



**The Influence of the Arab Spring states participate in foreign
trade and the Colombian diplomatic relations**

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the Colombian diplomatic relations**

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DEDICATION

I wish to dedicate this work to all those who were with me in this process of evolution of my life, for their support and motivation that made this race a dream fulfilled and that led me to another stage of my life.

A God forever be that feeling of joy, tranquility and serenity at every moment of this stage of life that is close to finish, I hope to be worthy for such a worthwhile effort.

Finally, my family forever be unconditional support to meet each goal of my life, thank you for always believing in me and never lose faith that every effort is worthwhile.

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ABSTRACT

The influence of the Arab Spring on Trade and Diplomatic Relations with Colombia, objectively analyzes what are the factors that one way or another could influence Colombia's relations with the Middle East, after the social phenomenon known as Arab Spring and brought great changes in politics, the economy and global trade with the rest of the world. In addition social factors such as the introduction of technology, the role of the media and young people who played an important role in the development of this social phenomenon is taken into account.

This research was conducted under the documentary method, with this, valuable information about social factors and domestic policies were the main trigger for the riots was found, showing that the anarchic policies and anti-democracy played a decisive role in the future of the region.

It was found that although trade between Colombia and the Middle East has not changed much in recent years, if it has stopped level of progress that was brought from the 2000s Likewise, foreign policy relations have been slowed and little progress than expected before the start of the Arab spring.

KEYWORDS:

Arab Spring, Diplomacy, International Cooperation, Foreign Policy, Foreign Colombia - Middle East, social rights, economic and political alliances.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ASPA: Summit of South American-Arab Countries

AL: Latin América

LEA: League Of Arab States

MERCOSUR: Common Market Of South

MO: Middle East

OEA: Organizations Of America States

UNASUR: Union Of south Americian Nations

Introducción

The Arab Spring was the name given to the set of popular uprisings that occurred from December 2010 and extended in the Middle East and North Africa, consequently resulting in a change of political regime in several countries in the Arab world including the fall of the government in countries like Tunisia and Egypt. These events have been considered by some as the greatest wave of political turmoil that the world has seen since the fall of the Berlin Wall.

The Arab Spring was characterized as a transnational movement as it affects national agreements in each country, affected neighboring countries and the political and economic relations with the rest of the world. This phenomenon has had a restricted area of the struggle for democracy vision, but basically brings economic and social problems that have faced the countries of this region in recent decades. The countries involved in the Arab Spring "brought different economic and social problems arising from legacies left by various forms of European colonialism and the different schemes single domain that ruled those countries for decades"

This paper discusses generally the major political, economic and social factors that led to the Arab Spring and are subsequently analyzed the effects of this phenomenon brought on the economic and trade relations for Colombia, since this has had trade relations with this region of the world for more than 50 years and the efforts of recent Colombian governments have been improving and strengthening these relations. Finally some aspects of foreign policy between Colombia and some of the countries involved in the Arab Spring exposed.

1. PROJECT FORMULATION

1.1 BACKGROUND

At the end of the first decade of the century, a colossal social earthquake step was taken in the Arab and Middle Eastern countries as a result of a popular clamor for democracy and social rights skewed for several decades. This revolution came after the simple act of Tunisians who blew themselves up and Protestants resorted to aggressive practices against his government in late December 2010.

Days after the act of Tunisian citizens and seeing the agony of this geographical area, societies of the Arab community were adding to the mass protests against their governments and social policies, including countries such as Palestine, Iran, Iraq, Egypt , Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Algeria and others. All these revolutions were classified as terrorists since the beginning of the Tunisian protests by international organizations, but for many of the Western media were classified as riots or democratic revolutions.

Many factors have contributed to these social revolts, as this region after the loss of several wars against the State of Israel was the need to have military cooperation agreements with Western countries like the United States, immediately followed by which this last volume much of the control of the various resources of these countries, such as oil. America in turn held power certain leaders in these countries.

On the other hand the multiple levels of establishments without opposition dictatorships that did not allow citizen participation and silenced population. Finally, the phenomenon of young overcrowding was mainly unemployed and with large families to maintain, this combined with a great imposition of their own countries to migrate to Europe were some of the triggers of these revolts.

Before 2011, some Arab countries like Egypt and Tunisia went to experience higher rates of economic growth than they did in the previous decade, with an increase of about 5 percent annually; considerably above European rates, but low by the standards of emerging market economies such as China and India, along with progress in economic reforms and oil prices, the MENA region as a whole

and the countries under dictators like Tunisia, Libya, Yemen and Egypt achieved remarkable growth rates in the last decade before the Arab spring.(Akkas, 2014)

Between 2000 and 2010, the region experienced strong growth per capita since the oil crisis of 1970, but still was well behind emerging market economies of Central Asia and Eastern Europe. The influx of oil wealth after the periodic booms since the 1973 oil crisis have also provided huge investments in physical and social infrastructure and positively but not as much as expected. (Akkas, 2014)

Latin America and the Middle East have a history for more than a century, although it has not been the priority of both regions and therefore do not relate directly as with the case of the US, these have been forged silently in terms of trade relations, social and political. thus seeking a union for further development of the two main economic regions, development has been slowed by these riots apparently.

Direct relations between the Middle East and Latin America were started from the beginning of the great migrations from the Middle East in the early twentieth century mainly from Israel, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, and Palestine. After the creation of the state of Israel in 1948, the number of migrants increased and settled in countries like Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela fleeing economic, political, religious factors and taking advantage of the low taxation of these countries to welcome immigrants. Many of these migrants because of their young age and had only their native language were devoted to trade, by which many of them are in Latin America large traders. In the region, only the Syrian population comprises the million inhabitants mainly in Brazil, and likewise in nations like Qatar can be found today around 450,000 Latino residents.

Most Middle Eastern countries have some kind of representation in Latin America, either as embassies or consulates. Regarding the density of Lebanese presence in our region, Lebanon is the country with the largest number of representations, which follow countries like Egypt, Israel, Palestine, Turkey and Iran. (Martinez, Instituto Rosario de Estudios Mundo Árabe Islamico, 2012)

Latin American representations in the Middle East are 21 countries in the region, among which include countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Cuba. These representations are part of the intention of these countries to establish both political dialogue and trade issues, among others. It is detected in this regard wing importances that have given them Latin Americans to the Middle East countries. In turn are numerous outstanding bilateral agreements between

countries of both regions, many of which have also led to the signing of MOUs in various fields of trade issues, visas, education, etc. You can also highlight the fact that the countries of both regions participate in regional political organizations. Thus, Brazil and Venezuela have joined as observer countries in the Arab League, as well as seven Arab countries and Israel and Turkey are observers to the Organization of American States OAS. Also of South-Arab Countries ASPA was intended to create a political forum and space for negotiation between the leaders of the countries of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) and the League of Arab States (LAS) America summit Altogether said forum includes 34 countries, of which 22 correspond to the Middle east and North Africa. (Martinez, 2012)

For its part Colombia, it has not been the great exception to these relations, from previous governments have tried to become more dynamic relations with several states in the Middle East, because for decades it seeks to open up these markets for country and strengthen relationships. Colombia is an observer since 2009 and attends the summit of the Arab League.

It is paradoxical that a country like Colombia that has had relations with the Middle East dating back to decades ago, have a poor relationship with the United Arabic numerals. Both his involvement with the multinational forces observation operating in the Sinai region and their participation in the movement of nonaligned that were concretized in the late 80s Both platforms have been missed to strengthen especially concerning relations to Arab world.

Since the government of Alfonso Lopez Pumarejo, Colombia has been following the way of improved relations with Middle Eastern countries maintain a consistent position with the Arab Israeli conflict remaining only as an observer seeking more cautious relations hasty. Since diplomatic relations and trade between Colombia and the Middle East do not seem to have had greater significance, except with the state of Israel.

In 1989 the Colombian government held a series of negotiations that came forward among Egyptians, Libyans, Israel and Colombian especially in energy and military sectors, the latter showed a good commercial development of both military equipment and aircraft and instrumentation for military use . For the energy sector, by 1984 the first coal sales to Syria were made and this left open to new possibilities of trade way. Then for 1987 and 1988

purchase by Israel of 2.2 million tons of coal from Colombia in this period and the first sales of oil and small-scale coffee they were initiated. Colombia meanwhile said its investments in a consistent passing through a time of tension with Nicaragua military equipment.

