

Nayef R. F. Al-Rodhan

# On Power

*Neurophilosophical Foundations and Policy Implications*

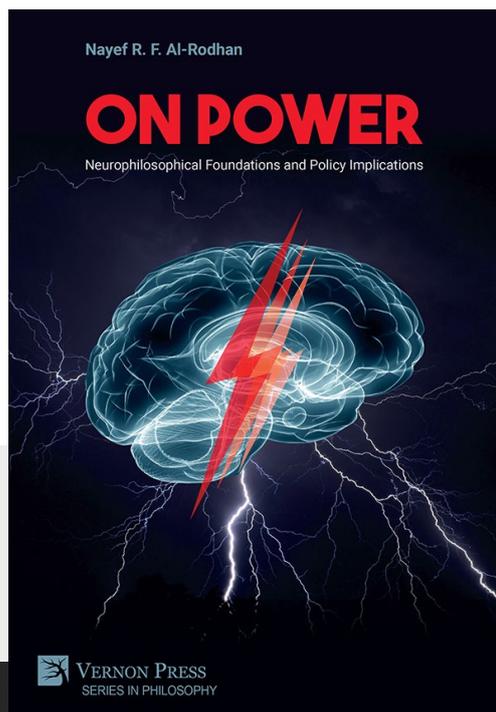
SERIES IN PHILOSOPHY

## Summary

'On Power: Neurophilosophical Foundations and Policy Implications' seeks to provide a historical, contemporary and predictive analysis of power. It aims to explain the history of political power in a unique way by approaching the concept of power through the lens of neurophilosophy – the application of neuroscientific principles to practical questions of governance, ethics, political and moral philosophy. In this book, Professor Nayef Al-Rodhan provides an accessible, incisive, and provocative take on the history, nature, and future of power. His insights go beyond conventional wisdom by exploring some of the themes that will become increasingly relevant to analysing power in the decades to come.

A central idea of the book is the highly addictive universal nature of power at the neurochemical level, the craving for it, and the intense resistance to giving it up in all walks of life and circumstances. This can be applied directly to thinking about governance, political change, public policy, national and international peace, security, and prosperity. Al-Rodhan formulates an innovative conceptual picture of power by integrating the findings of neuroscience with the broader implications of power in the era of digital connectivity and cognitive and physical enhancement technologies. In doing so, he guides our approach to political power and public policy, influenced by ubiquitous, disruptive, and intrusive technologies.

This book will appeal to students and scholars of neuroscience, philosophy, government, business, and international relations. It will also hold particular interest for politicians, public servants, think-tankers, policy-makers, and journalists, as well as senior executives from the corporate, sports, media and entertainment world.



## About the author

**Nayef R. F. Al-Rodhan** is a neuroscientist, philosopher and geostrategist. He is an Honorary Fellow at St Antony's College, University of Oxford, a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Philosophy at the University of London, and a Senior Fellow and Head of the Geopolitics and Global Futures Programme at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy. Al-Rodhan began his career as a neurosurgeon and neuroscientist. Since 2002, he has shifted his scholarly focus to the interplay between neuroscience and international relations. Through several publications, he has pioneered the application of neuroscience, namely the neurochemical mechanisms that underpin emotions, to the understanding of trends in contemporary geopolitics and global security. Through many innovative books and articles, he has made significant conceptual contributions to the application of the field of neurophilosophy to human nature, contemporary geopolitics, international relations, and outer space security.

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