NEW MUST-READ BOOK

BY AVI MELAMED

NORTH AMERICAN TOUR

FEBRUARY 2022

Atlantic Ocean
PORTUGAL
Lisbon
SPAIN
Madrid
Corsica (FR.)
Rome
MONT.
KOS.
MACE.
ALB.
BULGARIA
Istanbul
ARMENIA
AZERBAIJAN
Baku
Ashgabat
Kabul
AFGHANISTAN
Balearic Islands (SP.)
Sardinia (IT.)
GREECE
Athens
Ankara
TURKEY
Mashhad
Madeira Islands (PORT.)
Rabat
Casablanca
Oran
Algiers
Tunis
TUNISIA
Sicily (IT.)
MALTA
Nicosia
CYPRUS
SYRIA
Tigris
IRAQ
Tehran
Eşfahān
IRAN
Kandahar
Canary Islands (SP.)
MOROCCO
Tripoli
Mediterranean Sea
Beirut
LEBANON
Damascus
Baghdad
ISRAEL
Amman
Jerusalem
JORDAN
Euphrates
Kuwait
KUWAIT
Laayoune
Western Sahara
ALGERIA
Benghāzi
Cairo
Persian Gulf
BAHRAIN
Manama
Abu Dhabi
OMAN
Muscat
Tropic of Cancer
LIBYA
Nile
EGYPT
Doha
QATAR
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Riyadh
Medina
SAUDI ARABIA
MAURITANIA
Nouakchott
Aswān
Red Sea
Mecca
Port Sudan
MALI
Tombouctou
SENEGAL
NIGER
Niger
Khartoum
Blue Nile
ERITREA
Asmara
YEMEN
Sanaa
CHAD
Bamako
Ouagadougou
Niamey
GUINEA
BURKINA FASO
SUDAN
Aden
Gulf of Aden
Socotra (YEMEN)
DJIBOUTI
Djibouti
N`Djamena
Nyala
Lake Tana
Addis Ababa
Hargeysa
BENIN
CÔTE D`IVOIRE
TOGO
GHANA
NIGERIA
Abuja
Benue
White Nile
SIERRA LEONE
Monrovia
LIBERIA
Yamoussoukro
Abidjan
Accra
Lomé
Lagos
Porto-Novo
CAMEROON
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
SOUTH SUDAN
Juba
ETHIOPIA
SOMALIA
Indian Ocean

Inside The Middle East

INSIDE THE MIDDLE EAST
| ENTERING A NEW ERA |

150 years
CHIZUK AMUNO CONGREGATION & SCHOOLS

March 10, 2022

By Avi Melamed

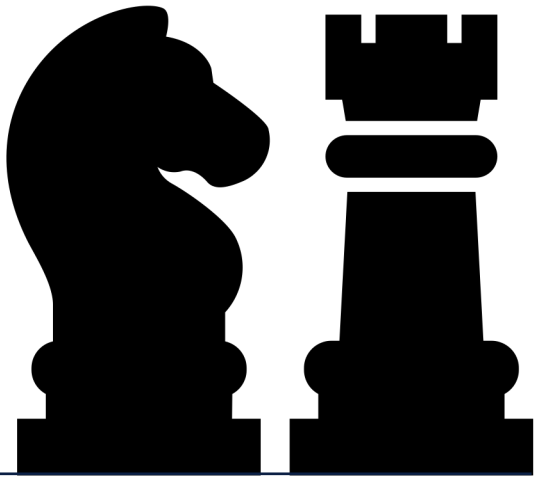
Middle East Chess Board - 21st Century

1. The Balance of Power Between Different Regional Forces

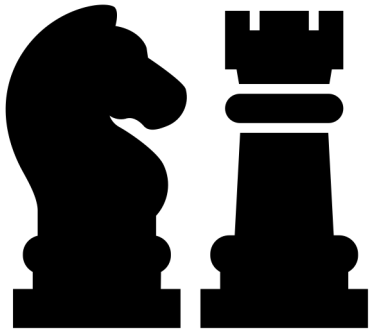
2. Restructured Geostrategic Landscape

3. Struggle for a New Model of Statehood in the Arab World

4. The End of Western Hegemony & Entering the Era of “Pax China”



Middle East Chess Board - 21st Century



1. The Balance of Power Between Different Regional Forces

680 – Sunni-Shi'ite Split

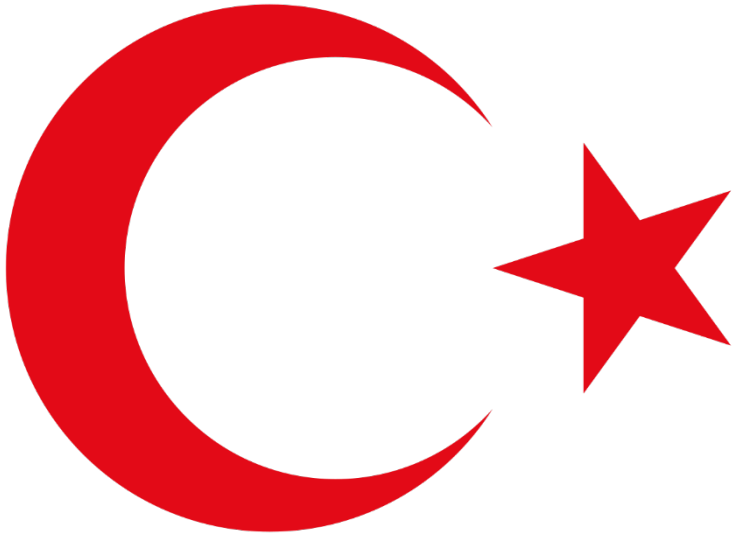
Who Should Rule The Muslim World?

