

## The EU, Middle East and North Africa

Developments in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) pose a growing challenge for the European Union. Many countries in the region face war, political turmoil and popular anger, due to the impact of poverty in generating instability, migration and, in some cases, terrorism.

The EU wants to contribute to stability in MENA through instruments such as the [European Neighbourhood Policy](#) and the [Union for the Mediterranean](#), but there are calls for the EU to play an even more active role in the region.

This note offers links to **recent commentaries and reports by major international think tanks on EU-MENA relations** and the general problems found within the region and some specific countries. More reports on the region can be found in a [previous edition](#) of 'What Think Tanks are Thinking' published in August 2016.

### EU-MENA

[EU refugee policy in crisis](#),

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, October 2017

[Effectiveness and potential of European Trade and Assistance Policies in the South Mediterranean Neighbourhood in the fields of agriculture, water and rural development](#)

Istituto Affari Internazionali, September 2017

[To end a war: Europe's role in bringing peace to Syria](#)

European Council on Foreign Relations, September 2017

[The case for a Euro-Arab summit](#)

Centre for European Policy Studies, September 2017

[Towards EU-MENA shared prosperity](#)

Bruegel, August 2017

[EU diplomacy and the Iran nuclear deal: Staying power?](#)

Centre for European Policy Studies, July 2017

[The Arab representation of European democratic values and the influence of Euro-Arab relations](#)

Vrije Universiteit Brussel, June 2017

[Trump, Europe and the Middle East peace process: A path out of the quicksand](#)

Centre for European Reform, June 2017

[Towards a recalibration of EU-North Africa relations](#)

Brookings Institution, May 2017

[Did the European Union light a beacon of hope in North Africa? Assessing the effectiveness of EU democracy promotion in Tunisia](#)

College of Europe, May 2017

[The EU's construction of the Mediterranean \(2003-2017\)](#)

Istituto Affari Internazionali, April 2017

[The EU's framing of the Mediterranean \(1990-2002\): Building a Euro-Mediterranean partnership](#)

Istituto Affari Internazionali, April 2017

[The European Community framing of the Mediterranean \(1970-1990\)](#)

Istituto Affari Internazionali, April 2017

[EU Cultural Diplomacy in the MENA region: A qualitative mapping of initiatives promoting regional cooperation](#)

Institute for European Studies, April 2017

[Theorizing the role of experts in shaping Euro-Mediterranean politics, at a time of erosion of democratic legitimacy and emergence of contested issues](#)

European Institute of the Mediterranean, April 2017

[The ENP between ambitions and delusions: Analysing Europe's misconceptions in supporting democratisation in Egypt](#)

Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission, November 2016

[Deconstructing the EU's discourse on the Mediterranean](#)

Istituto Affari Internazionali, October 2016

[EU differentiation and the push for peace in Israel-Palestine](#)

European Council on Foreign Relations, October 2016

[New chapter in EU-Algeria energy relations](#)

Jacques Delors Institute, Berlin, September 2016

[The new EU Global Strategy and what it means for Morocco](#)

OCP Policy Center, September 2016

## **Energy**

[The Middle East refining scene and oil product balances](#)

Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, September 2017

[The political economy of energy subsidies in Egypt and Tunisia: The untold story](#)

Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, August 2017

[How can renewable energy help contribute to the development of the MENA countries?](#)

Istituto Affari Internazionali, July 2017

[The political economy of Middle East and North Africa oil exporters in times of global decarbonisation](#)

Bruegel, April 2017

[Financing renewable electricity in the resource-rich countries of the Middle East and North Africa: A review](#)

Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, February 2017

[Post-Vienna: Prospects for Iran's oil production and exports](#)

Atlantic Council, January 2017

[Energy resources and regional cooperation in the East Mediterranean](#)

Istituto Affari Internazionali, October 2016

## **Security and other issues**

[Anticipating the post-Daesh landscape](#)

Egmont, October 2017

[Post-ISIS governance in Jarablus: A Turkish-led strategy](#)

Chatham House, September 2017

[Middle East gets messier](#)

Chatham House, September 2017

[Moats, walls, and the future of Iraqi national identity](#)

Istituto Affari Internazionali, October 2016

[Palestine: de l'État introuvable à la nation en déroute. A quoi servent les dirigeants palestiniens?](#)

