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Economic policies and building societal security in the Arab region, a case study of Algeria

السياسات الاقتصادية وبناء الأمن المجتمعي في المنطقة العربية دراسة حالة الجزائر

Ayoub Dehegani^{1,*}

¹ Lecturer, Tissemsilt University. Algerian National Security Laboratory, Algeria.

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Abstract

This research paper takes a small step towards understanding the problematic relationship between political economy and societal security in the Arab world and in particular in Algeria as a case study. The researcher provides a general presentation of the state of societal security in the face of economic policies and the situation of the state, with social changes and demands for reform. The economic factor may play a pivotal role in the behavior of social groups and in directing public opinion with regard to support and opposition. The important dimension in all of this is the importance of the economic factor in protecting and enhancing societal security.

Therefore, to search for answers and arguments to help understand and evaluate the causes that address the problem, the following variables of societal security will be dealt with: the economic and political dimensions of the state, the behavior of the political system, and the use of oil revenues in the political economy. The study will depend on the concept of societal security and the dilemma of inclusion and authoritarianism. The position of the political system will be analyzed in light of the decline in oil prices and the reactions of individuals.

ملخص

تسعى هذه الورقة البحثية لمحاولة فهم اشكالية علاقة الاقتصاد السياسي بالأمن المجتمعي في العالم العربي وبالتحديد الجزائر كدراسة حالة. حيث يقدم الباحث رؤية عامة لوضعية الامن المجتمعي بمواجهة السياسات الاقتصادية ووضع الدولة، مع التغيرات الاجتماعية ومطالب الاصلاح. فقد يلعب العامل الاقتصادي الدور المحوري في سلوك الفئات الاجتماعية، وفي توجيه الرأي العام فيما يتعلق بالتأييد والمعارضة. إن البعد المهم في كل هذا هو أهمية العامل الاقتصادي في حماية وتعزيز الأمن المجتمعي، فالدول التي تعيش الرفاه الاقتصادي والاجتماعي هي أقل عرضة للمخاطر والتهديدات الداخلية والخارجية، كما أن نسيجها الاجتماعي أكثر تماسكا بالمقارنة مع الدول التي تعيش أزمات اقتصادية أو تمارس أنظمتها السياسية وصاية على القطاع الاقتصادي لهذا من أجل البحث عن إجابات وحجج للمساعدة في فهم وتقييم الأسباب التي تعالجها الاشكالية، سيتم التعامل مع المتغيرات التالية من الأمن المجتمعي: الأبعاد الاقتصادية والسياسية للدولة، سلوك النظام السياسي، استخدام العوائد النفطية في الاقتصاد السياسي. كما ستعتمد الدراسة على مفهوم الأمن المجتمعي ومعضلة الشمول والسلطوية. سيتم تحليل موقف النظام السياسي في ظل تراجع اسعار النفط وردود الافعال للأفراد.

الكلمات المفتاحية:

السياسات الاقتصادية
الأمن المجتمعي
دولة الريع
الرفاه الاجتماعي

1. introduction

Homeland or patriotism is not initially an economic concept, in principle, but in relation to the classical spatial economy. This article examines the variables of belonging to the region in economic analysis and its connection with the concepts of the level of nationalism and identity.

Today, within the discussions on sustainable development, there is a prominent indication is made to the economic dimension and how it affects people's behaviors within their countries, especially about the state's readiness to provide basic needs and strive to raise welfare rates.

For example, in the discussion about whether the citizens of the oil-producing countries receive the appropriate proportion of their share of the rent within the various forms of development such as health, education, housing, welfare, and security, or is this distribution restricted to only those in power and those in their circle in a form of clientelism.

During the last two decades, there has been intensive talk about the role of the welfare state in popular support for national identity, especially after the decline in the value of fuels in supporting the public treasury with revenues. The majority asserts that high rentier returns can mitigate opposition to redistribution among people with high incomes and reduce the hidden societal differential effects until the opposite is proven by the decline in the performance of the oil economy.

The main goal here is to attempt a multi-approach assessment that includes social and security aspects with a close link to the economic variable and to dismantle the behavior of the political system in the light of various data through the study of equality, access to well-being, and the stability of a society.

