



LIBRARY LINK

MIDDLE EAST & CENTRAL ASIA

Library Link: Middle East & Central Asia features the latest research on the region. Scroll down for **Sovereign Rating Reports, Working Papers, Books, and Articles**.

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SOVEREIGN RATING REPORTS

Email Library@IMF.org to request the full reports; we'll send them to you as quickly as possible!

Middle East

- Moody's: "Government of Iraq - Caa1 stable: Annual credit analysis" (July 22)
- Moody's: "Banks – Jordan: Macro profile – Weak (+)" (June 15)
- Moody's: "Government of Lebanon – C: Regular update" (July 22)
- Fitch: "[Pakistan Rating Report](#)" (June 21)
- Moody's: "Government of Pakistan – B3 stable: Regular Update" (July 30)

North Africa

- Moody's: "Government of Egypt – B2 stable: Update following rating affirmation" (July 29)
- Fitch: "[Morocco Rating Report](#)" (June 2)
- Fitch: "[Tunisia Rating Report](#)" (Aug 2)
- Moody's: "Government of Tunisia – B3 negative: Annual credit analysis" (June 21)

Gulf Cooperation Council

- Moody's: "Government of Bahrain - B2 negative: Annual credit analysis" (June 1)
- S&P: "Kuwait Ratings Lowered To 'A+' On Lack Of Comprehensive Funding Strategy; Outlook Remains Negative" (July 16)
- Fitch: "[Oman Rating Report](#)" (June 4)
- Moody's: "Government of Oman - Ba3 negative: Annual credit analysis" (July 28)

- Fitch: "[Qatar Rating Report](#)" (July 30)
- Fitch: "[Saudi Arabia Rating Report](#)" (Aug 5)
- Moody's: "Government of Saudi Arabia - A1 negative: Annual credit analysis" (June 29)

Caucasus and Central Asia

- S&P: "Banking Industry Country Risk Assessment: Armenia" (July 26)
- Fitch: "[Azerbaijan Rating Report](#)" (May 27)
- S&P: "Full Analysis: Azerbaijan" (July 26)
- Fitch: "[Fitch Revises Georgia's Outlook to Stable; Affirms at 'BB'](#)" (Aug 6)
- Fitch: "[Fitch Affirms Kazakhstan at 'BBB'; Outlook Stable](#)" (Aug 13)
- Moody's: "Government of Kazakhstan – Baa2 stable: Update following upgrade to Baa2, outlook change to stable" (Aug 12)
- Moody's: "Government of Tajikistan – B3 stable: Annual credit analysis" (June 28)
- Moody's: "Government of Uzbekistan – B1 positive: Annual credit analysis" (July 28)
- S&P: "Banking Industry Country Risk Assessment: Uzbekistan" (June 29)

WORKING PAPERS

[Digital Activism and Authoritarian Adaptation in the Middle East](#) (POMEPS Studies 43, The Project on Middle East Political Science)

The Project on Middle East Political Science partnered with Stanford University's Center for Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law and its Global Digital Policy Incubator for an innovative two week online seminar to explore the issues surrounding digital activism and authoritarianism. This new collaboration brought together more than a dozen scholars and practitioners with deep experience in digital policy and activism, some focused on the Middle East and others offering a global and comparative perspective.

[Developing Digital Payment Services in the Middle East and North Africa: A Strategic Approach](#) (World Bank)

The Project on Middle East Political Science partnered with Stanford University's Center for Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law and its Global Digital Policy Incubator for an innovative two week online seminar to explore the issues surrounding digital activism and authoritarianism. This new collaboration brought together more than a dozen scholars and practitioners with deep experience in digital policy and activism, some focused on the Middle East and others offering a global and comparative perspective.

[Gulf Economic Update, August 2021: COVID-19 Pandemic and the Road to Diversification](#) (World Bank)

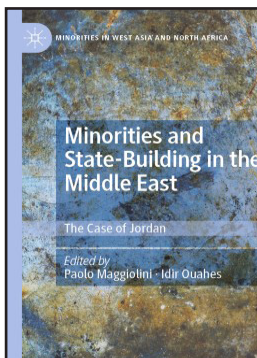
The Project on Middle East Political Science partnered with Stanford University's Center for Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law and its Global Digital Policy Incubator for an innovative two week online seminar to explore the issues surrounding digital activism and authoritarianism. This new collaboration brought together more than a dozen scholars and practitioners with deep experience in digital policy and activism, some focused on the Middle East and others offering a global and comparative perspective.

BOOKS



Artificial Intelligence in the Gulf: Challenges and Opportunities by Elie Azar and Anthony N. Haddad

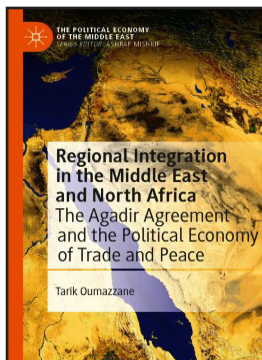
This book presents the first broad reflection on the challenges, opportunities, and implications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Unique results and insights are derived through case studies from diverse disciplines, including engineering, economics, data science, policy-making, governance, and human science.



Minorities and State-Building in the Middle East: The Case of Jordan by Paolo Maggolini and Idir Ouahes

(Please contact the [IMF Library](#) to request this book)

This book offers fresh insights to enhance and diversify our understanding of the modern history of the state and societies in today's Jordan, while also providing examples of why and how scholars can challenge the static and discursively government-minded approaches to minorities and minoritisation – especially the traditional emphasis on demographic balances.



Regional Integration in the Middle East and North Africa: The Agadir Agreement and the Political Economy of Trade and Peace By Tarik Oumazzane

(Please contact the [IMF Library](#) to request this book)

This book analyses and assesses the Agadir Agreement's impact on economic integration, its effect on political cooperation, and its role in promoting peace between participating countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

ARTICLES

CO2 Emissions, Export and Foreign Direct Investment: Empirical Evidence from Middle East and North Africa Region

(The Journal of International Trade & Economic Development (May): 1–23)

This study aimed to investigate the relationship among CO2 emissions, exports of goods and services, and foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows in countries in the MENA region over the period 2002–2014. It was further indicated that fossil fuel energy consumption was the main determinant of CO2 emissions, and accession to the WTO played a major role in enhancing exports and FDI inflows.

[**A Recent Review of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in the Gulf Cooperation Council \(GCC\) Region**](#)

(International Journal of Green Energy, July, 1–28)

Studies demonstrated that the regions of Gulf Corporation Council (GCC) such as Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Kingdom Saudi Arabia (KSA), and United Arab Emirates (UAE) face several changes in the form of uncertain weather conditions. The review assessed the energy and electricity consumption trends in the region. It discussed the problems related to the effects of dust accumulation on devices and highlighted the use of various computer interfaces that demonstrate the feasibility to use various RE technologies.

[**Do Energy Security and Environmental Quality Contribute to Renewable Energy? The Role of Trade Openness and Energy Use in North African Countries**](#)

(Renewable Energy 179 (December): 667–78)

No considerable evidence is available in literature review regarding the drivers of renewable energy in North African countries. We attempt to fill this gap by empirically exploring the relationships among consumption of renewable energy sources, carbon dioxide emissions, economic growth, energy security, energy use, trade openness, foreign direct investment and population in North African countries mainly Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia from 1971 to 2014.

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