



Weekly Report

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2014

Egypt

Jaime Lefebvre

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Sisi says Egypt will not allow threats to security from Libya

- Libya descended into its own civil chaos in the Arab Spring 2011 and ousted Muammar Gaddafi shortly after protests had started in Egypt.
- Sisi stated in a May 15 interview that Libya was becoming a major security threat with militants infiltrating across the large border.
- Sisi promises to confront these security threats head-on and stop those who abused the discourse of Islam.
- Source: The Chicago Tribune sourcing Reuters

http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2014-05-24/news/sns-rt-us-egypt-sisi-libya-20140524_1_sisi-sinai-peninsula-islamist-militants

"If we want to be safe, we can stay at home. But it's the price to be in political life in the streets and I thought that Egyptian women, they accept the price." –
Bothaina Kamal

Egypt besieged on all sides as it heads into another election

- Security both at home and outside of Egypt's borders is a hot election topic.
- With Libya, Egypt sees an influx of weapons and militants. Egyptians who have fought in Syria have also returned and joined Sinai based groups where the rule of law has a weak grip on society.
- Actions of current and past political groups all draw criticisms from voters, and security being a primary platform issue of el-Sisi.
- Source: The Irish Times

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/world/middle-east/egypt-besieged-on-all-sides-as-it-heads-into-another-election-1.1807019>

Egypt's Women Face A Struggle No Matter Who Comes to Power

- In 2012, Bothaina Kamel became the first women to run for president in Egypt. She didn't get enough signatures to get on the ballot but she became a powerful symbol.
- Kamel seeks social change, including a movement of empowerment for women. This movement, Kamel says, is a first for Egyptian women.
- She acknowledges that men are entrenched in their power and women will have to take it back. This has been as risky endeavor as she has been physically attacked for her outspoken politics.
- Source: NPR

<http://www.npr.org/2014/05/25/315703147/egypts-first-female-presidential-candidate-on-womens-changing-roles>