2 Kahhaleh, Subhi, The Water Problem in Israel and its Repercussions on the Arab-Israeli Conflict, The Institute for Palestine Studies, 1981 (I.P.S. papers9). 3 Elmusa, Sharif, "Dividing the Common Water Resources According to International Water Law; The Case of the Palestinian-Israeli Waters," Natural Resource Journal, vol 34, no. -4. 1994. 4 The treaty is a model treaty drafted in Bellagio, Italy, by a multidisciplinary team of international experts to serve as a model for the joint management of groundwater resources. A statement of it is available in Hayton, Robert and Albert Ut The Clinton Administration and the Arab-Israeli Peace Process, 1993â€”1996. The Clinton administration did not initially make Israeli-Palestinian peace a priority. Clinton and his advisors believed that a diplomatic breakthrough on the Israeli-Syrian track would be more likely, and that Israelâ€™s leaders would find it politically easier to pull back from the Golan Heights than to withdraw from the West Bank.Â Worried that the peace process might collapse, the Clinton administration involved itself more actively in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. In January 1997, following intensive U.S. mediation, Israel and the PA signed the Hebron Protocol, which provided for the transfer of most of Hebron to Palestinian control.
The current peace process offers a historic opportunity for all nations in the Middle East to abandon the states of belligerency, confrontation, non-cooperation and polarization. Water is a major issue that can be a catalyst in the peace process or can inhibit it (Isaac and Sabbah 1997 p iii). Water is generally perceived as one of five high priority issues in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The five issues are Jerusalem, borders and the closely related issue of settlements, refugees and shared water resources. First, there is substantial evidence that while water is a fundamental resource in any political economy it does not determine socio-economic outcomes for severely water stressed political economies.
This article argues that securing water use and supply from the West Bank aquifers and from the Jordan River and its tributaries contributed to Israel's decision to occupy the West Bank and the Golan Heights during the 1967 June War, and the security zone in south Lebanon during the 1978 invasion of Lebanon. There is overwhelming support for this argument, despite the varying levels of attribution with respect to its causality. In light of the increasingly intense competition for water resources in the Middle East, being clear about the historical contributors to these wars may help in sp Water has already emerged as an important theme in the search for a Middle East peace settlement between the Arabs and Israelis. Both sides want to ensure that a sufficient supply of water in the years ahead. Because Turkey is often regarded as a water-rich country, the Euphrates is sometimes seen as a panacea for the water problems of the countries to Turkey's south. Both ideas rest on misconceptions. Turkey's water resources are much more limited than generally supposed and the search for a satisfactory settlement in the Euphrates-Tigris basin is a complete separate issue from the