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## Structural changes in the contemporary international system and their impact on national security in Kuwait

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### **Abstract**

*The study tackled the impact of changes in the international structural system on Kuwaiti national security. It aims to determine the possibility of achieving security stability in Kuwait in light of the challenges it faces, whether from inside or outside. The author relied on the descriptive analytical approach in addition to some necessary theoretical concepts. The most important results of the study include: changes in the international structural system affect Kuwaiti national security through changing security threats and the escalation of regional conflicts. The global economy affected by the changes could affect the Kuwaiti ability to meet its security and social needs. The most important recommendations are: strengthening the Kuwaiti security capacity by enhancing military, security and intelligence capabilities, as well as investing in sustainable economic development to achieve self-sufficiency and enhance economic stability.*

**Keywords:** national security; structural system; conflicts; threats; self-sufficiency; stability

### **Introduction**

Over time, countries are no longer separate from each other in an interconnected world that is witnessing rapid developments. International relations are witnessing radical transformations in light of the changes in the international structural system, which are not limited to the political dimension only, but also include the economy, technology, and security. These transformations also reflect challenges and opportunities that are particularly evident in their impact on the security of states. In this introduction I will review some of these changes and their impact on national security in Kuwait. (Al-Sabah, 2017)

### **Study Problem**

The problem of the study lies in identifying the impact of structural changes in the international system on Kuwaiti national security. One of the problems that may face studying the impact of structural changes in the international system on Kuwaiti national security is determining the nature and extent of the impact of these changes in an accurate and specific manner. Although there are

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many trends and transformations in the international system, it is important to determine the direct relationship between these changes and the actual impact on Kuwait's national security.

### **Importance of Studying**

The study is important for two reasons: scientific and practical. The scientific aspect is that it benefits political decision makers, academics and researchers in understanding the nature of the concept of national security and the concepts associated with it and knowing the developments that have occurred in the concept as a result of global events and the resulting threats and risks facing countries, in particular Kuwait, under study. It is also beneficial in determining the places of strength and weakness in the state and the issues that negatively affect Kuwaiti national security. The practical importance springs from the fact that it will add a new dimension through reading the Arab reality and its internal and external threats after the recent events and changes on the Arab arena, which makes it fall within the category of strategic studies. It does not discuss the details, but rather pays attention to conclusions and generalities. The truth is that the talk about "national security" is still talk about security that is supposed to be sought and created, and for which vanguards of awareness are fighting. Therefore, the proposal was characterized by a combination of reality and what is hoped for, meaning that the approach is descriptive and normative, so to speak.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The current study aims to reach a standard case on how small countries maintain their security in light of profound transformations in the structure of international society and in light of permanent change in alliances and balances of local, regional and international power.

### **Study questions**

The study attempts to answer the following main question: What is the impact of structural changes in the international system on Kuwaiti national security and how does Kuwaiti policy adapt based on these variables? The study will answer the sub-questions emerging from the main question, which are:

- What are the structural variables in the contemporary international system?
- What are the requirements of Kuwaiti national security, and what is the strategy followed by the State of Kuwait in achieving comprehensive national security?
- How are these changes reflected in the components of Kuwaiti national security and how does it adapt to them at the three levels of security:

A- System security: represented by governmental stability, non-coercive change, and the regularity and development of the work of the governmental apparatus

B- State security: preserving the state's geography, its natural resources, its geographical borders,

and its sovereignty over its territory.

C- Community security: maintaining social cohesion, national unity, and social development.

## **Study concepts and terminology**

### ***Structural changes***

These are changes in the system that make up the building, meaning some changes in the basic composition or internal structure.

### ***Contemporary international system***

The contemporary international system is not a written system, an official system, or a law that regulates relations between countries. Rather, it is a framework that helps to analyze the form of relations between countries, and to know which parties are more powerful and more influential compared to others in the present time. Therefore, it can be said that The contemporary international system is the pattern of interaction between international actors in various fields at the present time.

### ***National Security***

National security is the provision of protection for citizens and individuals present on the territory of the state. It is also defined as the use of security means to maintain the proper functioning of daily life, and away from the occurrence of any crises that lead to causing harm to the human and material components of society.

## **Study Limitations**

Temporal limitations: The study will be limited to the time period from 1991 to the present (2023).

Spatial limitations: In light of the complex intertwining of international relations, and the gradual transition from the “billiard ball” perspective to the “cob web” perspective, it is impossible to separate the structural change in the international system from the rest of the system’s units and how influence flows across the Local, regional and international levels.

Objective limitations: The subject of the study falls within the political systems, through which the study will demonstrate the impact of structural changes on the international system on Kuwaiti national security.