Today, national identity is closely linked to the element of the welfare state, and this is the case in Algeria. For a long time, the political system has been able to stabilize its position relatively due to the important oil revenues that it obtains, especially after Bouteflika came to power, as the revenues helped protect the welfare state from the negative effects of belonging and societal suspicion.

However, we find that the levels of confidence in the national state have declined terrifyingly, especially with the decline in the performance of the economy and the emergence of the economic crisis, and this explains many behaviors such as the demand for change and reforms, the launch of social mobility and the return of the wave of illegal immigration towards the European Bank.

All this leads us to propose an explanatory theory of the relationship between national identity and the welfare state, a theory that states that this relationship is highly conditional and reflects the specific characteristics based on the performance of the political system, especially in light of globalization of the welfare impression of the peoples of developed countries. Distribution in itself may not have any special tendency to enhance national identity and social cohesion as much as it aspires to support the political system at some point. What political systems do not know is that the welfare state can play a particularly important role in developing redistribution to build a solid national, or the ability to overcome future crises or specific challenges that require a global consensus.

This analytical paper comes within the context of the changes that Algerian society is experiencing, especially when it comes to societal differences and the emergence of pre-feudal classes and inequality that has begun to take root among individuals.

To answer the problematic at our hands, this paper will be based on six main axes:

- The state and political economy in the Arab region.
- Overview on the sociopolitical situation
- Lack of Social welfare assurance
- The distrust toward the inner
- Anxieties of Identity threat
- Between Pluralism and Monism

2. The state and political economy in the Arab region

After World War II, the application of the Arab development model was accompanied by a focus on local production and protectionist mercantilism, which is known as the industrialization of import

substitutes. In the first decades after the war, the majority of Arab countries achieved positive results in the field of economic growth, and many of them recorded a huge increase in life expectancy, literacy, and public health.

In the 1960s and 1970s, the Middle East was the world's fastest-growing region, and this was reinforced by the 1973 oil embargo that led to a permanent change in the structure of global energy markets and paved the way for the extraordinary hydrocarbon returns that followed. Over time, Arab countries struck authoritarian bargains—implicit social contracts between governments and citizens, in which social welfare, jobs, and security were traded for political complacency, and oil-exporting countries, and Gulf monarchies, in particular, began to enjoy unprecedented wealth. **(Yousef, 2004)**

The Arab region faces today major economic and political challenges despite the size of its large oil wealth, in addition to its vast area and strategic location, in addition to the human capital composed mostly of young people who are qualified to be a driving workforce.

The various current threats exacerbated today, including successive conflicts in Syria and Yemen, besides the ongoing conflict in post-uprising countries, such as Egypt and Tunisia, and the continuing economic pressures of the collapse of oil prices in 2014, which affected countries in the region such as Algeria. However, these acute threats are not more dangerous than the danger of the model of the rentier state, on which the Arab economies were built has been distorted, as it exacerbated the distribution crisis in it, producing deep socio-economic crises.

The state in the Middle East and North Africa uses the proceeds it receives in return for selling its oil exports to support a wide range of social services and welfare for the population. These rent-supporting policies have maintained the political and economic situation for significant periods, allowing the political regimes in these countries to address demands for change and political openness.

However, the decline in oil prices, the increase in global competition, and the high rate of population

growth have made this model unsustainable, placing the political economy of rentier countries in the place of threats to the price mood of a barrel of oil, in contrast to some other political units that have experienced sustainable dynamic economic growth in recent decades, such as Southeast Asia and Latin America.

It is well known that Arab political economies are not conducive to democracy, for example, the governments in the Arab world have controlled the private sectors to a large extent that made them subject to its directives, so the industrialization led by the private sector in most Arab oil-producing countries was not sufficient to lay the economic foundations of democracy and establish a market economy. The liberalization of the market and the pursuit of economic democracy are the only ones that can generate sufficient capital to maintain an independent political organization directing the economy. Industrialization in the Arab world has been hampered by mismanagement. This, in turn, impeded the democratization process. **(Springborg, 2011)**

After the collapse of the old regimes or independence from the colonizer, it was not clear what could replace the latter. In addition to the necessary macroeconomic transformations, the establishment of the new system led by the corrupt elites required them to start establishing a mobilizing clientele system and patronage networks that have long both economic and political outcomes have been distorted. Hence, the economic challenge was not only technocratic but also political. **(Joseph & Berry Camak, s. d.)**

Today, every Arab country, especially in light of the political and social movement, faces important challenges in maintaining its societal security by building new institutional frameworks that mitigate the waves of protests and demands for change. besides improving the level of economic resource distribution and job creation and evaluating the appropriate political institutions to lead reform.

