



# Kardan Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities (KJSSH)

ISSN: 2616-8707 (P) 2958-9908 (O), Journal homepage: kjssh.kardan.edu.af

### Normalization of Arab-Israeli Relations: Implications for Iranis National and Security

#### Zaidullah Nail

**To cite this article:** Nail, Zaidullah. Normalization of Arab-Israeli Relations: Implications for Iran's National and Security. *Kardan Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, (2023), 6 (1), 57-68.

DOI: 10.31841/KJSSH-6.1-2023-62

To link to this article: <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.31841/KJSSH-6.1-2023-62">http://dx.doi.org/10.31841/KJSSH-6.1-2023-62</a>



© 2023 The Author(s). This open access Article is distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) 4.0 license.



Published online: 25 June 2023



Submit your article to this journal

Normalization of Arab-Israeli Relations: Implications for Iran's National and Security Kardan Journal of Social Sciences and
Humanities
6 (1) 57–67
©2022 Kardan University
Kardan Publications
Kabul, Afghanistan
http://dx.doi.org/10.31841/KJSSH-6.1-2023-62

Zaidullah Nail

Received: 20 March 23 Revised: 25 April 23 Accepted: 10 June 23 Published: 25 June 23

#### **Abstract**

The existence of fundamental differences between Iran and Israel has made Iran, as a regional power, maintain its geopolitical weight, monitor the power relations in the region, and consider the consequences of the relations between the Israeli regime and its neighboring states. According to the disclosure of the relations between the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain with Israel, it seems that the establishment of a close relationship between the Arabs and Israel will change the regional security equations. Based on this article, it seeks to investigate the consequences of the normalization of Arab-Israeli relations on Iran's regional security. The method of this article is a descriptive-analytical one that uses the regional security complex theory to find an answer to the question of what effect the process of normalizing relations between Arabs and Israel will have on Iran's security. In response to this question, the hypothesis is proposed that the relative and secret reconciliation between the Arabs and Israel will create tangible changes in the regional security equations in a structural way.

Keywords: Iran, Arabs, Israel, regional security complex, Iran's security environment.

#### Introduction

The Persian Gulf region benefits from a privileged geopolitical and communication position, huge energy reserves, wealth production capacity, and a large consumption market. Due to identity and religious differences, there has always been the potential for conflict. This has manifested itself often in Arab and non-Arab or religious conflicts such as Shia and Sunni. Still, the existence of only two power blocs (Arab and Ajam) in the region, which have shared values for convergence, has made it possible to reach peace. The entry of foreign players into the Middle East and tension in this region to achieve their goals have created many challenges for the regional countries. Palestine was mentioned as one of the main goals of the revolution. The Arabs saw it as a form of interference in their internal affairs, and with the mindset that the Islamic Republic of Iran was seeking regional hegemony, they started to take a stand against the Iranian revolution. To the extent that the issue of Palestine became their second priority, and during the confrontation between the Arabs and Israel, this issue became the

confrontation between the Arabs and Iran, and events such as the formation of the Shia government in Iraq after the fall of Saddam's regime and the Arab Spring in 2011 intensified it. And it reached its peak with the nuclear agreement between Iran and world powers in 2015.

#### 1.2 Problem Statement

Israel, which had seen fierce and decisive hostility toward Iran over the years since the victory of the Islamic Revolution, sought to form a powerful bloc to counter the Islamic Republic of Iran, and in this regard, with the help of the Western government, turned the key to the project of Iran phobia and succeeded to a large extent. The accompanying Arab state acquired the right to confront a common enemy called Iran. An accompaniment that was secretly followed for many years and referred to as cold peace. But the successive failures of the West and its allies against Iran and its predecessors, known as the axis of resistance, have given rise to a full-fledged, warm peace between yesterday's enemies and today's allies in the Middle East. The United Arab Emirates and Bahrain publicly announced this all-out cooperation. In this regard, the development of Arab-Israeli relations can undoubtedly have negative security consequences for Iran.

#### 1.3 Research Question

What effect has the development of Arab-Israeli relations had on the security environment of the Islamic Republic of Iran?

