



New Military Strategies in the Gulf

The Mirage of Autonomy in Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar

Jean-Loup Samaan

Examines how and why new military defence policies are evolving in the GCC

20% off with this flyer!

Paperback | 264 pp | August 2023 | 9780755650712 | ~~£24.99~~ £19.99

In the last decade, rulers in Gulf regimes have aspired to greater strategic autonomy and distance from the West. Coined the "Gulf moment" by local commentators, this regional trend reflects a redistribution of power in the Arab world. This is the first book to examine the military dimensions of these shifts. Gulf military strategy has prioritised the improvement of local armed forces and the diversification of defence partnerships towards countries such as Russia, Turkey or China. However, this book shows how this has led to the militarisation of Gulf societies, the further erosion of multilateral initiatives - including the Gulf Cooperation Council - and the Gulf's perilous involvement in the war in Yemen. The book also highlights enduring reliance on the West.

Each chapter covers a key aspect of defence policy from governance of armed forces, military education and power projection capabilities to regional security cooperation and lessons from warfighting experiences. Close attention is paid to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, countries that have enjoyed prominent roles in the region's security affairs during the last ten years. The research is based on extensive fieldwork and interviews with major decision-makers, officials, and diplomatic and military representatives. It also uses recently declassified official documents to gain rare insight into what Gulf countries intend for their defence policies.

Jean-Loup Samaan is Senior Research Fellow in the Middle East Institute at the National University of Singapore, Singapore and Associate Research Fellow at the French Institute of International Relations in Paris, France. He is the author of *Strategic Hedging in the Arabian Peninsula: The Politics of the Gulf-Asian Rapprochement* (2018). He worked previously at the UAE National Defense College, UAE, NATO Defense College, Italy, and RAND Corporation in the US.

Use the following discount codes to save 20% on this book when purchasing on Bloomsbury.com

UK and rest of world customers: **GLR CA3UK**

US customers: **GLR CA3US**

Canada customers: **GLR CA3CA**

Australia and New Zealand customers: **GLR CA3AU**

*This offer is available to individuals only. Please note price and availability subject to change without notice. Discount code only valid for books showing as available on bloomsbury.com (including eBooks).