Regional transformation in West Asia; A new step towards regional integration

Hamid Hakim[1], Ali Mohammad Khalili[2]*, Saeed Gholami[3]

[1] Associate Professor, Department of International Relations, Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran (hhakim@atu.ac.ir)
[*2] Master's degree graduate in International Relations, Islamic Azad University of Mashhad, Mashhad, Iran (Corresponding Author: ali.m.khalili2090@gmail.com)
[3] Master's degree graduate in Middle East and North Africa regional studies, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran(politicgholami@gmail.com)

Article Info	ABSTRACT
	Background and Objective: The recent resumption of political talks between Iran and Saudi Arabia signals a notable shift in the traditionally tense relations among major Middle Eastern powers and reflects a broader regional trend toward pragmatic cooperation and engagement. This development has coincided with a reexamination of foreign policy orientations among key regional actors. Against this backdrop, the present study aims to examine the evolution of foreign policy approaches in Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey, and to analyze the emerging dynamics of convergence among rival states in West Asia. **Method:** This study adopts a qualitative, descriptive–analytical approach. It analyzes the behavior and performance of regional actors in light of changing foreign policy discourses. The research draws on relevant Persian and English sources and employs conceptual analysis to develop an analytical framework for understanding the processes of discussion and decision-making through which political leaders pursue convergence in foreign policy. **Findings:** The findings indicate that convergence among rival states can be understood through both situational and process-oriented dimensions. Convergence emerges as a strategic objective whereby states seek to construct new diplomatic consensus based on shared political goals and functional coordination. The analysis shows that shifts in foreign policy discourse, reassessment of national interests, and recognition of common regional challenges play a central role in facilitating this process. **Conclusion:** The study concludes that rival states are more likely to adopt convergent foreign policy positions when they perceive regional instability and lack of collective progress as shared threats, leading them to prioritize de-escalation, redefine strategic interests, and commit to cooperative principles. Such convergence contributes to regional stability and fosters mutually beneficial engagement among major actors in West Asia. **Keywords:** convergence, foreign policy, geopolitics, West Asia.

تحول منطقه‌یی در آسیای غربی؛ گامی نو در مسیر هم‌گرایی منطقه‌یی

حمید حکیم[۱]، علی محمد خلیلی[۲]*، سعید غلامی[۳]

[۱]*. دانش‌یار، گروه روابط بین‌الملل، دانش‌کده/ پوهنزی حقوق و علوم سیاسی، دانش‌گاه/ پوهنتون علامه طباطبائی، تهران، ایران (hhakim@atu.ac.ir)

[۲]. فــارغ‌التحصــیل مقطــع کارشناســی ارشــد روابــط بــین‌الملــل، دانــش‌گــاه/ پوهنتــون آزاد اســلامی واحــد مشــهد، مشــهد، ایــران (نویســندهٔ مســؤول: ali.m.khalili2090@gmail.com)

[۳]. فــارغ‌التحصــیل مقطــع کارشناســی ارشــد مطالعــات منطقه‌یــی خاورمیانــه و شــمال آفریقــا، دانش‌گــاه/ پوهنتــون علامــه طباطبائــی، تهــران، ایــران (politicgholami@gmail.com)

چکیده	اطلاعات مقاله
زمینه و هدف: ازسرگیری اخیر گفت‌وگوهای سیاسی میان ایران و عربستان سعودی نشان‌دهندهٔ تغییری معنادار در روابط سنتاً پرتنش میان قدرت‌های عمدهٔ خاورمیانه است؛ و بازتاب‌دهندهٔ رونــدی گسترده‌تر در سطح منطقه به‌سوی هم‌کاری و تعامل عمـل‌گرایانـه بـه‌شـمار مـی‌رود. ایـن تحـول هم‌زمان با بازاندیشی در جهت‌گیری‌های سیاست خارجیِ بازیگران کلیدی منطقه رخ داده اسـت. در این چارچوب، پژوهش حاضر کوشیده تحول رویکردهـای سیاسـت خـارجی در ایـران، عربسـتان سعودی و ترکیه را بررسی کند و پویایی‌های نوظهورِ هم‌گرایی میان دولت‌هـای رقیـب در آسیـای غربی را تحلیل نماید.

روش: این پژوهش با رویکرد کیفی و به‌شیوهٔ توصیفی— تحلیلی انجام شده اسـت. در آن، رفتـار و عمل‌کرد بازیگران منطقه‌یی در پرتو دگرگونی گفتمان‌هـای سیاسـت خـارجی تحلیـل مـی‌شـود. داده‌های پژوهش از منابع معتبر فارسی و انگلیسی گردآوری شده و با بهره‌گیری از تحلیل مفهومی، چارچوبی تحلیلی برای فهم فرایندهای گفت‌وگو و تصمیم‌گیری ارائه مـی‌گـردد، کـه از طریـق آن رهبران سیاسی در پی تحقق هم‌گرایی در سیاست خارجی‌اند.

یافته‌ها: یافته‌ها نشان می‌دهد که هم‌گرایی میان دولت‌های رقیب را می‌توان از دو بُعد مـوقعیتی و فرایندمحور فهم کرد. هم‌گرایی به‌منزلهٔ هدفی راهبردی پدیدار می‌شود که در آن دولت‌ها می‌کوشند بر پایهٔ اهداف سیاسی مشترک و هماهنگی کارکردی، اجماعی دیپلُماتیکِ نوین بنا نهند. تحلیل‌هـا حاکی از آن است که دگرگونی در گفتمان سیاسـت خـارجی، بازارزیـابی منـافع ملّـی و شناسـایی چالش‌های مشترک منطقه‌یی، نقشی محوری در تسهیل این فرایند ایفا می‌کند.

نتیجه‌گیری: پژوهش نتیجه می‌گیرد که دولت‌های رقیب هنگامی بیش‌تر به اتخاذ مواضع هـم‌گـرا |

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در سیاست خارجی گرایش می‌یابند که بی‌ثباتی منطقه‌یی و فقــدان پـیش‌رفـت جمعـی را بـه‌مثابـهٔ تهدیدهایی مشترک ادراک کنند؛ امری که آنان را به اولویت‌دادن به کاهش تنش، بازتعریف منـافع راهبردی و تعهد به اصول هم‌کاری سوق می‌دهد. چنین هم‌گرایی‌یی بـه تقویـت ثبـات منطقـه‌یـی کمک می‌کند و زمینه‌ساز تعاملات متقابلِ سودمند میان بازیگران عمدهٔ آسیای غربی می‌شود.

کلیدواژه‌ها: آسیای غربی، ژئوپولیتیک، سیاست خارجی، هم‌گرایی.

