

Impacts of Revolutions in the Arab Spring Countries and in the Entire Middle East Region

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Abstract: Middle East, especially the Arab spring countries live one of the most dangerous and most critical periods of their ancient or modern history. The fact that spring has turned into a harsh and painful winter, is undeniable. The fact that the peoples of these countries have failed to achieve success in the performance test of democracy in modern time and at least so far, is undeniable. Arab Spring has reflected and discovered many unexpected facts. This study aims to shed light on the most important and most dangerous consequences, positive and negative impacts of these revolutions in the countries of the Arab spring, either nationally or internationally, especially in the economic and geopolitical aspect as well as the degree of impact in the entire Middle East Region. This study focuses on the most serious negative aspects of these revolutions represented by the growth of the phenomenon of violence, terrorism and religious extremism, the entry of the entire region into an unprecedented catastrophic situation of international conflict, and finally responding to specific question, the Arab spring...did succeeded or failed?

Keywords: Counter-revolution; Chaos; International Terrorism; Economic Inflation; International Conflict

1. Introduction

It is very difficult and too early to talk about failure or success of the revolutionary experiment in Arab Spring countries. But after the first few years after this event, we can shed light on the consequences of the Arab Spring and its results on the Arab Spring countries and the Middle East as a whole.

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Given that the success or failure of these revolutions cannot be measured by assessing the achievements of the Arab Spring and evaluating the difference between what was the case in countries of the Arab spring before the outbreak of revolutions and beyond (later). Absolutely not, it can not assess the current situation of revolutionary nations through this narrow perspective, at least in political terms. Although in the countries of the Arab Spring has prevailed a state of chaos and terror, and the interference of foreign forces in an unprecedented form. On the other side, we can say that the Arab Spring has chopped and eliminated the elements of absolute power in the Arab world, or at least in countries where revolutions took place. In a way, this can be seen as the first station and the starting point for a long and hard way with full of various obstacles, to achieve the dream of the peoples of the region for democracy, which they want by themselves and not democracy imposed by others (Mefleh, 2015).

It is true that the phenomenon of revolutions that swept the Arab region was a terrible earthquake that hit a certain area, but this does not mean that the remaining areas were not affected. Of course not, but they are still in the stage of crystallization and have not reached the stage of outbreak and positive or negative change. It can clearly be noted that the results of these revolutionary experiments are mainly dependent of dimensions, boundaries and depth of impact of each experiment separately.

2. Impacts of Revolutions in the Arab Spring Countries

In the XXI century, the Arabs found themselves in a state of misery and dramatic transformation. Transformation from pain and suffering of occupation and imperialism of the twentieth century, continuing to events of the terror of 11 September 2001 that led day after day in increased of austerity pressures on the people of the region of Islamic Arabs, especially after being accused of exporting terrorism in the West (Mabrouk, 2012, pp. 23-24). It presented an urgent need for a quantum leap, in a qualitative transformation and change of time parameters to address the situation of tension among those peoples who are subjected under factors and measures of internal and external injustice. Yes, the way was paved for the revolutions of the Arab Spring.

After the outbreak of the revolutions of the Arab spring, expectations were high for Arab countries that this will be the right way and hope to achieve the desire of

many generations in the realization of democracy. In fact, hopes and ambitions were far greater than the reality on the ground. Ultimately, powerful state overcame the legal state. Results and impacts of these revolutions came to demonstrate that democratic transformation in the Arab world in front of him after many obstacles needs more support and hard work. These revolutions have proved the lack of connection between civil society and democracy, or more precisely, the lack or blocking of the growth of civil society, one thing has led to weakness and decay of political culture, which is the main factor in the delay of the process democratization of Arab world (Huntington, 1993, p. 12).

Over several years of the outbreak of the revolutions of the Arab Spring, would be wrong if you thought that these revolutions have failed because *"the revolutionary action does not go in a straight line, but it moves forward in the form of "waves" between ups and downs, between progress and regression, between success and failure, for many reasons, most notably that the fall of the regime does not mean subversion of the regime, because the state system is much more extensive and deeply rooted in society."* (Idris, 2015).

