

# **Security Considerations in Eastern Mediterranean**

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# Security Issues

- Internal Political Stability
- Regional Cooperation and Alliances
- Energy Security – Area and Global Focus
- Points of Concern: Islamic Fundamentalism, Greek Turkish Rivalry with Cypriot Epicenter, Palestinian Problem, Iraq, Iran and the Gulf

# Regime Change and Stability

- From Arab Spring to Arab Autumn
- The Question of Egypt
- The Libyan Riddle
- Concerns About Saudi Arabia
- The Syrian Dilemma and Its Consequences

# Regional Cooperation

- Black Sea Cooperation Organization Sidelined
- EU Prospects for Balkan South
- Greek – Turkish Dialogue
- Fragmentation of Africa's North with Egypt as Pivotal Actor
- Continuing Concerns about Arab – Israeli conflict merely over Palestine
- Jordan's stabilizing role in intra-Arab/Muslim strains

# Question of Energy Security

- Emergence in Energy Map.
- Israel, Cyprus, Egypt role in production of Gas
- Turkey hub of Caspian oil transport to Ceyhan
- Greek prospects for energy discoveries
- Importance of area for Gas transport to Europe (Nabucco, Interconnector, South Stream)

# Points of Current Concern

- Islamic Fundamentalism: The Islamists Are Coming (Egypt, Algeria, Libya, Sudan, Question of Syria, Struggle of Turkey, Caucasus, Bahrein, Wahabbism, Boko Haram islamic militant group in northern Nigeria )
- Cyprus Issue hangs over Greek Turkish relations
- The continuing Palestinian Problem
- Syrian Impasse
- Iraq, Iran and the Gulf Area

# In Conclusion

- Area of on-going concerns but with encouraging prospects.
- Economic crisis sheds shadow in case it involves hitherto stable and wealthy countries.
- New realities appear (Turkey wealthy and powerful, Greece poor and weakening). With mixed prospects (Cooperation or outright Conflict).
- Economic realities and foreign investment (eg China, Russia) may upgrade situation and establish cooperation and security