

By Alasdair Drysdale The Financial Controller The Things The Academics Dont Teach You

The internal destabilization of many poor countries that accompanied the end of the Cold War and the general failure of structural adjustment programs have changed the nature and allotment of foreign aid around the world. Major donors of foreign aid such as the United States, Japan, and the European Union have been shifting their geographical priorities in allocating aid, as well as their project emphasis, since the end of the Cold War. In addition, multilateral aid agencies—the World Bank, the United Nations, and the International Monetary Fund—are attempting to redress past failures of aid and revamp policies and priorities. Moreover, aid recipients in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Eastern Europe, the former Soviet republics, and Central America are establishing priorities of their own and evaluating the success and failure of past aid programs. This volume stands out in the literature on foreign aid because it includes contributions from eight policy representatives from a range of important donor and recipient countries—the United States, Japan, the Netherlands, Bolivia, Egypt, Bangladesh, El Salvador, and Poland. Timely in its assessment of the crisis and the transition in the foreign aid regime, the book provides a view from inside the policy process and imparts a researcher's perspective on the changing priorities for donors and recipients. The wide-ranging essay—most previously unpublished—aim to shed light on the changing political, economic, and regional geographies of aid at the end of the twentieth century.

This fascinating area study of a major Middle East country in turmoil examines Syria's unusual interventionist role in the Lebanese Civil War as Syria shifted allegiance from the rebels to the Lebanese incumbents.

A complete professional guide to the increasingly critical area of financial control, packed with sample reports, analysis layouts and real-life examples. The function of Financial Controller has never been more important than today in a time of challenging economic conditions and intense market competition. Written in plain English, the book is intended for use by anyone responsible for financial management, and will be useful for students as well as financial practitioners. Alasdair Drysdale has over 30 years experience on five continents, first as a chartered accountant, and then as a management consultant and interim director specialising in complex project management, financial control and company turnaround. His previous books include *The Report Report* (a guide to writing business reports) also published by Management Books 2000.

Family remains the most powerful social idiom and one of the most powerful social structures throughout the Arab world. To engender love of nation among its citizens, national movements portray the nation as a family. To motivate loyalty, political leaders frame themselves as fathers, mothers, brothers, or sisters to their clients, parties, or the citizenry. To stimulate production, economic actors evoke the sense of duty and mutual commitment of family obligation. To sanctify their edicts, clerics wrap religion in the moralities of family and family in the moralities of religion. Social and political movements, from the most secular to the most religious, pull on the tender strings of family love to recruit and bind their members to each other. To call someone family is to

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offer them almost the highest possible intimacy, loyalty, rights, reciprocities, and dignity. In recognizing the significance of the concept of family, this state-of-the-art literature review captures the major theories, methods, and case studies carried out on Arab families over the past century. The book offers a country-by-country critical assessment of the available scholarship on Arab families. Sixteen chapters focus on specific countries or groups of countries; seven chapters offer examinations of the literature on key topical issues. Joseph's volume provides an indispensable resource to researchers and students, and advances Arab family studies as a critical independent field of scholarship.

The struggle for political legitimacy in many Middle Eastern countries today poses a dilemma for ruling elites. In order to maintain authority, leaders often must capitulate to Islamic universalist dogma, which may conflict with their own views of the state as well as threaten the legitimacy of other leaders in the region who are attempting to establish a secular, national basis for government. Tracing the roots of this dilemma in Middle Eastern history and Islamic philosophy, Dr. Sonn compares the contemporary Middle Eastern period to Europe's "Age of Religious Wars" that preceded the emergence of the Western secular state. She describes how a process similar to the organic development of the secular state in Europe was interrupted in the Middle East by oppressive Western colonialism, which eventually led to the Muslim rejection of nationalism and all things "Western" and to the reassertion of Islam as the sole source of political legitimacy. The author shows how the philosophy of Islamic traditionalism opposes the two fundamentals of stable national political systems—a geographical limitation of authority and an institutionalized process for regular changes in leadership. Dr. Sonn bases her argument on an insightful examination of Middle Eastern history, from the formation and disintegration of the Ottoman Empire in the late nineteenth century to the present, and caps it with a detailed look at a possible solution to the dilemma: the teachings of modern scholars who advocate a new "Islamic realism" incorporating a limited definition of national identity and interests while retaining Islamic social goals.

