

## North Africa and the US – European Competition

Fatiha LITIM  
Université de ANNABA  
Algérie

The region of North Africa is one of the most important regions in the world for its strategic and geographical weight. That's why, it was under a heat competition between the strong powers mainly between the U.S and Europe. In fact, this competition started by the beginning of the W.W.II, continued during the Cold War and increased more and more after the fall of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War.

In order to control the area of the North Africa and strengthen their hegemony their, both Europe and USA proposed two projects of partnership with the countries of the North Africa. The American one called **Eizenstat's Initiative of Partnership** (1998), the second is the **European-Mediterranean Partnership** (1995). In deed, both projects are two faces of one coin: neo-colonialism and exploitation.

This short study, will focus on the aspects and the reasons of the competition between Europe and the U.S and its consequences on the area. Therefore, we will deal with following points:

1. The American policy in the region and its goals (economic, political, secure goals.)

2. The European policy in the region and its goals (economic, political, secure, social and cultural goals.)

Finally, the study concludes that both projects have negative consequences on the economies of the area. (threatening the possibility of the realization of economic unity between these countries, unemployment, the impediment of making a developed industry in the area, the negative impact on their budgets...etc). Thus, the countries of the North Africa should have a unified defensive strategy in order to benefit from this competition. However, this strategy is not yet adopted the fact that may led to a strong dependence on Europe (\*).

(\*) Voir le texte intégral de cet article dans la partie rédigée en Arabe, pp. 93-103.