The above notes that Colombia maintained a trade deficit in relation to the Middle East between the years of 1980. 1995 Colombia exported mainly as coal and oil to be subsequently imported as gasoline or consumer products, coupled with the growing number of Colombian imports of military and tactical equipment to fight the war that grew from the hand of drug trafficking.

1.1.1 State Of The Art

Then will relate some of the tools and bibliographic references were found for exploration and development of this research regarding the situation in the Middle East and in relation to Colombia, which will be a great contribution to the development of this research.

One of the documents analyzed for the development of this research was the text "*The Arab Spring: Geopolitical Reflections*" Mark Peckel 2014. This paper discusses the Arab Spring from a historical perspective looking how the foundations of the architecture of the Arab countries have a strong impact on the protest movements of 2011. the story has created in this area exclusions are now an institutional challenge for the countries of the unstable area. (Peckel, 2014)

Another of the documents on which the development of this work is based is a document called "*Arab Spring protests and riots. Factor analysis*" by José Blanco Navarro (2011) which analyzes the factors by which the so-called Arab or Arab Spring revolution, where we see the causes that led to this region of the world to a radical change and thus better understand that he is background of this problem. We also found in this document certain forward positions of what will be the future of the countries involved there.(Navarro, 2011)

Likewise a document from the National University of Rosario called *Latin America and the Middle East was Also found: effects of the Arab Spring in the region* to examine the effects of the Arab Spring in the region of Latin America, the author Lucia Martinez Explains how after 2011 the region had a break in relations with Latin America and Their Were less close relationships, so as to this document then a Helps us Understand the previous state to revolutions and As They Could Be in the near future and Its influence mainly in Latin America. (Martinez, 2012)

The article *Arab Spring in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya: A Comparative Analysis of Causes and Determinants* help you understand how the key factors and variables that led to the Arab Spring. The document focuses primarily in the countries of North Africa and Egypt, Libya and Tunisia. The results show that the inability of the governments of these states affected to adequately respond to the growing demands for political inclusion, good governance, development and policies of inclusive growth, and work played pivotal roles in awakening the conscience of the people, It is resulting in revolutions. The document recommends the institutionalization of participation and multiparty democracy and implementation of policies aimed at people such as job creation and the introduction of programs to reduce poverty among others, a means of maintaining the success of revolutions. (Ogbonnaya, 2012)

The document *change and political stability in the Gulf monarchies after the Arab Spring* shows how the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), helps to understand how these countries for their rentier character, as authoritarian regimes have survived until today. However, the desire for political liberalization of important sectors of society was evident during the Arab Spring. This article demonstrates how these demands have been answered by the authorities with a combination of redistribution, coercive and repressive measures, as well as a limited political reform. While elections in six states between 2011 and 2012 as a partial response to the demands of citizens were held (Masacara & Saldaña, 2014)

Article *the Arab Spring in the course of the international financial crisis* shows how Naomi Rabbia highlights the effects of the international crisis in the western development

of the Arab Spring and as the elements of this policy collision is. This will be able to analyze the geopolitical alteration produced from the events that began in 2010 in Tunisia. (Rabbia, 2012)

The study of the Embassy of Lebanon entitled *encounter between two worlds: Arab Migration in Colombia* by Isabela Restrepo frames the situation of globalization where countries have signed many agreements on trade in goods and services but paradoxically restricts the free movement of citizens from different countries, this due to the difficult mutual cooperation for full development in the regions.

The document from the Colombian Foreign Ministry Iran, Latin America and Colombia by Frederick Massé gives a brief introduction on how they have been negotiations with one of the countries with conflict in the Middle East, why relations of this country and some in conflict has been of some strategic way for internal conflict and how this has affected diplomatic relations with Colombia. (Massé, 2011)

1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

Follows are some of the factors by which to Colombia is important to know what have been the effects of the Arab Spring, given its historical interest in promoting relations with this region of the world.

Since the beginning of social protests in Arab countries in 2010, for many of the governments then in power his main task was to combat these onslaughts against their mandates, as some countries were dealing with different demands of the people and its various detractors that made their own fronts to achieve this.

This was the case of Tunisia, which had a large international tourism specifically in Europe and received much of the influence of the West, added this to a less restrictive government. The power and economy were in the hands of just a few families, ie, trade or lacked international tourism tax barriers. These families had the economic power had the

ability to monopolize all sectors of the economy such as tourism, telecommunications, finance, commerce, insurance and others.

Likewise, it gave way to the so-called white revolution in Egypt but this time by commercial, religious and political censorship reforms intended to give special powers to the armed forces of this country to the rest of the world. All these protests supposed to be regressive in labor, trade, industry and international tourism. By his side in Libya he began to see involved in a large-scale conflict where they established the rebel forces and the Organization of the North Atlantic Treaty NATO and countries like the United States and Europe intervened to support them, that ended with the end of the mandate and death Gaddafi, but its consequences were also serious in the economy, trade and industry not managed to stabilize as many were interested in taking power and these countries were immersed in the dispute over it. Consequently other revolts such as Syria, Libya, Yemen, Algeria brought innumerable obstacles and consequences for international trade, tourism, labor and many other sectors of the economy

The above represents how these events affected not only these countries but the rest of the world as trade, economy, tourism and international relations were stopped with the rest of the world for several years, or at least they were not as strong due many of the countries only wanted to be observers of the conflict, also began closing many of the regular operations involved in war with these countries.

In this context the questions that allow raising the question of this research are:

- ¿What is the influence of the participating states of Arab Spring and what is their impact on commercial terms and diplomats in Colombia?
- ¿ What has been the commercial economic developments and policies of the participating states of the Arab Spring?
- ¿ How are trade relations between the participating states of the Arab Spring and Colombia?
- ¿How are relations between Colombia and foreign policy countries that formed the Arab Spring?

The consequences then the so-called Arab Spring and whether between the relations of Colombia and the Middle East, where aspired not just a relationship more than economy and trade but cooperation where the two regions south-south have been virtually stopped where you can see that these became purely political and diplomatic relations between what is happening between the two regions Latin America and the Middle East. Since many countries and especially Latin American companies have preferred to stay out of the situation and have no constant relationship with these countries in the Middle East. This widespread distrust their governments instabilities and financial-economic policies, coupled with the limited support provided by international agencies on trade matters. Although it resume the effort of the Colombian government again to maintain these relationships especially to open markets and sustain existing ones. An example of this could be seen in Colombia's relations with the UAE that although it is a country that can be mentioned as alien to the Arab uprisings, Colombia seeks to maintain its presence in this region.

Colombia is not a strong exporting country, however, strengthen its trade relations with this region of the world has been a very important from the government of Alfonso Lopez Pumarejo (1942) task, as is known since the potential that this region of the world had for Colombia in commercial matters not only oil, but also for products such as coffee, rice, sugar and others. So then, they began to give the first political-commercial approaches to this region of the world mainly with countries such as Israel, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Libya, and to a lesser extent the other countries of the Arab community, approaches that were growing at the as the development of the countries with which it had a business relationship.

This small but good commercial understanding was hampered or in some other reduced since the start of social protests in 2010 because the countries involved in these issues have turned their attention to other countries that exerted more pressure and turn intervened in the conflict. Colombia for its part is always kept out of the discussions and their participation was neutral, but commercial relations were declining for the export sector by widespread distrust of entrepreneurs to the region. So then, Colombia focused his gaze to

other markets opening free trade agreements with other nations as the conflict in the Middle East was regulated.

1.3 JUSTIFICACIÓN

This work is mostly done by research merits in order to determine what have been the main factors influencing the relations of the Middle East and Latin America, especially Colombia. Thus you can determine what have been the advances and setbacks since the beginning of the uprisings in the Middle East in late 2010.

Through this research may make important contributions to the research culture and future contributions to research business faculty, Also the educational community about Colombia's relations with the Middle East. Thus opening the doors to new ideas and research for teachers and students and continue the future development of the subject.

From this research you can glimpse the future of relations with the Middle East and which are and will be the strengths of Colombia as an emerging country before these new changes in trade, tourism and diplomatic relations that have been presented strongly for two decades, but for causes of crises in these governments in the Middle East since 2010, its course has been diverted and very suspended.

Personally research provides basic knowledge on how Colombia is facing international crises of other governments and tries to overcome barriers in relationships in general. It is also important to note that Colombia has a strong interest from a decade to enter markets and strengthen relations with the Middle East and increase their participation in these countries.

1.3 OBJECTIVES

1.3.1 General Objective

Analyze how they have been diplomatic, economic and trade policy relations between Colombia and the participating states in the Arab Spring, in the period 2010-2015.

