

have been picked up by more experienced climate policymakers. For example, the text states that shipping is not included in the EU emissions trading scheme without explaining why; likewise it does not go into detail as to why aviation has its own specific rules within the scheme.

The overall aim of the book is to describe the legislative measure and to provide some analysis on how it is implemented. The book does not seek to criticize or establish whether the measure is successful, although it does highlight areas of concern. The editors' intention is to establish the facts around each area: this is the legislation, these are the targets and these are the constraints. There are other publications that provide a critique of the success of the various measures and readers should be aware that this is not the purpose of this book.

The book is targeted towards policymakers, students of environmental and/or energy policy and junior consultants. It establishes the foundation for an understanding of climate change law within the EU and would be of use to those who need to follow, understand and implement the measures described. At a price of £35 for the paperback version, this is an extremely useful resource, demonstrating good value for money.

**Gina Nason**

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## RR 2016/110 Historical Dictionary of Japanese Foreign Policy

*Mayako Shimamoto, Koji Ito and Yoneyuki Sugita*

Rowman & Littlefield

Lanham, MD and London

2015

xxvi + 383 pp.

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Historical Dictionaries of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations

**Keywords** Foreign relations, History, Japan

**Review DOI** [10.1108/RR-01-2016-0008](https://doi.org/10.1108/RR-01-2016-0008)

This *Historical Dictionary* is in the familiar format of the series and is attractively produced with a bright, white hard cover and a clear layout. Japanese foreign policy is defined as beginning in 1853 when the country began to open its borders to the outside world after two centuries of seclusion. The concept of “seclusion” provides a prime example of the main problem with this dictionary, as with others in the series: you need to be adept at

guessing what terms will be used as entry points. There is no entry or cross-reference for “seclusion” or for the standard Japanese term *sakoku*; instead, it is found under the heading, “National Seclusion”.

A similar example is the “First Japanese Embassy to Europe”. There is no entry for embassies, foreign embassies or even Europe, although the European Union is included. The entries for individual European countries indicate that this volume is aimed in particular at an American audience. In the page-long entry for the European Union, about a third is devoted to a description of the institution, with discussion of relations with Japan then following. Similar proportions of coverage occur in entries for other European countries.

While there are headings for both China and People’s Republic of China, containing overlapping information, Korea is discussed under Democratic People’s Republic and Republic of Korea with no cross-references. This is particularly unhelpful as Japan’s relationship with the Korean peninsula predates the establishment of these countries. This is indicated by the entry for *Seikanron*, which is defined as “Claim of sending an expeditionary force to Korea to open doors to the world”. This is not a standard translation of the term, which appears more commonly as “Advocacy of a punitive expedition to Korea” or “Debate on the subjugation of Korea”, both phrases which indicate greater aggression. However defined, it is not a particularly well-known term and would be difficult to find for most non-Japanese speakers.

In general, the dictionary seems to be aimed at monolingual readers and almost all headings are in English rather than Japanese and no Japanese characters are provided. One exception is *Fukoku Kyohei*, “Enrich the country and strengthen the military”, a nineteenth-century period political slogan, but an almost contemporary phrase *Wakan Yosai* appears only in the form, “Eastern ethics, Western Science” without the Japanese form even mentioned.

There are some occurrences of strange language use, for example, in the entry for History of Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (which at least does have a see reference from Ministry of Foreign Affairs), the text reads: “after the end of the war the Ministry of Foreign Affairs redeemed its power”, where resumed or regained seem more appropriate.

The choice and content of terms are presumably driven by the stated target audience of high school and college students. It may be the case that the book has been designed with specific courses in mind for

which the terms used relate to standard questions.

A major feature of the dictionary are the numerous brief biographies of key individuals, mostly Japanese. Other content consists of a lengthy chronological essay on Japanese foreign policy up to 2014, a list of abbreviations, a chronology from 1854 to July 2014, lists of prime ministers, foreign ministers and vice foreign ministers, plus an 18-page bibliography in themed sections.

This book would be of most use in libraries serving users who are studying Japanese foreign policy at a basic level, especially those on courses that have the same approach to the subject as its authors. The biographical entries are of value to a wider audience, but the choice of entry terms and limited cross-references mean that it will be hard for many users to find information on the concepts that interest them.

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## RR 2016/111

### **Historical Dictionary of the Arab-Israeli Conflict (2nd edition)**

*P.R. Kumaraswamy*

Rowman & Littlefield

Lanham, MD and London

2015

lxiv + 626 pp.

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£90 \$135

Historical Dictionaries of War, Revolution and Civil Unrest

**Keywords** Arab world, Dictionaries, History, Israel, War, Palestine

**Review DOI** [10.1108/RR-02-2016-0039](https://doi.org/10.1108/RR-02-2016-0039)

Readers who are familiar with the Rowman & Littlefield Dictionaries will recognise the format of this book. Professor Kumaraswamy, who is the sole author as far as one can tell, includes a map section, an extended chronology and an historical introduction. At the end, there is a full bibliography (of which more below). No index, no documents, no illustrations. The meat in the sandwich is a big collection of historical entries. As regards coverage, strictly speaking the professor would be justified in confining his work to the period after 1948, when Israel came into existence – but he does not. He also devotes some attention to the British mandate: the Balfour Declaration, the King-Crane Report, the Arab revolt of 1936, the Passfield White paper. For most of the time, however, Kumaraswamy

points his spotlight on the past 30 years. Arafat, Shamir, Rabin, Mahmoud Abbas and Benjamin Netanyahu are the stars of this production. All in all, students of the world's most intractable problem will agree that he has compiled rather a good book: clear, concise and well-organised.

The Palestinians face an overwhelmingly strong Israeli state, armed with tip-top weaponry and with the most powerful country in the world as a friend. It won UN recognition nearly 70 years ago. Israel has a big science base with good research facilities, a sophisticated economy and a highly effective intelligence and security apparatus. Its armed forces make it a “regional superpower”. In every one of these departments, the Palestinians are weak. Is it time for them to accept the status quo and abandon their ambitions for statehood and restitution?

Perhaps that time has not come. Of course, the Zionists may choose to continue with Fortress Israel for the indefinite future and turn their backs on any serious concessions. Yet Palestinians have a lot to offer the Jewish homeland and one day, Israel may need it. First, despite their slick public relations, often using American-educated Jews who can “speak the language” of the West, it faces a diplomatic isolation greater than it has ever known before. Its incursions into Gaza and Lebanon killed hundreds of civilians and produced widespread revulsion. The Palestinian cause, on the other hand, after decades of ineptitude, is at last beginning to enjoy some public relations success. It has observer status at the UN and the French government has announced that it may soon recognise Palestinian statehood. This will align France with 70 per cent of the UN. Second, a settlement with the Palestinians would yield enormous dividends for the Zionists. It could dampen the Arab violence, detach the bulk of the Palestinians from Hamas and restore diplomatic ties to the Arab world. It might also allow Israel to scale down its costly military establishment. Netanyahu's claim that if Israel remained inside the boundaries of the Green Line it would become “indefensible” is contradicted by its stunning military performance in every war since 1948.

A Palestine Authority which was willing to offer Israel a handsome bargain would of course deserve, and would expect to get, a good deal in return. Settlement building, water rights and an Arab right of return (at least to the West Bank) would all have to be part of the agreement. Moreover, a final accord would set Palestinian rights in concrete and tie the Zionists' hands on the West Bank. But for the expansionist regime in Jerusalem, this might