

Blinken Picks Up the Phone to Firm Up Alliances—Except with Most Gulf Countries

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A new administration, a new diplomatic A-list. Or so it would seem. Secretary of State Antony Blinken has been calling his counterparts across the world. But there are some notable omissions, for example, Egypt, where President Sisi was Donald Trump’s “favorite dictator.” And of the Gulf countries, as of Feb. 4, only the United Arab Emirates has had the conversation. Across the cocktails and canapes—which, in the COVID-19 era are more proverbial than real—there is a mixture of discreet muttering and even glee...

[Read the full article on the Hill website. \(https://thehill.com/opinion/international/537231-blinken-picks-up-the-phone-to-firm-up-alliances-except-with-most-gulf-countries\)](https://thehill.com/opinion/international/537231-blinken-picks-up-the-phone-to-firm-up-alliances-except-with-most-gulf-countries) ❖

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