Writing spreadsheets, budgets and forecasts is an important part of many managers roles, but do you need help in understanding and presenting the information in a clear and concise way? This step-by-step guide shows you the advantages and potentials of using spreadsheets. After reading this book you'll be able to master company accounts; understand balance sheets, profit and loss accounts and cash flow systems; and learn to analyse and monitor your company's financial performance. **BRILLIANT OUTCOMES:** • How to save time and gain control of your business. • Ability to understand, analyse and present financial information in a clear and concise way. **BRILLIANT FEATURES:** • Up-to-date examples and spreadsheets. • On-line downloads of examples and spreadsheet models • New 234mm X 156mm format to make

Critical insights for savvy financial analysts Financial Planning & Analysis and Performance Management is the essential desk reference for CFOs, FP&A professionals, investment banking professionals, and equity research analysts. With thought-provoking discussion and refreshing perspective, this book provides insightful reference for critical areas that directly impact an organization's effectiveness. From budgeting and forecasting, analysis, and performance management, to financial

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communication, metrics, and benchmarking, these insights delve into the cornerstones of business and value drivers. Dashboards, graphs, and other visual aids illustrate complex concepts and provide reference at a glance, while the author's experience as a CFO, educator, and general manager leads to comprehensive and practical analytical techniques for real world application. Financial analysts are under constant pressure to perform at higher and higher levels within the realm of this consistently challenging function. Though areas ripe for improvement abound, true resources are scarce—until now. This book provides real-world guidance for analysts ready to: Assess performance of FP&A function and develop improvement program Improve planning and forecasting with new and provocative thinking Step up your game with leading edge analytical tools and practical solutions Plan, analyze and improve critical business and value drivers Build analytical capability and effective presentation of financial information Effectively evaluate capital investments in uncertain times The most effective analysts are those who are constantly striving for improvement, always seeking new solutions, and forever in pursuit of enlightening resources with real, useful information. Packed with examples, practical solutions, models, and novel approaches, Financial Planning & Analysis and Performance Management is an invaluable addition to the analyst's professional library. Access to a website with many of the tools introduced are included with the purchase of the book.

UK GAAP 2019 provides a comprehensive guide to interpreting and implementing UK accounting standards, particularly: FRS 100: Application of Financial Reporting Requirements FRS 101: Reduced Disclosure Framework — Disclosure exemptions from EU-adopted IFRS for qualifying entities FRS 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 103: Insurance Contracts FRS 104: Interim Financial Reporting This book is an essential tool for anyone applying, auditing, interpreting, regulating, studying or teaching those accounting standards. Written by the financial reporting professionals from the Financial Reporting Group of EY, this book provides a clear explanation of the UK GAAP accounting requirements which apply in 2019 and will prove invaluable in implementing these requirements. It also addresses the requirements of the UK Companies Act and relevant statutory instruments, as well as practical worked examples. Also available is International GAAP® 2019 — a three volume comprehensive guide to interpreting International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), setting IFRS in a relevant business context and providing insight into how complex practical issues should be resolved in the real world of global financial reporting.

A look at the history of the Muslim Brotherhood in Syria, examining why the group failed to capitalise on its political advantage during the Syrian uprising and civil war.