SUNNI **Merit Based**
The Best Man for the Position

SHI'ITE **Bloodline**
A Descendant of the 4th Caliph Ali
the Son-in-Law and Cousin of the
Prophet Muhammad

Resolute Animosity & Bloodshed Since 680

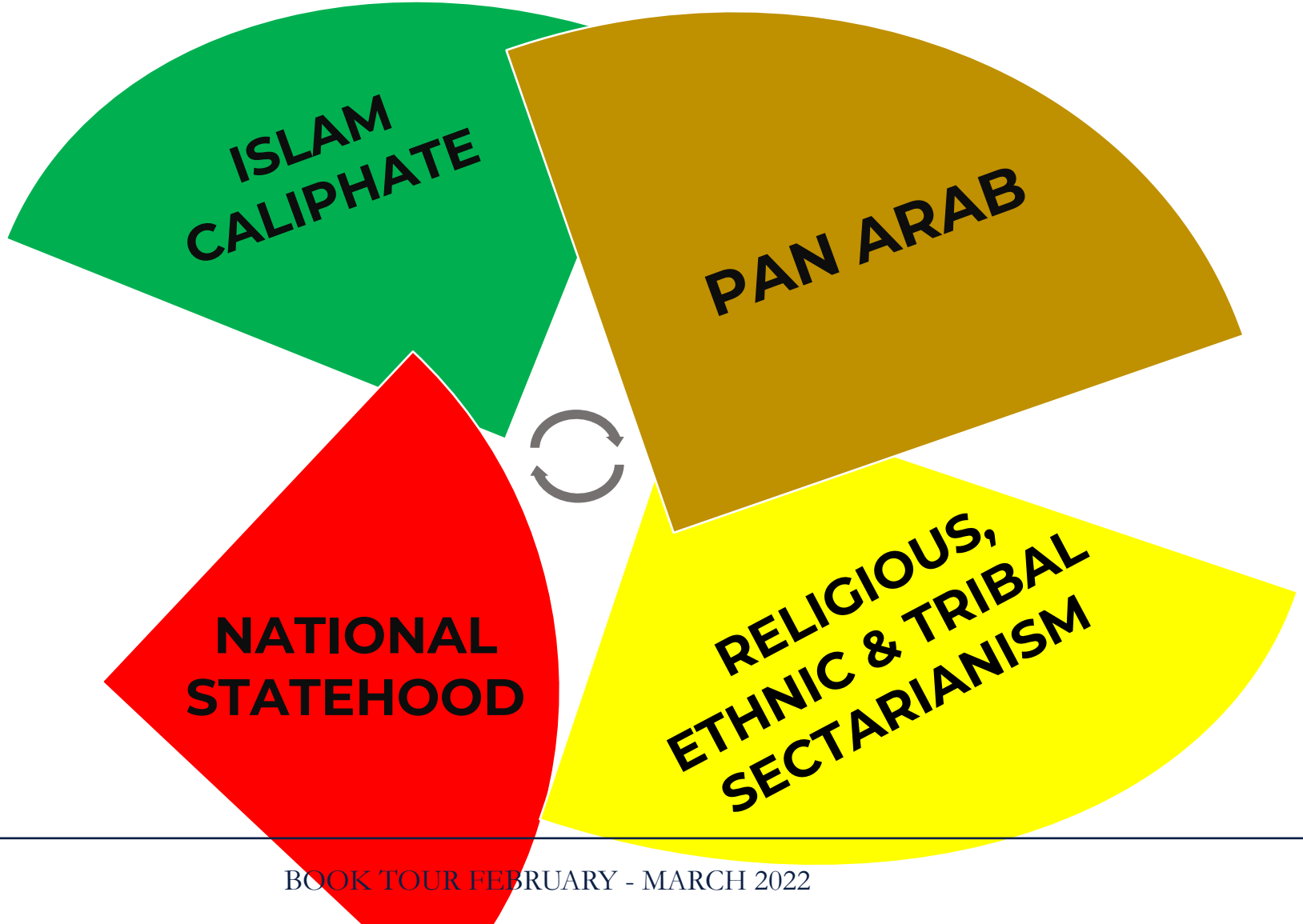
| Ancient Arab - Persian - Turkish Power Struggle



Predominately Sunni **Predominately Shi'ite** **Predominately Sunni**

| Failure of National Statehood Model in The Middle East

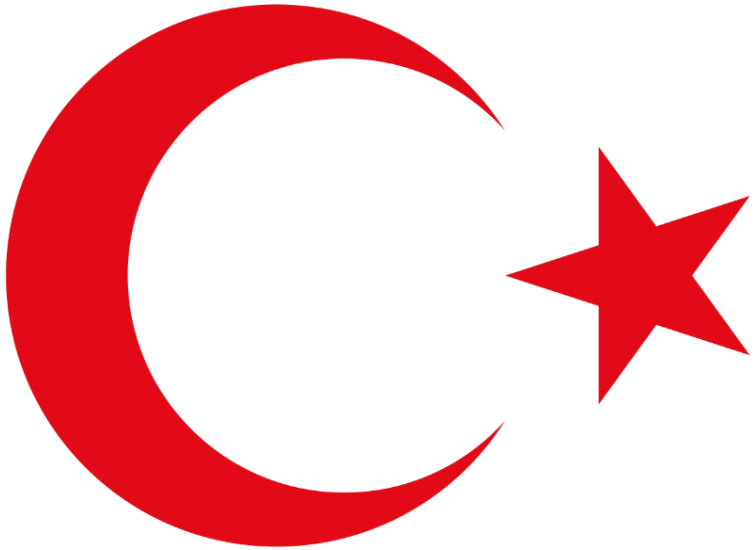
Power Struggle over Path & Identity Results in a Deepening Crisis in the Arab World