To study the case of the revolutions of the Arab Spring and their reality and direction at least until the present time, we can identify some of the effects that are almost constant and stable, generally in countries that suffered from these revolutions, as following:

Firstly, on the national level:

a) Impacts and most important positive consequences, as follows:

1. Regaining of the conquered people's will, its self confidence and the feeling that it is a free nation that has the ability to choose the future and to determine their own destiny;
2. The end of the era of permanent Arab regime in power, and the elimination of the idea of disrespecting the people's will and its ability to change and for revolution;
3. The decline of the role of traditional parties and the weakness of their impact, due to the revolutionary shocks have hit this role in an effective manner;

4. The emergence of youth class as a new layer that has a distinct driving force of society, this fact reflects and influences in a direct way to the reality of the will and its decision-making;

5. The change of Arab opinion regarding its policies and strategies to adapt and accommodate rapid and consecutive changes, to find appropriate opportunity to address the changes in the right direction (Al-Maeni, 2014, pp. 17-18).

b) Impacts and most important **negative consequences, as follows:**

1. The success of the Arab Spring in its infancy led to the collapse of authoritarian regimes and the advent of political Islam, as an alternative to these systems, but it did not come alone, but came together with the chaos as one of the impacts and consequences of eradication of the old corrupt regimes, by spreading this chaos throughout the state and society. This chaos led to slipping of some countries of those revolutions in the wake of civil war, as happened in Libya, Yemen and Syria. While other countries have entered a downward spiral of security, economic and social crises, as happened in Egypt and Tunisia;

2. The movement of political Islam as one of the main forces of the success of the Egyptian revolution, has failed to lead the peoples of the Arab spring countries after the fall of the dictatorship, as happened in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya and Yemen. The reasons for this failure are many, including: the success of counter-revolution, or that in this movement lacked any national and democratic social project that provides real and rational answers for dilemmas and vital problems of Arab nations, such as unemployment, real treatment of poverty and hunger, sustainable development, food security, building scientific and technological capabilities, combating illiteracy, and investment in human and material resources, this on one side. While, on the other side, this movement has caused serious social crises, such as conflicts of citizenship on the basis of cultural and ethnic diversity and religious pluralism, which means its evident failure in building of a democratic and pluralist state, as people of this region have dreamed of. Given that the real danger does not lie in its failure, but the effects and consequences of this failure, the harsh intervention of Islamic movement against other groups of liberal and secular community or even facing the regime in power (Al-Madani, 2015);

3. The occurrence of a series of Arab demographic shifts in the region, the vast waves of migration out of the region and especially waves of Christian emigration that followed the waves of general immigration for residents of areas that have

experienced conflicts and civil wars after the revolutions of the Arab spring, as what happened in Syria, Libya and Yemen. While these demographic processes certainly came in search of security, social and economic stability in other countries that are far from serious conflicts which probably will not see instability in the near future (Alfi, 2013).

In addition to these previous negative impacts there are also other influences of great importance that can interact and change over time. In this context, we will shed light on some of these impacts or significant national implications in more detail, as are:

- *Ideological impacts (the phenomenon of violence, terrorism and religious extremism);*
- *Geo-economic impacts.*

Secondly, on the international level:

Under the changes that have experienced the Arab Spring countries in post-Arab spring stage, these changes cannot be reduced only to internal changes, like democratic transition for every state separately, but these changes lie at the same time and in a greater breadth in the regional system of Middle East and beyond. Thus the impacts and consequences that are resulted from these revolutionary changes does not include only Arab neighboring countries, but will expand their influence, including the balance of forces between a number of other countries in the region such as Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. These areas have not been and will not be away at any time from the attention of the global forces operating in the modern international system, which are constantly seeking to participate in the arrangements of this regional system, especially at this time in which the region is entering a more complex phase, the phase of reforming and restructuring of this system. Of the most important influences on the international level are as follows:

1. Failure of the role of the state in the countries of the Arab Spring in general, even its fall in some cases, especially those countries that have had a role with great impact on the Arab regional system, such as Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Syria and others;

2. The increase of impact and effectiveness of the role of non-Arab actors in the interactions within the region at the expense of the Arab role;
3. Continued growth of the power and efficiency of the role of non-governmental organizations and armed and unarmed groups since the beginning of XXI century at the expense of state power;
4. Non-governmental groups (political and armed) became a player with a role and clear influence on what is happening in the interactions of region of the Middle East, such as Al-Nusra Front in Syria, Libya Dawn in Libya and Houthis in Yemen;
5. Prohibition of the use of military force outside the state, especially in Arab countries, where the United States has restricted the movement of military force in these countries (Nawar, 2015).

