

## EXERCISE 5

### POLITICAL TURMOIL IN NORTH AFRICAN COUNTRIES

The recent events **on the** North African countries have proved the volatility of the current political **status** in the world. Actually, we were not familiar with the real political and social situation in the area, and we were shocked when the series of protests and demonstrations **started** across the Middle East and North Africa. It has become known as the "Arab Spring"

**Comentario [s1]:** in

**Comentario [s2]:** situation

**Comentario [s3]:** started to take place

Numerous factors have led to the protests, including issues such as the concentration of wealth in the hands of autocrats in power for decades (dictatorship or absolute monarchy), human rights violations, government corruption, economic decline, unemployment, extreme poverty, etc.

The catalysts for the revolts in these countries **have been especially** the refusal of the population to accept the status quo. **Some thousands of young Africans have collapsed the apparently stable international order and have raised a new revolution difficult to control.**

**Comentario [s4]:** no plural here

**Comentario [s5]:** has been, more than anything else,

**Comentario [s6]:** A few thousand

**Comentario [s7]:** brought

**Comentario [s8]:** crashing down and

**Comentario [s9]:** begun

The balance of power in this strategic region is now unclear. This precariousness causes the instability of the global economy; prices of oil and natural gas are increasing quite quickly. It seems clear that if these undeveloped countries did not manage to create a new political structure, some extremist groups could take advantages of the situation and, consequently, **put in danger** our borders.

**Comentario [s10]:** no plural needed here

**Comentario [s11]:** become a threat to

**As far as I do believe** that the key factor to assist these countries in reaching democracy is a firm commitment from the international community to help them in a number of areas, **like by** supporting both the requirements of the population and, at the same time, the strength of their institutions.

**Comentario [s12]:** I believe

**Comentario [s13]:** Such as

**Comentario [s14]:** wishes

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Very good. You have made some good points clearly and succinctly. Watch out for word order/sentence structure which resembles Spanish and you should also be more careful with regard to the singular and plural of some words. SLP 3