

# After the Storm: Democracy and Development in a New Middle East

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Notion of citizenship : the renewal of debate within the Arab spring.

The collapse of post-colonial Nation state and the need of a new citizenship debate.

The contribution undertakes a reinterpretation of the problem of internal conflicts and civil wars in the Middle East from the perspective of citizenship and rights. The central argument is that although the genealogy and dimensions of conflicts and civil wars are quite complex and varied ; underlying most of these conflicts, especially those that erupted within the last years, is the issue of citizenship and rights. The development of a new concept of citizenship in the national polity that would go hand in hand with the nation-building process.

Actually citizenship is considered officially to be one of the key elements of successful nation-building.

The purpose is to consider the extent to which issues related of “constitutional citizenship” and “dual citizenship” are integral parts of the current citizenship debate within the Arab spring.

The concept of citizenship has received renewed interest, since globalization has become a popular issue in particular within the turmoil of the Arab spring. Various political events and trends throughout the Arab world are seen as being responsible for the increasing global importance of the concept of citizenship : for instance, the resurgence of political islamism and nationalist movements ; the stresses created by an increasingly multicultural and multiracial or multi religious population ; the refugee problem which has created a new crisis of stateless persons in the Arab world.