**Latest Changes In The Arab World.**

By Miguel Rodríguez Sánchez.

New events have shaken the stability of some North African countries over the past few months. The action of an only man who attempted to set himself on fire in Tunisia sparked a civil revolution across the whole country, and it eventually triggered uprisings throughout North Africa. The subsequently civil movement, the so-called “Arab Spring”, might change the status quo in the region, since some governments have been overthrown. The consequences of these changes are still uncertain; however, we could draw two possible outcomes.

To begin with, some of the countries that are undergoing these riots have precious commodities such as oil and natural gas. This fact has undoubtedly led EU and USA to intervene supporting the rebels in Libya, for instance. This would lead them to have an advantageous position in the aftermath of the conflict regarding the control of these sources of energy. It seems to me that, behind the aid rendered by these governments there must be profitable contracts, which would definitely change the economic bounds in the region.

However, the valuable experience gained in other scenarios such as Irak and Afghanistan do not make us be so optimistic. The situation in the aftermath of an overthrow is perfect for Islamic extremists who want to set up Islamic governments. Therefore, a dangerous but feasible scenario would be an increase of the radical Islamism in a region where lacked of it before the riots. In Egypt for example, group such as the “Muslim Brotherhood” are gaining in strength, which is undoubtedly a menace to the democratization of the region.

To sum up, we are living a turning point in the recent history but the consequences are still difficult to assess. However, we can draw a clear conclusion, which is that Muslim youth are aware they could oust their corrupt governments if they work unite and that they are eager to change their current situation. The outcome of these changes will probably determine prospective alliances between western countries and the Arab world.