The strengths and failures of the American college, and why liberal education still matters As the commercialization of American higher education accelerates, more and more students are coming to college with the narrow aim of obtaining a preprofessional credential. The traditional four-year college experience—an exploratory time for students to discover their passions and test ideas and values with the help of teachers and peers—is in danger of becoming a thing of the past. In *College*, prominent cultural critic Andrew Delbanco offers a trenchant defense of such an education, and warns that it is becoming a privilege reserved for the relatively rich. In describing what a true college education should be, he demonstrates why making it available to as many young people as possible remains central to America's democratic promise. In a brisk and vivid historical narrative, Delbanco explains how the idea of college arose in the colonial period from the Puritan idea of the gathered church, how it struggled to survive in the nineteenth century in the shadow of the new research universities, and how, in the twentieth

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century, it slowly opened its doors to women, minorities, and students from low-income families. He describes the unique strengths of America's colleges in our era of globalization and, while recognizing the growing centrality of science, technology, and vocational subjects in the curriculum, he mounts a vigorous defense of a broadly humanistic education for all. Acknowledging the serious financial, intellectual, and ethical challenges that all colleges face today, Delbanco considers what is at stake in the urgent effort to protect these venerable institutions for future generations. In a new afterword, Delbanco responds to recent developments—both ominous and promising—in the changing landscape of higher education. This festschrift by thirty of Blake's colleagues and former students reflects the topics and regional preoccupations Professor Blake has kept returning to throughout his long career, especially the Middle East, maritime boundaries, and the relation between borders and demographics. Several of the authors extend his work in such areas as Arctic jurisdiction, environmental issues of transboundary water management, and geographic information systems (GIS).

This edited collection explores the processes of change currently shaping the Middle East in the post-Arab Spring context. The national and transnational challenges that have emerged since the uprisings in 2011 – particularly the increase in extremism, and the emergence and intensification of civil wars – have garnered significant attention in both media coverage and academic research. However, simultaneous (and far older) processes of regional integration – varying in form from free trade agreements like the Greater Arab Free Trade Area to economic and political unions like the Gulf Cooperation Council – have also been influenced by the changes of the past few years. This text draws together innovative new research from different fields to explore how far the changes shaping the Middle East are leading to the region's polarisation between states that are integrating politically and economically with each other on the one hand, and states that are disintegrating internally on the other. The book includes contributions from scholars and practitioners from around the world, and who work in different fields including Middle Eastern studies, international relations, international political economy, foreign policy studies, and security studies. Chapters vary in focus and approach, with the first section focusing on security-related issues, particularly civil wars and terrorism. A second group of chapters looks at political economy in the region, and examines domestic, regional and global practices and processes, including foreign aid, trade, and development. A final group of chapters investigates socio-political and socio-cultural issues, including the role of civil society in the region, migration, and international law.

This book examines regime stability and political change in the heartland of the Middle East. It discusses the distribution of power within each regime of the Middle East; the sources of regime legitimacy; and the social, economic, and ideological trends influencing change in the region.

Political-biographical profiles of a select group of leaders who have made significant contributions to the political evolution and development of the Middle East and North Africa since World War II.

Many of the political problems of the Middle East and North Africa have geographic roots, but material and ideas on spatial relationships in the region have, until now, remained scattered and piecemeal. In this original work, Drysdale and Blake examine the ways in which the geography and politics of the region are intertwined, and focus on the evolution and deficiencies of the contemporary political map. Organized around the themes of partition and integration, the discussion covers such timely issues as the Arab-Israeli conflict, Arab unity, the civil war in Lebanon, regional petroleum development, strategic straits, and the Iran-Iraq war. Throughout, this unique book is richly illustrated with specially drawn maps and diagrams.

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This book tackles the social, economic and political issues that face modern Syria and explores the historical reasons behind Syria's pivotal role in the Middle East.

Introduction: The Emergence of Modern Syria; In Search of Legitimacy: Asad's Islamic Image in the Syrian Official Press; Syria: The Renewed Struggle for Power; History and Political Culture in Syria: Obstacles to Integration in the Global Economy After the Gulf War; Syria: Economic Development, Achievements, Problems and Prospects; The Syrian Road to the Middle East Peace Process: The Socio-economic Perspective; The Question of Citizenship of the Algerian Immigrants in Syria, 1847--1900; European Foreigners in Damascus and Aleppo During the Late Ottoman Period; Betwixt and Between: The Arab Al-Aramshah Tribe of Southern Lebanon; The Franco-Syrian Treaty Negotiations and the Question of Lebanon, 1936--1939; Syrian--Iraqi Relations: Iraq as a Factor in the Syrian Foreign Policy; Turkish--Syrian Relations: An Update; Syria's Struggle over Water with Israel, 1959--1967; Changes in Syria's Regional Strategic Position vis-à-vis Israel; Asad's Art of the Double Game; The Contributors; Index.

