

Regional Security Complex

مركب الأمن الإقليمي

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Abstract:

The Security issues with its different levels have been multiplied in response to the evolution and development of societies. Thus, we can see huge multiplicity and diversity to theorise these issues. The regional security complex is one of the most important security concepts that the theorists tended to adjust according to the academic standards.

This article is an attempt to answer questions such as : Is related to political units, or the nature of threats? Is the concept of territory limited to the neighbourhood as defined by geopolitics or does it go beyond it?

Key words: Security – Threats - Military Cooperation – Hard / Soft Power- Security Identity.

1- Regional security

In this context, we present multiple concepts of security before presenting a detailed concept of regional security, which defines the interpretation of many security policies.

1-1- Definition of security:

Given the difficulty of security-related tariffs, characterized by dynamic change, depending on time and space conditions. That the Security is subject to the idea of evolution that does not know the stalemate, especially in political studies. For example,

Definition of **Arnold Wolfers**, From an objective point of view, there is no threat to acquired values, From a subjective point of view, there are no concerns that these values may be compromised¹.

The definition of **Charles- Philippe David**, Professor of Political Science at the University of Quebec, Security is the absence of military and non-military threats that may call into question the fundamental values that any person or society wishes to promote or maintain, and which pose a threat to the use of force²

Whereas **Hamed Rabi** Defined it as: a more modern term that has clearly emerged between the two world wars to reflect the policy of a group of States belonging to a single territory seek, through the establishment of military and organizational cooperation for the States of that territory, to prevent any foreign or external power in that territory, The essence of that policy is territorial dependence on one side, the response to extraneous forces over the Territory on the other, and the protection of the situation on the other.³

Definition of **Barry Buzan**, In his study entitled « **People and States and Fear** », through which it seeks to develop a vision that encompasses political, economic, societal and military aspects, expressed from wider international perspectives⁴.

Security in its broad sense encompasses everything that achieves the State's political independence and territorial integrity, and guarantees political, economic and social stability. It includes security in its internal and external dimensions. It is "to ensure that the State and society

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entity are not endangered internally and externally, to secure their interests and to create conditions that are economically and socially appropriate for the achievement of goals and objectives that reflect public satisfaction in society"⁵.

This concept attempted to capture several elements, beginning with the political independence and territorial integrity of the State, while ensuring interests compatible with the State's stability in several aspects, and its inclusiveness in the internal and external spheres.

- Many researchers point out that in the case of security, the debate continues to seek freedom from threat. If this debate is within the framework of the international system, security concerns the ability of States and societies to safeguard their independent identity and practical cohesion⁶. We must therefore strive to find a compatibility between the requirements of national security and the process of building international security. This is not achieved if the foundation of this is based on pillars and theses of a global dimension that ultimately lead to the process of cooperation among those political units.
- Based on this view, integration and integration in regions such as Europe undermines the traditional nation-State-based political system, leaving nations exposed within broader political frameworks such as those of the European Union.

1-2 - Regional Security Complex

- This term explains the concept through the participation of States within the Territory in their endeavour to protect and defend the Territory within the limits of its independent regimes.
- The Regional security refuses to apply the concept without being accompanied by a number of political entities that can describe themselves as States, That is, entities possess legal legitimacy in the international family and belong to a particular territory⁷. Is a concept that depicts the perception of a particular territory of a State to which it belongs of the manner of achieving protection through an agreement between its members, which requires that the State has access to that objective.
- Secondly, it is imperative to provide the means to achieve it. In fact, it is an expression of the policy of a group of States belonging to a single territory that seeks through the establishment of military regulation and cooperation of the States of that territory to prevent any foreign or extraterritorial power from interfering in that territory.
- It should be noted that the concept of regional security emerged in the aftermath of the Second World War, where regional and subregional security bodies and organizations developed, and their emergence was linked to geopolitical factors (continents, surrounding areas of the sea, subregions), history and culture, and a wide range of subjective and objective perceptions⁸.
- Therefore, Barry Bozan and Weaver felt that many of the fundamental characteristics of the States on which the realists relied in analysing international relations and understanding international policy were no longer as important in producing security dynamics⁹. The different power and geographical location are not as specific as the State's weight and influence in building security relations with a regional dimension.

