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(The Fragile State and Its Similar Concepts)

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Abstract

The international concern about the fragile State, and the effects it reflects in international policies, led to the emergence of many different concepts of State fragility, and it was not long before academics and experts pointed to the ambiguity of the term, so this study and the theoretical frameworks used to activate this concept, distinguish between the approximate concepts of the fragile State, and support the critical view that most of the current analytical models lack solid theoretical foundations, which leads to confusion between types of States, and on the other hand that the State may stop at one stage, reconstruct itself, rectify its situation and restore its basic capabilities, the stages through which the State progresses to the collapse in three stages according to the chronological order: the weak State, the fragile State, the collapsed State, the weak and the weak State, and the weakened, and the fragile State may become, and become fragile, and become fragile and fragile, and become the State.

Keywords

Introduction

A fragile state exists when state structures lack the political will, or the ability to provide the basic functions necessary to reduce poverty, develop, and protect the security and human rights of its population, as well as the uncertainty of the ruling political system's capacity to impose the prestige of the state and represent it in its foreign relations with other states. Fragility can take several forms. A fragile state may be a "weak state" if it does not exercise administrative control over its territory, a "fragile and divided state" if ethno-religious or even

national divisions are deep, or a "fragile post-war state" if it emerges from a bloody conflict, or a "fragile and bankrupt state" if its fundamental institutions and functions become non-functional. For example, the State of Somalia .

Research Importance

The Objectives Of Research Are The Following Points

1. Define and highlight what a fragile state is.
2. Distinguish between the concept of a fragile state and the concepts that are close to and intertwined with it.

Research Problem

It Tries To Search For The Answer To The Question Of The President On What Is A Fragile State And The Implications Of Different Concepts?

Hence, this research answers the following questions:

1. What is the concept of a fragile state?
2. And how has it been defined by researchers and intellectuals and international organizations?
3. What are the approaches of a fragile state?

Research Hypothesis

Research attempts to prove the hypothesis that there is a relationship between the performance of the state's internal and external functions, the multiple crises it suffers, and the state of fragility it experiences that may lead to collapse.

Research Structure

It is divided as follows

The first axis is the concept of a fragile state, the language and terminology, and the second axis is the approaches to a fragile state, and then the conclusion and conclusions.

First Part

The Concept of a Fragile State is a Language and Terminology

In English

the term "fragile state" translates into "fragile state" and "fragile", which is taken from the Latin word "fragilis", which means "fragile state".

Terminology

There is no international agreement on the concept of a fragile or fragile state. Scholars, intellectuals and international institutions differ among themselves in their definition and the methods of including countries in this category, and from this point of view

The Russian thinker Tolstoy pointed out (that every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way), so a fragile state is, in its own way, fragile, and it is often useless to reduce or define fragility as a unified and fixed list or indicator, thus overlooking the complexities and nuances of fragility in some situations and overlooking other fragile situations together.

Fragility is one of the most prevalent concepts in the political literature for vulnerability, vulnerability and refractory, being characterized as fragile when a State is unable to perform its functions, extend its authority over its territory, meet the aspirations of its citizens, or even have no coping and resilience strategies to respond to risks, and absorb shocks created by changes in the internal or external environments.

Some emphasize the political or institutional dimension and its relation to the social reality of the fragile State, defined as "the inability of the State to build a strong relationship with its society", while others emphasize that "the fragmentation of national identity, as a result of ethnic or religious diversity, leads to the absence of a common political identity, national institutions and the absence of social cohesion and political stability".

The Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) defined it as: "States that are unable to meet the expectations of their population and unable to manage changes in the political process".

The European Council defined a fragile state as "weak or failing structures, situations in which the social contract has collapsed due to the inability or desire of the state to deal with its basic functions and fulfill its obligations towards strengthening the rule of law, protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, providing security and safety for its population, reducing poverty, providing services, transparent and equitable management of resources and access to power, and when power loses all those values that form the threads of interdependence with all the forces and diversity of society, it goes towards disintegration and failure".

The China Securities Regulatory Commission defined: it as a State that is highly vulnerable to internal and external shocks and to domestic or international conflicts.

