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American Oil Strategy and its Impact on American-Gulf Relations

**Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Master's Degree in Literature and Civilization**

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Dedication

I dedicate this work to:

My dear parents

My husband

My children

My family

GHEDEIR AMAR Zineb

I dedicate this work to:

My parents, who gave me the gift of dreams and the ability to realize them

My grandmother, who never stopped believing in me

My sisters, who always pushes me to reach the stars

My brothers, my greatest supporters

My friends who have become family

ZOUARI AHMED Kodes

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Anyone who participated directly or indirectly in the completion of this work WOULD accept our sincere thanks.

Abstract

The relationship between the U.S and the Gulf countries has been characterized by complexity between political, economic, and security interested. Over the decades, the U.S. was strategically presents, with its dependence on Gulf oil and its commitment to regional stability .This study examines the evolution of the American oil industry from the down of drilling in oil fields of Pennsylvania to the modern days and its profound impact on the US-Gulf relations. The study aims to explore the historical evolution of American oil strategy in the Gulf region, through examining crucial diplomatic maneuvers and strategic alliances, and economic dependencies. The primary objectives are to analyze how American oil policies influence bilateral and multilateral engagements with Gulf states and evaluate the role of American oil strategy in enhancing or challenging energy security for both the United States and the Gulf by identifying the environmental dimensions considering factors such as energy diversification, geopolitical risks and socio-economic development. The research adopts a descriptive and analytical approach. Historical description of archival policy documents, government reports, and existing academic literature which provides insights into the evolution of the American oil strategy. Economic interdependence will be assessed through trade data and investment reports. The study highlights how oil strategy influence American-Gulf relations. This study concludes that the economic interdependence that characterizes the relationship between the United States and Gulf countries plays a central role in driving and fostering a more multifaceted partnership that extends beyond oil trade partnership. This research contribute to the fields of international relations and energy policy by serving students, researches, and general public interested in international relations and energy politics and provides a significant historical analysis about the evolution of the American oil strategy that has had a central impact on American-Gulf relations.

Key words: American oil industry, Energy policy, International relations, U.S.-Gulf relations.

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

AI	Artificial Intelligence
CCSP	Cooperation Council Strategic Partnership
COVID 19	Corona Virus Disease 19
COP28	The 28th annual United Nations Climate meeting.
EITI	Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GC	Gulf Countries
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GW	Gulf War
ISIL	The Islamic State of Iraq and Levant
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
OPEC	Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
OPEC+	Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries Plus
SPR	Strategic Petroleum Reserves
U.S	United States
UAVs	Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
UAE	United Arab Emirates
USA	United States of America
WW	World War
WMDs	Weapons of Mass Destruction

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General Introduction

1. Background of the Study

Politics and economics are the main factors for the development of the American oil strategy. At the beginning of the twentieth century, America's domestic economy revived in the field of oil (Ahmed & Meehan, 2016). America became the leader in the field of energy outside the American borders after World War II. This strategy had a positive role in the 1973 crisis in demonstrating Defects in US energy security in the Middle East, which led the US government to review its accounts in the field of oil (McFarland & Colgan, 2021). Later, to ensure a stable supply of oil, the U.S. government adopted effective policies to stabilize the domestic oil market and control foreign oil flows (Kamel & Wang, 2019).

In the early 21st century, the emergence of shale oil technology was another turning point in the American stable a site comes a major global oil producer. This once again confirmed the leadership of the United States in oil production and changed the global energy markets (Dennis et al., 2019), this made it exercise great influence in OPEC regarding price and production decisions, despite its participation in complex negotiations that indicate broad geopolitical interests (Bini et al., 2018). The Gulf region is externally important in global markets and geopolitical calculations, due to its strategic location and the crossroads of major trade routes. 30% of the world's proven oil reserves belong to the Gulf region, making it a cornerstone of global energy security strategies. Moreover, the stability of oil prices around the world is greatly influenced by the political dynamics in the Gulf region. The region has an effective role in shaping international relations, and this is evident in the interrelation between political tensions and economic interests in it. The global energy markets are affected by the Gulf region cannot be overstated (Türk, 2014). Developments in the Gulf region are subject intense scrutiny from policy makers around the world due to the importance of its location in both geopolitical maneuvers and energy supplies.

2. Literature Review

"The Changing Dynamics of US-Qatar Relations: Implications for Gulf Cooperation Council Unity", article, that was written by Steven Wright and Mehran Kamrava in 2019, analyzed the relations between America and the Gulf states, especially the State of Qatar, and its quest for internal independence. In their study, they also focused on America's foreign policy with the State of Qatar, which plays a pivotal role in internal relations between the Gulf states, especially after the United States' withdrawal from Iraq.

Also, Mohd Naseem Khan conducted a study in May 2001 about the U.S. policy towards the Persian Gulf: continuity and change, in which he emphasized the complex relationship between economic interests, geopolitical calculations, and diplomatic maneuvers. In this study, Mohd Naseem analyzed ancient and modern strategies, revealing the existence of a balance between diplomacy and assertiveness to achieve national interests. This study confirmed that the current developments in the region aim to promote academic research, prompting exploration of potential pathways to enhance stability and security in this crucial geopolitical arena.

3. Statement of the Argument

This study deals with the factors affecting the American oil strategies on the Gulf states in several areas such as politics, economics, and security. This thesis focuses on the American oil strategies and their implications in the field of energy security.

Research Questions

- 1) What are the recent developments in the American oil strategy and what are the factors and reasons behind this renewal of strategies?
- 2) What are the results of the United States' oil strategy in the Gulf region in terms of security, politics, and economics, and how did it affect American-Gulf relations?
- 3) How did the Gulf countries respond to the American oil strategy, and to what extent did these responses affect them from a geopolitical perspective?

4. Research Hypotheses

The hypotheses of this study are formulated as follows:

- 1) The focus on abundant oil supplies and cheap prices in the mid-twentieth century and the diversification of energy independence in the United States led to the development of the American oil strategy.
- 2) The American strategy in the field of oil led to an internally diversified Gulf economy, and also to large American investment in the Gulf region.
- 3) The Gulf countries established foreign relations away from American relations, such as their relations with Russia, to provide greater military security for the Gulf countries.

5. Aims of the Study

This study focuses on the American oil strategy and the extent of its impact on its relations with the Gulf States. This study analyzes the development of America's oil strategy throughout history. In addition, it examines American Gulf economic dealings in the context of oil, and analyzes the geopolitical ramifications, including the military presence. Moreover, this study examines the extent of the impact of global changes in the field of energy, such as technological progress in the field of energy, on American-Gulf relations, and predicts the American oil strategy and its impact on American-Gulf relations.

6. Significance of the Study

The importance of this research lies in the following: It focuses on the oil strategy pursued by the United States and how it affects its relations with the Gulf states. It also analyzes the degree of these effects and their consequences on energy security at the global level. In addition, to understand the dynamics of conflicts in geopolitical terms in this region, understanding these strategies is essential. Moreover, this study analyzes the consequences of these strategies on regional stability. Ultimately, this research is important for researchers and policymakers who study the complex interplay between US oil strategy and Gulf relations.

Research Methodology

The method that was used in this study is qualitative which used historical documents, speeches ,and existing academic literature in order to use an in-depth study of America's strategy in the field of oil and its consequences on American-Gulf relations. Accordingly, the historical descriptive approach was used to examine items related to the oil field of these countries. Data wascollectedfromhistorical documents and archives.

7. Structure of the Study

The Dissertation has three parts. The first chapterisentitled The HistoricalOverview of the American OilStrategy. It deals with the development of the U.S.oilstrategy and itsrole in shapingthe U.S.foreignpolicies. The second chapter, entitledThe U.S-Gulf Relations, highlights the security, economic and diplomaticcooperationbetweenthese countries. In addition, thischapter examines the U.S.-Gulf historicalevents and their impact on shapingthe U.S-Gulf relations. While the thirdchapterisentitledEconomic Influences on Gulf-American Relations, thischapterfocuses on the economicinterconnection and itseffectsbetweenthese countries, and American geopoliticalconsiderations and their impact on the Gulf. Also, itfocuses on the regionalconflicts in the Gulf and their impact on American oilpolicy. Also, thischapter deals with American influence on Gulf strategic alliances.

CHAPTER ONE

Historical Overview of American Oil Strategy

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Introduction

In tracing the evolution of the American oil industry, From the dawn of drilling in Pennsylvania's oil fields to the modern-day fracking revolution unveils not merely a saga of technological triumphs and economic dominance, but also a narrative intricately woven into the fabric of U.S. foreign policy, this chapter explores the industry's profound impact on the nation's geopolitical landscape. As the United States emerged as a global energy powerhouse, its oil interests became entangled with diplomatic maneuvers and strategic alliances abroad. This intertwined relationship between oil and foreign policy has shaped not only the nation's economic fortunes but also its role on the world stage.

1.1.The evolution of the American oil industry

Man races rooted ambitions to reduce hardship and move freely beyond the boundaries of his constrained domain along with his unquenchable need to enhance his life and the discovery of energy needed to be properly harnessed and used to benefit him. Time and space have also always provided challenges, but over many years, he was unprepared to understand the potential of a material that periodically sped up from the earth's crust (Mork, 1989). Oil has been known to mankind aware of its unusual burning characteristics the Babylonians dipped their ceremonial and torches in oil and pitch in drilling wells for water and brine. US oil development spans three major periods; the rise of oil as a commodity, beginning in 1850; the post War II age of geopolitical competition; and the post-Cold War era of deregulation and diversification.

