

Afghanistan and Its Neighbors after the NATO Withdrawal

Edited by Amin Saikal and Kirill Nourzhanov

LEXINGTON BOOKS
Lanham • Boulder • New York • London

Published by Lexington Books
An imprint of The Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, Inc.
4501 Forbes Boulevard, Suite 200, Lanham, Maryland 20706
www.rowman.com

Unit A, Whitacre Mews, 26-34 Stannary Street, London SE11 4AB

Copyright © 2016 by Lexington Books

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any electronic or mechanical means, including information storage and retrieval systems, without written permission from the publisher, except by a reviewer who may quote passages in a review.

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Information Available

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names:


Title:

Description: Lanham : Lexington Books, 2015.

Identifiers:

Subjects:

Classification:

™ The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI/NISO Z39.48-1992.

Printed in the United States of America

Contents

Acknowledgments	vii
Introduction	ix
<i>By Amin Saikal and Kirill Nourzhanov</i>	
I: Afghanistan in the post-Taliban Era	1
1 Afghanistan: A Geopolitical Paradox	3
<i>By Amin Saikal</i>	
2 US Policies & Practices towards Afghanistan and Central Asia since 2001	17
<i>By M. Nazif Shahrani</i>	
II: Traditional Regional Players	33
3 A New Phase in Relations between Iran and Afghanistan	35
<i>By Shahram Akbarzadeh</i>	
4 Beyond Strategic Depth? Pakistan's Evolving Relationship with Afghanistan	49
<i>By Aly Zaman</i>	
5 "New Regionalism" and Afghanistan: The Role of India	63
<i>By Meena Singh Roy</i>	
III: Afghanistan as Viewed from Central Asia	81
6 Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Desecuritization and Regional Security	83
<i>By Reuel R. Hanks</i>	

Contents

7	Kazakhstan's Policy toward Afghanistan: Context, Drivers, and Outcomes	97
	<i>By Nargis Kassenova</i>	
8	Political and Economic Pragmatism: Turkmenistan and Afghanistan since 1991	111
	<i>By Sebastien Peyrouse</i>	
9	Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan's Diminishing Relationship	129
	<i>By Christian Bleuer</i>	
10	Central Asian Security after 2014: The Case of Tajikistan	147
	<i>By Mahmadyusuf Tashrifov</i>	
	IV: Afghanistan and Central Asia in a Wider International Context	161
11	Russia's Afghanistan Policy after 2014: Staying at an Arm's Length and Preparing for the Worst	163
	<i>By Kirill Nourzhanov</i>	
12	China in Afghanistan: Navigating a "Terrain of Hazards" in Search of Geopolitical Opportunity?	179
	<i>By Michael Clarke</i>	
13	The European Union in the Heartland: A Normative Power Looking for a Strategy in Central Eurasia	195
	<i>By Emilian Kavalski</i>	
	Conclusion	211
	<i>By Amin Saikal and Kirill Nourzhanov</i>	
	About the Contributors	217