

The NYT

## In Arab States' Embrace, Israelis See a Reshaped Mideast

Normalized ties with the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain raise hopes in Israel that it is finally gaining acceptance in its volatile neighborhood.

By [David M. Halbfinger](#)

Sept. 13, 2020 Updated 5:24 p.m. ET

JERUSALEM — Since its founding, Israel has seen itself as a modern-day Sparta, a tiny fortress nation-state in a hostile desert, whose survival depended on its internal cohesion and sheer military strength.

[...]

**Yoel Guzansky**, a former head of the gulf desk at Israel's National Security Council, warned that Israel's blossoming Emirati ties could place it at the forefront of an "anti-Turkish" camp in the region.

"I don't think that's good for Israel," Mr. **Guzansky** said. He noted that the U.A.E. had just deployed F-16's to Greece, as Turkish-Greek tensions are peaking. "I think it's better for Israel to hedge its bets against Turkey and not to poke it in the eye."

"The U.A.E. is far away," Mr. **Guzansky** added. "Maybe they can take more chances than Israel. That's what I'm afraid of."

*For full article:*

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