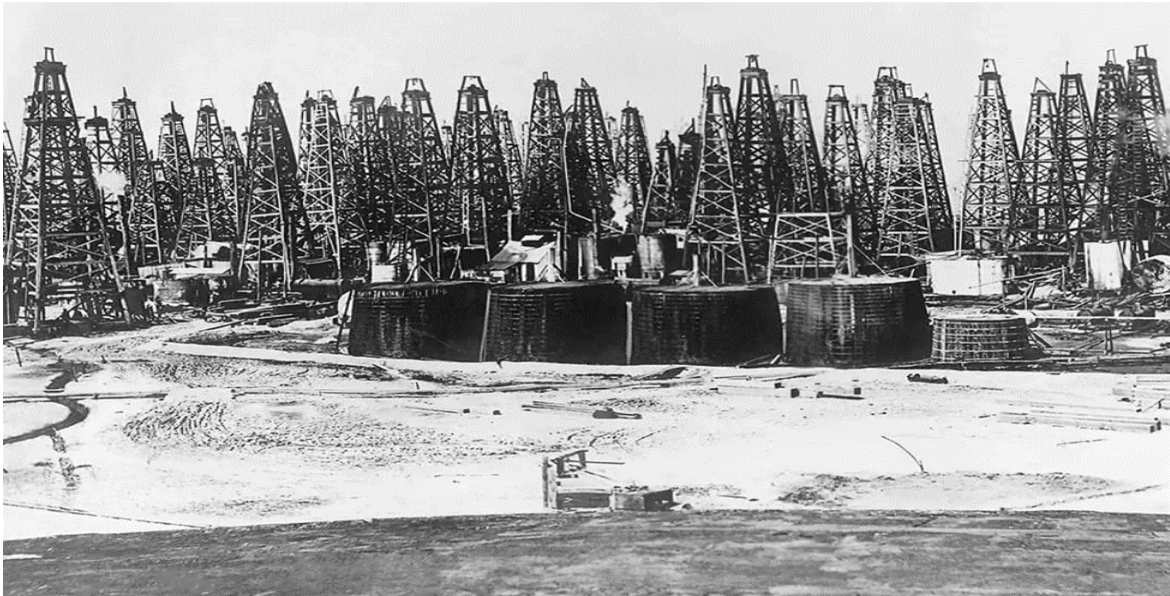
Even in the 1800s, petroleum recovered as a nuisance byproduct of brine well drilling was sold for an awakened interest in petroleum, animal, fat, and tallow could no longer supply the ever-growing need for candles and lubricants. Whale oil, which had long been the chief illuminate, was becoming scarce while the amount of artificial light was increasing. Early American Indians used the oil they found as a medicine and ointment. Oil would seep out of the ground at various locations in oil country. The locals had long used it for lubrication and even for burning. Drake decided to actually drill down and find the stuff rather than depending on

chance accidental discoveries, so using a water drilling rig discovered oil in Pennsylvania in 1859.(Sergie, 2017).

1.1.1. The Mechanization in America 1850-1865

The Industrial Revolution, a wave of mechanization that spread throughout Europe and the United States in the late eighteenth century, led to the creation of the steam engine. The primary energy source powering the revolution in its early stages is coal. Kerosene made from refined crude oil started to be sold in the US in the middle of the 1800s as a lighting fuel substitute for the declining availability of whale oil (Sergie, 2017). In Pennsylvania, a new drilling method proves effective in extracting crude oil, leading to a rise of speculative oil drilling in the region. In 1861, America's first oil refinery is operational, and its first shipment of refined oil is exported to London (Sergie, 2017). Over the next century and a half, oil supplants coal as the country's preeminent fuel source and contributes to its emergence as a major economic power.

Figure 1.1 *An oil well near Titusville, Pennsylvania, four years after Col. Edwin L. Drake struck oil on August 27, 1859.*



Note: adopted from an Oil well near Titusville, Pennsylvania, four years after Col. Edwin L. Drake struck oil on August 27, 1859.from <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/oil-dependence-and-us-foreign-policy>.

1.1.2. The challenges of America to control the oil market 1900-1989

In 1880, the United States was responsible for 85% of the global crude oil production and refining process, with kerosene ranking as the country's fourth-largest export. However, new oil discoveries under the supervision of Russia, the Netherlands, and Great Britain pose a threat to American domination of the European and Asian oil markets. However, during the span of the following 20 years, significant oil discoveries in states like Texas, Oklahoma, and California led to an increase in U.S. oil production from roughly 26 million barrels annually to 64 million barrels annually. By 1900, over two hundred oil by-products were being used in everyday life, such as lubricants for industrial machines and fuel for stoves and internal combustion engines. (Sergie, 2017).

Figure 1.2 *A section of the Spindle Field in Beaumont, Texas, 1901.*



Note: adopted from Council on Foreign Relations. (n.d.). Oil Dependence and U.S. Foreign Policy. Council on Foreign Relations. Retrieved from <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/oil-dependence-and-us-foreign-policy>

1.1.3. The emergence of U.S oil companies and the World War I 1911-1928

Though the United States produces roughly one million barrels of oil per day, or 65 percent of global oil supplies, more than 90 percent is consumed domestically. By 1920, crude prices increase to \$3 a barrel, more than double the price in 1914. Congress passes the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, which requires leasing of federal lands for energy prospecting for the first time. (IG, n.d). In May 1911, oil becomes essential for modern combat with beginning of World War I, fueling ships, tanks, and airplanes. The Wilson administration increases its attempts to sell oil to Britain and France soon after it joins the war against Germany in 1917 (Sergie, 2017). In order to fill the gap left by its inability to supply both domestic and international demand, the United States started importing oil from Mexico (Sergie, 2017). The nation's initial concerns about oil security were raised in 1919 when the U.S. Geological Survey predicted that the country's oil reserves would run out in ten years. Crude prices more than triple from 1914 to \$20 per barrel by 1920. The Mineral leasing Act of 1920, passed by Congress, mandates the first-time lends of federal lands for energy prospecting (IG, n.d.).

1.1.4. Oil quotas and nationalization 1928-1941

The U.S. government begins aggressive oil diplomacy in response to attempts by the British and French to prevent American oil corporations from territories in the Middle East beyond their control. It insists on an "open door" policy, which would enable all businesses to compete for foreign concessions, irrespective of their country of origin. Additionally, the businesses commit to refraining from independently exploring for oil in a region that includes Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Turkey but does not include Egypt, Iran, or Kuwait. With the support of its "self-denial clause," the 1928 Red Line Agreement gives seven companies five of them American control over the majority of oil production in the Middle East by the early 1930s (Sergie, 2017).

Overproduction results from developments in technology and increasing oil production in the Middle East, the United States, and Latin America. Oil fell to barely a few pennies per barrel

in 1931. To prevent cheap oil from flooding the market, the U.S. government implemented a production quota system for states in 1933 and imposed a duty tax on imported oil. The federal quota system is overturned by the Supreme Court in 1935, but oil-producing states in the United States decide to keep it in place voluntarily, and prices start to recovery. (Sergie, 2017).

Governments begin to become increasingly involved in the oil business by 1938. The Mexican government nationalizes the sector and cancels US oil concessions in 1938 (AP News, 2024). A wave of oil nationalizations that will occur in the decades after the conflict is hinted to by Mexico's actions.

1.1.5. End of war and budding U.S-Gulf ties 1941-1959

In 1938 Saudi Arabia possesses enormous amounts of oil. President Franklin D. Roosevelt deems Saudi oil essential to U.S. security in 1943 as concerns about the declining of the country oil production capability increase and offers financial support (Martini et al., 2016). The US became a military and economic superpower after the end of the Second World War. The percentage of oil consumed by the transportation sector (mostly cars) increases from around 50% to over 70% in the ensuing decades. The United States became a net exporter of oil in 1945; but, by 1950, the country had begun importing nearly one million barrels per day, within only two decades, the nation is importing more than six million barrels daily (Martini et al., 2016).

1.1.6. The end of U.S import quota 1959-1979

The world once again faced an oil oversupply in 1959, which results in plummeting prices. President Dwight Eisenhower of the United States set a quota system on oil imports through the Mandatory Oil Import Program (Knowles, 1983). The spread of the united manufacturing capacity evaporated on July 1, 1973. President Richard Nixon announced in April 1973 that he ending the Mandatory Import Program, which imposed restrictions on oil imports, in response to an impending fuel crisis. Thus, oil imports represented around 30% of U.S. consumption; within four years, that percentage increased to over 50%. (Knowles, 1983).

1.1.7. U.S energy conservation promoted

The 1973 oil crisis forces Congress to adopt the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (EGEE 120: Oil: International Evolution, n.d.), which established the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and fuel efficiency requirements for new cars, as well as a fifty-five mile per hour speed restriction on roads. The Department of Energy had established in 1977 by Jimmy Carter administration, which organized energy departments and releases its initial set of energy-related recommendations, which are mostly centered on conservation, and enacts laws in 1978 to promote fuel efficiency and switching by electric and other US industries.(EGEE 120: Oil: International Evolution, n.d.).

1.1.8. The offshore drilling and U.S diversifies energy consumption 1980-1990

The U.S. Congress imposes a moratorium on new offshore drilling off the California coast in 1981 in response to public outcry and lingering environmental concerns caused by an oil spill off the coast of Santa Barbara in 1969. Between increasing production in allowed offshore areas and a drop in overall U.S. production, offshore drilling rises to about 30 percent of U.S. production in the next three decades(EGEE 120: Oil: International Evolution, n.d.).

The Reagan administration fully deregulates crude prices in 1981, allowing U.S. producers to raise prices to market levels. By 1982, the United States imports about 28 percent of its oil, down from more than 45 percent in 1977. By 1985, U.S. fuel economy averages for automobiles reach nearly 28 mpg, up from 20 mpg in 1978, and consumer fuel switching for heating and electricity helps lower oil consumption.(EGEE 120: Oil: International Evolution, n.d.)

1.1.9. Birth of the super majors 1998-2001

The demand in an area where the oil markets have been increasing declines as a result of the Asian financial crisis of 1997. The biggest private oil firms in the world have participated in several mergers and acquisitions, such as the largest foreign takeover of an American corporation to date, BP and Amoco, Exxon and Mobil, and Texaco and Chevron. The worldwide recession and a more stringent climate for oil concessions are driving these mergers. Political

scrutiny of these mergers, which are accused of stifling competition, will increase over the next ten years as gas prices in the United States climb sharply. (Cutter, 1926).

1.1.10. Renewable fuel support and skyrocketing oil prices 2004-2010

The Energy Policy Act, passed by the US Congress in 2005, introduces additional subsidies for domestic oil exploration as well as new incentives for flex-fuel vehicles and other alternative fuel vehicles (Knowles, 1983). Oil prices started to increase gradually in 2006, during a period of nearly record-high U.S. oil imports and consumption. By the summer of 2008, they had reached a record \$147 per barrel. Oil prices fell sharply shortly after the start of the global financial crisis in 2008.

The Obama administration announced in May 2009 that it will be raising the criteria to 39 mpg for automobiles and 30 mpg for light trucks. This move was made in support of the government's climate change policy objectives.(Knowles, 1983)

1.1.11. U.S releases oil from strategic reserve 2010-2020

President Barack Obama of the United States sets his intentions for the country's energy strategy in the spring of 2010, stating that he will favor greater offshore oil drilling and open up more U.S. seas to it.

The Obama administration asserted in 2011 that thirty million barrels will be released over a span of thirty days from the US Strategic Petroleum Reserve. (EKT Interactive, 2024).

February 2014, Imports of crude oil and petroleum products fall to less than 260,000 barrels per day, according to the U.S. Energy Information AU.S. Tight oil producers contribute to a global supply glut that puts downward pressure on prices in November 27,201 (EKT Interactive, 2024).

Congress votes to lift four-decade-old restrictions on U.S. crude oil exports, and a shipment immediately leaves the port of Corpus Christi, Texas, for sale in Europe in December 18, 2015.

