

in the region. Yet even with these victories for advocates of democracy in the Middle East, the legacies of authoritarianism continue to complicate the transition to more democratic political structures. Ultimately, Hamad and Al-Anani conclude that most of the countries examined in the book tend more toward electoral democracy, where elections occur alongside weak rule of law and uneven protection of civil rights, rather than consolidated democracy, where the more substantive features of democracy, such as a broadly defined electorate and a legal system that protects fundamental rights, exist with fair elections. ✦

DOI:[10.1017/rms.2016.56](https://doi.org/10.1017/rms.2016.56)

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YAAKOW KATZ AND YOAZ HENDEL. *Israel vs. Iran: The Shadow War*. Dulles, VA: Potomac Books, 2012. x + 243 pages, epilogue, notes, selected bibliography, index, about the authors. Cloth US\$22.19 ISBN 978-1-59797-668-8.

In *Israel vs. Iran: The Shadow War*, Katz and Hendel outline the ongoing conflict between Israel and Iran. The book begins by giving a brief history of some of Israel's conflicts with Arab nations and then uses these examples to explain Israel's high investment in military technology and training (using sources such as interviews, speeches, military reports, media reports). The "Shadow War" is then discussed, which is a name commonly given to the ongoing conflict between Israel and Iran, in which Iran provides funding and training to both its political and terrorist proxies (e.g., Hamas and Hezbollah) to attack Israel and foster anti-Israeli sentiment. The book concludes with a discussion of the logistics of Israel attacking Iran directly in the future and the consequences of open conflict between the two countries, including the chance of nuclear war. Katz and Hendel state that there is no easy way to end the conflict between the two countries, and that while no one in Israel wants a war, if Iran continues to develop its nuclear program, war may be inevitable. ✦

DOI:[10.1017/rms.2016.61](https://doi.org/10.1017/rms.2016.61)

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