The main aim is to analyze the consequences of declining US hegemony, focusing on the Biden administration's policies and their regional impact. The study seeks to understand how new global dynamics shape the conflict and identify unintended consequences. By evaluating key US policies, regional responses, and the roles of new global players, this thesis aims to provide insights into how multipolarity affects peace and stability in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Summary of Literature Review

Many researchers have studied the decline of US power. Wallenstein (2003) discussed how the US once led the world in military and economy, but now faces challenges. Layne (2009) explored how US dominance is questioned with the rise of new powers like China, which impacting on global security and economy. Miller (2004) looked at how changes in global politics affect the Middle East, emphasizing US leadership for peace. Al Sahran (2017) explained the US interest in the Middle East is for its strategic importance and oil. Dehnavi (2020) examined why US power is declining, with highlighting China's growing role in the

Middle East. This study will explore how multipolarity affects the Arab-Israeli conflict and the influence of new powers like Russia, Turkey, and China on US dominance in the Biden era.

The terms of the topic

The term "Middle West," is a new word by China, means the countries located in or related to the Gulf region, which are in the Middle East. The current world is multipolar, characterized by more than two centers of power or interest. Hegemony is the social, cultural, ideological, or economic influence exerted by a dominant group.

The Scope

The scope of this study is limited to analyzing the impact of multipolarity on the Arab-Israeli conflict specifically during the Biden administration. It examines key policies of the Biden administration, the roles of emerging global players such as China and Russia, and the regional responses to these changes. The focus is on understanding how these shifts influence the dynamics of the conflict and the broader implications for peace and stability in the Middle East.

The current literature on the Arab-Israeli conflict and US involvement primarily focuses on the historical dominance of American influence in the Middle East and the strategic partnerships that have shaped the region. Studies have extensively covered US policies, peace initiatives, and military engagements. However, with the rise of multipolarity, there is a growing body of work examining the roles of emerging global players like China and Russia, yet this research is still in its primary stages.

The literature often lacks a comprehensive analysis of the impact of these new global dynamics on the Arab-Israeli conflict specifically. Most existing studies tend to either focus broadly on geopolitical shifts or remain centered on traditional US-centric views.

The gap identified is the nuanced understanding of how multipolarity directly influences Arab-Israeli relations in the context of the Biden administration's policies. This thesis aims to

fill this gap by offering a focused analysis on the interaction between declining US hegemony and the actions of new global powers in the Arab-Israeli conflict. By doing so, it contributes to a more detailed and updated understanding of the conflict within the current multipolar global framework.

Research Significance

This research is important because it examines the changing global power dynamics and their effect on the Arab-Israeli conflict. As US hegemony in the Middle East declines and other global players like China and Russia gain influence, understanding these changes is crucial for policymakers and scholars.

The contribution of this thesis lies in its comprehensive analysis of how multipolarity affects the Arab-Israeli conflict, particularly under the Biden administration. It provides new insights into the unintended consequences of shifting power structures, highlighting how emerging global players influence regional stability and conflict dynamics.

By examining these developments, the research offers valuable perspectives on future peace processes and strategic planning in the Middle East, making it a significant addition to the field of international relations and Middle Eastern studies

Research Questions

How has the rise of a multipolar world order affected the dynamics of the Arab-Israeli conflict during the Biden administration?

1. What are the unintended consequences of declining US hegemony on Arab-Israeli relations?
2. How do emerging global players like China influence the Arab-Israeli conflict?

3. What specific policies of the Biden administration contribute to changes in the Arab-Israeli conflict dynamics?

Methodology

The study will use a qualitative approach to understand the research questions. The data will come from secondary sources like articles, reports, book chapters, and charts. The qualitative data will include analyzing articles and book chapters to understand historical context and political changes, giving insights into personal experiences, perceptions, and geopolitical details.

The data analysis will use thematic analysis to find recurring patterns and themes, focusing on the decline of US dominance, the influence of China and other global players, and the policies of the Biden administration. Content analysis will be used on the articles and book chapters to identify common narratives and understand the broader effects of multipolarity on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The study may face challenges in getting comprehensive data because geopolitics is always changing. Limitations include potential bias in secondary sources and how well the results can apply to different times and geopolitical situations. Ensuring unbiased interpretation of qualitative data and accurate representation of findings will be critical to the study's reliability.

By analyzing diverse sources in-depth, this study aims to understand how the rise of a multipolar world order has impacted on the Arab-Israeli conflict during the Biden era. The study may face challenges in obtaining unbiased responses and complete data on political movements. Additionally, there are limitations in applying the results to other situations due to the constantly changing nature of politics

Overall, the research plan will employ a qualitative research design centered on the use of secondary sources and thematic analysis. The comprehensive analysis of existing literature

aims to provide valuable insights and contribute to a nuanced understanding of the geopolitical shifts and policy decisions impacting the Arab-Israeli conflict during the Biden administration. By utilizing this approach, the research aims to generate meaningful findings and make a valuable contribution to the existing body of knowledge in the field.

Layout of the Thesis

To achieve the goals mentioned, this dissertation established a set of objectives. The main objective was to analyze the consequences of declining US hegemony and focusing on the Biden administration's policies and their regional impact. Subsequently, the work would be divided into three main chapters

The first chapter discusses the unintended consequences of the rise of a multipolar world, focusing on the decline of US hegemony in the Middle East and its impact on Arab-Israeli relations during the Biden administration. It explores the shift in power dynamics, the historical dominance of the US in the region, factors contributing to its decline, and the implications for regional conflicts.

The second chapter examines how Arab-Israeli relations are changing because of global shifts. It reviews important historical events, examines key US policies, and explores the effects of the Biden administration's actions.

The third chapter The chapter examines the strategic significance of the Middle East and North Africa in global geopolitics, highlighting China's engagement through the Belt and Road Initiative and its dual economic and military interests. It contrasts these efforts with the activities of the US and Russia in the region, exploring the broader geopolitical impacts and potential future developments.

Literature Review

Many researchers and scholars have attempted to study the topic of the decline of US like (Wallenstein,2003) in his article "US Weakness and The Struggle for Hegemony". He

discusses imperialism and considered it an integral part of the global economy and science, the US was the dominant force militarily and economically it had the ability to create alliances such as "NATO" and US is considered the center of global culture, throughout the previous twenty years the US was the dominant power but this situation changes and it began to face challenges and the rejection of the world for the US hegemony. In the next ten years Europe may be able to rebuild completely itself and this is what threatens the US.

The research conducted by (Layne, 2009), examines the possibility of US hegemony declining and its implications for the global system. The research contains a set of important questions about the sustain ability of US primacy, the rise of new great powers, and its impacts on security, economics and globalization. It discussed the period of post-cold war, including unipolarity and the decline of US hegemony. The research suggests a questions such as the factors that drive a shift to multipolarity, the implications for US-China relations, the reasons behind great power competition and the emergence of new world system. It signals an inquiry into these key aspects of international relations.

This study by (Miller, 2004) in his article "The effects of changes in the international environment on the future of the Middle East" addresses how shifts in the international arena impact the future of Middle East, with highlight on Arab Israeli conflict, then he explains the positive impact of US hegemony on the regional peace process. The author discovers alternative scenarios with his affirmation of the vital role of current unipolar system and US hegemony for advancing the Arab Israeli peace process especially post Iraq war. Additionally, he warns and stresses the continued importance of US involvement for stability, preventing war and making the peace process a successful with the necessity of resolving the conflict with pointing out its dire consequences such as radicalism, weapons proliferation, terrorism and the Middle East is the most dangerous.

The article of "US Foreign Policy and The Middle East " by (Al Sahran ,2017), pointed to that the Middle East is considered an area of interest by the foreign policy of the US due to its economic and political factors ,its strategic location and its cultural similarities with the west, this study represent the goals of economic and political presence of US in the Middle East region and understand the development of the American presence which include securing access to oil in the Gulf region, in addition to protecting and supporting Israel . El Sarhan explains the reasons of the US presence in Middle East and shows its support to Israel which fight Islamic movements and Terrorist groups.

A pivotal study by (Dehnavi,2020), in his article "The Reasons for The Decline of American Hegemony and its Impacts On China's Regional Policies in The Middle East", he addresses the issue of the causes of the decline of American hegemony and its impact. The issue of the decline of American hegemony is very important because it effects on international politics and the reasons of the American decline can summarize in the need for multilateralism approach and the western financial crisis, the decline of industrial capacity and the competitiveness of the manufacturing and financial industries, also the emerging power like China. The decline in US influence has provided China with an opportunity to trade and energy China's strong need for energy resources in Middle East had made it present more actively than ever in the region.

In this study, we will explore The Rise of the Middle West: The impact of Multipolarity on The Arab Israeli conflict in the Biden era. We will also examine the emergence of new international actors such as Russia, Turkey, and China, and their influence on the United States. The focus will be on determining which power is likely to dominate and shape the global landscape, particularly considering America's vulnerabilities.

CHAPTER ONE

THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF THE RISE OF A MULTIPOLAR WORLD

Introduction

This chapter discusses the shift towards a "multipolar" world where various global powers coexist and challenge the dominant US-led order. It particularly focuses on China's rise, which actively seeks to reshape global dynamics through strategic alliances and initiatives like BRICS, challenging American dominance. The chapter also covers the evolving roles of established powers such as the USA and Russia. The USA, for instance, is adjusting its approach, especially in the Middle East, reducing its military presence and focusing more on diplomatic strategies due to strategic needs and the recognition of its declining hegemonic influence. On the other hand, Russia is enhancing its role in the Middle East, notably through military support in Syria, aiming to reestablish its influence in the region.

Moreover, the chapter examines how these global shifts impact regional situations, like the effects of the Abraham Accords on Israeli-Palestinian relations. These accords, which aim to normalize Israel's relations with several Arab nations, also indicate larger strategic realignments and have deep implications for regional power balances and the Palestinian issue. By analyzing various scholarly articles and actual events, this chapter aims to offer a clear view of how global power structures are changing and what these changes mean for international relations today, showing how the interactions between old powers and new players are reshaping global politics and leading to new approaches in international diplomacy and conflict resolution.

1. The Rise of a Multipolar World

The global landscape is undergoing rapid transformation, marking the beginning of a new era in international relations. This transformation is characterized by diverse power

structures and dynamic shifts, challenging traditional notions of global order. As the world moves towards a "Multi-order" framework, different international societies are coexisting within a larger system, altering established narratives of multipolarity and multiculturalism. This evolving landscape presents both opportunities and challenges for scholars and policymakers as they navigate the complexities of this new reality.

1.1. The Future of a Multi-Order World

This title that was used in this part of the work was inspired from an article of the same title by Flockhart (2016) he addresses that the international system is evolving into a " Multi-order " world, where different international societies coexist within a larger system. This differs from current narratives like Multipolar, Multi- partner, and multi-culture. In this new world the liberal order will persist but loses its global dominance, the challenge will be to establish new relationships among diverse actors across various divisions. Scholars and policymakers needs to adapt to this new reality by embracing diversity in power and principles and developing innovative institutions and approaches.

In other way the article highlights the complexity and transformation in the international system, and forces scholars and policymakers to adapt to these changes in other way Flockhart says the world is getting more diverse, with different groups living together everywhere. This is different from the idea of having many powerful groups, many partners, or many cultures. In this new system, the liberal order remains, but it's not strong everywhere. The big challenge is to get along with people from different backgrounds. Scholars and policymakers need to understand that power and beliefs are different and figure out new ways to work together. Basically, the article is about how the world is becoming more complicated, and it's really important for scholars and policymakers to adapt to these changes (Flockhart,2016).