After Congress decides to remove the prohibitions that had been in place for the past four decades On December 18, 2015, a shipment of U.S. crude oil sent from the port of Corpus Christi, Texas, to be sold in Europe. (EKT Interactive, 2024). More than 180 countries including US signed The Paris Agreement, which came into implementation in November 2016 and mandates that all signatories set goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in an effort to prevent the rise in the average global temperature.

In June, 2017 Trump announces the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, which takes effect in November 2020. (EKT Interactive, 2024). In March 2020 a new disease COVID-19 emerged and spreads quickly to become a global pandemic. In April, U.S. crude oil briefly drops below zero for the first time in history.

The weekly production of crude oil in the United States has exceeded thirteen million barrels for the first time, positioning the country as the global leader in this field. Despite numerous periods of voluntary production restrictions by the OPEC+ partnership, which includes Russia, the spike in product maintains U.S. gasoline prices low (Sergie, 2017b). Nonetheless, due to a mismatch between refining capacity and the kind of crude oil produced by American shale formations, and due to strong domestic energy consumption, the United States continues to import more energy than it exports. A worldwide agreement to phase out fossil fuels is being pushed for by some states at the end of the year COP28 meeting, emphasizing the fact that fossil fuels contribute to climate change and will cause record heat by the end of 2023 (Sergie, 2017b).

1.2.The role of oil in shaping U.S foreign policy

Oil has played a pivotal role in shaping United States foreign policy for decades. The United States as one of the largest consumers of oil is heavily reliant on stable access to petroleum resources to fuel its economy. The pursuit of oil has often been a driving force behind U.S. involvement in regions rich in petroleum reserves such as the Gulf region, The strategic importance of securing access to these reserves has led to alliances, conflicts, and interventions

aimed at safeguarding American interests. The role of oil in U.S. foreign policy extends beyond diplomatic decisions, military interventions, and economic strategies.

1.2.1. The diplomatic decisions

The influence of oil on U.S. diplomatic decisions is profound and multifaceted, spanning economic, strategic, and geopolitical dimensions. Diplomatic efforts often revolve around cultivating relationships with oil-producing nations to ensure a stable and reliable supply of this critical commodity. To secure favorable terms for oil trade and investment and the engagements with oil-producing countries U.S. diplomatic decisions are heavily influenced by strategic imperatives related to oil security.

Diplomatic efforts, therefore, frequently aim to foster stability and prevent conflicts in oil-rich areas, ensuring the stability of oil-producing regions and balancing competing interests and maintaining America's position in the global energy landscape. The pursuit of energy security often leads to strategic alignments with oil-producing nations, cementing diplomatic ties and fostering cooperation on various fronts.

1.2.2. The military intervention

Oil is a key factor in shaping U.S. military interventions, influencing strategic decisions, geopolitical alliances, and military deployments around the world. It is a crucial resource for the functioning of Military interventions in regions with significant oil reserves, such as the Gulf region, may be driven partly by the desire to protect or control these resources and Ensuring access to those resources helps secure the energy needs of the United States and its allies. Controlling oil reserves can provide significant revenue streams that can fund military operations or support allied governments. This can be particularly relevant in conflict zones where factions vie for control over oil resources to finance their activities and stabilizing oil-producing regions can safeguard the interests of American companies involved in oil exploration, production, and transportation (Jiang, 2019).

Military operations, especially in conflict zones, require various services and supplies, including fuel and logistical support. Oil companies and contractors involved in oil-related activities may secure lucrative contracts for supplying these goods and services to the military during interventions. They may directly benefit from military interventions that secure access to oil reserves or protect oil infrastructure and could advocate for military action to safeguard their investments. Oil companies may have financial ties and multinational operations and interests across various regions with defense contractors or other entities involved in military interventions (Ufheil-Somers, 2016). This interconnectedness can create incentives for both sectors to support each other's interests, potentially influencing decisions regarding military action. Furthermore, serve broader geopolitical goals, such as securing access to global oil supplies or countering rivals' influence in key oil-producing regions, may align with the interests of these companies.

Oil interests are not the sole determinant of U.S. military interventions; they often intersect with broader geopolitical, security, and economic considerations, shaping the strategic calculus of U.S. foreign policy in oil-rich regions particularly in regions with significant oil reserves:

Gulf War (1990-1991): The Gulf War, triggered by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, is a prime example of U.S. military intervention influenced by oil interests. Kuwait's oil reserves and their potential disruption by Iraqi forces were major concerns for the United States and its allies. The intervention aimed to protect Kuwaiti sovereignty, restore stability to the region, and safeguard access to oil supplies. (Ufheil-Somers, 2016a).

Iraq War (2003-2011): The 2003 invasion of Iraq, although justified on various grounds, including allegations of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and the removal of Saddam Hussein's regime, also had significant oil-related considerations. Iraq possesses vast oil reserves, and the war aimed to establish a more favorable political environment for Western oil companies to access and develop these resources. (Ufheil-Somers, 2016a).

Libya intervention (2011):The NATO-led military intervention in Libya, which culminated in the overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi's regime, had oil-related implications. Libya is a significant oil producer, and concerns about the disruption of oil supplies due to the civil war and Gaddafi's decisions were factors in the decision to intervene. Additionally, some analysts suggest that Western interests in securing contracts and influence in Libya's oil industry played a role in the intervention. (M'lili, 2024).

Syria conflict (Ongoing):While not primarily an oil-related intervention, the U.S. military involvement in the Syrian conflict has geopolitical dimensions tied to energy interests. Control over oil-rich areas, particularly in northeastern Syria, has been a strategic consideration for various factors involved in the conflict, including the United States. The presence of oil fields has influenced the dynamics of the conflict and military strategies pursued by different factions (Jiang, 2019).

Security partnerships and military bases: Beyond direct military interventions, the United States maintains security partnerships and military bases in oil-rich regions such as the Middle East, Central Asia, and the Persian Gulf. These arrangements serve to protect American interests, including access to oil reserves and strategic oil transit routes, and contribute to regional stability that benefits global oil markets. (Sergie, 2017).

1.2.3. The economic strategies

Oil remains the lifeblood of the global economy, and disruptions in its supply can have far-reaching consequences. Ensuring a steady flow of oil at stable prices is therefore paramount for U.S. economic interests. To this end, the U.S. has pursued various strategies, including diplomatic engagements, energy diplomacy, and investments in alternative energy sources. Furthermore, the shale revolution in the U.S. has significantly altered the global energy landscape, providing the country with greater energy independence and reshaping its foreign policy calculations. In recent decades, growing awareness of climate change and environmental degradation has compelled a reevaluation of U.S. oil strategy. The pursuit of fossil fuels,

particularly oil, has come under scrutiny due to its contribution to greenhouse gas emissions. As such, there has been a push towards diversifying the energy mix and reducing dependence on oil. Initiatives such as the Paris Agreement and investments in renewable energy underscore a shifting paradigm wherein environmental considerations increasingly influence U.S. foreign policy decisions related to oil.

The impact of oil on U.S. economic strategies is pervasive, encompassing energy security, macroeconomic stability, geopolitical considerations, technological innovations, and environmental imperatives. The reliance of the country on oil imports for transportation, industrial processes, and electricity generation has often led to vulnerabilities in the face of global supply disruptions or price fluctuations. Consequently, U.S. economic strategies have been intricately tied to ensuring stable access to oil resources, both domestically and through diplomatic engagements with oil-rich nations.

Geopolitical tensions, conflicts, and trade disputes can disrupt oil supplies, leading to price volatility and supply chain disruptions. Control over oil reserves, transit routes, and production capabilities has been a central aspect of global power dynamics (AP News, 2024). Additionally, diplomatic efforts to foster stability in key oil-producing regions serve as a cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy, aligning economic and security interests.

The nexus between U.S. oil strategy and foreign policy is profound and multifaceted, encompassing geopolitical, economic, and environmental dimensions. The pursuit of oil security has historically driven U.S. engagement in regions rich in oil resources, often shaping its alliances, interventions, and diplomatic efforts. However, shifting global dynamics, including technological advancements and environmental concerns, are prompting a reevaluation of traditional oil strategies. As the world transitions towards a more sustainable energy future, the role of oil in U.S. foreign policy is likely to evolve, necessitating adaptability and foresight in navigating the complex interplay between energy security and international relations. (Baker Institute, n.d.).

Conclusion

A complex tapestry and evolving approach shaped by economic, political and environmental factors have been revealed by historical overview of American oil strategy. To secure its energy interest, U.S has navigated shifts in demand ,supply, and geopolitics which from the early days of domestic production to the era of global influence punctuated by periods of boom and bust .The United States has consistently prioritized its energy independence and security. However, geopolitical tensions and environmental concerns have emerged as a result of conflicts over oil resources. Moving forward balancing the need for energy security and sustainable practices is important and necessary for policymakers to ensure a thriving future for both humanity and planet.

CHAPTER TWO

American-Gulf Relations

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Introduction

The relationship between the U.S and the Gulf countries has been characterized by complexity between political, economic, and security interested. Over the decades, the U.S. was strategically presents, with its dependence on Gulf oil and its commitment to regional stability. But there have also been many challenges in Gulf-U.S partnership such as, the issues pertaining to human rights, regional rivalries, diverging policy priorities. This chapter undertakes the U.S-Gulf relations, its evolutions and interests.

2.1.The early historical relations

Gulf-American relations date back over decades ago since indicated political, economic and social cooperation exhibited both within the Gulf region and America. Historical background of Gulf-American relations begun in the 18th century when America begun trading with Gulf countries through which it aimed at gaining access on oil and other natural resources like gas (Oren, 2008).

On the other hand, involvement of American in the Gulf region started from late 18th century with the formation of a U.S. Navy (Schneller, 2007). During this period, American ships often sailed in the Gulf waters for the purpose of accessing Asian markets and facilitating business deals with the countries such as Bahrain and Oman. It was in the 20th century when enough oil was discovered, and the concentration of the U.S. was in the region.

Besides that, it was noted by Graf (2018) that the discovery of lots of oil in Gulf states in the year 1939 saw a supporting role from the American companies such as Standard Oil. This cooperation strengthened the relationship between the U.S and Gulf states, and was later supported by figures like the President Franklin D. Roosevelt or Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan of the United Arab Emirates.