In the same context, can be concluded that the impact of these revolutions over the countries and the region are many and varied, especially in political, economic, social, cultural and security level. Therefore, the following will focus more specifically on international geopolitical implications, on their importance and seriousness, either in short, medium or long term, in the subsequent point:

– *Geopolitical impacts*

2.1. Ideological Impacts (The Phenomenon of Violence, Terrorism and Religious Extremism)

Ideology as a term, in its plain meaning can be defined as "the science of ideas", but this classic sense of the concept has evolved beyond that to refer to "*the search for methods or means by which ideas can be applied, turning it from a simple search on a plan of action, either to define certain political values or to bring down these values in order to act and make a difference in society.*" (Al-Saadani, 2014, pp. 154-155).

The existence of ideology and its influence has been present since the early stages of the Arab revolutions but it was not at the forefront of the political scene and events. Later and in an unexpected way, emerged strongly from the beginning of the conflict for the power. Islamists have maintained their ideology, their religious references and their interpretation, through their access which is displayed in all stages of the revolution, to start and through this approach, the announcement of their project which is mainly caused by the their religious ideology;

On the other side, there were other ideological groups, as liberals and leftists, have increased their voices in their election programs under the terms of their ideology with social reality. Thus, each group competes in the political arena with his full power in order to impose its ideology and influence over other interest groups, which eventually try to achieve power under eminent ideological perspective;

Whereas, in other side, such groups have neglected the fundamental revolutionary goal of the revolution, who represents the dream of the peoples and their aspirations for a better life, making each of their every effort to achieve the goals and individual interests;

After they left the government leaders of authoritarian rule, came election phase. It was an extraordinary and historic moment. The victory was the ally of the Islamists in most revolutions, only where they have ruled in Egypt, while they shared the power in Tunisia. In fact, the political scene has entered a new phase and a new polarization has surprised everyone, and has contributed to switch to another more exciting and mysterious and different stage (Trawla, 2014).

Political Islam has failed to realize the hopes of the revolutionary peoples, and their ability to manage the transition period under the influence of many internal and external obstacles, and the lack of readiness to face and get responsibility at this critical time. The gap between the political forces participating in the political scene has deepened, starting another dangerous phase of political polarization and domestic violence, imposing by force the ideological reality, as the case in Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Syria.

In relation to the countries of the Arab Gulf, the ruling regimes have rushed into those countries to silence all calls for democracy, freedom and dignity,¹ through the ban of speeches by sectarianism and bringing charges against protesters for enforcement of foreign agendas. In March 2011, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the UAE sent forces into Bahrain state “The Peninsula Shield Force”² to cope the

¹ It should be noted that all the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, without exception, have seen protests limited, uneven and out of synchronization with the Arab spring revolutions in countries such as Egypt, Tunisia and Libya. First popular protests in the Arab Gulf have begun in January 2011 in the Sultanate of Oman (Mathiesen, 2014, p. 147).

² The Peninsula Shield Force: are common military forces of the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (*Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman*). These forces were established in 1982 in order to protect the security of the member states of the Council and to prevent any military aggression.

escalating protests in Bahrain and to protect it from the Shia State of Iran. More specifically, we can say that the protests in Bahrain led to an increasing violence and sectarian strife between Sunni sect (the states of The Gulf Cooperation Council) and the Shia sect represented by Iran. Thus, sectarianism has reached the division of the protest movements in the Arabian Peninsula in general on the basis of religious sects, especially between Sunnis and Shia, as happened in Syria, Iraq and Yemen, with significant presence of Shia sect backed by Iran. These conflicts with varied tendencies dramatically contributed to increase of violence and terrorism in an unprecedented way in this region (Mathiesen, 2014, pp. 147-148).