## **Study Methodology**

The study will employ constructivist theory (Wendt) and its approach on the one hand, and the descriptive and analytical approach based on employing analysis and quantitative methods to measure the correlation coefficient between the structural changes in the international system on the one hand and the variables of Kuwaiti national security in its three dimensions (political system

- state - society). We will employ approaches to political adaptation, especially the studies of Barry Buzan and James Rosenau.

### Previous Studies

Al-Saidi's study (2021), entitled "**Kuwaiti Foreign Policy from Political Survival to Renewal**" aimed to identify the reality of Kuwaiti foreign policy between political survival, renewal, and effectiveness in light of an environment in which conditions, alliances and relationships are constantly changing. The study sought to address the reality of Kuwaiti foreign policy in relation to political survival and self-preservation to renewal and political effectiveness at the regional and international levels. The study was based on the descriptive and analytical approach in describing and analyzing the phenomenon under study and treating it in all its aspects.

Al-Enezi's study (2022), entitled "**Strategic Hedging in the Foreign Policy of Small Countries: The State of Kuwait, a Case Study**" aimed to analyze the strategy of strategic hedging in the foreign policy of small countries, with application to the State of Kuwait. The study also analyzed Kuwait's strategic hedging behavior towards China, Turkey, its decision to form alliances with regional and international parties, and knowing Kuwait's motives for adopting this strategy. The study seeks to answer its research question and its sub-questions using two approaches: the analytical approach to understand and analyze Kuwait's motives for choosing hedging as its strategy, and the decision-making approach to learn about the pivotal role of the decision maker (Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah) in drawing and determining foreign affairs policy parameters of Kuwait. The study reached several results, the most important of which is that the hedging strategy is one of the important paths that Kuwait resorted to, as a small country, in its dealings with major and regional powers. This strategy actually gives Kuwait many strategic advantages, such as reducing the threats surrounding it and preserving its security and survival, as well as maintaining a degree of independence in its foreign policy and not diminishing its sovereignty.

A Study by Qayati Ashour (2017) entitled **Arab National Security Challenges and Ways of Confrontation** aimed to identify the concepts of Arab national security and the concepts associated with it. Then it discussed the current situation of Arab national security and developed a model for the advancement of Arab national security. It concluded with a set of results, the most important of which is that Arab national security faces many internal and external challenges, the most important of which is the decline in political stability and the potentials of the Arab system in the international context is for the benefit of Israel. The study recommendation is intensifying security and military efforts to achieve security as a common interest through exchanging and coordinating plans to ensure collective security.

Sherwood's study (2022), entitled "**National Identity and Regime Security in Kuwait: The Amir's Political Puzzle**" aimed to clarify the relationship between Kuwaiti national identity and its impact on the security system that the Kuwaiti government seeks, represented by the person of the

Emir, who is able to link these factors to build strong local and regional security for the State of Kuwait. The author relied on the analysis of the factors affecting Kuwaiti security and its relationship with the changing Gulf security according to the changes in the current world order. The study reached several results: Kuwait is coexisting with both local and external pressures, as it appears that the United States' regional role will shift, and actors in the region are trying turbulently to reshape the balance of power. In fact, the interconnection between Kuwait's internal issues and the link between its internal and external conditions is what it presents the biggest test yet for Kuwait's ruling family.

Joffe's study (2018), entitled "**The Structure of the Contemporary International System**" aimed to analyze the world's transformation from a clear bipolarity to a tripolarity between the United States of America, Europe, and Japan through an economic comparison. The study seeks to answer its research question and its sub-questions using two approaches: the analytical approach to global polarity throughout history, and the economic comparison approach between the most powerful economies that dominate the current global economic situation. The most important result of the study is the presence of major powers that dominate global politics throughout history, which may have a competitor or be alone, considering the presence of a hegemonic power as part of preserving global order, even if it is by force.

### ***What distinguishes the current study from previous studies***

This study is consistent and complementary to previous studies by explaining the effects on Kuwaiti national security resulting from changes in the international structural system. This study added an explanation of the extent to which Kuwaiti national security is affected by the size of the change in the structural system and the resulting regional and international challenges. It also states the international community conflict operating in the region poses direct and indirect threats to Kuwaiti national security by affecting the security and stability of many regional countries that are considered an integral part of comprehensive Arab national security.

### ***Search plan***

The author divided the research paper into three sections as follows:

**First topic:** The concept of national security and its denotation

**Second topic:** The international influence on the internal system in the State of Kuwait

**Third topic:** The impact of changes in the international structural system on Kuwaiti national security

### **First topic: The concept of national security and its meaning**

All countries of the world seek security and stability because this is one of the most important foundations of human life. All human activities need security as a main requirement, no matter how big or small, but this concept remains relative and not absolute because it is linked to other

main factors and the extent of its interaction with the surrounding environment. The importance of this concept remains connected to the extent of its understanding, working within its capabilities and capabilities, and its response to the challenges and threats that affect the completion of its mission and the fulfillment of its duties. Since the nature of each societal entity varies from time to time and from one location to another, there must be agreement between this system on the main foundations on which this concept is based. However, this societal entity, with regard to the concept of security, is subject to dimensional repercussions linked to other entities, whether at the local, regional or international level.

