

American Politics in the Age of Oil

The Bernie Sanders Phenomenon

Iakovos Alhadeff

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Qatar Likes Bernie Sanders

The following Al Jazeera article explains why American women must vote for the Jewish candidate Bernie Sanders, and not for the Christian candidate Hilary Clinton. Al Jazeera is the Qatari state-owned news agency, which is basically owned by the King (Emir) of Qatar. If Hilary Clinton wins the nomination, and then the general election in November 2016, she will be the first female American President in history. However Al Jazeera is trying to convince American women to make Sanders the first Jewish President of the United States, instead of making Hilary Clinton the first female one.

See “Why women should support Sanders not Clinton”, February 2016.

http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2016/02/women-support-sanders-clinton-160211103020677.html?utm_source=Al+Jazeera+English+Newsletter+%7C+Weekly&utm_campaign=420320dfb2-weekly_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e427298a68-420320dfb2-224888961

For the ownership of Al-Jazeera see Guardian.

“Al-Jazeera expected to cut hundreds of jobs”, September 2015

1st and 2nd Paragraph

Al-Jazeera is expected to cut hundreds of jobs worldwide as the Qatari-owned broadcaster looks to make savings in the face of a falling oil price and a possible radical change in investment strategy.

The surprise move will not only see an estimated 800 to 1,000 staff go – almost one quarter of the total workforce – but could presage the emir of Qatar reducing the state’s

commitment to the news media group that was supported by his father. The news organisation has been a hugely successful way of maintaining influence in the Arab world and beyond.

<http://www.theguardian.com/media/2015/sep/22/al-jazeera-expected-to-cut-hundreds-of-jobs-qatar-oil-price>

Al-Jazeera's preference for the Jewish candidate is very strange, given that Qatar, together with Turkey and Iran, is arming Hamas. Hamas is the Islamist organization running Gaza, and in its covenant was openly asking for the Israel's annihilation, and it is also a big time anti-Semitic organization. Hamas had to accept some changes due to the pressure exercised by some foreign governments, but everybody knows that this has to do with the way Hamas promotes itself, and not with a real change of attitude towards Israel. See for example See also Anti-Defamation League "Hamas in Their Own Words".

<http://www.adl.org/anti-semitism/muslim-arab-world/c/hamas-in-their-own-words.html?referrer=https://www.google.gr/#.VslnOP195dg>

See also the Guardian. "Hamas drops call for destruction of Israel from manifesto", January 2006.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2006/jan/12/israel>

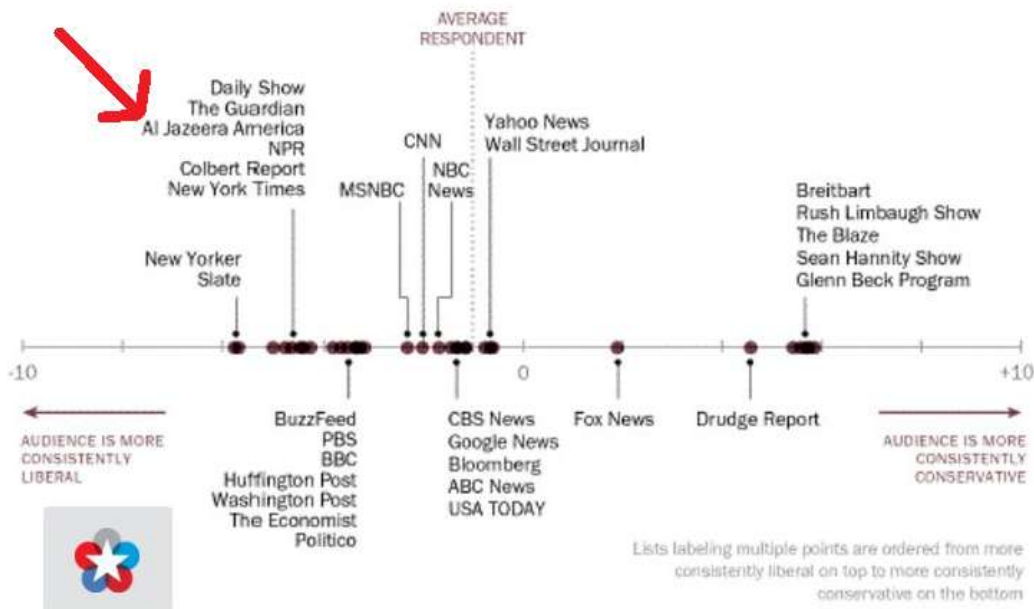
Therefore, to say the least, it is a bit funny to see support towards Bernie Sanders by a media outlet owned by the Qatari King, who in turn is funding the anti-Semitic Hamas. What is even funnier is that even though Al Jazeera belongs to a King, it is a center-left or even a left news agency, and its viewers are socialists, as you can read at the following Washington Post

article. See “Ranking the media from liberal to conservative, based on their audiences”.

