

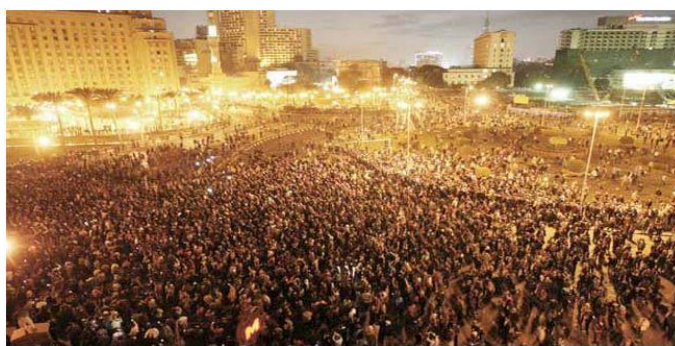


# The “Arab Spring” after a few seasons

Abbas Aroua  
Cordoba Foundation

Wednesday Seminar  
World Peace Academy

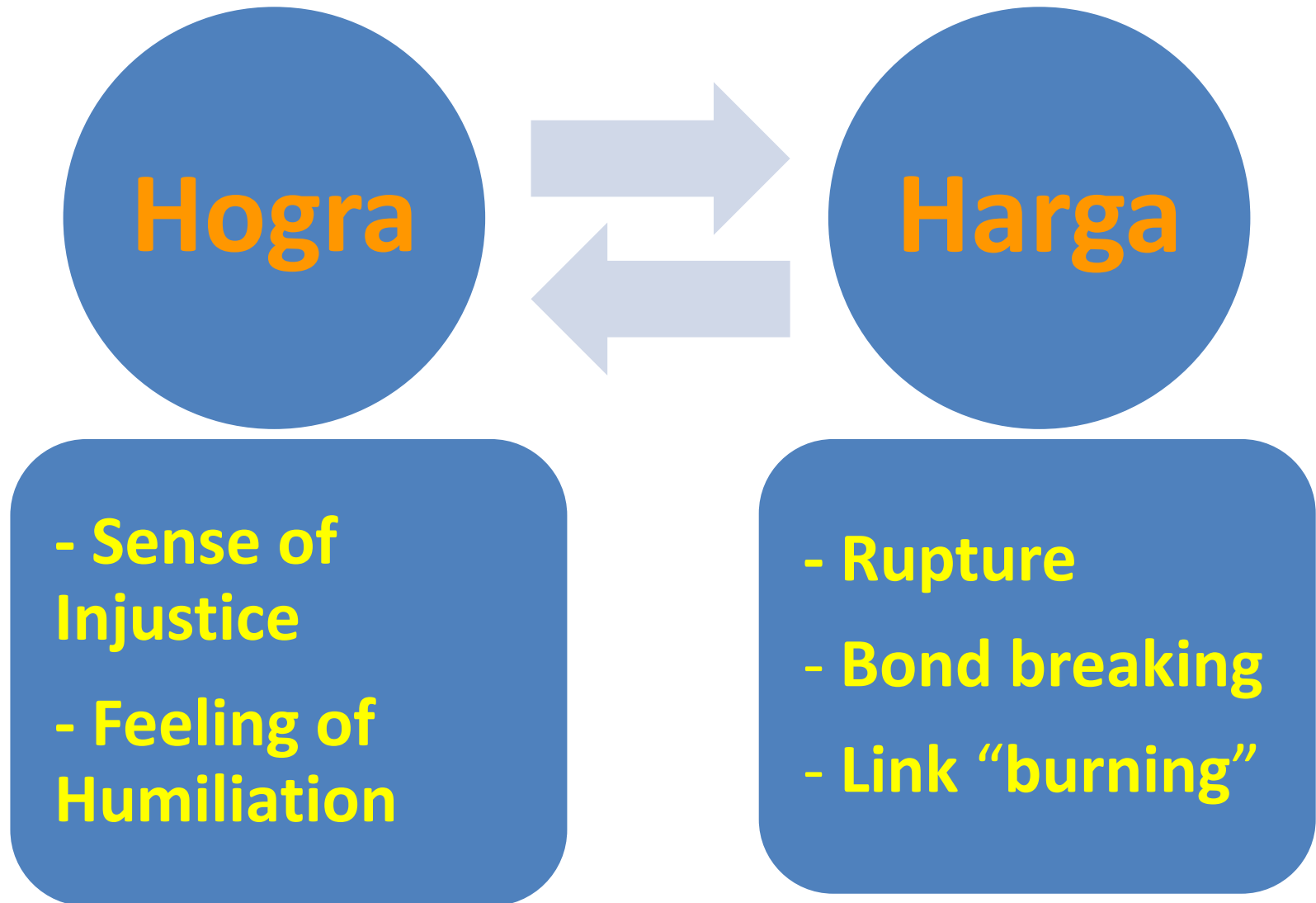
Basel, 16 May 2012



# The “Arab Spring” after a few seasons

- 1- Present situation**
- 2- Lessons learnt**
- 3- Challenges**

# Hogra/Hagra: Symptoms of a social disease



# Hogra/Hagra: Symptoms of a social disease

## Hogra

### Structural Violence

- No decent life
- No consideration
- Surrounding wealth & fast richness
- Unemployment
- Large scale man-made poverty
- No political participation
- Electoral fraud
- Coercion / repression
- etc.

