

U.S.-Saudi ties strained

The alleged killing of prominent Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Istanbul is straining a decades-long relationship based on mutually dependent interests

OIL U.S. is far less dependent on Saudi oil than it once was, but as world's largest crude exporter, Saudi Arabia can still exert enormous influence over oil prices

Saudi threat to cut supply in retaliation for sanctions over Khashoggi affair would push up global prices, plunging U.S. economy into recession

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman

President Donald Trump is counting on Saudi Arabia to release more oil on to market to squeeze Tehran after U.S. reimposes sanctions on Iranian oil sector on Nov 4

ISRAEL-PALESTINIANS

Trump's senior adviser and son-in-law **Jared Kushner** hopes to strike peace agreement between Israel and Palestinians, but securing Saudi backing is crucial



ARMS SALES

Saudi Arabia is biggest foreign recipient of U.S.-made weapons

Trump says he is "against" cancelling \$110 billion order for U.S. arms signed in 2017 because it would affect American jobs. However, Riyadh has so far only followed through on \$14.5bn in purchases



BU-12 Paveway II laser-guided bombs

COUNTER-TERRORISM

U.S. regards Saudi cooperation on counter-terrorism as invaluable, as Saudis can exploit unrivalled network of tribal family connections to infiltrate militant strongholds

Exchange of information between Riyadh and Washington could suffer if U.S. takes measures over Khashoggi's disappearance



KC-135 Stratotankers have carried out more than 2,800 refuelling operations over Horn of Africa since Saudi Arabia launched war in Yemen in 2015