However, there are certain common and clear elements. The establishment of successful Arab political economy models will require leaders to make meaningful investments in traditionally marginalized groups, such as youth and women. These models

should also create regulatory frameworks based on clear rules, characterized by fairness and transparency, and encourage the development of new standards of accountability. Each new system must create checks and balances that subject rent-seekers to real competition. (Yousef, 2004)

Most Arab countries are characterized by penetration and shallowness at the same time, which means that they seek to infiltrate the lives of citizens, but their ability is limited in this area, largely due to weak institutions that have thwarted political and economic progress more than once. Therefore, it is necessary to establish more effective institutions to enhance capacities, competencies, and transparency, and to give municipalities and communities more discretion to manage their affairs.

Amid the erosion of the old social contract, citizens across the region are told to expect more taxes, less access to government jobs, and when they are asked to do more for their governments, they naturally wonder what they will receive in return.

Currently, one of the main problems that the Arab political economy is preoccupied with is the search for mechanisms of how to reform a system that has become deeply resistant to the solutions it desperately needs. Political regimes, without exception, resist change, but competitive political activities offer, at least, some paths to pursue reform, even though they are in the context of strategies for the survival of these regimes. Those who lead the formulation of public policies in the Arab world are solely responsible for bearing the loss. As a result of changes in the status quo, because they are the ones who oppose these reforms and stand in the face of the masses' demands for change.

Hence, the centers of power and decision-making in Arab countries should be considered among the obstacles to economic development. This constant variable in the performance of Arab political regimes eliminates economic initiatives, and prevents the emergence of a reasonable middle class that meets the influence of the political elite, as it leads to economic and social stagnation. Ultimately, new economic models require innovative political arrangements that

create checks and balances and introduce rent-seekers into the realm of real competition. (Joseph & Berry Camak, s. d.)

3. Overview on the sociopolitical situation

In this section, this paper will try to explain why economic crises can and sometimes do provoke nationalism and ethno-political conflict, and in particular the subject of identity, also the way all above variables create what we call nationalism crisis.

At first glance, Algeria gives the impression of a country that has succeeded in bypassing the turmoil of the Arab Awakening that has rocked the Middle East over the last two years. Social unrest appears to be largely under control.

Indeed, the government was particularly skillful at using the oil revenues as a device to bring Non-satisfied major people about social conditions and in particular youth, into civil society. Once they entered the economy as shop-owners and businessmen but temporarily under what is known as peace business, they were far less likely to support a political system that would damage their interests.

In this way, The political system succeeded in calming the situation but this is not and will not last with the decline of oil prices. (Mitchell et al., 2008)

That is why in this article we embarked on an analysis of the expansionist approach: the multilevel security paradigm, many researchers presented a set of conceptual formulations of security, outside the centrality model of the state, where they expanded the range of issues addressed by the topic of security beyond the traditional focus towards non-state security actors such as individuals, societies, and non-military security sectors such as the economy, the environment, etc. This shift was known as the process of expanding and deepening the concept.

So that it includes multiple levels and sectors of analysis, to indicate the meaning of this expansion to the presence of horizontal expansion from the traditional military sector to other sectors socio-economic societal, which is supposed to be the field for the study of security, while deepening refers to the vertical movement from the state down to society and

then individuals as subjects of reference for security.

Economic crises have often been associated with nationalism average or identity strongest, on the one hand, and with violence or legitimacy, satisfaction toward the political system on the other. The Great Depression exacerbated and was in turn exacerbated by economic nationalism

For years, Algeria Africa's largest country a heavyweight energy producer as well as a key regional player has been regarded by most analysts, Middle East politicians, and foreign diplomats as a pillar of stability.

A good deal is known about what makes for strengthening the identity, but very little is known about how to get there - that entails an understanding of the process of promoting this topic.