#### 1.4 Research Background

On the issue of Arab-Israeli relations, as well as the challenges of this relationship for the Islamic Republic of Iran, among its security effects, a lot of research has been done, the most important of which is most closely related to the topic of the present discussion.

- 1. Najla Maka and his colleagues, Iran's strategy in the Arab Gulf:¹ It has been concluded that Israel has openly shifted its political and geopolitical positions away from the borders of the occupied territories. Continuing to influence the Persian Gulf region, it will take advantage of three exceptional opportunities: the world's open waters, the myriad wealth of Arabs, both oil and gas and, ultimately, its military bases against Iran. The common danger between Iran and the Shia is the leading platform of the Coalition for the Emirates, Bahrain, and Israel.
- 2. Maliki and Mohammadzadeh, in an article titled The Prospect of Middle East Peace in the Shadow of the Normalization of Israeli-Arab World Relations<sup>2</sup>, using the new theory of realism, conclude that although the revelation of UAE-Bahrain relations with Israel reduces tensions in the region and increases Israel's security, it will not contribute to the final resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- Amiri, Rashidi, and Sultanids, in an article entitled 'The Hebrew-Arabic defector coalition and Iran's national security'3, explicitly investigating the formation of the relationship between Israel and Saudi Arabia and presenting the causes and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Najla Makkawi, et al. "Iran's strategy in the Persian Gulf". Center for Strategic Thought Studies (2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Maliki and Mohammadzadeh. "Middle East peace prospects in the shadow of the normalization of relations between Israel and the Arab world". *International Studies Journal*, 17, no.3 (7) (2019); 45-64, DOI: 10.22034/ISJ.2021.271531.1381.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Amiri Rashidi, Soltanian, et al. "Investigating the process of normalizing Arab-Israeli relations (2011-2020)". *Political Studies of the Islamic World* 2, no.1 (2019): 79-103. DOI: 10.22126/MPS.2023.8627.1014

areas of the formation of this coalition, conclude that the existence of a common threat in the name of Iran has provided the areas of cooperation and ultimately the coalition. The study of the works on the article's subject indicates its novelty; although some sources have dealt with Arab-Israeli relations, none of the aforementioned sources have specifically addressed the security implications of this relationship for Iran's regional security.

- 4. Ahmed Yusuf Ahmed and Nevin Massad (2006), in the book entitled (The Situation of the Arab Nation in 2005, the Arab System: The Challenge of Survival and Change<sup>4</sup>, are trying to answer the question of what consequences the normalization of Arab-Israeli relations has had on Iran's security environment. The book's findings show that Israel's efforts to create a system of balancing new forces for its benefit and to Iran's detriment are to shape new regional threats against Iran and renew radical and extremist forces in the region through the financial and military support of Israel and the United States.
- 5. Abdul Reza Ali Shahi and colleagues (1399), in an article titled 'The Influence of the UAE Strategic Coalition and the Zionist Regime on the Security of the Persian Gulf'5, are trying to answer the question of how the coalition formed between the United Arab Emirates and the Zionist regime affects the security of the Persian Gulf region. The research method is qualitative. The findings of this article show that the expansion of the military authority of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the region, especially in the aftermath of ISIS, and the economic advantages of the Zionists from their presence in the UAE (oil, the use of UAE military bases, and the sale of military weapons) are the most important reasons for the formation of the existing coalition.

#### 1.5 Research method

The present research is considered a component of theoretical and descriptive research; in this research, the cause seeks to identify events and express their characteristics. The theory of the regional security complex and the security effects of Arab-Israeli relations have been explained in this regard.

#### Research purpose

The primary purpose of this article is to explain the security implications of Arab-Israeli relations that directly and indirectly affect the Iranian security environment.