2.2. Geo-Economic Impacts

Over the past decades, Arab regimes have suffered from the problem of overlapping and the close connection between state regulation and state. Thus, the ruler has stayed for a long time in power. During this period, he gets into the arteries of the state administration, employing more assigned people that make up a special mechanism for the management of the state, to form a layer known as “*beneficiaries layer*” (which is linked very closely with the system) or “*soldiers of non-military regime*”. This layer uses all legitimate and illegal ways, in order to achieve maximum personal benefits from the economic resources of the state and at the same time strengthening the pillars of the regime for the same purpose. For this we can say that the major obstacle that Arab Spring revolutions have faced was the inability of these revolutions to change the state regulation and not the regime (Kabel, 2012, p. 6).

There is no doubt that the Arab Spring has had an impact on all aspects of life of the communities, especially on the economic side. Thus, despite the worsening of economic and living conditions in the pre-revolution phase and which represents one of the most important factors for the outbreak of the revolution, however, this aspect was affected **positively** or **negatively** also in the stage of Post-Arab spring. So, in order to shed light on the impact of the revolutions in the economic side, we

* *Geo-economic* or *Geo-economics* is a contemporary english word consisting of two parts: first, the word "Geo", which comes from the ancient Greek language "γη γη" which means earth, space, or a large place of earth. The second word "Economics", which means the economy and activities related to production, distribution, consumption and financing, as well as everything connected with it, from relationships, exchanges, rivalries and conflicts. The frenchman expert on strategy, Jean-François Daguzan, in an article entitled "Deliverance from crisis or Geo-Economic unexpected return", says: “Geo-economics is a flow of economic activities and social interactions of different actors in that, whether it is a state or others associated with the power, or in other words, the study of the ability of these actors to influence or not on the economic flow”. (Nsreta, 2012).

will elaborate a brief analysis of the negative and positive economic impacts of these revolutions through a report issued by the Arab Labor Organization and published in the Egyptian newspaper Al-Ahram, as follows:

Firstly, negative impacts:

1. Arab Spring revolutions have had a strong negative impact on Arab labor markets, especially in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Yemen and Syria, taking into account the evaluation of each case individually and under the terms, the data, internal situation and external factors affecting it;
2. Due to the need of countries of the Arab revolutions for more security and stability, as they have entered a phase of constant chaos and instability. This situation undoubtedly has affected investment flows and led to the suspension of several factories and the loss of jobs. Therefore, the unemployment rate increased on more than 16% and the number of unemployed has exceeded more than 20 million, as were previously around 17 million of unemployed (Ismail, 2013, p. 94-95);
3. The return and resettlement of many Arab workers that were employed in Libya and was estimated up to 1.5 million workers most of them from Egypt and Tunisia, in particular those workers who bore the brunt of the millions of family members and their relatives;
4. Revolutionary unrests have a direct impact on economic growth rates in the Arab Spring. These rates were worse also because of the continuation of the Eurozone crisis at the time;
5. The deterioration of the vital and important sectors of economic that represents in some countries of the Arab Spring, the most important sources of national income such as tourism sector in Egypt and Tunisia (Al-Moussawi, 2012);
6. The increase of internal claims categorical for many workers in all sectors of the state led to the addition of burden on the budget in light of the imminent accession of these claims to stop domestic protests or to reduce the pace, at least;
7. The state of chaos, lack of security and internal stability in general, has led directly to the collapse of financial stock exchanges in revolutionary Arab countries. For example, Egypt has suffered big losses in the stock market, reaching in only two days (26 and 27 January 2011) about 70 billion Egyptian pounds (about

8 billion euro) of the value of its shares, by stopping the work of the stock market for the first time in its modern history since more than twenty years (Group of authors, 2012, p. 447);

8. Considerable decline in the rate of cash reserves and strategy for the countries of the Arab spring. This situation led to the inability to control the value of local currencies. It is worth to mention here that one of the main reasons for the decline of foreign currency reserves of the state, due to the flow abroad of a large part of foreign investment in the stock market, especially at the time of its fall (Kabel, 2012, p. 331);

9. The deterioration of the value of local currencies in the countries of the Arab Spring, led to an unprecedented rise in the prices of goods and services, and food in general, in a short period of time;

10. The spread of chaos and counter-revolution led to the existence of a state of imbalance and a lack of ability to control prices in the market in the absence of control from state institutions that were occupied with political changes;

11. The increase in the inflation rate, and the increase of deficit of the national trade balance for the Arab Spring countries with a significant proportion compared to the period before these revolutions, etc..

