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**Foreign Policies of  
Middle East States**  

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**EDITED BY**

**Raymond Hinnebusch**

**AND**

**Anoushiravan Ehteshami**

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ANOUSHIRAVAN EHTESHAMI

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## Contents

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## Preface

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This volume grew out of a meeting at the University of St. Andrews convened to develop a book badly needed to fill a gap in the study of Middle East foreign policy. The only multicase text in the field, Korany and Dessouki's seminal *Foreign Policies of Arab States*, had gone out of print and had not, in any case, included the major non-Arab actors making up the Middle East system. There was thus a need for a text that would combine an analysis of the Middle East regional system with case studies of how different individual states responded to a similar environment.

The first task of the project was to generate an analytical framework that would incorporate enough of a consensus on the key variables to allow systematic comparison of the country cases while avoiding imposition of an overly rigid and artificial symmetry. This framework, though presented in this book by Raymond Hinnebusch, is the outcome of a collaborative effort involving both the preparation of country studies and interchanges at the St. Andrews meeting that reached a rough, albeit by no means complete, agreement.

This consensus could be described as a modified form of realism. The insecurity of the regional arena was thought to remain the predominant factor shaping Middle East foreign policies, which exhibited with considerable regularity a realist preoccupation with power. While constraints on foreign policy from economic relations with the developed great powers were acknowledged, the group concluded that this asymmetrical interdependence left considerable autonomy to states in the choice of their foreign policies. Moreover, while policymakers could ignore neither transstate identities such as Arabism and Islam nor domestic opposition, several decades of state formation had given decisionmakers

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