

# Reporting Syria and Iraq

by [Jonathan Spyer \(/experts/jonathan-spyer\)](/experts/jonathan-spyer), [Andrew J. Tabler \(/experts/andrew-j-tabler\)](/experts/andrew-j-tabler)

Mar 8, 2018

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Jonathan Spyer \(/experts/jonathan-spyer\)](/experts/jonathan-spyer)

Jonathan Spyer is a journalist, a fellow at Middle East Forum, and a research associate at the Jerusalem Center for Strategic Studies.



[Andrew J. Tabler \(/experts/andrew-j-tabler\)](/experts/andrew-j-tabler)

Andrew J. Tabler is the Martin J. Gross fellow in the Geduld Program on Arab Politics at The Washington Institute, where he focuses on Syria and U.S. policy in the Levant.



Brief Analysis

---

**A journalist who has covered the wars in Syria and Iraq offers a rare eyewitness account of how the conflicts have defied expert predictions, eroded state identity, and threatened the wider geostrategic order. Watch video.**

Firsthand reporting on the wars in Syria and Iraq plays a vital role in helping policymakers understand what is happening on the ground and set realistic goals. In his new book *Days of the Fall: A Reporter's Journey in the Syria and Iraq Wars* (<https://www.amazon.com/Days-Fall-Reporters-Journey-Syria/dp/1138561207>), Jonathan Spyer provides a rare eyewitness account of how the conflicts have defied expert predictions, eroded state identity, and threatened the wider geostrategic order. To discuss the trajectory of the fighting and the challenge of accurately reporting it, The Washington Institute hosted a Policy Forum with the author on March 8, 2018; he was joined by Institute fellow Andrew J. Tabler, who reported from Syria and the Middle East for over a decade.

**Jonathan Spyer** is a correspondent for IHS Jane's, a columnist for the *Jerusalem Post*, a fellow at the Middle East Forum, and a research associate at the Jerusalem Institute for Strategic Studies. His reporting and analysis have appeared in numerous outlets, including the *Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Policy*, *Guardian*, and the *Atlantic*. ❖

---

## RECOMMENDED



BRIEF ANALYSIS

## [Iran Takes Next Steps on Rocket Technology](#)

Feb 11, 2022



Farzin Nadimi

[\(/policy-analysis/iran-takes-next-steps-rocket-technology\)](#)



BRIEF ANALYSIS

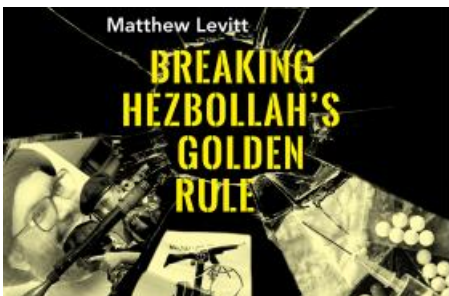
## [Saudi Arabia Adjusts Its History, Diminishing the Role of Wahhabism](#)

Feb 11, 2022



Simon Henderson

[\(/policy-analysis/saudi-arabia-adjusts-its-history-diminishing-role-wahhabism\)](#)



ARTICLES & TESTIMONY

## [Podcast: Breaking Hezbollah's Golden Rule](#)

Feb 9, 2022



Matthew Levitt

[\(/policy-analysis/podcast-breaking-hezbollahs-golden-rule\)](#)

### TOPICS

[Military & Security \(/policy-analysis/military-security\)](#)

### REGIONS & COUNTRIES

Iraq (/policy-  
analysis/iraq)

Syria (/policy-  
analysis/syria)