

**The future of Political Islam: the Transition post-Mubarak and the European Union  
External Action Influence**

**ABSTRACT**

This dissertation seeks to assert the European Union's influence, namely of its European Neighbourhood Policy, in the Egyptian's transition. From the analyses and application of the relevant theories, in particular transitology, the study intends to clarify that the Arab exceptionalism argument is mainly grounded on regional logics and assumptions which have the sole propose of maintaining the status quo. To restrain political Islamic forces from competing in the democratic process will deepen internal divisions and will increase fundamentalism and violence. The level of proximity reached through the dialogue maintained with all sides of political life and civil society in Egypt reveal a growing influence of the European Union. The fact that its action is perceived positively as well as for being the best equipped external actor to encourage a national reconciliation and an inclusive dialogue in favor of a return to the democratic transition process, restate that influence. Egypt is the key to other regional developments and to the European Union's external action credibility. By acting efficiently around its strategic security ring, the European Union will strengthen its role as a global player.

**Key Words:** Egypt, post-Mubarak transition, transitology, political Islam, inclusive dialogue, European Union.