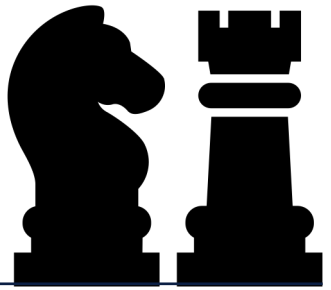


The Arab Spring (2010) – Major Turbulence

Iran & Turkey - The Quest for Hegemony in the 21st Century

Each wants to be the Regional Superpower





1979 – The Mullah Regime & Iran's Hegemonic Vision

THE SHI'ITE CRESCENT
Exporting the Islamic Revolution

'The Resistance' *(Al-Muqawamah)*

A yearning for an alternate world order

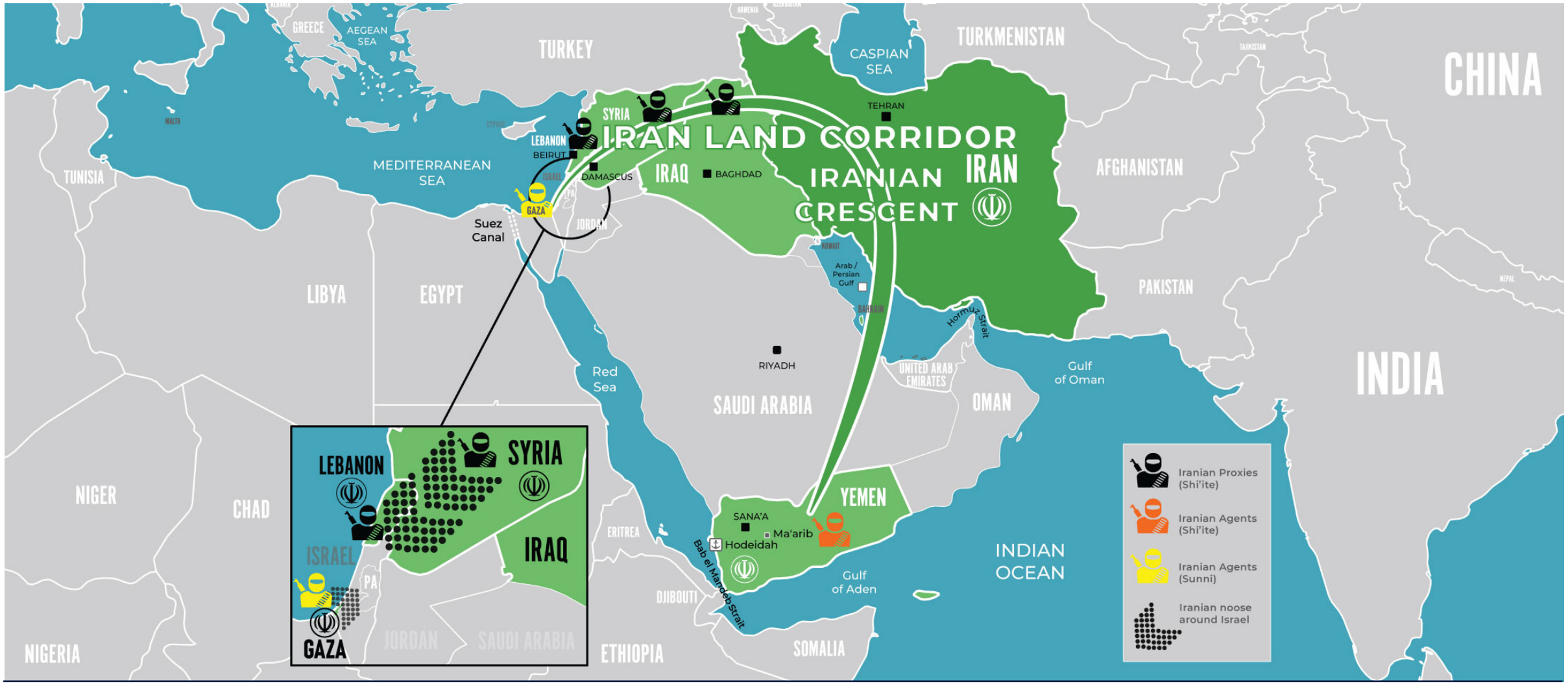
in the spirit of Islam; the 'eradication of Western

influence in the Middle East'; and

the 'Liberation of Palestine

and the elimination of Israel'

| Iran's Hegemonic Vision | The 'Axis of Resistance'



Iran Deepens its Grip in Arab Countries Using the slogans of "Liberating Palestine" and "The Resistance"