1.2. Changing Power: The US and the New Multipolar World

Waqar and Niza (2023) in their article explain that the world moves away from being controlled by one superpower, like the US and towards many powerful countries sharing influence the US can't control global events all by itself anymore, countries like China, Russia, India, Brazil and Indonesia are becoming more important players, which makes it harder for the US to stay on top, but the US still has some strengths and chances to keep its strong position in certain parts of the world affairs. This article looks at both the good things and the difficult challenges the US faces in a world with many powerful countries. The big economic problem in 2008 and China helping fix it changes how powerful countries are seen, America can't control global issues by itself, Russia gets stronger by selling more oil and takes over Crimea in 2014.

Now countries like China , India, South Africa , Russia ,Saudi Arabia ,Brazil are important players in the world China is a big competition to US and India ,Indonesia, Brazil are also important in their areas, in Europe Trump fighting with European friends makes things tense ,but the war in Ukraine helps in fixing things between Europe and America, even though the world has more powerful countries now ,everyone still needs to work together on things like climate change, diseases, terrorism, poverty, food problem. If countries cooperate on these issues it can make things better for everyone and improve relationships between powerful countries (Waqar & Niza ,2023).

1.3. Creating a Democratic and Multipolar World: China's Strategy with Developing Countries

In the last decade, China's foreign policy has become more confident and powerful especially in its political and military aspects, it seeks to be seen as a leader among countries that are still growing and it wants to work with the emerging powers to create more multipolar world order and balance against American hegemony, also it wants to form important partnership with developing countries by making deals directly and joining groups like BRICS

where they work together with the other powerful countries. Alongside this China's big project (BRICS) shows how serious they are about changing the world by helping to build roads, bridges... in developing countries (Eisenman& Heginbotham,2019).

This project is a big part of how China is trying to be a leader and good partner to these countries. China is using a careful approach to increase its power without direct conflict especially by working with developing countries. This helps China challenges the strong influence of the US and try to change international rules to better match its own interest. At the same time, China is getting more involved in politics and military with these countries aiming to make its image better and become more influential and create lasting partnerships for its own political and security gains (Eisenman& Heginbotham,2019).

1.4. Emerging Powers' Foreign Policies in a Multipolar World: An Introductory Review

The rise of emerging powers beyond the western world marks a significant shift in the global system in the 21st century. This shift is about making things fairer in the world by fixing old ways where a few western countries were always in charge. This lead to the idea of one dominant powers changes because of the rise of another strong country. China, India, Brazil and South Africa are starting to work together better than before because in the past the weak countries or the powerless countries were struggled to agree on policies or take action together and now these emerging countries are changing that by cooperating more with each other. So the current global order includes powerful countries, newly emerging regional powers and regional structures (Cooper &Flemes, 2013).

However, the emerging powers face complex foreign policy strategies because of their position between the most powerful nations and the less influential ones in the world. Despite working within established rules, emerging countries are becoming more influential which creates a mix of team work and conflict. These emerging countries are focusing more on their own benefits rather than on shared values which is changing how they work together and relate

to each other. The rise of new powerful countries is changing the rules of the world politics, making it necessary to re-discuss the basic rules and ideas and what these countries react will affect both national and world wide situation. As the world changes, it is unclear which countries will become important in the new way the world works (Cooper & Femes, 2013).

To conclude, as we see a more complex global landscape with various powerful countries rising, it's crucial for leaders and thinkers worldwide to adjust to these changes. This new, more diverse world order demands fresh strategies and collaborations to tackle common challenges and ensure a stable, cooperative international environment. Embracing this shift can lead to a more balanced and fair global community.

2. US Middle West Hegemony

The dominance of the United States in the Middle East raises questions about its true intentions and the impact of its actions on regional stability. From promoting democracy to justifying military interventions, the US plays a pivotal role in shaping the political landscape of the region. However, there are concerns about whether its actions serve the collective security of the region or simply reinforce its hegemonic interests.

2.1. US Involvement in the Middle West: Promoting Democracy or Seeking Dominance

Wood (2019) reveals that the US seeks to spread democracy in the middle east since the cold war ends, it does things in many countries especially after 9/11 and when it starts the war on terror, but lots of people argue that instead of helping those countries the US is really trying to get more power for itself, they looking at what the US does in the middle east since the Soviet-Afghan war like going into Iraq and during the Arab spring, shows that it makes things worse not better. The article clarifies that the US is more focused on controlling things in the region than helping people, it talks about different ideas such as realism, and liberalism to explain how the US is tries to be the only dominant force in the middle east and around the world.

This study also Express how other countries and groups as United Nations and private military companies affect what the US does in the middle east, in other way the article talks about how the US tries to make countries in the Middle East more democratic since the ended of the Cold War. It does a lot of things there, especially after 9/11 and starting the war on terror. Some people think instead of helping, the US is trying to get more power for itself. They look at what the US does in the Middle East since the Soviet-Afghan war, like going into Iraq and during the Arab Spring, and it makes things worse. The article says that the US cares more about controlling the region than helping people. It explains different ideas like realism and liberalism to show how the US wants to be the most powerful in the Middle East and the world (Wood, 2019).

2.2. US Efforts to Promote Democracy in the Middle West: A Quest for Dominance

Markakis (2015) in his book delves how US tries to spread democracy in the middle east during the Clinton and Bush administrations focusing on Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, with lots of changes happening in the region and calls for political reform, promoting democracy is a big matter, there are movements happening where people stand up against governments that the US used to support. This book looks closely at how US policy in the middle east is changing, questioning whether Promoting democracy is really working. Markakis shows the ideas behind US policy and how to implement it.

The book is a good starting point for understanding US policy especially when it comes to promoting democracy during this important period in the middle east, in simple way the book examines how the US tries to spread democracy in the Middle East, with a spotlight on Egypt, Iraq, and Kuwait during the Clinton and Bush administration, he discusses about the shifts happening in the region and asking whether promoting democracy truly achieves its goals. Markakis provides insights into US policies and evaluates their effectiveness. Overall, it's a

valuable resource for grasping the dynamics of US efforts to promote democracy in the Middle East (Markakis ,2015).

2.3. Collective Security vs. Hegemonic Security: US Policy in the Middle West During the Gulf Wars

Ufomba (2007) in his article examines how the US currently uses the idea of collective security to justify its actions in the middle east during the gulf wars, he suggests that the US manipulates this concept to maintain its dominance in the region especially when it serves its economic interests. This dominance creates tensions in the region through propaganda, supporting conflicting parties and direct aggression. The argument presented has two main points. First the US exploits global collective security mechanisms to enhance its interests in the middle east. Second, the invasion of Iraq in 2003 demonstrates clearly that when a hegemon loses some coercive power it can still maintain its position through other means (such as deference or submission from other).

With another meaning, Ufomba talks about how the US uses the idea of working together for security to explain why it does things in the Middle East during the Gulf Wars. He says the US changes this idea to keep control in the region, especially when it helps its economic interests. This control causes tensions in the area by spreading stories, helping different sides, and being aggressive (2007).

2.4. Middle West Peace Process During US Hegemony: Understanding the Dynamics

United States has played a big role in the world's events and changes during the 20th century. This includes having a strong military, economic and being ahead in new technology. US plays a crucial role in Middle East particularly in the Arab-Israeli peace process, even though, there are challenges and not everyone trusts them completely. During the Cold War, United States and Soviet Union were both very interested in the Middle East because of the oil there, they influence the politics of the region by supporting different countries kind of like

being powerful friends or partner to them. US uses different ways to have power in the region. Instead of directly taking control, it relies on political, economic and military plans (Bakkour, 2016).

These include things like making peace agreements to show its influence without forcing control. US being really powerful lets it spread its influence by promoting peace efforts. Even though there are difficulties and disagreements especially about Israel and oil, US still tries to bring peace to the region. Internationally and regionally there is an expectation for US to lead peace efforts in ME, even with existing disagreements in American policy. The close bond between US and Israel is really important and is compared to alliances from the past such as Sparta supporting Rome. This comparison highlights how crucial this relationship is to understanding the way countries in that area work together and influence each other.(Bakkour, 2016).

2.5. Crisis in American Power: Challenges to US Hegemony in the Middle West

The United States got involved in the Middle East, especially in Iraq, during George Bush's time as president. The reasons for this involvement are complicated and might need more time to completely understand. Moreover, the American invasion and occupation of Iraq justified as a measure to prevent terrorist activities, have faced criticism and have not led to the intended outcomes. Additionally, asserting that Iraq and Korea are similar is not accurate, Iraq continues to deal with religious group conflicts and is not stable. Consequently, the big ideas of the Bush government to change the Middle East have not materialized. Instead, there are more problems, and it is harder for America to control things there. Even though there are a lot of soldiers in Iraq the fighting has not stopped, and the country is still not stable (Berger, 2007).

The government in Iraq has not achieved the important goals the United States set for them, making the situation more difficult. This situation significantly affects how America deals with the Middle East, especially its reliance on oil and its overall global economic interests.

America has worried for a long time about relying too much on Middle Eastern oil for its energy needs, and finding ways to use less of that oil has been tough. This blend of what America believes in, what it wants, and how strong its military is in the Middle East shows how complicated US foreign policy can be. Ultimately, the American hegemony in the region may not be sustainable in the long term and could have unintended consequences (Berger, 2007).

2.6. US Middle West Policy in the Post-Cold War Era: Hegemony vs. Leadership

During the Cold War, the US became more involved in the Middle East, initially welcomed but later criticized after incidents like the 1956 Suez Crisis. Since 1945, the US has pursued Arab oil, navigating tricky relations with Israel and Arab states. The US helped broker peace between Egypt and Israel but struggled with issues like the Iranian Revolution and hostage crises. American Middle East policy aims to limit Soviet influence, maintain stability, fight terrorism, stop WMD proliferation, and help resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The US wields influence through military bases, economic power, and regional allies. Post-Cold War, challenges included anti-American sentiment, peace process failures, Iraq's destabilization, Iran's nuclear aims, and regional criticisms (Fiefler,2010).

The region is a conflict hotspot with internal and external struggles, including leadership rivalries, border disputes, ethnic and religious tensions, and threats from Islamic extremism and terrorism. The unresolved Israeli-Palestinian conflict continues to fuel regional instability and terrorism. Water scarcity, driven by population growth and urbanization, could spark future conflicts. The Middle East's oil reserves are critical for global energy security. US involvement often revolves around protecting these energy interests, like intervening after Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait. This led to operations 'Desert Shield' and 'Desert Storm' to liberate Kuwait under a UN mandate, aiming to avoid occupying Iraq. Post-Gulf War, the US had opportunities to increase its Middle East role, choosing between cooperative leadership or forceful hegemony (Fiefler,2010).

Leadership means promoting common goals and working internationally, while hegemony involves using power to enforce rules. Post-Cold War, the US faced maintaining global dominance amid economic challenges and complex international dynamics, with the Middle East as a key influence zone. US strategies in Iran, Iraq, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict faced setbacks, prompting a reassessment of its leadership and hegemonic methods. Al-Qaeda's rise as a significant terrorist threat, culminating in the 9/11 attacks, led to a strategic shift under the Bush Jr. administration. The administration's neoconservative agenda spurred the 2003 Iraq invasion based on false WMD and terrorism links, worsening Iraq's instability and empowering Iran. This focus on Iraq and Afghanistan diminished US influence in the region and sidelined other important issues like the Israeli-Palestinian peace process (Fiefler,2010).

Other global players like the EU, China, and Russia also began to assert their roles in the Middle East, with China poised to challenge US dominance due to its energy needs and growing military presence. Criticism of Bush Jr.'s hegemonic policy, particularly in Iraq, led to global disapproval and debates over the US's close Israel ties and pro-Israel lobby influences. President Obama aimed to shift US policy towards more cooperative, diplomacy-driven leadership, though significant challenges like the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and Iran's nuclear ambitions persisted. The text underscores the importance of redefining the US's Middle Eastern role from dominance to cooperative leadership to address regional challenges effectively (Fiefler,2010).