1. Introduction

Southwest Asia is often regarded as a very significant area globally due to its energy resources, geopolitical location, and strategic importance. Over the past twenty years, despite significant events such as the American military involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq, the civil wars in Syria and Yemen, and the Palestinian crisis, political leaders in this region have chosen to prioritize the policy of focusing on eastern countries. and initiate discussions with their neighboring countries. Security risks faced by individuals in the form of terrorist organizations. The intervention of non-local forces in the domestic affairs of countries prompted government officials to engage in negotiations and discussions to resolve their issues. Governments in the area implemented foreign policy adjustments aimed at fostering collaboration, effectively resolving security concerns and tensions. Consequently, they made concerted efforts to build contacts via various means. The area saw a significant turning point with the initiation of a trilateral conference between the governments of Saudi Arabia and Iran. Access West Asia. The theory of convergence is commonly regarded as a relevant approach in the study of regionalism and regional convergence. Consequently, it allows for the examination of fundamental aspects of convergence, such as cooperation, stability, and development within a specific region. This perspective can be applied to analyze the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The area is endeavoring to discover a resolution to terminate this conflict.

The termination of diplomatic ties between Saudi Arabia and Israel, prompted by the conflict between Hamas and Israel and its assault on the Gaza Strip, indicates Bin Salman's pursuit of unity among Arab states. In an effort to get European countries to intervene and halt the ongoing conflict, the Qatari government used the tactic of leveraging its control over energy resources as a means of coercion. The objective was to avert the unfolding humanitarian catastrophe. Other Middle Eastern states seek to foster mutual solidarity in the face of regional instability and chaos by denouncing and severing their ties with the Israeli government. The shift in foreign policy of the states signifies that the political leaders and governing elites inside the states have decided to align and engage with their neighboring countries in order to effectively handle their own national interests.

2. Theoretical Framework

Modern regionalism has emerged as a significant subject in the fields of social sciences, comparative politics, international economics, and international relations during the last

twenty years. Researchers in the domains of international relations and regional studies lack agreement in defining the idea of regionalism. The area is primarily characterized by a convergence of variables including close geographical proximity, extensive communication, established institutional frameworks, and shared cultural identities (Kolayi & Sazmand 146:2012). Regionalism may be defined as the dispersion and plurality of convergence, where economic and security policies coexist within a cultural framework (Zeinali Akhbari and Pourroshan 2019: 193).

Regionalism is a heterogeneous phenomenon that may be categorized into distinct waves or generations. The first wave of ideas and techniques concerning regionalism originated throughout the 1950s and 1960s, influenced by the geopolitical dynamics of the Cold War. The competition between the United States and the Soviet Union had a significant impact on the development of regionalism in the realms of security and economics at that time (Dehghani Firouzabadi, 2010:108).

An undeniable aspect of global politics in the post-World War II and Cold War era is the emergence and development of regional self-consciousness (Ghasemi 2016; 25). Regionalism is a complex phenomenon that is intertwined with the global structural development. Various significant elements are considered in its study. Modern regionalism encompasses a broad range of factors, primarily centered around social cohesion (such as language, ethnicity, race, culture, history, and shared heritage), economic convergence (including commercial patterns, regimes, and economic complementarity), and political integration (including regime type, ideology, and cultural context). These factors are analyzed to understand the extent of regionalism (Ghasemi, 2023; 27).

As a subfield of international relations, regional studies is one of the newest areas. Its significance is growing daily and is the result of many profound influences, such as economic communication and technology. The first question is, "When did the history of regionalism begin?" notwithstanding the many and evident flaws in the concept of regions and regionalism. However, regionalism really dates back to the years after World War II if we use the presence of official regional organizations rather than those at the world level as our first criteria for measurement (Ghasemi, 2012, 24–25).

Most of the time, regionalism is predicated on the degree of economic convergence (business patterns and regimes and economic complementarity), political integration (type of regime, ideology, and shared cultural contexts), organizational coherence (the presence of formal organizational institutions), and social cohesion (language, ethnicity, race, culture, religion, history, and awareness of common heritage) (Kolaei and Sazmand, 1393, 158). In essence, the area is the result of a process that began concurrently with the formation of the international system; in other words, the process of merging and merging into a more expansive entity has always been a prevalent trend in political history; However, the topic of international relations, and particularly regional studies, is which units and players with what in common might go through the process of regionalism (Qasemi, 2016;129).

Due to the prevalence of ideological security disparities and the influence of regional powers to demonstrate divergence in this area, the Middle East, as one of the regions in West Asia, is generally considered to be no exception to this. States have been forced to stand against one another due to certain conflicts, like the one in Yemen in Syria. However, the history of the sociopolitical developments in Europe following

World War II shows that, despite an increasing number of devastating wars, the Middle East has been moving toward convergence and is now the world's most converging region.

Convergence is regarded as one of the most significant topics in international relations, and this strategy is implemented globally. Individuals such as David Mitrani and Ernest Haas consistently stress the luck of convergence and attempt to build communication in order to arrive at a rational agreement. The interests that get the response from convergence first take them closer to this path of action. Benefits of this process include stronger negotiating power, fewer disputes, and economic success. One way to speed up convergence connections is via the creation of economic initiatives that draw on historical and cultural similarities. Broadly speaking, convergence refers to a relationship type in which political entities and government players exhibit novel behaviors (Zeinali Akhbari and Pourroshan 2023, 9).

The importance and necessity of research
In order to properly understand and analyze the decisions and behaviors of the governments in the region, it is necessary to look at this approach and the behavior of the governments in light of the changing roles and approaches in the West Asian region as well as the process of convergence and convergence of the governments to a great extent. Thus, this problem has been addressed in this study.

3. Research Method
To analyze the influences on and significance of the development and convergence of regional and foreign policies in Southwest Asia, the present research employs a descriptive-analytical qualitative approach. The researcher will analyze the political and diplomatic interactions that exist between key nations in the region, as well as the relationship of these nation-states to the security context in the region, through a theory of convergence. A combination of academic articles, governmental documents, news articles, and scholarship that discuss conflicts, diplomacy, and foreign policy within the region provides secondary data that supports the research. This research will focus on Saudi Arabia, Iran, Israel, and the Palestine Authority, and other major countries in the region, and the comparative and interpretive nature of the research will be facilitated by examining how the crises that occur in the region, coupled with the threats of security and foreign intervention, influence the behavior of the state and lead to increased degrees of alignment, cooperation, and communication among the nations of the region.

4. Research background
The relevant works pertaining to the research's background are separated into two categories: those that are related to the foreign policy shifts among regional governments and those that are related to their convergence and significant shared characteristics. These categories are listed in the table below.

