

Geopolitical Dynamics in the Middle East (The New Decade)

Dr. Nabaah Ihsan

Department of Strategic Studies, College of Political Science, Al-Nahrain University, Iraq

Abstract

The geopolitical dynamics of the Middle East in the new decade reflect a complex interplay of shifting alliances, emerging power centers, and the redefinition of traditional security and economic frameworks. The region is undergoing transformations driven by global competition, regional rivalries, and the growing influence of non-state actors. Factors such as energy security, technological competition, and the ramifications of climate change introduce additional layers to an already intricate geopolitical environment. Furthermore, external powers—including the United States, Russia, and China—continue to exert significant influence on regional trajectories, shaping political orientations and strategic calculations. Intra-regional relations, marked by normalization initiatives, renewed tensions, and fragile cooperative efforts, remain central to understanding the evolving landscape. A comprehensive assessment of these dynamics requires an interdisciplinary analytical approach that integrates political, economic, and security dimensions. The decade ahead is poised to bring about a reconfiguration of Middle Eastern geopolitics, where adaptability and strategic recalibration will play defining roles in determining the stability, agency, and influence of both state and non-state actors.

Keywords: Geopolitical, dynamics, the Middle East