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Nota di contenuto	Biographical notes -- The blurred line between state identity and realpolitik / Shahram Akbarzadeh -- Neoclassical realism : domestic politics, systemic pressures, and the impact on foreign policy since the Arab Spring / Thomas Juneau, Steven E. Lobell, Norrin Ripsman and Larry Rubin -- What constructivism? / Vendulka Kubalkova -- Historical sociology and Middle East international relations / Ewan Stein -- Subaltern realism meets the Arab world / Mohammad Ayoob -- Islam, political Islam, and the state system / Frederic Volpi -- Don't shoot the elephant : Middle East stability after the Iranian nuclear deal / Patricia Lewis and Karim Kemal -- The revolutionary guard in Iranian domestic and foreign power politics ? Farzan Sabet and Roozbeh Safshekan -- The Arab uprising and regional power struggle / Raymond Hinnesbuch -- U.S.-Israel relations during the Obama administration : fundamental

shift, or adaptation to new realities? / Professor Robert Looney -- Saudi Arabia and Iran : Islam and foreign policy in the Middle East / Simon Mabon -- The Arab Spring and Russian foreign policy toward the Middle East / Mark Katz -- China's foray into the Middle East : from ambivalence to ambition? / Michael Clarke -- Oil production, innovation, and politics in the Middle East / Hamid E. Ali -- Qatar : an ambitious small state / Matthew Gray -- GCC foreign policy : the struggle for consensus / Kristian Coates Ulrichsen -- EU policy in the Middle East : shifting dynamics / Christian Koch -- Old and new challenges for ethnic and religious minorities in the Middle East / Jordi Tejel -- UNSCR 1325 : a framework for women's peace activism in the Middle East? / Sophie Richter-Devroe -- The demise of the arab strongman? Authoritarianism and the future of the Middle East / Pietro Marzo and Francesco Cavatorta -- State breakdown and its beneficiaries : the Kurds / Denise Natali -- Strategic decision-making of Middle Eastern armed non-state actors / Wietse van den Berge -- Islamic state : aberration, or accelerant of system-wide changes to come? / Michael S. Smith II -- The Iran-Hizbullah relationship in the Arab Spring / Shahram Akbarzadeh -- The Muslim Brotherhood and an-Nahda after the Arab Spring : a failed project / Alison Pargeter -- Transition and the Arab Spring / George Joffe -- Shock absorption Palestinian-Israel status quo 2009-17 / Philip Leech-Ngo -- The rise and fall of Turkey in the Arab Spring / Paul Williams.

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#### Sommario/riassunto

This handbook book examines the regional and international dynamics of the Middle East. It challenges the state society dichotomy to make sense of decision making and behaviour by ruling regimes. The 28 chapters include the world's leading scholars of the Middle East and International Relations (IR) in order to make sense of the region. This synthesis of area studies expertise and IR theory provides a unique and rigorous account of the region's current dynamics, which have reached crisis point since the beginning of the Arab Spring. The Middle East has been characterised by volatility for more than a century. Although the region attracts significant scholarly interest, IR theory has rarely been used as a tool to understand events. The constructivist approach in IR highlights the significance of state identity, shaped by history and culture, in making sense of international relations. The authors of this volume consider how IR theory can elucidate the patterns and principles that shape the region, in order to provide a rigorous account of the contemporary challenges of the Middle East. The Routledge Handbook of International Relations in the Middle East provides a comprehensive coverage of International Relations issues in the region. Thus, it offers key resources for researchers and students interested in International Relations and the Middle East.

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