A long list of countries - labelled outcasts, pariahs and rogues - have failed to meet international standards of good conduct. In the Cold War years Rhodesia, Israel, Chile, Taiwan and South Africa, among others, featured among the ranks of the disreputable. In modern world politics, the serious sinners not only include states: terrorists, rebels, criminals and mercenaries also participate in the great game of who gets what, when and how. Highlighting the rules of good behaviour that both state and non-state actors have violated, Geldenhuys takes a novel approach that breaks through the narrow parameters of the rogue state paradigm and of other state-centric perspectives.

Controllers in the 21st Century need to master more than the technical accounting skills to become the strategic leaders their companies need. You need to be an effective leader and manager. You need to explain the debits and credits at a high level to the CFO while keeping one hand in the weeds. You have to anticipate the risks your company faces in an increasingly complex, competitive, and regulatory landscape. And you have to be an expert in ever-changing technology. But how do you learn all these parts of your job? These skills aren't taught alongside the debits and credits in school. In *Controller's Code*, Mike Whitmire gives you the inside scoop on the skills you need to have a stellar career in the controller's seat. You'll get real-world guidance from finance pros at leading companies so you can write your own success story and play a bigger role at your company.

Simplify and streamline your way to a winning legacy *The Financial Controller and CFO's Toolkit* is a hybrid handbook and toolkit with over 100 lean practice solutions and a wealth of practical tools for senior financial managers of small, mid-sized and large companies. This book outlines the mindset of paradigm shifters relevant to future-ready finance teams, and contains guidelines on how to become an effective change leader. Guidance from world leading expert David Parmenter provides the insight and tools you need to reach your true leadership potential and achieve more for your organization. Packed with templates and checklists, this book helps you adhere to the best practices in reporting, forecasting, KPIs, planning, strategy, and technology. The companion website—a complete toolbox for positive, entrenched change—gives you access to additional resources that reinforce *The Financial Controller and CFO's Toolkit* strategy. This new second edition has been updated to reflect the latest practices and technology to streamline your workflow and get more done in less time—without sacrificing quality or

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accuracy. As an all-in-one resource for the CFO role, this book provides a clear, practical strategy for demonstrating your value to your organization. Selling and leading change effectively Get more accurate information from your KPIs Attracting, recruiting and retaining talented staff Invest in and implement new essential tools Investing wisely in 21st century technologies Report the month-end within three days, implement quarterly rolling forecasting, complete the annual plan in two weeks or less, and bring your firm into the 21st century with key tools that get the job done. Be the CFO that your organization needs and the leader that your teams deserve. The Financial Controller and CFO's Toolkit gives you everything you need to achieve more by doing less.

Grounded on a series of first-hand interviews with Chinese government officials, this book examines China's accession to the World Trade Organization, providing an 'inside' look at Chinese WTO accession negotiations. Presenting a systematic political economy model in analyzing Beijing's decision-making mechanisms, the book argues that China's WTO policy making is a state-led, leadership driven, and top-down process. Feng explores how China's determined political elite partly bypassed and partly restructured a largely reluctant and resistant bureaucracy, under constant pressure from an increasingly globalized international system. By addressing China's accession to the WTO from a political analysis perspective, the book provides a theoretically informed and intriguing examination of China's foreign economic policy making regime. The book highlights contemporary debates relating to state and institutionalist theory and provides new and useful insights into a significant development of this century.