Iran's proxies Hamas & IJIP Sacrifice Gaza In the service of Iran

Iranian Snake Occupying the Arab Countries

Iran's Arab proxies serve their countries to Iran's table

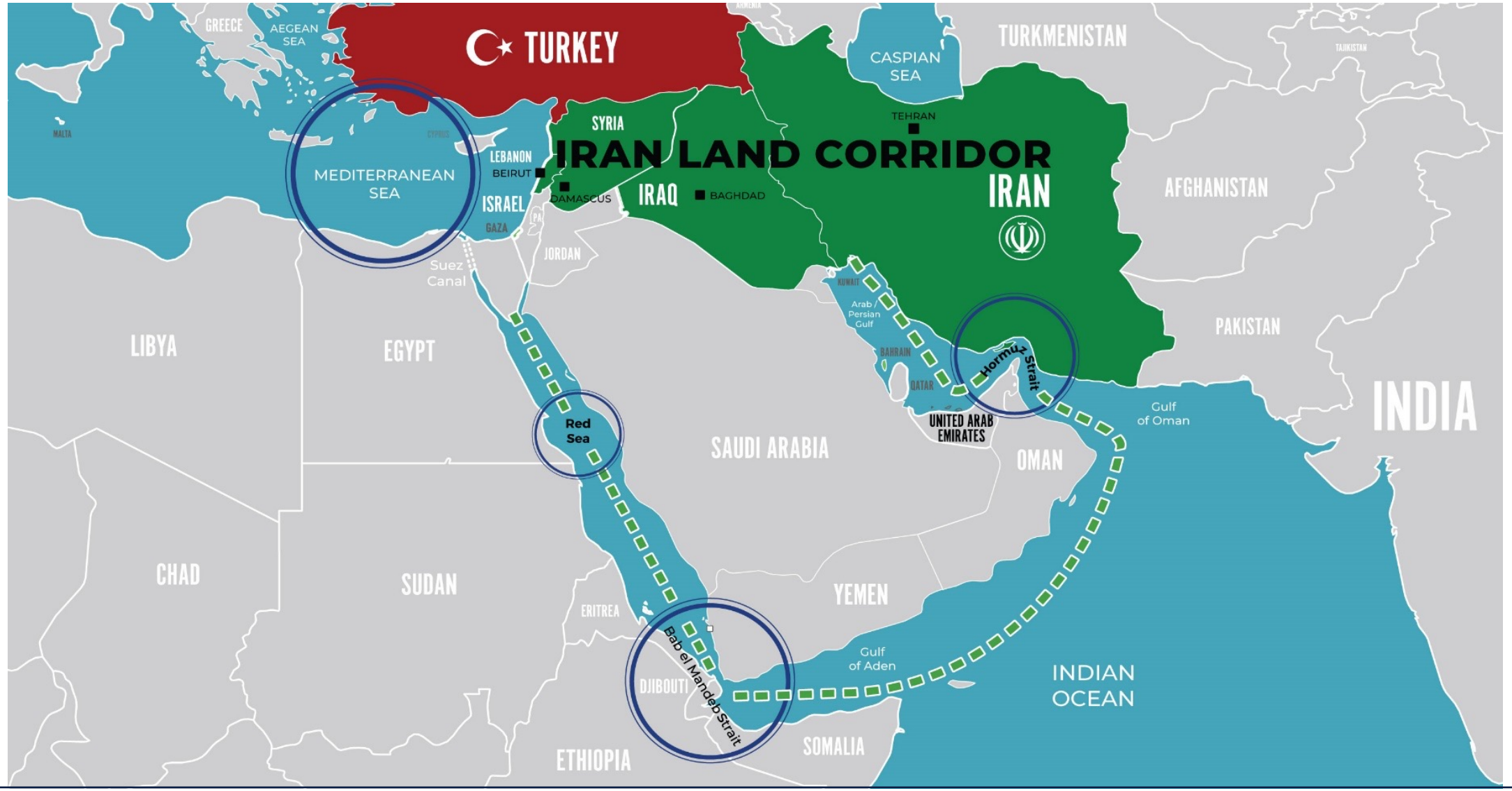
Samples of cartoons published in Arab media

| Turkey's Hegemonic Vision | Claiming the Leadership of the Sunni World

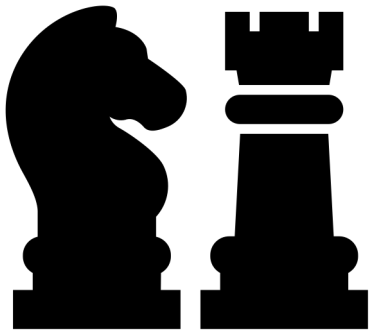
| Turkey's Hegemonic Vision | The Gulf to the Mediterranean

Iran & Turkey Expand Influence at the Expense of the Arab World

| Turkey & Iran Hegemonic Aspirations | Arenas of Focus



Middle East Chess Board - 21st Century



2. Restructured Geostrategic Landscape

The Changing Priorities of the Arab World

DOMESTIC CHALLENGES

- **Arab Spring**
- Need to **diversify traditional income sources** & have a 21st-century **skilled workforce.**
- **Leverage technology** in critical areas including food, security, communications, medical services, water management, etc.

REGIONAL THREATS

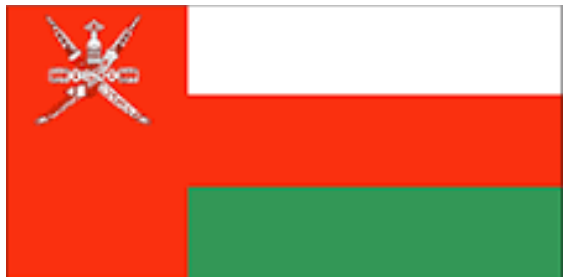
- **Iran**
- **Turkey**
- **Militant Islam** (Al-Qaeda, ISIS, Taliban, etc.)

Palestinian Case Plummets on the Arab Political Agenda

- Growing influence of **Palestinian Militant Islam groups** (Hamas, IJIP (Islamic Jihad in Palestine - the 2nd largest power in Gaza), etc.)
- Palestinian **Refusal to Compromise**
  - **With Israel** (Camp David Summit, 2000)
  - **With Each Other**
    - Since 2007 **Palestinian Inner-Split between Hamas** (which governs Gaza) & the **Palestinian Authority** (which governs parts of the West Bank).
- **Hamas & IJIP align with Iran & Turkey.**
- **Arab Criticism of Hamas'** Governance of Gaza.

The Alliance of Moderation

Bahrain, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, UAE



Israel is Viewed as a Valuable Strategic Partner for Axis

The Abraham Accords

UAE – ISRAEL NORMALIZATION AGREEMENT

Announced on August 13, 2020
Signed in Washington, DC on September 15, 2020
Ratified by the Israeli Knesset on October 15, 2020

- Peace Treaty
- Diplomatic Relations
- Full Normalization of Relations

ISRAEL – BAHRAIN NORMALIZATION AGREEMENT

Announced on September 11, 2020
Signed in Washington, DC on September 15, 2020

- Declaration of Peace
- Cooperation & Constructive Diplomatic and Friendly Relations