#### 2. Theoretical Framework: Regional Security Set Theory

The concept of "regional security" is composed of two words, security, and area, which are complex, and there is no standard acceptable definition given the many theoretical problems (Morgan, 1380:40) with these two words. It can be said that regional security or insecurity can be obtained from the set of levels of conflict in a region, military credits, institutions, and collective unions.<sup>6</sup> Throughout the twentieth century, governments viewed their close neighbors as potential sources of threat or safety. Focusing on these

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ahmed Yusuf Ahmad and Nifin Massad. *The State of the Arab Nation in 2005, The Arab System: The Challenge of Survival and Change,* (Beirut: Al-Wahda Studies Center, 2006).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Abdul Reza Aali Shahi et al. "Effect of the strategic alliance of the UAE and the Zionist regime on the security of the Persian Gulf", *Afaq Emaneht magazine* 13 (2019), 49.

<sup>6</sup> Abu Al-Hasan Shirazi, Habibullah, Ghorbani Sheikh Nashin, Arslan and Simbar, Reza. Politics and Government in the Middle East, Tehran: Samit Publications (1397).

neighbors, governments sought to establish rules and norms for which rules in a particular regional complex would act. Here, the concept of "region" is defined as a set of states that are geographically close to each other.<sup>7</sup>

Buzan and Weaver's theory of regional security is consistent with the assumption that the end of the Cold War began with vast insecurities rooted in the limitations of realist schools and the dimensions of security. To achieve an objective analysis of regional security in power-based relationships, Bozan added friendship patterns and enmity with governments and put forward the "security complexes" theory. In this theory, governments are the most essential unit of analysis and emphasize the military and political sectors as the main areas of security relations.<sup>8</sup>

Based on the characteristics and structure of a regional security complex, the Middle East region can be considered a complete security complex, which contains all the features and components envisioned for a security complex, from patterns of friendship and hostility to infiltration and conflict over the acquisition of superior regional power, security-building and security conundrums. In fact, any action by any of the influential security actors in the Middle East region to increase their power and influence and develop relations with other regional and transnational countries increases the insecurity of other essential actors in the region. Among these relations, currently in the Middle East, is the normalization of Israeli relations as a security player in the region with the Arab countries of the region. Normalizing the development of these relations and changing patterns of friendship and hostility in the region will certainly threaten Iran's national security. Therefore, the best new theory that can explain the kind of patterns of relations that exist now between Arabs and Israel and examine the effects that this development of relations will have on Iran's national security in the region is the Bari-Buzan regional security complex theory.

#### 3. Key Components of the Regional Security Complex

In general, the most effective components in the form of a regional security complex theory can be arranged as follows:

- Proximity means a specific quasi-system of security relations between the regions; in terms of security, it means a set of geographically close governments. Nevertheless, the threat, especially political or military, is felt with greater intensity when they are close to the geographical sphere.
- Cohabitation and cohabitation: Countries that make up a security complex, have
  a coherent cultural illusion, or where cultural plurality and the difference in the
  cohabitation system do not become conflicts. Lifestyles in these countries also
  enjoy minimal conflict.
- 3. Regional interdependence: the economies of countries that fall into the security pool have relative interdependence. Complementary economics creates interdependence and encourages the interdependence of political institutions into political and security convergence with the region's countries.
- 4. The existence of patterns of friendship or enmity: in defining regional security, the main element that should be added to power relations is the pattern of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Nasri, Qadir, "Theoretical reflection on the findings and difficulties of the burden of Bozan in the Security Review", Strategic Studies Quarterly, year fourteen, No. 4 (1390).

<sup>8</sup> Ibic

<sup>9</sup> Ibid

friendship and enmity between governments. Friendship means a spectrum from true friendship to the expectation of support or protection in their relationships. Hostility is also a relationship in which suspicion and fear prevail. This pattern can arise from the boundary differences between one unit's ethnic tendencies and another unit's ideological differences or commonalities and historical positive or negative connections.<sup>10</sup>

5. The existence of at least two influential actors implies that one security complex cannot be imagined without at least two powerful and effective regional actors. This leads us to the principle that two weak countries cannot form a regional security complex from the same region. However, its formation is possible with at least two effective regional powers and several weak countries (Dad Andish, Pervin, and Garkalchi Pot 1389).