The State of Kuwait has strategic importance, whether in the local, regional or international environment, in terms of its geographical location or its human nature and its interaction with emerging global affairs on the international scene, which require concerted efforts to reduce their negative effects. Hence, Kuwait, the state with its human, spatial and sovereign components, represents the most important basic pillars of the efforts. In order to maintain and raise its continuity, it is necessary to interact at the internal and external levels according to national foundations that take care of its interests and goals, and to comprehend the comprehensive national security system to achieve integration, the concept of national security requires security and detailed study within it (Al-Muslim, 2021).

***First theme: The concept of national security and its meaning***

The concept and term of national security are similar to other terms in terms of agreement on a specific meaning for it. The concept of security is similar to dynamic concepts as it is subject to modernization and change. National security itself is a relative concept and not absolute. The concept of national security spread and was used after the signing of the Westphalia Agreement in the seventeenth century, specifically in the year 1648. This is the period that witnessed the emergence of the concept of the nation and the nation-state. However, this concept changed with the change that accompanied the process of security studies, in which a group of different trends emerged for the concept of national security, and it was addressed through several different security schools, such as the Copenhagen Peace Research Institute (Krause, 2019, 6) and the Aberystwyth School of Security Studies in Wales (Richard Wyn Jones, 2019, 93). Finally the Paris School of Critical Security Studies. Signs of the organizational formation of the concept of national security emerged in an institutional manner by the US Congress in 1947 and it was called Strategic Studies in the rest of the world. (Didier Bigo, 2020, 171). The concept of national security has become one of the main branches of political science, and this is represented by the presence of rich academic and cultural material, as national security sciences are characterized by complexity and interconnectedness, as they overlap with many sciences through multiple dimensions (Al-Mashat, 2017, 14).

National security carries meanings that clarify its meaning and significance, as the expression of the concept of national security is divided in terms of language and terminology.

***Section one: The linguistic and terminological meaning of security***

The Arabic word "al-'amn" denotes security as the opposite and opposite of fear. The origin of the trilateral verb root for security means it reached the limit of security and established it. Ibn Manzur mentioned: "I believed, so I am safe, and I secured others, meaning the opposite of what I intimidate him. Security is the opposite of fear, and honesty is the opposite of crime. Faith is the opposite of disbelief, and faith means belief, and its opposite is disbelief, so it is said that a people believed in him and a people denied him" (Ibn Manzur, d.t., 140). The meaning of security was mentioned in the Holy Qur'an, and God Almighty says, "Those who believe and obscure not their belief by wrongdoing, theirs is safety; and they are rightly guided." (Al-An'am, 82)

There is a state of consensus among the academic and scientific references related to the concept of security in general, that it indicates reaching a state of no sense of anxiety and fear, and replacing it with a sense of reassurance and security, whether in the moral or tangible aspect. The feeling of reassurance and security is a value with great meanings that everyone aspires to achieve and reach. This is limited to a specific group or is related to the degree of income or cultural level. It is required for both the educated and the illiterate, the rich and the poor as well, as everyone is looking to support it by providing the best means (Suleiman, 2016, 32).

***Section two: The meaning of the linguistic and terminological concept of nationalism***

The word "people" refers to a group of men, and it indicates a group. The Arabic trilateral verb root of the word *qawm* "people" is *qam* "he rose,". The meaning of the word "people" is that it is a group related to a specific location and residing in it, and there is agreement among them regarding interests, solidarity, and solidarity, whether through lineage and social connections, so that they unite in specific situations. The relations between them provide them with what is called nationalism. The meaning of nationalism is ancient since time immemorial and the human community has taken place. Ibn Khaldun raised this concept of fanaticism, and the factors of nationalism according to the majority of nationalism theorists of Arab origins are land, culture, and common interests in addition to history. As for establishing the rules of the nation-state, it is a subject of disagreement and divergence of views. The first point of view believes that the state represents the meaning of nationalism (Zenberger, 2019).

***Section three: The contrast and distinction between the terms national security and national strategy***

Strategy is originally a military term that has been modernized and has political and social connotations. Thus, strategy has become the process in which all sources of power are formed in the political, social and economic structure belonging to the state with the aim of achieving the supreme national benefit and the goals to be implemented within the framework of philosophical national security.

We find that it is difficult to explain the mechanism for forming and implementing the national

strategy, as national interests come into existence as a result of the interaction between values and the local and international surroundings. (Al-Ruqi, 2023)

Achieving the national strategy requires the use of available national capabilities in all circumstances with the aim of achieving the highest possible control over the enemy through threats in order to achieve the national security interests of the country.