Over the last two decades, Algeria like many of the developing countries has experienced a wave of social and economic changes. For a long time, the relationship between the citizens and the political system have soured, despite all attempts by officials to improve the internal situation

This paper revisits the dynamic interaction between political and economic change, building on two ideas. The first idea concerns the economic effects of democracy. If democracy influences economic performance, to a large degree this must happen via investment decisions and hence through expectations. The prospects of future democracy are a crucial determinant of current economic performance. This means that to correctly assess the economic consequences of democracy, we must look beyond the current regime. The stability of democracy, and the expectations about stability, are key.

Cross-national evidence on the impact of democracy on economic growth, and of democracy on equity, is highly inconclusive. Whereas all democracies may share some political traits that are economically consequential, non-democracies do not. In the latter case, many countries have had highly development-oriented authoritarian regimes. **(Crisis group, 2018)**

Many factors, which include rates of investment, infrastructure, quality of human capital, level of

research and production of knowledge, quality of organization and management, and balance of intersectoral investments, influence economic growth. Since it is even difficult to assign weights to these proximate determinants of growth, the cross-national quantitative studies, attempting to relate democracy systematically, are bound to remain highly inconclusive.

4. Lack of Social welfare

Within a certain level, we must refer here to the theories of basic needs and their interpretation of economic security, I talked about the relationship of economic security to the basic needs of man, which is what is known as the theories of basic needs, which are represented in Maslow's theory, Morry's theory, and Herzberg's theory. Maslow's theory indicated that the basic needs of man are in the form of a pyramid that starts from the bottom up, but few people reach the top of the pyramid. . According to Maslow's theory, the satisfaction of human security needs comes in second place in terms of importance.

Morey's theory also referred to the basic needs of man from the perspective of the basic motives that move the human being and identified them in several motives: hunger, sex, and curiosity. Thus, the theory attempted to link between the effects of economic and social insecurity and its causes. As for Herzberg's theory, it referred to the importance of the basic human needs, which are water, air, and food, and he believes that these needs are what drives a person to show a certain behavior, and it can be said that the lack of water, food, and air can lead to economic and social instability for human society. **(Omar, 2017)**

Social security is part of an integrated security system included in the concept of human security, which is intended to be liberation from fear and need, or in other words securing the life of society from poverty, hunger, and disease, and providing for people's needs and assistance. They protect themselves from the dangers they may face. This is what the rentier states have been able to control and eliminate through oil revenues over the years. But the question that arises is can the situation continue in this state?

Oil revenues enabled the government to buy the loyalty of different segments of the population and have largely constituted the basis of the regime's legitimacy.

Corruption is no less a factor in Algeria. On Transparency International's 2012 Corruption Perception Index, which ranks countries based on how corrupt their public sector is perceived to be, Algeria ranks 105 out of 176 countries worldwide and twelve out of seventeen countries in the Middle East and North Africa. The country ratified the United Nations Convention Against Corruption in 2004 albeit with reservations—and adopted a corruption prevention law in 2006. In the same year, it established the National Commission for the Prevention and Fight Against Corruption.

Yet, the president did not appoint the commission's seven members until 2010, and it has yet to achieve any results.² Indeed, most of these anticorruption commitments have been substantively empty. Algeria suffers from "grand corruption," in which leaders at high levels of government, such as high-ranking public officials and top management of state-owned enterprises, abuse their power to benefit themselves at the public's expense. It also faces "petty corruption," or everyday abuse of power, by low- and mid-level bureaucrats among both the central administration and local authorities. Grand corruption manifests itself through crony awards of public-works contracts.

Accusations are rife in the Algerian media that foreign companies have been paying massive bribes to political figures and highly ranked bureaucrats to secure contracts. This has been the case with building the East-West Highway, a \$12 billion project to construct a six-lane highway spanning over 755 miles across the country. It is one of the biggest infrastructure projects Algeria has ever undertaken, and investigators have uncovered a system of kickbacks and illegal commissions involving the country's security services and senior officials in the Ministry of Public Works. **(Abdelkader cheref, s. d.)**