Lars Pedersen defines a fragile state as "instability that affects predictability, transparency and accountability in decision-making processes within a state, and the provision of social services to the population".

This definition raises a question

What does the fragility of the state have to do with this definition of institutional and political instability? Is the fragile state both a cause and a

consequence of instability? The answer to the question will become clear after examining the causes of fragility and its indicators, which will be discussed in the upcoming investigations.

But the researchers Stewart and Brown found that all definitions of a fragile state revolve around three major dimensions of fragility: failure to extend power, failure to provide services, and failure to maintain legitimacy, which occurs respectively when a state fails to protect its citizens from violence, provide basic services to all citizens, and obtain recognition of its legitimacy from its own citizens.

Despite the lack of agreement on a specific definition of the fragile state, it is noted that there are comprehensive characteristics of it, the most important of which are

1. State failure to exercise a monopoly on the legitimate use of force.
2. The state's failure to provide basic services to its citizens.
3. Suffering from a crisis of legitimacy in the state
4. Violence, criminality and terrorism are on the rise.
5. The absence of the state's ability to develop its bureaucratic capabilities.
6. The rise of corruption in all its types.
7. The lack of economic growth capacity, low levels of GDP and rising inflation, and economic inequality.
8. The state's failure to guarantee the supremacy of its institutions and rules over non-governmental institutions and rules.
9. The great inability to control its territory.
10. The state's loss of its international standing outside the borders.

Second Part

Approaches to the Fragile State

The study of any political institutional phenomenon requires the study of other concepts that it might approach in the meaning, and because of the complexity and the overlap of the field of preliminary research, there is a clear confusion between the similar concepts, which is reflected on the semantic nature of that concept, caused by several factors, the most important of which is the continuous changes in the mechanisms and structures of the international system. Therefore, we must distinguish the concept of a fragile state from the comparable concepts, each of which reflects a state of weakness suffered by the state, and each of which also represents a phase of the state's stages, starting from prosperity and weakness to collapse, and that the most prominent of the comparable concepts are the following:

Soft State

The concept used by Gunnar Myrdal in the late 1960s to describe most of the less-developed, selfish world countries and their willingness to corrupt and

ignore the rule of law, the rule of militarism in governance, and the interests of the members and entourage of power prevail over the interests of the people. This type of state has all the external manifestations of a sovereign state, but it is in fact subordinate to foreigners and multinational companies and its function is limited to protecting foreign interests rather than the public interest. The economic thinker Dr. Galal Amin borrowed this expression in his description of the state in Egypt under former President Hosni Mubarak.

The stagnant state

It appears when the impact of professional groups on the state disappears. Although the latter in modern societies is responsible for securing and protecting rights, it does not work alone as a manager and guarantor of citizenship rights. There are secondary groups that work continuously with the individual to stand up properly. My work on his new needs and rights with the state to be evidence of the rights of citizenship to express them in front of the state in an organized and conscious expression, which causes the state to be revitalized in its basic function, so there is non-stop activity in all state institutions towards one goal, which is the citizen, and this great role is assigned to the groups professionalism in those modern societies, but the opposite may happen when there is a social growth in rights and needs that is not matched by a qualitative functional growth of the state to counter this social growth and is not matched by the effectiveness of professional groups in demanding citizenship rights to push the state towards growth and activity, so the impact of these groups disappears and the state suffers stagnation And stop at a certain point and do not have the ability to go beyond it.