- Frustration
- Despair
- Hopelessness
- Dreamlessness
- Horizonlessness

- No solidarity
- Individualism
- Loneliness
- Forced corruption

## Hagra

- Passive response
- Violent active response

### Quit social / polit. sphere

- Retreat
- Citizen resignation

### Quit civilian sphere

- Armed resistance

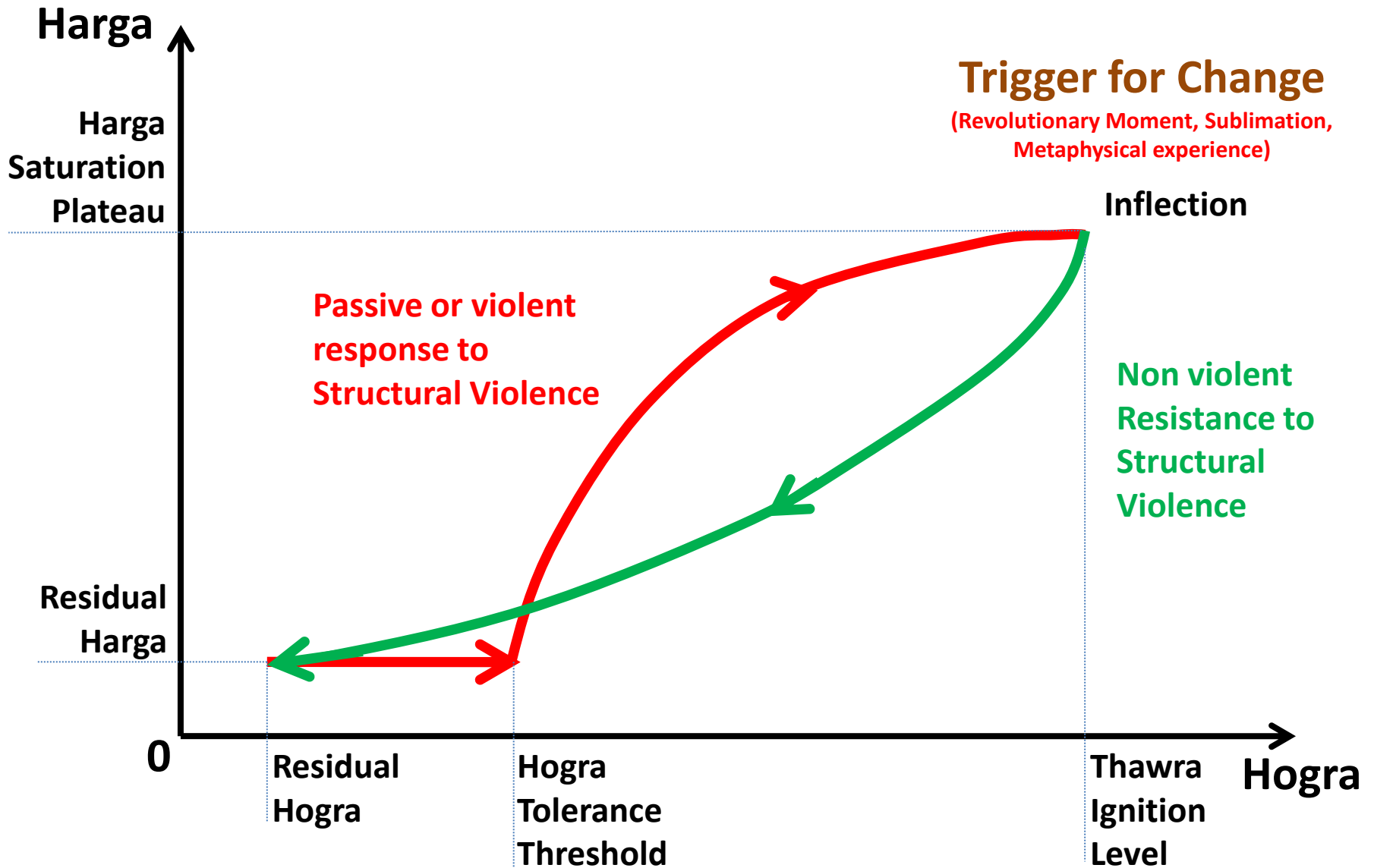
### Quit the country

- Emigration (various forms)
