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Special Edition

Power Transition in Qatar

by Edgar Zedler

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H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar

On 25th June 2013 the Emir of Qatar, H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, announced his resignation in favour of his son, the designated heir apparent, H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani. With this step he fosters and gives power to the young generation of the country. H.H. Sheikh Hamad al-Thani's achievements shaped the current status of Qatar and also will do so in the future. Thanks to his leadership, Qatar has evolved from a small desert country into a diplomatic and economic global player and the world's third largest exporter of liquid natural gas. It is very much due

to his efforts that the small country is hosting the World Cup 2022. To this end he started to develop Qatar's infrastructure. For example, he drove forward the construction of mega projects like The Pearl, the New Doha Port and the tellingly new Hamad International Airport. Up until 2022 and beyond Qatar wants to become a regional transportation, finance, tourism and business hub, all made possible through the development programme 'Qatar National Vision 2030', which was to a great extend envisaged by H.H. Sheikh Hamad al-Thani. He explained his decision to transfer power to his son during a live

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