

Podcast: Middle East Fallout of the Afghanistan Withdrawal

by [Anna Borshchevskaya \(/experts/anna-borshchevskaya\)](/experts/anna-borshchevskaya), [Bilal Wahab \(/experts/bilal-wahab\)](/experts/bilal-wahab), [Kathryn Wheelbarger \(/experts/kathryn-wheelbarger\)](/experts/kathryn-wheelbarger)

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Articles & Testimony


Institute scholars share their insights into how the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan and the rapid fall of the country to the Taliban will affect the American strategic position across the Middle East and our relationships with allies, partners, and adversaries

How will America's choice to withdraw military forces from Afghanistan, and the manner of our withdrawal over the course of the last two presidential administrations, affect America's standing in the wider Middle East? How will our partners and adversaries on the ground in the Middle East's hot spots view American commitment and credibility in light of the rapid fall of Kabul? And how will Russia's increasingly assertive Middle East policy adjust in light of these events in nearby Afghanistan?

Three Washington Institute scholars - Anna Borshchevskaya, Bilal Wahab, and Kathryn Wheelbarger - share their insights into how America's allies, partners, and adversaries will respond to the U.S. military withdrawal from Afghanistan and the rapid collapse of the previously U.S.-backed Afghan government in Kabul.

Read Bilal Wahab's study, [*Promoting Sovereignty and Accountability in Iraq: Guidelines for the Biden Administration \(/node/16845\)*](#).

Read Anna Borshchevskaya's article, "[Russia's Questionable Counterterrorism Record: Why Moscow Is an Unreliable Partner for the West \(https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/syria/2017-11-23/russias-questionable-counterterrorism-record\)](https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/syria/2017-11-23/russias-questionable-counterterrorism-record)"; her article, "[Afghanistan's Women Face a Dangerous and Uncertain Future \(https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/afghanistans-women-face-a-dangerous-and-uncertain-future\)](https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/afghanistans-women-face-a-dangerous-and-uncertain-future);" and her 2014 book, [Putin's War in Syria: Russian Foreign Policy and the Price of America's Absence \(https://www.amazon.com/Putins-War-Syria-Russian-Americas/dp/0755634632\)](https://www.amazon.com/Putins-War-Syria-Russian-Americas/dp/0755634632).

 Middle East PolicyCast: Conversations on Middle East issues from the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



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Bilal Wahab is the Nathan and Esther K. Wagner fellow at The Washington Institute.



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Kathryn Wheelbarger was the Rosenblatt Visiting Fellow at The Washington Institute in 2021, where her research focused on U.S. security and defense policy in the Middle East.

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