Specific Objectives

- Characterize the economic and political factors that led to the Arab Spring and what are the most influential states in this social phenomenon.
- Describe how have been the foreign policy relations between Colombia and the participating states in the Arab Spring
- Identify what were the economic and trade relations between Colombia and the States which have participated in the Arab Spring.

1.4 METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

1.4.1 Méthod

The analytical method is one method of research is the dismemberment of a whole, breaking it down into its parts or elements to observe the causes, nature and effects. The analysis is the observation and examination of a particular fact. It is necessary to know the nature of the phenomenon and object being studied to understand its essence. This method allows us to learn more about the object of study, which can: explain, make analogies, to better understand their behavior and establish new theories. (Ruiz, 2007)

This work was developed under the analytical method taking documents and information available on websites of organizations related to the topic. The information collected was classified and read to extract the main economic, political and cultural factors that gave rise to the so-called Arab Spring and later its consequences and influence in relations with Colombia.

1.4.2 Methodology.

The methodology for the development of this work was documentary, based on consultation documents as theses, papers published in refereed journals, books, working papers of institutions related to topic, among others. They were consulted databases that publish current and reliable information on the subject as: EBSCO, SCOPUS, PUBLINDEX, SCIELO, and SCIENCEDIRECT.

Additionally they were consulted websites of organizations that collect and publish detailed statistics and information in global trade.

The research includes the periods from 2010 to the present, still other items that help the understanding of the problem and its causes historical facts are taken into account. The proposed methodology is detailed in the tables 1, 2 and 3

Table 1. method used to achieve the objective 1

Especific N°1	Time Frame	Aspects	Sources
Characterize the economic and political factors that led to the Arab Spring and what are the most influential states in this social phenomenon.	1950-2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relations with neighboring countries • External and internal conflict. • External and internal policies • Middle East Environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Books • Documents • Artículos • Magazines

Source: Made By Myself

Table 2. method used to achieve the objective 2

Especific N°2	Time Frame	Aspects	Sources
Describe how were the foreign policy relations between Colombia and the participating states in the Arab Spring	2010-2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diplomatic relations • International cooperation • immigration system • Economic development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Books • Documents • Artículos • Magazines • archives

Source: Made By Myself

Table 3. method used to achieve the objective 3

Especific N°3	Frame Time	Aspects	Sources
Identify what were the economic and trade relations between Colombia and the States which have participated in the Arab Spring.	2010-2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade between nations • Imports and exports • Trade balance • Trade agreements • Cooperation agreements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Books • Documents • Artículos • Magazines • archives

Source: Made By Myself

1.5 SCOPES

This work includes the facts that led to the Arab uprisings or the Arab Spring from early 2010 to the present, where economic, social, cultural and religious policies gave way to the phenomenon in this region of the world consider, likewise those items mentioned conflict

and in some cases the post-Arab conflict in Colombia, more precisely from countries like Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Tunisia, Syria and Algeria, which are the countries most emphasized in this process.

At work you can find data and discussions with a general approach to the Middle East and the geostrategic location of these countries regarding Colombia.

2. PROJECT EXECUCIÓN

2.1 Conceptual Frame

Here will be defined, some important terms that are shown in the development of this research, the development of this point seeks to show various points conceptual view, this in order to provoke the reader a better partnership concept versus research work described.

- FOREING POLICY

Foreign policy is freely handled by each country in the way that creates more convenient and can provide better results. In the case of Latin American countries, the share of foreign policy is focused on the objectives and capabilities with these countries to the international environment. In addition, foreign policy is based on the ability to respond to situations arising in the international arena and who are not part of the basic objectives of action in the country before the international community, which makes foreign policy becomes a game in which the most powerful can, in many cases, control the actions of the weakest countries in competing in international issues and global. (Banco de la República, 2015)

According to the above definition of the Republic Banc, one could say then that foreign policy is different for each country, it must be interpreted and handled according to the convenience of each state, ie, foreign policy has no guiding principle but retains some goals in common with other countries, but that in turn make it stronger in politics against the international community.

“Foreign policy can already be defined as the set of actions of a State in its relations with other entities that also act on the international scene in order, in principle, to promote the national interest.” (Reinolds, 1977)

With this definition of the journal Tecnos in his article An Introduction to International Relations can say that foreign policy has as its principle the national interest, but acting in the international arena not only with other states but also with entities operating in the international scene.

According to the above definitions, foreign policy then can be defined as a series of activities designed and managed independently between countries, so it seeks to achieve the best benefits to an end they have in common members of society. Due to the global

economic and trade interdependence foreign policy should seek consistency with other policies in other countries. At the same time. Foreign policy is made by both internal and external factors.

- INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

"International cooperation is the relationship established between two or more countries, agencies and organizations of civil society, with the aim of achieving development goals consensual" (Red Argentina para la Cooperación Internacional, 2011)

It was understood that international cooperation is the synergy of two or more bodies are governments or non-governmental entities called to meet or supporting issues as rough as politics, economy, international relations or problems of society in general.

"International cooperation is understood as being creative interaction states, promoting dialogue and rapprochement to solve common problems from understanding and not confrontation. The achievement of international cooperation in the political sphere has resulted in the strengthening of peace and international security, as well as a coordinated approach to problems facing the international community". (Pérez Bravo, 1998)

According to this definition of Alfredo Perez Bravo, international cooperation is an interaction between states and defined according to the convenience of both in order to solve common problems through communication and not confrontation between the countries involved.

International cooperation could then be defined as a fundamental component of international relations, being a means of solidarity among countries and mutual approach. It also is an effective element to complement the efforts of countries, providing greater solutions to the problems and needs of developing countries and those who have problems and shortcomings of other nations being equality, mutual interest, effectiveness and components co fundamental international cooperation.

- DIPLOMACY

“It is that executing activity of the foreign policy of a subject of international law, carried out by bodies and duly representative of the same people, to one or more other subjects of international law, through negotiation, to achieve, maintain or strengthen transactionally the peace; must take ultimate purpose to permit with such means, construction or existence of a just international community, through the cooperation enables the full development of peoples.” (Rodriguez Carrion, 1987)

This definition then shows diplomacy as an activity that takes place between two individuals or bodies representing different societies, framed in international law and to promote the smooth development of peoples through cooperation and good understanding.

"Diplomacy is handling international relations, science of relations between the various states, how to specify a particular international policy. Either way it is defined, diplomacy implies the idea of relations between states with the international community to negotiate and guide the interests of their governments in their life of relationship." (Jara Roncati, 1989)

This definition of Eduardo Jara Roncati. It suggests that diplomacy is a science that exists between two states that interact to build a policy, which goes hand in hand with the international community defending its national interests.

It can define then that diplomacy is a set of formalities and procedures that countries use to interact with each other and maintain a political balance in all areas comprising a society such as sovereignty, trade relations, and international cooperation among others.

- INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

“They are voluntary associations of states established by international agreement, provided with permanent own independent bodies responsible for managing some interest groups and capable of expressing a legally separate will of its members.” (Velazco, 2003)

As Explained In His article Manuel Velasco International Organizations are groups created at will Then by international agreements That seek the collective interests of Its members but With Different political standards established by ITS members individually.

“Any group or association which extends beyond the borders of a State and adopts a permanent organizational structure” (Calduch, 1991)

According to this little definition we can say that an international organization is an organ that is created to represent a group permanently, and those beyond the borders of member countries.

According to those findings of international organizations, it can be defined then these are associations which countries are in the ability to always belong to submit to the rules and provisions thereof, these in turn must be in the ability to perform functions properly that led to its creation.

- **ÁRAB SPRING**

“The Arab Spring is the name that media attention has been identified series of demonstrations of popular and political nature that occurred in the Arab region mainly since early 2011 and led to the fall of the dictatorships of Ben Ali in Tunisia and Hosni Mubarak in Egypt, the strengthening of violence in Yemen and civil war in Libya. Some international analysts have found points of similarity between the Arab Spring and the anticrisis demonstrations in Europe, Asia and the United States. ” (Amin, 2011)

The Arab Spring is understood then a set of manifestations of popular character that occurred in the Middle East and transcended until the overthrow of mandates. also he brought major changes to the region and its effects spread to America and Europe.

“According Olagaray, 2011, it could be defined as the set of Arab Spring violent political and social changes that began to take shape in Tunisia and Egypt and then spread to the rest of the countries of the regions of the Maghreb and Mashreq.”

