### Qatar influence high now – poised to play a pivotal role because of support for Arab Spring

NPR 1/2

(Qatar Emerges As Major Force In Arab World, www.npr.org/2012/01/02/144587796/qatar-emerges-as-major-force-in-arab-world)

The Persian Gulf State of Qatar has

AND

 the Arab State system, yet **Qatar now has emerged as the lead player.**

### Ramping up US involvement in Libya trades off Qatar

WSJ 12/24

(MIA on the Shores of Tripoli, online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204879004577110292563937610.html)

The U.S. is also deferring too much to Qatar

AND

scaled back their freelancing. But **more U.S. involvement would be the better counterweight.**

### Libyan involvement in Qatar is key to their soft power – it’s the biggest test

WSJ 11

(10/17, Tiny Kingdom's Huge Role in Libya Draws Concern , online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204002304576627000922764650.html)

Qatar's role in the Libyan uprising has been a **heady**

**AND**

—**is being closely watched in Libya and beyond.**

### Qatari leadership is key to regional peace, success of Arab Spring, and creating a bridge between Islam and the west

NYT 11

(For Qatar, Libyan Intervention May Be a Turning Point, www.nytimes.com/2011/04/04/world/middleeast/04qatar.html)

Western political and military leaders have praised the Qatari government, saying its **intervention in Libya is a turning** point

AND

 praised as a driving force behind the current “Arab Spring.”

### Now’s key - anti-Americanism is escalating and destabilizes Afghanistan - US/Muslim engagement solves

Maginnis 8-18 (Robert, Retired Army lieutenant Colonel and National Security Analyst, “Muslim World More Anti-American Than Ever”, Human Events, 2011, http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=45588)

Third, Pakistan, an erstwhile ally armed with 100 nuclear weapons

AND

 stop the flow of aid money, and assume tougher political and military policies.

### Afghan instability causes Russian and Chinese global aggression

Weinstein 4 - Michael Weinstein, 11/12/2004, Power and Interest News Report, p http://www.pinr.com/report.php?ac=view\_printable&report\_id=235&language\_id=1

The persistence of insurgencies in Afghanistan and Iraq, which has hampered rebuilding efforts in both

AND

American empire has faded into memory and the prospect that the U.S. will eventually become a dominant regional power with some global reach becomes more probable.