#### 4. History of the Arab-Israeli Relationship

The history of the Arab-Israeli relationship can be divided into several periods:

#### 4.1 Period of Unrecognized Israel

The Arab states began four formal wars to destroy Israel or force him to retreat from the occupied territories but were unsuccessful in each war. Finally, according to the 1947 United Nations resolution, known as the partition resolution, the historic land of Palestine was divided into Arab and Jewish states, as well as the International administration of Jerusalem. The Arab League council, however, did not accept that resolution. Over time and after the failure of the Arab military clash strategy with Israel, the grounds for Arab compromise with Israel were provided, which prompted the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement of 1979, whereby Egypt acquired the Sinai desert and recognized Israel.<sup>11</sup>

#### 4.2 years from 1980 to 2011

During this period, the Arabs and Israel pursued very secretive relations that began with the Madrid peace talks in 1991 and ended with a broader dimension in the Oslo peace talks in 1993. Still, the September 11 incident had a significant impact on the fading of the event.

#### 4.3 Since 2011

The conflict between the Arabs and Israel in the next Macro has made itself an essential deterrent in the region, and the reason for this is that crises such as historical, territorial, ethnic, and religious issues, and one can argue that they have become a cloud of crisis. Perhaps years ago, this relationship was lacklustre, but at this point, due to the active presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the region and the help of the control and elimination of Takfirist groups such as ISIS in this region, the depth of the Arab-Israeli relationship has expanded. Although the relations between Israel and the Arab countries of the Middle East region, under the influence of factors at domestic, regional, and international levels, have been downward in recent years, for the reasons and goals

<sup>10</sup> Ahmed Yusuf Ahmed and Nevin Massad." The State of the Arab Nation in 2005"

Youssef, Ayman. "Transformations in Arab-Israeli Relations and Implications for Arab Security and the Palestinian Case". Amman, Jordan: Center Al-Shaq Al-Awsat studies (2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Jafari Veldani. "Challenges and Conflicts in the Middle East," Strategic Studies Research Institute, Tehran (1378).

we mention below, these relations have gone upward and have led to the normalization of relations.

#### 5. Israel's Objectives in Developing Relations with the Arabs

#### 5.1 Containment of Iran

In terms of its position and status, especially the lack of strategic depth and vulnerability caused by security threats, Israel had military superiority over other countries in the region, on which it could meet its demands and goals. Israel has always identified Iran as the focus of Islamic fundamentalism in the region and the world. <sup>13</sup> To accomplish this, he initially signed a peace treaty with some Arab countries, including Egypt, Jordan, and some Palestinian groups, albeit politically, and secretly entered a de-escalation phase with most Arab countries. (Naresh and Reddy 2015) but the presence of events in the early decades of the new century, including the formation of the Shia Crescent in the region by Iran, the Iran agreement with world powers for nuclear activities, etc., led these negotiations to become public and comprehensive so that they are referred to as the revolution in Israeli-Arab relations. The relationship that helps Israel, with the help of the Arab states, fully contain Iran.

#### 5.2 Use the Existing Gap Between Islamic Countries

Israel, which has always perceived all Islamic countries as enemies, has tried to evacuate these countries from all their strategic weight. They try to put these countries against each other. To this end, it wants to accelerate this process using the existing crises in internal affairs and among Islamic countries. Over the past few years, especially after the Syrian crisis and the formation of the Qatar crisis, a new gap has emerged among Islamic countries, where the rallying of countries between each other and their polarization has provided Israel with the opportunity to take advantage of the existing weakness and, by developing relations with them, transfer the field of conflict to Islamic communities.<sup>14</sup>

### 5.3 Increasing Pressure on Palestinian Groups, Especially Hamas, to Accelerate the Peace Process

Hamas, as an Islamist movement and close enemy of Israel, has always served as a significant obstacle to Israeli expansionism in Palestine in recent years. <sup>15</sup> Israel has tried in recent years to negotiate directly with Palestinian groups. Still, due to the lack of progress in these negotiations, it has turned its attention to expanding relations with the Arab world. Israeli leaders have argued for years that reaching an agreement with Palestinian groups could lead to better relations with Arab countries. Now, they think this process could also go in a different direction and normalize relations with the Arab world, which could help advance peace. Lasting and better-backed peace between Israel and Palestine. <sup>16</sup>

-

<sup>13</sup>Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Ahmed, Ali Arif Walayat Hussain and Atiq. "E-learning Closing the digital gap between developed and developing countries" *Australian Journal of Basic and Applied Sciences* 5, no. 11 (2011): 903-908, https://ajbasweb.com/old/ajbas/2011/November-2011/903-908.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Ayub, Mohammad. The Middle East on the Verge of Collapse. Translated by Avand Danesh (2016).