To summarize, the United States needs to carefully manage its role in the Middle East by considering both its democracy promotion goals and the area's complexities. Despite its strong influence, the changing dynamics emphasize the need for careful analysis and diplomatic efforts to tackle the area's issues. The US's decisions will impact the Middle East's future and global security, highlighting the importance of its actions in the area.

3. Decline of US Middle West Hegemony

For a while, the US has been a big player in the Middle East, mainly because of oil and keeping the area stable. But now, things are changing. The wars, like the one in Iraq, didn't make things better, and other countries like BRICS nations and Russia are becoming stronger. This makes the US think about how it fits into the region and how it does things there.

3.1. Post-US Hegemony: Russia's Foreign and Security Policy in the Middle West

Levaggi (2018) in his article talks about how Russia currently does more things around the world, near where it is even farther away. Before its involvement in the Middle East is not significant, but that changes during the Syria civil war when it starts supporting its ally, Assad's regime, with military help. This decision is important because it shows that Russia is becoming a major global power again. This happens partly because the US is not very involved in controlling matters after facing problems in Iraq.

Russia's successful military actions appear in a region that is not directly connected to it since it is now a major player on the world stage, in simple explanation the article points out how Russia is now doing more things globally, even in distant places. Before, it didn't do much in the Middle East, but that changed during the Syrian civil war when it started helping its ally, Assad's regime, with military support. This step is significant because it shows Russia is becoming a big global power again. This shift partly happens because the US isn't significantly involved due to issues in Iraq. Russia's successful military actions in a distant region highlight its newfound status as a major player on the world (Levaggi ,2018).

3.2. Challenging Dominance: BRICS Rise and the MENA Region's Shift from US-led Hegemony

This study by Ozekin and Sune (2023) examine how BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa), challenge the power of US in the middle east and north Africa (MENA). They argue that how MENA region being non-western is good place to see if the

US's power is getting weaker and Brics with other regional leaders like Turkey and Iran are becoming more important. They say while the US is losing influence in the middle east, BRICS and other leaders are trying to be more influential there, this might make things more balanced in the region, but even though Brics is getting stronger, it is not able to change the rules and ideologies in the region yet. Therefore, this study suggests that Brics is a challenge to the current system, but it is not changing things completely.

3.3. US Foreign Policy in the Middle West: Understanding the Withdrawal of Dominance

The US is notably reducing its leading role in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). This change started before Trump was president and is due to deeper, long-lasting reasons rather than sudden political decisions or changes in ideas. Traditionally, the reasons the US usually gets involved in the ME, like stopping communism or ensuring oil supplies, are not significant concerns anymore. So, the US steps back from directly jumping into issues there. Instead, it thoughtfully opts for an "offshore balancing" strategy, meaning the US supports local allies to maintain stability while keeping its military ready in the background. Due to these changes, the US doesn't get involved in the region anymore because the big threats that needed a lot of American military and political power are not serious now (Yom, 2020).

Also, there is no single country that can seriously threaten the US and its allies in the region are stable. So the US is slowly reducing its control in the area. In the future, the US will probably continue decreasing its presence in MENA. Instead, it will focus on working with local partners to keep things stable and will only use its military directly if it absolutely has to. This strategy shows that the US realizes it doesn't need to control the ME to stay safe and prosperous. Additionally, as the US steps back, regional powers will have more freedom to make their own decisions but will also need to work harder to keep things stable. This evolving scenario also opens opportunities for other global powers to increase their influence in the ME (Yom, 2020).

As the US deals with losing power in the Middle East, it's adjusting to a world where it doesn't play the same big role. With more countries gaining power and new ways of doing things, the US might start working more closely with other countries instead of leading the way. This change affects not just US foreign policy but also how the Middle East is shaped, giving other countries a chance to have more say and changing how the area operates.

4. Arab-Israeli Relations before the Biden Era

Israel's situation is tough, with tricky relationships with nearby countries and ongoing issues with the Palestinians. The Middle East is changing fast, with new players like Iran and Turkey. The US isn't as powerful there anymore. Israel faces more security challenges, from Iran's nuclear plans to groups like Hezbollah. This chapter looks at how all these changes affect Israel's security and politics.

4.1. Israel in a shifting Middle West

Israel's relationships with nearby Arab and Muslim countries significantly impact its national security and political dynamics, primarily due to ongoing tensions and stalled peace processes with Palestinians. Domestically, Israeli politics are heavily debated around the nation's identity and regional role, overshadowing socio-economic issues in recent elections. Regionally, the Middle East has undergone profound changes, shifting from Cold War alignments to new dynamics driven by Iran and Turkey's rising influence. The US has seen its influence wane due to military setbacks in Iraq and Afghanistan, evolving energy needs, and ineffective peace efforts (Rabinovich, 2015).

Simultaneously, several Middle Eastern countries face collapse or severe conflict, leading to a fragmented regional order with emerging new alliances. Israel's security landscape has evolved from traditional military threats to significant non-conventional threats, including potential nuclear capabilities from Iran and missile threats from non-state actors like Hezbollah

and Hamas. These groups, supported by Iran, continue to challenge Israel with a mix of conventional and unconventional threats (Rabinovich, 2015).

The persistent Israeli-Palestinian conflict also looms with potential escalations influenced by internal Palestinian issues and broader regional factors. Israel finds itself with limited regional options, maintaining hostilities with Iran and Turkey, while potentially aligning with Saudi Arabia and other allies over shared interests. The Arab Spring's promise turned into broader instability, affecting Israeli strategic responses. Israel's cautious stance on the Syrian crisis, concerns over jihadist threats, and cautious interest in Kurdish statehood due to regional sensitivities all illustrate the complex security and diplomatic challenges it faces. Ultimately, the outcomes of Israeli elections could shift policies towards the Palestinians and broader regional dynamics, potentially enhancing Israel's regional standing if negotiations resume with the Palestinian Authority within broader Arab contexts (Rabinovich, 2015).

4.2. Arab-American Relations Under President Trump

Al-Sardi (2021) in his study analysis Jordanian journalist's views on Arab-American relations during trump's presidency it explores their perceptions on relationship dynamics, and notable influences, key issues particularly regarding US pressure on Jordan and about the deal of the century then the Palestinian affairs. The article looks for at what Jordanian journalists think about how the Arabs world and the US interact while trump was president. They survey 300 journalists to understand their views.

The main finding is that most journalists see the relationship between Arabs and Americans is normal not great or terrible, they feel that trump's administration pushed for more American military presence in the region. This study also finds that trade negotiations and political moves in the Arab world are disagreement, especially Jordan feel pressure from the US on big issues like the " deal of the century " and the Palestinian dilemma which is ignored the interests and the concerns of Jordan (Al-Sardi ,2021).

4.3. The Role of the Israel Lobby in US Middle East Policy under Trump

Fida in his article represents a detailed analysis about the Israel lobby and the extent of its influence on the decisions and the approaches that the US taken towards the middle east. The Israel lobby can be defined as a group of people and organizations who work together to influence on the American foreign policy to support Israel. Although it is not a unified group, it mainly includes American Jews who shape American foreign policies in favor of Israel. They participate by writing letters, donating money and supporting pro-Israel groups, their influence extends to US politics and decisions regarding the middle east especially the peace process between Israel and Arab countries (2021).

4.4. President Trump's Approach to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

The article by Cohen-Almagor (2017) discusses about what President Trump's think regarding the Israeli-Palestinian issue, it mentions that moving the American Embassy to Jerusalem was a big decision, it also talks about a law in Israel that makes it difficult to have two separate countries. The article explains that it should not to Israel controls the West Bank and thinks both sides should talk to fix it. It says getting rid of this control is super important for peace. This study talks about three things Trump could do, and it thinks the best one is still having two separate countries (Cohen-Almagor,2017).

It hopes that Trump can do what others couldn't and make peace in the Middle East, most people know that Benjamin Netanyahu shares more beliefs with the American Republican Party than the Democrats. He was very happy to see Donald Trump at the White House he believes he won't have a hard time in dealing with the American president for the next few years everyone knows that Netanyahu's relationships with President Obama were strenuous, Obama supported Israel despite their strained relationship with Trump. Trump is a different leader in the world politics, He is the first president since Eisenhower who wasn't in politics before (Cohen-Almagor ,2017).

We are still trying to understand what "Trumpism" means he might not know everything about the Middle East, but he is willing to learn learning new things might not change all his beliefs but it could make him to rethink in some ideas, Trump who is good at business knows that actions are more important than words he is realizing that some things he promised during his campaign are harder now that he is in charge especially with tricky issues like Jerusalem (Cohen-Almagor ,2017).

As a conclusion, Israel is at a crucial point as the Middle East changes quickly. Traditional security problems are now mixed with tricky diplomatic issues, including new threats and changing alliances. The US has less influence, and new regional powers are emerging, making Israel's policy decisions more complex. Israeli elections and talks with the Palestinians could really change how Israel is seen in the region. These changes bring both security challenges and chances for new partnerships, especially with countries that are also worried about Iran and jihadist threats. How well Israel adapts to these changes will be key to its future role and safety globally.

Conclusion

As we conclude this chapter, it's clear that despite the rise of a multipolar world with many powerful countries, the United States continues to hold a significant position globally, even though it has recently weakened and faced tough challenges. With the growth of this multipolar system, the United States has started to put political, military, economic, and security pressure on the countries in this new system because it realizes the danger it poses to their global influence and position. The US is increasing its efforts to protect its interests and adjust to a changing global environment. This involves rethinking its alliances, reshaping its foreign policy goals, and sometimes changing where and how it uses its military across different regions, especially where its influence is under threat. Furthermore, this chapter demonstrates that the shift toward multipolarity isn't just about the decline of American power but also about

spreading power to several global centers. This spread creates chances for cooperation but also brings challenges as it shakes up the old power structures and leads to new rivalries. In conclusion, as the world becomes increasingly multipolar, the United States finds it crucial to skillfully navigate these new global dynamics. By doing this, it aims to keep its global standing and influence, in a world that no longer supports one country's dominance but requires a more careful and cooperative approach to international relations and security.

CHAPTER TWO

THE RISE OF MULTIPOLAR WORLD AND ITS IMPACTS ON ARAB-ISRAELI RELATION

Introduction

The Arab-Israeli conflict has lasted for over a century and is a deeply complex and long-standing issue that has greatly affected the political and social landscape of the Middle East. This chapter carries out a thorough historiographic review of the extensive literature on this topic, seeking to analyze and comprehend the various levels and viewpoints that have shaped discussions about how the conflict began and has changed over time. It looks into different historical accounts of important events, starting from the controversial founding of Israel in 1948, which some see as a justified return to an ancestral homeland and others as a colonial project on Palestinian territory, to the following wars and peace initiatives that have occasionally brought hope and increased dissatisfaction.

The study also covers the intense arguments over land, which represent not just a battle over territory but also over cultural and national identity, driving much of the hostility and conflict. By exploring these factors through a historiographic approach, the chapter seeks to offer a clearer understanding of how historical stories have been shaped and challenged, shedding light on their significant and ongoing influence on the geopolitical interactions in the area. This comprehensive review underscores the intricacy of the Arab-Israeli conflict, marked by its deep historical roots and the complex interplay of power, politics, and identity.

1. Historical Overview of Arab-Israeli Relations

Since Israel's establishment in 1948, Arab-Israeli relations have been marked by conflicts, the conflict between Arabs and Israelis is about land, identity, and religion. It's not just one conflict but several, including the Israeli-Palestinian struggle and tensions between Israel and

Arab nations. Efforts for peace, like the Oslo Accords, have not solved everything, showing how hard it is to find lasting harmony in the region.

