

Egypt shifts to open support for Assad regime in Syrian civil war

"Our priority is to support national armies, for example in Libya to exert control over Libya territory and deal with extremist elements. The same with Syria and Iraq." Sisi said.

By Ben Lynfield / Nov. 26, 2016

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi has moved to open support of the Syrian army in that country's civil war, risking a worsening of relations with key ally Saudi Arabia, the main opponent of the regime of President Bashar Assad and backer of the rebels.

[...]

"For Saudi Arabia, the principal enemy is Iran, for Egypt it is not Iran but rather the Muslim brothers, that's where the gap between them appears" says **Ofir Winter**, an analyst at the **Institute for National Security Studies**.

"In Egypt's view, a victory for the Syrian opposition could give a push to the brothers in Egypt. And a defeat of the Syrian military regime could be an introduction to similar occurrences to the regime in Egypt." he added.

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