The connection between national security and national strategy is clear that the term national strategy refers to the mobilization and unification of society's resources. It includes within it multiple political, economic and military strategies, each of which attempts, within its scope, to achieve national goals. Despite the specialization of these strategies, there is a relationship between them as they attempt to achieve the same goals only. It is in various scopes, and in the end, the national strategy represents the term national security, including the principles and plans that highlight its components (Krause and William, 2019).

### ***Second theme: characteristics and degrees of national security***

#### ***Section one: National security is the outcome of internal, local, regional and international elements***

The practical elements are related to ensuring protection for society against internal threats reinforced and supported by external forces, provided that the goals of the political system express the realistic principles of the people, and that the political institutions allow securing channels of participation. As for the regional elements, they are related to the relations that the state establishes with its neighboring countries, whether in the region or within geographical locations close to it. As for the international elements, they mean the dimensions of the state's connections in the international environment, the quality of its international alliances, and the quality of its relations with the major powers (Muhammad, 2014).

#### ***Section two: National security is highlighted through two aspects***

One of them is the objective aspect, and its components and factors can be explained and demonstrated, and their capabilities can be demonstrated in terms of digital quantity, and the other aspect is represented by the moral aspect, which is linked to morale and the extent of the people's relationship with the political system, and to reach the most important integrated benefits, both aspects must be studied.

#### ***Section three: The phenomenon of national security is dynamic***

National security is characterized as a phenomenon by change and movement. It is not considered a stage that the state reaches and settles upon. No one can consider security a fixed reality that the state reaches once and continues with forever. No state can stop at a number of procedural arrangements and actions through which it considers it has achieved its national security. Rather, it is pursuing permanently, what is happening within it and between it and what is going on around



it at the regional and international levels, in order to correct its positions and movements and develop its strength to maintain the level of security that it desires to achieve. In other words, while national security shows a number of constants, there are multiple changes that give national security the dynamic and variable advantage. (Gogli, 2015)

***Section four: National security is a relative and non-absolute reality***

Never throughout history has a country been able to dominate and control the world's capabilities, tighten its control over them, and then achieve absolute security for itself. This is due to a unique and distinct reason: the absolute security of one country means an absolute threat to the security of all. Neighboring countries, and even countries that chose the path of neutrality, do not live in absolute security. Rather, their security may be threatened by the action of the same forces that maintained the neutrality of those countries, and the attempt of countries to develop their margin of security is an incentive for the remaining parties to bridge the gap.

Countries' view of the type of threats threatening their national security and their borders varies, as the status and position of those countries dictate the difference because the threat factors to national security differ from one country to another. As a result, what can achieve national security for a particular country may represent a threat factor for another country, and there is a smaller amount that the state can accept it within the external dynamic field. After that, any action taken by another country outside that field must be confronted by the countries whose security has been threatened and confronted with it in a way that is appropriate to the level and degree of the threat. This makes them adopt the concept of security circles, which if they are threatened, this leads to the threat to the national security of the state, and the following are the degrees of national security, whether internal or external security. (Fara Allah, 2019, 79)

**First: the internal degree.** The internal degree or internal level of national security meets the threats, whether current or expected, within a particular societal system, and the nature of the mentioned threats may be of a political nature, such as the weakness of the legitimacy of authority, the lack of political stability, the direction of the political situation towards violent relations between groups of society, the increase in the forces of influence in decision-making, and the lack of popular participation in the political system, in addition to political backwardness, lack of a sense of political belonging and loyalty, the presence of powerful interest groups that control the decision-making process, loss of the prestige of the judiciary and oversight, the inability and weakness of the executive authority, and the lack of clarity of goals and their conflict (Khalil, 2020, 27).

**Second: External degree.** There are two sub-levels in this degree, which are as follows (Atta, 2014, 150):

1. **Regional level:** This is the level that is concerned with the scope of the relationship between the state or states and the geographical or regional environment surrounding it. In other words, what is known as the regional system and what falls under this framework of threat, cooperation,

or coexistence, and control over all of that.

2. **Global level:** It is the level related to the scope of the relationship between the state and the global environment surrounding it, especially the global superpowers under its control, and what that framework includes, as well as the connections of dependency, alliances, or independence, and the results and situations that result from them.

