

Call for papers:

Journal UNISCI, Special Issue nº 46, May 2018

“Outside-in and Inside-Out : the interplay between domestic and international factors in North Africa”

Traditionally, academic studies have focused on the domestic and international arenas as two distinct and differentiated spaces. However, the so-called Arab Spring dramatically demonstrated that an exclusively domestic perspective was not enough to explain the cascade of events. The international factor, therefore, can no longer be considered as a residual category (Whitehead, 2001) in the region. Indeed, the international and regional dimension should increasingly appear as an integrated theoretical argument (Schmitz and Sell, 1999). North Africa becomes a privileged place to observe international and regional influences at play in both the processes of change-transition (Pridham, 1991, Schmitz and Sell, 1999 and Whitehead, 2001) as well as regarding the evolution of authoritarian politics (Ambrosio, 2010, Brownlee, 2012, Cavatorta, 2009, Heydemann, 2014, Heydemann and Leeders, 2011, Weyland, 2005).

A well-grounded analysis of international impact requires paying attention to third actors' direct policies and to other diffusion mechanisms. In this sense, there should be a further distinction made between the supply side, which would include the existence of an international climate, ideas and values, and the receiver or demand side, which affects the selection of some transnational models. Domestic actors' international Learning and socialization have been pointed out by some authors (Ambrosio, 2010; Giraldi, 2012; Heydemann and Leeders, 2011; Weyland 2005) as the most common and effective diffusion mechanisms.

In the same way, North African States' foreign policies cannot be explained exclusively by contextual factors and circumstances. In fact, their foreign behavior reflects domestic motivations and power equilibriums. In other words, internal sources such as the social order and the political processes that occur within the black box are elements of the first order in the formulation of external action (Fernández-Molina, 2016).

This special issue welcomes participants that want to contribute to this debate by submitting theoretical, methodological or empirical proposals regarding the following topics:

- Methodological and theoretical issues
- Effects of international influence on the (re)configuration of one or several scenarios (case studies or regional comparison).
- International socialization and learning of domestic actors.
- External policies of third parties to the region and their impact.
- Domestic motivations of the foreign policy of one or more countries of the region.

In addition to the topics listed above, any other proposal related to this Special Issue would be considered.

Important dates:

November 15, 2017 Paper proposal deadline. Please, send your abstract of no more than 350 words (in English or Spanish) to Beatriz Tomé Alonso (btome@uloyola.es).

December 1, 2017 Author notification

February 28, 2018 Papers Submission Deadline

March 30, 2018 Preliminary reviews returned

April 30, 2018 Papers Submission Deadline

May 15, 2017 Publication of the Special Issue

Journal UNISCI:

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