On this note, Cordesman (2003) expounds further on this by affording the significant role played by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the inception of relations between America and the Gulf. He realized the strategic importance held by this region to the gulf countries that were oil-

rich during World War II. Roosevelt formed relationships with Saudi Arabia, marking a declaration about the permanent American interest in this region. His policies tended to institute permanently strong cords of security and economic cooperation (Long, 2019). Al-Marri (2017) further added that this scenario held sway during the Second World War and after, with heavy reliance from the U.S. coming from the Gulf, in an recovery of its economy. This led to military bases in Saudi Arabia and Qatar. The general net effect is that the Gulf countries enjoyed the defense and economic protection from the U.S. that went to help in building infrastructure in the Gulf states. In the United Arab Emirates, examples of regional giant leaders were those such as Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. As a result of his hardships, United Arab Emirates has developed from an arid and dry nation to prosperity. Sheikh Zayed knew the worth of the relation of the Americans in securing the country. In his presidency, there had been important trade relations in terms of economy and security between the two countries.

The early influence of the relation of the Americans with the Gulf can be noticed from the various fields. From the military perspective, the American military was to secure the region of the Gulf and at the same time deter rented to a potential threat from infiltrating and breaking security in that region. Contrarian, the U.S. guaranteed its energy security. Economically, the Gulf countries grew as a result of American investments. Nonetheless, Guillory (2013) reported that, the entire early American-Gulf relations are as one filled with problems and challenges.

The U.S. has also been criticized over support it offered to Gulf authoritarian leaders as well as dissuasion of human rights. The perceived overshadowing of American interests in priorities and policies has resulted in controversies and problems. But for everything, The U.S and Gulf states have had their fair share of problems. At the moment, there are continued collaborations in security, trade and energy. With the changing international political scenario, both U.S. and Gulf need to stand united in order to face the new obstacles. United States-Gulf relations are marked by fluctuating and constantly changing relations that have shaped up the history of both the regions.

From trade collaboration in the 18th century to military bases in the 21st, this has been a partnership evolving through common interests. Despite all odds and controversies that have occurred, the partnership of these countries has always been witnessed. With regard to the future, there needs to be a relationship characterized by cooperation and dialogue in the changing dynamics of the global scene.

2.2.Economic ties

The U.S. has been rated first for its interdependently and associatively relating closely to the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). The member states of the GCC include Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Initially a relationship based on the trade of oil resources, this relationship now has blossomed into a tangled, multifaceted relationship. According to Vitalis (2009), the region became a power-services center especially for the U.S. with the discovery of oil in Saudi Arabia in the 1930s and later in the region following further finds across the Gulf area. As a result the strategic importance of the Gulf region, in influencing policy became increasingly apparent.

The major turning point took place in the 1970s when the Gulf nations that were oil producers, imposed an oil embargo on the U.S. in the year 1973. Bazoobandi (2013) stated that, this oil embargo was opening up weaknesses imposed by oil reliance on American energy security but, in a more realistic sense, it highlights the many insourced or outsourced oil-based events that may compromise American security and power. The United States, therefore, hastened its works on the realization of political interests, securing reliable and smooth supply of oil in the Gulf (Bazoobandi ,2013)

The subsequent decades were to find those investments widening in flow both ways, both as Gulf investments now sought to pump capitals back into American ventures, and as American firms were growing their commercial presence in the Gulf, especially in defense and finance.

Hook and Niblock (2015) further reason that this expansion was justified along a duality of imperatives, to relieve reliance on oil and allure foreign investments and proficiency. In terms

of economic divergent, the evidence of the defense sector lay under the amplified cooperation with the US, which was standing strategically to be the main supplier to the Gulf states. It, however, was going much further than merely an arms-purchasing alliance: it further included cooperation in the area of security, taking part in common military exercises, what showed that strategic interdependence had a far deeper level of engagement (Hook & Niblock ,2015)

It is against this backdrop that sustainable energy initiatives in the Gulf region have attracted hysterical attention to the incredibly bountiful solar resources that the Gulf prides itself on. In essence, the world is keenly and aggressively learning towards renewable energy sources and collaboration within the domain of renewable energy exploration and technology (Ang et al., 2022). This collaboration is the economic relations' shift from the Gulf to the U.S. in the light of sustainability. As Schott quotes, "such dissatisfaction has only served to clearly paint a picture of the Gulf"(2004,p.18) maintained that the bargaining of the formation of free trade agreements and economic unions have been meaningful in the reinforcement of the inflammation of relations with the U.S. and the Gulf to relieve tariff barriers and accelerate bilateral trade. But the disheartenment, even despair, such affairs must necessarily have fostered must in the end have fundamentally colored economic collaboration.

With such inherent hazards of geopolitical tensions existing in the Gulf region, it now becomes clear that these stand as a ligament in the global economic picture, calling for U.S. involvement with fostering stability within the locality.

Summarily, the economic alliance between the U.S. and the Gulf States has passed from its origination focused on trade in modern-day oil to a broad-based and dynamic partnership cutting across many sectors in the economy. Directing the prevailing challenges will be pivotal to the relations heading forward.

2.3.Security cooperation

Bceovich, A.J. (2005) stated that the security cooperation between the U.S and Gulf nations played a crucial role in international relations. This cooperation has developed over time, shaping the dynamics of the region from historical alliances to contemporary challenges.

According to Thomas, M. (2019), one of the earliest examples can be traced back to the Cold War era, where the U.S. sought to counter Soviet influence in the Middle East. Over time, U.S. -Gulf security ties have expanded to include different strategic objectives beyond countering external threats. For example, as noted by Smith, J. (2020), the Gulf states seek U.S. support in enhancing their military sector and addressing security challenges such as terrorism. This shift indicates acknowledgment of the interconnectedness of security in the international system nowadays. In recent years, the evolving regional security architecture in the Middle East has shaped the dynamics of Gulf-U.S. security cooperation. According to Johnson, R. (2021), the security landscape has introduced new complexities due to the rise of non-state actors and proxy conflicts, requiring enhanced coordination between the U.S. and Gulf partners to treat and address shared security concerns.

Moreover, the growing focus on multilateral security frameworks is the cornerstone in shaping the track of U.S. -Gulf security cooperation. As highlighted by Collins, S. (2018), initiatives such as the U.S. -Gulf Cooperation Council Strategic Partnership (CCSP) Forum played a significant role in providing a platform for enhancing coordination and collaboration on a wide range of security issues, from maritime security to counterterrorism. Such mechanisms foster interoperability between U.S. and Gulf security forces.

In light of these developments, it is evident that the security cooperation between the U.S and Gulf countries has developed into a multifaceted partnership that goes beyond traditional military alliances. As argued by Lee, K. (2019), the increasing focus on capacity-building, intelligence sharing, and joint exercises indicates the need for security responses that address

both traditional and non-traditional threats. This holistic approach asserts the enduring U.S. -Gulf security cooperation in the face of security challenges.

Looking ahead, the security cooperation between the U.S. and Gulf countries will likely be shaped by many factors, including emerging security threats and evolving geopolitical alignments. As posited by Brown, L. (2020), the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Gulf states continues to be driven by close collaboration in areas such as cybersecurity, counter weapons proliferation, and crisis management. Adapting to these evolving security challenges will require an enduring commitment to enhancing trust between the U.S-Gulf countries, communication, and collaboration among all stakeholders.

In conclusion, U.S. -Gulf security cooperation confirms the enduring importance of their strategic partnership in facing shared security threats and maintaining regional stability. U.S.-Gulf security cooperation will remain the basis of the broader international security architecture in the Middle East by adapting to new security facts and building on past achievements. As emphasized by Davis E. (2021), the power behind this partnership lies in its capacity to enhance mutual understanding, cooperation, and collective action in addressing the complex security challenges of the 21st century.

2.4.Oil as a diplomatic tool

During the early 20th century, America's growing demand for oil and the discovery of oil in the Persian Gulf region transformed it into a geostrategic region of interest for the U.S. (Wright, 2007). The U.S believed that the oil wealth possessed by the Gulf states would enhance their thriving economy and military capabilities. This convergence marked a deep-rooted diplomatic collaboration (Wright, 2007).

These diplomatic relations can be summarized in Yergin's book, "The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money & Power," (2008) which illustrates the importance of oil strategy in shaping American foreign policy (Yergin, 2008). By the mid-20th century, Gulf-U.S. diplomatic ties were further solidified due to the foundation of the state of Saudi Arabia and the

establishment of Aramco, an American oil consortium. As Bronson (2006) highlighted in his book "Thicker Than Oil: America's Uneasy Partnership with Saudi Arabia," oil became a cornerstone of the U.S. -Gulf relationship, in which the U.S provided security guarantees to the Gulf states in exchange for favorable oil concessions.

Alsayegh (2023) stated that, oil plays crucial role as a diplomatic tool forming U.S-Gulf economic and political interaction. The oil production strategy in the Gulf countries aims to achieve economic development and exercise political influence. Alsayegh (2023) declared that, historically, the United States joined in the Persian Gulf region to assure the flow of oil to western countries at reasonable prices, requiring the collaboration with oil-producers countries such as Saudi Arabia. This collaboration extends to adjusting the oil markets and achieving stability. The Gulf states, including Saudi Arabia, to maintain desired hydrocarbon price ranges and influence production levels and prices globally, had used their energy diplomacy. Additionally, the Gulf region invests in downstream facilities and entering long-term contracts with various markets including China, to secure demand for its oil (Alsayegh, 2023a). This complex web of economic and political interactions asserts oil significance strategy in shaping U.S-Gulf diplomatic ties.

Ammann (2017) stated that the 1973 oil crisis was the turning point for the Gulf countries; it enabled them to exploit oil as a powerful diplomatic tool. As a reaction to America's support for Israel during the Yom Kippur War (Ammann (2017)). It was significant armed war between Israel and coalition of Arab states in October 1973 led by Egypt and Syria (Kaufman,2023). Arab oil producers imposed an embargo on oil, leading to an increase in oil prices worldwide and instability in the western economy. This event highlighted the Gulf's strategic influence, as described well in Ammann's "The Middle East and the Making of the Modern World."

The 1973 oil embargo on the Gulf states had multifaceted consequences. The Arab members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) were the ones who

implemented the embargo during the Arab-Israeli War, this embargo played crucial role in reshaping global geopolitics and highlighted the Gulf strategic influence through their control of resources (*Milestones - Office of the Historian, 2016*)

The embargo 1973 has lasting effects on the diplomatic level on various levels:

- **Economic impact:** Oil-importing countries suffered economic pressure due to the sharp rise in global oil prices as a result of the embargo. Gulf countries witnessed an increase in their revenues due to the rise in prices as they are major oil produces, significantly enhancing their economic power and influence (Schneider, 2018).
- **Diplomatic impact:** Schneider (2018) stated that, the gulf countries' use of oil as a powerful diplomatic tool due to the embargo, which demonstrated its ability to influence global affairs and benefiting from their oil reserves for political purposes. This event is a turning point for the Gulf states in using oil as a means of exerting influence on the international stage.
- **Strategic shifts:** because of the embargo, oil-exporting countries have reevaluated their energy policies, leading to more focus on energy independence, alternative energy research, and conservation efforts. This shift in energy strategies had long-term influences on global energy security and resource management (Verrastro & Caruso, 2013).