Meanwhile, to show the deep impact of the revolutions in the economic side over the the Arab spring countries, can be mentioned published reports on 14 October 2011 by the Foundation “Jeopolossite” for Economic Consultancy. According to these reports, the revolutions in the Arab world were accounted about 56 billion US dollars ¹, the highest in Syria at a cost of 27.3 billion US dollars, Libya 14.2 billion dollars, Egypt 9.8 billion dollars, Tunisia 2:52 billion dollars, Bahrain at around 1.1 billion dollars and Yemen around 980 million dollars (Al-Moussawi, 2012).

Secondly, positive impacts:

In relation to the positive impacts of the Arab Spring, we can summarize the most important of these impacts as follows:

1. The emergence of an unprecedented interest in the direction of youth employment as a special category that needs attention and care in various sectors of employment;

¹ Note that the value of the losses listed above are only up to the date of publication of this report, while the real value is increased by the continuation of these revolutions.

2. Treatment of the problem of low wages and the issuance of new laws on the protection of workers' rights in various fields;
3. The support of public policies that were different from those in previous periods of revolution, aimed at boosting the national economy and attracting a considerable amount of foreign direct investments to contribute to the recovery and large positive economic effects and to achieve a real economic development;
4. Gains of oil producing countries have been increased after the outbreak of the Arab Spring, especially in the UAE, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia. Specifically, the budget revenues in the UAE grew by 31% and in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with 25% (Al-Moussawi, 2012);
5. The existence of a persuasion among many Arab businessmen that the Arab Spring has provided new opportunities for private companies, where the category of businessmen belonging to the old system have left the country, paving the way for young players;
6. Encouraging the Islamic banking activities in several countries, including Morocco and Oman;
7. Enhancing the role of trade unions clearly, as they have been limited or ineffective under previous regimes (Jurani, 2012).

2.3. Geopolitical Impacts

The revolutions in the Arab region have entered a new historical era of varied changes of political, economic, social, cultural and other. In the same context, these revolutions have entered a new and very significant geo-strategic dimension, by representing their impacts on the geopolitical map of the region as a whole and in all those linked with it to the world. Arab revolutions have left an impact on various details in the geopolitical scene, which is strongly connected with the regional countries and international actors. Tunisian and Egyptian Revolutions do not constitute a special geopolitical change and clear the region due to their short duration. However, it was enough to show concern to some regional actors, especially Israel, which was alarmed since the fall of the Egyptian regime, after being in harmony with that regime clearly. Change in Egypt happened and Mubarak resigned regardless of differences in international attitudes for this

change. The administration of US President Obama has abandoned Hosni Mubarak but at the same time has maintained advanced relations with his regime.

Meanwhile, the outbreak of the Libyan revolution has had the greatest influence on the geopolitical changes represented in significant differences in the tendency of Arab public opinion on the issue of foreign intervention in the situation in Libya. In contrast with the attitude of the Arab states which have opposed the American intervention in the war in Iraq, for the revolutionary situation in Libya Arab states were supportive and have expressed readiness for accepting foreign intervention in Libya, especially in light of the non-humanitarian efforts of Gaddafi¹ regime by using excessive force to suppress the uprising of his people, who sought change. Thus, the Arab states rushed to adopt a resolution in the Security Council of the UN to protect civilians and to stop the aggressive practices of Gaddafi against his people. Likewise, Western countries have participated in the NATO mission, although they had close political relationship and economic ties with Gaddafi. In this regard, the NATO operations in Libya were also a part of protecting the privileges he owned (Group of authors, 2014, pp. 26-28).