Have you reached a crossroads in your career? Do you want to start your own business or go freelance? Would you like some easy-to-follow guidance on making a career change? In these times of economic uncertainty, it's natural to find the idea of switching jobs daunting. However, it is precisely during a downturn that shifts in the employment market can lead to unprecedented and exciting opportunities to try something new. Of course, there are major questions to be asked and considerations to take into account when you're thinking of changing career path - finances, time, age, family and location, to name but a few - and in this unique guide the Guardian's careers experts lead you through the employment minefield with clear and practical advice. Whether you need to retrain, are looking for finances to fund a new business or simply want to know the best way to move into a different role within your current company, this timely guide is packed with expert advice, personal case studies and contacts to help you give your career (and your life) and total makeover.

This exhaustive work offers readers at multiple levels key insights into the military, political, social, cultural, and religious origins of the Arab-Israeli conflict. • With more than 750 alphabetically organized entries covering everything from important people, places, and events to a wide range of social and cultural topics—each entry featuring cross references and suggestions for further reading • A separate documents volume offering an unprecedented collection of more than 150 essential primary sources • Over 500 images, including maps, photographs, and illustrations • A comprehensive introductory overview by retired general Anthony Zinni

The 2011 Arab Spring is the story of what happens when autocrats prepare their militaries to thwart coups but unexpectedly face massive popular uprisings instead. When demonstrators took to the streets in 2011, some militaries remained loyal to the autocratic regimes, some

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defected, whilst others splintered. The widespread consequences of this military agency ranged from facilitating transition to democracy, to reconfiguring authoritarianism, or triggering civil war. This study aims to explain the military politics of 2011. Building on interviews with Arab officers, extensive fieldwork and archival research, as well as hundreds of memoirs published by Arab officers, Hicham Bou Nassif shows how divergent combinations of coup-proofing tactics accounted for different patterns of military behaviour in 2011, both in Egypt and Syria, and across Tunisia, and Libya.

Syria has long presented a difficult problem for American policymakers. Actively supportive of groups such as Hezbollah, it has occupied Lebanon for more than 20 years. Damascus remains intransigent on Israel's complete withdrawal from the disputed Golan Heights as the sine qua non for peace with that state. It is often mentioned in the same breath as members of the infamous "axis of evil." Syria occupies an important strategic position in the Middle East—one made even more significant as America considers long-term involvement in the reconstruction of Iraq. As the policy challenges posed by Syria's problematic behavior have grown more pressing in the recent security environment, the United States has had difficulty formulating a coherent and effective policy toward Damascus. The death of long-time dictator Hafiz al Assad has forced renewed debate on its place in the region. The transition from Assad to his son Bashar has thrown Western consensus on how to deal with the Syrian leadership further into doubt. In heriting Syria fills this void with a detailed analytic portrait of the Syrian regime under Bashar's leadership. It draws implications for U.S. policy, offering a bold new strategy for achieving American objectives, largely via a strategy of "coordinated engagement" employing both sticks and carrots. This strategy would be independent of the Arab-Israeli peace process, thus a historical departure for the United States. The author's long service in the foreign policy establishment has uniquely positioned him to provide valuable insights into this mysterious yet important country. This book will be of high interest to those concerned about the Middle East, the war on terror, and the future of American foreign policy. Written for a general audience as well as the policymaking and academic communities, her iting Syria is an important resource for all who seek deeper understanding of this enigmatic nation and its leadership.

Financial Controller Management Books 2000

Gain the knowledge and confidence you need to build and manage budgets and forecast financial information. This book demystifies budgets and forecasts, providing simple explanations and clear examples. It includes integrated checklists, goals and milestones, to ensure you are on target to achieve the best results. Part of The Financial Times Essential Guides series: Task-focused and results-orientated, the essential guides are for every manager who wants to move their skills beyond the ordinary to the best.

Pan-Arab unionism ignited passions and dominated politics in the Middle East throughout the 1950s and 1960s and has continued to reassert itself periodically. In this elegantly written study, Malik Mufti investigates the persistence and the failure of pan-Arab initiatives, examining their significance in the political development of Syria and Iraq.