Image 1 Left and Right Media

Ideological Placement of Each Source’s Audience

Average ideological placement on a 10-point scale of ideological consistency of those who got news from each source in the past week...



<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2014/10/21/lets-rank-the-media-from-liberal-to-conservative-based-on-their-audiences/>

Therefore one wonders how it is possible for a news agency which belongs to the Qatari King to have leftist journalists, being watched by a leftist audience, and at the same time support the Jewish candidate in the American elections. And this gets more confusing when it is taken into account that Qatar is funding some of the most fanatic Islamic terrorist organizations around the globe. See for example the Telegraph “Qatar and Saudi Arabia

have ignited time bomb by funding global spread of radical Islam”, October 2014.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/iraq/11140860/Qatar-and-Saudi-Arabia-have-ignited-time-bomb-by-funding-global-spread-of-radical-Islam.html>

See also

“How our allies in Kuwait and Qatar funded Islamic State”, September 2014.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/kuwait/11077537/How-our-allies-in-Kuwait-and-Qatar-funded-Islamic-State.html>

After the 9/11 attack at the Twin Towers, Al Jazeera mentioned that the Jews who worked at the Twin Towers had been warned and did not go to their work on the day of the attack. See for example Wikipedia.

“Al Jazeera controversies and criticism”

1st Paragraph

An article in the American Journalism Review noted that critics of Al-Jazeera have "assailed what they see as anti-Semitic, anti-American bias in the channel's news content." [7] An example cited from earlier years was a report in Al-Jazeera that Jews had been informed in advance not to go to work on the day of the September 11 attacks, which was criticized by an October 2001 editorial in the New York Times. An often-repeated example involves an on-air birthday party organized by Al Jazeera's Beirut bureau chief for a Lebanese militant convicted of killing four Israelis, including a four-year-old girl. Al Jazeera greeted Samir Kuntar, released in a July 2008 prisoner swap, as a hero. A more recent example given by the article is the weekly show "Sharia and Life" by Yusuf Qaradawi, an Egyptian cleric who, according to a February 2011 article in The

Atlantic, "argues clearly and consistently that hatred of Israel and Jews is Islamically sanctioned." [7][8]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Al_Jazeera_controversies_and_criticism

Before explaining what is going on, I hope it is obvious that there is something wrong to when you have a leftist news agency, owned by an Arab Islamist King who fights Israel, watched by a leftist public, which is also supporting the Jewish candidate. Only socialists and Islamists are capable of being so silly.

Note that in order to operate in United States, Al Jazeera had to buy a license, and the Emir of Qatar paid 500 million dollars to buy Al Gore's tv channel i.e. "Current TV". Al Gore was the vice president of the Clinton administration. After paying 500 million dollars for Current TV, Al-Jazeera American also hired 800 journalists in the United States, and spent another 2 billion dollars promoting the channel. See for example Wall Street Journal.

"Al Jazeera to Shut Down American News Channel", January 2016

1st, 2nd, 3rd Paragraph

When Al Jazeera America was launched to great fanfare in 2013, its then-leader boasted he didn't have to worry too much about profits.

After all, the cable news channel was backed by the oil-and-gas-rich government of Qatar, and oil was trading around \$100 a barrel.

On Wednesday, with oil trading near \$30, Al Jazeera made an about-face, announcing it was shutting its American cable channel by April 30 for economic reasons.

7th Paragraph

But the U.S. channel faced acute financial challenges of its own. After purchasing Al Gore's Current TV for nearly \$500 million, Al Jazeera put some \$2 billion into Al

Jazeera America, said people familiar with the matter. It hired some 800 journalists at launch and opened 12 bureaus around the U.S.