Majid Rouhi Dehboneh. "Middle East Trasformations After 2011: The Crisis of the National State and Regional Order". State Studies, 3, no. 12 (2018): 71-105. DOI: 10.22054/tssq.2018.8387

#### 6. Arab Goals of Developing Relations with Israel

#### 6.1 Preventing Iranian Hegemony

The events in the early decade of the third millennium, such as the formation of the Shiite crescent claimed by the Arabs, once again made the Arabs pessimistic about Iran, and this mentality emerged among them that Iran seeks to gain regional hegemony and dominate the Middle East. After the Arab Spring, especially the events in Syria and Yemen and the rise of Iran's regional power, some Arabs formed a new coalition with Israel, and the issue of Iran, along with some bilateral relations, turned confidential and non-public visits into open ones. Thus, the Arabs and the head of the United Arab Emirates, instead of regional unity and solidarity after the developments and the Western nuclear agreement with Iran, joined the coalition with the most significant enemy of the Arab world, which aims to counter Iran's power and influence. (Ruhi Dehbaneh 2016)

### 6.2 Distancing from Conservative Ideology and Tackling Radical Islamic Activities

Former Arab politicians who, after successive failures against Israel, have always taken a defensive and isolationist approach to issues. The region had shown itself with the advent of a new generation of princes, including Mohammed bin Zayed, Mohammed bin Salman, and royal officials. They have now changed the face of the Persian Gulf region. The generational change generates more attention to improving public administration and relying on advisers. It became technocratic that this, in addition to turning towards more nationalist policies, also represented ambitious global agendas. This new generation seeks to exploit oil money on broad platforms and play a more influential role in regional politics and the regional and global economies. Arabs, especially the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia: to counter radical Islamic activities, after September 11, it takes an identical look at both hardline and moderate Islamic trends and categorizes them as terrorist currents. In this regard, the politicians of this country have taken measures at both national and transnational levels in the past decade to contain and counter Islamic currents.

#### 6.3 Increase in Economic Relations and Use of the Israeli Market

Despite Israel's refusal to implement the desired reforms of the Arab Peace Initiative, normalizing relations in economics, security, sports, and so on has flowed, and this has grown significantly, especially in economics and trade, in recent years. According to Israeli officials and according to data from the regime's Center for Statistics, Israel's exports and services to the Middle East and North Africa are estimated at seven billion dollars a year, or more than one billion dollars per year. Persian Gulf Arab countries Also, the import of electricity from Arab countries by Israel, as well as the export of gas to these countries, including Egypt, and cooperation with the country in the creation of the eastern Mediterranean working forum by the Zionist regime. In 2012, following the Shaman virus attack on Aramco, which disrupted Saudi oil production, it used international cybersecurity companies, including an Israeli company. Arab countries

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Smith Dion, Kirstin. The New Generation of Kings in the Persian Gulf Arab States, Center for Presidential Strategic Studies. Publishing: Persian Gulf Arab States Foundation in Washington (2017).

<sup>18</sup> Veldani, "Challenges and Conflicts in the Middle East".

have also had medical cooperation with Israel after the coronavirus crisis, including the United Arab Emirates and Israel, to contain the crisis.<sup>19</sup>

6.4 The Consequences of Normalizing Arab-Israeli Relations in the Region and their Impact on Iran's Security Environment

According to the main components of the regional security complex theory, the consequences of establishing open and secret Arab relations directly or indirectly affect the security of Iran. And it can be explained in various forms. Suppose security can be investigated in the five military, political, social, and environmental categories. In that case, establishing Arab-Israeli relations seems more influential in the political and military sectors. And in general, some of the most important things can be mentioned below.<sup>20</sup>

