## Contents

*Acknowledgements*  
*Abbreviations*  
*Map*

**Introduction**  
1 A theoretical and conceptual framework  
2 Politics in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia: state formation, political consolidation and reform  
3 Politics in the United Arab Emirates: state consolidation, security and ambition  
4 Iran: a supreme ontological threat  
5 The Middle East: counter-revolutionaries united?  
6 United States: partisan politics, carte blanche and policy variation  
7 China’s Belt and Road Initiative: bilateralism versus alliances  
8 Relations with Europe: conditionality and unity  
9 Russia: arms, energy and ideology  
10 The Horn of Africa: security on the western flank  
11 India and Pakistan: shifting tides of interaction and dependency  
12 Japan and the Republic of Korea: institutionalising ties amid strategic uncertainty  
13 Indonesia and Malaysia: transnationalism and Islamic leadership  

**Conclusion**  

**Index**