

Arab Spring's impact on Jihadist terrorism

BACKGROUND The Arab Spring was a revolutionary movement in which individuals started to become aware of their interests in terms of improving their quality of life, and as soon as the breach in the system occurred, the MENA's population started confronting the elites while generating a turning point in power relationships.

HYPOTHESIS The revolution of the Arab society during the Arab Spring provoked a political opportunity for other social movements, such as jihadism, to intervene and prevent the democratic transition in MENA's countries.

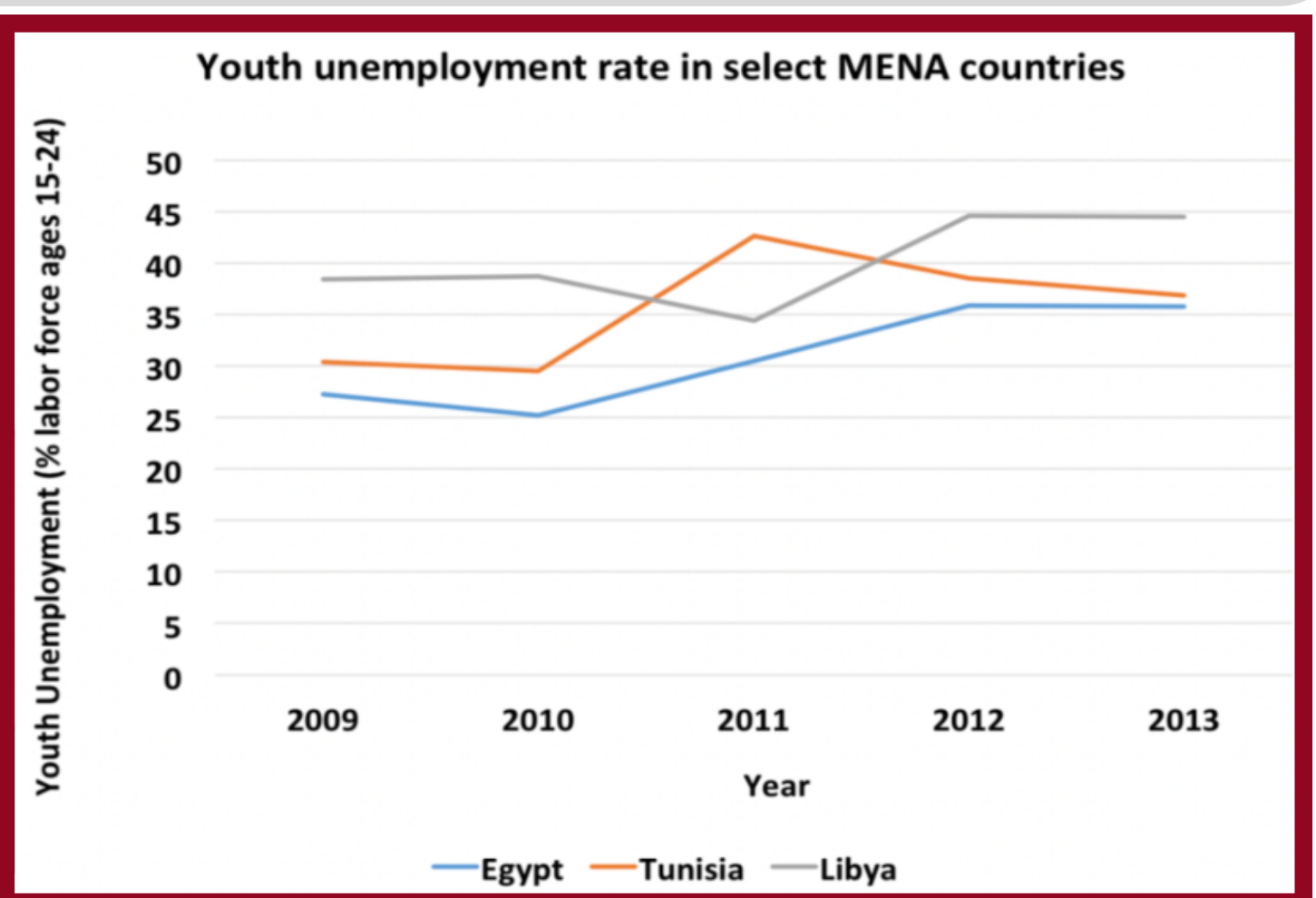
OBJECTIVES Prove through a qualitative analysis of the Arab Spring that the unexpected uprisings became the "breeding ground" of Jihadist movements, including also the case studies of Libya and Syria.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK:

Sociology of power

Contextualization:

**Before the
uprisings**



Oppressive and
authoritarian
political systems

Failed economic
policies

Decreasing
welfare

Jihadist Winter

Mass Media: Powerful weapon as strength for the social mobilisations, but weakness, as it calls for other actors to intervene in the conflict.

Social discordance: Supporters of the previous regime start to show up to prevent the democratic transition. Terrorist movements arose and the Jihadist Winter starts.

Libya & Syria: Terror transition from protests coming from the Arab Spring revolution to a Civil War. From peaceful uprisings, to gruesome civil wars.

Transnational dimension

International confusion: No indicators could predict the revolts.

Undecisive response plan from international actors: The EU and the US play an active role in the initial months. Humanitarian and financial aid is being provided, until the intervention of these actors worsen the situation.


Geopolitical interests: The international actors prioritize their own benefits, proving, once again, that pluralist norms rule over an international conflict.

CONCLUSIONS



- 1- Decades of authoritarian and oppressive regimes, generated unhappiness, which ended up becoming the fuel of the highly debated and initially peaceful social mobilisations.
- 2- Social instability is the first main cause of the necessity to protest against the country's elites, which means that the demands of the population should have been listened and considered, to prevent terrorist movements to endanger the civil population.
- 3- The international community should have played a pro-active role. This situations prove the incapacity of the world order.

References

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