6.5 Lack of Regime Formation and Sustainable Security Arrangements in the Middle East

The Middle East region has been subject to radical changes in recent years, so these developments have changed the security system and the balance of power, creating a model of conflict and competition in the Middle East. In this regard, creating a security regime based on the all-out cooperation of the region's countries can change this situation and ultimately lead to peace. However, in the current situation, this cooperation is unlikely.<sup>21</sup> In the meantime, due to its geopolitical and geo-economic features as well as global goals and aspirations, despite the disruptions in the region's countries, Iran has always supported the formation of a stable security regime within the specified framework and in the interests of the regional government.<sup>22</sup> To achieve this, Iran has tried to build confidence in itself and help resolve regional conflicts, which can be mentioned in the newest case, the Hormuz peace plan. (Youssef 2020) Which includes stable and collective security for all countries in the region, the creation of areas of cooperation, and the reduction of religious and sectarian conflicts, but the actions taken by Iran are due to the wave of the growing fear of some countries, such as the United States and Israel, has always been a failure. Now, with the regime's direct presence in regional security arrangements and a more profound gap in relations, Iran's longstanding dream of establishing a regime and sustainable security arrangements to confront foreign and regional enemies of the Islamic world, especially Israel, has become more unattainable.

#### 6.6 Growth of Extremist and Radical Groups in the Region

Factors that in recent years have paved the way for the growth of high-security threats in countries such as Iraq, Syria and even Iran have extremist groups such as al Qaeda, ISIS, radical and extremist groups sponsored by many Arab countries, and, on the other hand, Israel's military and logistical assistance and its transnational supporters, such as the United States, have been created under the pretext of confronting Iranian hegemony in the region and its pro-resistance groups.<sup>23</sup> These groups, creating the first security

<sup>21</sup> Majid Abbasi; Hamid Reza Hamidfar. "The Alliance of Saudi Arabia and Israel with the United States and its Consequences on Influence and Balance of Power of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Middle East". *International Studies Journal (ISJ)*, 17, 3, 2020, 7-25. doi: 10.22034/isj.2021.247668.1213.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Morgan, Patrick. Regional Security Systems in the Modern World. Translated by Sayed Jalal Dehghani, Tehran: Research Center for Strategic Studies (1380).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Ruhi Dehbaneh, "Middle East Trasformations After 2011".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Nabavi, Abdul Amir. *Middle East Studies*, Tehran: Imam Sadiq University Press (2009).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Khalaf, Hamsa Qahtan. Future Vision of the Political Systems of the Persian Gulf States after Adaptation United Arab Emirates Amadhos, Baghdad: Society Al-Uloom Al-Siyasiya (2022).

vacuum, inflicted enormous losses on these countries and Iran. Now, with the multipolarization of the region and the increasing growth of disputes caused by the acceptance or non-acceptance of normalization of the relationship with Israel, these groups, of course, will have an excellent opportunity to regroup and grow twice after the hard strikes inflicted on them in recent years by the current resistance and some other countries. On the other hand, many fundamentalist Islamic groups that have sought to create an opportunity to hit and destroy Israel will redouble their activity by normalizing the relationship of many Arab countries with Israel. Therefore, we will see two types of contrasting and mutual growth of its more significant presence in the region: certainly, extremist and radical groups in the region, which will cause the Middle East region, which has been steadily unsettled and chaotic in recent years, to also not have the right security prospects imaginable in the coming years. This will carry a broad security burden at the national and regional levels, especially for Iran, which is the focus of the Middle East conflict.

### 6.7 Development and Expansion of American Presence and Influence in the Region

The normalization of Arab relations with Israel has influenced the equations of the region to some extent and has increased the U.S. presence and influence in the region. <sup>24</sup> The U.S. in the Middle East has always played an essential role in the Iran-Israel conflict triangle with conflicting foreign policies. The United States, using its allies, such as Israel and the Arab states of the region, with a new security alignment, has made extensive efforts to exert pressure on Iran and, along with it, incite a wave of Iran phobia, insinuating to the Arabs that the issue of Iran is the most critical issue for them and that Palestine should be taken out of priority. <sup>25</sup>

