

THE GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL PROJECT 1981-2016

In this book, the economist Kambiz Zare throws new light on one of the most discussed international economic integration projects of our time – that of the Gulf Cooperation Council. Created in 1981 by Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman, this ambitious regional project had political, economic and financial aspirations, but its success has been decidedly uneven. To explain why, the author examines the feasibility of the GCC project from today's perspective, contrasting the evolving economic and financial circumstances in the six countries with the conditions that are necessary for regional integration to be achieved. In doing this, Dr. Zare clarifies why the GCC's potential to bring economic gain to the region and its people has been so elusive. By focusing on the GCC's first 35 years, from 1981 to 2016, the book offers a firm groundwork for understanding the ongoing dynamics of the GCC region. Its relevance is highlighted by the current political tensions that have arisen among certain member countries: might they have been averted through greater attention to the building blocks of economic and financial cohesion?



Kambiz ZARE is an international economist with considerable expertise in finance and financial risk, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa region. With degrees from the City University of New York and Università degli Studi di Parma in Italy, he earned his Ph.D. in international relations and diplomacy summa cum laude from the Centre d'Études Diplomatiques et Stratégiques in Paris.



A professional training institute for diplomats, international civil servants, military officials and managers, the Centre d'Études Diplomatiques et Stratégiques (CEDS) – the Center for Diplomatic and Strategic Studies – has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and has trained, since 1985, leaders and executives of more than one hundred twenty nationalities.

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*The elusive potential for economic gain
through regional integration*



DIPLOMACY AND STRATEGY

L'Harmattan