Another high-profile corruption scandal broke out in 2010 involving the state-owned oil company Sonatrach. The Algerian president ordered Sonatrach

to freeze all 275 contracts signed by or awarded to the company between December 2009 and February 2010 due to suspected fraud. In May 2011, Sonatrach's chief executive officer was sentenced to two years in prison for the corrupt use of public funds; he awarded oil and gas contracts to companies through direct agreements instead of a bidding process. Another Sonatrach scandal emerged in February 2013, when the head of Eni, a state-owned Italian oil and gas company and the leading foreign energy operator in Algeria, came under investigation for his alleged involvement in a \$265 million bribery case to win contracts assigned by Sonatrach. Algeria's judicial system also shows evidence of grand corruption. According to a World Economic Forum survey on global competitiveness, this system is To avert serious domestic instability, Algeria's authorities need to conduct a managed but real political and economic transition before the country's energy resources run out. 6 | The Price of Stability in Algeria subject to interference and influence from members of the executive branch and powerful individuals and companies. The survey ranks Algeria 123 out of 144 countries on judicial independence, placing it behind all other countries in the Middle East and North Africa, except Lebanon.

This corruption has not gone unnoticed, and many state officials and public company directors have been prosecuted for their transgressions. In 2007, Algeria Telecom, the national telecommunications company, was prosecuted for squandering public funds. In 2009, the leaders of the Department of Fish and Fisheries came under fire for influence peddling and illegal fishing, the National Bank was accused of granting sweetheart loans without sufficient collateral, and the investigation of the Ministry of Public Works for procurement fraud during construction of the East-West Highway began.

But these sorts of prosecutions are rarely conducted in good faith. Often orchestrated from inside the regime, they usually reflect the struggle for power among different ruling elites or between individual members of the same elite. Algeria also receives poor marks when it comes to budget transparency. In the Open Budget Initiative's 2010 survey, which evaluates whether governments give their publics

access to budget information, Algeria received a score of one out of 100. The average score for the Middle Eastern and North African regions was 23. The constitution stipulates that the parliament controls the government's budget. In the last three decades, however, budget laws have been enacted without parliamentary scrutiny.

Whenever the parliament fails to adopt the budget within the seventy-five days mandated by the constitution, the president can issue it by decree. The Algerian Court of Audit is, in principle, in charge of auditing the government's budget and the financial accounts of state-owned enterprises and submitting a yearly report to the president. In practice, however, auditing is rarely completed and audit reports are rarely made public. The court does not inspect hydrocarbon taxes, and Sonatrach does not publish audited financial reports. The Revenue Watch Index, which assesses revenue transparency of 41 resource-rich countries, ranked Algeria 38 in its 2011 edition, placing it behind all other oil-rich countries in the region. (Achy, 2013b)

Despite the passage of more than half a century since the independence of Algeria and the succession of presidents, successive governments are still unable to establish a clear framework for the form of the state, in which Algerians live, is it the welfare state coupled with rent or the state of the social economy? Which requires contributions from taxes and collection, because the current form of the state is the best illustration of a society living in the reality of a rentier economy that will soon wake up to a severe economic crisis as a result of the depletion of oil or the decline in its prices.

Social peace is simply the provision of social stability within the country so that this reflects positively on the country's internal political, security, and economic situation. It includes several dimensions: an ethnic dimension that aims to achieve peace between the various ethnic, racial, religious, and sectarian components of society, and there is a class dimension based on achieving peace between the classes of society, especially between the poor and the rich, and here the importance of the middle class and the working class appears in achieving class balance

and ensuring stability within Society. There is also a political dimension that heralds the integration of citizens, the political system, and state institutions. Social peace is a goal that every state seeks to achieve, whether it is advanced or backward, and the difference lies only in the mechanisms and means used to achieve this social peace.

In the welfare state that exists in developed European countries, North America, and the rest of the developed countries, we find that it depends on economic development and building democratic systems, as well as on governance, quality of management, and quality of services to achieve societal stability. Through sustainable economic development, the state will be able to overcome the most important crises that threaten the stability of society, most notably: the unemployment crisis, the poverty crisis, and the housing crisis.