Overall, the 1973 oil embargo had far reaching influences on the Gulf nations, reforming economic relations, economic dynamics, and energy policies worldwide.

In the late 20th and early 21th centuries, the ongoing strategic importance of Gulf oil reserves to American foreign policy was illustrated by the Gulf War and the subsequent Iraq War. Klare (2004) in his book "Blood and Oil: The Dangers and Consequences of America's Growing Dependency on Imported Petroleum" provides a critical analysis of U.S. dynamics, highlighting how U.S. military engagements in the Gulf region underscored the lengths to which the U.S. would go to secure its energy markets.

As a result, the U.S. began shifts towards energy independence with the rise of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) technology in the 21st century, which led to a change in its traditional oil diplomacy with the Gulf states. This technological shift has implications for the future of U.S. - Gulf relations, as discussed in Gold's book, "The Boom: How Fracking Ignited the American Energy Revolution and Changed the World" (Gold, 2014). In addition, the challenge faced by the U.S. in balancing its support for Israel with keeping close ties to Arab countries, particularly Saudi Arabia was highlighted by the embargo. The U.S. foreign policies complexities in the Middle East and need to navigate conflicting interests was underscored by this delicate balancing act (Schneider,2018).

However, despite its energy independence, the American strategic importance of Gulf oil has not diminished. Diplomatic engagements have been renewed due to the recent attacks on Saudi oil facilities and the vulnerabilities highlighted in the global oil supply chain by the Covid-19 pandemic. These events confirm the geopolitical significance of Gulf oil, as analyzed in Smith's "Oil, Power, and War: A Dark History" (Smith, 2018).

In the climate policy arena, the USA and the Gulf states are grappling with the transition to renewable energy. This transition is discussed in Jones' book "Energy Kingdoms: Oil and Political Survival in the Persian Gulf" (Jones, 2019). This shift creates challenges and opportunities for diplomacy, as both sides aim to balance traditional oil interests with global climate commitments. In addition, Jones' book examines Gulf states' strategies for managing changing energy landscapes.

In conclusion, the emergence of oil as a diplomatic tool between the U.S. and the Gulf states highlights the complex interaction between economic interests, strategic imperatives, and global energy trends. International relations and diplomacy have been influenced by these dynamic ties, shaped by historical events, technological advancements, and shifting global energy markets in profound ways.

2.5. Historical events shaping the U.S.-gulf oil relationship

The relationship between the U.S and the Gulf region has been formed by a series of historical occasions crossing centuries. These occasions have affected political alliances, financial ties, and cultural exchanges between the two areas.

2.5.1. Early trading routes

American merchants started exploring exchange openings with the Gulf region within the early 19th century, establishing commercial ties with cities such as Muscat, Bahrain, and Kuwait (Rugh, 1997). The starting of financial and economic interaction between the U.S. and the Gulf states had marked in this period, laying the establishment for future diplomatic

2.5.2. Strategic interest and world war II

The Gulf region emerged as a vital key area for the U. S. during World War II, especially for its oil reserves and shipping routes (Peterson, 2012). The development of the United States' geopolitical interface within the region is reflected by the establishment of military bases and alliances with Gulf states within this period.

The desire of America to counter Soviet impact and ensure Western influence increased US involvement in the Gulf during the Cold War era. The Eisenhower Convention of 1957 set the commitment of America to shielding the Gulf region against outside aggression, which led to the basis for long-term security cooperation (Peterson, 2012).

2.5.3. Iranian revolution 1979

The geopolitical landscape of the Gulf changed with the Iranian revolution of 1979, leading to increased U.S. military presence and security associations with Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries (Byman, 2015). Thus, the concerns of Iran's revolutionary fervor and guaranteeing territorial stability became paramount for American policymakers. The overthrow of the shah of Iran and the establishment of an Islamic republic under Ayatollah Khomeini due to the Iranian revolution, resulting in a significant oil supply disruption from Iran, a major Gulf

producer at the time, further enhancing of stable relations with Gulf nations for the U.S. energy security (Gross, 2019).

2.5.4. Gulf war (1990-1991)

U.S. -Gulf relations underwent a watershed moment during the Gulf War of 1990-1991. The American multinational coalition's effort to expel Iraqi forces from Kuwait reinforced its role as a security guarantor within the Gulf and extended its ties with Gulf partners. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990 and the subsequent Gulf War had a major impact on U.S. -Gulf oil relations. The US-led coalition to expel Iraqi forces from Kuwait emphasized the importance of the Gulf region to world oil supplies and underlined America's commitment to regional security to protect its energy interests (Renner & Aarts, 1991).

2.5.5. Middle eastern spring and territorial turmoil

The Middle Eastern Spring uprisings of 2011 brought political change to a few Gulf states, posing challenges to U.S. interface in the territory. American responses varied, reflecting a delicate balance between supporting democratic desires and maintaining stability and alliances. The USA followed these developments closely and realized the importance of instability in the Gulf countries in maintaining oil production and ensuring the stability of global energy markets.

2.5.6. Energy cooperation and financial allies

In spite of intermittent political pressures, the U.S. and Gulf states have sustained robust economic ties, especially within the energy area. Energy cooperation and investment have served as key pillars of the reciprocal relationship, cultivating shared prosperity. The interconnecting of worldwide challenges has been influenced by COVID-19 and the significance of cooperation between the U.S. and the Gulf region. Joint endeavors to combat the pandemic and mitigate its financial effects reaffirmed the flexibility of the reciprocal.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the US-Gulf relationship remains a fundamental focus in global geopolitics, with the various opportunities and challenges faced by both sides. While the connection of the two regions was due to the continuity of economic investment especially oil, the changing political landscape and regional dynamic require a sustained rebalancing of strategies and alliances. The U.S. is balancing its traditional partnerships with emerging realities, while the Gulf states are strengthening their global standing, to insuring a resilient and constructive US-Gulf relationship, the enhancing mutual understanding, dialogue, and collaboration will be the cornerstone.

CHAPTER THREE

Economic Impacts on American-Gulf Relations

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Introduction

This current chapter investigates the degrees of oil dependence between the U.S. and Gulf and its impacts. The U.S. reduces its reliance on foreign oil. However, It remains the largest oil consumer. However, Gulf countries remain reliant on oil exports for revenue regardless efforts to diversify their economies. This dependency exposes these nations to economic volatility and underscores the necessity for diversification to ensure long-term economic stability and growth. The interplay between economic dependence on oil and the quest for economic independence shapes the economic policies and strategies of both the U.S. and Gulf countries, highlighting the intricate balance required to achieve sustainable economic futures.

3.1.Economic independence and its effects

Oil has been a cornerstone in U.S.-Gulf economic relations, acting as the beating heart for trade and investment. As a major consumer of Gulf oil, the U.S. has adopted it as the primary source to fuel its economy and maintain energy security. In return, Gulf countries benefited from large export revenues from petroleum, which contributed to the development of their economy and influence globally (Alsayegh, 2023). Gulf-American economic exchange led to the strengthening of diplomatic relations and strategic partnership. However, challenges have also been posed by fluctuating oil prices and market dynamics, requiring both sides to diversify and adapt their economics. Despite these challenges, oil trade continues to be a pivotal factor between the U.S. and Gulf states in shaping the economic landscape and geopolitical alignment (Alsayegh, 2023).

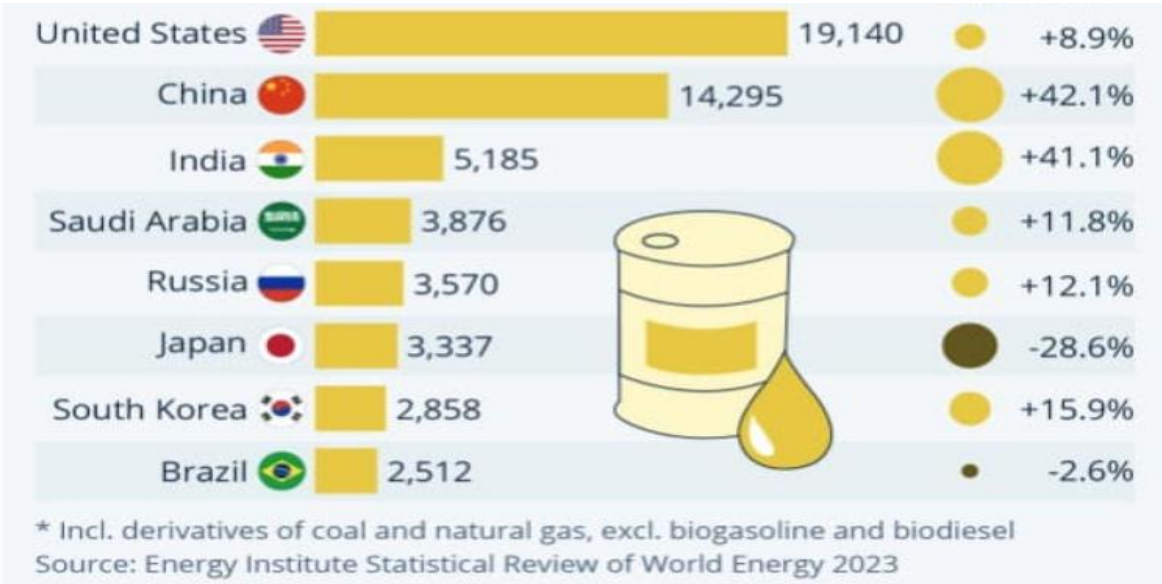
Economic independence represents a state's ability to sustain its economy without relying extensively on external resources, standing as a cornerstone of national sovereignty and stability in the context of modern global markets, achieving economic independence poses a particular challenge for countries that rely heavily on the import or export of a single resource, such as oil. These countries find themselves vulnerable to economic shocks and fluctuations due to their

dependence on a specific source. Economic independence in the context of oil dependence is particularly important in countries with oil-dominated economies. These countries face unique challenges due to their close economic connection to fluctuations in global oil prices. This dependence not only makes them vulnerable to economic shocks but also reduces innovation and progress in other sectors (Collier & Gunning, 1999). As a result, it is necessary to achieve a more diversified economy to mitigate risks and ensure continued growth. To increase economic independence, enhance independence, and provide a safer future for its citizens, these countries must invest in various non-oil sectors, such as technology and education.

3.1.1. Economic independence and its effects

The Gulf countries and U.S. show varying degrees of dependence on oil. The U.S. has reduced its dependence on foreign oil imports. It opts for increasing its domestic production and moving towards alternative energy sources. However, it is worth mentioning though that the U.S. is still the largest consumer and importer of oil. The following figure shows that the USA is the largest consumer of oil in the world in 2023:

Figure3.1 *The Biggest Countries' Oil Consumption in 2023*



Note: <https://images.app.goo.gl/hfzztMyiQvbhuPwS6>

Gulf countries depend on oil exports as their main source of revenue. This fact makes their economy dependent principally on oil. Regardless their different efforts in varying their

energy sources, oil still dominates their economic sectors. Thus, the Gulf countries face challenges in maintaining their economies in the long term, despite their vast oil reserves.