The weak state

it is the poor state that suffers from large "gaps" in security, performance and legitimacy (according to the Brookings Institution) , and it is the state that performs its functions less effectively than the normal level of activity of state institutions, and faces political, economic and social problems. It receives international aid, and some of the features of a failed state are achieved, but the state has not lost control of its borders, and the central government is weak in its ability to control public order within its territory, with chronic weakness in the structure of the state for geographical or economic reasons, or it may be a strong state. Going through a stage of weakness due to administrative errors, tyranny, corruption and greed of the ruling elites, or external aggression, and weak states witnessing deep sectarian, ethnic, or political tensions that have not yet turned into civil war and the infrastructure is weak and deteriorating. Negligence and corruption strike vital facilities, Such as: education, health, electricity and energy, public transportation, and communications These services may be good in major cities, but the regions far from the center and rural areas do not enjoy adequate services, the rule of law is only formal, many countries with a strong appearance

fall into the classification Weak states due to one-man rule and the absence of political opportunities for citizens. And its continuous suppression of the opposition and the closure of the political sphere, the state enjoys sovereignty over its lands, the economic conditions in it may be good for a group of citizens, but there is neglect for large groups in basic needs such as food, health, etc.

The Failing State

It is sometimes called the developing country, and it is those countries that have not reached the stage of economic development that is characterized by the growth of industrialization, and the attainment of their national income to an appropriate level of providing the domestic saving required for future investment, and it is the case of the countries that It fell under colonial control, which led to a noticeable lack of legitimacy of government, and a deteriorating economic situation because it is under imperial domination that controls the global and local market, and in most cases a wide internal displacement crisis, an example of which is the countries of the world of the South .

The crisis state

These are the countries that are experiencing severe pressure, and the governance of institutions faces serious disagreement, and it is likely that they are unable to manage disputes and conflicts (there is a risk of state collapse) To get out of it or to disintegrate and collapse.

Failed State

It is a state that is no longer able to perform its basic functions. This term was first introduced in the speech of the US delegate to the United Nations in December 1992, "The end of the era of US President Bush the father and the beginning of the era of Bill Clinton." It is the state that is incapable of providing community services, either at the external level. It is those countries whose sovereignty is automatically restricted after being subjected to economic or political sanctions or the presence of foreign military forces on its territory, or subject to other military restrictions, such as a no-fly zone in its vital field, and it is characterized as a country that loses control. Actual security on its territory, and loses the ability to provide the basic needs of its citizens, or loses the ability to deal as the sole representative of its people internationally, that the state of failure arises due to the challenge of internal sectarian, national, or political factors that wish to change the government, just as the failed state leads to the revival of tendencies sectarianism and tribalism, or lead to the emergence of new groups in the form of parties, movements, and organizations that carry out functions that the state has failed to perform, such as providing the necessary health, educational, or living needs.

Collapsed State

It is the state whose structure, authority, law, and political system collapse, and which should be re-established, as the collapse of state structures, whether through defeat at the hands of an external force or as a result of internal chaos, leads to a vacuum of political power, and specify " Robert Rotberg " The characteristics and characteristics of this state are as follows:

1. An extreme form of a failed state.
2. A complete absence of authority and the state is a geographical entity without internal or external legitimacy.
3. Lack of security and the emergence of armed militias that control areas within the state, and the spread of arms and drug trade.
4. the collapse of the political authority and the military and security establishment.
5. The state is unable to provide its basic services such as imposing security, providing social services, and providing basic infrastructure, and is unable to control a large part of its territory.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we note that the collapse of the state and the decline in its ability to carry out basic functions towards citizens occurs gradually and goes through several stages that lead it to collapse. On the other hand, the state may stop at one stage and rebuild itself, reform its conditions and regain its basic capabilities. "Rotberg" The stages through which the state proceeds to collapse in three stages according to chronological order: the weak state, the fragile state, and the collapsed state, and the (weak state) is in a state of decline, deterioration and weakness, and it can turn into a (fragile state) and when fragility continues It may turn into a (collapsed state), and accordingly we see that the distinction between the fragile state and other converging concepts is only a distinction in terms of degree, not type, as all these states suffer from a defect in imposing their control and their inability to carry out their basic functions as they suffer from high crime rates. , political violence, loss of border control, escalating hostility between ethnic, religious, sectarian and cultural components, civil wars, terrorism, institutional weakness, poor infrastructure, as well as high levels of administrative and political corruption, collapsing health systems, high infant mortality rate and low life expectancy , GDP per capita, and an increase in the rate of economic inflation...etc. The point of difference between these countries is that each of them has a focus in a specific axis in the failure of state institutions to carry out their functions.

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