- Brain drain
- Boat people

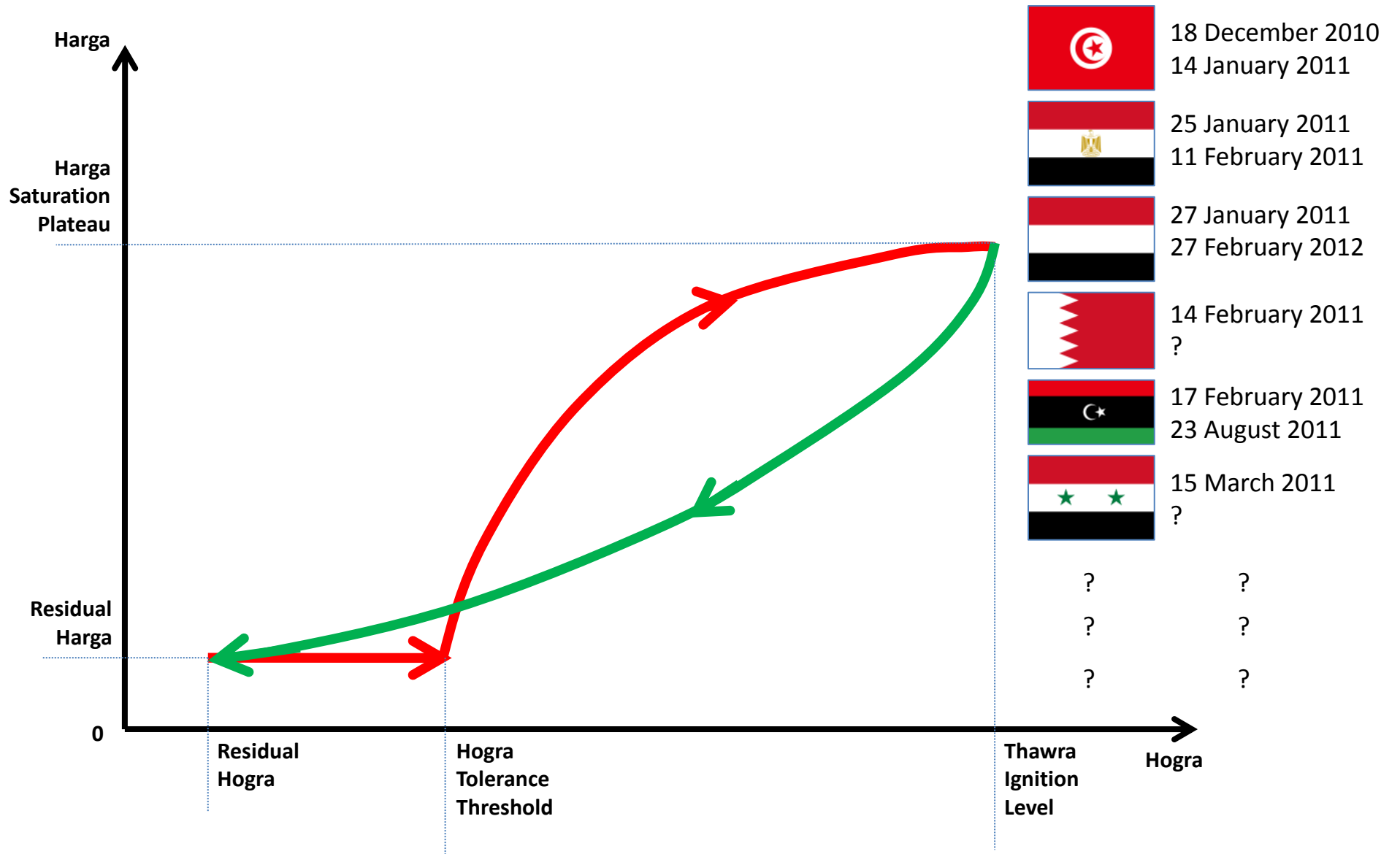
### Quit life

- Suicide (various forms)
- Self-Immolation

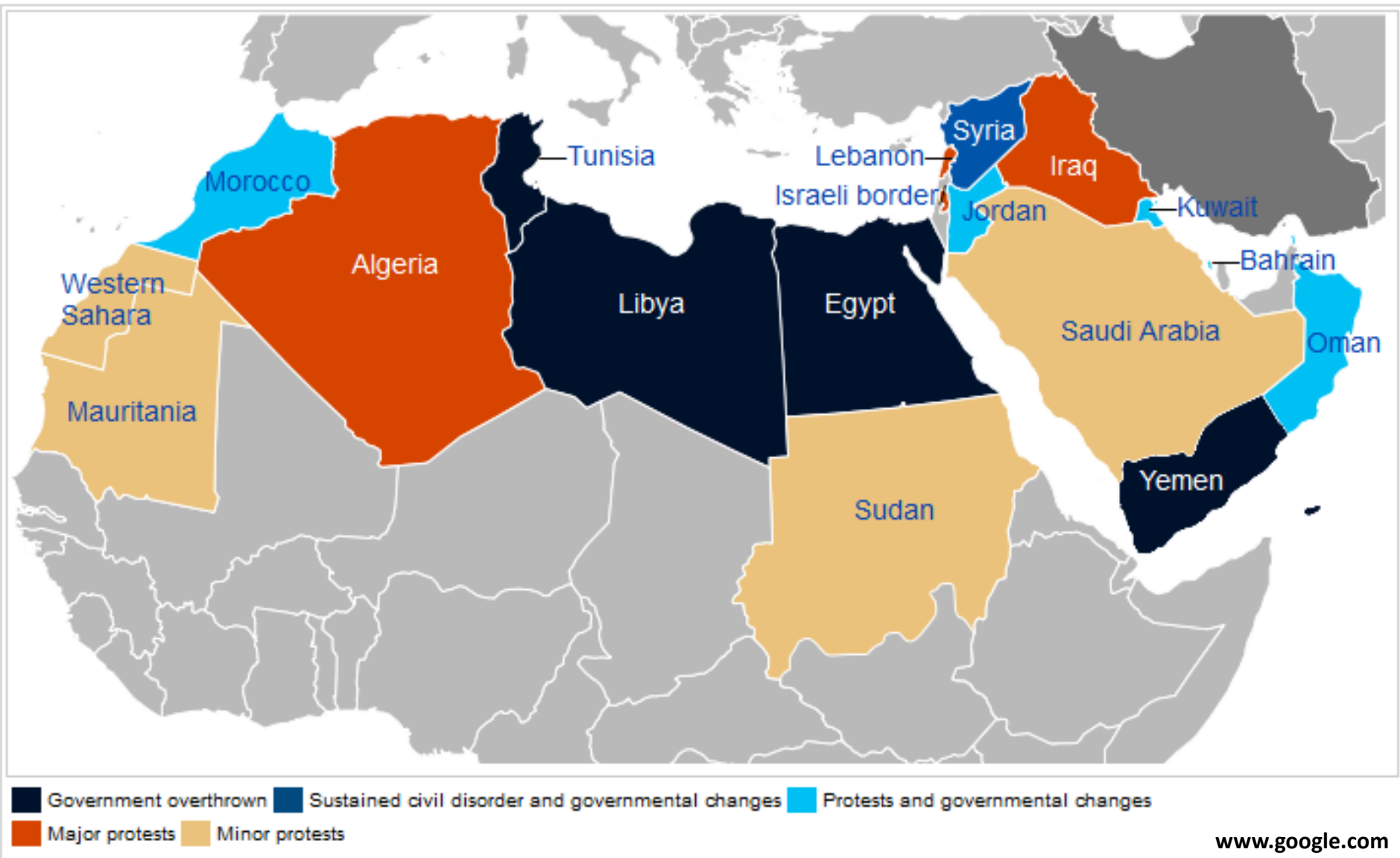
# Reversing the Hogra/Harga curve



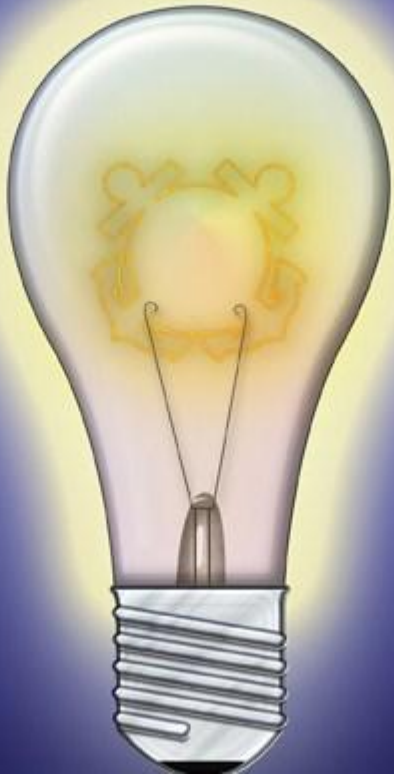
# Trigger for Change



# Revolutions in progress, attempted or crushed



LESSONS



LEARNED



# Lessons learnt

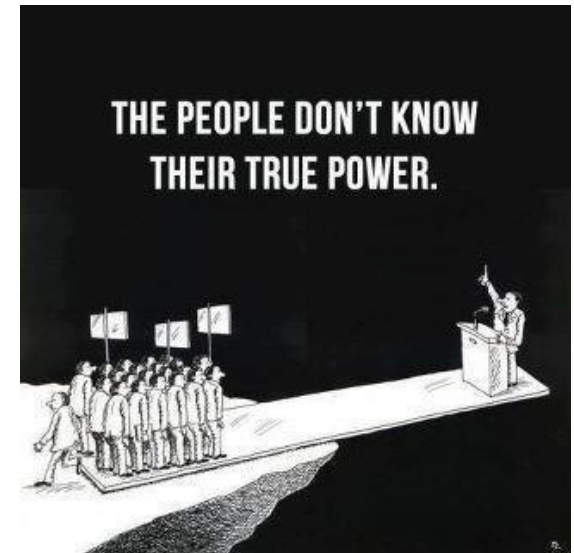