This definition implies Federico Olagaray the Arab Spring as violent transitions of society in the political situation of their countries that took place in some countries and expanded to the rest of the region that forms the Arab community.

So then, we can define the Arab Spring as a set of social protests from some Middle East countries that evolved by spreading protests through social networks. These protests were aimed at the repeal of mandates of the countries concerned and changes in the political, economic and social instability that appeared there.

- **TEORICAL FRAMEWORK**

In this part of work some theoretical assumptions about the issues that this research is part, such as war and politics, foreign policy, economy and trade diversification from this chapter show how are you theories have effects on development was cited research work.

2.1.1 Postulate Theorist About war- Policy

Carl Schmitt in his theory called Limits and potential of the Partisan analyzes the classic link between war and politics from conceptualizations put forward by Carl Schmitt. In this sense, the categories "friend or foe" and "Partisan" are extremely relevant since it seeks to delve into the limitations and scope of the interpretation of the author. To do this, reflection proposal examines the current characteristics of armed conflict and the role of the State, emphasizing the characteristics of non-state combatants in recent decades particularities.(Laleff Ilieff, 2005)

It has become famous conceptualizing Schmitt about logic "friend-enemy" as characteristic of politics. Indeed, it is presented as one of the few concepts that the mere fact of its pronunciation seems to contain in itself the explanation of its meaning. However, unsuspecting eyes, their use may lead to an underestimation if it is not surrounded by other analytical elements to consider. In this sense, is not the clarity and rawness with exposing Schmitt unfailing fact of domination in political life, either implicit naturalness that involves the act of demarcation of clusters or violence per se of social life as distinguishes his reflections of Max Weber or Karl Marx himself, but its originality resides in arguing that the decisive political moment is war.(Laleff Ilieff, 2005)

the "end" of life in society-death confrontation between the men, constitutes the core of the political dynamic, which is why Sabrina Gonzalez Atilio Boron and argue that Schmitt's work "political time seems to stop and suspended indefinitely at the time of emergency "13. However, marginalization of the exemption is temporary infrequency of crystallization, not its constituent bases. Therefore, the war has little to do with a state of anomaly or an act of irrationality that alters the "right" development of society, but is interwoven with the very substance of politics. (Laleff Ilieff, 2005)

Another concept that talks about the War is Won Karl Clausewitz in his Principles of war and that helps us build a better idea about what is the conflict between two resistors.

War is nothing but a duel on a wider scale. If we conceive as a unit the countless duels that integrate waste, we could represent it as two fighters, each of which tries to impose its will on the other by means of physical force; his next goal is to bring down the opponent and incapacitate him so he can not continue his resistance. War is thus an act of force carried out to force the opponent to obey our will. Force, to face the force, uses the creations of art and science. these restrictions insignificant, hardly worth mentioning, which are imposed by themselves under the name of international law uses accompanying but not really weaken its power. Force, ie, physical strength (because there is no moral force outside the concepts of law and State) and is the means; impose our will on the enemy is the goal. To be sure to reach this goal we need to disarm the enemy, and that disarmament is, by definition, the specific purpose of military action: replaces the target and in some sense ignores it as if not part of the war itself. (Clausewitz, 2002)

2.2.2 Foreign Policy Postulate.

The neoclassical realism is a realistic alternative that combines domestic and international variables variables. 'Its adherents argue that the approach and ambitions of foreign policy of a country are explained above all by its place in the international system and in particular its material capabilities relative. This explains why they are realistic. Further, they argue, however, that the impact of these capabilities power in foreign policy is indirect and complex, because the systemic pressures must be translated through intervening variables at unit level. This explains why they are neoclassic other words, the material capabilities set foreign policy, but decisions always fall into the hands of agents with different perceptions of the situation and therefore there is no linear and direct relationship between skills and behaviors external. Second, decision makers can not always go in the direction of your choice. Decision-making structures, the resources they have and the relationship with society at large may limit the margins of external action based on criteria that are not necessarily built taking into account the international environment. These two observations suggest, then, that two countries located relatively similarly in the international system but with different perceptions and different state structures 18 may behave in different ways. This means substantially to understand the link between distribution capabilities and action, it is necessary to understand the context within which foreign policy is built.(Rose, 1998)

Another theoretical framework in which this research to the understanding of foreign policy is based is that of Morgenthau in 1948.

Morgenthau in his political theory among nations published in 1948 proposed foreign policy as the struggle for power, maximizing the use of power is what provides a common denominator in international politics of some states from other points of view should have characteristics and pursue different interests. The reduction in international politics to the use of this common denominator is justified to the extent considered that all other interests of the various national societies are subordinated to their need or obsession survival. Thus in the national interest, which can be broken in many ways according to the specific interests of various segments of national societies, is identified with this concept, and with the power regarded as the ultimate means to achieve certain objectives, It becomes the fundamental purpose of state action.

Morgenthau points to the autonomy of the political sphere of the other variables involved in international social life. In short, foreign policy seeks to either maintain power, increase or prove.(Tomassini, 1990)

2.2.3 Postulated Commercial Economic

Paul Krugman set up his theory "New Economic Geography" in 1979 based on the concept of "economies of scale" by which a higher production volumes, lower costs, facilitate the supply of products, benefiting consumers. The integration of those approaches concluded in the formulation of specialization and large-scale production at low cost and diversified offer” (Sánchez Mayorga & Martínez Aldana, 2008).

In addition to these aspects, Krugman understood that international trade in reality was not only "inter", as reflected in the traditional theory, but countries also conduct exchanges of goods and services for the same industries, which is called intra- industry . For Krugman, in practice, almost half world trade is trade among industrial countries is relatively similar in their relative factor endowments. (Sánchez Mayorga & Martínez Aldana, 2008)

This theory led Krugman to make new proposals on "economic geography", focused on the supply side, to explain the sources of economic growth in a regional context, and to analyze the results obtained from the integration of regions international trade on the structure of economic activities.(Sánchez Mayorga & Martínez Aldana, 2008).

It is also considered, for the understanding of the economic and commercial factors between Colombia and the Middle East are some of the principles of Adam Smith in his work the wealth of nations (1776) in his chapter on mercantile system.

In the event, therefore, established as certain principles: that wealth is the "gold and silver" and that these metals can be introduced into countries without mines the only way the balance of trade, or extracting greater value than is introduced, the great object of political economy must be to reduce as much as possible the importation of foreign goods for domestic consumption and increase, where possible, the export of the product of the domestic industry. The two great means to enrich a country could not be other than import restrictions and export promotion. Export is encouraged, sometimes with duty drawback, and others, with premiums for export. Also through .ventajosos trade treaties with foreign states, and by establishing colonies in distant countries. Export premiums are granted to promote new manufacturing or any other kind of industry that is deemed worthy of favor. Through advantageous trade agreements seeks a foreign country to get some privileges for merchants and goods own, in addition to those that nation gives to other countries. In the colonies established in distant countries, not only is to enjoy special privileges, but generally an absolute monopoly for effects and traders. (Smith, 1776)

3. FINDINGS

In the next chapter the development of the objectives that will be divided into chapters in order to segment the development work was done, and that this is more understandable to the reader. The development of each chapter take into account the variables set forth in the method and methodology under which this work is development.

3.1 Origin nd Cause of the Conflict

Then the factors and causes of conflict in the protests in the Middle East, known as Arab Spring was related. Thus the objective number 1 raised in this research are addressed and thus be giving way to an understanding of it

Conflicts in the Arab countries are as old as are its states, the first armed conflict that occurred in 1948 for the independence of the state of Israel genre conflict between countries such as Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan that brought consequences for countries involved as the seizure of parts of the Gaza Strip, Palestinian Arab disappearance, the consolidation of the new state of Israel, the Arab nationalist movement among others. Later the Suez Canal crisis in 1956 I political and social implications tube between countries like France, Egypt, Israel, and Britain. After 1967 the war of the six days between Egypt, Syria and Jordan and finally the 1982 Lebanon war between Lebanon, Israel and Syria.

The phenomenon known as Arab Spring which occurred mainly during the period from 2011 to the end of 2012 and from a transversal perspective the events and situations that occurred in the countries concerned will be presented in the development of this research.

These situations and events are presented in one form or another in different parts of the region and likewise at different times. After the first half of 2011, different circumstances began to make more visible in the eyes of the world since the riots began to be quite unpredictable. Some time ago, you could clearly see the structures of social nonconformity that later gave way to protests; That is, society could premeditate possible differences

between the people and governments since factors such as immobility of wealth, level of average income, concentration of power, overcoming stigmas and social changes.