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/al-jazeera-to-shut-down-american-news-channel-1452713303>

Can you imagine how many American academics and journalists were bought by Qatar with these 2 billion dollars? Actually these 2 billion dollars are peanuts when compared to what Qatar invests in the United States. Only for the next 5 years Qatar is planning to invest 35 billion dollars in United States. See for example Bloomberg “Qatar Planning \$35 Billion of U.S. Investments to Diversify”, September 2015.

1st, 2nd Paragraphs

Qatar plans to invest \$35 billion in the U.S. over the next five years as it seeks to diversify assets.

The Qatar Investment Authority, which helps manage the country's energy-generated wealth, opened an office in New York to "better access new and existing investment partners," the sovereign fund said in a statement Monday. It will target various sector of the U.S. economy and help create American jobs, Qatar's ambassador to Washington, D.C., Mohammed Al Kuwari, said in Twitter postings, without giving more details on potential investments.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-09-28/qatar-plans-35-billion-of-u-s-investments-with-new-york-office>

Qatar and the other petro-states of the Persian Gulf also invest heavily in American universities and think tanks, and have great influence over professors, who in turn use their push their students in adopting an anti-Israel view of the Middle East. This does not have to do only with Israel. It

is a more important problem, and it has to do with the Islamization of American and European universities by leftist professors funded by petro-states. See for example the following articles from Financial Times and New York Times.

“Western universities’ reputations at stake in Gulf links”, October 2013

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Paragraphs

Educational establishments based in the west are facing funding crises as they seek to maintain their reputations for academic excellence. Meanwhile, Gulf states, flush with oil wealth, are tackling domestic education crises. Too many members of their growing young populations are failing to acquire relevant skills.

The result has been an increase in financial links between top British, North American and French universities with their regional political allies in the Gulf, such as Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

Under the financial patronage of Sheikha Moza bint Nasser al-Missned, the wife of Qatar’s recently departed emir, the gas-rich state has attracted eight institutions to a sprawling campus on the outskirts of Doha, the capital. Premier institutions such as the University of Paris-Sorbonne and New York University have benefited from Abu Dhabi’s oil riches by setting up satellite campuses in the UAE capital.

The financial risk to the western universities of their partnerships in Qatar and Abu Dhabi are removed by generous Gulf state funding.

10th Paragraph

Foreign universities tend to accept there are unwritten rules about what can and cannot be said in the context of specific projects,” says Ghanem Nuseibeh, founder of Cornerstone Global Associates, a consultancy, and a fellow at King’s College London.

<http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/7e8f1d8a-170d-11e3-9ec2-00144feabdc0.html#axzz40mymLZxl>

See also

“US: Gulf states biggest donors”, June 2008

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20080613094148768>

And also:

“Foreign Powers Buy Influence at Think Tanks”, September 2014

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/07/us/politics/foreign-powers-buy-influence-at-think-tanks.html?_r=0

Therefore it is not surprising that American and European leftist professors are so anti-Israel, and they make sure their students are anti-Israel too. See for example “Anti-Israel events skyrocket on US campuses”, October 2015.

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/203702#.VsI24PI95dg>

Israel has a strong army due to its alliance with the United States, but when it comes to communication it is literally destroyed by the Muslim countries. Remember that Israel has a GDP of only 300 billion dollars, while the Muslim countries have a GDP of many trillion dollars when added together. Just Saudi Arabia has a GDP of 750 billion dollars (2014). Moreover there are less than 15 million Jews, with Israel included, while there are 1.6 billion Muslims. And it is the Muslim countries i.e. the Arabs and the Iranians, who have the oil. That’s why it is so easy for the Muslims to buy leftist professors and journalists in Europe and the United States.

For the cooperation between the American and European left and the Islamists in the 21st century see also “The So-Called Wars of Religion”.

<https://iakal.wordpress.com/2016/01/31/the-so-called-wars-of-religion/>

Having said all that, I have to ask once more why on earth Al Jazeera is friendly towards Bernie Sanders? The arguments of the Al Jazeera article is that Clinton has never denounce the Israeli colonialists, and that Bernie Sanders is more socialist than Hilary Clinton. I must also say that the reason the King (Emir) of Qatar can afford to be a King and at the same time being a socialist, who is also loved by the European and American socialists, is that tiny Qatar has a population of only 300 thousand people, while it is the larger exporter of liquefied natural gas in the world. There are approximately 2.2 million people living in Qatar, but only 300 thousands of them are Qatari citizens, with the rest of them being economic immigrants.