**1- All people yearn to freedom, dignity and decent life**

2- All peoples have a “revolution ignition level”; Arabs are not an exception

3- The “spark” is context specific

4- No dictator is invincible, and dictators are not as strong as they appear

5- The key of victory against dictatorship is unity in diversity



# Lessons learnt

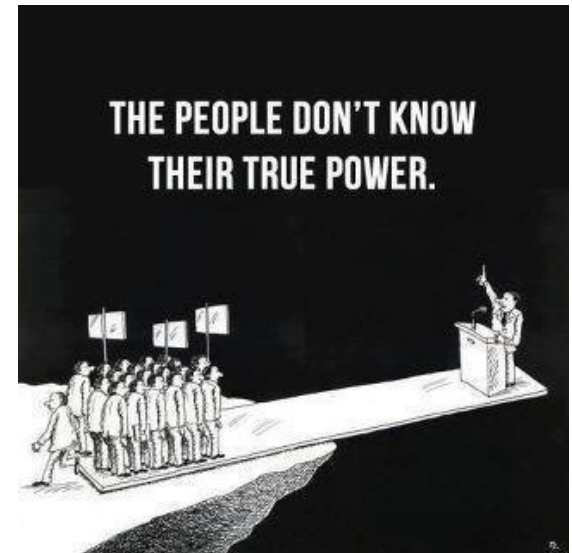
