

New research claims US imposed ‘democracy’ won’t work for Arab Spring

November 18 2011

America needs to listen to the Arab Spring protestors in Egypt and engage with their vision of the future rather than trying to impose a way of life, according to new research from the University of Warwick.

In a paper just presented to state department staff at the Library of Congress in Washington DC and due to be personally presented to former US Secretary of State Madeline Albright next month, research fellow Oz Hassan claims the American idea of [democracy](#) is too focused on economics and there is a lack of innovation in US Middle East policy.

Hassan spent time conducting research among the protesters in Tahrir Square in Egypt before the police cleared it in August 2011.

Following the Arab Spring and the overthrow of Mubarak, Hassan said a multitude of Egyptian definitions of freedom were emerging.

He said: “All want to move away from the tyranny of the Mubarak regime, and some are more politically liberal and secular than others. Yet, the Obama administration would be better supporting these positive trends, rather than promoting an approach derived from the distant shores of Washington DC.”

More information: Oz Hassan’s full paper is available here www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/csg...reen/papers/lectures

Provided by University of Warwick

Citation: New research claims US imposed 'democracy' won't work for Arab Spring (2011, November 18) retrieved 6 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2011-11-imposed-democracy-wont-arab.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.