

Kyle Girton

Professor Hays

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Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East: Can it be Stopped?

An Annotated Bibliography

Nuclear proliferation in the Middle East is an ongoing and developing problem. It draws a lot of concern for everyone in the United States and even people in other countries that could be affected by nuclear development. I will focus on our ability to prevent or even stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons. This is important because if the development of nuclear weapons in the Middle East gets too out of hand we could have a very deadly situation. I know that this is an important and developing issue. It is a situation that needs a lot of attention from our military. What exactly is nuclear proliferation, and what can we do to limit or even stop this issue?

I plan on using all the research tools available to me. I will use the correct amount of sources from the correct source types. I plan on using many academic journals, because I feel as though they will be the best source to give me non-biased information. I am going to look for these sources mostly in the library database, but also online and the actual library (which is quite large and terrifying). Throughout my search I hope to learn a lot more about this topic as a whole. I truly want to learn and see how we can stop the spread of nuclear weapons throughout the world. I will use search terms such as, "Nuclear Proliferation," "Nuclear Proliferation in Middle East," and "How are we affected by Nuclear Proliferation."

This topic will be difficult to research because, although it is exigent, it is not as popular as some other topics. This is also a hard topic to talk about because it can be very dangerous in the end, if the wrong things happen. I plan on exploring many different articles and books to find the most relevant information. A challenge for me may be just being able to comprehend the information in an academic journal. I picked this topic because I knew it would challenge me and that I would learn something along the way.

Annotated Bibliography:

Working Thesis: Many may disagree with me, but with the New Iran Deal, there may actually be an end to nuclear proliferation in the Middle East and Iran.

Ahmar, Baria. "A Nuclear-Free Zone in the Middle East: Realistic or Idealistic?" *Palestine-Israel Journal of Politics, Economics & Culture* 19.1/2 (2014): 77-83. *Academic Search Complete [EBSCO]*. Web. 29 Sept. 2015.

This source is discussing the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty of 2010. It talks about if the idea of a nuclear-free zone, or even world, is realistic or just idealistic. It discusses how the easiest way to actually have a nuclear-free zone is for Israel to agree to stop the development and manufacturing of WMDs. It also talks about the threat of nuclear proliferation in the world today, and the nuclear arms race because of it. It also discusses the lack of stability in the Middle East because of the need for a reconstruction of the borders of countries. This source has many different important topics within Nuclear Proliferation; she proves her thesis with facts about the issue. This source supports itself, and has correct citation.

This source is an academic journal, written by Baria Ahmar, which has been peer reviewed. This source will be very useful to me and my paper. This article was written in 2014, so it is up-to-date with the past treaties and current nuclear crisis. This source is very detailed throughout, on the several topics it covers. I will use this source to help support my argument, and will use the different information to explain the issue of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East.

Bolton, John R. "Facing Reality On Iran." *National Review* 67.16 (2015): 29-30. *Academic Search Complete [EBSCO]*. Web. 23 Oct. 2015.

This source talks a great deal about the feelings of all of the nations involved with the signing of the new Iran Deal. It discusses how republicans feel about this deal and about how they really think that is one of the worst deals that could have been made. They question this article proposes is, "if we would have waited, 5, 10, maybe 20 years, could there have been a better deal set in place."

This source is a periodical, written by John R. Bolton, and is not peer reviewed. Although it is not peer reviewed it is a very lengthy and well written article. This source will be very useful to my paper as I will include some quotations to support my argument. This article was written in 2015, so it is up-to-date and is mostly written from the opinion of Bolton. This article was very detailed, and will be very useful in my paper.

Bahgat, Gawdat, and Robert Sharp. "Prospects for a New US Strategic Orientation in the Middle East." *Mediterranean Quarterly* 25.3 (2014): 27-39. *Academic Search Complete [EBSCO]*. Web. 28 Sept. 2015.

