Assessment of President Donald Trump’s Disengagement Foreign Policy Toward the Middle East and Its Consequences
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Abstract: This research will examine President Donald Trump’s foreign policy of disengagement and its unintended consequence of an elusive sign of diminishing U.S. influence in the Middle East since he came to office in 2017. The researcher will explain how in a matter of months, Trump reversed Obama’s strategy of encouraging a regional equilibrium of power between Sunni Saudi Arabia and Shi'ite Iran, siding unambiguously with the Saudi despite their excessive violation of human rights as manifested by the disappearance of Jamal Khashoggi the Saudi Journalist and his consequent killing by the Saudi regime. Also, how Trump has abandoned decades of U.S. attempts to balance Israeli interests with those of the Palestinians, when he moved the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, and cut off aid for Palestinian refugee. Finally, he (Trump) tore up the Iran nuclear deal brokered by President Obama despite the opposition of U.S. longtime allies. The researcher will analyze the aforementioned issues within the complicated realities of the Palestinian /Arab Israeli conflict, the rising power of political Islam on the Middle East’s ground- manifested by ISIS in Iraq and Syria, and Libya, and the rivalry between Sunni and Shi'ite-supported by Iran in Lebanon, Syria, Bahrain, and Yemen. The researcher will use both primary and secondary data from English and Arabic languages sources.
Bio: Dr. Ahmed Y. Zohny returned to academia after serving at the United States Department of State/USAID (stationed in Cairo, Egypt- as a project manager), and the World Bank (as an educational Adviser to the World Bank's Institute). He is an economic, social, and political development expert of the Middle East and North Africa. He was invited as an analyst by major U.S. media networks on events in Egypt and the Middle East. He is fluent in the Arabic and English languages.

Prior to his current position as a tenured Associate Professor of Political Science & International Affairs at Coppin State University, Dr. Zohny served in various administrative and teaching capacities including Dean (two years), Associate Dean (three years), Department Chair (six years), Director Institute of International Development & Strategic Studies (five years), and Academic Director (one year) at Johns Hopkins University, the American University, University of Maryland University College, Strayer University, and Southeastern University.

Dr. Zohny authored a book entitled, The Politics, Economics and Dynamics of Development Administration in Contemporary Egypt, published by Books on African Studies, Heidelberg, Germany, while teaching at the United States Military Basis in a program administered by the University of Maryland University College. His academic research is published in peer reviewed Journals, and the proceedings of professional Associations conferences such as: Digest of Middle East Studies, Journal of International Relations & Diplomacy, U.S. China Law Review, Cultural and Religious Studies, U.S.A., the Orient Journal (the German Journal for Politics and Economics of the Middle East), Berlin, Germany, The Arab
Dr. Zohny earned his Ph.D. in Public and International Affairs (with double concentration- Development Studies- Economic and Social Development of the Middle East and North Africa, and International Security Studies), from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, PA, (his dissertation was nominated for NASPAA Annual Award). He holds an LL.M degree from Washington College of Law, the American University in Washington, DC (where he served on the American University International Law Review). He also, holds an MA degree in Political Science from Bloomsburg University in Pennsylvania, and a Law degree (LL.B), from the Faculty of Law, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt. The Washington D.C. Court of Appeals admits him as a Special Legal Consultant on Egypt and the Arab countries.

Dr. Zohny is currently serving on the Editorial Board of the Journal of International Relations and Diplomacy, Cultural & Religious Studies, Current Research in Global Business and Journal of Global Commerce Research on the issues of political risk. Dr. Zohny is a renowned international lawyer on Comparative Law and Intellectual Property Law. He was recently a key expert witness in the "Fahmy vs. Jay-Z, et al" copyright/intellectual property case (working with Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP, Los Angeles, California, USA),
involving the nephew of an Egyptian composer who wrote music sampled in the rap anthem "Big Pimpin'" against music mogul Jay-Z. Dr. Zohny testified for Jay-Z's defense, who won the case.

Link to case: https://www.courtlistener.com/opinion/2172479/fahmy-v-jay-z/.