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International relationships and identity crisis: the case study of Morocco through the religious extremism.

This paper aims at explaining the complex way which has led to the identity crisis based on religion in different Arabic states, especially in northern Africa. Thanks to a multidisciplinary survey including History, Sociology, International Relationships and Political Sciences, we'll try to enlighten the causes of the Islamist movement.

We'll first describe and analyze the western world position towards the beginning of the islamist ideology and the Arabic governments from the colonial period until the post colonialism period with the importance of the struggle against communism and the national Arabic movements.

Then we will focus our analysis on the current local and international factors which helped Islamism to expand. Among these key factors the economical globalization seems to be one of the most noteworthy. Globalization is connected to the standardization of the way of life and of the consumer goods without the emergence of a welfare state based on the equality in terms of right. Many studies and investigations emphasize the weakening of the "Nation" concept due to the triumph of the economical globalization. These transformations wouldn't have been possible without the massive use of the new technologies and above all of the Internet. These new technologies contribute to the creation of international networks on a global scale. The islamist movement implemented successfully this use of the new technologies, especially with the Internet and with the mass media like TV. It succeeded to create a global network with members feeling the same daily life in a similar local context made of injustice, frustration or poverty. An analogous local context made of several difficulties in a weakening national state with the possibility of putting this feeling on an international scale is one of the explanations of the islamist success.

The ambivalent posture of the western world pretending to spread worldwide progress but trying on the other side to establish their economical strength without caring about the wealth of the local communities aims at giving to the islamists elements for a speech against the western countries. We also can observe ambiguous relationships since the western world has strong partnerships with the main financial supporter of the Islamism : Saoudi Arabia.

The policies of the western countries towards the Muslim immigrants tainted by cultural and community relativism also feed the Islamism.

All these factors help the islamists to expand their world interpretation by using conservative values based on a radical reinterpretation of the religion. Religion is the tool for a dangerous identity fallback used as a political and social demand.

Key words : Islamism – Religion – Identity – Globalization – Arabic World– Western World Policies