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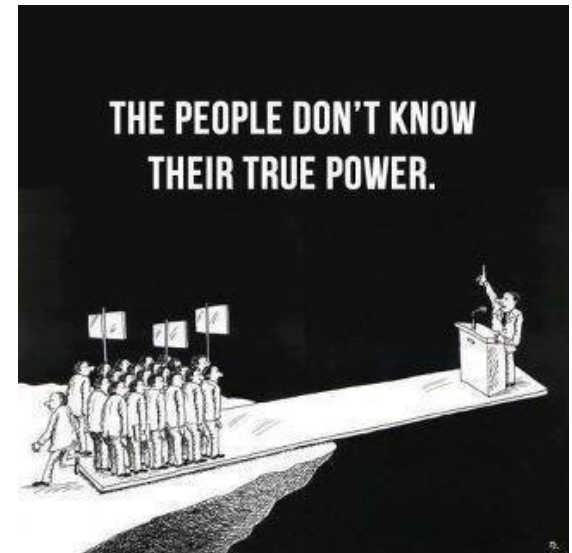


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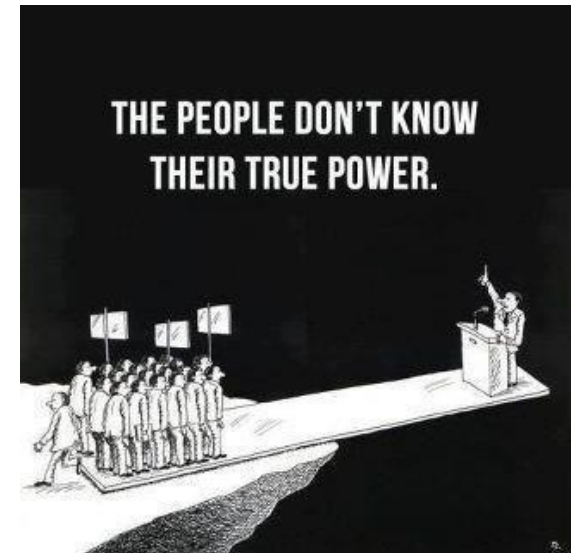
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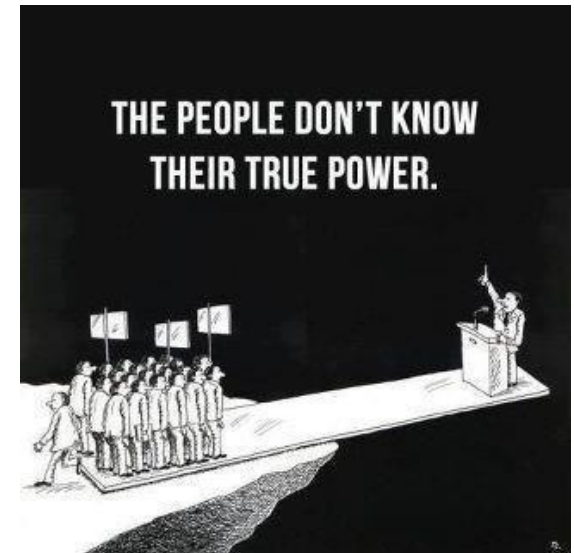
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7- Youth can make the change