The economic interdependence between the Gulf States and the U.S. is profound in oil trade and investments, creating a symbiotic relationship between the producers and consumers in complex global networks. For instance, the U.S. is a major oil importer from Gulf states such as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE, ensuring a constant supply of energy for its economy (Stern et al., 2000). These countries also offer technological expertise and investment opportunities (Jensen, 1993). In return, Gulf countries provide oil and reinvest their petrodollars in the U.S., such as purchasing real estate. Additionally, U.S. companies play a vital role in the Gulf oil industry through technology transfers. This complex network asserts the importance of oil in shaping global economic interdependence (Cole, 2020).

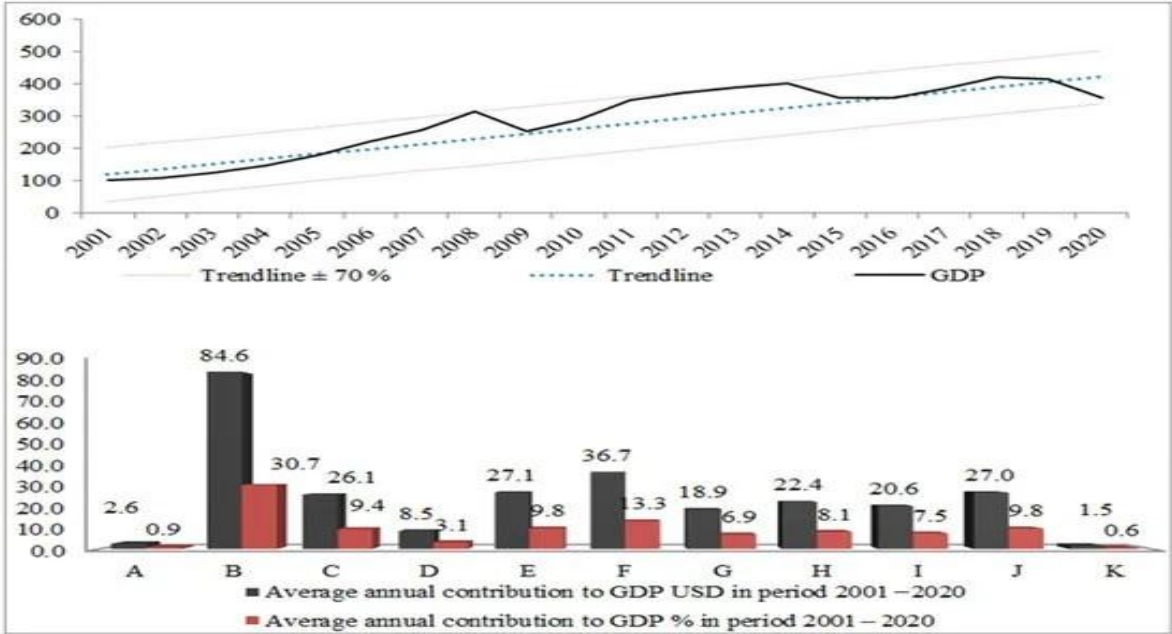
Oil dependency has significant impacts on economic independence. Reliance on oil exports, for example, exposes countries to fluctuations in global oil prices, which can lead to a decline in sovereignty in economic policy-making and instability of revenue flows. Moreover, oil-importing countries often adjust their foreign policies to ensure stable supplies of energy rather than shared values or strategic interests. Consequently, countries heavily reliant on oil often face difficulties in bilateral relations. Thus, reducing dependence on oil is essential to promoting equal bilateral relations

3.1.2. Price volatility and Economic Stability

The Gulf countries' and the United States' economies are impacted by changes in oil prices because these changes primarily have two effects on the economies of oil-exporting nations: (1) rising financial returns that spur economic growth in all sectors of the economy, or (2) falling financial returns that coincide with slower rates of economic growth. For example, nations experienced budget deficits in 2014 as a result of the severe drop in oil prices (Stern et al., 2000). Similar to this, a drop in oil prices in the US lowers production costs for businesses. The nation's economy grows as a result. Decreased investments in the energy sector, such as

inflation in the United States, can have a detrimental impact on the oil business (Scott & Storper, 2005).

Figure 3.2 The gross domestic product (GDP) of United Arab Emirates divided by economic sector for the period 2001



Note : https://www.researchgate.net/figure/UAE-total-GDP-broken-down-by-economic-sector-for-the-period-of-2001-2020-A-agriculture_fig1_366621987

The U.S.-Gulf government responses to oil price fluctuation through various mechanisms aimed at mitigating economic risks; for example, the United States government has frequently used a reserve oil strategy to keep prices stable, while Gulf nations like Saudi Arabia have lowered production to influence world prices. For instance, the demand for oil fell significantly during the Covid 19 epidemic in 2020 as a result of travel restrictions and the shutdown of the majority of airports worldwide, which sharply dropped oil prices (Zainab et al., 2021). The governments in the Gulf and the United States responded by taking action. For instance, to maintain prices, the US government boosted its purchases from the strategic petroleum reserves (Elavarasan et al., 2022). In the meantime, OPEC members in the Gulf decided to cut production in order to prevent a complete collapse in oil prices and to bring about stability.

These different strategies affect financial policies significantly, with the U.S. moving towards market-oriented solutions, while the Gulf countries are moving towards centralized

control. Such divergent methods can lead to challenges for economic planning, as seen during extreme price fluctuations' periods where dependence on oil revenue resulted in budget deficits in both regions. Overall, the government's response to oil price changes and their subsequent effects on fiscal policies highlight the complexity of economic management in a globalized oil market (Momani, 2008).

To lower the risks related to oil price volatility, The GC and the U.S must take decisive action to lower the risks related to oil price volatility. Accordingly, the U.S. has implemented policies such as: the Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPR). However, GC have invested in technology and tourism, diversifying their economies and reducing their need on oil revenues through initiatives such as Saudi Vision 2030. Moreover, agreements between oil-producing countries are the aim of cooperative initiatives like OPEC+, which aims to stabilize oil prices (Momani, 2008).

3.1.3. Energy security policies and diversification effort

The U.S. and Gulf countries share common goals in energy security policies but differ in their methods. In the U.S, policies aim to reduce dependency on foreign oil by relying on initiatives such as the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR), conservation acts, energy policies, and promoting local energy production (Lilliestam& Patt, 2015). The creation of renewable energy projects demonstrates this goal of diversifying energy sources. Also, Energy security is given top priority in GC, which invest in cutting-edge technologies for gas and oil extraction and distribution while still maintaining consistent levels of oil production.

In fact, the U.S and the GC are pursuing effective plans to diversify their energy sources and lessen their reliance on imported oil. The GC invests in renewable energy but mostly depend on oil exports, while the U.S concentrates on the development of renewable energy sources like solar and wind power, improves energy efficiency measures, and invests in technologies. The United States and the Gulf countries are pursuing effective plans to diversify their energy sources and lessen their reliance on imported oil. The Gulf states are investing more in

renewable energy but still mostly depend on oil exports, while the United States concentrates on the development of renewable energy sources like solar and wind power, improves energy efficiency measures, and invests in technologies. In addition, the United States and the Gulf nations investigate nuclear energy and carbon capture technologies as means of ensuring long-term energy security. The Gulf-U.S. countries are cognizant of the significance of lowering reliance on oil imports to achieve energy security and sustainability over the long run, as seen by initiatives like the U.S. Clean Power Plan and renewable energy projects in the region (Kober, Schiffer, Densing, & Panos, 2020).

The U.S. and Gulf countries' energy security policies have significantly contributed to reducing economic reliance. For the U.S, advances in gas extraction technologies have made it a net exporter of natural gas, thus making it self-sufficient in energy and strengthening its economy. However, challenges such as changing climate and geopolitical tensions require innovation in energy policies for effective economic independence.

3.1.4. Investment opportunities in the oil and gas sector

The U.S. companies can benefit from their technological expertise in extracting shale oil and gas to maximize profits, growth potential, and unconventional reserves, such as the Permian Basin in Texas, which offers great growth potential. Gulf companies, with extensive experience in the field of unconventional oil exploration and production, can explore joint projects with American partners like Exxon Mobil and Qatar Petroleum to access advanced drilling technologies and benefit from the deepwater reserves of the Gulf of Mexico. Similar to Occidental Petroleum's acquisition of Anadarko Petroleum, profitable opportunities for American and Gulf companies are provided by exploration and production ventures in emerging markets with untapped hydrocarbon resources such as West Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean, to expand their global footprint and secure long-term reserves. Exemplified partnerships such as Total in offshore blocks in Mozambique showcase the potential for collaboration in tapping into these resources (McBride & Sergie, 2015).

Cross-border investments in the oil sector between the U.S. and the Gulf states increase expertise and lead to the diversification of resources, contributing to the growth of these regions' economies and production; for example, the Saudi-American Aramco project in the oil shale industry in the U.S. demonstrates the benefits of cooperation between America and the Gulf states. However, different government policies between the U.S. and Gulf states, as well as challenges such as oil price fluctuations and political instability, may hinder these investments. To overcome these challenges, assessing the degree of risk, establishing effective legal agreements, and establishing communication channels are among the most effective ways to successfully manage cross-border oil investments. Companies like ExxonMobil and Qatar Petroleum have successfully overcome these challenges, serving as examples for other industrial sectors (Berry, 2020).

Gulf-American investments are a cornerstone in strengthening their economic relations. These investments facilitate the exchange of experiences, knowledge, and projects between these countries. Moreover, they allow the creation of job opportunities and the development of infrastructure, which contributes to economic growth and benefits local communities.

3.1.5. Technological innovation and market dynamics

Technological advances in the oil and gas industry is an important gain for the U.S. and the GC. The use of automated drilling rigs has increased the safety and quality of drilling operations. On the other hand, advanced seismic imaging techniques have led to the discovery of previously untapped reserves. Additionally, the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) has improved monitoring quality. In Gulf nations such as Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the use of horizontal drilling and smart well systems has helped extract oil from previously inaccessible places. Similarly, in the U.S., innovation in hydraulic fracturing has significantly increased production and reduced operating costs. By harnessing technology in the oil and gas industry, these countries ensure the sustainable growth of resources and the continuation of the hydrocarbons sector (Messieh, 2019).