### **Second topic: International influence on the internal system in the State of Kuwait**

The State of Kuwait comes as one of the prominent examples of how changes in the international structural system affect national security. Over the past decades, Kuwait has witnessed important transformations ranging from achieving independence to political and economic development. The effects of globalization and information technology have increased and with them comes the constant challenge of adapting to changes in the international structural system. (Kuwait Vision Report, 2016)

Moreover, the international system witnessed important economic changes, as Kuwait shifted from its dependence on oil as its sole source of income to diversifying its economy and developing other sectors such as industry, tourism, and technology. The World Bank's report on the Kuwaiti economy can be cited here, which highlights the importance of diversifying the economy and its impact on national security. (Al-Hawasni, 2018)

In this context, the impact of structural changes is evident through several aspects that affect Kuwaiti national security. Regional transformations and ongoing conflicts are major elements that undermine stability and security. The surrounding tensions make achieving and maintaining security more complex and challenging, as the effects of these tensions extend across borders and infiltrate various vital sectors in the country. (Abu Salib, 2015)

In addition, economic changes represent another challenge affecting Kuwaiti national security. Kuwait's dependence on oil as a main source of revenue means that fluctuations in global oil markets directly affect the national economy and the government's ability to provide services and economic opportunities to citizens. (Safwan, 2020). Furthermore, rapid technology is driving developments in many fields, including cybersecurity and cyberespionage. These technological shifts open doors to new security threats and thus require advanced protection and response strategies. (Ashour, 2017)

The effects of changes in the international structural system highlight the urgent need to develop multidimensional security policies and strategies that take into account these transformations and seek to adapt to them. This requires strengthening regional and international cooperation, consolidating national capabilities in multiple fields, and building bridges of understanding and dialogue to confront common challenges and maintain Kuwait's security and stability in this complex and changing context. (Annual report of the Kuwait Fund for Development, 2018)

In short, structural changes in the contemporary international system significantly affect national security in Kuwait. Kuwait faces security challenges from regional conflicts, economic changes, and cyber threats. Kuwait must adopt effective strategies to deal with these challenges and protect its national security. It is important that these strategies are based on a careful analysis of changes in the international system and rely on reliable research and reports in this field. (Hamza, 2016)

### ***First theme: elements of the resilience and strength of national security***

There are a number of elements that highlight the strength and resilience of national security. These elements are represented by the following aspects:

#### ***The geopolitical element***

This element represents great importance with regard to national security policies. Many theories have emerged that sought to find a relationship between the characteristics of nature and the concept of national security, the most important of which are:

#### ***Section one: The Heart of the Earth Theory***

This theory, which Mackinder laid its foundations in 1904. It means that the future will be subject to the forces of land, as Mackinder made the land as the heart of the Earth that controls the peripheries, and that he viewed the ancient world as a single continent with three sections joined together. Some combine the Mediterranean Sea, which includes two-thirds of the Earth and is called the World Island. Its focal point is called the Heart of the Earth, which Mackinder imagines as extending from Siberia in the east to the Volga Basin in the west, with an area of approximately 21 million miles Zenberger, 2019, (8). In contrast to what was known as the core of the Earth, Mackinder identified an oceanic coastal area that surrounds the World Island, where it appeared in the form of a crescent, and he called it the outer crescent, which includes America, Australia, Canada, Britain, and Japan. It is the birthplace and foundation of naval power, and has freedom of navigation in a wide area of the global ocean.

#### ***Section two: The theory of sea power by Alfred Mahan***

The view of the maritime theorist Mahan is that the future is subject to the power of the sea, and that the maritime countries are qualified and capable of possessing sea power, which is the path to global sovereignty. There are many elements influencing sea power, one of which is geographical location, which means the large number of regions in the countries overlooking the seas, the natural composition of the country, which means the depth lines of the coastal region, the size of the extension of the maritime territory, then the population, the state's ability to establish and build ships, and ultimately the quality of the government and its policies regarding strengthening and strengthening its fleet (Eric Grove, 2020).

#### ***Section three: Spykman's Marginal Field Theory***

This theory took Mackinder's over-estimate of the capabilities of the Heart of the Earth theory,

and it sees that actual and real power emerges in the countries controlling the marginal domain. From Sickman's point of view, political history was not, in any sense, a subject of dispute between both powers. Land and sea powers, to the extent that it was a connection between Britain and marginal powers on the one hand, and Russia and second marginal powers on the other hand. Thus, Speakman corrects Mackinder's prediction to become, "Whoever controls the marginal domain rules Eurasia, and whoever rules Eurasia controls the fate of the world" (Jassim, 2017, 63).

### ***Second theme: Kuwaiti national security in the strategic environment***

The State of Kuwait has strategic importance at all levels, whether local, gulf, regional or international. It has some features that differ from other countries in terms of the role it provides. Despite its small area, it can play a distinctive role at all levels, especially as it is adjacent to some Arab and regional countries that are larger than it. In terms of geographical area, however, its location in the Middle East region, which is considered volatile and carries a lot of pressures and obligations on all countries, and what increases and strengthens Kuwait's position is that it is considered one of the global tributaries of energy, especially oil, which is one of the main pillars of the Kuwaiti economy. What is further affected is that its maritime location is considered semi-closed as it relies on one sea port, which is the Strait of Hormuz, which witnesses almost constant states of tension (Omran, 2018).