8- Non violent civil resistance is efficient even in Arab countries (fuzzy border NV/V)

9- Social networks and satellite channels may help, but the real struggle is in the street and sacrifices are required

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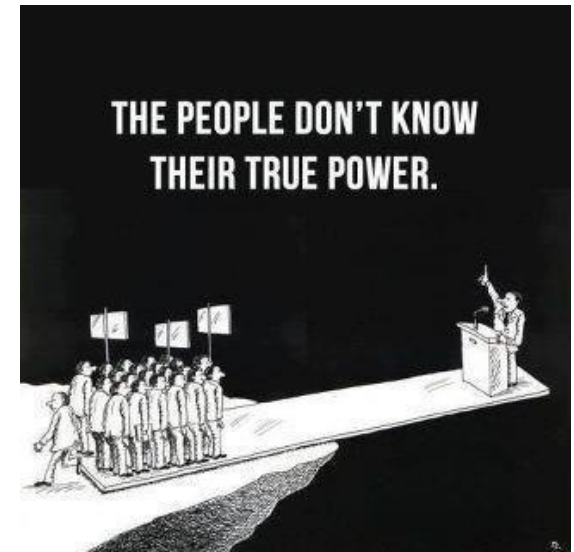
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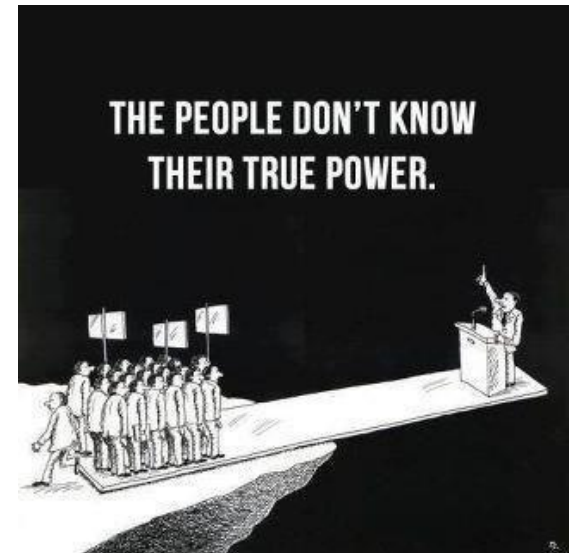
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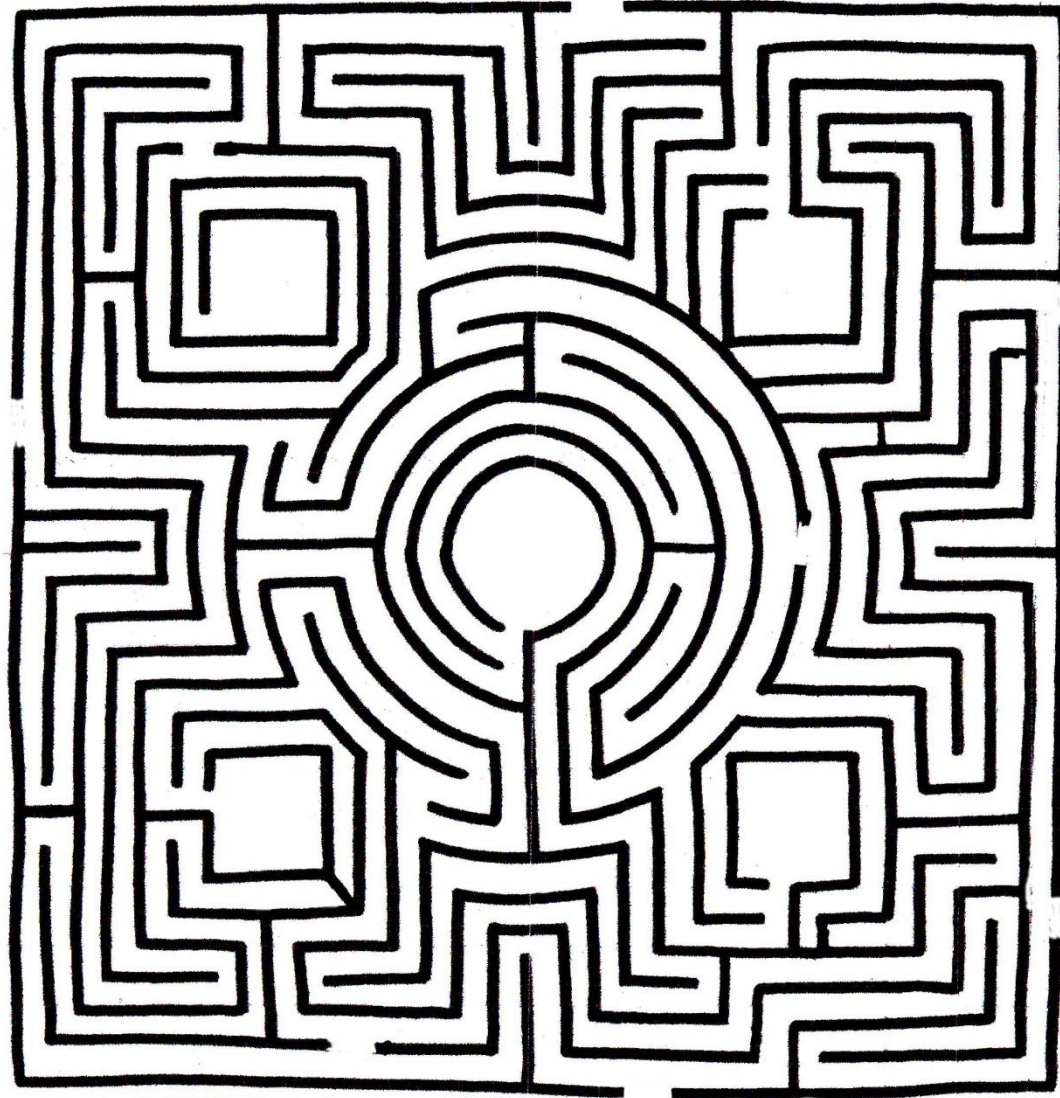


