

MEI Weekly.



Israel's military announced on Thursday that it has taken control of the strategically important buffer zone along the Gaza-Egypt border, known as the Philadelphi Corridor. Photo: AFP

WHAT'S HOT: MEI PUBLICATIONS, PODCASTS, & MORE

- **READ:** MEI Research Fellow Aisha Al-Sarishi offers her analysis of Tobias Zumbraegel's book titled, 'Political Power and Environmental Sustainability in Gulf Monarchies', which aims to evaluate a "green turn" in the Gulf. Read the book review [here](#).

WHAT'S NEWS: THE BIG HEADLINES THIS WEEK

Israel Says Gaza War to Last Throughout 2024

National Security Adviser Tzachi Hanegbi's assessment was at odds with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's assertion in April that the country was "on the brink of victory". Tel Aviv's seizure of the Philadelphi Corridor also heightened tensions between Cairo and itself.

The UAE's Rising Influence in Africa

As China pares back loans to Africa, the oil-rich Gulf state has become an increasingly important source of foreign investment. However, some see Abu Dhabi's inroads into the continent as part of a larger vision to wield more power on the world stage.



Western officials say that the growing influence of Abu Dhabi and other Gulf nations in Africa is adding a new layer of complexity. Photo: Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan / X

President Xi Pledges Deeper Ties with Arab States

At the Chinese-Arab summit held in Beijing on Thursday, President Xi Jinping told visiting leaders that he wanted to work with them to find "solutions to hotspot issues". He also stressed the need to achieve a cease-fire in Gaza, and an interrupted flow of aid into the enclave.

CALENDAR: MEI EVENTS

ICYMI: Oman's Underrated Diplomacy

On 28 May 2024, MEI hosted Undersecretary for Political Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Oman, His Excellency Khalifa bin Ali Al Harthy (in picture), for a discussion on Muscat's role in facilitating discreet diplomacy. Among other topics, Mr Khalifa discussed Oman's foreign policy, and its strategies in decision-making.

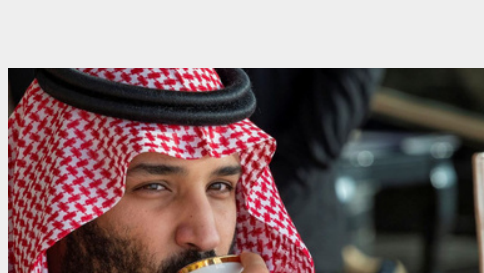


MEI Executive Director Michelle Teo kicked off the event with opening remarks, setting the stage for an interactive dialogue session.

LOOK AHEAD: WHAT TO KEEP A WATCH ON

Saudi Arabia to Sell \$12 Billion Worth of Aramco Shares

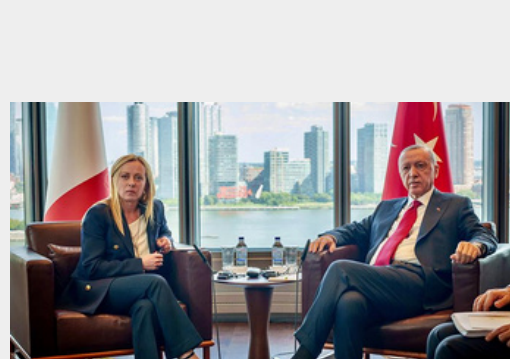
The chief executive of Saudi Aramco said that the timing of the sale had been decided by the government, but that the offering was an opportunity for the company to broaden its international investor base. He added that the process would take place from 2-6 June.



Advisers had been making the last preparations for a secondary share offering for several days before a decision was taken by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. Photo: Mohammad Bin Salman / X

Turkish President Erdogan to Attend G7 Summit

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is the latest addition to the guest list at a Group of Seven (G7) summit in Italy next month. UAE President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan would be in attendance.

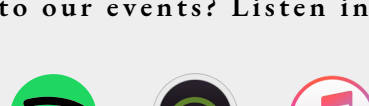


Rome announced Mr Erdogan's inclusion after a phone call between him and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni (left). Photo: Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers website

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