On the other hand, the Tunisian Revolution together with the Libyan Revolution contributed to the spread of an revolutionary atmosphere in countries of the Arab Maghreb² in particular, where these countries rushed to open the door of internal political reforms, as happened partly in Algeria in the mid-2011. At the time it was announced a package of legislative and media reforms from Algerian President. While in Morocco was announced constitutional changes, which were approved through a referendum in July 2011, followed by parliamentary legislative elections.

In the Arabian Gulf region, the situation was not better than the situation in the North African countries. Movements of protests in Bahrain and the revolution in Yemen and Syria, to actors of international and regional level have shown an dramatic geo-strategic interaction, unusual and interesting, because of the

¹ Muammar Gaddafi (June 7, 1942 - October 20 2011), former head of Libya. He ruled Libya for more than 42 years. In the wake of the Arab spring revolutions in neighboring countries, Egypt and Tunisia began harsh protests and demonstrations against his rule. These demonstrations have been strained and turned into civil war. On October 20, 2011, in the wake of a bomb attack on his motorcade by aircraft of NATO in the Libyan city of Tripoli, he was arrested alive by members of the National Liberation Army of Libya, where later was killed in their hands.

* *Geopolitics* is a term coined by the Swedish political scientist Rudolf Killeen in 1992, which means science which studies the relationships, geographical location of the state with its power and political behavior (Dodds, 2010, p. 15).

² Known as the Greater Maghreb or Maghreb region. It is a region that forms the west side of the Arab World, which consists of five countries: Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya.

importance of geographic and strategic location of Gulf countries, and at the same time a conflict of interest and strategic influence of international actors in the region. It was clear that the revolution of Bahrain highlighted the major challenges than the revolutionary movement itself, where sectarian factor and polarization have overshadowed this revolution through direct support to these protests by Iran, to turn Bahrain into a location of rivalry and war of influence between Iran (Shia) on one side and the Arabian Gulf countries (Sunni), on the other side. Thus, the revolution of Bahrain was the starting revolutionary point against Arab monarchies that were exposed to revolutionary movements and coup in the fifties and sixties of the last century, and given the fact that history of revolutions in the world shows that the national republics, especially in Europe, were a result of the uprising against the monarchist system. Geopolitically, Iran in revolutionary movements in Bahrain saw a unique opportunity to strengthen its influence in the Gulf. Also, it makes it sure that the success of the revolution in Bahrain means the achievement of its goals to have a geostrategic influence in the coastal belt of the Arabian Gulf.

The revolution in Yemen in its geostrategic changes compared to that in Bahrain was less effective. Saudi Arabia (northern neighbour of Yemen) took the initiative to make all efforts in order to safeguard its national security and influence in Yemen, by realizing joint protection of border, that represents a strategically profound significance for Saudi Arabia, especially in light of Iran's continuing interference in Yemen's internal affairs, by supporting Al-Houthi¹ rebel group. In fact, Saudi Arabia or Iran have not had the aim of supporting the revolution in Yemen, but they wanted the increase of their influence on Yemen, in terms of its strategic importance, especially since the fact that Yemen dominates the Gulf of Aden and having its coast overlooking the Red Sea (Group of authors, 2014, pp. 29-32).

In the same context, to show the seriousness of Iran's role in Yemen, we can refer to the statement of Yemen President *Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi* in October 2012, before his official visit to USA, he declared that Iran is trying hard to implement a

¹ Al-Houthi group, a Shia political movement that emerged in the province of Saada in northern Yemen, known as Houthis or Al-Houthi group. The name of the group comes because of its spiritual leader Badr Eddin al-Houthi. Al-Houthi group actually appeared in 2004, after the outbreak of initial clashes with the Yemeni government, but its roots date back to the eighties of the last century, in 1986, justifying its establishment due to limitation freedom, religious intimidation and marginalization of intellectuals of Zaidi community. Some sources have classified the group as a Shia group, but Al-Houthis deny this (Al Jazeera Encyclopedia, 2014).

plan to control the strategic strait of Bab el-Mandeb in the Red Sea. As announced in a lecture on September 28, 2012, for the presence of serious and varied support by Iran (political, military, financial and media) to several political and armed movements in Yemen, pointing out that they are working against the state legitimacy (Al-Shogaa, 2012, pp. 197-198).