With regard to the objective of seeking a security system to resolve regional disputes between members by peaceful means and methods without any extraterritorial party interfering in a State's relations with one another, which are only through ¹⁰ :

- The gem of protecting the Territory from interventions from outside forces.
- Regional mobilization through which territorial forces are motivated to take their role in protecting the region from any aggression aimed at its stability and sovereignty.
- Tools for achieving this in the removal of problems to the region through the adoption of peaceful methods in the resolution of territorial disputes that, if they exist, are the execution of the intervention of the forces in the Territory's internal affairs. Hence, the necessary force is in a position to identify any attack from outside the Territory.

- The interest of the States of the region to create a regional security system to ensure their safety and stability in order to continue to perform their regional function.
- Take strict action against States that seek to create tension in the territory to invest it for their own benefit or for other extraterritorial States, or that target the territory with military or other aggression.
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2- Concept of the Security Complex

Here we highlight the uses of regional analysis through the security agenda of the post-cold-war world. In particular, we explain the regional security complex by focusing on its relevance in the post-cold-war world. Where the security complex theory was first drawn by Barry Bozan.

Like most other regional theories, Level of analysis between individual units and the international system as a whole. This theory imposes regional subsystems as targets for security analysis, and provides an analytical framework for dealing with them, It focused mainly on the State as a unit, and on the political and military sectors as a major forum for security relations, This framework is designed to highlight the relative independence of regional security relations. Placing them in the context of the unity (State) and levels of the system¹¹, The purpose is to try to provide specialists in this field of knowledge with language and concepts to facilitate comparative studies across regions, which is a marked weakness in the literature that exists before.

On the other hand, it is to compensate for the power theorists' tendency to diminish the importance of the regional level in international security matters, This trend was exacerbated by the emergence of new realism in the late 1970s by the likes (Waltz 1979), which focused almost exclusively on the system-wide power structure. It seems reasonable to expect this bias to be naturally biased with the demise of powerful polar diodes at the system level, and the emergence of a more widespread international power structure¹², The basic logic of the theory is rooted in the fact that all States in the system are intertwined in a global network of security cohesion. But because most political and military threats more easily exceed short distances than long distances. That's why insecurity is often associated with proximity. As most States fear their neighbours more than the powers away from them, the security interdependence on the international system as a whole is far from unified.

-The normal pattern of security cohesion in a geographically diverse, chaotic global system is a group of regional groups, which we call Regional Security Complexes (RSCS). Security interdependence is significantly more acute among countries within this¹³.

According to the traditional definition of the security complex is a group of countries whose ideas and strategies are intertwined by identifying their main security concerns, This definition has been updated to take into account both the formal transformation into the constructive style, and move away from the State-focused assumption⁵:

- Normative definition: a set of units whose main operations are intertwined in security construction, stereotyped, or both, so that their security problems cannot be analysed or solved in isolation¹⁴.
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3- Regional Security Complex Models

The regional security complex model refers to the structures and mechanisms adopted by a group of States in a specific region to ensure collective security and address common challenges. This model integrates defence security with political, economic and environmental security. It also aims to achieve comprehensive cooperation among the States it encompasses and to cooperate in the face of common threats such as terrorism and regional conflicts.

3-1 Security regimes:

Robert Jervis defines it as 'the co-operation of a group of states to manage their disputes and avoid war by suppressing the security dilemma through both their actions and their assumptions about the actions of other states'. Security regimes include a wide range of behavioural rules such as the non-use of force and respect for existing international borders. More explicit legislation can be established for certain types and uses of weapons, or activities such as military movements and transparency. Many regional structures can be seen as security regimes such as the OSCE, and some regional arms control measures such as nuclear-weapon-free zones or the 1990 Treaty on Armed Forces in Europe can also be considered security regimes. The effectiveness of these regimes depends on the extent to which their norms are respected through the degree of incentives and sanctions imposed by their institutions.

