

Iran–Israel Confrontation in the Middle East

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Abstract

The paper explores the historical, geopolitical, and strategic dimensions of the Iran–Israel confrontation within the broader context of the Middle East. The analysis draws upon both historical chronicles (such as relations between the Persian Empire and the Jewish diaspora) and the examination of contemporary military and diplomatic developments, allowing for a complex understanding of the logic behind the conflict's evolution.

Special attention is paid to the formation of Iran's Shiite identity, the instrumentalization of the proxy strategy (Hezbollah, Houthis,

IRGC), and Israel's multi-layered military and intelligence response. The study also discusses the transformation of the U.S. role—particularly in the context of the events of 2025, when the Iran–Israel confrontation escalated into an open conflict, triggering the implementation of Operation “Midnight Hammer.”

The paper demonstrates that Iran–Israel relations are not merely a bilateral conflict but a multi-layered systemic phenomenon encompassing religious ideologies, geopolitical interests, and the redistribution of global power balances. The analysis relies on primary sources, strategic studies, and data from international organizations. The findings indicate that the de-escalation of the conflict requires not only military containment but also the development of innovative diplomatic frameworks that equally account for security, sovereignty, and international legitimacy.

Keywords: Iran-Israel conflict, Middle East, Shiism and Zionism, Proxy war.