One could say that the riots have occurred in a chain reaction or domino effect species. Returning to the imprevisibility of the Arab Spring, it is worth noting that no one predicted a social phenomenon as it is, neither the opponents nor Protestants themselves much less affected regimes. The second phenomenon is visible in the eyes of observers is the need for people to get access to decision-making that affected them as they all sought a degree of political participation at least in some respects. Also, a more transparent democracy, food and better conditions for life are demanded.

According to Joan Linio, a psychologist at the University of Barcelona these mobilizations and social movements were basically urban, made up of discontented people, where women's activism stands and where for the first time in this region social networks become the main organizer medium and transmitter complaints and subsequent protests.

Table 4 presents a summary of the political situation in the countries involved in the Arab Spring.

Table 4. Political situation of the countries involved at the beginning of the Arab Spring 2011

Dictatorships ouster	Egypt, Túnica
Governments introducing changes	Algeria, Morocco, Jordan, Oman and Saudi Arabia
Countries that use repression	Yemen, Siria, Bahreín
Countries Civil War	Libya

Source: Prepared based on the Arab Spring in transition: Joan Linio

Paradoxically the above situations may have suffered in all or several countries simultaneously, or at least have approaches to these circumstances and all passed through similar periods in the process. A timely case to mention is Libya, which transition from civil war to overthrow the dictator. Or in the case Syria, presented a full public damming to a full civil war.

Most military regimes are often characterized by two facts. The first attempt to "politicize" their citizenship, and the second a difficulty to implement a system of relations between the state and society. This separation of spheres can quite easily degenerate into a repressive state action, which is usually an important factor in the success or failure of democratic transitions. Thus, the role of the army is fundamental in three basic aspects:(Garreton, 1996)

1. Invite or not the old political regime to abandon power and / or country.
2. Ensure a transition process towards democracy.
3. Facilitate full surrender of the armed forces to civilian authority.(Garreton, 1996)

An old player in these processes is the army, its support for the old regime or not is the big difference to the way society in these processes of change as it is to consider the weight of the army in relation to countries West because they are considered an important interlocutor with the difficulties of conversation with Islamic states.

The role of the army has been instrumental in the protests this region. In the case of Tunisia, it was crucial for a democratic transition is achieved and allowed the approach of citizens to the polls, because in this period the non-interventionist army allowed the recession seafista violence in this country. In the case of Egypt, the army played an important role in the departure of the old regime from power, unlike Tunisian army this plays a role that entailed an economic weight unprecedented, as though it was a relatively small force that was estimated to 2011 in approximately 35,000 members this represented approximately 35% - 40% of GDP and playing different roles for the population.

In any of the cases mentioned briefly, lifting citizens came by multiple both political, economic, and political conflicts in these countries factors. Historically the loss of 3 wars were filed with the state of Israel, which subsequently impacted more social oppression as people began to come under peace agreements and cooperation mainly with the United States and some European countries. Thus many of these countries began a seizure of mainly oil resources, also other mineral resources representing potential economic benefits. Similarly United States to promote and maintain this situation strategically held power old leaders of this region.

The gerontocracies became more evident in recent years, leading to many job tenure and archaic policies and in large numbers, countries with heads of state patients by age unable to govern properly were the perfect setting for these social revolts. Several of these leaders or heads of state mostly with almost monarchical government systems affected by the riots were trying to put in command of their own descendants, sometimes in important positions in the state apparatus. It was fact that virtually no popular election or appointment of the people opinion. Politically to these countries each succession of power generated large demonstrations by the opposition of the people that was increasingly defined situations how are you affected countries like Egypt and Tunisia, to a lesser extent other as Serbia, Libya, Algeria and Turkey.

For the particular case of Syria, politically secular country where various religious inclinations coexist. Since 1963 defined the country as a democratic, popular and socialist republic in its constitution based on the ancient Arab socialism, where the president to take the mandate religion should necessarily be a Muslim to rule for periods of 7 years. Therefore the riots in this country is not given only demanding greater democracy or other benefits as was the case of its neighbors, but also by the imposition of an Islamic government clearly anti-imperialist and with great benefits and aid to Palestinians and Iraqis expelled its mainly supported by the government of Bashar al-Assad countries.

Libya for its part, historically anarchist country with its lack of a state or institutions of any gender in power had its leader Muammar Gaddafi. This who was in power for over 40 years and instructed to keep out all internal thinking individual institutions. Likewise, organizations and foreign countries trying to make a difference for this country until its fall in 2011. But this has not changed the situation for the better since this had until Gaddafi regime with longer life expectancy countries north Africa and the most significant income per capita thanks to oil revenues, now the only trade in the Arab region is that of arms.

In Yemen, despite government promises under the regime of Ali Abdullah Saleh, little or no apparent change was noticeable. Peaceful protests by the people were overshadowed violently by the government although the intention of the company was always peaceful that were characterized by a pink ribbon that were carrying protesters and their demands

were not greater act for which the demonstrations spread one year later it has begun. After the overthrow of President of Tunisia, strong protests step occurred in southern Yemen because of corruption and economic poverty that became more notorious for this time, in addition to this country to be the poorest in the region Arabic became a refuge for Islamist militants. This added to the nonconformity of the population by poor policies that would prevent Saleh and his son remain in power indefinitely.

It is concluded that the main causes and factors of the Arab Spring are different depending on the country to observe, because although the factors in many cases coincide on factors such as anti-democracy, anarchy, lack of development, poor people's participation in politics and aristocracies how much each country with its own internal factors that triggered domestic protests.

3.1.2 Foreign Policy: the Middle East and its relationship with Colombia.

This section of work will be announced the foreign policies of some of the participating countries of the Arab Spring, as well as bilateral and political relations with Colombia, thus the objective No. 2 posed by this research be addressed.

Middle East is a region with a system that is strategically important to the rest of the world, its geostrategic relevance for global policy is very clear, as it dominates the north and east Mediterranean coast. For decades it has been important for the major world powers, as it is believed to be an important platform for economic and military political power.

The Middle East, politically, is the least democratic region of the world excluding countries such as Turkey, Israel and Palestine lesser extent and Lebanon. Until now no Middle Eastern country has a democratic politics that has a pluralistic and liberal model, none of the countries has established a democratic medium. By contrast, the anti-democratic character has been used for strategic purposes victimization to intervene in the region, either with the excuse to bring order and democracy or for systemic reasons.

In the Middle East there is the presence of institutions that connect with the rest of the world, these institutions have a certain degree of influence in shaping regional policy. These international structures are of great importance in locating the Middle East in world politics, since each of them has different inclinations and priorities. This shows that the Middle East is not just one unit but also has several power centers such as the Organization of the Islamic Conference OIC, Arab League, the Gulf Cooperation Council among others.

Syria and its Foreign Policy and Bilateral Relations

Historically, Syria following opposition from the intervention of the United States in Iraq (2003) This began a period of international ostracism and joined the international pressure on Syria served to justify the political stagnation in the domestic sphere (democratization, rule of law and respect for human rights by Syrian citizens and the international community.

By 2008, the situation was gradually changing to Syria after the change of power of President George Bush in the United States and the beginning of the term in France Nicolas Sarkozy, they were made that facilitated the assumption by most states a policy more aimed to engage Syria in politics to achieve stability in the Middle East.

In July (2008) Syria participated actively in the Doha agreements to normalize the situation in Lebanon, President Bashar al-Assad pledged to normalize relations with this country by appointing ambassadors, border demarcation, etc. On 15 October of that year, President Assad signed a decree establishing diplomatic relations with Lebanon. Relations improved to the point that both governments initiated a process of mutual rapprochement.

An objection in the country since March 2011 and the great repression have led Syria to first place on the international stage, both the Arab League and other international organizations to which it belongs, leading it to be virtually isolated.

Regarding bilateral relations, since the beginning of the riots in Syria, the hitherto good Syrian relations have had a significant setback as because of the strong repression by the regime to the citizens' protests since 2011. Since date many of the ambassadors and

consulates in Syria have chosen to retire for safety reasons and this has generated a reverse or slow in bilateral relations with the rest of the world.

The Case Of Egypt And the Close Up To Colombia.

Colombia's bilateral relations with the countries of the Middle East are not new, but belong to the group of so-called "non-traditional countries" if they have had approaches from more than 50 years with some of the Overseas countries of the region. To this can bring up the opening of the embassy in Egypt Colombia in 1957 promoted by the governments of General Rojas Pinilla and the then Egyptian President Gamel Abdel Nasser. Subsequently an agreement cultural agreement between the two nations by then ambassador to Colombia in this country Edmundo Castilian, also was signed in 1960 during the 80s and 90s the two countries maintained international cooperation agreements that helped to strengthen political relations .

