

Diplomacy of Quasi-Alliances in the Middle East

by Degang Sun, with Dandan Zhang, translated by Jinan Wang
and foreword by Tim Niblock

DESCRIPTION:

Quasi-alliance refers to the ideation, mechanism and behavior of policy-makers to carry out security cooperation through informal political and security arrangements. As a "gray zone" between alliance and neutrality, quasi-alliance is a hidden national security statecraft. Policy-makers tend to seek a third way to strengthen security cooperation and meanwhile avert the risk of conflict.

Based on declassified archives and secondary sources, this book probes the theory and practice of quasi-alliances in the Middle East. Five cases are chosen to test the hypotheses of quasi-alliance formation, management, efficacy and termination, including Anglo-French-Israeli quasi-alliance during the Suez Canal War of 1956; US-Saudi quasi-alliance during the Johnson administration; Soviet-Egypt quasi-alliance during the Sadat administration; and Iran-Syria quasi-alliance since 1979.

The research finds that alliance is a hard balancing based on legally binding treaties, while quasi-alliance is a soft balance based on politically binding agreement. The task-oriented quasi-alliance features diversity of functions, flexibility of cooperative means, intangibility of targeting, and limitation of sovereignty transfer.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- Preface by Tim Niblock
- Introduction
- I. Research Questions and Literature Review
- II. Theoretical Hypotheses and Research Methodology
- III. Academic and Policy Implications
- IV. Research Findings
- 1 Quasi-Alliance: A Hidden Research Agenda of Contemporary Diplomatic Strategy
- What is Quasi-Alliance?
- Types of Quasi-Alliance
- Characteristics of Quasi-Alliance
- Functions of Quasi-Alliance
- Summary
- 2 System, State and Policy-Making Levels: Quasi-Alliance Formation
- The System Level
- The State Level 36 The Decision-Making Level
- A Process of Trade-Off
- Summary
- 3 Between Competition and Cooperation: Quasi-Alliance Management
- Three-Level Games
- Four Means of Management
- Two Types of Models
- Summary
- 4 Between Assets and Liabilities: Quasi-Alliance Efficacy
- Divergence of Quasi-Alliance Efficacy
- The Objective Factors
- The Subjective Factors
- Summary

ISBN:

9783959940740 (hb)

PRICE:

\$107.00 (hb)

PUBLICATION DATE:

31 March 2020 (hb)

BINDING:

Hardback

PAGES:

334

PUBLISHER:

Gerlach Press

IMPRINT:

Gerlach Press

READER INTERESTS:

Middle Eastern Studies
Political Science

5 From Coalition to Self-Reliance: Quasi-Alliance Termination

The System Level

The State Level

Decision-Making Level

Summary

6 A "Meteor" Moment: Anglo-French-Israeli Quasi-Alliance During the Suez Canal War of 1956

The Background of Anglo-French-Israeli Cooperation 98 Dynamics of Anglo-French-Israeli Quasi-Alliance Formation

Management of Anglo-French-Israeli Quasi-Alliance

The Efficacy of Anglo-French-Israeli Quasi-Alliance

The Termination of Anglo-French-Israeli Quasi-Alliance

Summary 7 A Gulf Bridgehead: US-Saudi Quasi-Alliance During the Johnson Administration

The Formation of the US-Saudi Quasi-Alliance

The Management of the US-Saudi Quasi-Alliance

The Efficacy of the US-Saudi Quasi-Alliance

The Vitality of the US-Saudi Quasi-Alliance

Summary

8 A Fortress in the Sand: Soviet-Egypt Quasi-Alliance During the Sadat Administration

The Efficacy of the Soviet-Egyptian Quasi-Alliance

The Termination of the Soviet-Egyptian Quasi-Alliance

Summary

9 Brothers Indeed: Iran-Syria Quasi-Alliance Diplomacy Since 1979

Dynamics of Iran-Syria Quasi-Alliance Formation

Management of the Iran-Syria Quasi-Alliance

Efficacy of the Iran-Syria Quasi-Alliance

Summary

Conclusion

Quasi-Alliance Theory in Diplomatic Strategy

Quasi-Alliance Practice in the 21st Century

China's "Quasi-Alliance Diplomacy" in the New Era?

Notes

Bibliography

About the Contributors