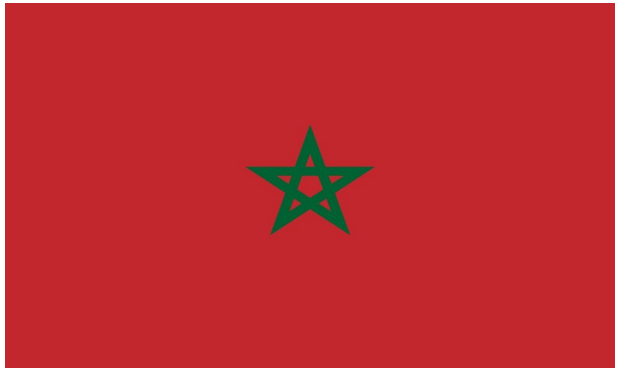
Normalization Agreements

SUDAN

Announced on October 23, 2020

MOROCCO

Announced on December 10, 2020



The Restructured Geopolitical Landscape of the Middle East

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

GREECE, CYPRUS, ISRAEL

EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA, UAE

IRANIAN CORRIDOR & GAZA

EGYPT, ISRAEL, JORDAN

SAUDI ARABIA, UAE

THE RED SEA

ISRAEL, EGYPT, JORDAN

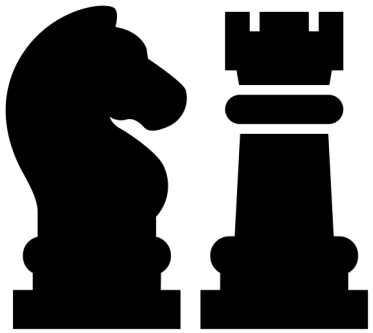
SAUDI ARABIA, UAE

THE ARABIAN SEA

ISRAEL, EGYPT

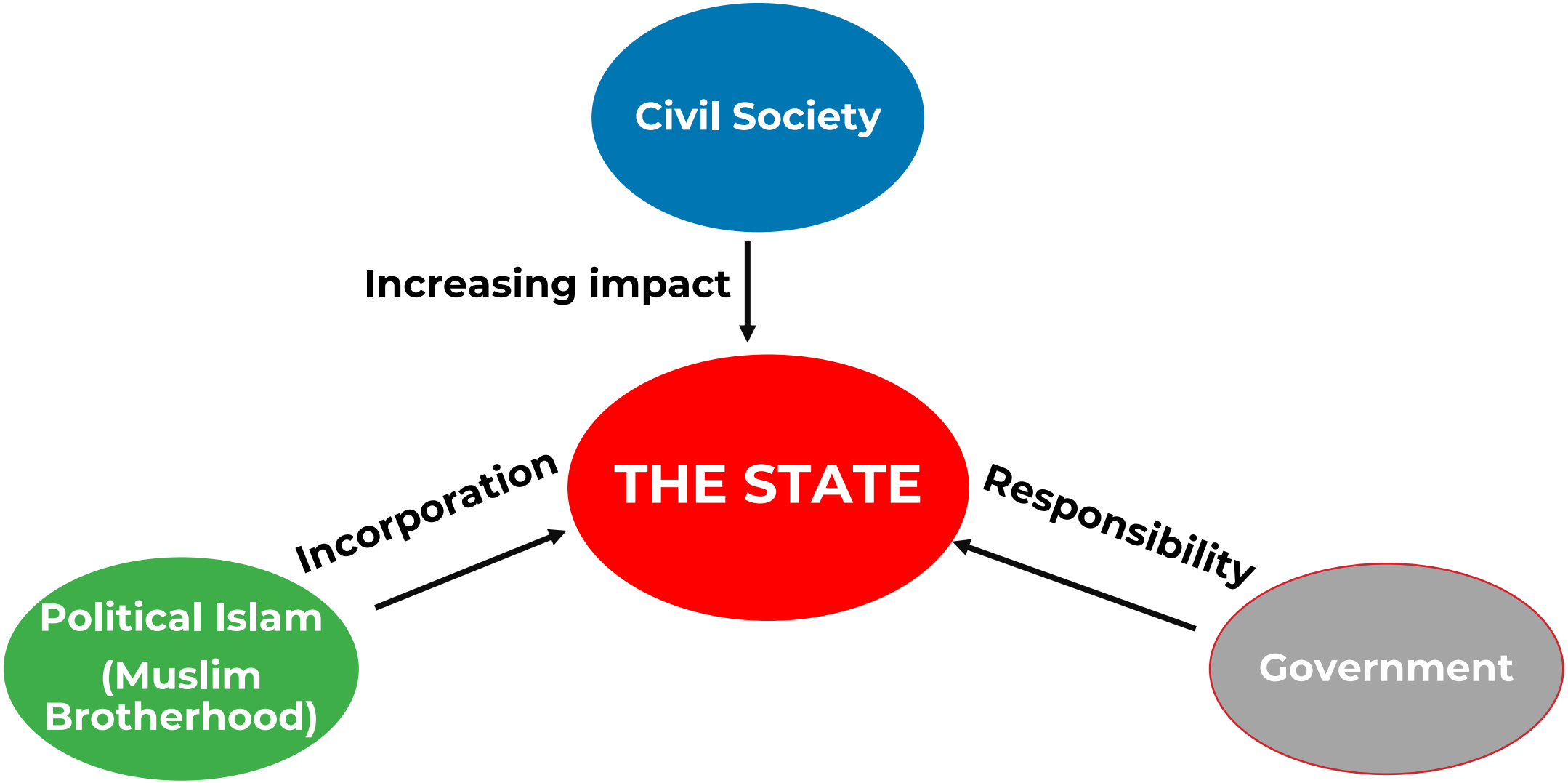
SAUDI ARABIA, UAE

Middle East Chess Board - 21st Century

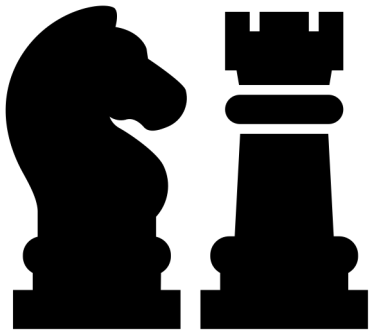


3. Seeds for Potential New Statehood Model

2021 - Seeds of a New Statehood Model?