This source is all about the United States' involvement in the Middle East. It talks about what the Obama administration has done so far, and what the plans are for the future. This source also goes into more depth with countries other than Israel or Iran (i.e. Egypt). It goes into a discussion about the political and economic turmoil in several major Arab countries. It talks about how Iran, Israel, and Turkey, the "three peripheries," enjoy a higher level of political and economic level than most of their neighbors.

This source is also an academic journal, written by Gawdat Bahgat and Robert Sharp, and has been peer reviewed. It is a recent article, as it was written in the summer of 2014. This source will also be useful for the background knowledge that it will give me on this topic. It will also be a good change-of-pace for me as I can discuss something other than just nuclear weaponry. This source will allow me to talk about how the turmoil, and political and economic unbalance, can lead to a weapons race in the Middle East.

Fitzpatrick, Mark. "Overwhelming Global Vote for the Iran Nuclear Deal." *Survival* 56.1 (2014): 71-75. *Academic Search Complete [EBSCO]*. Web. 21 Oct. 2015.

This Article is all about supporting my thesis. In fact, it is the article that made me switch my thesis. I had read every single word of this article and it talks a lot about how great of a deal this Iran Deal was. He also talks about how many other European nations also think that this deal was a great one. This is a good article because it also has a rebuttal to the deal, but it quickly nips that with facts about how this deal is a good thing for just about all nations.

This source is an academic journal, written by Mark Fitzpatrick, and is peer reviewed. It is a very lengthy and extremely well written article on my issue. It is up-to-date as it was written in 2014, shortly after everyone was able to digest the deal that was made over the summer. This article will be very useful in my paper as I will quote it, and pull other information from it. This source covers the topic from many angles and will be a great source for me to use.

Fitzpatrick, Mark. "Iran: A Good Deal." *Survival* 57.5 (2015): 47-52. *Academic Search Complete [EBSCO]*. Web. 21 Oct. 2015.

This article is also in great support of my thesis. This is one of the few sources that really backed my decision to change my thesis right before I started my research paper. This article is a lot like the other one written by Fitzpatrick, but was written a little later, with more information. This source goes into more depth about comparing previous treaties to the new Iran Deal. It talks about how this new Iran Deal will be the one that actually makes a difference in the world, and how all nations should be happy with it.

This source is an academic journal, also written by Mark Fitzpatrick. This source, like many others, has been peer reviewed, and is written very well. This is a more recent article than the first Fitzpatrick article, as it was written late in October, 2015. This source will allow be to go into greater depth about the reactions of the deal worldwide. I will be able to use this source for quotes, and will also pull other information out of that I could not get anywhere else.

"Iran Signs Historic Nuclear Deal with US, EU and UN." *TCE: The Chemical Engineer* 891 (2015): 15. *Academic Search Complete [EBSCO]*. Web. 21 Oct. 2015.

This article is also one of the newer sources that is in support of my thesis. I chose this source after searching for more interpretable readings on this topic, as most of them are a bit over my head. This article gives a lot of information on the deal, that are easier to read, and straight to the point. This source talks a great deal about the direct details of the deal. It talks about how democrats think it is a great deal, and how republicans do not.

This source is an academic journal and is peer reviewed. This article seems like more of a periodical than an academic journal. It is well written, but has no author, and is written at a lower reading level than most of the other readings. This article is up-to-date as it was written in 2015 directly after the details of the Iran Deal were released. I will use this source in my article for some quotes maybe, but mostly as a bank of information that I actually understand.

Mallard, Gregoire, and Paolo Foradori. "The Middle East at a Crossroads: How to Face the Perils of Nuclear Development in a Volatile Region." *Global Governance* 20.4 (2014): 499-515. *Academic Search Complete [EBSCO]*. Web. 28 Sept. 2015.

