

Geopolitics and Competing Powers: Dynamics of the US Foreign Policy under Obama in the Middle East

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Abstract

Geopolitics has been the most important factor in foreign policy making for the great powers. Because of its resources and strategic location, the Middle East as a region has been the centre of attention for centuries for both global and local powers. Even after the Cold War, the collapse of the Soviet Union and the rise of the emerging powers of Brazil, Russia, India, and China (BRIC), the Middle East has remained one of the most important centres and the US a key player. This paper will focus on the shifts in the US foreign policy on the Middle East under Barack Obama's presidency and its implications for the region. It will particularly focus on recent events with special attention to the Persian Gulf countries and Turkey.