1.1 A Historiographic Review of Literature on the Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict

This title that was used in this part of the work was inspired from an article of the same title, it explains that people have different views about the conflict between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Arabs think the creation of Israel caused many problems, however Jews believe the hostility from Arab countries is the main issue. The article talks about the history before Israel was created. It covers why Jewish people wanted their own country, how Britain got involved during World War I, and the debates about what should happen in Palestine. Britain made promises to both Arabs and Jews about the land. The Balfour Declaration supported a home for Jews in Palestine. The Peel Commission suggested dividing the land. Britain eventually ended its control over Palestine (Stein,1991).

The article also talks about the fights between Israel and its Arab neighbors. It mentions the war in 1948, where many Palestinian Arabs had to leave their homes, and other fights that happened later. These conflicts caused a lot of problems and tension. Many Palestinian Arabs became refugees and could not go back home. It was hard for them to find new homes, and some Arab countries did not help them. It also discusses the tensions between Israel and its neighbors. It explains how Israel gets along with nearby countries and how other countries around the world get involved. For example, it mentions the Suez Crisis in 1956, where there was a lot of tension and fighting involving Israel (Stein,1991).

1.2. The Roots of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

The title used in this section of the work was derived from an article bearing the same name, the problems in the Middle East can be understood by looking at three main arguments: one between Israelis and Palestinians, another between Israel and Arab countries, and a third between Judaism and Islam. Each of these arguments shapes the troubles in the region. First,

the Israelis and Palestinians argue over who should live on the land in their area. This issue is influenced by the opinions of other Arab countries and the religious differences between Jews and Muslims (Inbari,2017).

It's a complicated problem involving national identity, regional politics, and religion. Palestinian leaders like Yasser Arafat tried to solve the conflict on their own, but they needed help from other Arab countries. Important meetings like the Oslo Accords and Camp David talks showed that the problems between Israelis and Palestinians are connected to what other Arab countries want. Even when Israelis and Palestinians try to make peace, they have to consider the views of other Arab nations. The Arab initiative seems to support Palestinians, but it actually leaves them to find their own solutions. The conflict is driven by strong beliefs in Pan-Arabism and Pan-Islamism, which make compromise difficult. These beliefs also cause fights like those in Syria (Inbari,2017).

Within the Palestinian side, there is a struggle between Fatah and Hamas, reflecting the larger ideological battle between Pan-Arabism and Pan-Islamism. Both Hamas and the PLO aim to weaken Israel through efforts like BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions). They try to delegitimize Israel and promote their political goals using economic and diplomatic means. The Palestinian diplomatic campaign is not just about peaceful coexistence with Israel; it seeks to replace Israel with a Palestinian state. In summary, this conflict is not just a local issue between Israelis and Palestinians. It is part of a larger Arab struggle against Israel, involving the interests and actions of other Arab countries (Inbari,2017).

1.3. Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Century of Regional Relevance and International Failure

Makdisi (2018) in his article clarifies the conflict between the Arab and Israel this long and deep struggle. This study argues that the Arab-Israeli conflict particularly concerning Palestine it has been a central issue in the Middle East for over a century, it stresses that the

failure to resolve the question of Palestine will continue to affect the stability of the region and its geopolitical dynamics and the formation of public opinion while Arab leaders' choices limiting.

It begins by placing the conflict in historical context which is the fundamental to understanding our situation today and emphasizing its continuing significance, then it evaluates the Oslo "peace process " with highlighting its inability to achieve just and lasting peace through a two - state solution. This paper suggests that this failure exacerbates existing regional issues such as those in southern Lebanon, the Golan heights and Palestinian Territories. In addition to the rise of new challenges like the resistance Axis and the BDS movement and finally it advocating for the international community, including the European Union to explore alternative approaches in dealing with the conflict due to the failure of the two-state solution (Makdisi ,2018).

1.4. The Beginning of the End: The Arab-Israeli Conflict

Schueftan (2021) explains the permanent conflict in his article and this is what we witness and live in our present days. He talks about the fight between Arab countries and Israel and this conflict is fading away, the peace treaty with Egypt in 1979 marked the end of the beginning of the end, but peace isn't happening like people hoped from the Oslo process. Israel until now faces dangers especially from Iran the Arabs who fight Israel are strong and determined.

The conflict with Palestinian is not over yet, what is different now is that Israel is making friends with some Arab countries showing them that Israel being strong is good for everyone's safety even though there is still a lot of fighting in the area. The main struggle isn't just between a group of Arab countries and Israel on one side and Iran's Islamic revolution and Turkey led by Erdogan on the one side (Schueftan ,2021).

To conclude, The Middle East has long-standing conflicts mainly about who gets to own certain lands and how countries and different religious groups disagree. These issues make it hard to find peace in the region.

2. Analysis of Key US Policies in the Middle West

US strategies in the Middle East have been complicated, affected by many things like politics, money, and long-term plans. They support friends like Israel and Saudi Arabia, sometimes get involved in fights, and want to spread democracy. They really care about keeping things stable, fighting terrorism, and making sure they have enough oil. make it in present simple.

2.1. The United States in the Middle West: Influence and Strategy

The United States in the Middle East began with trade and missionary work, evolving during the Cold War to focus on preventing the spread of communism, accessing oil, and supporting Israel. Over time, traditional reasons for US involvement, such as fighting communism, securing oil, and supporting Israel, have been challenged by regional conflicts and new social and political dynamics since the late 1970s. US policies towards the Middle East have been shaped by internal politics, responding to significant regional events, including the Iranian Revolution, the rise of groups like Al Qaeda, and military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan. Additionally, US policy has adjusted under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama, particularly following the 9/11 attacks and the "War on Terror" (Hudson, 2016).

Currently, there are questions about the compatibility of traditional US interests with today's regional conflicts and domestic issues, the impact of US politics on its Middle East policies, and whether US global dominance is declining with the rise of Asian powers. Furthermore, the chapter highlights the paradox of US power in the region against the backdrop of the Middle East being seen as a significant threat due to rising terrorism. Additionally, the

decline of Soviet influence and the rise of nationalist movements have impacted US strategy and relationships in the region (Hudson, 2016).

Looking forward, the chapter considers the possibility of American decline and the increasing influence of Asian powers in the Middle East, examining the implications for future US involvement and power US involvement with Middle Eastern oil began in the 1920s with agreements like the Red Line Agreement, gaining strategic importance during World War II and essential for post-war economic development. In 1960, OPEC was formed in response to oil price cuts by major companies, and the 1970s saw an oil revolution with rising prices and a power shift from companies to oil-producing countries US policy has aimed to secure a cheap and stable oil supply while preventing Soviet influence and nationalist movements, including clandestine operations like Operation Ajax in 1953 US support for Israel has intensified since its establishment in 1948, influenced by domestic politics and lobbying, becoming a cornerstone of US Middle East policy (Hudson, 2016).

The policymaking process involves the White House, executive branch agencies, Congress, political parties, opinion-makers, and lobbies. Significant events like the Egypt-Israel peace treaty, the Iranian Revolution, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, Islamist uprisings, and Saddam Hussein's rise to power in Iraq have challenged US policymakers. Since 1979, transnational Islamist networks have emerged, using terrorist tactics against the US and the West, challenging traditional state-centric international relations. The 1990s presented further challenges with the Gulf War, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the rise of militant Islamism, with US policies contributing to growing hostility in Arab and Muslim public opinion. After the 9/11 attacks, the George W. Bush administration adopted a muscular response, including military interventions in Afghanistan and Iraq, and promoting democracy and free-market reforms. President Obama sought to balance hard and soft power, aiming to mend relations

through diplomacy and engagement, though facing challenges with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the Arab Spring uprisings (Hudson, 2016).

The US pursued diplomatic engagement with Iran to address nuclear concerns, avoiding military conflict but facing persistent tensions due to Iran's support for militant groups and regional instability. The US response to the Arab Spring involved supporting democratic aspirations while balancing strategic interests, adapting its approach across different countries. Finally, US involvement in the Middle East has been a mix of idealism and realism, exerting significant influence but facing challenges in shaping the region's future amid changing global dynamics and internal politics (Hudson, 2016).

2.2. Playing the Hegemon: Fifty Years of US Policy in the Middle West

The United States is the strongest country in the Middle East because it has achieved its main goals: helping Israel, ensuring it can access oil from the region, and stopping the spread of communism there. After World War II, the United States shifted its strategy in the Middle East; instead of staying out of political matters, it began to intervene to prevent the Soviet Union from spreading its influence and ideas like communism in the region. The US tried to limit Soviet influence by forming military partnerships and providing aid. However, it encountered obstacles due to nationalistic movements in Arab countries and ongoing tensions between Arab nations and Israel. Even before World War II, the US had shown interest in Middle Eastern oil (Hudson, 1996).

This interest intensified during and after the war, as the US aimed to ensure regional stability to maintain its access to oil, leading to actions like "Operation Ajax" in Iran in 1953 to protect its oil interests. Moreover, in the 1970s, as oil-producing countries began to exert more control over their industries, the dynamics shifted during the 1973 Arab-Israeli war when these countries ceased oil sales to the US and Europe, demonstrating how dependent the latter were on Middle Eastern oil. In response, the US took steps such as creating a large oil reserve and

promoting energy-saving practices to mitigate any future oil shortages. Working closely with oil-rich countries, especially Saudi Arabia, became crucial for maintaining global oil market stability (Hudson, 1996).

Furthermore, the author suggests that US policies in the Middle East should incorporate diverse viewpoints and cautions against the arrogant pursuit of power, as this could undermine US interests there. Since 1967, the US has robustly supported Israel, providing significant political and financial assistance. Over time, despite initial reservations, the US has become deeply committed to ensuring Israel's security and prosperity. Additionally, the United States has facilitated peace talks between Israel and its Arab neighbors, engaging in efforts like the Lausanne talks, the Palestine Conciliation Commission, and the Camp David Accords to foster regional peace. The policy-making process in the US towards the Middle East involves strategic analysis, bureaucratic negotiation, and domestic political considerations. Presidents and their administrations are pivotal in this process, as they balance various competing interests and pressures (Hudson, 1996).

The Clinton administration and subsequent administrations have pursued a vision of reshaping the Middle East, leveraging US hegemony to promote stability, economic integration, and political moderation. They oppose rogue regimes, combat terrorism, and encourage economic and cultural openness. Similarly, the Arab-Israeli peace process, initiated by the Bush and Clinton administrations, is recognized as a significant diplomatic achievement, though maintaining its momentum has proved challenging. The Oslo Accords, initiated by Norway, played a crucial role in preventing the process from collapsing in 1993. Nonetheless, American actions during conflicts between Israel and Palestinian or Lebanese groups have drawn criticism from the Arab public (Hudson, 1996).

Additionally, the second Gulf War in 1991, led by the United States, successfully restored Kuwait's independence and significantly reduced Iraq's influence in the region.

Following the war, the Clinton administration pursued a dual containment policy aimed at curtailing the powers of Iraq and Iran. This strategy, which involved strict sanctions and promoting regime change, particularly against Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq, faced criticism from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, concerned about regional stability and the impact of continuous American sanctions (Hudson, 1996).

Political Islam represents a broad resistance movement against Western political penetration in Muslim societies, where terrorism is only one tactic among various social, economic, and political strategies. American policies targeting Islamist groups have faced criticism for perceived inconsistencies and for exacerbating anti-American sentiment in the Middle East. Despite promoting democracy globally, American policymakers have been cautious about advocating for democratic reforms in the Middle East. There are fears that anti-American elements might gain power and the fragile legitimacy of some regional regimes could be jeopardized (Hudson, 1996).

The collapse of democracy in Lebanon has further complicated the US's efforts to promote democratization. Finally, the United States' hegemonic role in the Middle East has garnered both positive and negative perceptions. While many Americans desire a peaceful and prosperous region, actions such as military interventions, support for Israel, and perceived double standards have fostered resentment and resistance. It is suggested that American policymakers adopt a more subdued profile, involve other external actors in addressing regional issues, pursue more balanced policies, and emphasize dialogue and cooperation over confrontation. (Hudson, 1996).