Rejecting conventional explanations for Syrian foreign policy, which emphasize the personalities and attitudes of leaders, cultural factors peculiar to Arab societies, or the machinations of the great powers, Fred H. Lawson describes key shifts in Damascus's response to regional adversaries in terms of changes in the intensity of political struggles at home. Periodic eruptions of domestic conflict have inspired Syria's ruling coalition to adopt a wide range of programs designed to buy off domestic rivals and perpetuate the predominance of individual coalition members. These programs have undermined the unity of the Ba'thi regime, increasing the chances that opponents will overturn the established order. Challenges to the Ba'thi regime become most threatening whenever crises of accumulation shake the domestic political economy, Lawson contends. Opposition forces gain strength when the state

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cannot sustain new investment or when competition increases between public and private enterprises. Political and economic trends inside Syria have determined why Damascus has since 1963 alternately escalated tensions with regional rivals and adopted more accommodating postures. Lawson traces this dynamic through five major episodes: the 1967 war with Israel; limited intervention in Jordan in 1970; the widening conflict in Lebanon in 1976; the defusing of conflict with Iraq in 1982; and the rapprochement with Turkey over Kurdish separatism in 1994. These patterns, Lawson suggests, may be characteristic of nations changing from one domestic economic system to a radically different one, as Syria has in the transition from state socialism to a privatized political economy.

This timely study examines the forces at play in one of the world's most explosive nations, helping readers understand why Syria's popular uprising has been the most violent and hard-fought in the Middle East.

CCH's Corporate Controller's Handbook of Financial Management is a comprehensive source of practical solutions, strategies, techniques, procedures, and formulas covering all key aspects of accounting and financial management. Its examples, checklists, step-by-step instructions, and other practical working tools simplify complex financial management issues and give CFOs, corporate financial managers, and controllers quick answers to day-to-day questions. The Handbook covers important developments in government rules, accounting procedures, taxation and information technology. It includes references to relevant topics of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification references, as well as Accounting Standards Updates. The practical, hands-on guidance helps diagnose a firm's financial health, boost financial results, avoid unpleasant surprises, cut costs, and make financial decisions with confidence.

CONTENTS; The 2019-2020 edition of the Corporate Controller's Handbook of Financial Management contains 60 chapters covering the following topic areas: -- Responsibilities of the Controller -- SEC Reporting -- Controller's Reports -- Information Technology Applications, including chapters on database management systems and the client/server environment, and using computers in financial decision making, and XBRL, cloud computing, and wireless technology -- Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, including financial statement reporting, accounting and disclosures, interim and segmental reporting, and more -- Management Accounting, including product costing systems and classifications, joint products and by-products, analysis of cost behavior, cost-volume-profit analysis and leverage, cost allocation, contribution margin analysis for nonroutine decisions, budgeting and financial modeling, using variance analysis, improving management performance, ABC, JIT, TQM, decision making in corporate financial management, and more -- Internal Auditing and Control, including internal audit of financial statement accounts, the internal audit function and internal control, and forensic accounting --Financial and Risk Analysis and Financial Forecasting, including financial statement analysis, managing analysis of operations, controlling revenue and costs, managing and analyzing risk, reengineering and outsourcing the business, derivative products and financial engineering, mergers and acquisitions, divestiture, business strategies and shareholder value analysis, financial and earnings forecasting, cash flow forecasting and cash budgeting, forecasting corporate financial distress, corporate valuations, and more. -- Liquidity and Treasury, including management of working capital and cash, accounts receivable, inventory, corporate investments in securities, portfolio diversification and risk management, short- and long-term financing, term loans and leasing, warrants and convertibles, cost

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of capital and capital structure decisions, and more -- Tax Preparation and Planning, including payroll taxes and how taxes affect business decisions

