

Elite choices, Path Dependency and the Arab Spring

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It is the main contention of this work that despite the universality of elite theory descriptions and predictions, the set of political solutions to all sociopolitical actors in any of the Arab Spring countries will certainly be affected by the existing institutional set up and the historical development of said institutions. Based on the works of North, Pierson, Ruth and David Collier I argue that revolutionary movements are rarely spontaneous and despite the claim that social revolutions tend to re-draw political but most importantly the social map of the country they occur in, the outcomes of said social revolts depend on the pre-revolutionary institutional structures and cultural affinities.