Qatar is the largest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the world, and it is the richest country in terms of per capita GDP i.e. country income / population. Therefore the “socialist” King can be very generous to the Qatari people, and he can be very generous towards the European and American socialists. It is like if I have 1.000.000 euro by myself (Qatar) and someone else has 10.000.000 euros but he also have 10.000 kids. I have 1.000.000 for myself, while the neighbors have $10.000.000 / 10.000 = 1.000$ euros each. Therefore I have the liquidity to buy socialists in Europe and the United States, and also Jihadists in the Muslim World.

So what is it that would make Qatar, and other oil and gas exporting countries to fund the campaign of Bernie Sanders, or even support him without funding him, just by using their huge influence in the media and universities? I am not saying that Qatar bought Bernie Sanders. I am just saying that Qatar likes Bernie Sanders. I really have no idea whether Qatar is directly or indirectly funding his campaign. I really hate conspiracy theories

and truthers. After all the Obama policy towards Iran is not good for Qatar. It is true of course that Obama sees Islamists in a positive way. Remember that Obama recently visited a Mosque which in the past was connected to radical Islam. See Fox News “Baltimore mosque set for Obama visit has controversial ties”, February 2016.

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2016/02/01/baltimore-mosque-set-for-obama-visit-has-controversial-ties.html>

Obama, like most left and center-left politicians likes Islamists, and more than appreciates their business. However the Obama policy towards Iran did not help Qatar. I am trying to say that I am not looking for conspiracy theories. I am just examining economic interests. I do not even think the Al Gore deal with Qatar was suspicious. I used the example to show the extent of the Qatari influence. Al Gore is a businessman and has every right to do what he did. It is a good thing to have businessmen in politics rather than having academics, journalists and lawyers.

Why does Qatar Likes Bernie Sanders

The truth is that Qatar likes Bernie Sanders mainly for two reasons. The first one, and the least important I think, is that Bernie Sanders is a socialist Jew, and like most socialists Jews he is hostile towards Israel. Sanders is similar to the communist American-Jewish intellectual Noam Chomski, who blames Israel for everything that goes wrong. Noam Chomski is always used by the socialists and the Islamists as an example of a good Jew, and he was even

banned from entering Israel. See Haaretz “Noam Chomsky Denied Entry Into Israel and West Bank”, May 2010.

<http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/noam-chomsky-denied-entry-into-israel-and-west-bank-1.290701>

For Bernie Sanders tough stance towards Israel since the 90s see Haaretz “Sanders in 1990: Wish U.S. Would Pressure Israel Harder on Palestinian Issue”, February 2016. Haaretz is the oldest Israeli newspaper and it belongs to the center-left, and it is very critical towards Netanyahu. I mean it is not that Haaretz does not like Sanders because he is a socialist.

http://www.haaretz.com/world-news/u-s-election-2016/.premium-1.701787?utm_content=%24sections%2F1.701787&utm_medium=EMAIL&utm_source=SMARTFOCUS&utm_campaign=1339605&utm_term=20160206-20%3A02

However I think the main reason the Qataris like Bernie Sanders is not his anti-Israel attitude, but something else. With the new production techniques developed by the American energy companies, it became possible to produce oil and gas from shale rock, and the United States is very rich in shale rock. Actually the United States became the largest producer of oil and gas, even though it is still the largest importer of oil due to the huge size of the American economy. See Bloomberg “U.S. Seen as Biggest Oil Producer After Overtaking Saudi”, July 2014.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2014-07-04/u-s-seen-as-biggest-oil-producer-after-overtaking-saudi>

The American oil and gas production made the American political elite hungry for even more money and power, and they want a larger share of this production for themselves, even though they always talk in the name of the people and democracy. One of Sanders' most important political views is to tax more the American energy companies, as you can see at his site (taken on 15.2.2016).

“Combating Climate Change to Save the Planet” (taken 15.2.2015)

Right now, we have an energy policy that is rigged to boost the profits of big oil companies like Exxon, BP, and Shell at the expense of average Americans. CEO's are raking in record profits while climate change ravages our planet and our people — all because the wealthiest industry in the history of our planet has bribed politicians into complacency in the face of climate change. Enough is enough. It's time for a political revolution that takes on the fossil fuel billionaires, accelerates our transition to clean energy, and finally puts people before the profits of polluters.