## 6.8 Influence on the Balance of Power in the Geopolitical Region of the Persian Gulf

Barry Bozan believes that the main element that needs to be added to power relations is the pattern of friendship and enmity between states. Friendship-enmity patterns can change the balance of power in the region by changing themselves, such as friendship-enmity patterns between Arabs, Israel, and Iran. As long as these actors seek superiority in the region and do not modify their attitudes and security strategies toward each other, there can be no hope of cooperation and peace. Competition continues to intensify and lead to a negative balance against each other since the strategies of balancing a state are formed based on the type and subjective perceptions of the rival threat. Now, as a security player, Israel, using civilian threats, is trying to form a new system of balance of power to its advantage and the detriment of Iran by normalizing relations and approaching rival Arab countries. The development of Arab relations with Israel can lead to a new bloc in the Middle East region consisting of Israel, the Emirates, Bahrain, and Jordan. The formation of such a bloc could pose political and security challenges and a new regional threat to Iran. These challenges could include internationalizing issues related to Iran and negative spacing against Iran, such as what Iran's intervention in The Yemeni war is said

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Majid. "The Middle East after the 2011 changes".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Qahtan. "Future Vision of the Political Systems of the Persian Gulf States".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Bozan, Barry. *People of Governments and Fears*. Translation: Research Institute of Strategic Studies, Tehran: Strategic Studies Research Institute (1378).

to be. Other countries, such as Oman, Kuwait, and Qatar, seem to be normalizing their relations with the Zionist Qian at a specific interval.<sup>27</sup>

#### 7. Research Findings

The findings show that the leaders of successive Israeli governments since its establishment have found that the existence and survival of this Kingdom require the acquisition of international legitimacy and its recognition and acceptance by Arab countries through the establishment of normal relations with them. It is from here that Zionists consider the normalization of relations with Arab states to be a dream and a strategic goal in their foreign policy, seeking in many ways to fulfil this dream. The development of Arab-Israeli relations and their goals of normalization of relations have fundamental consequences for the regional security environment of Iran, such as the disruption of the structure of the balance of power in the region and the formation of the process of balancing the new regional threat against Iran, the lack of regime formation and stable security arrangements in the region, the growth of radical and extremist groups in the region, and the development and expansion of American presence and influence. Normalizing voting creates new developments politically and regarding security in the region. Approaching Iran's security borders and the military attack on Iran's allies, especially Lebanon's Hezbollah, and normalizing relations are two negative consequences of normalizing Arab relations with Israel.

So, what security strategy and pattern should Iran adopt in the face of this normalization of relations? Or what is Iran's foreign policy strategy to strengthen its position in the regional balance of power? Does it adopt the preservation of the status quo in its foreign policy, or does it undergo an internal or external transformation? In this regard, considering that Iran is the primary goal of this normalization of relations and the United States is at the head of the leadership of this normalization, Israel, increasing its legitimacy, wants to approach Iran's borders and isolate it to hit Iran's national security using this abandoned drawer. This can arouse Iran's sensitivity by itself, further exacerbate conflicts in the region, and model a competitive strategy with Israel and the United States.

#### 8. Conclusion

This paper aimed to investigate the normalization of Arab relations with Israel and its consequences for Iran's regional security. Given to the theoretical framework of the article, it seems, Israel's goals of developing relations with the Arabs; because inhibiting Iran, breaking the ugliness of relations Official with Israel, the use of existing gaps between Arab countries, increased pressure on Palestinian groups, especially Hamas, to accelerate the peace process and the Arab goals of developing relations with Israel; because preventing Iran from hegemonization in the region, distancing from conservative ideology, increasing economic relations, inevitable consequences on Iran's regional security environment; because Israel's attempt to create a new system of balance of powers in its own interest and to the detriment of Iran, shaping new regional threats against Iran, through the financial and military support of Israel and the United States, the breakdown of the countries of the region in the creation of a regime, security arrangements Sustainable development has had an American presence and influence in the region. But what seems essential along with these implications is how the views of Iranian politicians and policymakers in the not-too-distant future will address what

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Abu Al-Hasan Shirazi, et al. "Politics and Government in the Middle East".

internal and external strategy and transformation they will face while managing these implications. This research proposes strategies and policy options to manage and reduce the consequences of evolving and complicated relationships.