Topic	Authors	Year	Title
The primary focus of this article is the significant changes in Saudi Arabia's foreign policy and economic structure brought about by Mohammed bin Salman's ascent to power.	Emadi	2023	The horizon of developments in Saudi Arabia with the kingdom of

This new outlook in the most significant Arab nation has prompted other governments to participate in the development process.			Mohammed bin Salman
This study aims to identify the variables that have led to the convergence of certain regions and the failure of others. A four-dimensional dialectical model that can fill in all the gaps and provide the required foundation for the transition to convergence among regional players is essential to understanding the convergence problem in West Asia.	Najafi Sayar & Mr. Masoumi Zare	2023	The dialectical pattern of transition from divergence and transition to convergence in the West Asian region
In spite of some geopolitical similarities, this article identifies geopolitical factors as the cause of the divergence or convergence of West Asian countries, and it holds that this area might still experience the process of convergence.	Mokhtari Hashi & Ghaderi Hajat	2019	Geopolitical analysis of the opportunities and challenges of convergence in the West Asian region
The Persian Gulf, the Mediterranean Sea, and other strategic elements in Southwest Asia, according to the authors of this article, can make the region more significant. Furthermore, even though Iran is the primary axis in the process of convergence, Iran plays a significant role in creating a coherent structure.	Pishgahi Fard & Alizadeh	2019	Investigating the new pattern of regional convergence in Southwest Asia
According to Went, the boundless interests of global powers are the root cause of the chaos that results from government policies and actions inside the international system. In a same vein, the governments themselves choose to communicate and work together to accomplish their objectives when it comes to the creation of the area.	Wendt	1999	Anarchy is what state make of it
The authors of this essay discuss how powerful elites and political leaders might shift their perspectives in order to accomplish their objectives. This results in the necessity for collaboration in the regional order as well as political consensus and coherence amongst the governments in the area. This shift in perspective about foreign policy demonstrates the ability of governments to advance toward convergence and unity.	Geld Bohner and Michaela wanke	2019	Attitudes and attitude change

5. West of Asia

One of the most significant and influential areas in the world system is seen to be West Asia. The countries of Syria, Jordan, Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, Lebanon, Iran, Georgia, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Yemen, Palestine, Jordan, Bahrain, and Iraq are included in this area, which stretches from west to east between Egypt and Iran, as well as to the north and south of China, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia. Powers have historically

been present in West Asia due to Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, and Qatar's strategic and geopolitical significance (Habibi and Pourahmadi, 2013: 6). Because of this, West Asia is often considered to be a component of Eurasia, and in other circumstances, it also includes a tiny portion of North Africa. This area has grown in strategic and political significance throughout time, making it more than just a geographical interpretation (Janparvar, Ghorbani and Rouzbeh, 2022: 15).

This area is regarded as the hub of the Islamic world, with over 90% of its population being Muslims. Due to its strategic position and abundant energy resources, this area is particularly significant. In actuality, Africa and Asia are the centers of gravity on the European continent. The combination of rich plains, plateaus, roughness, etc., in terms of roughness (Yaqubi et al. 2020). The Soviet Union and the United States competed with one another throughout the Cold War; one tiny illustration of this rivalry between the two countries is West Asia (Freeman, 2021: 1).

6. Convergence

One of the most significant topics in international relations is convergence, and in a sense, this strategy is being observed everywhere. Individuals such as David Mitrani and Ernest Haas consistently highlight the need of convergence and attempt to build communication in order to arrive at a rational agreement. In fact, governments are encouraged to go in this path by the advantages that come with convergence. The advantages of this process include strengthening negotiating power, lowering conflict, and fostering economic success. When we consider the European Union, it is among the areas where we can see the experience of convergence, where the fact that certain circumstances and elements exist in several geographic places demonstrates how it was established and succeeded. In order to accelerate convergence connections, historical and cultural similarities as well as the creation of economic plans might act as a trigger. Broadly speaking, convergence refers to a relationship type in which political entities and government players exhibit novel behaviors (Zeinali Akhbari and Pourroshan, 2023: 9). One of the current factors may be West Asia, one of the areas with many shared religious, identity, and cultural ties. In keeping with the governments' collaboration with one another, the governing power's political elites see the presence of an interactive mindset as essential to the establishment of a region. In theory, governments freely amend their beliefs and ideals along the convergence route in order to build a foundation for mutual trust.

Within the framework of European convergence, countries such as France and Germany have actively promoted the adoption of religious diversity as a fundamental element in the divergence of their security, economic, political, and commercial strategies. However, the persistent and innovative economic system has not just resulted in convergence. On the contrary, it has escalated the extent of mistreatment. Presently, after many decades of the convergence process in Europe, we have seen the emergence of trendy titles for multinational entities that align with the desires of the public and oblige governments to adhere to Union regulations. Germany, Switzerland, and Austria have similar cultures and languages, allowing its citizens to easily live and work in any of these nations. Hence, the political elites' aspiration for collaboration and engagement may provide positive outcomes in several provinces, including the West Asian area. The presence of ideological disparities in security and the misrepresentation of national

authorities contribute to the variance seen in this area. The conflicts in Syria and Yemen serve as notable illustrations of political and societal disparities. The historical trajectory of political and social advancements in Europe after World War II demonstrates that. Amidst an increasing number of devastating conflicts in the Middle East. It approached convergence and took control of the most convergent area on Earth. The present administrations in the Middle East possess a collective recollection of the Iranian and Ottoman Empires' dominion. It may be argued that these two nations have the potential to build fruitful collaboration in fostering unity in the Middle East. The primary concept in regional and internal governments is the governments' determination to realize the collective will.

7. Transregional powers in the region of West Asia
7-1. America
Following the events of September 11, 2001, the United States prioritized a different strategy in its foreign policy. One of the United States' most significant initiatives in Asia was the war against terrorism. Following this, the country entered Afghanistan and Iraq in 2001 and 2003, but with the anticipated outcome not being reached after a few years, it withdrew from Iraq (Ceshmeh Soltani and Attar 2018: 147). There are indications that the United States of America is not inclined to become involved in regional crises and developments.

A: By bolstering the air force of the United States and its allies (Qatar and the United Arab Emirates), it was able to overthrow the Libyan government (Gaddafi) with the help of the opposing forces, demonstrating for the first time how the absence of direct intervention in the wars of the West Asian region can change intervention in regional developments (Krieg 2016). Syria also demonstrates America's lack of interest in getting involved in proxy conflicts between Saudi Arabia and Iran, as evidenced by President Barack Obama's early-war announcement at a press conference that he would act slowly to intervene if the Assad regime used chemical weapons. Iran's influence in the area, thus, was reflected in Syria as a counterbalance to Saudi Arabia, which saw itself as the head of the Arab world and constantly worked to thwart Iran's influence among the Arab countries (Kessler, 2013). Obama did not take any more action, despite taking stances on Syria in 2012 and 2013 (Northam, 2016).

B. The United States executed a military withdrawal from Iraq in December 2007. Obama said on August 21, 2010 that the military operation of the United States in Iraq has concluded, and the Iraqi population is now accountable for the protection of their nation (London, 2010). The justification of the American government is not possible (Narmura-Philip, 2017).

7-2. Russia
Following the collapse of the 1990s, this country had significant challenges in establishing a favorable global standing, unlike its achievements during the Cold War. The commencement of the 2011 and 2012 events signified a pivotal moment in Russia's foreign policy, particularly in relation to its involvement in the Syrian conflict. Some Russian scholars saw this as Russia's reemergence in the area (Arm and Barzegar, 2019: 284).

Russia perceives the era of events in the Middle East and West Asia in 2011 and 2012 as distinct. In the earlier time, there was a greater emphasis on economic incentives, but in the subsequent period, a more comprehensive security strategy was embraced. The shift in Russia's foreign policy towards the West Asian area is evident via its efforts to maintain regional stability, uphold the balance of power, and foster comprehensive collaboration with West Asian states.

The lack of a dominant regional force or hegemon has resulted in the emergence of extra-regional powers in the Middle East and West Asia. Russia has recognized its capacity to actively and significantly influence the Syrian issue, positioning itself as a challenger to the United States. Consequently, he regards his role in maintaining stability in this area as one of his top security concerns.