The economic development and the development of industry and other economic sectors is positively reflected on the quality of services provided by the state to its citizens, especially health, educational and cultural services, so that the state is able, thanks to these services, to provide the quality of life for its residents, which makes them satisfied with the ruling authority and its performance, as well as increasing their confidence in the state. (Lagraa, 2017)

Developing the Algerian economy and making it able to face the challenges of diversification, competition, and creating decent jobs, is difficult to achieve without making a break with the methods of managing economic resources that the country has known for a long time. The five-year programs should be a well-defined development strategy that the private sector and civil society contribute to, rather than a tool for wooing voters and distributing rents.

Improving the quality of public projects and limiting mismanagement requires improving governance mechanisms by activating oversight and accountability bodies, strengthening the oversight role of Parliament and enabling it to form fact-finding committees following scandals of manipulation of public money, and strengthening the independence of the judiciary and enabling it to play its full role. Unless the government implements these reforms, the

chances of economic recovery are very slim, despite the huge resources. (Achy, 2013a)

The government is promoting another policy, after the period of buying social peace, which is called “rationalization of public spending”, as an austerity policy that calls for an inevitable retreat from pumping money to implement social projects that fall into the agenda of the demands of Algerians, a large sector of whom is still suffering from a housing and employment crisis. Thus, some ministers soon started talking about “thoughtful spending of financial allocations”, and about the need for local groups (state councils, governorates, and municipalities) to assume their responsibilities in managing development in states where development did not move much. Rather, “social peace” disappeared from the literature and speeches of officials, and did not exist as a general atmosphere in the language of demand for Algerian youth, a sector of which chose “Harga” (secret immigration) to overcome their social problems. As for the language of reassurance adopted by the government regarding the maintenance of the usual support for the middle and poor social groups, it has been revealed by the collapse of the purchasing power of large categories of employees and workers. (Marwani, 2018)

5. The distrust toward the inner

Algeria is one of the central countries in Africa and is the largest African country in terms of area. The country has been witnessing popular protests for years, which made it one of the countries that did not enjoy a high rate of political stability.

Algeria is a country rich in natural and human resources. However, it still depends mainly on exports of gas and oil energy sources. The efforts to diversify the sources of income that were made in the past years did not succeed in reducing the country’s dependence on the import of consumer food commodities significantly.

The last twenty years of Bouteflika’s authoritarian rule, and the nature of the political system that has prevailed since independence in 1962, have led to a real rupture of the social contract. The rulers lost their legitimacy and the Algerian people were no longer satisfied to be governed according to the old regime,

and mistrust escalated in any outputs provided by the authority. (Zoubir, 2020)

Many scholars agree that the state of societal insecurity in any country is a result of economic insecurity, and this is what Algeria is trying to face today through a package of concessions and reforms offered by the political system, especially in the midst of social events that Algeria has known.

The lack of trust between individuals and the ruling elites affects significantly the rates of citizenship and the sense of belonging, and this is for many reasons, the most prominent of which is economic performance, if not in other words, that the lack of economic security means undermining societal security and trust towards the decision-maker.

Economic security crystallizes through the achievement of individual satisfaction, which is determined by access to the basic requirements related to health, education, housing, information, and social protection, as well as security related to the achievement of job opportunities.

Most Algerians have seen a deterioration in the quality of basic social services, including education and health care. The unemployment rate is as high as 21.5 percent among young people aged 15-24. Most of the jobs created during the last decade are risky, poorly paid, and offer no benefits.

Thus, it can be said that economic security is the ability to protect the interests of citizens or advance them in the face of events, developments, or actions that may threaten or prevent these advantages of belonging to this nationality. In case of weakness. These challenges or obstacles may be foreign or local in origin, intentional or accidental, which must be met by eliminating the elements that may threaten its environment, for example, through various incentives such as social-political upbringing, reformulation. Educational programs and the mosque, all according to the government’s intentions and capabilities.

The feeling of belonging needs a material push, and this is a necessary thing that any state must do towards its citizens, to strengthen the national sentiment. This is in addition to a strong state in all honesty. Economic security also requires the possession of material

resources to ward off non-economic challenges as well. (SOLTANI, 2017)

The individuals who make up the Algerian people today do not necessarily reflect that generation that fought a war of independence against the colonialists, as these young individuals, most of whom are deprived of the economic and political opportunity to build Algeria for themselves and future generations in one way or another.