Technological innovation has had a positive impact on economic competition, production costs, and market dynamics in both the U.S. and the Gulf countries. In terms of production costs, the American industry's reliance on robots has increased efficiency and reduced labor costs, contributing to the reduction of production costs. As for the Gulf countries, their investment in renewable energy has decreased their reliance on energy needed for production. Regarding market dynamics, the U.S. has completely transformed traditional retail trade by adopting e-commerce platforms like Amazon, resulting in lower prices for consumers. In the Gulf countries, online platforms such as Noon.com have emerged in the United Arab Emirates, creating new market opportunities for companies. In terms of economic competition, technological progress and investment in areas such as artificial intelligence (AI) in the U.S. and digital infrastructure in the Gulf countries enhance the global competitiveness of these nations. This represents both challenges and opportunities for companies and governments, leading to sustainable economic growth (Messieh, 2019).

Gulf-American economic relations have changed due to technological innovation between these countries, which has enhanced economic cooperation and competition. For example, in the field of knowledge transfer, cooperation in the research field facilitates the transfer of knowledge and encourages innovation in multiple sectors such as education and healthcare. Additionally, in the digital economy field, American companies like Amazon and Google lead in cloud computing and e-commerce in the Gulf. There are also more technological innovations in economic fields between these countries, such as in energy transformation (wind energy, solar energy), and infrastructure development. However, challenges still exist, such as data privacy, which hinders the smoothness of technology across borders.

3.2. Geopolitical risks and regional stability

The competition between Saudi Arabia and Iran leads to price fluctuations and supply disruptions worldwide due to the disruption of oil supply chains. Also, It threatens oil infrastructure and trade routes. Tensions between the GC lead to an increase in the U.S military

presence, which require greater American diplomatic efforts to calm conflicts, and lead to fluctuations in oil prices, which leads to instability in global markets. Therefore, American foreign policy and economic strategies in the Gulf are linked to the geopolitical dynamics in the Gulf. Additionally, geopolitical events within the U.S, such as conflicts in oil-producing regions like Texas, lead to regional instability and the imposition of trade restrictions. Outside of it, American geopolitical rivalries with Iran may lead to fluctuations in global oil prices, affecting market stability (Tabrizi, 2016).

The geopolitical tensions that take place in the U.S. and the GC have repercussions on regional stability and economic relations between these countries; for instance, disputes between Qatar and its neighboring Gulf states due to political influence and territorial waters resulted in an economic blockade and diplomatic confrontations.

Additionally, the Qatar diplomatic crisis which happened in June 5,2017, when Saudi Arabia, EAU, Bahrain, Egypt served its diplomatic relations with Qatar, due to Qatari support for terrorism (BBC,2017). It caused divisions within the (GCC), hindering the smooth flow of investment and trade. Likewise, American tensions with Iran led to the re-imposition of sanctions on Iran by the U.S. of America, resulting in regional security concerns affecting the economic growth of neighboring Gulf countries. Conversely, American alliances with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates continue and develop. The Israeli Abraham Accords with some Gulf countries further consolidated relations between these countries, confirming the existence of an effective dynamic interaction between security interests and economic priorities (Stern et al., 2000).

Strategies to mitigate geopolitical risks and enhance cooperation in the oil sector between the Gulf states and the U.S. are multiple and effective. First, establishing political negotiations and alliances, such as the historical Israeli Abraham Accords signed in 2020 with the United Arab Emirates, contributes to enhancing stability and preventing conflicts. This is evident in agreements like OPEC+, where member states agree on oil production organization.

Secondly, investing in renewable energy sources reduces dependence on oil exports. Next, strengthening trust between the U.S. and the GC creates a more cooperative environment. Secondly, investing in renewable energy sources reduces dependence on oil exports. Next, the trust development between the U.S. and the GC creates a more cooperative environment; for example, The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), which aims to hold resource-rich countries accountable and promote open governance, reduces risks and improve cooperation. Moreover, joint infrastructure projects such as the trans-Arab pipeline increase the economic interconnection of these countries (Vakil, 2023).

3.3.The strategic alliances and partnerships

Those strategic alliances are:

3.3.1. The Evolution of U.S-Gulf Strategic Alliances

The Gulf region has experienced different conflicts, strategic partnerships, peace talks, economic councils, and large scale wars. The United States foreign policy over the years has developed an intriguing relationship with many of the Gulf States that has evolved through a number of Presidential Administrations from negative and positive moments throughout recent history, Prior to World War II; the United States had limited engagement with the Gulf region. The discovery of oil in the early 20th century began to draw American interest, but it wasn't until after World War II that the region gained strategic significance due to its oil reserves. Following World War II, the discovery of vast oil reserves in the Gulf region prompted the United States to forge close ties with Gulf monarchies to secure access to energy resources and safeguard its geopolitical interests. This period saw the establishment of bilateral security agreements, such as the Eisenhower Doctrine in 1957, these alliances were further solidified during the Cold War, as the Gulf states served as crucial allies in containing Soviet expansionism and maintaining stability in the region.(AL-Rasheed,2002)

Following the Gulf War in 1991, there was a notable shift in the strategic alliances between the United States and the Gulf. the presence of U.S. military bases in countries like

Qatar, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates further solidified the strategic partnership between the United States and Gulf states, enabling closer cooperation in counterterrorism efforts and regional security. The United States' commitment to Gulf security was reaffirmed by its military involvement in liberating Kuwait from Iraqi control, solidifying its position as the region's main security guarantee (Byman & Pollack, 2001). As a result, more institutionalized defense cooperation structures were established, such as the Gulf Security Dialogue, and Gulf governments received military support and arms purchases to improve their defense capacities and interoperability with US troops.

With its Gulf allies, the US has strengthened security cooperation in the areas of intelligence sharing, combined military drills, and measures to prevent Iran's regional influence. Furthermore, the Abraham Accords, which were signed in 2020 and normalized relations between Israel and a number of Gulf states with US support, had further changed the Middle East's geopolitical landscape and created new opportunities for collaboration in fields like economic development, technology, and security (Katzman, 2020).

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of adaptability and collaboration in addressing shared issues confronting the Gulf region and the larger global community. In response to the pandemic, the United States provided the Gulf States support for their efforts to recover economically as well as vaccine contributions and medical supplies. As both sides collaborate to confront the health crisis and its socioeconomic effects while also addressing long-term security issues, this has strengthened the common interests and values that support the strategic alliances between the Gulf and the Americas (Tortola, 2020)

3.3.2. U.S-Gulf strategic alliances and defense cooperation

For the United States, the Arabian Gulf region remains one of the most geostrategic ally important locations in the world. Home to over half of the world's oil reserves and nearly a third of its natural gas, the Gulf States continue to supply world markets with an important share of their energy supplies. Continuing to be one of the world's largest regional suppliers of energy

and holding much of the world's spare capacity in crude oil production makes the region central to the stability of the global oil market (El-Katiri, 2015). The war against ISIS, the ongoing confrontation with Iran, the instability in Iraq, the Syrian Civil War, the conflict in Yemen, and the ongoing confrontation with the United States have all significantly altered the security situation in the Persian Gulf and the regional military balance. The strategic partnership between Arab Gulf states, as well as with the United States and other outside states, must now adapt to deal with a variety of new threats, including non-state actors (Cordesman, 2015).

Historically, the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) members; Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have been important regional allies for the United States, aiding in maintaining stability while counterbalancing the inspirational political and economic goals of Iran and Iraq. The United States has been the most significant external security partner for the majority of GCC countries for decades. The U.S. military has been deployed in the GCC states and has defended them against regional military threats, including training local armed forces and supplying all six GCC members with a wide range of contemporary arms and defense systems. For the GCC states, U.S. political and military support has been critical to their own defense (El-Katiri, 2015).

U.S. and British interests in particular focused on the hereditary monarchical systems of Saudi Arabia and, at the time, Iran, where the Shah (later ousted from power in 1979) promised both stable relations and, like Saudi Arabia, relied to a certain extent on military protection through his Western allies. During the 1960s, a twin-pillar policy became the key U.S. strategy in ensuring the stability of the Gulf's regional security system. Iran and Saudi Arabia, both regional emerging large powers, and both strongly allied to U.S. and Western governments, dominated the wider region, thus marginalizing any potentially threatening elements. Iranian-Saudi Arabian rivalry would also ensure that no one country would eventually end up significantly more powerful than the other, a fact which also corresponded to the intrinsic

religious-sectarian differences between Sunni traditionalist Saudi Arabia, and Shiite Iran(El-Katiri, 2015).

3.3.3. Lessons and options for U.S. policy toward the GCC

The shifting overall security landscape in the Gulf, linked to Iraq's ongoing instability, the possibility of an evolving nuclear Iran, and an increasingly powerful economy Because of the GCC, which now includes countries other than Saudi Arabia, which used to be its main economic force, the U.S.'s position as a political and military ally has changed and is probably going to continue to change (Ayoob, 2012).

The policies of "dual containment" and "twin pillar" politics appear to have failed to bring stability to the region, and U.S. political strategy has proven to be ineffective in securing security for the country not only in the Gulf region but also throughout the larger Middle East itself were illustrated by the events of 9/11.

At the same time as these profound challenges await strategists both in the United States and the GCC states themselves, the United States as a military partner has been changing as well. The ongoing Iraq catastrophe, which has left the Middle East with yet another unstable state and immediate Many former proponents of US involvement in the region have become disillusioned and pessimistic due to the region's proximity to the GCC. The large financial and human cost of U.S. military engagement in the region appears to have worn out support among different political groups within U.S. policy circles which was previously consistent for decades; while the onset of North America's and Europe's most profound financial crisis for many decades in 2008 has meant that financial means for U.S. military interventions has been reduced significantly(El-Katiri, 2015) .The ongoing U.S. defense budget adjustments have raised concerns among the GCC leaders about the future of U.S. military capabilities, and U.S. willingness and ability to engage in the region. Despite the United States Government's 2011 strategic military document reaffirming its commitment to ensuring the security and stability of the Middle East, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) nations continue to be concerned about the future. This calls into

question the future direction of US security cooperation in the area, which has always been a pillar of US-Gulf relations. In light of all these developments, we propose the pillars that could comprise a future U.S.-GCC relationship in the sections that follow (El-Katiri, 2015).

3.4.Regional conflicts and their impact on U.S-Gulf relations

It impacts on:

3.4.1. Oil policies during the Gulf wars

The foreign and domestic policies of the Gulf Arab countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, or UAE) significantly affect global energy security, international stability and global markets. It is therefore imperative to closely analyze the Gulf's policies, especially those concerning energy, given that the region holds more than 30% of the world's proven crude oil and 20% of its natural gas reserves (Baker Institute for Public Policy, n.d.) The Gulf region has long been a focal point of U.S. foreign policy due to its strategic significance, particularly concerning energy resources and regional stability. The American intervention in Gulf conflicts has strengthened certain aspects of U.S.-Gulf relations and posed challenges, Also presented opportunities for cooperation, particularly in the realms of security, counterterrorism, and energy diplomacy. And has reshaped geopolitical dynamics in the region. The U.S. has a vested interest in maintaining stability in the Gulf to ensure the free flow of energy resources; Instability or conflict in the region can disrupt energy supplies, affecting global oil prices and energy security.