Moscow is aware that failure to address the Syrian situation decisively might result in complications with the United States and its allies, jeopardizing its strategic stability, similar to the events that unfolded in Libya. Thus, during the Syrian crisis, Assad used maximum effort to demonstrate his influence in the West Asian and Middle Eastern area (Swaine, 2012: 8).

7-3. China

China's economy has seen significant expansion over the last three decades, establishing the nation as a prominent global player (Ghafarzadeh, Amiri, and Shabanzadeh, 2023: 3).

Amidst the regional events and the civil conflicts in Syria and Yemen, along with Saudi Arabia's provocations against the Qatari government, China adopted a non-interventionist stance and primarily aimed to secure its energy supply from the area. China derives 60% of its energy from this area, and in order to promote its economy, it is essential for China to have a consistent and engaged presence in the region (Adabi and Kiani 2018: 10).

China views West Asia and Central Asia as strategically important locations for leveraging their markets to promote the sale of its exports. The purpose of this is to instill fear in America over its power and growth (Mashin 2020: 4), and it attempts to interfere. There is a belief that the ongoing American presence in the Persian Gulf may be attributed to China's development into West Asia. The governments of West Asia are aware that the presence of external powers can lead to long-term tension and threats. Therefore, they are altering their foreign policy to foster convergence by establishing both bilateral and multilateral relations.

8. Regional powers and foreign policy change

Yemen has consistently experienced internal and foreign crises, characterized by conflicts of interest and political disputes with some countries in the area, including Saudi Arabia and Israel. The prevalence of regional powers in various global regions, particularly in the Middle East and West Asia, underscores the significance of this area in the foreign policies of external powers. These powers consistently strive to exert substantial influence in the region's affairs, aiming to capitalize on their presence in alignment with their national interests. Undoubtedly, the presence of substantial oil and gas reserves in this area, coupled with the economies of the region's governments being reliant on a single product, has resulted in their dependence on Western technology.

Recognizing this, they endeavor to safeguard their interests in these regions. However, recent shifts in foreign policy have brought about changes in this dynamic. There is now a notable trend of improved relations and collaboration in economic, political, and security domains among the governments of West Asia and the Middle East. Examining the foreign policies of significant players in West Asia, such as Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey, we see a trend of convergence as they endeavor to enhance their diplomatic ties.

8-1. Saudi Arabia

This country with a population of more than 36 million people is one of the most important countries in West Asia for two reasons

The most influential country in this region is:

1- After Venezuela, this country has the second largest oil reserves. 18% of the world's oil is in this country, and it has increased the economic capacities of this country.

2- The existence of the cities of Mecca and Medina are considered as one of the most important cities in the Islamic world, and many people come to these cities for religious rituals every year.

Under the leadership of Mohammad bin Salman, there has been a significant transformation in internal, regional, and international politics in recent years. These developments have initiated a transformation in Saudi Arabia, leading to the abandonment of several historic customs and the outward manifestations of Islam. Due to a shift in foreign policy from conservatism to aggression, Saudi Arabia encountered significant security challenges, notably the crises in Syria and Yemen. The change in the Obama administration in the United States prompted Saudi Arabia to revise its regional priorities and adjust its foreign policy accordingly. The individuals constructed and tried to establish favorable policies with regard to their neighboring entities (Emadi, 2023: 2).

8-2. Changing foreign policy, a new step in the future of Saudi Arabia

Foreign policy encompasses a government's capacity to pursue goals aligned with its core principles. Consequently, alterations in a country's foreign policy may reflect shifts in its fundamental values and interests. Saudi Arabia is pursuing two objectives by adopting a fresh strategy in foreign policy. The dimension is both tangible and significant. It seeks to enhance its regional influence by acquiring new interests, aiming to build a counterbalance to regional powers like Turkey and Iran. Additionally, it aims to bolster its political legitimacy domestically (Pirzadi, 2023: 2). Within the constructivist theoretical framework, there exists a connection between the home and international realms of nations, as well as their interests and the instruments they use in foreign policy. Hence, the internal and external factors of foreign policy have a significant influence on its formation.

The emergence of certain changes in the area led to Saudi Arabia being seen as an interventionist, resulting in Turkey and Iran confronting it. Saudi Arabia faced unfavorable circumstances due to its backing for rival factions inside the government or its involvement in a conflict, resulting in a challenging climate for the nation. Conversely, other countries see mathematics as a destabilizing force in the region, posing a threat to the interests of Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia successfully altered its foreign policy trajectory, resulting in regional benefits and a reduction in long-standing tensions stemming from decades of crises. The conference of the secretary of the Supreme Security Council of both nations took place in China, and it is seen as a pivotal moment in the region's progress. This conference demonstrates a shift towards the East and a departure from American influence. Both Iran and Saudi Arabia are striving to make significant and influential choices in the area by easing tensions amongst one other. As an example, the matter of Yemen is a situation where both nations have the potential to accomplish the intended outcome. However, Iran did not respond to the bombing of Aramco by the Yemeni government. Iran's response might be seen as a consequence of conflict, which Iran is displeased with and seeks to swiftly terminate. The method, in conjunction with political and security collaboration, has the potential to enhance the stability of the area by prioritizing regional integration without necessitating intervention. The presence of foreigners and the cessation of the fighting would alleviate the prevailing tension in the area.

The President of Egypt expressed his approval of the creation of ties between Saudi Arabia and Iran via a statement, deeming it a significant milestone for both countries. The Emir of Kuwait, Jaber Sabah, expressed his approval of the deal in a joint statement to the presidents of Iran and Saudi Arabia. He described the accord as constructive and emphasized its significance as a crucial development in the region.

UAE has expressed hope for establishing relations at the macro level and mentioned Tehran-Riyadh as the most important countries in the region.

The reasons that have led Riyadh to change its foreign policy can be listed as follows:

1. Throughout the period from 2011 to 2019, Saudi Arabia made efforts to exert influence over a series of events, including the Arab Spring, the civil wars in Syria and Yemen, with the aim of shaping regional dynamics in its own advantage. Saudi Arabia dedicated significant resources and efforts to address concerns regarding Iran's influence in supporting Ansar Allah in Yemen, as well as the alliances formed with Syria, Hezbollah, and the Muslim Brotherhood. These were perceived as security threats to Saudi Arabia, and the country prioritized preserving its leadership role among Arab states by addressing these issues (Pirzadi, 2023: 23).

2. Saudi Arabia aimed to safeguard its position and influence in the area by procuring military weapons from Western countries, particularly the United States, as a means of protecting itself against potential regional threats. The alteration in America's security and regional strategy has led to a sense of mistrust and a fresh perspective among political elites and governing leaders towards Western nations and the United States. Consequently, the shift in foreign policy was a result of Saudi Arabia's dependence on its capabilities and the notion of self-reliance. Conversely, the Western governments in the Middle East seek peace in order to further their objectives and exploit the resources of these nations. However, in recent years, these governments have been striving to preserve their regional autonomy, despite shared factors such as oil reserves and religion (Azizi et al. 2023: 104). In an effort to mitigate the growing dangers, the Riyadh administration sought to alter its foreign policy approach and start a process of prioritizing neighboring countries.