Today, Independence Day is only a history for many, and not a memory, as it is for those who lived and fought it. Independence was a moment of glory for the revolutionaries who fought for Algeria to rule itself as a country, and now is the time to expand the opportunity for Algeria's youth today to create their glory, by promoting the values of patriotism and belonging.

6. Between Pluralism and Monism

Pluralism and monism, philosophical theories that answer "many" and "one," respectively, to the distinct questions: how many kinds of things are there? and how many things are there? Different answers to each question are compatible, and the possible combination of views provides a popular way of viewing the history of philosophy. (britannica, s. d.)

However, in the Algerian case, we are heading towards pluralism, towards chaos identities, we cannot blame young people, because, in the absence of upgrade the lives, they try to escape from their reality by using foreign alternatives, but to remedy the situation is not difficult, requires only true political will, besides a series of reforms

As part of an aggressive program to encourage Algeria's economic diversification, the government should focus on simplifying the complex administrative procedures that deter start-up businesses and improving infrastructure.

The government also needs to reform state-owned banks, which account for 90 percent of banking-sector assets. The lack of a reliable credit reporting system in Algeria, compared with its neighbors, leads to higher levels of nonperforming loans, makes banks hesitant to loan money, and restricts firms' access to finance. Algerian authorities must revisit the judicial

and administrative system for enforcing business contracts to make them efficient and safe from political interference.

Meanwhile, public spending to support domestic consumption of fuel and basic food items should be targeted to the poor to ensure that these programs benefit those Algerians who need them most. The current system of universal food and fuel subsidies is costly and ineffective, and most benefits go to those who do not need the help.

The authorities should rebalance government spending toward high-priority sectors such as education and healthcare. Both sectors are underfunded and ill-equipped to meet the demands of Algeria's families. Policymakers need to ensure universal access to primary education in rural areas and among the poor

In urban slums, endow public schools and universities with modern equipment, and rebalance spending on education, which is currently almost exclusively on wages and operational costs, toward infrastructure, in addition, equipment.

Besides all that day by day, social anger is deepening and the political crisis in Algeria is deepening with waves of strikes, unemployment, poverty, shortages of basic foodstuffs, and rising prices, igniting social anger in Algeria, which is already suffering from an economic crisis caused by the decline. Oil prices have been exacerbated by the Corona pandemic.

All this is added to a continuous political impasse since the start of the popular uprising of the movement two years ago. The economic situation of Algeria is getting worse day by day and leads to the impoverishment of entire segments of the population and high unemployment rates. In short, all economic indicators warn us of the outbreak of the situation, for example at the beginning of December the Minister announced In charge of foresight, Mohamed Sherif bin Mihoub, said that the health crisis caused the loss of "at least 500,000 jobs."

And it does not end there, the recent decision to close 16 dry ports (ports connected to a seaport via land or rail) is expected to lead to the loss of 4,000 direct jobs. (France 24, 2021)

All of these changes need to be protected by oversight

systems that ensure more stability of social, political, and economic sectors that is the way we make sure no one gives his hand to a foreign.

7. Conclusion

Today we must realize that the concept of security has moved from being a purely military issue to being a comprehensive societal issue related to the extent to which countries and societies can implement development plans and programs, economic, social, political, and cultural, and strengthen their structures. In this context, Robert McNamara, the former US Secretary of Defense and former President of the World Bank said in his book entitled "The Essence of Security": that security is not military equipment, even if it includes it, not military force, even if it includes it, and not a military activity, even if it includes it. Security is development, without development, there is no security, and countries that do not develop simply cannot remain secure.

As a result of this shift in the international concept of national or national security on the one hand, and as a result of the ever-escalating and ever-renewing economic challenges facing the world today, on the other hand, the world's strategists have tended to consider the issue of societal security for states as a key factor in guiding policies and strategies. Algeria this challenge in light of the current data.

At present, we must realize that the demands of the street are increasing towards the government, including the voices calling for an immediate and fundamental review of the adopted policies. Demonstrators also call for the separation of powers, and for the formulation of a development strategy that penetrates different social groups and regions. If these demands are not met, the authorities may be forced to go out into the street and clash with the political system. These demands will be a safety valve in the face of all challenges that would threaten national unity and identity and enhance the sense of belonging as well.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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