This situation will not change much in the first decade of the century, as Colombia has positioned itself as a strategic country in the introduction of America in the Middle East and Egypt has been a key country in this process, only a few years ago, more precisely in 2012 then the difficult situation that happened Egypt, Colombia signed a memorandum of understanding with this country in the framework of the first political consultations Bilateral finally in April 2015 Chancellor Maria Angela Holguin and Minister of Egypt for Affairs Americas and the Organization of American States, Ambassador Mohamed Farid Mounib, signed the agreement for mutual visa exemption for holders of diplomatic, official / special or service passports and cooperation agreement in the field of tourism.

With exact relationship to the phenomenon known as Arab Spring both Colombia he expressed its full support to the democratic transition process in Egypt, and their desire for the Egyptian government to complete successfully negotiating points. At the same time, he condemned the terrorist acts that have suffered Egypt, affirming its solidarity with the Government and the Egyptian people.

It can be said then that relations between Colombia and Egypt have not changed much since its inception, because Colombia has always shown a general interest in strengthening their understanding with this nation.

Libya's delicate relations with the Arab Community

Libya is located in a particularly sensitive area within the international arena, where some delicate dynamics. Since 1969 Libya's foreign policy was adapted to the demands imposed major changes in the international environment throughout history. Libya has played a strong role in clarifying the balance of the Mediterranean region despite years of isolation by Western powers and have recently completed, in addition to calls to Arab unity and, more recently, aspirations African unity.

Meanwhile, Diplomatic relations between Egypt and Libya have been to say good. The two countries share common interests and problems. These are included to ensure the stability of Sudan peace process in which Libya I was involved directly, the latter on October 27 hosted meetings on the dramatic situation in the region. Problems entity in which the two countries share are the strong fight against terrorism. These countries support Western countries in the fight against terrorist organizations, which is always Egypt.

Furthermore, and given the close historical relations that unite Libya with Syria, Libya's relations with this country is more or less the same. Both maintain close relations with States belonging to the Arab League, despite tensions, especially with Egypt. The biggest motivation is usually the voltage of the Palestinian situation and clashes with the State of Israel, whose changes have affected the balance of the area.

It should also take into account the relations between Libya and Turkey. Turkey is one of the states holding close relations with Europe and Western countries. Libya maintains trade relations with these regions and has not undergone major confrontations.

Tunisia Change.

After the overthrow of Ben Ali in January 2011, after a month of protests against the regime harshly repressed, it was given to a regime that was becoming increasingly authoritarian, irreverent and corrupt. Shortly after he took office as President Foued Mebazaa, calling for a break with the previous regime.

Due to its geographical location, Tunisia's priority in its foreign policy relations in the Maghreb and the Mediterranean. This in turn actively participates in the summit of the Arab League, this also shows a great interest in participation with the European Union and also in the consolidation of the Maghreb Union. It is also part of the Agadir Agreement together with Egypt, Morocco and Jordan. Whose main objective is the formation of a free trade zone between countries that adhere to the agreement. Their interactions with the European Union move towards the Association Agreement signed in 1995, in 2008 Tunisia expressed its strong desire to deepen its relations with the European Union following the framework of an advanced stage.

The foreign policy of Tunisia is still being defined, fitting it to the processes of the revolution that took place in 2011, it can thus affirm the existence of a coherent diplomatic action in Tunisia with friendly countries and allies, who are seeks political support in the process of change. It is clear that Tunisia maintains bilateral relations with the international community will continue to improve the new framework of the democratic state is now Tunisia.

Tunisia is a political and commercial partner of paramount importance to Spain, and between them have a good diplomatic understanding. There is an obvious need by both improve and deepen relations at all levels in this new phase of democratic transition. A Cooperation Treaty signed in 1995 and ratified in 1996), was the first to Tunisia signed with one of the countries of the European Union. He provided good knowledge and wealth and remain a good factor of geographical proximity and harmony of strategic interests.

The Relations With Colombia

After having taken a small step in politics and bilateral relations of some of the countries that formed the Arab Spring will give a brief summary of how they were these same relations with Colombia.

In general historical political relations of Colombia with the countries of the Middle East have been few, since for several governments Colombia has maintained a posture purely neutral observer and interest has always been to enter the market, which has changed in the last two governments, as Colombia has shown strong positions against the internal conflict of these countries based on their internal policies on the armed conflict.

Colombia has had strong cooperative relationships with countries like Egypt, Syria lesser extent Libya, and, and Turkey. Cooperations that have transcended the progress of the protests of the Arab region. As for Colombia maintain economic and trade relations is fundamental in the process of globalization.

Potentially, Libya and Egypt represent a potential ally in strengthening and entrance to bilateral relations with the Middle East, for many years, these two countries have shown themselves open to the possibilities with the countries of Latin America mainly with Brazil , Argentina and Venezuela. This fact has strengthened in recent Colombian governments that relations with these countries can last over time and open a path to the other countries of the region.

For Colombia, the current situation in the Middle East is a matter of utmost importance and in this regard has supported the initiative of lasting peace in the region through dialogue and direct interaction. In this respect, President Juan Manuel Santos held a meeting with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas to discuss possible policy introductions cooperation with this country.

Likewise, Colombia was visited by a Head of State of Qatar, the first since the establishment of diplomatic relations in May (1995). During the visit an agreement on air transport for both countries signed; a Memorandum of Understanding on Investment;

Likewise an agreement between chambers of commerce Confecamaras and the Chamber of Commerce of Qatar; and a Memorandum of Understanding in the field of sport, the Colombian Olympic Committee and the Olympic Committee of Qatar.

This visit was a milestone because it demonstrates the growing interest of the Gulf countries in developing investment projects in Latin America

"Today the government of President Juan Manuel Santos, Colombia took the decision to position itself in the global dynamics with non-traditional partners. That is, strengthen or establish relations with countries and regions with which traditionally ties had not been close. The management of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs -in head of the Chancellor Maria Angela Holguín in 2013 in Africa, Central Asia and the Middle East, is proof of that. " (Cancilleria de Colombia, 2013)

"As the Middle East is concerned, in June 2013 the President Santos made a state visit to Israel, which helped to strengthen relations of friendship and boost cooperation in innovation and entrepreneurship, an issue on which Israel has been recognized as a global leader in innovation, creativity, competitiveness and entrepreneurship. "

"Accompanied by Foreign Minister Holguin, President Santos met with Simon Perez, Benjamin Netanyahu, with Justice Minister Tzipi Livni Negotiator Principal in peace talks between Israel and the Palestinian Authority), the spokesman of parliament (Knesset) Yuli Yoel Edelstein, Minister of Defense Moshe Ya'lon, President of the Israel Space Agency and the National Council for Research and Development, professor Yitzhak Ben Yisrael "(Cancilleria de Colombia, 2013)

Although the state of Israel is not involved in the revolts of the Arab Spring, this can give us a brief summary of the efforts of Colombia to interact with the Middle East.

Trade relations between Colombia and the Middle East, have good behavior is reflected in the figures for exports, but these relationships have not been consistent and have not established formal bilateral agreements between nations due to various factors They make very volatile and unstable relationships.

1.3.Economic relationship Commercial Colombia- Middle East:

Here are some factors and trends in the economic and trade relations between Colombia and some countries in the Middle East participate in the Arab Spring stand out. Thus the development of the target number three of this research are addressed.

In the context of globalization, the Middle East and Latin America (Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Venezuela and Chile) have begun to mobilize and influence each other because they have been affected by the same global contexts seeking new possibilities after further development both politically and economically. (Martinez, 2012).

In the economic-commercial dimension, Latin American governments have encouraged South-South cooperation between the two sides for more than ten years. In this area we have predominantly developed relationships with so-called "non-traditional markets" referred to economies of distant foreign countries, which often generate distrust by the players because of the great cultural differences. Although trade relations could be seen as complementary and have potential, their progress has been limited because they have not been a priority nor have thought of each other as important places or as strategic partners. (Martinez, 2012).

Specifically for Colombia, exports to the Middle East are based on commodities and value-added products.