About the Authors: Jae K. Shim, Ph.D., is a financial consultant to several companies and Professor of Accounting and Finance at California State University in Long Beach. Dr. Shim has 40 books to his credit and has published more than 50 articles in accounting and financial journals. Joel G. Siegel, Ph.D., CPA, is a retired Professor of Accounting and Finance at Queens College of the City University of New York. He was previously employed by Coopers & Lybrand and Arthur Andersen. Dr. Siegel has acted as a consultant in accounting and finance to many organizations, including Citicorp, International Telephone and Telegraph, United Technologies, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and Person-Wolinsky Associates. He is the author of 67 books on accounting and financial topics. Nick Dauber, MS, CPA, is an accounting practitioner with client responsibilities primarily in auditing and taxation. His prior experience includes service as an audit and tax manager at a CPA firm. He is also an Instructor of Auditing and Taxation at Queens College of the City University of New York and was a lecturer and writer in auditing and taxation for Person-Wolinsky Associates. Marc H. Levine, Ph.D., CPA, is a financial accounting consultant and Professor of Accounting and Deputy Chairman of the Department of Accounting and Information Systems at Queens College - CUNY. Dr. Levine was previously associated with Deloitte and Touche, CPAs. Dr. Levine is an author of CCH's GAAP Handbook of Policies and Procedures, and has authored seven books, including those published for Warren, Gorham and Lamont, American Management Association, and Thomson and Trentop. He has authored 49 professional and academic articles in publications such as The CPA Journal, Practical Accountant, National Public Accountant, Michigan CPA, Journal of Corporate Accounting, Accountants Record, Massachusetts CPA Review, Virginia Accountant Quarterly, Cost and Management, Management Accountant, and The Accountant.

In Syria and the Middle East Peace Process, Alasdair Drysdale and Raymond A. Hinnebusch, two noted Middle East scholars, present the first detailed examination of Syria's role in the long struggle for an Arab-Israeli peace. They paint a surprising portrait of a county whose power is out of proportion to its size, economy, and resources. They explore the reasons behind this phenomeno most importantly, the Machiavellian brilliance of its leader, Hafez al-Asad. The authors address the origins of the Asad regime, Syrias strategy toward its Arab neighbors, its conflict with Israel, and the history of its relationships with the Soviet Union and the United States. The authors argue forcefully that Syrian involvement is vital in an effort to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

This book, first published in 1981, is a comprehensive examination of the main theoretical, methodological and empirical approaches to the study of the military in modernising political systems, in socialist and non-socialist countries. It analyses civil-military relations in the Middle East, Eastern Europe and China, and in doing so sheds new light on the comparative politics and strategic affairs of the Cold War period. Few studies of Middle East wars go beyond a narrative of events and most tend to impose on this subject the rigid scheme of superpower competition. The Gulf War of 1991, however, challenges this view of the Middle East as an extension of the global conflict. The failure of the accord of both superpowers to avoid war even once regional

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superpower competition in the Middle East had ceased must give rise to the question: Do regional conflicts have their own dynamic? Working from this assumption, the book examines local-regional constraints of Middle East conflict and how, through escalation and the involvement of extra-regional powers, such conflicts acquire an international dimension. The theory of a regional subsystem is employed as a framework for conceptualising this interplay between regional and international factors in Tibi's examination of the Middle East wars in the period 1967-91. Tibi also provides an outlook into the future of conflict in the Middle East in the aftermath of the most recent Gulf War.

This electronic version has been made available under a Creative Commons (BY-NC-ND) open access license. This text aims to fill a gap in the field of Middle Eastern political studies by combining international relations theory with concrete case studies. It begins with an overview of the rules and features of the Middle East regional system—the arena in which the local states, including Egypt, Turkey, Iran, Israel and the Arab states of Syria, Jordan and Iraq, operate. The book goes on to analyse foreign-policy-making in key states, illustrating how systemic determinants constrain this policy-making, and how these constraints are dealt with in distinctive ways depending on the particular domestic features of the individual states. Finally, it goes on to look at the outcomes of state policies by examining several major conflicts including the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Gulf War, and the system of regional alignment. The study assesses the impact of international penetration in the region, including the historic reasons behind the formation of the regional state system. It also analyses the continued role of external great powers, such as the United States and the former Soviet Union, and explains the process by which the region has become incorporated into the global capitalist market.

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