3-2 Security groups and the security community:

Karl Deutsch defines a security community as: 'a human group that has become integrated. Integration means the development of a 'sense of community' within a territory and the emergence of institutions and practices that are strong and extensive enough to secure reliable expectations of 'peaceful change' among its inhabitants.' "Sense of community" means the belief that common social problems must and can be solved through processes of 'peaceful change.'¹⁵

A security community is defined as: 'a group of states among which there is a genuine assurance that the members of this community will not engage in physical combat with each other and will settle their differences in some other way.'¹⁶

The concept was developed by **Karl Deutsch** in the 1950s to reflect the long-term goals of making Europe a single security community, starting by eliminating the risk of conflict between the states of the European Community.

Barry Buzan adds the term security complex, which he defines as 'a group of states in which their fundamental security concerns are linked together with each other to a sufficiently close degree that their national security situations cannot realistically be viewed in isolation from each other.'

3-3 Alliances:

- Some definitions focus on the contractual dimension, as an alliance from this perspective is 'a treaty concluded between two or more states in order to repel aggression against one or more of the parties to the treaty'. The Dictionary of Political Science defines it as 'a contractual relationship between two or more states in which the allies pledge mutual assistance in case of war'.¹⁷
- The policy of alliances is an alternative to the policy of isolationism, which rejects any responsibility for the security of other states, and is also distinguished from the policy of collective security, which makes security universal in order to deter aggression and respond to it when necessary.'¹⁸

There are those who drop the contractual dimension to denote certain interactions and relations within the framework of an implicit alliance, or what **John Sullivan** called informal alignment, which he defined as: 'expected behaviours in the relations of two or more states'.¹⁹

Another definition of an alliance emphasises that it is 'a formal or informal relationship of security cooperation between two or more states that includes mutual expectations of some degree of political coordination on security issues under certain circumstances in the future'.²⁰

This is the same meaning used by **Stephen Walt**, to which he later added the pledge of military assistance, which is what **Patric James** focused on when he defined an alliance as 'a formal agreement between two or more states to cooperate in the security and military fields'.

It is an international military treaty concluded between two or more states to create organisations that coordinate and cooperate in the field of defence or organise both defence and attack in the event of aggression, so that the declared objectives are mostly defensive, as offensive alliances take on the character of secrecy).²¹

One of the most accurate and comprehensive definitions is that of **David Edwards**, who defined it as 'a contractual commitment between a number of states, usually directed against a specific state - states - and creates an organisation that works to implement the objectives of the commitment, which is usually characterised by a formal nature, and the existence of a treaty or agreement'.

3-4 International Clustering:

It is the adoption by a number of countries of a common line in the field of politics, defence and trade, and is often directed against another group of countries that are also forced to adopt a common line to confront the first group. It differs from an alliance in terms of:

- a. Degree of selection .
- b- Competences and powers .
- c- The degree of parity in power and ability to influence.

3-5 Coalition :

It is an agreement between a group of states to achieve a specific goal or goals. It is usually an informal relationship, usually in a specific area for a short period of time, and contractual relations do not exist in it, or do not represent an essential element of its existence²².

The coalition differs from the alliance in the following points:

- a - Absence of contractual character.
- b - Limited areas of co-operation.
- c - The emergence and termination of the coalition is linked to the war factor.
- d - Flexibility to join or withdraw from the coalition.

3-6 Strategic co-operation:

It is an international co-operation formula between a bloc or an international alliance, covering the fields of politics, economy and culture, but it is mainly based on military co-operation, which is represented by the following formulas:

- a- Military facilities.
- b- Exchange of strategic and intelligence information.
- c- Holding joint exercises and manoeuvres.
- d- Military support and supply of strategic information and data.
- e- Military presence for a specific period of time on the territories of the countries involved in the strategic cooperation programme.
- f- Establishing strategic warehouses for equipment and heavy weapons in strategic cooperation countries for a limited period of time.
- g - Proxy warfare to achieve the interests of a country or countries involved in the strategic cooperation programme.

Other concepts have also emerged, such as integrated security, which includes all forms of threat and security partnership where countries, including non-Arab countries, are involved.

Mutual security, which is based on avoiding the unilateral tendency of states to maximise their security at the expense of other states, and cooperative security, which refers to the sharing of security burdens to face common threats.

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