- By changing attitudes to enable interaction with facts. The proper and constructive use of social media and cultural power capacities in the Arab world through public diplomacy will be helpful in this regard.
- Adopt weapons and security strategies tailored to threats and the security environment.
- Put forward the interdependence theory and diplomatic and non-diplomatic bargaining tools, especially in Saudi Arabia.
- Lastly, the public must pressure the heads of these countries to bring Israel to the negotiating table.

#### References

Abdul Reza Aali Shahi et al. Effect of the strategic alliance of the UAE and the Zionist regime on the security of the Persian Gulf " *Afaq Emaneht Magazine* 13 (2019).

Abu Al-Hasan Shirazi, Habibullah, Ghorbani Sheikh Nashin, Arslan and Simbar, Reza. *Politics and Government in the Middle East*, Tehran: Samit Publications (1397).

Ahmed Yusuf Ahmad and Nifin Massad. *The State of the Arab Nation in 2005: The Arab System: The Challenge of Survival and Change)* (Beirut: Al-Wahda Studies Center, 2006).

Ahmed, Ali Arif Walayat Hussain and Atiq. "E-learning Closing the digital gap between developed and developing countries" *Australian Journal of Basic and Applied Sciences* 5, no. 11 (2011): 903-908.

Amiri Rashidi, Soltanian, et al. "Investigating the process of normalizing Arab-Israeli relations (2011-2020)". *Political Studies of the Islamic World* 2, no.1 (2019): 79-103. DOI: 10.22126/MPS.2023.8627.1014

Ayub, Mohammad. *The Middle East on the Verge of Collapse*. Translated by *Avand Danesh* (2016).

Bozan, Barry. *People of Governments and Fears*. Translation: Research Institute of Strategic Studies, Tehran: Strategic Studies Research Institute (1378).

Jafari Veldani. "Challenges and Conflicts in the Middle East," *Strategic Studies Research Institute*, Tehran (1378).

Khalaf, Hamsa Qahtan. Future Vision of the Political Systems of the Persian Gulf States after Adaptation United Arab Emirates Amadhos, Baghdad: Society Al-Uloom Al-Siyasiya (2022).

Majid Abbasi; Hamid Reza Hamidfar. "The Alliance of Saudi Arabia and Israel with the United States and its Consequences on Influence and Balance of Power of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Middle East". *International Studies Journal (ISJ)*, 17, 3, 2020, 7-25. DOI: 10.22034/isj.2021.247668.1213.

Majid Rouhi Dehboneh. "Middle East Trasformations After 2011: The Crisis of the National State and Regional Order". *State Studies*, 3, no. 12 (2018): 71-105. DOI: 10.22054/tssq.2018.8387

Maliki and Mohammadzadeh. "Middle East peace prospects in the shadow of the normalization of relations between Israel and the Arab world". *International Studies Journal*, 17, no.3 (7) (2019); 45-64, DOI: 10.22034/ISJ.2021.271531.1381.

Morgan, Patrick. *Regional Security Systems in the Modern World*. Translated by Sayed Jalal Dehghani, Tehran: Research Center for Strategic Studies (1380).

Nabavi, Abdul Amir. Middle East Studies, Tehran: Imam Sadiq University Press (2009).

Najla Makkawi, et al. Iran's strategy in the Persian Gulf. *Center for Strategic Thought Studies* (2017).

Nasri, Qadir, Theoretical reflection on the findings and difficulties of the burden of Bozan in the Security Review, Strategic Studies Quarterly, year fourteen, No. 4 (1390).

Ruhi Dehbaneh Majid. The Middle East after the 2011 changes: the crisis of the national government and regional" (2016).

Smith Dion, Kirstin. The New Generation of Kings in the Persian Gulf Arab States, Center for Presidential Strategic Studies. Publishing: Persian Gulf Arab States Foundation in Washington (2017).

Youssef, Ayman. Transformations in Arab-Israeli Relations and Implications for Arab Security and the Palestinian Case. Amman, Jordan: *Center Al-Shaq Al-Awsat studies* (2020).

#### **About the Authors**