

## Persian Gulf Security

### Acronyms and abbreviations

**GCC-** Gulf Cooperation Council

**ICJ-** International Court of Justice

**IRGC-** Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps

**ISIS-** Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (also called ISIL)

**JCPOA-** Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action

**MBS-** Mohammed bin Salman

**UAE-** United Arab Emirates

**UNRWA-** United Nations Relief and Works Agency

**WMD-** Weapon of Mass Destruction

**Al-Qaeda-** A terrorist organization of militants, jihadists, and extremists founded in 1988. Spanning across several countries, Al Qaeda's aim is to create an orthodox Muslim world and eradicate other religions and belief systems, including more liberal ideologies in Islam. They have been responsible for many terrorist attacks, large and small, throughout the world, including the 9/11 attacks in the United States.

**Arab Spring-** 2010 revolutions in North Africa and the Middle East that protested low quality of life in these countries due to governments and regimes. It spread via social media and sparked public protests, uprisings, riots, and conflict, often leading to regime change.

**Ayatollah Khamenei-** The current and second Supreme Leader of Iran, since 1989, he is the most powerful leader in Iran, and highly influential in diplomatic relations and policy decisions.

**Dual containment-** was a United States foreign policy under the Clinton administration that looked to contain both Iran and Iraq after the U.S. Gulf War.

**Hosni Mubarak-** President of Egypt from 1981 until the Egyptian Revolution in 2011. Mubarak is serving a three-year prison sentence on a corruption conviction.

**Iran Revolution-** was the 1979 movement within Iran that deposed Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and led to the new Islamic Republic of Iran under Ayatollah Khomeini.

**Jamal Khashoggi-** A Saudi Arabia-born journalist, a columnist for The Washington Post, who was assassinated in the Saudi Arabian consulate in Istanbul, Turkey, on October 2, 2018. His death is thought to have been ordered by the Saudi prince and leader, Mohammad bin Salman.

### Glossary

**Abraham Accords-** refers to agreements between Israel, United States and the nations of Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates normalizing relations between the nations. The agreement was reached on August 13, 2020.

**Jared Kushner-** is the Senior Advisor to President Donald Trump. Kushner was given charge of the Middle East Peace Process looking to normalize relations between Israel and the rest of the Middle East.

**Mohamad Bin Salman-** The crown prince and current prime minister of Saudi Arabia who was recently accused of ordering the assassination of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

**President Hassan Rouhani-** Current and third President of Iran since 2013, and re-elected in 2017. He is known as a part of the moderate party and for striving to improve Iran's diplomatic relations

**Qasem Sulaymani-** was a major general in the IRGC and commander of the Quds Force. Sulaymani was killed on January 3, 2020 by a U.S. drone strike.

**Saddam Hussein-** Iraqi President from 1979 to 2003. He was executed in Iraq in 2003 for crimes against humanity and was known for being inhumane in his invasions of neighboring countries.

**Shia Crescent-** refers to the region in the Persian Gulf stretching from Bahrain to Lebanon in a crescent shape and all nations are majority Shi'a Muslims. The Crescent includes Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Iran and Bahrain.

**U.S. Fifth Fleet-** is the fleet within the United States Navy that is deployed to the Persian Gulf. It is headquartered at the U.S. Naval Command in Bahrain.

**Yemen Civil War-** is an ongoing conflict that began in late 2014 and has been a proxy conflict between the regional powers of Iran and Saudi Arabia.