3. Significant changes have occurred with the arrival of Muhammad bin Salman. 1- The collapse of several institutions occurred under King Abdullah's rule, Saud al-Faisal was

removed from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after 40 years, and Adel Al-Jubeir was elected as his replacement. 2- the appointment of his younger brother as the crown prince and his nephew The appointment of Valid's successor constituted a fundamental alteration in the power hierarchy. Despite facing internal criticism, he has endeavored to establish a new societal framework in Saudi Arabia, implementing substantial reforms in order to reduce opposition within the ruling establishment (Pirzadi, 2023: 23).

4. The signing of the JCPOA between Iran and America will not only end Iran's isolation, but also allow Iran to utilize the remaining potential of the international community in the region and enhance its credibility. This will undoubtedly have a significant impact on the credibility of the Saudi region (Rashid-Al 2015:35). The current perspectives on the transformation of Saudi Arabia's foreign policy may be categorized into two distinct groups. 1- Focused on security Driven by a desire for power. Thus, Riyadh endeavors to preserve the equilibrium of influence in the area via the establishment of regional collaboration in the realms of political and economic security. The key aspect of the shift in foreign policy is that Riyadh has recognized that a decrease in the United States' presence in the region would negatively impact Saudi interests. Consequently, through an innovative maneuver in foreign policy, Saudi Arabia has implemented an unprecedented change in its historical foreign relations. It aims to serve as the foundation for achieving convergence throughout the area.

In spite of ongoing discussions among the West Asian powers, Riyadh has made the decision to extend invitations to all Arab nations, including Iran and Turkey, to participate in a summit aimed at addressing security problems and initiating an all-encompassing discourse.

8-3. Turkey

The examination of relations among governments dates back to the inception of nation-states (Sharifi and Gholami, 2019:8). In order to comprehend the essence of foreign policy, it is necessary to focus on the lucidity of the facts about national interests. Foreign policy is characterized by unique attributes and motivations that distinguish it from the foreign policies of other countries (Firouzabadi and Ismaili, 2018: 5).

The political geography of Turkey is of significant importance due to its strategic position in the West Asia region (Walker, Agu 2007:96). This country is considered an influential actor, and its position has distinguished it among the neighboring countries (Ajorlou and Mahmoudi 2014: 185). Turkey's geographical location enables it to serve as a mediator in promoting international and regional peace, while also playing a significant role in maintaining regional stability (Hal 2000: 145).

Turkey's recent foreign policy in the West Asian area has been shaped by the Justice and Development Party. They want to establish a prominent position in world security and prosperity via this strategic shift. In order to align with the multipolar international order, it is essential for Turkey to possess the capability to act autonomously.

Due to a shift in Turkey's foreign policy, Turkish statesmen and political elites feel confident in their country's ability to use soft power in South-West Asia. Consequently, they are actively working to alleviate tensions with its regional competitors (Omidi and Rezaei 2012: 243). He has endeavored to actively contribute to the alignment and advancement of the Islamic world, as well as the promotion of peace in Southwest Asia, within the realm of foreign policy. Erdogan has emerged as a prominent figure in the

fight against Israel and as a strong advocate for the Palestinian people. His unwavering support has earned him the title of being "more Arab than Arab" in the Al-Quds al-Arabi daily (Qanbarloo, 2013: 173).

The geopolitical shifts in both regional and international arenas, including the American withdrawal from Afghanistan and Iraq, the situation in Egypt, Yemen, and Syria, and the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, have compelled Turkey to reassess its reliance on conventional alliances and safeguarding existing interests. Consequently, Turkey is now inclined to adopt a novel approach moving forward. NATO disregarded the Turkish government's plea to get Patriot missiles. Furthermore, the United States and Europeans' neglect in intervening in Syria has led Turkey to lose enthusiasm in supporting them and contemplate shifting its focus towards the eastern countries and regional governments (Qasemi and Madadi 2022: 9). Consequently, the political leaders of the Justice and Development Party have been persuaded to pursue a fresh foreign policy doctrine (Insigh turky 2009:10). Therefore, the alteration in foreign policy is a direct reaction to regional and worldwide shifts and advancements. Turkey's shift in foreign policy, transitioning from a reactive stance to a proactive strategy, has prompted the country to broaden its perspective towards the East. The events that unfolded in the region between 2011 and 2012, culminating in 2414, have been closely observed by Turkish factions. Consequently, Turkey is poised to enhance its collaboration with other governments (Cohen 2013:17).

8-3-1. Factors influencing the change of Turkey's foreign policy

1- The growth of the international structure is intricately linked to the national interests of each country and the configuration of the global system. In recent years, influential countries like the United States, Russia, China, and certain European countries have pursued interventionist policies in various regions, including the Korean Peninsula, the Taiwan-China issue, Russia-Ukraine conflict, and the Palestine-Israel conflict. These actions have demonstrated their ability to jeopardize the interests of other nations. (Qasemi and Madadi, 2022: 11) indicate that Turkey initiated a shift in its foreign policy to effectively manage its relationships with other countries and states.

2- Regional environment: Following the removal of Morsi in Egypt, Turkey recognized the significance of its involvement in this nation. Despite concerns about border instability and the influx of refugees from the civil conflicts in Libya and Syria, Turkey's foreign interventions intensified (Altunisk 2020:116). Turkey was profoundly impacted by the events occurring in the Middle East, as well as the competition between international powers and Turkey. Compelled him to establish an equilibrium amongst these advancements. Consequently, he endeavored to reduce his reliance on Western powers under the current circumstances and embrace a foreign policy that prioritizes independence and security.

Since 2017, Qatar has emerged as a significant commercial partner for Turkey. Doha averted the depreciation of the Turkish currency during the 2018 currency crisis by purchasing 3 billion dollars' worth of lira. However, Turkey has provided Qatar with the necessary military industry in Izmir and has also constructed a military facility in Qatar with a capacity of 5,000 personnel, including 3,000 Turkish troops. This arrangement serves as a security assurance for both countries.

A significant development in recent years has been the successful settlement of the conflicts between Turkey and Saudi Arabia, as they were engaged in regional rivalries. The conflicts in Syria, Yemen, Egypt, Libya, and Qatar were significant sources of tension. However, during a phone call between King Salman and Erdogan at the G20 summit in November 2022, they took steps to reduce tensions and expressed a willingness to engage in negotiations. Nevertheless, in the Khashoggi case in late March 2022, the Turkish government made efforts to avoid disrupting the process of normalizing ties between both nations. Yousfi Haji Mineh and Dehshiri (2023: 15) chose to create their connections on the basis of shared interests, despite the existence of significant disagreements. Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Iran have established objectives in their foreign policies for the purpose of fostering cooperation and alignment among governments in the West Asian area, which they want to accomplish in the future (Firouzabadi and Ismaili, 2018: 9).

8-4. Iran

Formulating foreign policy is a crucial mechanism via which a government pursues its national objectives. Hence, it is imperative for Iran to use a versatile and consistent approach to its foreign policy in order to effectively attain its objectives and safeguard its interests (Bojang, 2018:53).