2.3. Transformations in US Middle West Policy: From Crises to Change

The book of by Halabi (2016) is considered an important and realistic reference for the study of foreign policy in the Middle East, US foreign policy in the Middle East is mostly shaped by big problems that reveals flaws in current ideas. These problems lead to new ways

of thinking and create a new way of doing things that benefit to the US. Also these problems give rise to debates about what is right and wrong. Yakub Halabi looks at how ideas guide US actions in the Middle East, and how to create institutions to follow these ideas, and how new ideas replace old ones. The crisis he talks about help us to observe important turning points in American foreign policy. Halabi emphasizes the crucial role that crises play in shaping US foreign policy in the Middle East (2016).

Policies in the Middle East have been complex and varied a mix of using the military power, talking with leaders, and doing business there. They want to keep things stable, also to protect their own interests, and spread ideas like democracy and human rights. But not everyone agrees if these actions are good or bad for the region.

3. Unintended Consequences on Arab-Israeli Relations

The conflict between Arabs and Israelis has caused many unexpected results that affect on politics, society, and economies in the Middle East and beyond. Things like refugee problems and instability in the region, these consequences illustrate How the conflict can mess things up and make everything connected in complex ways.

3.1. Causes and Consequences of the 1948 Arab-Israeli War

The article talks about how the Middle East has faced a lot of fights and disagreements, and the 1948 Arab-Israeli war is a major example of these conflicts. It started when Israel declared its independence on May 14, 1948, which led to a war influenced by various factors from both within the region and from the rest of the world. Zionism was a movement where Jewish people aimed to create their own country in the land of Israel, to which they believe they have historical and religious ties. This desire grew stronger due to the long history of mistreatment of Jews in Europe, especially during the Holocaust, and the idea was that having their own state could prevent further suffering of the Jewish people (Rai, 2014).

Meanwhile, Arab Nationalism was a movement where Arabs felt united by their common culture, history, and identity. They were against Western countries having power over them and opposed the creation of Israel, viewing it as a form of Western control. British Foreign Policy in Palestine was marked by inconsistency, as they made promises to both Jews and Arabs but struggled to fulfill them, especially as sympathy for Jews grew after World War II. This led to Britain stepping back and the UN getting involved in the region's affairs. The war led to many people dying and included violent events such as the Deir Yassin massacre, where many were killed. Furthermore, the conflict caused many Palestinians to lose their homes and become refugees, a problem that hasn't been solved and is still causing arguments (Rai, 2014).

The war also showed that Arab countries couldn't work together well, which caused fights and changes in leadership within these countries. After the war, Israel increased its land size by 21%, while Jordan took over the West Bank and Egypt took the Gaza Strip. These changes led to more problems and did not fix the ongoing conflict. The article explains that the 1948 war is a topic that historians often discuss and debate, showing that it has had a big and lasting effect on both the local area and the wider world. Lastly, the effects of the war have had a big impact on politics in the Middle East for a long time, and they still matter today. The article points out that there hasn't been lasting peace in the region, which continues to be a problem (Rai, 2014).

3.2. Normalization of Arab-Israeli Relations: Exploring Regional Geopolitical Implications

This part of the work uses a title that was inspired by a similarly titled article, the recent fights in Jerusalem show that even though Israel has become friendlier with some Arab countries, the main problem is still that Israel controls land that belongs to Palestinians. The deals made between Israel and the UAE, Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan are looked at closely. Many see them as benefiting the countries' own interests rather than helping bring peace

between Israel and Palestinians. These agreements were made during the Trump Administration and were often about strategic benefits like selling weapons and gaining diplomatic recognition, rather than focusing on making peace (Muasher & Peace, 2021).

The agreements are said to have made Israel less motivated to work out a peace deal with the Palestinians. Because Israel has established relationships with other Arab countries, it might not feel as much pressure to deal with what Palestinians want. In the past, there was a plan called the Arab Peace Initiative, where Arab countries offered peace to Israel if it gave back the land it occupied. The new agreements don't stick to this idea of trading land for peace, which goes against what was agreed upon before. The article talks about deals Israel made with Egypt and Jordan before, but these didn't really change how Israel treats Palestinians. Instead of getting more flexible in negotiations, Israel built more settlements and became stricter. The article examines the changes in Israel where laws now emphasize Jewish identity more strongly and there's talk of taking over more land, making peace harder to achieve (Muasher & Peace, 2021).

It criticizes the global praise for the recent peace agreements, saying they haven't really helped solve the main problems and haven't led to true peace progress. Also it explains that it's becoming less likely that a two-state solution, where Israel and Palestine exist side by side, will work because Israeli settlements are expanding. This situation might lead to only one state existing, which could create serious issues of inequality and possibly an apartheid-like situation, where Palestinians might ask for the same rights as Israelis within one country. The article suggests that it might be time for a different approach, one that focuses on respecting the rights of Palestinians. It urges the international community to rethink its strategies and work towards real solutions that consider what Palestinians need and deserve (Muasher & Peace, 2021).

3.3. The Impact of the Arab Spring on Arab Citizenship: Unintended Outcomes

Brayen and Turner (2012) provide us in their article with a detailed and accurate analysis of the social and political situation in the Arab countries including the Middle East and North Africa. In the first half of 2011, protests and rebellions happened in North Africa and the Middle East, people are very interested in what is happening especially in Tunisia and Turkey. In Egypt, there is a big revolution on January 25th that led to the president Hosni Mubarak stepping down, then Mohamed Morsi was elected as president and they started working on a new constitution.

In Libya, people rebelled against their leader, colonel Gaddafi and he was killed. In Yemen there were problems between the traditional north and the more modern south many people hope for a peaceful change to democracy. By the autumn of 2012 people are becoming more realistic if not cynical about whether things will really change for better. This whole series of events is often called the Arab Spring but by the end of 2012 some people are calling it the "winter of our discontent" because they are not sure if the changes will last. Many people worry about what happened after removed the regimes in Yemen, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt, and there is even more concern about what follow the civil unrest in Syria (Brayen & Turner, 2012).

In Tunisia and Egypt, the elections bring governments and laws that lean towards conservative Islam rather than Secular democracy. This shift is shown in new laws that limit women's rights. These changes are using the Max Weber's idea which says that actions can have unintended consequences. These societies will have a hard time to create citizenship, strong communities and transparent political systems, social movements are unlikely to succeed unless they become part of local institutions and groups. Citizenship usually grows there is a strong middle class, but this is lacking in many places except Turkey the Muslim brotherhood gets stronger by working in villages for a long time and this has led to a more conservative approach

to change, replacing more inclusive secular ideas from the revolution (Brayen a& Turner ,2012).

3.4. Peacemaking Dynamics: The Palestinian-Israeli Case

In this study by Handelman and pollak (2007) they represent a set of ways to reduce the Arab-Israeli conflict. The fighting between Israel and Palestine is really complicated so some experts think it is better to manage the conflict instead of solving it completely. Experts suggest four ways for making peace. The first way is for one side to make decisions without agreeing with the other side in other word one side take actions alone like a Dictator.

The second way is for both sides to make changes within their own countries to improve things like Anarchis. The third is the Diplomat way it means that leaders from both sides negotiate with each other as what happened in the Oslo peace process in the 1990. The last way is to involve the public in the negotiations like how South Africa and Ireland did and that is called the Democratic way (Handelman & pollak ,2007).

To sum up, Unintended effects on Arab-Israeli relations show how is the situation is complicated, sometimes efforts to make things better can actually make them worse. It's really important for leaders to think ahead and deal with these issues to help maintain peace and cooperation in the region.

4. Biden Administration's Approach and Its Impact

Biden's approach to the Middle East is about reducing US involvement while addressing key issues like Iran's nuclear plans and conflicts in Israel, Palestine, Syria, and Yemen. and this by joining to the Iran deal and focusing on diplomacy, and the aim is to prevent nuclear escalation and promote peace, and this is a departure from the previous administration's tactics.

4.1. Joe Biden's Foreign Policy Approach to the Gulf Region

The title for this section was taken from an article with the same name, US President Joe Biden's foreign policy towards the Gulf focuses on a balanced strategy that integrates

American values, such as human rights, with strategic interests aimed at promoting regional stability, contrasting with previous administrations and reflecting shifts in how the US engages with Gulf nations. His approach emphasizes diplomatic and economic means to reduce tensions and prevent nuclear proliferation, seeking clearer and better relationships with Gulf allies, including efforts to engage Iran and end the war in Yemen (AlAlkim, 2021).

Despite facing significant challenges like COVID-19 and economic instability, which influence his capacity to act internationally, Biden is dedicated to adjusting US relationships in the Gulf, preferring diplomacy and working with other countries over going it alone or using military action. This reassessment involves looking at how actions in the Gulf, especially changes in US policy toward Iran, impact the region. Biden's clear approach, especially his review of America's relationship with Saudi leaders, aims to better align with US values and interests (AlAlkim, 2021).

Moreover, resolving security issues in the region requires open dialogue and collaboration among Gulf countries, with US support fostering these discussions towards a unified security framework. Iran's nuclear ambitions and regional interventions continue to provoke reactions from neighboring countries, thereby increasing regional tension and instability. Consequently, Biden's administration wants to talk with Iran again to make sure the region stays safe and stable, aiming to restart the nuclear agreement the last administration dropped. His administration's actions, including easing sanctions and re-engaging diplomatically, are part of a broader strategy to not only curb Iran's nuclear capabilities but also stabilize the region, notably concerning the ongoing conflict in Yemen (AlAlkim, 2021).

The negotiation challenges, stemming from opposition both within Iran and among US allies, underscore the complex dynamics Biden faces in re-engaging with Iran and reshaping Gulf relations. Meanwhile, the strategic importance of Yemen, coupled with the ongoing proxy war involving Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Iran, highlights the regional security implications

and the need for a comprehensive strategy to address the various facets of Gulf security and stability, including the humanitarian crisis in Yemen. Biden's administration marks a significant shift from previous US foreign policy, focusing on diplomatic resolutions and accountability, particularly in its approach to the Yemen conflict, and seeks broader international cooperation to support these initiatives (AlAlkim, 2021).

This holistic approach, aimed at addressing both security and human rights issues, relies on understanding cultural differences and fostering international collaboration, essential for achieving a sustainable and peaceful resolution in the Gulf region. The success of Biden's foreign policy is inherently linked to his domestic policy achievements, which are vital for maintaining political support for his international efforts. Ultimately, the administration's strategy underscores Biden's leadership and resolve, as demonstrated by his return from retirement to navigate the US through significant global challenges (AlAlkim, 2021).

4.2. US Policy in the Middle East: Systemic Influences on Behavior

This article by Ghahriyan (2022) provide us with an explanation of the behavior of the US in the Middle East. The Middle East's politics changed a lot in the last 10-12 years, and it affected on US and how deals with the region. Many experts think the US in not powerful as before and its power it influences decline in the Middle East. People argue if this is temporary or permanent and why it is happening. The US has been involved in the Middle East and its goals and methods there changed over time.

This document discusses about the US policy towards four important issues in the Middle East: the confrontation with Iran, the war in Syria, the Kurdish issue, and the relations with the Gulf Arab countries. the document starts by describing the Middle East situation and why the US gets involved there, then it talks about how the US deals with these issues and tries to explain why it behaves as it does, it is not everything the US does in the Middle East but it gives an idea of its approach (Ghahriyan ,2022).

4.3. Emerging Dynamics in US-Iran Relations: The Perspective of the Biden Administration

This study reveals the apparent and the hidden purpose of the US towards Iran and that was highlighted in Czorniks' (2022) article which aims to understand Joe Biden's intentions regarding Iran and the reasons behind them, it examines both his explicit and implicit statements. Additionally, it compares his approach to Iran with Trump's previous actions. The article suggests that Biden prefers dialogue and negotiations with Iran more than Trump did.