This source uses recent history to show us what we can do to help reduce nuclear proliferation in the Middle East. It talks about the regional disputes between countries. It focuses on the development of brand new nuclear power plants and projects in volatile regions (like the Middle East). This source goes into great depth about the history of nuclear proliferation; discusses how the countries that are developing nuclear weapons got to where they are today. It talks about how the Middle East is a "special situation" and needs to be dealt with carefully.

This source is an academic journal, written by Gregoire Mallard and Paolo Foradori, and has been peer reviewed. It was written in 2014, so it is up-to-date with the situation we are in. This source, like many others, will be useful to support my thesis. This source is scholarly, and with the focus on the history of the problem it allows me to talk more about the events prior to 2014. This source will teach me about what lead us to this situation in the Middle East, and will hopefully give me some insight on how we may be able to stop it. Knowing the history of the situation is important, and it only helps me to gain knowledge on the subject.

Mousavian, Seyed Hossein. "The Solution to the Iranian Nuclear Crisis and Its Consequences for the Middle East." *Global Governance* 20.4 (2014): 529-44. *Academic Search Complete [EBSCO]*. Web. 28 Sept. 2015.

Mousavian does his best to persuade his audience that he knows the solution to the "Iranian Nuclear Crisis." He also talks about how the crisis has consequences for the Middle East, like a long-term regional nuclear arms race. He thinks that Iran is fully aware of the West's pressure to get rid of nuclear weaponry, but they like its short-term regional advantage. Mousavian strongly believes that President Obama and the Secretary of Defense, Chuck Hagel, will resolve the nuclear dilemma with Iranian authorities.

This source is yet another academic journal, this time written by Seyed Hossein Mousavian, and has been peer reviewed as well. It was written in 2014; it is as recent as most of my other sources. This is a reliable source because of its academic background, and its correct citations throughout. It is very detailed on the issue of resolving Nuclear Proliferation in the Middle East, specifically in Iran. This source will be the argument against my thesis, but may end up being the source I change my thesis to support, because of its great detail and optimism to resolve such a serious issue.

Seitelbach, Emmanuel. "Nuclear Non-Proliferation, Rogue Actors and the Middle East." *Palestine-Israel Journal of Politics, Economics & Culture* 19.1/2 (2014): 101-08. *Academic Search Complete [EBSCO]*. Web. 28 Sept. 2015.

This source is also in support of my thesis, and is written regarding the possible effects of nuclear proliferation. This source goes into further depth as to what a WMD is and what are the different kinds of WMDs. It also discusses who, meaning what areas of the world, possesses which kind of WMD. This source also goes into greater detail about Israel's and Iran's involvement with the nuclear proliferation in the Middle East. It also discusses how the use of nuclear weapons in the Middle East are purely threats and not actions. This source has very detailed writing and uses correct citation throughout.

This source is an academic journal, written by Emmanuel Seitelbach, which has been peer reviewed. This source will be used in my paper to help explain my thesis, and to be more descriptive on what a WMD really is and who possesses them. This source was also written in 2014, so it is up-to-date with the current issues regarding nuclear proliferation. I will use this source to help explain the dangers of WMDs, and who we should be worried about and why.

Sprusansky, Dale. "Iran's Economy After a Nuclear Deal." *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*. 34.5 (2015): 52-53. *Academic Search Complete [EBSCO]*. Web. 4 Nov. 2015.

This source is all about supporting the topic I will bring up regarding the current and future economic state of Iran. This source goes into depth about the economy of Iran and how the new Iran Deal could positively affect its current state. This article is particularly short, but is

very focused on the Economy of Iran, which is exactly what I needed out of it. It is very detailed and it written very well.

This source is an academic journal, written by Dale Spruansky, and has been peer reviewed. This source will be used to support my thesis, but more specifically to support the idea of the positive affect the deal will have on Iran's economy. This article was also written in 2015 so it is up-to-date and gives very accurate information and gives a prediction for the future state of Iran's economy. I will use this source for a quote or two, but I really just need it to support my idea of a positive effect on Iran's economy.