

Prospects and Developments of Arab World by Regarding to Security Policy of International Law of Middle East and Neighbors of South-West Asia

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Abstract: Developments in the Arab world are under changing the political and security conditions and arrangements in the Middle East in 1390. These changes will affect the profits and the security of regional actors even the national security of the Islamic Republic of Iran. These developments consist of different countries such as Egypt, Bahrain, Yemen and Syria and have their own specific characteristics despite some common and similar features. Due to recent developments in the Arab world and its consequences for national security and the influence of regional and trans-regional rival actors of Iran on developments, this article seeks to study the opportunities and arrangements of developments in the Arab world to Iran's national security. In this regard, it is believed that developments in the Arab world have important opportunities for Iran's national security despite some short-term security challenges in transient period by designing the new legitimation schemas and organizing more independent political system and also restructuring the regional power.

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1. Introduction

Introduction

Popular uprisings and new developments of Arab world, which began by Tunisian uprising and then spread to other countries of Arab world such as Egypt, Bahrain and Yemen, have important changes in environment surrounding of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Developments in the Middle East has always been a critical and effective components upon Iran's national security due to its special features, because in addition to being encounter with regional crisis and serious changes, which each of the regional actors often follow of conflicting approaches for their special goals and interests towards them, it is witness of the presence of extra-regional powers that cause increasing in complexity of the equations of Middle East. Over the past few decades, important developments have occurred in the Middle East which has affected the national security of Iran with changing the structure and the balance of power. Developments in the Middle East in recent decades were entered into a new phase after 11 September 1380 which has various opportunities and threats for national security of Iran. America attack to Iraq and occupying this country and other developments such

as occurrence war in areas of Lebanon and Palestine are such of these developments which consider important and new component in the security environment of the Islamic Republic of Iran. But with the start of popular uprisings and the recent developments in the Arab world new changes are occurring in the Middle East which is changing the power structure and Political and security power at the regional level.

A. Theoretical approach to the national security of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Each of the studies approaches to study the national security of some countries is analytical framework proportional to a region or a country where the researcher tries to analyze its national security problems. This selection has more difficulties and complications especially to analyze the national security of third world countries such as Iran. Because, on the one hand, native theoretical approaches of these countries does not have enough fund and history due to geographic, political, social, cultural and economic coordinates, and on the other hand, more variables and components are involved in their national security.

Despite the emphasis on the major and effective variables, more coherence analysis of realist approach in security analysis than other approaches and its theoretical support and relative dominance in security studies has also deficiencies and significant weaknesses in analysis of the Iranian national security. As this approach is state-centric and system-oriented, it regards many other effective components in national security such as social dimensions. It does not note to internal vulnerabilities which can be intensified due to some external threats. Liberal approach addresses higher dimensions of national security beyond military aspects and state-centric framework of realist approach. However, it seems that this approach is suitable to analyze the national security of western industrialized and developed countries. Current conditions of these countries have put a basis to design their analytical sketches and framework. For example, theories such as democratic peace and function-oriented theories have cultural, institutional and economic western features and they cannot be effective to analyze the national security of some countries such as Iran and to present strategy.

B. Developments and features of security environment of Islamic Republic of Iran before developments of 1390

Over the past few decades, security environment of Iran has been subject to major changes and developments which constantly affect the national security. In the first decade of Islamic revolution, deployments and contrast and hostile approaches of regional actors and trans-regional powers create serious security threats for Iran in bipolar space of cold war that the most important outcome was the attack of Baathist regime to Iran and eight-year war imposition to that country. In this decade, most of the Arabic countries especially the countries of cooperation council member of Persian Gulf and also western powers and even Soviet Union strongly supported of Iraq in war against Iran.

At the end of the Iran-Iraq war, in early 1390, two important developments in Iranian environment altered the equations and political and security threats. The first development was Iraq attack to Kuwait and then the America-led international coalition invasion to Iraq and the second one was Soviet Union collapse as one of the two superpowers during the cold war.

The first development, Iraq's invasion to Kuwait, caused to create the contexts for permanent presence of U.S. in Persian Gulf and contract the security agreement with southern countries of Persian Gulf and led to new threat formation against the national security of Iran. Soviet Union collapse led to create geographical changes in the environment surrounding Iran and new governments' formation.

Even more important was caused America to become the only superpower internationally. This problem was impressive on type of presence of America in the Middle East and applying new threats against Iran especially in terms of dual containment strategy in 1370s.

Developments after eleven September of 1380, and especially America attack to two neighboring countries of Afghanistan and Iraq led to form new components in the environment of Islamic Republic of Iran which simultaneously have opportunities and threats for national security of the country. Occupying Afghanistan by America and NATO led to remove Taliban regime as an important security threat for Islamic Republic of Iran and create several opportunities to influence and role of Iran in this area. However, the presence of Western forces in Afghanistan and their impact on political and security process of this country led to form serious threats for Iran. Also, the attack to Iraq has several threats for national security of Iran, due to vast military presence of America in this country. However, it seems that it is clear over time that regime change in Iraq by America attack creates very more important opportunities for Islamic Republic of Iran and particularly causes to remove Baathist regime as a major security threat and form new democratic political system. It led to change the balance of regional power in favor of Iran by creating balanced relationships with Iran.