| Middle East Chess Board - 21st Century



4. End of Western Hegemony & Entering the Era of "Pax China"

Western Policy versus Chinese Policy

WESTERN POLICY

IdealPolitik versus

RealPolitk

Multi-Focus

Decentralized

Gradual Disengagement

CHINESE POLICY

RealPolitik

Singular-focused

Centralized

Rapid Engagement

Western Policy versus Chinese Policy

The Restructured Geopolitical Landscape of the Middle East

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

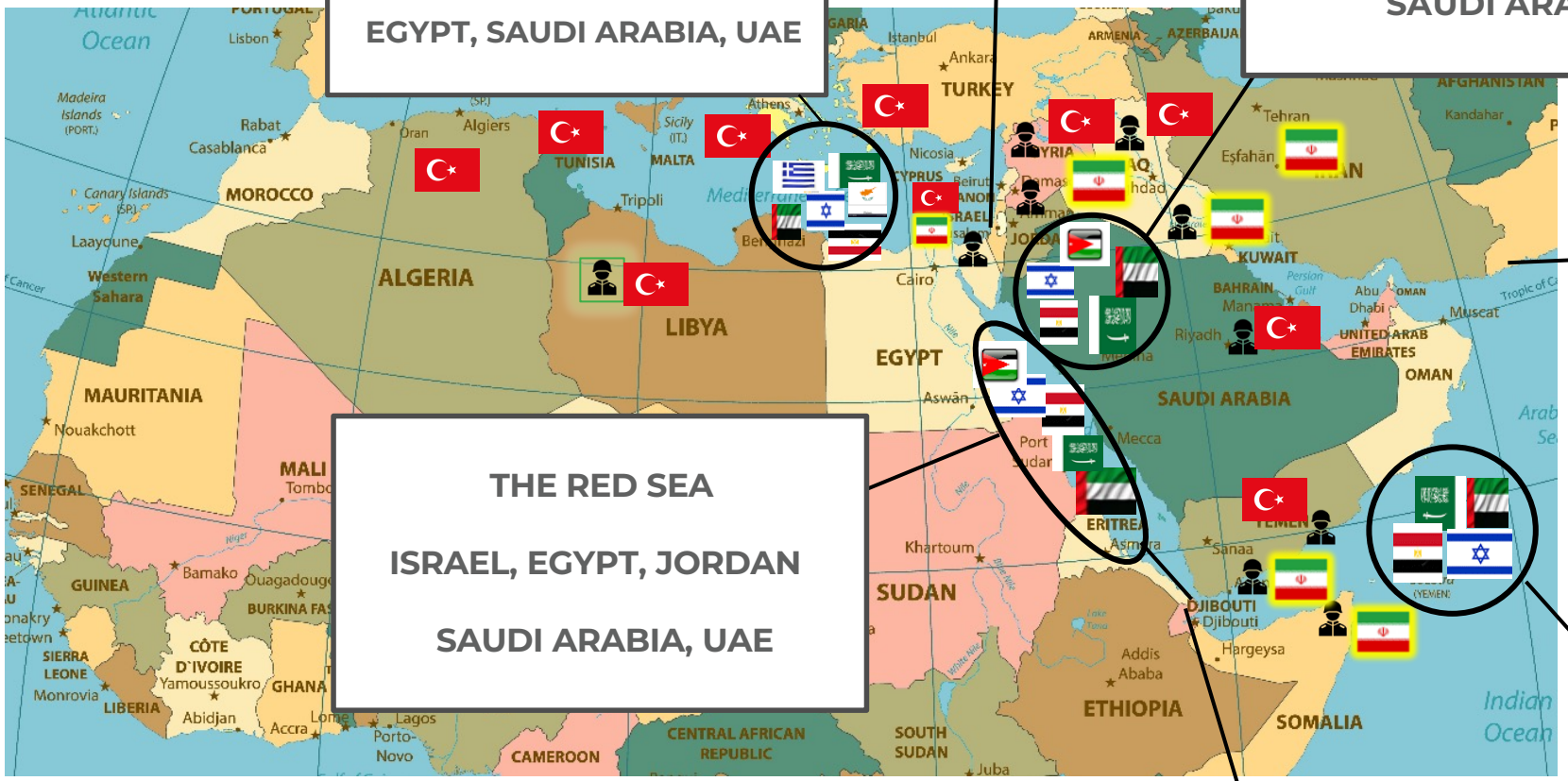
GREECE, CYPRUS, ISRAEL

EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA, UAE

IRANIAN CORRIDOR & GAZA

EGYPT, ISRAEL, JORDAN

SAUDI ARABIA, UAE



THE RED SEA

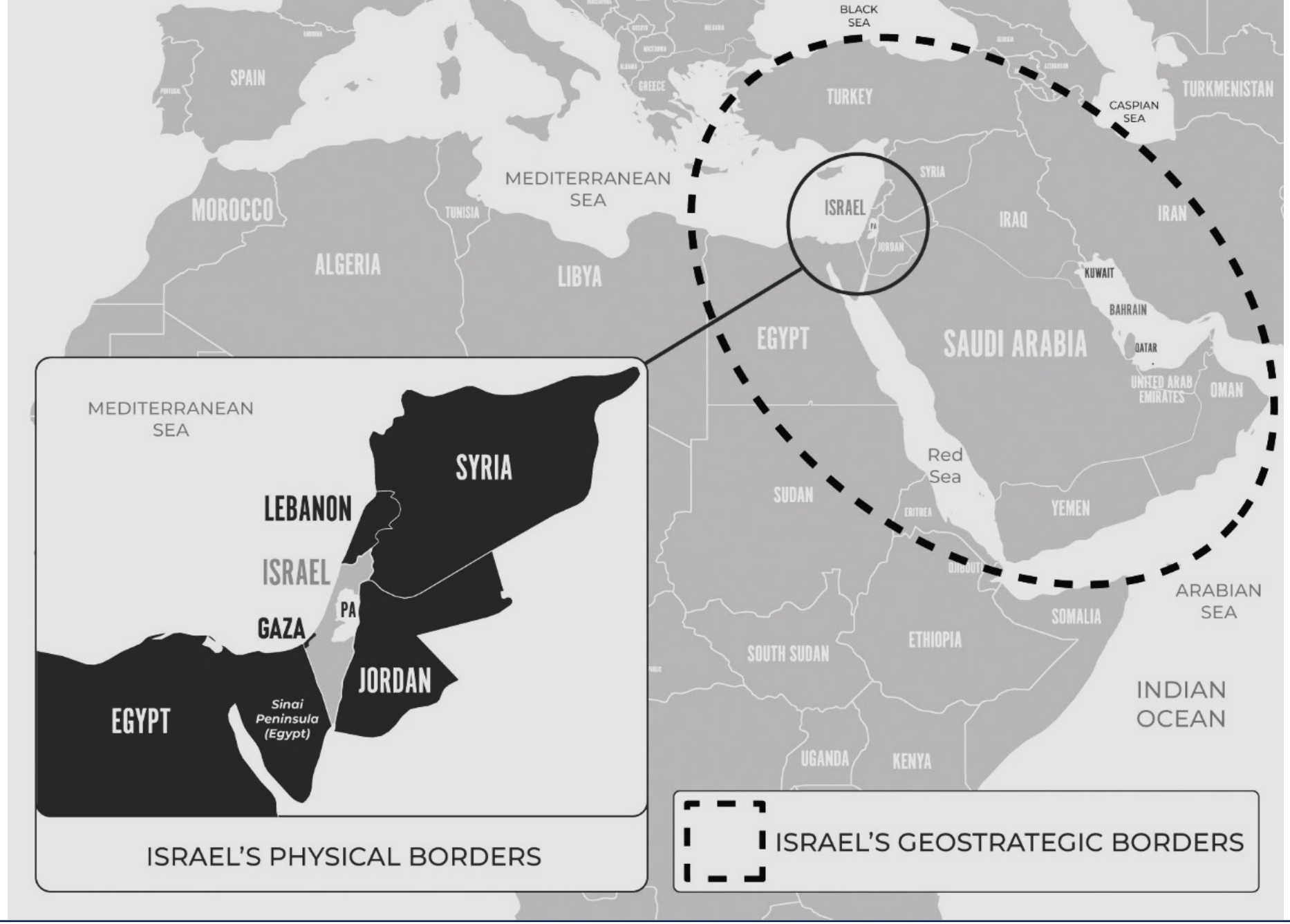
ISRAEL, EGYPT, JORDAN

SAUDI ARABIA, UAE

THE ARABIAN SEA

ISRAEL, EGYPT

SAUDI ARABIA, UAE


BLACK SEA
SPAIN
GREECE
TURKEY
CASPIAN SEA
TURKMENISTAN
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
MOROCCO
TUNISIA
ALGERIA
LIBYA
SYRIA
ISRAEL
PA
JORDAN
IRAQ
IRAN
KUWAIT
BAHRAIN
QATAR
EGYPT