Foreign policy has an operational and practical element and is not haphazard; rather, it is grounded in intellectual principles (Islami and Akbari 2023: 4). Interests have a role in how important material needs are (Wendt 1999:39). Governments' self-perception and self-interest are reflected in other governments' actions throughout time (Wendt 1992:400). According to the constructivist method, identities and interests are seen to be endogenous to interactions, with the identity of interests being determined by the process's dependent variable. As a result, identities and interests have an impact on one another (Yousfi, Haji Mineh and Desheiri, 2023: 6).

Throughout the course of the previous 20 years, Iran has emerged as one of the most significant and powerful players, demonstrating its ability to use the environment to its advantage and exert influence on other nations. Additionally, they can resolve the current issues for their own gain since they have the political, military, and security capabilities in the area. Iran's foreign policy has been successful in advancing several fronts, including the Syrian civil war, the axis of resistance, Palestine, Yemen, and Iraq's efforts to combat ISIS.

Some extra-regional countries changed their strategies against Iran's interests in order to prevent a major clash with this regional power as a result of Iran's comprehensive foreign policy strategy. By looking at some of the developments in the Middle East and West Asia, we can see that other powers in the region, like Saudi Arabia and Turkey, grew weary of fighting each other and realized that their expensive investments in militarism, weapons, and insecurity had not produced the desired outcome in the region. Thus, by altering their foreign policy strategy, they want to ease tensions by turning inside and to begin the process of collaboration by identifying areas of agreement. The governments of the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia have been communicating with Iran in recent months to establish a cooperative marine complex aimed at preserving the security of the Persian Gulf. Consequently, additional

industries may use this cooperative strategy, and a solid and sustainable regional viewpoint can be developed.

To be successful in employing bargaining diplomacy and discussions, Iran's foreign policy should prioritize shifting the JCPOA security argument from national security to a political case under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rahimi and Simber 2023: 16). Experts and political elites in the area embraced a de-escalation strategy as well as contact and respect with neighbors and other countries under Rouhani's administration in an effort to portray Iran as a shrewd player in the international system (Karimi Fard 2023: 22).

Lack of regional order is one of the main issues facing the West Asian region. This is because of terrorism, weak governments, and a lack of collective security, which has led to numerous conflicts between the governments in the area (Yazdi, Masoumi, and Bagheri, 2021:3). It is normal to be in close proximity to potentially hazardous materials and people. Iran has no regional allies, and its clear interests are challenged by the US and Israel's presence in the area as well as by the country's geographic location. Iran therefore seeks to acquire advantages in addition to security by halting the entry of threat and danger (Fathi et al. 2022: 157).

According to Reisinezhad (2019), the lack of intervening powers has the potential to alleviate tensions in the area and facilitate the establishment of collective security. The governments of Saudi Arabia, China, and Iran met in Beijing, setting the stage and approving two significant players. Since the area was the one to establish contacts, talks with other Arab states and the region were launched by them. According to the Iranian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman, good neighborliness and neighborhood policy may be the foundation for the establishment of other Arab nations, such as Bahrain and Iran. There won't be any limitations either. After a few decades, starting talks with Egypt may have a big impact on the area. In this case, the governments of West Asia, who have an intra-regional strategy of effective convergence with one another, stand to benefit from the presence of a broad will among the countries in the area.

9. Other regional actors
9-1. United Arab Emirates

The events of 2011 and 2012 had a significant impact on the UAE; although they did not lead to internal unrest or instability, they did force the ruling class to alter its approach to foreign policy and the structure of power. The political elites saw the regional developments as the catalyst for these changes, even though they began many decades before to the Islamic awakening. One of these shifts is the handing over of authority from Sheikh bin Zayed Al Maktoum bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the current first, to the younger generation (Kazemi, Zibaee and Serkhil 2022:13). 2. The outcomes of the Islamic awakening demonstrated that the United Arab Emirates faced regional threats when certain countries, including Syria, Egypt, and Yemen, withdrew from the region's orbit around North Africa and West Asia, creating a power vacuum in the region (Vakil, 2018:2).

As the UAE government's Islamic awakening progressed, it became clear where it stood on regional social and political problems pertaining to Arab unity, keeping in mind Islam's stance that political systems are legitimate. The West Asian region and

beyond are now the UAE government's areas of security, not the Persian Gulf. However, the UAE is actively involved in commercial and economic initiatives in addition to seeking military involvement. The UAE government welcomed the start of conversations between Iran and Saudi Arabia in order to forward the convergence process in spite of their longstanding alliances.

9-2. Egypt

Many developments have accompanied the foreign policy of the Egyptian government during the tenure of its presidents, so that the Mubarak era of Morsi and Sisi each had different approaches. However, one commonality among the changes in Egypt's foreign policy has been its approach to the conflict with Israel and the Palestinian issue, which has been impacted by the government's shift in identity has been impacted by its policies; in the most recent Israeli war in Gaza, it not only opposes Israel and backs Palestine, but it also thinks that Egypt has always experienced regional conflicts since its founding, so the government's Arab identity shares a common viewpoint. between the Arab states, which may result in the growth of their relationship and a strengthening of it throughout the convergence process (Hatami & Jerfi 2017: 17).

9-3. Qatar

Being one of the wealthiest countries in West Asia, Qatar has had several opportunities in recent years to strengthen its political position. Using a variety of diplomatic strategies, the Qatari government has solidified its stance against the regional economic, commercial, and cultural framework. By emphasizing international events and growing air travel, tourism, real estate, and other sectors, the Qatari government has transformed the nation's economy into one that is global (Zeineddine 2018:168). Qatar has been able to demonstrate its support for peace and resolution and its active participation in international organizations via the use of mediation diplomacy. Qatar has been able to effectively participate in a number of discussions, including those between the rebels in Darfur and Sudan, the Taliban and the Afghan government, and the United States (Tribune 2019). One of the most significant facets of Qatar's foreign policy in the region and the global system has been its use of sports media diplomacy. Qatar's foreign policy machinery has always aimed to acquire and protect its national interests while projecting a new image of itself as a strong, wealthy, and skillful diplomat. In order to move the region toward the convergence and development of relations between the governments of the various commonalities, such as membership in OPEC, the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council, and the Arab Union, the government of Qatar changed the foreign policies of the governments in the region. It did this by pursuing diplomacy and negotiation with governments in Syria, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia (Siahi 2021: 87).