C. Uprising and developments in Arabic country

Although the Arab uprising in all these country is associated to interests and security policy of Islamic Republic of Iran, however, the amount of connection and impact of developments of each country on national security of Iran has some differences. Some of the developments in the Arab world have occurred in the immediate security environment of the Islamic Republic of Iran like Bahrain and they are certainly affected the Iran's national security interests more widespread and more directly. Some other developments are occurred in security area near Iran or in areas where are closely associated with policy and security interests of Iran's Middle East. The developments of Egypt, Syria and Yemen are of these developments and are very important for Islamic Republic of Iran. But the third category of developments is occurred in the security environment farther of Iran such as Libya and Tunisia in North Africa where have less influence on national security of the Islamic Republic of Iran in compare to the first two categories developments. Due to the distance and the geographical distance and also due to lack of direct contact with Iran's security interests, developments in Libya and Tunisia are less important to study.

Chapter 2: Opportunities and threats of national security of Islamic Republic of Iran

Popular uprisings and developments of Arab world have simultaneously opportunities and threats for national security of the Islamic Republic of Iran and these developments have affected various aspects of national security in territorial size, population and political system. Developments of Arab world have different dimensions and characteristics which heterogeneously and at different scales are affected different variables of national security such as military and strategic capabilities, political legitimacy, ethnic and religious tolerations and economic efficiency of different countries such as Iran.

A. Threats of national security of Islamic Republic of Iran

One of the major threats of security of the Islamic Republic of Iran is regional transition instabilities and insecurities due to developments in Arab world. Uprising and revolutions in Arab world have caused to create instability and lack of power in some of the countries in the region by transforming the traditional political system. New leaders need the transition period to confirm the structures and conditions to stabilize and strengthen the new political system. In other word, change in political systems and power transition to new political leaders associate with challenges and various issues in revolutionary country which create significant problems and instabilities in the region. This instability has affected the national security of various regional actors such as the Islamic Republic of Iran. Intensify in sectarian tensions; intensify in tribal conflicts and dilemmas, likelihood of civil war in countries in crisis, utilization of extremist groups such as Al-Ghaeede of the lack of authority and instability and continuity in instability at different levels are such problems and aspects of the transition period at regional level which create security challenges for Iran. These instabilities and tensions can be effective on integration and religious toleration particularly among Shiites and Sunnis of the country and also low-intensity military threats and political threats have formed against Iran due to the lack of security surrounding Iran.

The other important threats are simultaneous efforts of trans-regional powers and regional actors who oppose to recent changes and popular revolutions to create new crisis and shaping to a new stream of threats for national security of Islamic Republic of Iran. Since an important part of developments of the Arab world is changing in balance of regional power in favor of Iran from the view point of west and dissident actors of Iran in the region such as Saudi Arabia, the probability of the

effort of competing actors is greatly predictable for new crises and attempting to weaken the resistance center regardless the amount of its success. In this way, we can mention to different efforts to intensify civil unrest in Syria and to transform the developments in Syria to a regional crisis which has situations to create conflict between the wide-ranging regional actors such as Iran. In addition,

B. National Security opportunities of Islamic Republic of Iran

Despite some challenges to the national security of the Islamic Republic of Iran which mainly concern to short period, developments in Arab world have important opportunities and security interests for country in medium and long term by expanding and deepening the regional alterations. The most important of these opportunities include: design and reinforce the new model of political legitimacy which emphasize to Muslim population of the region, changing political systems to local systems particularly with more independent and native attitudes in foreign policy arena and also forming the new political and security arrangements at the regional level in which competing and hostile actors of Iran have more inconspicuous role.

Discussions

Over the past three decades, regional developments in the Middle East have always been a major effective component on the national security of the Islamic Republic of Iran and any of developments had included specific threats and opportunities for country. During the 1980s and 1990s, developments such as warfare imposition to Baath regime and Kuwait war and trans-regional forces presence in the Persian Gulf created significant threat for Iran. In the 1980s and 1990s, developments such as warfare imposition of Baath regime and war of Baath regime and Kuwait war and trans-regional forces presence in the Persian Gulf created significant threat for Iran. In the last decade of the eleventh September 2001, several important developments create serious opportunities for the national security of the Islamic Republic of Iran, such as America attack to Iraq and occupying this country and Israel's war with Israel and Hamas Party despite some threats in 2006 and 2008. But, developments of Arab world and popular uprisings in the region in 2011, once again are transforming political and security equations and power structure in the Middle East. These developments have affected the national security of the country and include special security threats and opportunities for Iran. Despite the Mubarak's rise in Egypt, power structures and political elements of Mubarak's dominion are still established.

Mubarak is still in power structures and political elements of the Mubarak regime are established. They try to prevent fundamental transformation of this country with the help of external factors such as America and Saudi Arabia and they try to return Egypt to its previous condition. But, it is impossible to return Egypt to previous situation and at least repeated approaches of regional policy of Mubarak era are impossible. In Bahrain, up to now, Al-Khalifa refuses to award real concessions and doing reform to reject the opposition demands by Saudi Arabia and America supports. However, struggle of people and governance continues. Despite widespread protests for months in Yemen, Bashar al-Assad's government is facing to serious challenges in Syria. Regional and international interventions and pressures on the Syrian government make it possible to restrain the crisis and solve the problems. Developments in the Arab world with common properties and some specific components of each domain include various threats and opportunities for national security of Iran. These developments create short-term threats for country which the most important of them are: Certain instabilities and insecurities of their transition from the previous governments to new structures which cause some sectarian tensions that can have security results for Iran; The attempt of rival and hostile countries of Iran to create new crisis which target the logical interests and abilities of the country

which for example there is in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine.

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