SAUDI ARABIA
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
OMAN
Red Sea
SUDAN
ERITREA
YEMEN
DJIBOUTI
SOMALIA
ARABIAN SEA
ETHIOPIA
SOUTH SUDAN
INDIAN OCEAN
UGANDA
KENYA
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
SYRIA
LEBANON
ISRAEL
PA
GAZA
JORDAN
EGYPT
Sinai Peninsula (Egypt)
ISRAEL'S PHYSICAL BORDERS
ISRAEL'S GEOSTRATEGIC BORDERS

The Middle East Ahead – My Predictions

- A Complex Equilibrium Between Regional Forces Resulting in - among other things - the Strengthening of the Foundations of the Abraham Accords.
- The Potential Emergence of a New Statehood Model in Some Arab Countries.
- The Continuation of Unrest and Turbulence due to:
  - Struggle Over Path and Direction in the Arab World
  - Fight for Independence (Iraq, Lebanon, Syria)
  - Economic, Social & Environmental Challenges
- The End Of Western Hegemony & the Rise of China & India as major players in the Region.

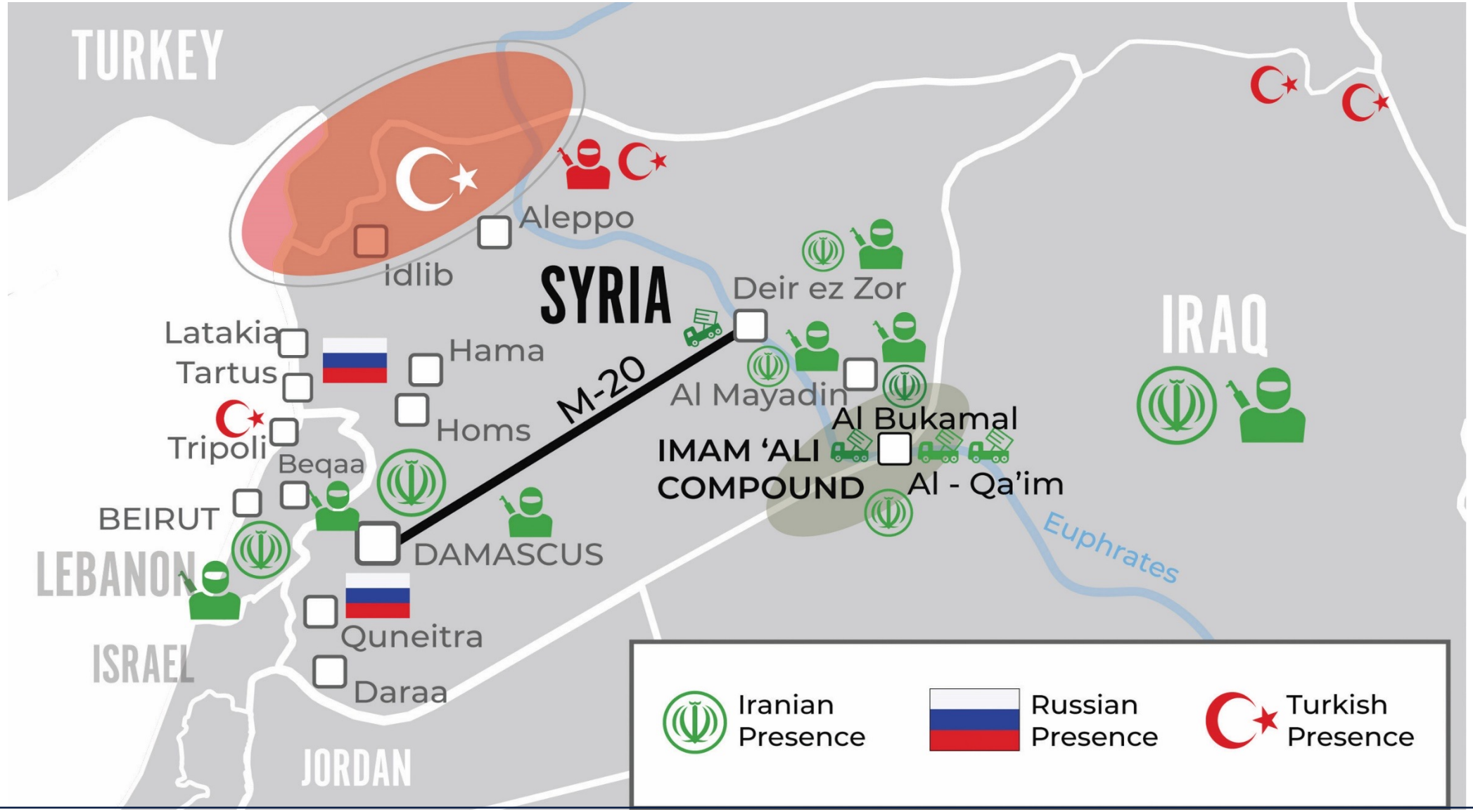
| The War in Ukraine & the Middle East | Immediate Ramifications

