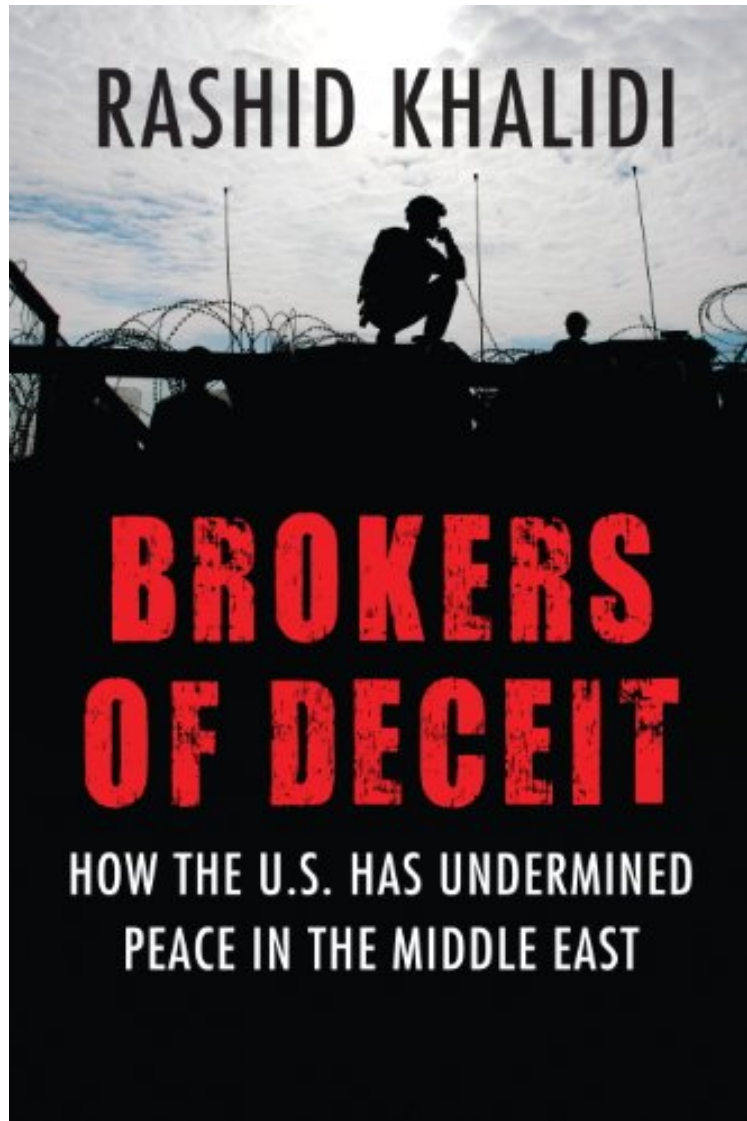


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Brokers of Deceit: How the U.S. Has Undermined Peace in the Middle East

Von Rashid Khalidi

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U.S. Has Undermined Peace in the Middle East:

Kurzbeschreibung Winner of the 2014 Lionel Trilling Book Award An examination of the failure of the United States as a broker in the Palestinian-Israeli peace process, through three key historical moments For more than seven decades the conflict between Israel and the Palestinian people has raged on with no end in sight, and for much of that time, the United States has been involved as a mediator in the conflict. In this book, acclaimed historian Rashid Khalidi zeroes in on the United States role as the purported impartial broker in this failed peace process. Khalidi closely analyzes three historical moments that illuminate how the United States involvement has, in fact, thwarted progress toward peace between Israel and Palestine. The first moment he investigates is the Reagan Plan of 1982, when Israeli prime minister Menachem Begin refused to accept the Reagan administration's proposal to reframe the Camp David Accords more impartially. The second moment covers the period after the Madrid Peace Conference, from 1991 to 1993, during which negotiations between Israel and Palestine were brokered by the United States until the signing of the secretly negotiated Oslo accords. Finally, Khalidi takes on President Barack Obama's retreat from plans to insist on halting the settlements in the West Bank. Through in-depth research and keen analysis of these three moments, as well as his own firsthand experience as an advisor to the Palestinian delegation at the 1991 pre-Oslo negotiations in Washington, DC, Khalidi reveals how the United States and Israel have actively colluded to prevent a Palestinian state and resolve the situation in Israel's favor. **Brokers of Deceit** bares the truth about why peace in the Middle East has been impossible to achieve: for decades, US policymakers have masqueraded as unbiased agents working to bring the two sides together, when, in fact, they have been the agents of continuing injustice, effectively preventing the difficult but essential steps needed to achieve peace in the region. **From the Hardcover edition.** **Pressestimmen** Praise for *Brokers of Deceit* "What has happened to the Palestinian people since 1948 is one of the great crimes of modern history. Of course, Israel bears primary responsibility for this tragedy. However, as Rashid Khalidi shows in his smart new book, American presidents from Truman to Obama have sided with Israel at almost every turn and helped it inflict immense pain and humiliation on the Palestinians. At the same time, they have employed high-sounding but dishonest rhetoric to cover up Israel's brutal behavior. As *Brokers of Deceit* makes clear, the United States richly deserves to be called "Israel's lawyer." John J. Mearsheimer, coauthor of *The Israel Lobby* Drawing on his own experience as a Palestinian negotiator and recently released documents, Rashid Khalidi mounts a frontal attack on the myths and misconceptions that have come to surround America's role in the so-called peace process which is all process and no peace. The title is not too strong: the book demonstrates conclusively that far from serving as an honest broker, the US continues to act as Israel's lawyer with dire consequences for its own interests, for the Palestinians, and for the entire region. Professor Khalidi deserves much credit for his superb exposition of the fatal gap between the rhetoric and reality of American diplomacy on this critically important issue. Avi Shlaim, Emeritus Professor of International Relations at Oxford and author of *The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World*. "Khalidi has combined history, common sense and his first-hand understanding of Arab-Israeli peace talks, as brokered by Washington, to make the case that American national security interests would be best served by a just peace in the Middle East. Instead, he writes with great sadness, Washington's efforts to be an honest broker fall "somewhere between high irony and farce" and puts democratic America, with its avowed commitment to freedom for all, in the position of enabling the continued subjugation of the Palestine people. This is an important book." Seymour M. Hersh, *The New Yorker* For those of us who believe that a two-state solution is the path to justice and peace for Israel and Palestine, Rashid Khalidi's trenchant analysis is powerful and disturbing. The United States has failed repeatedly to be an honest broker, accepting the status quo of Israeli occupation and settlements when a true peace agreement would be deeply in the interest of all parties, Israel, Palestine, and the US itself. Khalidi emphasizes that the deceptions of language and deed have serious long-term costs and that the United States might soon impose and incur still greater costs through ill-conceived policies vis-à-vis Syria, Iran, and other countries in the Middle East. Jeffrey D. Sachs, author of *The End of Poverty* Praise for Rashid Khalidi Rashid Khalidi is arguably the foremost U.S. historian of the modern Middle East. Warren I. Cohen, *Los Angeles Times* Book In a refreshing contrast to the yammering bazaar of complaint and allegation that has dominated American public discussion of the Middle East since Sept. 11, 2001, "The Iron Cage" is a patient and eloquent work, ranging over the whole of modern Palestinian history from World War I to the death of Yasser Arafat. Reorienting the Palestinian narrative around the attitudes and tactics of the Palestinians themselves, Khalidi lends a remarkable illumination to a story so wearily familiar it is often hard to believe anything new can be found within. Jonathan Shainin, *Salon* Unlike most so-called Middle East experts, Khalidi actually knows a great deal about that region. Professor John J. Mearsheimer, author of *The Israel Lobby* With a deep knowledge of the Middle East and a felicitous literary style, Khalidi ... examines the history of U.S. involvement in the area against the backdrop of European colonialism. Ronald Steel, *The Nation* Rashid Khalidi's extraordinary book [*Resurrecting Empire*] is enormously relevant for our times,

especially in light of Americas growing involvement in the Middle East. Joseph Stiglitz, winner of the Nobel Prize
Khalidis role is as a historian, working to show how historical forces, largely ignored in the U.S., have shaped the modern Middle East. He takes particular delight in demolishing the various clichs used to describe the Middle East, bred out of what he terms Americas historical amnesia. Chris Hedges, New York Times
Kurzbeschreibung Winner of the 2014 Lionel Trilling Book Award
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