However, it emphasizes that Biden is not giving things to Iran without conditions. The article pointed to the Biden's administration and the desire to change, like how they deal with Iran, moving away from Trump's hostile aggressive approach. In the end they want Iran to follow the nuclear deal and stop supporting militias in Iraq, Syria, to improve relations but if Iran elects a conservative leader as Ebrahim Raisi in 2021, it could affect how things go (Czornik,2022).

As a summary, the Biden administration focuses on diplomacy and working with allies in the Middle East. They aim to balance relationships with countries like Iran and Saudi Arabia with the focus on human rights and stability. Also, Challenges include resolving conflicts like the Israeli-Palestinian issue and dealing with groups like ISIS and Hezbollah. Overall, the impact of Biden's approach is still unfolding, with both progress and challenges ahead.

Conclusion

The Arab-Israeli conflict is really complicated and won't be fixed easily. It's rooted in history, culture, and religion, making it hard to solve. Even though Israel and some Arab countries are making deals, the real issues aren't being solved. To move forward, it's crucial for leaders to understand the conflict's complexities and work on solutions that include everyone and last long-term. This means going beyond surface-level analysis and tackling the deep-

rooted issues that keep the conflict going. Only then can real peace and understanding happen, moving past politics to heal old wounds.

CHPATER THREE

SHIFTS IN THE DYNAMICS OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

Introduction

The decline of US influence in the Middle East is due to many reasons. In the US, one big reason is that America needs less oil from the Middle East because of new energy sources like shale gas and renewable energy. This makes the region less important to US interests. Also, many Americans are tired of long wars and are wary of getting involved in more conflicts in the Middle East. Internationally, the situation is changing as countries like China and Russia are becoming more powerful in the Middle East. They are challenging the US with their political, economic, and military actions.

Terrorist groups also make the region more unstable and harder for the US to manage. The Arab Spring showed that people's movements in the Middle East don't always follow what the US wants. These events revealed a gap between what the US expects and what actually happens, weakening US influence. Ongoing conflicts like the Israel-Palestine issue further damage America's reputation and role as a peacekeeper, especially as many Arabs see the US as biased toward Israel. Economically, the Middle East is doing business with more countries, not just the US.

This reduces the region's reliance on American support and opens doors for other countries to have more influence. Iran is taking advantage of the US's weaker position by forming alliances and using proxy groups to increase its power, often in ways that go against US interests. While the US isn't leaving the Middle East completely, its role is definitely changing. The future of the region is uncertain as new powers rise and old ones adjust. The relationships and challenges in the Middle East are shifting, and US involvement will continue to evolve in response to these changes.

1. Emergence of Other Global Players

The 21st century has brought major changes and challenges, making traditional diplomacy more complex. With more countries involved and diverse issues to address, diplomacy must adapt. This discussion explores how diplomacy is evolving with the rise of BRICS countries, the EU's strategies, China's growing global role, and the US-China-Russia rivalry in the Middle East. Understanding these changes is crucial for training modern diplomats.

1.1. Involving BRICS as emerging global influencers

The International Conference Report addresses that the 21st century is still young, but it's already faced big challenges like 9/11, new technologies, financial crises, and political movements like the Arab Spring. These changes have made traditional diplomacy harder because there are more countries, more ways to communicate, and more issues to deal with. Diplomacy is about representing, talking, and negotiating between countries and other groups, but all these parts are becoming more difficult in the new century (Keukeleire ,2011).

Training for diplomats needs to adapt to these changes by teaching the right knowledge and skills, Today's diplomats need to be good at lots of things and know about many different tools. They also have to work with many different groups of people. This conference talks about how diplomacy is changing. It mentions things like the BRICS countries becoming more important, non-government groups being involved in diplomacy, and the EU creating a new department for external affairs. It also talks about new ways of how diplomats communicate with issues like global health and resources (Keukeleire ,2011).

This makes us wonder if diplomats should be like the old days, where they knew a bit about everything, or if they should specialize in one thing to handle today's with more complicated diplomacy, the presentation looked at how the BRICS countries, like Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, connect with the EU. It questioned whether these

countries want to work closely with the EU or not. The BRICS started talking politically in 2001 and had their first big meeting in 2009. Their cooperation involves mainly big meetings and working together on specific topics like health and science (Keukeleire ,2011).

These topics are important for the EU too. But it's not clear if EU diplomats really understand these changes and what they mean for the future. This is important because the EU wants to be seen as a big player globally, The Copenhagen climate meetings demonstrated how the EU wasn't very influential in global discussions and struggled to lead effective teamwork with many countries involved, despite what it claims, the EU's role as a provider of values is being challenged by other sets of values, like the equality of states, which are becoming more appealing globally (Keukeleire ,2011).

In this context, effective EU diplomacy in the 21st century requires a better understanding of other countries' diplomatic strategies and interests. This means adopting an 'outside-in' approach, crucial for managing EU diplomacy and training diplomats. Specifically, EU delegations abroad need experts in different regions and languages to communicate, represent, and negotiate effectively, to strengthen its position globally, the EU should focus on teaching and training diplomats in modern diplomacy. They also need to choose whether diplomats should have a broad understanding of various topics (generalists) or deep expertise in specific fields (specialists) (Keukeleire ,2011).

By doing this, the EU can improve its relationships with growing powers and become a valuable ally, in simpler terms, to be successful in modern diplomacy, the EU needs to focus more on understanding other countries' strategies and interests. This means training diplomats to have a deep understanding of different regions and languages. By doing this, the EU can better communicate, represent itself, and negotiate with other countries. This approach is important because it helps the EU engage with rising powers and be seen as an important partner (Keukeleire ,2011).

1.2. China's role in regional and global governance: A new world emerges

China is becoming super important in world affairs again because it's wealthy and powerful now. What China does and thinks about stuff in the world really matters because it can change how things are run globally. Instead of just going along with how things have always been, China is trying to make its own rules and groups, like the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the 'One Belt, One Road' plan for trade and investment around China (Beeson & Li, 2016).

This paper talks about how China is doing this and what it means for the current world order. Global governance, meaning how the world is managed and governed together, is a topic of debate. But one thing is clear: without China's cooperation, it's hard to imagine any effective global or regional cooperation. This is a big deal that's often overlooked, especially in the US. For over 50 years, America has been the unquestioned leader in world affairs (Beeson & Li, 2016).

Thinking about a different arrangement challenges our usual ways of thinking. However, China's rise in politics and diplomacy shouldn't surprise us. Even those who are tough on international relations acknowledge that China's growing power reflects a long-term shift in how power is distributed globally. In essence, China's rise is the biggest challenge to the current world order since the US's Post-World War II dominance. We're looking at recent actions and talks about China's growth, both inside and outside China (Beeson & Li, 2016).

First, we'll talk about what people in the West think about China getting stronger, and then we'll compare that to what people in China think. It's not surprising that they have different opinions, but it's surprising how different they are. This suggests that some people who aren't Chinese hope that China's leaders will change how they think and act when working with other countries, but that might just be wishful thinking, we believe there are many different ways to

describe China's role in global and regional governance, and some people are advocating for these views to be shared widely (Beeson & Li, 2016).

Understanding China's internal policies and the initiatives it creates is crucial because it's like a two-way street – it affects both China and other countries. The paper's final section analyzes recent policy initiatives considering what we've discussed earlier. It suggests that focusing only on China's material and strategic growth overlooks the most significant aspect of its rising power and influence, especially if there's no war, many people in the West are worried about China becoming more powerful, but they often focus on its economic growth and military strength. However, one important aspect of China's rise that many people overlook is its increasing involvement in international organizations. China wants to be more influential in existing groups and has even started its own projects (Beeson & Li, 2016).

This change is partly because China is not happy with how things are currently run, and partly because being involved in these projects helps China achieve its foreign policy goals. One example of this is the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), which China helped create. Another big project is Xi Jinping's One Belt, One Road initiative, which aims to make China a key player in regional politics and economics, these efforts are key aspects of China's changing foreign policy (Beeson, Li, 2016).

Instead of trying to directly understand the intentionally complex policy-making process, they're being simplified, China's way of doing things is getting more complicated, messy, and sometimes unclear. But because China is so big economically and important globally, it has more power to influence on how things work internationally. What China actually does with this power depends on how they discuss and decide on policies within the country (Beeson, Li, 2016).

1.3. The Future of the Middle East in the Context of US-China and US-Russia Rivalry

The US, China, and Russia are the main countries fighting for power and influence in the Middle East. This competition has become stronger because of the Arab Uprisings and the end of the Cold War's stable period. The Middle East is very important because it has a lot of oil and gas, is located in a key spot in the world, and has important sea routes like the Suez Canal, Bab al-Mandab, and the Strait of Hormuz (Mashino, 2020).

Consequently, this makes it a central area for powerful countries to focus on. However, some countries, like Iran, Saudi Arabia, Israel, and Turkey, don't agree, which can make the area less safe and more uncertain. The Middle East is facing five big things right now. Firstly, there are still fights happening in places like Syria, Libya, and Yemen, and they've been going on for a long time. Moreover, Saudi Arabia and Iran are always having problems with each other, causing more tension in the region (Mashino, 2020).

Additionally, the USA and Iran keep getting into arguments, and sometimes it leads to military actions like drone attacks. Next, countries like Qatar and the UAE are becoming more important around the world, especially since a big problem they had in 2017. Lastly, COVID-19 is making things tough because it's hurting the economy, and that could make it harder for the region to stay safe and calm. Sometimes, the United States doesn't make its intentions very clear when it comes to how it deals with other countries (Mashino, 2020).

Both Obama and Trump, who were presidents before, sent confusing messages about how much they care about keeping the Middle East safe. Therefore, this makes the countries in that area worried about whether the US will stick around to help them for a long time. Even so, the US is still the most powerful country involved in other regions because it has strong political, military, and diplomatic abilities, even though it faces some challenges. Russia wants to make itself more important globally, even though it has limited resources. It's doing this by getting involved in the Middle East, like having soldiers in Syria, doing business with Egypt

and Algeria, and selling them weapons. Also, Russia wants the US to see it as a very powerful country (Mashino, 2020).

It also aims to show that it can be as strong as NATO in the Levant area, and it is working on making its relationships with Iran and Turkey stronger. China started by focusing on buying oil and gas, but now it also has other big plans, like building infrastructure projects in other countries through its Belt and Road Initiative. This makes China a key business partner for many important countries in the region. China stays away from using military force and instead uses its economic power to influence other countries without getting into direct fights with the US. Although the COVID-19 pandemic might make countries compete less for a short time, in the long run, the competition could get even stronger because countries are focusing more on their own interests (Mashino, 2020).

China and Russia both want to make the US less powerful globally and increase their own power in the Middle East. Meanwhile, the US will probably still be the strongest military in the Middle East, even though its influence has decreased. This is because of agreements like the Abraham Accords. Importantly, countries nearby, such as Iran, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Turkey, and the UAE, will have a significant impact on how major powers like the US, China, and Russia compete with each other (Mashino, 2020).

1.4. China and the Emerging Middle West

In the Middle East, there are big rivalries that shape the region. Iran and Turkey both want to lead the Islamic world, with Iran supporting Shia Muslims and Turkey supporting Sunni Muslims. Additionally, Iran and Saudi Arabia have a big rivalry that isn't just about religion; they compete over politics, security, and economic issues too. Moreover, there's a division about the Muslim Brotherhood, with Turkey and Qatar supporting their involvement in politics, while Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Egypt do not (Wu,2023).

Furthermore, countries like Saudi Arabia and the UAE are always trying to be the most powerful in the Arab world, influencing situations in places like Yemen and Qatar. China's approach to the Middle East is about creating good, cooperative international relationships. It uses big projects like the Belt and Road Initiative to build things like roads and help with investments (Wu,2023).