- Allies of the West "WALKING BETWEEN THE RAINDROPS" Policy.
- ECONOMIC IMPACT Middle Eastern countries import most wheat & grain from Russia & Ukraine. Price increases and basic commodity shortages add to the challenges of the economies. Added burden may increase growing hardships of and fuel discontent, which could lead to severe upheaval in these countries.
- Impact on the Trajectory of the Vienna Negotiations vis-à-vis IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM is UNCLEAR.
- Boosts tendency of US allies in the region to develop and enhance their own SELF-DEFENSE AND DETERRENCE CAPABILITIES.

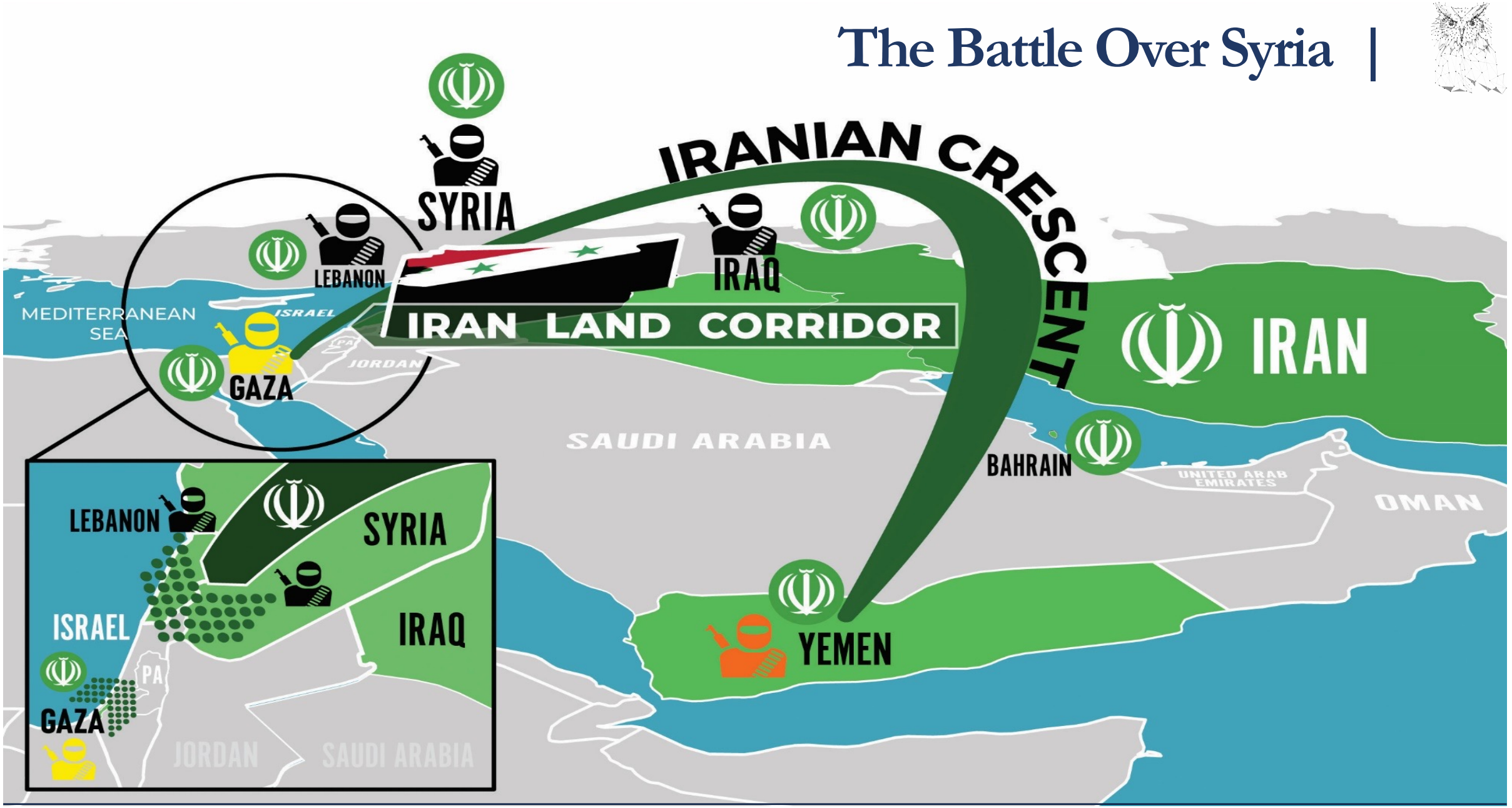
| The War in Ukraine & the Middle East | Immediate & Long-term Potential Ramifications

- The War Further **BOOSTS** the **ARMS RACE** in the Middle East
- The War **STRENGTHENS** the Foundations of the “ALLIANCE OF MODERATION”
- Will the WEST **REEVALUATE** its TOLERANT POLICY towards IRAN’S threats ?

The Battle Over Syria



The Battle Over Syria |



Inside The Middle East

For Any Questions Please Contact me:

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