On the global level, and since Kuwait is one of the countries seeking to achieve global security and stability, it aspires to play humanitarian roles in all fields. Kuwait seeks to respond to developments in the strategic environment with all its components, whether local, regional, gulf or international, taking into account as a first priority the areas of terrorism, energy and social structure.

### ***Section One: The local dimension of national security Kuwait***

The dimension of national security includes many factors, the most important of which are the connection between the two authorities and the party system, the dynamic effectiveness of the local community, and political participation, with the possibility of addressing some other aspects.

The prospects for cooperation and its implications between the executive and legislative authorities are reflected directly, with an important impact on the safety and security of the state's political situation. This is evident from a review of the reality of the political system in Kuwait during the decade extending from 2007 to 2017. The frequent formation and change of governments, as the rate of one ministry during this period does not last a year, and ministerial amendments may also be made for various reasons, the most important of which is the connection between the legislative and executive powers (electronic page of the National Assembly, 2017).

### ***Section two: The party system***

Kuwaiti national security is affected by the environment in which it lives. All countries of the region, especially Arab countries in general, still have some ideas with basic concepts that are not

well-established among members of society in terms of acceptance. Party life, despite its importance and status as a political concept and an entity that enhances the state and its value, requires serious thinking about it, even if it has all the necessary resources. The legislative components include laws regulating parties, but the practical aspect is incomplete. We notice the division of society between supporters of parties and those who oppose them. It is possible that the motive behind the lack of seriousness for parties is that they are not organized or able to present their ideas and programs in an effective manner. The majority of parties are not declared with authentic political names, so some of them go to a synonymous meaning for it, such as the Democratic Platform, the Constitutional Movement, and the rest of the names. The aspect of support for declaring and publicizing parties is that it is transformed into the official aspect instead of the unofficial aspect or the informal character (Al-Mashhour, 2022).

The fact that the party system has an important role at the state level and in promoting the concept of democracy, and thus it is the integrative element for the rest of the state's authorities, is an entity parallel to the fourth estate or the press, targeting the public interest of the state. However, this partisan concept in the third world and developing countries resorts to incomplete concepts that could be a negative factor. On the entity of the state, such as promoting the idea of sectarianism or partial affiliations, such as based on religious sectarian affiliations, and thus it negatively affects the strength of the state, its immunity, cohesion, and the cohesion of its society with each other.

### ***Section Three: Dynamic effectiveness of the local community***

Countries generally turn to the concept of civil society and consolidate its concept. This is essential because it represents a major part of the entity of the state, which is based in its basic principles: people, land, and sovereignty. People play an influential and major role in adopting the concepts that strengthen the state and its options and alternatives regarding national issues, whether at the regional or international level. Without societies meeting, concepts do not take root and oppose everything that goes through them, especially in light of the presence of important issues at the global and regional level such as global warming and the fight against terrorism, international economic concepts that enhance economic stability such as global trade laws, which have been supported by the major industrial countries that want to enhance its status, but societal systems prevented it from achieving the level hoped for in those countries (Khudair and Abdel-Al, 2021, 163).

Consolidating the concept of the civil state and freedom of choices for the societal system highlights the bright side of the State of Kuwait, which is characterized by the trend towards moderation and centrism and trading in the concepts of security and peace locally, regionally and internationally, and consolidating the concept of a state of institutions, laws and institutional work based on sound decisions. This requires responding to international data to show the State of Kuwait in its good image and extent. Its interaction with national, regional and international issues is subject to the field of measurement and evaluation, as it is linked to international transparency

and environmental security, and its impact on the health of society. Rather, it is also linked to the extent of society's ability to understand terrorism and its dangers, reject it, and protect members of society from falling under its temptations. The world has witnessed systematic campaigns targeting security and stability. Communities must be limited and any internal or external attempts to influence the system must be cut off (Asiri, 2014).

#### ***Section four: Political participation***

Motivating society to exercise its constitutional rights guaranteed in the State of Kuwait and in accordance with its constitution and legislation is one of the most important elements of national security stability. Participation is the basis for showing respect for the human being, who represents the basic building block of society, especially since the State of Kuwait has taken steady steps to enhance the role of women and their political rights as they are enhancers of democracy and enable them to reaching parliament. However, this requires the broad participation of the elements of society and their democratic solidarity in a way that develops the national feeling of the State of Kuwait in general and its interest, and gives priority to it over the individual or factional interest, which reinforces discrimination and entrenches racism, so that a narrow view of the nation's interest cannot be beneficial (Kuwait Vision Report 20-25, 2016).