Additionally, China works with Middle Eastern countries through the China Arab States Cooperation Forum to enhance cooperation and benefit everyone involved. The fights between different countries in the Middle East make things unstable and prevent them from working together well (Wu,2023).

Also, big countries like the United States, Europe, and Russia have their own interests in the region, and when they disagree, it can change how powerful each country is in the area. China is not usually a big influencer in Middle East politics, but it is trying to help by suggesting new ideas for keeping peace and working together. For example, China promotes initiatives like the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), which aims to create a safer and more cooperative environment in the region. The strong Arab countries like Egypt, Iraq, and Syria are not as powerful as they used to be because they face problems like economic challenges, fighting among themselves, security issues, and other countries getting involved in their affairs (Wu,2023).

Because of this, they don't have as much say in what happens in the Arab world as they did in the past. This has made Arab countries more divided, especially since the Arab Spring. Non-Arab countries like Iran, Turkey, and Israel, have become really important and have a lot of control in the region. Iran has made its mark in places like Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen. Turkey has grown its economy, and Israel has gotten really good at technology. These non-Arab countries have managed to keep things stable and make their influence bigger, not just in the region but also around the world (Wu,2023).

As global dynamics shift, the BRICS nations are challenging Western dominance, and the EU needs better diplomatic strategies. China's new international initiatives highlight the need to understand its goals. The US-China-Russia rivalry in the Middle East underscores the region's importance. Modern diplomats must grasp regional and global trends to foster cooperation and manage conflicts effectively.

2. Shifts in Geopolitical Alliances

Over the past decade, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region has seen big changes, becoming unstable due to conflicts and the influence of both local and international actors. The Arab Spring, which initially promised political reform, has instead led to violence and deeper regional insecurity, reshaping relationships with other nations. Various perspectives on the evolving geopolitics of the MENA region are examined, highlighting its global connections.

2.1. The Geopolitics of the Changing Middle West: Views from Within and Beyond

In the last ten years, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region has been very unstable and unsafe, as many changes and complex conflicts involving local and international players have made the area even more unstable, affecting its safety and relationships with other countries. The Arab Spring started demands for political change in many Middle Eastern and North African countries, and at first, people were hopeful for more democracy; however, disagreements among international players stopped these changes, leading to more violence and security problems (Aras & Kardaş 2021).

Meanwhile, the instability and conflicts in the MENA region have greatly changed its relationships with other countries because they couldn't solve their political and military problems, which led other countries to get more involved, and the region's issues became more focused on security. Economic problems, continuous conflicts, and interference from other countries have hurt the basic structure of the region, impacting national identities, borders, and

the balance of power, making countries rethink how their states are organized (Aras & Kardaş 2021).

Moreover, the rise of groups that aren't official countries, fights supported by other nations, and outside interference have made the region more unstable, breaking down normal rules and making security more complicated, leading to more involvement from other countries in the region's problems. Eduard Soler Lecha and Silvia Colombo discuss how changes in the MENA region are closely linked to Europe and argue that Europe should come up with new policies because what happens in MENA affects Europe too (Aras & Kardaş 2021).

Leonid Issaev explains how Russia changed its approach in the MENA region after the Cold War, focusing more on practical actions rather than just following its old ideas, and Russia's military actions in Syria show it's trying to get along with different countries in the region while also dealing with its own problems domestically. Bingbing Wu talks about why China is getting more involved in the MENA region, wanting to build stronger relationships there because it's important for China's strategy, politics, economics, security, and culture, and China is working on projects like the Belt and Road and the China Arab States Cooperation Forum to make friends and cooperate more with countries in the region (Aras & Kardaş 2021).

Hassan Ahmadian looks at how Iran changed its strategy after the Arab Spring, as Iran used to try not to pick sides but now it's working to balance relationships with big countries to protect its interests and keep its power in the area. Mahjoob Zweiri studies how Iran chooses its next top leader, focusing on how politics and strategy inside and outside Iran affect this choice. Majed Al-Ansari talks about why there's trouble in the Gulf, saying Saudi Arabia wants too much power, and he thinks the agreement signed in Al-Ula is just a quick fix and doesn't solve the real problems (Aras & Kardaş 2021).

2.2. Global Power Dynamics: China's Economic, Military, and Political Ascendancy in the 21st Century

China's rise in the 21st century is widely seen as unstoppable and has been recognized globally. As an emerging power, China has seen significant economic growth, developed its military, and increased its political involvement internationally. This paper looks at how China's emergence is viewed as a threat to US dominance, especially in Asia. China's growing power is expected to challenge US influence in the region and shift the balance of power both in Asia and globally (Zarkachi,2023).

The findings show that China will continue to grow economically and become more assertive militarily in international disputes, particularly in Asia. Additionally, China has become a key player in international organizations like the WTO and UN Peacekeeping. This rise is likely to lead to clashes with the US, making conflicts between the two powers inevitable, China is becoming a new global power in economics, military strength, and international politics (Zarkachi,2023).

This growth challenges the United States, the current superpower, and China is expected to surpass the US, especially economically, in the coming decades, China's growth won't be peaceful because it will face resistance from the U.S ,Therefore, due to this competition, potential conflicts are more like to occur, especially in the Asia region, China's incredible economic growth, around 10% annually for the past 30 years, is remarkable, especially considering its dark times during the Cultural Revolution (Zarkachi,2023).

After Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping changed China's economic direction, opening up to the world. This shift lead China to become the world's second-largest economy, China started the Belt and Road Initiative in 2013 to connect with other countries through trade, boosting its global economic influence, relying on its growing middle class for economic growth, China is becoming a big player on the world stage, not just because its economy is growing fast and its

military is getting stronger, but also because it's getting involved in global politics. Like, it went to the big climate conference in Copenhagen and was a leader for many developing countries (Zarkachi,2023).

It also formed a group with Brazil, Russia, India, and South Africa called BRICS to challenge the power of the US, also by joining the United Nations and the World Trade Organization, China is showing its readiness to be part of global discussions. Basically, China wants to show it can lead the world and have more influence, the big question is whether China can grow peacefully or not. Some experts doubt it, especially because China becomes richer and stronger militarily, it could lead to tensions with the US and push neighboring countries to make alliances against China (Zarkachi,2023).

This could increase the chance of conflict. This research focuses on realism in international relations, where states seek power to protect themselves and gain dominance. It examines China's rise and its future relationship with the US. It highlights China's economic growth as a key factor, then its military development and the dealing with international conflicts. Lastly, the study shows us China's significant political influence on the global stage (Zarkachi,2023).

2.3. The Impact of Changing Alliances in a Multipolar World on Global Politics

This article talks about how alliances between countries are changing in a world where power is spread out among many nations. It looks at why these alliances are changing, what it means for global stability, and what might happen next. It also looks at who the key players are and why they're making these changes. The article suggests that it's important for countries to be ready for more changes in the future and offers some advice on how they can handle these changes, like working together with other countries and being patient, a multipolar world means moving away from one country being the most powerful after the Cold War (Muhammad,2023).

Now, different countries are trying to become important, which creating a world where alliances and power constantly change. In international relations, shifting alliances are very important. it influences on how countries interact and shape global politics. Shifting alliances mean that partnerships between nations change and adapt as global situations change. These changes can happen for many reasons, such as new national interests, shifts in global power, new technologies, or new challenges around the world (Muhammad,2023).

The History shows us that changing alliances can have a big impact on the world events. Before World War I, many countries had agreements to support each other, which led to a large-scale conflict when the war started. During the Cold War, countries formed two main groups, NATO and the Warsaw Pact, based on their political beliefs and security needs. These examples show how shifts in alliances can shape international events significantly, understanding shifting alliances is important today because power is spread across many countries, alliances help countries to manage global politics, good changes in alliances can improve a nation's security, economy, and influence, and bad changes can cause instability, distrust, and conflicts (Muhammad,2023).

shows us the need for careful and wise in the foreign policy decisions, shifting alliances refer to the changing in partnerships between countries in response to evolving global politics, these changes are crucial because they reflect historical lessons, current geopolitical situations, and strategic diplomatic moves, understanding these shifts helps nations to navigate in international relations more effectively (Muhammad,2023).

In conclusion, the changes in the Middle East and North Africa show how things inside and outside the region affect each other. As discussed by many scholars, what happens there affects the whole world, like Europe, Russia, China, and Iran. They all have their own interests and ways of dealing with the region. With so many challenges and chances, it's important for

everyone involved to work together, talk things out, and try to make things stable, even as the situation keeps changing.

3. Economic Factors

The US has helped East Asia's economy grow a lot by giving money and making trade deals. But in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), which has a lot of oil, the US hasn't helped the economy grow as much. Also the way how China and India are starting to get more involved in the Middle East, which could change things for the US there.

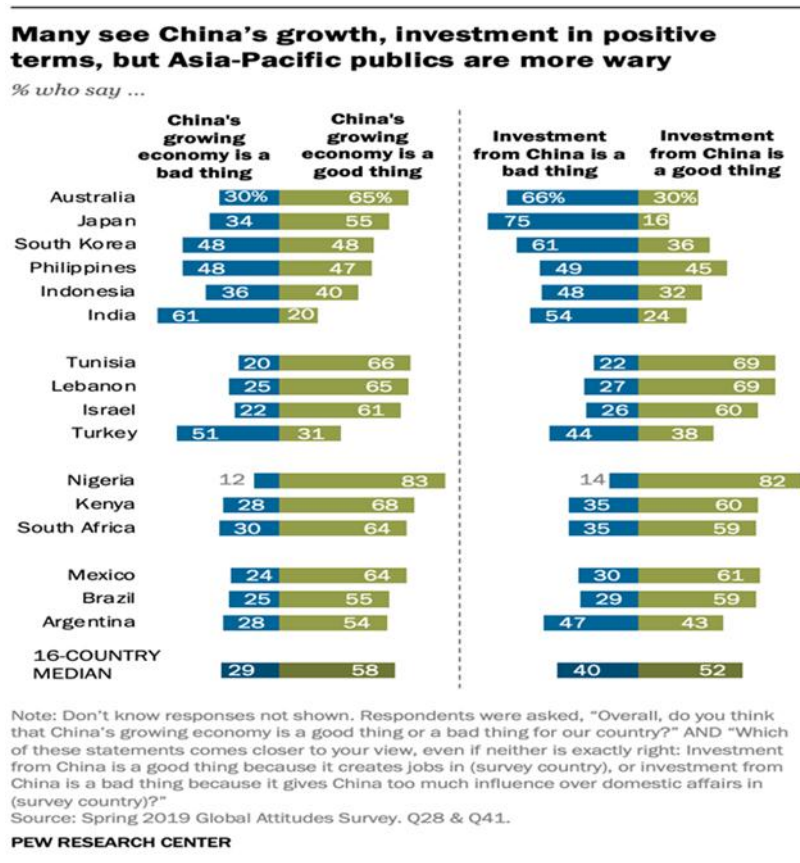
3.1. The Impact of US Dominance on Economic Growth in East Asia, the Middle West, and North Africa

East Asia and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) have had very different economic growth. East Asia, even with few natural resources, has grown a lot. This is largely because the United States helped them with money and trade. This support boosted East Asia's economy. On the other hand, MENA, despite having lots of resources like oil, hasn't grown as much. US policy in MENA focused more on getting oil and backing strong leaders, which didn't really help their economies grow (Kim, 2014).

Studies using data from 2009 across 113 countries show that US trade generally helps the world economy, but it hasn't helped MENA much. The research also points out that having good systems in place in a country, like strong laws and stable government, can help overcome the problems of having a lot of resources, which sometimes slow down growth. This is important because it shows that good leadership and rules are key to making a country's economy strong, no matter how many resources it has (Kim, 2014).