-Senator Bernie Sanders

<https://berniesanders.com/issues/climate-change/>

Imposing even larger taxes on American companies will not only make Sanders and the American political elite richer and stronger, but will also increase the price of oil and natural gas, and that will make the American production less competitive, which is extremely useful for the large producers of oil and gas abroad i.e. Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Russia etc. Therefore Sanders, the Arabs, the Iranians and the Russians, they all have common interests. That's why you see Qatar being so friendly towards a Jewish candidate.

The term “resource curse” refers to a strange phenomenon, under which rich in resources countries tend to have slower growth, more corruption and less democracy. It is not a coincidence that Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkey and Russia, who are the biggest international terrorists, are sitting on the Persian Gulf – Caspian Sea – West Siberia axis, which holds approximately 2/3 of the worlds oil and gas reserves.

Map 1 The Axis of Oil and Natural Gas



It is always easier for socialist and Islamist dictators to rise to power in countries that are rich in resources. They simply have to promise everything to everyone and people will like them and they will give them power. It is the same story in Saudi Arabia, Iran, the Soviet Union etc. See Wikipedia “Resource Curse”.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resource_curse

Therefore now that the US can produce large quantities of oil and natural gas there will be hungry socialist elite that will desire more and more of it. Bernie Sanders might just be the beginning of the “resource curse” for the United States. However it would take sometime for American socialists to transform the United States to a socialist dictatorship, because the United States has a strong constitution that protects it, and many years of capitalism made sure there is a strong institutional framework. However for a beginning Bernie Sanders could transform the United States to something like Norway. In Norway capitalism came first, and it created a strong institutional framework. See “The Swedish Economic Model : A Socialist or a Free Market Success”?

When oil was discovered in Norway in the late 60s it was not possible for the Norwegian socialists to transform the country to a socialist dictatorship. But it is very early to say what will happen, given that oil in Norway was discovered only 45 years ago. After all, Norway might have a large oil and gas production, but her reserves are peanuts when compared to the Arab, Iranians and Russian ones. You can also see that Norway does not do very bad in terms of economic freedom. Norway comes 32nd in the world ranking of economic freedom.

Picture 2 Index of Economic Freedom

| FREE (100-80) | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------|--------|------|----------------------|---------|--------|
| RANK | COUNTRY | OVERALL | CHANGE | RANK | COUNTRY | OVERALL | CHANGE |
| 1 | Hong Kong | 88.6 | -1.0 ▼ | 4 | Switzerland | 81.0 | +0.5 ▲ |
| 2 | Singapore | 87.8 | -1.6 ▼ | 5 | Australia | 80.3 | -1.1 ▼ |
| 3 | New Zealand | 81.6 | -0.5 ▼ | | | | |
| MOSTLY FREE (79.9-70) | | | | | | | |
| RANK | COUNTRY | OVERALL | CHANGE | RANK | COUNTRY | OVERALL | CHANGE |
| 6 | Canada | 78.0 | -1.1 ▼ | 23 | Georgia | 72.6 | -0.4 ▼ |
| 7 | Chile | 77.7 | -0.8 ▼ | 24 | Finland | 72.6 | -0.8 ▼ |
| 8 | Ireland | 77.3 | +0.7 ▲ | 25 | United Arab Emirates | 72.6 | +0.2 ▲ |
| 9 | Estonia | 77.2 | +0.4 ▲ | 26 | Sweden | 72.0 | -0.7 ▼ |
| 10 | United Kingdom | 76.4 | +0.6 ▲ | 27 | South Korea | 71.7 | +0.2 ▲ |
| 11 | United States | 75.4 | -0.8 ▼ | 28 | Austria | 71.7 | +0.5 ▲ |
| 12 | Denmark | 75.3 | -1.0 ▼ | 29 | Malaysia | 71.5 | +0.7 ▲ |
| 13 | Lithuania | 75.2 | +0.5 ▲ | 30 | Botswana | 71.1 | +1.3 ▲ |
| 14 | Taiwan | 74.7 | -0.4 ▼ | 31 | The Bahamas | 70.9 | +2.2 ▲ |
| 15 | Mauritius | 74.7 | -1.7 ▼ | 32 | Norway | 70.8 | -1.0 ▼ |

<http://www.heritage.org/index/ranking>

Bernie Sanders and Israel

Something else that worries me about Sanders rise, is how it relates to Israel. The Arab Spring, the improvement in the US-Iran relations, and the Turkish-Israeli hostility, have created great dangers for Israel's security. Some analysts believe that Israel will not survive the Arab Spring. See for example

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