

8/ American Policy in the Middle East

Acronyms and abbreviations

CSCME: China State Construction Engineering Corporation Middle East

GCC: Gulf Cooperation Council

IRGC: Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps

PLO: Palestinian Liberation Organization

UNDP: United Nations Development Program

Intifada: The Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip since 1987

Oslo Accords: A pair of agreements between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO): the Oslo I Accord signed in Washington, D.C. in 1993; and the Oslo II Accord signed in Taba, Egypt in 1995

Praetorian Regimes: Excessive political influence of the armed guard in a country

Shi'a Islam: The second largest denomination of Islam, constituting 15-20% of the world's Muslim population and 40% of the Middle East's entire population. The Shi'a divided with the Sunnis over the proper successor of the Prophet Muhammad

Glossary

Arab Spring: A series of pro-democracy uprisings in the Arab world that began in early 2011 with protests in Tunisia. These movements led to the ousting of leaders in Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, and Yemen. Uprisings also erupted in Bahrain and Syria, as well as in Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, and Sudan.

Axis of Resistance: The Iranian-led political and military coalition in the Middle East committed to countering the influence of the U.S. and Israel in the region

Hormuz Peace Initiative: A plan by Iran to establish security in the region