Centre d'études et de recherches internationales, October 2016

[Civil-military relations in the MENA: Between fragility and resilience](#)

European Union Institute for Security Studies, October 2016

[Middle East's migrant population more than doubles since 2005](#)

Pew Research Center, October 2016

[Qatar engulfed: Tactical steps raise stakes in protracted crisis](#)

Finnish Institute of International Affairs, September 2017

[Global identities: Embedding the Middle East and North Africa region in the wider world](#)

MENARA, September 2017

[Iraq after the fall of ISIS: The struggle for the state](#)

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[Making victory count after defeating ISIS: Stabilization challenges in Mosul and beyond](#)

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[The geographic trajectory of conflict and militancy in Tunisia](#)

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[Future challenges of climate change in the MENA region](#)

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[On the emergence of an Arab democracy: Social divides and political compromises in Tunisia](#)

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, July 2017

[Challenges for transatlantic counter-terrorism cooperation in North Africa](#)

German Marshall Fund of the United States, July 2017

[The summer of our discontent: Sects and citizens in Lebanon and Iraq](#)

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[Cybercrime and the digital economy in the GCC countries](#)

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Institut Montaigne, June 2017

[The future of jobs and skills in the Middle East and North Africa: Preparing the region for the fourth industrial revolution](#)

World Economic Forum, May 2017

[Marginalization, young people in the south and east Mediterranean, and policy](#)

Istituto Affari Internazionali, May 2017

[Lessons to be learned from other experiences of socio-economic transformation for youth in the SEM region](#)

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[Building partnerships in challenging times: The defence arrangements of Tunisia](#)

European Institute of the Mediterranean, May 2017

[Elections et notabilité en Iran: Une analyse du scrutin législatif de 2016 dans 4 circonscriptions](#)

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[The Syrian chessboard: Prospects for the future after six years of carnage](#)

Center for International Relations, May 2017

[Proposals on building a regional security system in West Asia and North Africa](#)

Russian International Affairs Council, April 2017

[From politics to policy: Building regional resilience in West-Asia and North Africa](#)

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[Future of Syria](#)

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[The popular mobilization forces and Iraq's future](#)

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[Legislating authoritarianism: Egypt's new era of repression](#)

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[Egypt's secular political parties: A struggle for identity and independence](#)

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[Insecurity and governance challenges in southern Libya](#)

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[Refugees and displacement in the Middle East](#)

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[Local wars and the chance for decentralized peace in Syria](#)

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[How regional security concerns uniquely constrain governance in North-Eastern Syria](#)

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[Hizbollah's Syria conundrum](#)

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[A house divided: Political relations and coalition-building between Iraq's Shi'a](#)

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[Turning the tide: The politics of irregular migration in the Sahel and Libya](#)

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[Yemen's al-Qaeda: Expanding the base](#)

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[Christen in Syrien: Aktuelle Lage und Perspektiven](#)

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[Jordan and Syrian refugees](#)

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[Methods of preventing and combatting terrorism in the MENA region and in the West](#)

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[Regional foreign policy dynamics and their implications for the Mediterranean Region](#)

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European Council on Foreign Relations, January 2017

[Transformation in Tunisia: The first five years](#)

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[Leaving the storm behind: Ideas for a new Mediterranean](#)

Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale, Bruegel, Chatham House, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, December 2017

[Implementing the Iran nuclear deal: Balancing proliferation finance risk and economic opportunity](#)

Royal United Services Institute, December 2016

[Guests or trash: Iran's precarious policies towards the Afghan refugees in the wake of sanctions and regional wars](#)

Danish Institute of International Studies, December 2016

[Great expectations: The Iranian economy after the nuclear deal](#)

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[Israel and Iraqi Kurds in a transforming Middle East](#)

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[Material factors for the MENA region: Data sources, trends and drivers](#)

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[Tunisia's postcolonial identity crisis: A key to understanding the lure of extremism](#)

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[Can the EU help prevent further conflict in Iraq and Syria?](#)

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[Middle East Strategy task force: Final report of the co-chairs](#)

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[Sectarian dilemmas in Iranian foreign policy: When strategy and identity politics collide](#)

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[Re-conceptualizing orders in the MENA region: The analytical framework of the MENARA project](#)

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[Syria's path from civic uprising to civil war](#)

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