According to (Martinez, 2012), "the order of the major exporting countries are Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Colombia and Chile. As for the main products exported from Latin America you can be found first of all kinds of raw materials such as meat, cereals, oils, sugar. In a second exports of steel and mining sector, such as minerals, and iron and steel products "are detected.

the values of bilateral trade between Colombia and some of the countries in the Middle East participate in the Arab Spring are shown in the table below.

Table 5. Colombia trade balance with the countries of the Middle East in the year 2014

Countries ME	Export	Import	Bilateral Trade	Trade Balance
Egypt	\$2.9 m	\$10.7 m	\$13.6 m	-\$7.7 m
Túncia	\$7.6 m	\$5.5 m	\$13.1 m	\$2.0 m
Libya	\$3.1 m	\$24.4 th	\$3.2 m	\$3.1 m
Algeria	\$11.2 m	\$12.6 th	\$11.2 m	\$11.2 m
Yemen	\$2.8 m	-	-	-
Sirya	\$1.3 m	\$88.3 th	\$1.4 m	\$1.2 m

Source: Made by myself. Data taken from: International Trade Statistics Database comtrade.org.com (data expressed in millions of dollars)

According to Table 5, the main exports of Colombia for 2014 were bound for Algeria with values of 11.2 million dollars, followed by exports to Tunisia and Libya referred mainly exports from Colombia sugar and confectionery, cocoa, fruits, nuts and citrus.

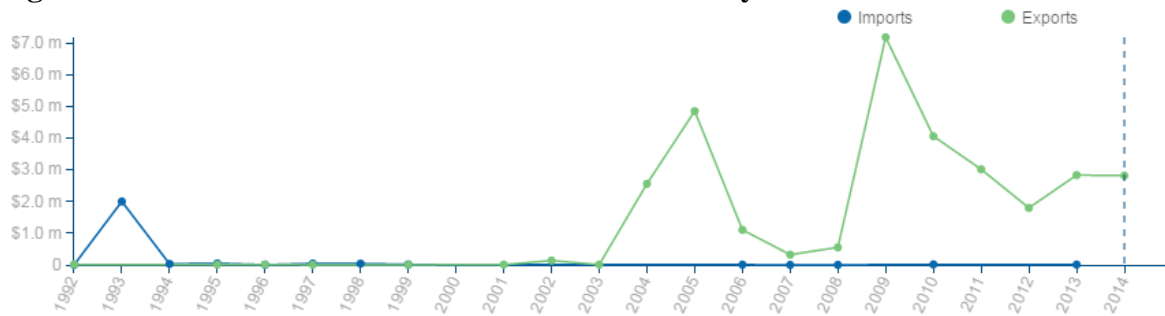
Regarding Colombia imported goods imports mainly from Egypt by values of \$ 10.7 million relating mainly to products such as stone, plaster, cement and lime.

By 2014 the trade balance was positive in all cases to Colombia with respect to Middle Eastern countries analyzed except in Egypt where he presented a negative trade balance.

The Commerce with Yemen

It can be seen that for the year (2014), trade in goods from Colombia to Yemen only reported exports from our country mainly pharmaceutical products, sugar and confectionery This trend has remained since 2004 with some variations as observed in figure 1.

Figure 1. Colombia merchandise trade with Yemen in years 1992 - 2014



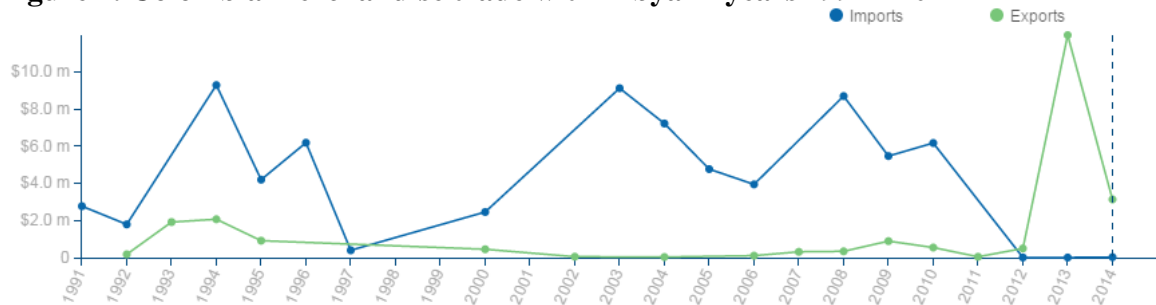
Source: International Trade Statistics Database comtrade.org.com

As shown in the figure above, trade between Yemen and Colombia is practically in one direction, from west to east, as the country's exports to Colombia are virtually nil and consistent trade balance is tilted in favor of Colombia from the early 90s,

Libya and commercial relations with Colombia

Specifically with Libya, Colombia reported trade in goods since 1991, presenting throughout this period a negative trade balance for Colombia, ie imports from Libya were higher than the goods that are exported, this scenario was only modified in the año2013 where they increased significantly exports from Colombia. This phenomenon could be the result of the riots presented during the internal conflict in Libya as part of the Spring Árabe como can be seen in the figure below.

Figure 2. Colombia merchandise trade with Libya in years 1991 - 2014



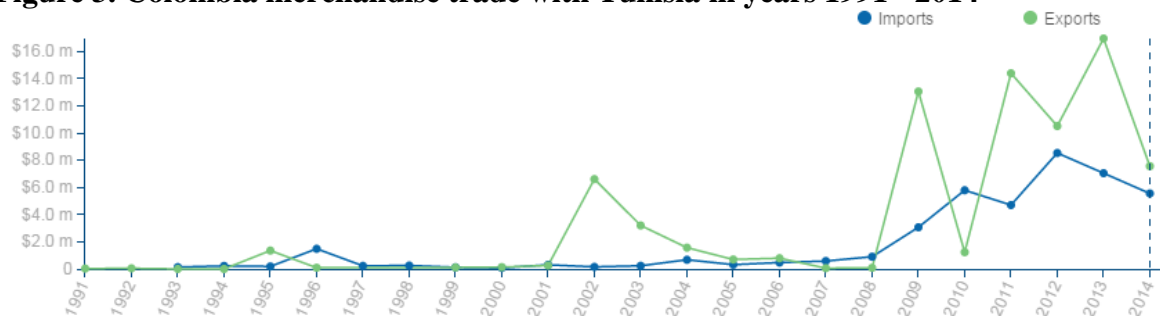
Source: International Trade Statistics Database comtrade.org.com

As shown in the figure above, Colombia's trade relations with Libya have an unfavorable imbalance for the first country since the early 1990. However in 2012 this situation changed and a balance in the trade balance was created through the export sugar and derivatives thereof as well as coffee and pharmaceuticals. In addition to lower demand by Colombia of equipment for the electrical industry.

Dynamics of trade with Tunisia.

In the case of Tunisia, exports from Colombia have been more dynamic presenting positive trade balance in 1995, 2002 and 2009 and from 2011 returned exports from Colombia with a significant increase that continued until 2014 as can be seen in the figure below.

Figure 3. Colombia merchandise trade with Tunisia in years 1991 - 2014



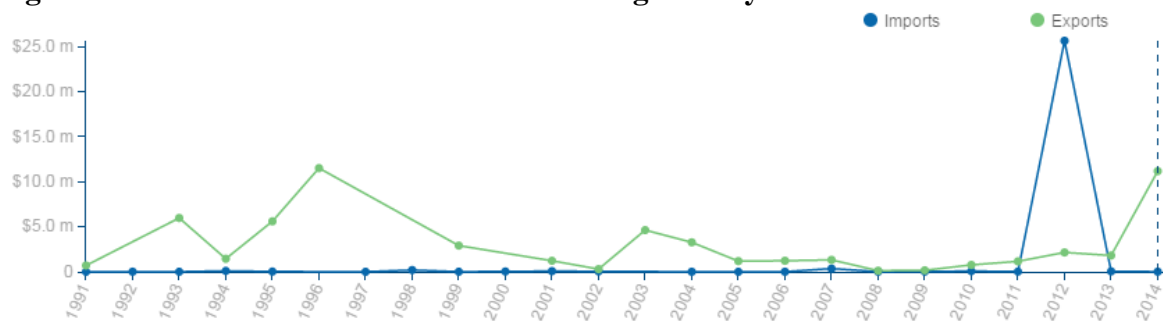
Source: International Trade Statistics Database comtrade.org.com

As shown in the figure above, Colombia's trade relations with Tunisia have been more dynamic and stable, trading between inorganic chemicals, precious metal compounds, garments, accessories, machinery among others. From 2008 Colombia showed a significant increase in the trade balance between both countries rise, this possibly because increased imports by Tunisia of agricultural products.

