

A History of Hezbollah Activities in the Arabian Gulf Region

by [Matthew Levitt \(/experts/matthew-levitt\)](/experts/matthew-levitt)

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In-Depth Reports

Iran has long used Hezbollah and other radical Shi'a groups to project power across the Gulf. The CIA noted this trend in an 1986 assessment in which it concluded that "Iran uses international terrorism to achieve specific foreign policy objectives. Therefore it should not be surprising that despite the recent spike in sectarian tension across the region, which continues to grow as the Syria crisis remains unresolved, as well as exploration of a U.S.-Iran nuclear deal, Hezbollah continues to be active in the Gulf despite its designation as a terrorist organization.

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