3.3. Global Views on China's Economic Influence: Benefits and Concerns

The data from the Pew Research Center (2019) illustrates global perceptions of China's growing economy and investment:



Source: Pew Research Center. (2019). Many see China's growth, investment in positive terms, but Asia-Pacific publics are more wary [Chart]. Spring 2019 Global Attitudes Survey. Retrieved from <https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2019/12/05/Chinas-economic-growth-mostly-welcomed-in-emerging-markets-but-neighbors-wary-of-its-influence/>

The Pew Research Center's findings show that people worldwide have different opinions about China's growing economic power and investments. In Africa and some parts of the Middle East, many people feel positive about China's economic growth and investments. They see benefits like new roads and job opportunities, and they think China is helping their countries develop. But in the Asia-Pacific region, which includes countries like Japan, South Korea, and

the Philippines, people are more cautious. They worry about conflicts from the past, like historical arguments, and they're not sure about China's plans for the future. They're concerned that relying too much on China for money and trade might make their countries weaker and less independent. Pew Research Center (2019).

In places like Latin America, people have mixed feelings. They see the good things China brings, like money for big projects, but they also worry about what might happen in the long run. These findings show that people see China's rise in different ways. While some see benefits, others worry about what it might mean for their countries. Leaders need to think carefully about how to work with China, considering both the good things it brings and the risks it might pose to their countries' independence and safety (Pew Research Center 2019).

To sum up, the analysis shows that the US has a big influence on how economies grow in East Asia and MENA. In East Asia, working with the US has helped the economy grow. But in MENA, where there's lots of oil, it's not working as well. Other countries like China and India are also getting involved, making things more complicated. This means the US needs to rethink its strategies in these regions to keep things stable and make sure its interests are protected while also helping economies grow in a good way.

4. Military and Diplomatic

The United States' military and diplomatic influence in the Middle East has been a complex and multifaceted process over recent years. Factors such as shifting geopolitical dynamics, regional conflicts, and changes in US foreign policy priorities have all contributed to this trend. As traditional alliances evolve and new actors emerge on the regional stage, the once-dominant position of the US has faced increasing challenges and scrutiny. Understanding this decline requires a nuanced examination of historical contexts, contemporary events, and the interplay of various stakeholders in the region.

4.1. Aspects of Diplomatic Pressure in the Middle West

Dimensions Coercive diplomacy is a foreign policy tool used for centuries to influence or force state to change its behavior, after the Soviet Union fell, the US is the only superpower, started trying to spread its values to other countries, the Middle East is very important region in world politics. The US has many interests there, so it uses coercive diplomacy to reach its political, economic, and trade goals, the region's peace and conflict affect its security, the stability of the area, and the economies of the Arab countries and Iran, the use of force in the Middle East affects the security of Islamic countries, the main issue is the Palestinians' right to self-determination (Umar et al., 2019).

Bridging the gap between Shia and Sunni populations is essential for promoting peaceful coexistence among different Muslim sects, the US's aggressive actions have led to widespread destruction, and causing harm to the people, Pakistan as Muslim country with a good relations with Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and diplomatic ties with Iran, can help to reduce hostilities and promote peace among Muslim countries, US policies generally stay consistent, but Trump's Middle East approach was very different from Obama's (Umar et al., 2019).

Thompson (2018) explains that Trump aimed to strengthen Israel and weaken Iran, while Obama focused on reducing conflict through diplomacy and political solutions, Obama reduced US troops in Iraq, avoided new military interventions, and worked with allies, he used both engagement and sanctions to stop Iran's nuclear program and tried to address Palestinian concerns about Israeli settlements in contrast, Trump sought to build an alliance between Israel, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE against Iran and Syria, here are some simple examples of how countries use diplomatic pressure in different ways across the region, for Iran the Trump administration increased pressure on Iran with help from Saudi Arabia and the UAE (Umar et al., 2019).

In 2015, Iran agreed to limit its nuclear program and allow inspections in exchange for lifting sanctions that had cost it \$160 billion. This deal also gave Iran access to \$100 billion in frozen assets. After sanctions were lifted, Iran could sell oil again. But in May 2018, Trump withdrew the US from the deal and re-imposed sanctions, and that causing an economic crisis in Iran. The European Union did not follow the US, and France, the UK, and Germany created a system to trade with Iran without US penalties (Umar et al., 2019).

Currently, Iran only faces US sanctions, but if it breaks the deal, it could face UN sanctions. Iran has to follow the rules of a Joint Dispute Resolution Commission, which can involve the UN, and the IAEA makes sure that Iran is doing what it promised about its nuclear program, the US left the Iran nuclear deal and is pressuring on Iran to follow its rules or face sanctions, and it's not just sanctioning for Iran again but it also punishing countries that trade with Iran, then for Egypt The US is unsure how to handle with the situation in Egypt because things are always changing there, and the power dynamics in the Middle East are unstable, they're basically just waiting and not making any big decisions (Umar et al., 2019).

Also in 2003, Libya stopped making weapons and became a friend of the US in fighting terrorism. but this friendship didn't make Libya more democratic or better for human rights, even though the US and others tried to change Libya's ways, but this is not successes, the US cared more about its own interests in security and business than making Libya more democratic. Libya's inside system didn't change much despite of its new friendship with the US, some people say the US caused problems in Libya and made its economy bad, even though it achieved its goals there, in addition to Iraq, Palestine, Syria, The United States and Israel are big players in the Middle East, using different ways to control things (Umar et al., 2019).

While other places use for the economic penalties, the US relies on the support from Western allies, China supports Palestinian rights without violence, Trump's policy, favoring Israel and pressuring Iran, and that is what worries many, and this could make things tense,

especially for countries like Pakistan, Pakistan with its connections, can help to bring peace through getting China involved, also It's important to stop more fighting between Shia and Sunni Muslims for stability (Umar et al., 2019).

4.2. The Middle West: Increasing Rivalry for Dominance in a Changing Regional Landscape

Since the Arab Spring, the Middle East has been unstable. Countries like Syria, Yemen, Libya, and Iraq are struggling with civil wars because they are not united internally. This disorder has allowed other countries to interfere and powerful groups that are not part of the government to gain power. At the same time, countries in the Middle East are looking out for themselves instead of working together, making things worse (Nukii, 2019).

Additionally, big countries from around the world have tried to get involved, but their efforts haven't really helped and often just make things more complicated. President Trump's plan for the Middle East focused on making Americans happy and making friends with countries that like the US, such as Saudi Arabia and Israel. He also wanted to control Iran. He did this by selling them a lot of weapons, saying Jerusalem is Israel's main city, and ignoring bigger problems like making peace between Israel and Palestine (Nukii, 2019).

Trump's approach with Iran has made them more resistant instead of changing their actions. Also, his decision to remove US soldiers from places like Syria has caused arguments because people worry that dangerous groups like ISIS might come back. It also feels like he's not being loyal to US allies, like the Kurds, by leaving them behind. Because they don't always trust what the US is doing, countries in the Middle East and ones that usually side with the US are starting to ask Russia for help more often (Nukii, 2019).

This is changing who has power and influence in the area. Unlike the US, Japan is helping Palestine by giving them support to make their government better and to become more independent economically. Instead of forcing them to do things, Japan is working with them to

make things better for everyone in the area. Because there are a lot of fights in the Persian Gulf, people are paying more attention to the Red Sea as an important way to move energy (Nukii, 2019).

This has made countries and other groups compete to have more power in the area, which is changing how things work, especially between the Red Sea and the Horn of Africa. Because the situation is complicated and uncertain, there's a need for a big plan that connects the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea under a larger "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" idea. This plan would help keep energy resources safe and protect the seas as the political situation changes (Nukii, 2019).

The military and diplomatic considerations of the US in the Middle East has significant implications. It suggests a shifting geopolitical landscape, possibly leading to increased regional power struggles, instability, and changes in alliances. This shift could also impact global security dynamics, requiring recalibration of international strategies and engagements.

Conclusion

The United States' influence in the Middle East has been declining for several reasons, marking a significant change in how power is balanced in the region. First, US military actions, intended to bring stability, often caused more problems instead. Wars in Iraq and Libya, for example, led to chaos and the rise of extremist groups, making the region less stable. Second, other powerful countries like China and Russia are becoming more involved in the Middle East. China is investing in infrastructure and building stronger economic ties, while Russia is making military and political alliances, such as in Syria and with Iran. These actions have reduced the US's ability to control events in the region.

Additionally, American public opinion has shifted. Many people in the US are tired of the costs and long-term commitments of wars in the Middle East. They prefer focusing on domestic issues like healthcare, the economy, and infrastructure. This change in priorities has

led to a more cautious approach in US foreign policy. Moreover, the US now relies less on Middle Eastern oil because of new energy sources like shale gas. This means the region is less critical to US energy needs, reducing the urgency for deep involvement there. These factors combined have weakened US dominance in the Middle East. Although the US still has a significant presence through military bases and economic relationships, it can no longer dictate terms as it once did. The region now has multiple influential players, including local actors and new global powers.

In response, the US may focus more on building alliances, using diplomacy, and promoting its values through non-military means. While the US remains important, its role is changing. The future will likely involve more shared power and cooperation with other countries to address challenges and maintain stability in the Middle East.

GENERAL CONCLUSION

To conclude, the rise of the Middle West refers to the increasing influence of emerging powers in global politics. This shift towards a multipolar world, where power is distributed among multiple nations rather than dominated by just one or two, has significantly impacted the Arab-Israeli conflict during the Biden administration. With more countries, especially from the Middle East, playing active roles in diplomacy and negotiations, the dynamics of the conflict have changed.

Traditional power like the United States still holds significant impact, but other nations now have more influence in shaping outcomes. This multipolarity has led to a more complex but potentially more balanced approach to resolving the conflict. The Biden administration has navigated this new landscape by engaging with a wider range of stakeholders and recognizing the importance of these emerging powers. This approach has allowed for more diverse perspectives and solutions, although it also presents new challenges in balancing different interests and priorities.

Overall, the rise of the Middle West and the shift to a multipolar world have introduced both opportunities and complications to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Biden administration's response to these changes reflects a broader trend towards inclusive and multifaceted diplomacy, aiming for a more stable and peaceful resolution in the region. As US hegemony declines, the influence of China and Russia grows, contributing to the complexity and reshaping the strategic landscape. These dynamics underscore the emerging challenges and underline the importance of adaptive, inclusive strategies in international diplomacy and conflict resolution.

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المخلص

تدرس هذه الأطروحة التحولات من الهيمنة الأمريكية إلى عالم متعدد الأقطاب وتأثيراتها على الصراع العربي-الإسرائيلي خلال إدارة بايدن. مع تغير القوى العالمية، تزداد تأثيرات دول مثل الصين وروسيا في الشرق الأوسط، مما يتحدى الهيمنة التقليدية للولايات المتحدة. هذا الانخفاض في قوة الولايات المتحدة جعل الصراع العربي-الإسرائيلي أكثر غموضاً وتعقيداً مع دخول لاعبين جدد على الساحة العالمية. تلعب القوى الناشئة أدواراً كبيرة في تشكيل ديناميكيات الصراع من خلال الانخراط المباشر والتحالفات الاستراتيجية مع الفاعلين الإقليميين. تركيز إدارة بايدن على العمل مع دول متعددة وحل النزاعات أدى إلى تجديد الجهود الدولية لمعالجة الصراع. ومع ذلك، يمكن أن يؤدي صعود العالم متعدد الأقطاب إلى زيادة المنافسة على النفوذ، وإضعاف التحالفات الحالية، وصعوبات في الجهود التقليدية التي تقودها الولايات المتحدة لتحقيق السلام. تقدم هذه الدراسة رؤى مهمة حول كيفية تحقيق السلام في المستقبل وتساعد في تخطيط الاستراتيجيات في الشرق الأوسط. كما تظهر الآثار الأوسع على كيفية تفاعل الدول واستقرار المنطقة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الهيمنة الأمريكية، العالم متعدد الأقطاب، الصراع العربي-الإسرائيلي، إدارة بايدن