#### **Third topic: The impact of changes in the international structural system on Kuwaiti national security**

Changing security threats: Changes in the international structural system may lead to the emergence of new security threats or a change in the nature of current threats. This may include terrorist threats, cyber threats, economic threats, and political threats. These threats may target Kuwait's national interests and pose a challenge to its security. (Al-Mashhour, 2022)

Kuwait's strategic alliances and ties with other countries may change as a result of changes in the international structural system. This may require re-evaluating bilateral relations with some countries and redefining Kuwait's strategic priorities. Kuwait's ability to achieve national security may be affected based on the international support and cooperation it enjoys. (Al-Mashhour, 2022)

For example, Kuwait's national security may be affected if relations with neighboring countries or countries with regional or global influence change. The security or economic support that Kuwait receives from some international partners may decline in light of changes in the international structural system. (Al-Anazi, 2016)

In addition, the common security challenges faced by countries may increase in light of global changes. Therefore, there may be a need to enhance international cooperation in areas such as combating terrorism, combating organized crime, cybersecurity, protecting critical infrastructure, etc., to ensure the national security of Kuwait and other countries. (Noureddine, 2015)

In general, Kuwait must prepare for changes in the international structural system by diversifying

its international partnerships, strengthening its national security capabilities, and developing comprehensive strategies to maintain national security and stability in the face of new challenges.

***First theme: Repercussions of modern global affairs on Kuwaiti national security and the future outlook***

The tendency to control the Middle East region has become a human heritage, according to current developments that have given this region much greater meaning than the geographical meaning. The proof of the global interest in this region is what is happening in it. Multiple international and regional bodies have joined forces with the United States in their efforts aimed at imposing the concept of hegemony. It has no control over this region, or on the other hand, it competes with it to prevent it from achieving its goals and expansionist endeavors, and then competes against time to reap the spoils of war in the Middle East (Obaidat, 2011, 115).

However, what happened with the emergence of extremist groups adopting the intellectual ideology that represents violence as their approach to dealing with others, which led all countries of the world, including Kuwait, to combat it because it affects societies and produces them, especially after the political changes that swept the Arab world in all its countries despite the differences in its effects and results from one country to another, as some of them led to changing the regimes of government, as is the case in Lebanon, Yemen, and Egypt. Global events and developments at the global level sometimes show effects that have struck the world, especially in light of artificial crises, whether wars, conflicts, or natural disasters. This requires the cooperation of countries in among them, especially those aspiring to greater security and stability, such as the State of Kuwait. (Al-Ruqi, 2023)

***Section one: The mechanism of Kuwaiti national security's reaction to terrorism***

As a result of the transformation that took place in the international system following the end of the Cold War, in addition to the fundamental developments in international alliances and progress in the field of global trade, and the expansion of weapons of mass destruction until they reached small countries, and the expectation that they would reach the hands of terrorist organizations spread throughout the world that carry extremism as a method, which was clearly demonstrated through the terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers of America and the outcomes of all these events led to the adoption of major policies against extremist terrorist thought, limiting it and combating it at the global level as a result of the dangers of this extremist thought to all nations and states, countries began to adopt cooperative strategies to stop and limit this thought, as the application areas of these policies multiplied. It emerged through multiple measures and specialized systems were updated in the field of preparing studies and curricula in security fields and how to reduce and combat terrorism (Abdel Hafeez, 2020).

***Section two: Effectiveness of the Kuwaiti National Security response***

With humanitarian efforts and a future outlook, it is one of the most prominent activities carried

out by non-governmental organizations (NGO) related to humanitarian aid throughout the world, especially in the field of humanitarian work, which deals with topics and issues related to human beings and the requirements of life. Humanitarian work is characterized as crossing borders and transcending everything related to races. And nationalities, nationalities and religions, as it is linked to human values only, especially since humanitarian work is linked to everything that seeks to achieve security, stability and the right to life and a decent living for humans, and accordingly countries seek to provide all types of assistance and support to the needy and those exposed to injustice and need. Indeed, one of the social studies specialists defined it as “Every action aims to save lives, alleviate suffering, and preserve and protect human dignity during and after international and non-international armed conflicts” (Hamza, 2016, 362).

### ***Section three: The future outlook for Kuwaiti national security***

The success of countries is linked to the extent of their ability to read developments and changes in the strategic environment at all its local, regional and international levels and to explain their impacts and outcomes in the near and long term, especially since the world is built on partnership and not for one party at the expense of others. The state cannot carry out its duties, especially in the external fields, by relying only on itself. Rather, it must interact with the environment in which it lives, as the humanitarian element is very important, especially if it is implemented by organizations that do not belong to governments and do not have special goals and ambitions that they seek to achieve, as it is influential. The United States seeks to agree with international organizations, even if it disagrees with them in many aspects and loses, especially in Economic and humanitarian fields (Al-Muslim, 2021).

### ***Second theme: Regional dimension and Kuwaiti national security***

In addition to the Arab national dimension, Kuwait is blessed with two other important dimensions, which are the regional dimension and the Gulf dimension. It belongs to the Gulf Cooperation Council system and has a prominent role in it and how to deal in this environment and confront threats and challenges within one system against any external dangers, in addition to the regional dimension with all. The countries of the region in light of the competition between the actors of the regional level and its repercussions on Kuwaiti national security, such as the Turkish and Iranian forces and other powers.