9-4. Oman

Sultan Qaboos has always made an effort to be able to have cordial and appropriate relationships with neighbors and regional governments. Oman places a high priority on issues related to religious identity and social and political dynamics, which are influenced by social tolerance (Neubauer 2016). Oman is a sovereign nation that actively participates in the area, depending on regional advancements, its constitution, and the Abazi faith. Oman disagreed with Saudi Arabia during the Iran-Saudi Arabia

crisis, believing Iran ought to be involved in regional developments and work to avert regional wars (Cafiero & Yefet 2016). The Omani government responded to the crises in Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Qatar by mediating; as a result, Oman and Kuwait were among the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council members that tried to defuse the situation and did not stand by them during the siege of Qatar (Nasirzadeh & Mohammadali Pour 2022: 21). Because of this, Oman has always avoided disputes of any type in its foreign policy framework. Over the last several decades, we have also seen that the Omani government's leaders have consistently worked to forge relationships and create social, political, and security contacts. Additionally, Oman was one of the states that conveyed their happiness with the commencement of the negotiations and cordial ties between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

9-5. Jordan

Situated near Palestine, Iraq, and Syria, Jordan is an Arab nation that has significant importance in the West Asian region. Actually, Jordan's geographic position and surrounding nations have an impact on its foreign policy, therefore any crisis in Because of the social structure and historical ties between the two nations, Jordan's presence is essential to finding a solution to the Palestine problem. Jordan was one of the nations that looked for a way to put an end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Through its western friends, Jordan is attempting to stop growth in Palestine by actively participating in international organizations. Jordan has always attempted to avert risks in the crises of Syria, Yemen, Iraq, and Palestine, even if its administration leans almost liberally (Roostaei 2019: 12).

Jordan created a sign of significant foreign policy adjustments to enhance ties with Tehran when the King of Jordan sent a congratulations greeting to the President of Iran. The fact that the Syrian crisis is aiding the central authority in Iraq demonstrates how the Jordanian government has redirected its foreign policy and set itself on a new course. This shift in foreign policy suggests that the nation and its regional partners are attempting to move away from reliance on outside sources and start the process of regional convergence.

9-6. Syria

Syria is among the countries that have lost a great deal of their economic foundation during the course of a nearly ten-year civil war; however, in spite of its supporters, including Russia and Iran, it has managed to eradicate terrorist organizations and opposition groups and drive them out of the nation. Iran and Saudi Arabia, two of the region's major powers, each have a distinct perspective on the Syrian crisis and a shift in foreign policy. Threats and wars have decreased among the participating countries (Niakuee & Pirmohammadi 2020: 17).

Syria is among the countries that can contribute significantly to regional convergence, cooperation, and the growth of relations with its neighbors. It is evident from Bashar Assad's first visit to Saudi Arabia in thirteen years that both nations are eager to build ties. And it is clear that both nations' foreign policies have changed in viewpoint. By forging ties with Syria, the Saudi government demonstrated its desire for bilateral talks and cooperation by dispatching a diplomatic team. The countries that had

severed ties with one another for a number of years returned as a result of Saudi Arabia's shift in foreign policy, resulting in regional convergence (Alipour 2019: 150).

10. Common and influential factors of West Asian governments
10-1. Islam
Islam is a fundamental aspect of West Asian cultural identity, since most of the region's nations adhere to its teachings (Mousavi and Mousavi, 2014: 5). Muslims concentrate their emphasis on Medina. Due to the existence of holy sites, Iraq and Iran are two countries that get large numbers of visitors from throughout the globe. Common customs shared by the Muslim countries in the area include the annual combined celebrations of Hajj, Eid al-Fitr, and Ramadan.

The establishment of the Islamic Conference Organization demonstrates the rise of convergence based on the role of Islam in the history of Islamic civilizations. In 1969, this group was established with 55 members as a result of the Al-Aqsa Mosque fire. The fact that the nations in the area are members of this organization might be seen as a uniting force (Shahbazi, Masoudnia, and Goodarzi 1397: 23).

10-2. Energy
Both the world's primary energy producer and its primary exporter of gas and oil is West Asia. The world's two largest producers are said to be Saudi Arabia and Iran (Aziri and Lasjerdi, 1402 14). This energy source, which has a significant and significant impact on the global economy, is also available in other nations including Syria, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, and Iraq. This initiative is given to energy-owning governments by the power of energy diplomacy toward other Western and European nations, which allows them to choose the course that best suits their requirements and interests. One of Riyadh's greatest accomplishments is the Genome project, which Saudi Arabia is supporting because of its enormous economic potential and desire to alter the global economic landscape. create common benefits between regional governments can open up new business and investment opportunities for one another. This is similar to how the European Union was formed through the establishment of coal and steel contracts, which served as the foundation for European convergence (Rakabian & Angazi 2022: 187).

10-3. Palestine, axis of convergence
Values also play a significant role in intergovernmental communication. It is generally via these social and religious beliefs that activists communicate with one another. One of the things that Muslim regimes have in common is their opposition to Israel's disengagement from this country, which has resulted in many civilian deaths. This is the Palestine problem.

Over the course of the last eight decades, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has failed to provide a resolution that benefits both parties. All Islamic countries support Al-Quds, which is regarded as one of the most significant places in the world. The governments are deeply divided on ideological grounds as a result of Israel's threat to the region's sacred sites (Fathollah Nejad, 2016:26). It is also possible to argue that the Israeli government's seizure of these areas and the occupied regions have infuriated the Islamic lands. The Muslim states have confronted Israel in the ongoing conflict that has resulted

in several civilian deaths between the troops of Hamas and the Israeli government. This may be one of the most compelling intellectual arguments for unity in the face of any hostility directed against the Islamic world.

10-4. Geopolitical location

Geographically and strategically, the globe has taken notice of West Asia because of its placement on the map (Mokhtari and Qaderi 2019: 3). The presence of significant waterways, such the Bosphorus and Dardanelles in Turkey, and the Strait of Hormuz in southern Iran, which is the busiest oil strait in the world with daily traffic of around 19 million barrels. More evidence of the significance of both countries can be found in the Strait of Bab al-Mandab in Yemen, which is the second international waterway, as well as significant canals like the Suez Canal in Egypt, which links the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea, and Tiran in both Saudi Arabia and Egypt. The topography of West Asia is crucial for the governments of that region and other nations. Past experience has demonstrated that, despite their best efforts to raise trade relations, West Asian nations have not been able to reduce the number of disputes by the same amount when using the structural approach (Mohaqeq, 2023:20). As a result, the idea of the area influences how governments behave with one another, which results from shifting political perspectives and the realization of national objectives. With the way West Asian nations now conduct their foreign policy, it is feasible to improve the political, security, and economic spheres as well as raise the region's standard of living via collaboration and the peaceful resolution of disputes. Governments in West Asia may make a significant contribution to stability and stability from regional security by lowering intra-regional friction if they have a clear knowledge of their strategic position. Thus, the Klan created the framework for this growth by initiating talks and discussions at the level of government. Consequently, the West Asian countries may use their unique global positioning to effectively challenge Western governments and forces.