In Syria, the Syrian regime was surprised by the arrival of the winds of the Arab Spring, as well as in other dictatorial regimes as cases in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya and Yemen, by praising incorrectly the situation and denying the possibility of the occurrence of a revolution in Syria. But, as happened in the above-mentioned cases, revolution broke out in Syria. Protest movement in Syria was extended horizontally by seeking the regime's collapse. The Syrian regime has politically failed in positive handling of political demands of the protesters, using military solution as the optimal solution to extinguish the revolution in the worst shape. International attitudes began to interact with the Syrian situation by featuring a sharp division of opinion between the great powers and regional actors. War of liberation and elimination of terrorism as was advertised by the Syrian regime led by Bashar al-Assad, was more than a war against the revolution for freedom and democracy by his people. This war has created new geopolitical dimensions and a serious and clear situation in the Arab region and the Middle East region in general. Support at the political level and the logistics from Iran together with Russia for the Syrian regime was very open. In geopolitical terms, Russia considers Syria as its one of the most important and sensitive areas. This fact exists because it represents a vital port for the Russian Navy in the Mediterranean Sea, and at the same time was an attempt on its part to prevent the intervention of NATO in Syria in order not to be the same case as it happened in Libya. Russia also considers that the survival of the Syrian regime, although poor, has a strategic impact, and more so, the survival of the Syrian regime allows it to strengthen its role in a direct way comparable with US role in the international system, especially in the Middle East region. Russia for its role in support of the Syrian regime has been able to remain the most prominent player in the geo-strategic level and the key factor in controlling the pace of the Syrian revolution at all its stages. Thus, in the level of regional geopolitical interactions, the Syrian revolution has produced a complex reality in the region. This complexity was introduced in the role of the rivalry between Turkey and Iran, where each of them wants to preserve their interests and regional ambitions in this vital region. Noting that Iran in treating Arab revolutions

in general, pursue a sectarian policy as a defender of the Shia doctrine and ideology in the Arab world (Group of authors, 2014, pp. 32-36).

Thus, with the continuing deterioration of the situation in the Arab region as a result of the revolutions of the Arab Spring, the breadth and depth of conflict developed constantly, and the presence of geopolitical effects as their result, the region has entered into a spiral of violence and terrorism. This critical situation brought to mind the similar calls by Ralph Peters, retired United States Army lieutenant colonel, which called for division of some countries of the Arab region. According to the report published by the American magazine "Armed Forces Journal" Col. Ralph had proposed a new map of the Middle East, dividing the region into Sunni, Shia and Kurd, in addition also an Islamic state independent from Saudi Arabia, which includes sacred sites, Great Kingdom of Jordan and other countries. In this regard, he believed that the division of the region on the basis of sects and ethnic groups will end the violence in the region. While, in the same way, Senator Joe Biden before becoming US Vice-President in the Obama Administration, has presented a project for the division of Iraq into three regions, in a system of semi-autonomous power distributed among Shia, Sunnis and Kurds. In any case, the future seems to cover many more variables and unexpected surprises in this hot region compared to the rest of the world (Mahbob, 2015, p. 10).

3. Conclusion

Despite the fact that the revolutions of the Arab Spring represent a unique turning point in the Arabs' modern history and regardless of positive or negative impacts caused by these revolutions, we cannot have a final judgment on their success or failure. Thus, these revolutions are like a book containing many hidden pages, which can be discovered in the future, as well as its end.

One of the worst shocks and reflections that emerged from the revolutions of the Arab Spring was the worsening of the economic situation of countries where such revolutions took place, because this condition affects dramatically more in the poor class and helps the continuation of the sufferings of the revolution in the hearts and minds of people affected by this volatile situation that causes the desperation at the present time and in the future.

The spread of chaos after the revolutions of the Arab Spring has contributed significantly to the growth of terrorism that poses the real long-term risk, not only for the peoples of the countries of the Arab Spring and the Middle East, but for the whole world, because it affects the peace and international security.

Due to the deterioration of the situation in countries of the Arab Spring in terms of security and economic development, this situation led to the increase of interference of external actors in the affairs of these countries compared to the past, and the increased pace of international conflict in East Middle may risk a potential outbreak of World War III.

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