### ***Section one: The connection between Gulf security and Kuwaiti national security***

The intended meaning is that the threats emanating from the Arabian Gulf region have an impact on the Kuwaiti national security system and the mechanism of interaction with it. Despite the previous crisis confronted with the State of Qatar by three member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, it can serve as an appropriate framework for arriving at the concept of security, provided that it is implemented. With some major modifications to it, so as to enhance the effectiveness of its judicial and diplomatic utility through the concept of collective security, and despite the Arabian



Gulf region going through some crises, the interests of the Arabian Gulf remain common, as Gulf societies are homogeneous in terms of spatial geography and the risks directed at them at the individual and collective levels (Al-Rais, 2019).

***Section two: The broad regional dimension related to Kuwaiti national security***

Kuwaiti security has a direct relationship to regional security at the broader level. The repercussions of the successive events and crises that struck the Middle East region in the period extending from 2002 to 2013 led to an intertwining of events and the speed of their progress in the region, in addition to the American military presence, the Israeli entity, and intellectual ideological differences and competition. On regional sovereignty between several powers, the most important of which are Iran and Turkey. However, there are regional factors related to the Arab countries that contributed to creating new challenges for them as a result of the weakness of the Arab regime in the political field. The internal Syrian and Iraqi war added a character of violence (Morsi, 2017, 61).

***Section three: International dimension of Kuwaiti national security***

Given the position that the Middle East enjoys at the strategic level in the current global system, especially in light of the cluster of hotspots there, the strategic position of the Middle East at the international level is highlighted in light of the link between this region and the three continents of the ancient world, Europe, Africa, and Asia. The concept of security plays a prominent role in policy-making. The general public of these countries, including the State of Kuwait, where international and regional factors were intertwined with regard to the issue of security, its concept, components and trends, as pressure was exerted on the countries of the region, especially the Gulf, which began to feel that it was the most weak link among the countries as a result of the significant increase in armament and the ability to target the main artery of its existing economy in a way. Mainly on oil as it possesses the largest global reserve stock, and that the security of the Arabian Gulf for strategic maritime transport is limited (Al-Hamad, 2017, 23).

Given the importance of the Gulf region in general and Kuwait in particular, all of these countries have been the focus of attention of all global powers, especially the United States of America, which has given priority to the use of military force and intervenes directly to confront any threats to influence and common interests in the Arabian Gulf region, where it works in partnership through several axes, the most important of which is developing.

The defense capabilities in all the countries of the Gulf region to defend themselves and stimulate regional collective defenses among the Arab Gulf countries, in addition to strengthening their capabilities in the Gulf region and those countries to maximize the principle of collective security, as this resulted in the establishment of the defensive security belt that surrounds all the Gulf countries and includes building the air defense network, advanced warning systems, and the formation and modernization of the island's forces, increasing their numbers to reach 25,000 fighters (Al-Mansour, 2019).

### Conclusion

To sum up, it is noted that changes in the international structural system may affect Kuwaiti national security directly and indirectly. Dealing with these challenges and changes requires taking appropriate measures to enhance national security and protect Kuwait's national interests. Kuwait must take comprehensive strategic measures that include international cooperation, developing security capabilities, and strengthening economic and social stability.

By strengthening international partnerships and expanding security cooperation, Kuwait can achieve sustainable security and contribute to regional and international security. Kuwait must take strong measures to combat changing security threats, such as terrorism, organized crime and cybersecurity, and invest in developing security skills and achieving self-sufficiency in security capabilities.

With comprehensive security as a primary goal, Kuwait must work to achieve a balance between military, economic, political, social, and cultural security. By adopting comprehensive strategies and effective communication with the local community and civil institutions, Kuwait can strengthen partnership and comprehensively ensure national security.

By making efforts to enhance international dialogue and interaction in international organizations, Kuwait can enhance international security and enhance its rights as a sovereign state.

By balancing internal security with responding to external challenges, Kuwait can promote national stability and sustainable development. Kuwait must cooperate with the international community to promote global peace and security and work to achieve the sustainable development goals.

### Results

- Changes in the international structural system affect Kuwaiti national security through changes in potential security threats and the escalation of regional conflicts.
  - The global economy affected by changes could affect Kuwait's ability to meet its security and social needs.
- Changes in international partnerships may require re-evaluating relationships and redefining Kuwait's strategic priorities.

### Recommendations

- Strengthening Kuwaiti security capabilities by strengthening military, security and intelligence capabilities.
- Cooperating with international partners in combating common security threats such as terrorism, organized crime, and cybersecurity.

- Strengthening regional and international partnerships by strengthening bilateral relations and expanding the scope of security cooperation.
- Investing in sustainable economic development to achieve self-sufficiency and enhance economic stability.

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