10-5. The existence of a common enemy (Israel)

From the moment the Israeli government was established in 1947, it demonstrated its might by using violence, threats, and murder of Palestinians, particularly in the settlement territories. The majority of Islamic nations see this rule as illegal in Palestine and as occupying East Jerusalem on the West Bank of the Jordan River. They even object to Israel's membership in the UN (Mohaqeq, 1401–24). It is among the most crucial elements in bringing people together to reach agreement on critical and public problems. Security boundaries beyond national borders might be drawn based on the perception of the Islamic world against dangers. Muslim regimes have long been at odds with one another regarding Israel. The 1948 wars, the first Arab-Israeli war, the 1956 Suez Canal war between Egypt and Israel, the 1967 war, or the six-day war that Israel fought in the Sinai Desert on the West Bank of the Jordan River are just a few of the wars this regime has fought against Arab governments throughout its history. In 1973, the Golan Heights and Quneitra were taken over by the Gaza Strip (Kippur battle). In 2006, Israel and Hezbollah fought each other in a battle known as the July War, which saw the Arabs and Israel occupying the Golan Heights and the Barlow Line east of the Suez Canal. Lastly, more people have been killed in the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas in 2023. Thus, Israel poses a threat to both regional security

and the nations' territorial integrity (Mohaqeq, 2023: 24). The conduct of governments towards their neighbors and other governments in the area has the power to influence the conduct of other governments. In the Southwest Asia region, religion is a crucial component of values, and so has a major part in mitigating any negative response that Israel may get from other countries.

11. Convergence: A solution to the promotion and dignity of the West Asian region
In other words, governments feel cohesive and united with one another, and they do not see their security merely in the framework of tools, but as "their" security (Karimi 2020: 4). Convergence at the regional level can be the basis for some positive approaches. The second aspect is development, which has a positive impact on military, political, and economic cooperation in addition to everyday life. In addition to being primarily economic, development also refers to social, political, and regional growth, all of which are seen to be beneficial after convergence. The Persian Gulf Cooperation Council and the Cooperation Organization of Islamic Countries are two instances of how governments have worked to advance certain areas of convergence and cooperation.

The attitude of each actor and their perception of their internal and external environment is regarded as the most essential premise in the components of foreign policy, notwithstanding the variety of political ideas prevalent in the West Asian area. The political agreement between environmental factors and national interests is the most crucial component in political decision-making and practical measures. As a result, the actors make an effort to behave appropriately for their objectives.

In addition to being profitable, a morally sound foreign policy may influence the actors' behaviors and responses to social and political events (sears 2003:492). It goes without saying that an actor's experiences in these upheavals and crises shape their political beliefs and how they interact with one another.

Establishing norms and regulations amongst one another with a new identity may be achieved via the creation of regional institutions based on values endorsed by regional administrations. The function of exercising sovereignty under their own control can therefore lead to large-scale cooperation, such as the European Parliament and the European Council of Ministers, which are associated with the sovereign will of the member states and decide on specific decisions (Karimi, 2020:7). Consequently, governments cede their sovereignty to these institutions when they form them.

Studies of a century's worth of events in West Asia reveal that every player has encountered numerous difficulties in their lifetime, including the presence of foreign interventionists, terrorism, insecurity, political developments (such as the Arab Spring), and civil wars, which illustrates costly and unsuccessful experiences in Each of their respective environments. As a result, they are attempting to establish a foundation for mutual understanding and political agreement through multilateral talks (Najafi and Masoumi 2023: 17). King Salman's daring spirit served as the foundation for forging relationships with Iran and other countries. to demonstrate that, in some situations, moving toward a shared objective and convergence is feasible despite disagreements and conflicts of interest.

The presence of a homogeneous structure in the West Asian region plays a considerable role in the formation of convergence. Currently, we see two features in the region.

1. Structure within the region:

The presence of an international power or regional hegemonic factor, which is always experiencing the disruption of ties between regional actors owing to various changes, which comes at a severe cost to them, is one of the most significant elements of West Asia. powers that intervene Acknowledging the presence of diversity in religion, ethnicity, language, and pluralism, they endeavor to fan the flames of conflict. The security, economic, political, and geopolitical structures of the West Asian region are based on linguistic sub-identities such as Arabic, Turkish, Kurdish, and Persian; racial sub-identities such as Aryan and Semitic; and religious sub-identities such as Shia, Sunni, Islamic, Jewish, Christian, and Islamic. Over time, actors from other powers have attempted to exploit these sub-identities by pursuing anti-convergence tendencies (Najafi and Zare, 2023: 22). The development of a pragmatic mindset among West Asian government leaders has resulted in a shift in their diplomacy and politics toward other regional actors from a combative stance taken by transregional powers to one of trust and collaboration. Kamrava (2018) said. In order to demonstrate to other countries that they are seeking collaboration by easing tensions, talks have been initiated in the first phase involving significant states, including Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkey, and Egypt. The Arab governments' statements against Israel to stop the aggression and killing of the Palestinian people, as well as those of Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, and other governments, the support of the Muslim world for the Palestinian people against Israel, and the Yemeni government's firing of long-range missiles at Israel in accordance with the supporting Arab governments, The address by Guterres, Secretary In the Security Council meeting, the UN said that Palestine is the 56th front in the fight between Israeli militarism and aggression. All of these facts suggest that the Muslim countries' elites and leaders in the area have a propensity for collaboration and regional cooperation.

2. Environmental structure: Events that have happened in some countries' environments can have a big impact on how disputes and cooperation are resolved. Events like the massacre of pilgrims in Mena or the Persian Gulf countries' request to Iran for the establishment of a joint council and body to defend cargo ships and combat pirates are examples of how governments must always keep the peace in order to further their own agendas. and provide enough safety for the neighbors in order to foster more neighborhood cooperation and interactions (costantini, 2022:315). Convergence is really the result of the governments in the area freely choosing to end historical disputes and embrace a cooperative, development-focused strategy.

The collective actions of neighboring governments, such as the launch of a missile from Yemen to Israel in support of Palestine, widespread protests in Muslim countries against the war between Israel and Palestine resulting in civilian casualties, condemnation of Israel's conduct in the Gaza attack by Arab government officials, and numerous statements by the UN secretary advocating for a resolution and an end to the conflict between Israel and Palestine, are all examples of regional governments aiding one another in fostering cooperation and unity.

12. Conclusion

The current developments in the foreign policy arena of the West Asian region are charting a clear path towards strategic convergence among the region's key powers.

This trend stems from shared security concerns, economic imperatives, and a collective assessment of the costs of long-standing rivalries. Recent diplomatic developments, particularly the unprecedented rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and Iran, indicate a shift from hostility to pragmatic cooperation, as both countries realize that regional stability cannot be left to external actors.

Signs of this shift in approach are clearly visible in the normalization of relations between Arab states and Syria, high-level diplomatic exchanges, and multilateral consultations involving Iran, Turkey, and Syria. These developments confirm a growing consensus that intra-regional cooperation, rather than reliance on extra-regional sponsors, is essential to reducing conflict, countering destabilizing interventions, and fostering sustainable development.

Following a shared understanding that external interventions, often in the form of support for proxies or partisan coalitions, have fueled division rather than cohesion, key regional states are increasingly prioritizing independent, indigenous mechanisms for resolving disputes and developing institutional cooperation. The revival of regional institutions, such as the Arab League and the Gulf Cooperation Council, along with the expansion of forms of dialogue, signals the emergence of a new framework for collective security and shared interests. As this convergence process deepens, the role of regional actors will likely be strengthened, diplomatic stability will increase, and the stage will be set for a more cohesive and autonomous region in West Asia.

ORCID
Hamid Hakim   iD **https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1221-2791**
Ali Mohammad Khalili   iD **https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7986-4180**
Saeed Gholami   iD **https://orcid.org/0009-0003-4621-0484**

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