American intervention in Gulf conflicts, notably the Gulf War of 1990-1991 and the Iraq War of 2003, has had profound effects on U.S.-Gulf relations and had profound impacts on oil politics in the region and beyond (Nye, 1991).

The Gulf War of 1990-1991 had a transformative impact on U.S.-Gulf relations, strengthening diplomatic ties, deepening military cooperation, and consolidating America's strategic position in the region. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 sparked the first Gulf War. One of the primary motivations behind Iraq's invasion was control over Kuwait's oil

reserves, the international reaction, led by a coalition commanded by the United States, aimed to secure oil supplies and regional security by throwing Iraqi soldiers out of Kuwait after The United States and United Nations Security Council immediately condemned the invasion. The Security Council passed resolutions placing economic sanctions on Iraq and set a deadline of January 15, 1991 for Iraq to withdraw forces from Kuwait (Nye, 1991) , The U.S. demonstrated its commitment to safeguarding regional stability and protecting the flow of oil through its military intervention. This reaffirmed the U.S.'s role as a key security guarantor in the Gulf. As conventionally understood, the American strategy is based on a resolve to assure the flow of oil to the West at reasonable prices by relying on states, notably Saudi Arabia, that have excess capacity; This alone requires Saudi-U.S cooperation to assure that the Saudi capacity is used as a moderating force on the oil market. It remains in the interest of the Gulf Cooperation Council states to have American military backing. That gives the United States some leverage, but only up to a point since GCC states know that the U.S. strategy also serves American interests. The result is clear mutual incentives to cooperate and impact the relationship between them. Certainly, when threats to oil are clear, as in the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990, Saudi Arabia and other GCC states will undoubtedly rally behind the United States to defend the oil fields and the United States will need to work with them to reduce the level and the profile of American forces without jeopardizing its military strategy (Ayoob, 2012b). The Gulf will continue to need American backing, and the United States will continue to need their cooperation. The Gulf region and its immense oil reserves will only become more important for the global economy in the future. (Ayoob, 2012b)

The 2003 Iraq War, initiated by the U.S. and its allies, had significant implications for oil politics and was a defining moment in the history of Gulf-American partnerships .The U.S. sought to reshape Iraq's political landscape and ensure access to its oil resources .Differences in post-war reconstruction efforts and political developments in Iraq further complicated diplomatic

relations between the U.S. and Gulf states, particularly among populations critical of the war's legitimacy and consequences. (Ayoob, 2012b)

The Iraq War prompted significant military cooperation between the United States and Gulf allies, with several Gulf states hosting U.S. military bases and providing logistical support for coalition operations and reshaped the strategic landscape of the region and influenced defense policies and priorities among Gulf states .Moreover ,the subsequent stabilization of Iraq's oil production and the prospect of post-war reconstruction contracts presented economic opportunities for Gulf states and American firms and underscored the complexities of economic cooperation between the U.S. and Gulf states (Nye, 1991).

Gulf-American cooperation in the against terrorism and extremism are tested by the emergence of non-state actors and the spread of extremist, which further complicates attempts to maintain peace and security in the area.

3.4.2. Post-Gulf war oil policies

The Gulf War was hardly the end of United States involvement in the Middle East. Rather, it signaled that at the end of the twentieth century, the foreign policy of the United States was becoming ever-more enmeshed in the politics of the Middle East American intervention in Gulf conflicts has shaped diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Gulf states. The formation of coalitions during conflicts, fostered closer diplomatic ties between the U.S. and Gulf allies. However, differences in approaches to conflict resolution and post-war reconstruction efforts have occasionally strained diplomatic relations (National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, 2006).

Gulf conflicts have disrupted oil markets, leading to fluctuations in global oil prices that affect the economies of both Gulf States and the U.S .Post-war reconstruction efforts in countries like Iraq have presented economic opportunities for American firms .Thus, the economic ramifications of American intervention in Gulf conflicts have been significant for both the U.S. and Gulf states (Baker Institute for Public Policy, n.d.)

Gulf conflicts have led to extensive military cooperation between the U.S. and Gulf states. American military intervention in Gulf conflicts, often in the form of troop deployments and air support, has reinforced U.S. security commitments to Gulf allies. Joint military exercises and arms sales have further deepened military cooperation, enhancing Gulf states' defense capabilities and bolstering regional security and The U.S. established a significant military presence in the region to deter future aggression and ensure the security of vital oil shipping lanes. To stabilize prices and ensure an adequate oil supply, the U.S. and other Western nations coordinated efforts to release oil from strategic reserves and increase production. This led to increased investment in alternative energy sources and efforts to enhance energy efficiency, this led to calls for stricter environmental regulations and greater emphasis on sustainable energy practices. These alliances were driven by shared security concerns.

Gulf countries invested heavily in the U.S. economy through sovereign wealth funds and direct investments, further strengthening economic interdependence. The Gulf War served as a catalyst for closer American Gulf partnerships and relations, these partnerships included joint ventures, technology transfers, and investments in oil and gas infrastructure. The U.S. also supported Gulf countries' efforts to modernize their energy industries and diversify their economies away from oil dependency and encouraging Gulf States to embrace democratic governance and respect human rights standards this includes efforts to promote peace and stability in the Middle East, facilitate dialogue between Gulf countries and their neighbors, and address humanitarian challenges in the region. ; Issues such as political repression, freedom of expression, and labor rights continue to be sources of tension in U.S.-Gulf relations(National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, 2006). However, its approach has often been balanced with strategic interests and regional stability considerations. Gulf countries maintain security partnerships with Western allies, including the United States .Initiatives such as digitalization, automation, and artificial intelligence are being adopted to optimize oil and gas operations and maintain competitiveness in a rapidly evolving global energy landscape .continue to shape Gulf

oil policies and security considerations. , to safeguard critical energy infrastructure and ensure the free flow of oil through strategic waterways such as the Strait of Hormuz. Also, focused on diversifying their economies away from oil dependence and investing in renewable energy such as Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 and the UAE's Energy Strategy 2050. (MERIA, n.d.)

Conclusion

The chapter has highlighted the role of economic interdependence that characterizes the relationship between the United States and the Gulf countries. Trade partnerships, particularly in the energy sector, play a central role in driving economic cooperation and mutual prosperity. In light of these observations, it has profound implications for both American energy security and foreign policy in the Gulf. The economic impact on American Gulf relations is a critical aspect of their multifaceted relationship and the evolving nature of economic dynamics, including technological advancements and geopolitical shifts. It is evident that sustained dialogue and collaboration between the United States and the Gulf states are essential. Also, the chapter has shed light on the significance of Gulf oil reserves in shaping the economic landscape of the region and influencing global energy markets.

General Conclusion

This study has argued that the American oil strategy has an impact on the U.S_ Gulf relations ,through an overall investigation of a historical documents, economic reliance , and political reports .This study has found that The United States security energy interests in the Gulf has led to an essential diplomatic, military, and economic partnerships, The region has an effective role in shaping international relations, and this is evident in the interrelation between political tensions and economic interests in it. Moreover ,the economic interdependence between the U.S. and Gulf region is a central factor that influences the geopolitical landscape of the nations. The U.S. is balancing its traditional partnerships with emerging realities, while the Gulf states are strengthening their global standing, to insuring a resilient and constructive US-Gulf relationship, the enhancing mutual understanding, dialogue, and collaboration will be the cornerstone. Additionally, the Gulf region has experienced different conflicts, strategic partnerships and economic councils which prompting Gulf nations to adapt their economic strategies. The most important stockholders who should be involved in clarifying these findings are energy policy makers ,and the academic literature bodies, both of whom should understand the diplomatic, military, and economic alliances Through conducting studies that examine the effects of U.S presence in the Gulf to explore the current and the future impact of oil policies on the U.S.-Gulf relationship .the insufficient time for scientific research was a primary limitation in this study , and this had an impact on the quality of the findings . The American oil industry has

a potential impact on the relationship between the U.S and Gulf region , considering factors such as geopolitical landscape, economic dependencies, and Diplomatic alliances .

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ملخص

تتناول هذه الدراسة تطور صناعة النفط الأمريكية منذ بداية الحفر في حقول النفط في ولاية بنسلفانيا إلى العصر الحديث وتأثيرها العميق على العلاقات الأمريكية الخليجية. تهدف الدراسة إلى استكشاف التطور التاريخي للاستراتيجية النفطية الأمريكية في منطقة الخليج، من خلال دراسة المناورات الدبلوماسية الحاسمة، والتحالفات الاستراتيجية، والتبعيات الاقتصادية. الهدف الأساسي هو تحليل كيفية تأثير السياسات النفطية الأمريكية على الارتباطات الثنائية والمتعددة الأطراف مع دول الخليج وتقييم دور استراتيجية النفط الأمريكية في تعزيز أو تحدي أمن الطاقة لكل من الولايات المتحدة والخليج من خلال تحديد الأبعاد البيئية مع الأخذ في الاعتبار عوامل مثل تنوع الطاقة. والمخاطر الجيوسياسية والتنمية الاجتماعية والاقتصادية. ويتبع البحث المنهج الوصفي والتحليلي. الوصف التاريخي لوثائق السياسة الأرشيفية والتقارير الحكومية والأدبيات الأكاديمية الموجودة التي توفر نظرة ثاقبة لتطور استراتيجية النفط الأمريكية. وسيتم تقييم الترابط الاقتصادي من خلال البيانات التجارية وتقارير الاستثمار. وتتوقع الدراسة أن تسلط الضوء على مدى تأثير الإستراتيجية النفطية على العلاقات الأمريكية الخليجية. وتخلص هذه الدراسة إلى أن الترابط الاقتصادي الذي يميز العلاقة بين الولايات المتحدة ودول الخليج يلعب دوراً مركزياً في قيادة وتعزيز شراكة متعددة الأوجه تمتد إلى ما هو أبعد من الشراكة التجارية النفطية. يحاول هذا البحث المساهمة في مجالات العلاقات الدولية وسياسة الطاقة من خلال خدمة الطلاب والباحثين وعامة الناس المهتمين بالعلاقات الدولية وسياسة الطاقة ويقدم تحليلاً تاريخياً مهماً حول تطور استراتيجية النفط الأمريكية التي كان لها تأثير مركزي. حول العلاقات الأمريكية الخليجية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: النفط الأمريكي، سياسة الطاقة، العلاقات الدولية، العلاقات الأمريكية الخليجية.