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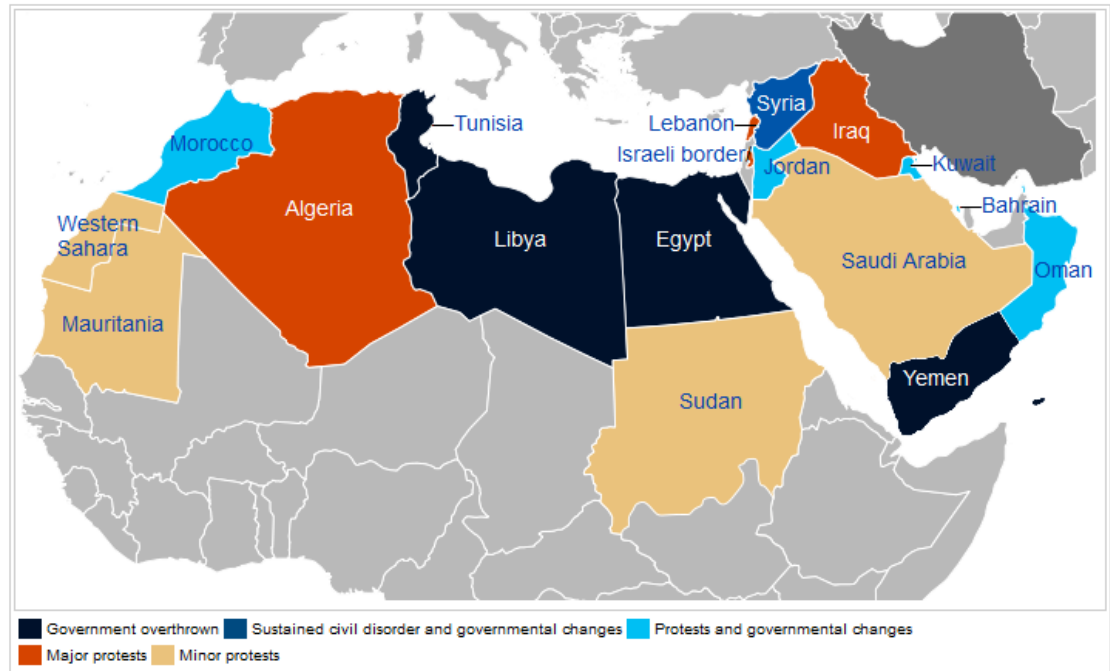
# Challenges