The Commerce With Argelia

In the case of trade relations between Colombia and Algeria, trade in goods shows many variations in exports from Colombia to Algeria from 1991 to 2008, presenting a positive trade balance for Colombia. In the years 2008, 2009 and 2010, exports fell to zero and returned again moderately in 2011-2014 as shown in Figure 4. With regard to imports from Algeria to Colombia can be seen that were null until 2012 which mainly imports mineral oils and distillation products are reported.

Figure 4. Colombia merchandise trade with Algeria in years 1991 – 2014



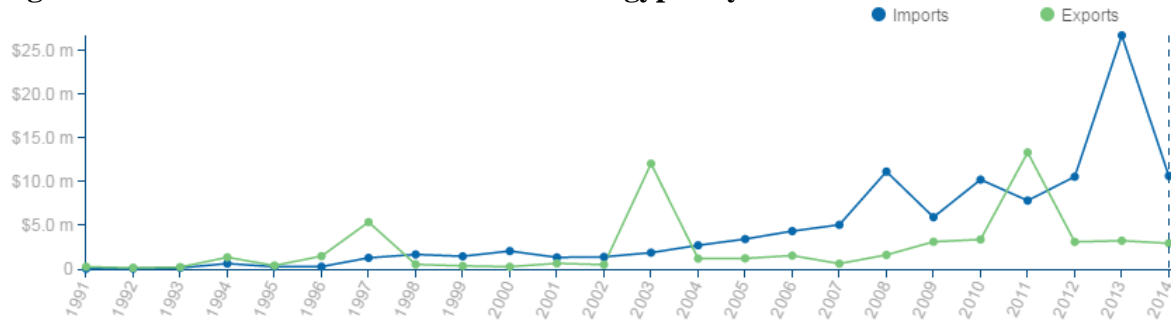
Source: International Trade Statistics Database comtrade.org.com

In the previous figure, shown as trade relations with Algeria they remained in favor of Colombia from 1990 until early 2011, a period for which this region was in protests called Arab Spring. From there, there was a significant increase in imports from Algeria Colombia from this increase, this is likely due to an increase by Colombia in visual and optical instrumentation equipment.

Trade Diversification With Egypt

Trade in goods between Colombia and Egypt has been low, as shown in Figure 6 imports from Egypt show an increase more marked since 2005 until 2014 presented negative trade balance for Colombia in all cases except in the year 2011 where exports from Colombia were higher (mainly carpets and textile floor covering). Exports from Colombia have always been lower than imports generating a negative trade balance for our country except in 1997, 2003 and 2011. In 2011 the main exports were meat and edible offal derived, as seen in the following figure.

Figure 5. Colombia merchandise trade with Egypt in years años 1991 – 2014



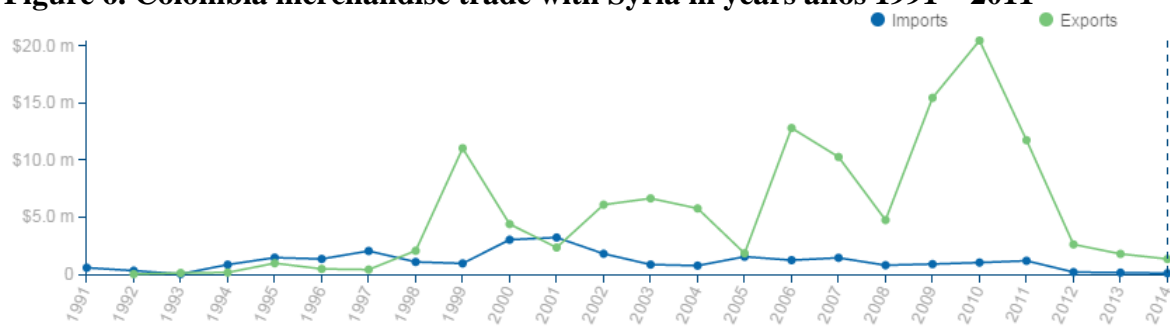
Source: International Trade Statistics Database comtrade.org.com

The figure above shows how trade relations between Colombia and Egypt have been constant and some equally for both countries, as trade between these two countries has shown a favorable trade balance for Egypt, but still trade has been equitable in terms of revenue for the two nations.

Trade with Syria

Finally you can see in Figure 6 that trade relations of Colombia with Syria have been favorable for Colombia presented for several years trade balance positive for our Country from 1999 to 2014 (except 2001 and 2005) with a peak marked export in 2010 mainly sugar and confectionery. This favorable commercial behavior decreased significantly since 2012 and has not increased significantly, possibly as a result of the conflict presented during the Arab Spring where trade relations could go into recess until normalize the situation in the Middle East, as these countries and Colombia have never been treated as priority partners in trade.

Figure 6. Colombia merchandise trade with Syria in years años 1991 – 2011



Source: International Trade Statistics Database comtrade.org.com

As can be seen in the figure above, for Colombia Syria has represented a potential market for the domestic industry as it is a country that has held since the 2000s high levels of imported products from Colombia, such as sugar and derivatives thereof, coffee and pharmaceuticals.

In conclusion we can say that trade relations between Colombia and the Middle East have been constant despite being countries of non-traditional markets, it can be seen that with the countries with which Colombia has had trade relations, Spring Árabe has greatly affected trade between the two regions, although its growth relative to other years can not be the same as these have not diminished by the passing of the riots.

One of the factors that has influenced in recent years the market diversification of Colombia with countries in the Middle East are the free trade agreements with other countries and the signing of international agreements on trade cooperation as MERCOSUR has opened the doors to several countries. Since the MERCOSUR agreement is a tool to strengthen the capacities of each of the States Parties and contributes to deepening the process of regional integration, this integration has allowed several Middle Eastern countries expand their business vision and include Colombia as one of the countries of marketing. }

According to (Martinez, 2012), among the agreements signed are:

- The Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between MERCOSUR and Israel in 2007, after having signed in 2005 a Framework Agreement on Trade; This agreement is the first FTA signed with an extra-regional partner which is in force.
- The FTA between MERCOSUR and Egypt in 2010, which stands as the "first commercial understanding of the block with a country in the Arab world" 23. It is pending its implementation.
- Framework Agreement between MERCOSUR and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) signed in the framework of the first ASPA Summit, preceding the signing of a treaty of tariff preferences step.
- Interest negotiations: with the Palestinian National Authority (it has reached an agreement) with the Syrian Arab Republic.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

4.1 Conclusions:

Trade in goods from Colombia to countries in the Middle East has remained low but favorable for Colombia (positive trade balance) levels. From 2000 a more favorable business dynamics for Colombia with Yemen, Tunisia, Algeria and Syria and less favorable with Libya and Egypt observed. However, focusing on the period of the Arab Spring, (after 2011), despite remaining marketing, exports to these countries declined and showed an increase in specific years (Example: Colombia increased exports to Libya in 2013 and to Algeria in 2012), but the levels of marketing do not remain in time, indicating that these market values are due to facts or specific needs of countries in the Middle East and not a business relationship strengthened with Colombia for several years.

Another conclusion reached in the development of this research is the fact that Colombia has not been greatly affected politically following the course of social protests in the Middle East, as Colombia has maintained a neutral stance to the political difficulties of these countries, therefore although the progress of bilateral relations and political matters have not advanced much either have deteriorated.

The consequences that could have brought the Arab Spring in bilateral relations between Colombia and the Middle East, are in themselves, the little progression in politics that was brought before this social phenomenon and a lower export development to this region of the world ie, these relationships have introduced lower rate of progress by the constant changes in political and economic leadership of these countries after the overthrows and change of political systems in the region, which in one way or another slowed down or restructured the process .

Some of the effects of the Arab Spring that although they were for the rest of the world, affected directly and Colombia are high international oil prices and oil prices. This was due to the heavy dependence of many countries on oil production in the area and their impact on the global economy. From the above it can be concluded that many social factors have been affected, as the high cost of oil leads to a series of changes in everyday

life, ie the products of regular use petroleum increased their prices, also the cost of transportation and all activities that require this to function.

4.2. Recomendations:

There are few reliable sources of information on the causes and consequences of the Arab Spring specifically with Colombia, so it is recommended that work on the issue are detailed and specific issues are published to keep updated information.

For Colombia would be interesting to diversify the products that are currently exporting to Middle Eastern countries through optimization and transformation of agricultural raw materials that generate added value in order to increase the market with differentiated products and overcome the classic export model raw Materials.

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