

Whatever Happened to the Egyptian Revolution?

by [Eric Trager \(/experts/eric-trager\)](#)

Jul 22, 2014

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Eric Trager \(/experts/eric-trager\)](#)

Eric Trager was the Esther K. Wagner Fellow at The Washington Institute.



Articles & Testimony

Galal Amin's latest book on Egypt resorts to the unfortunate and simplistic tactic of attributing all domestic problems to foreign enemies.

Three years after the mass uprising that ended Husni Mubarak's thirty-year dictatorship, many Egypt observers ask the same question that economist Galal Amin uses for the title of his latest book: *Whatever Happened to the Egyptian Revolution?* Indeed, the democratic aspirations that the January 2011 revolt highlighted now seem more distant than ever: the successive military, Muslim Brotherhood, and military-backed regimes that followed Mubarak implemented varying degrees of autocracy, while deepening sectarian and political divisions destroyed the national unity that Tahrir Square once exemplified.

But in this collection of essays loosely framed around various postrevolutionary themes, Amin doesn't blame the military, Islamists, or prevalent political and religious intolerance for causing the Egyptian revolution's apparent failure. Rather, he presents them as symptoms of a greater evil: Western domination, particularly that of the United States and Israel, which, Amin insists, stifled Egypt's development for decades. And in making this monocausal case, Amin offers a remarkably simplistic account of Egyptian history, occasionally embracing conspiracy theories that are common in Egyptian cafes but have no place in academic books...

To read the full article, download the PDF.

This review originally appeared in the International Journal of Middle East Studies, volume 46, issue 3, pp. 623-624.

Copyright 2014, Cambridge University Press. ❖

International Journal of Middle East Studies



BRIEF ANALYSIS

How Sustainable Are Defense and Deterrence Methods in Light of Iran's Attack?

May 6, 2024



Andrew G. Clemmensen

(/policy-analysis/how-sustainable-are-defense-and-deterrence-methods-light-irans-attack)



ARTICLES & TESTIMONY

A Yom Hashoah Message, from Disgust to Hope

May 5, 2024



Robert Satloff

(/policy-analysis/yom-hashoah-message-disgust-hope)



BRIEF ANALYSIS

Tracking Anti-U.S. Strikes in Iraq and Syria During the Gaza Crisis

May 4, 2024



Michael Knights,
Amir al-Kaabi,
Hamdi Malik

(/policy-analysis/tracking-anti-us-strikes-iraq-and-syria-during-gaza-crisis)

TOPICS

Arab & Islamic Politics (/policy-analysis/arab-islamic-politics)

Democracy & Reform (/policy-analysis/democracy-reform)

REGIONS & COUNTRIES

[Egypt \(/policy-analysis/egypt\)](/policy-analysis/egypt)

[North Africa \(/policy-analysis/north-africa\)](/policy-analysis/north-africa)