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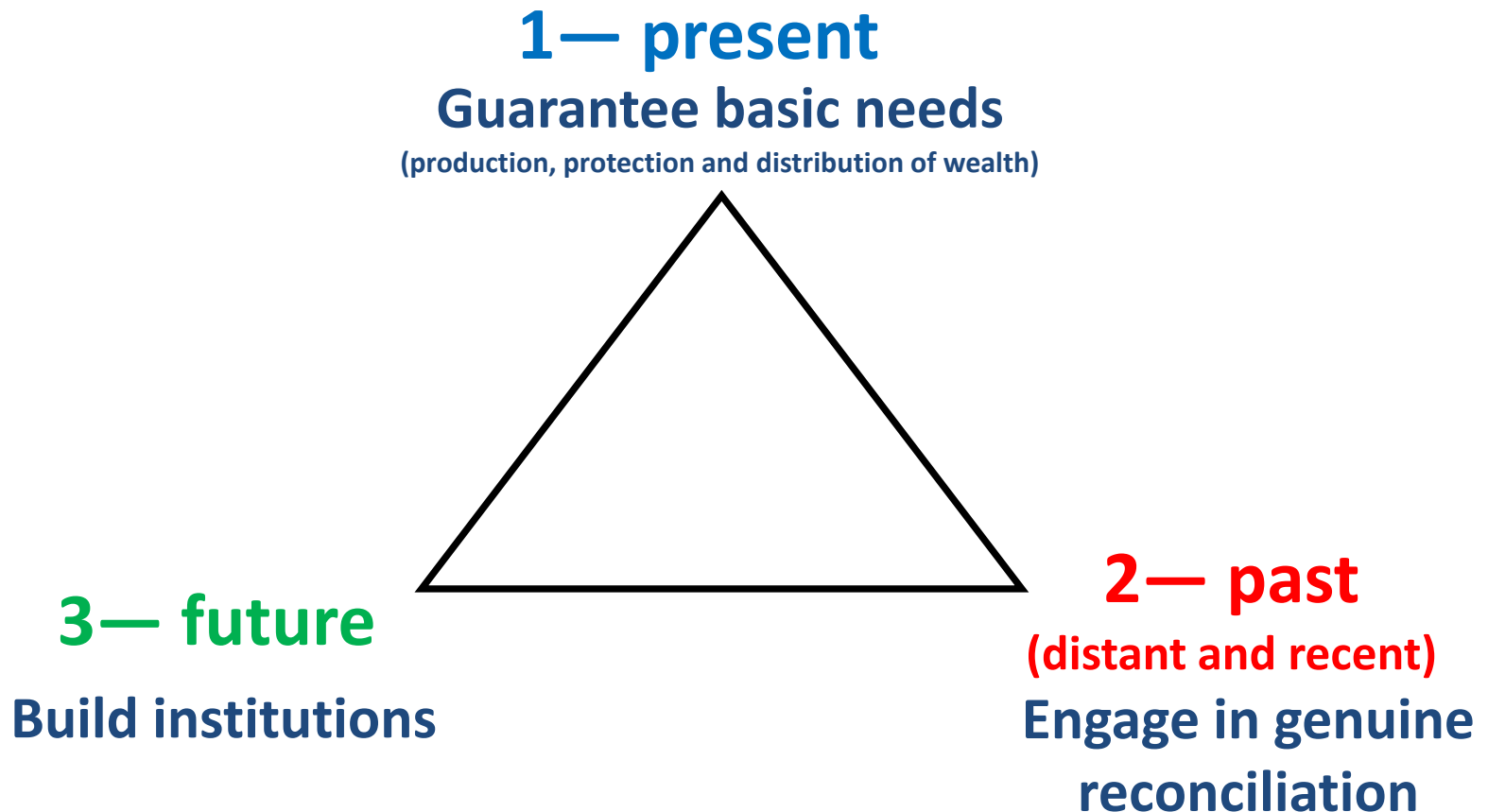
## (1) Resist Counterrevolution

- Internal
- Neighboring
- International



# Challenges

## (2) Dealing with past, present and future



# Challenges

**(3) To get used to “conflict management”  
by arms**



# Challenges

## **(4) Egoism (individual and collective)**

Self-sufficiency and rejection of the Other

Failure to reach a minimum agreement

- **Obstacle to revolution**
- **Obstacle state building**



# Challenges

## (5) Deviation / perversion of the new political elites





