

**The Impacts and Changes of Electoral Systems on Democracy: Fresh Insights and Instances of Countries that implemented Democratic Reforms**  
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**Abstract**

*The Aim of this research paper is to examine the relationship between electoral systems framework and democratic governance and popular engagement as well by exploring the significance of voting systems in democratic societies, analysing various types of systems, their impacts, and the intricate equilibrium they establish between effective governance and sufficient representation. The paper also sheds light on how much recent global institutional reforms are gaining part in the democratization process with a special attention on the case of Algeria in struggling for democratic governance amidst its adoption of the recent institutional and political framework reforms.*

**Keywords:** Electoral Systems, Democracy, Popular Engagment, Democratic Governance.

**التأثيرات والتغيرات في الأنظمة الانتخابية على الديمقراطية: رؤية جديدة وأمثلة عن دول اتبعت إصلاحات ديمقراطية**

**ملخص**

تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى دراسة العلاقة بين إطار الأنظمة الانتخابية والحوكمة الديمقراطية والمشاركة الشعبية أيضًا من خلال استكشاف أهمية أنظمة التصويت في المجتمعات الديمقراطية، وتحليل الأنواع المختلفة من الأنظمة، وتأثيراتها، والتوازن المعقد الذي تقيمه بين الحوكمة الفعالة والتمثيل الكافي. تسلط الورقة أيضًا الضوء على مدى تأثير الإصلاحات المؤسسية العالمية الحديثة في عملية التحول الديمقراطي، مع إيلاء اهتمام خاص لحالة الجزائر في سعيها للحوكمة الديمقراطية وسط تبنيها للإصلاحات المؤسسية والسياسية الأخيرة.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** أنظمة انتخابية، ديمقراطية، مشاركة شعبية، حوكمة ديمقراطية

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## **Introduction:**

The study of the relationship of electoral systems and democratic governance drew the attention of many researchers and scholars in the recent decades. In times, this issue reached an impasse since it was argued that democratic governance would flourish under the principles of representation, accountability, inclusivity which are enhanced by electoral systems. They have the power to shape and manage the composition and functioning of governments by converting the votes of the public into legislative seats. Evidence indicates that successful democracies basically rely on the functioning of these systems which are not only insignificant technical elements. In the realm of politics, they exert influence over the behaviour of political parties, the number of individuals participating in voting, and the level of competitiveness among them.

This research paper presents an analysis of the critical role of electoral systems in democratic governments in general, highlighting their types, impacts and the essential balance which they provide between representation and good effective government. Particularly, Algeria is among the countries undergoing significant electoral reform which is historically characterized by a dominant one-party system, starting a long journey to change its electoral framework in response to demands for greater political openness and fair representation to promote a more competitive political environment by enhancing the electoral process transparency and increasing voter engagement. Due to this prevailing issue, this article seeks to explore how changes in electoral systems have influenced democratic processes and outcomes with a spotlight on Algeria as a prospective successful case.

## **1- Theoretical Framework:**

The examination of the correlation between democratic outcomes and electoral systems is a vast and all-encompassing area of research within political science, which goes beyond conventional beliefs. The meaning of democracy and electoral system have been changing and evolving through time. They have always been receiving many interpretations and they are still under examination from scholars and political scientists who still lack consensus on their concepts, meanings and their relevance to each other.

Historically, the term democracy was introduced into English language by translation in the 18<sup>th</sup> c the English Cambridge Dictionary defines it as 'the belief in freedom and equality between people, or a system of government based on this belief'. Modern democracy, originating from Aristotle, has evolved over time, influencing our daily lives and controlling the world. Plato believes the true meaning of democracy is hidden in heaven. The Greek word 'dēmokratia', derived from 'dēmos' and 'Kratos', means the rule of citizens. Contemporary political thinking like Montesquieu, Rousseau, and Hegel emphasizes prioritizing public interests over private ones in a democratic society<sup>(1)</sup>.

In his book *Democracy: a Beginner's Guide*, Beetham defines it as is a process where members have equal rights and opinions in group, association, or society decisions, unlike personal decisions<sup>(2)</sup>. It is conceptualized differently by Abraham Lincoln, who saw it as "government of the people, by the people, for the people." The Algerian thinker Malek Ben nabi etymologically defines democracy as the power of people, designing a range of rights, and as a self-feeling, feeling towards others, and a set of social and political conditions necessary for its development<sup>(3)</sup>.

Alternatively, democracy is incorporated within various methodologies and theories such as constitutional approach, substantive approach, procedural approach, and process-oriented approaches. Constitutional democracy approach focuses on political activity and laws, while substantive democracy approach promotes life and politics with a specific government. On the other hand, Process-oriented approaches involve regular elections, voting rights, citizenship procedures, public decision-making, and democratic participation in agenda-setting. Besides that, Dahl notes five criteria for a democratic process, including freedom of association, press, and expression. These approaches aim to ensure equal participation in policy decisions and promote human welfare, freedom, security, and social equality<sup>(4)</sup>.

Specifically, the notion of democracy in Algeria is prominently reflected in the lasting influence of the independence revolutionary fight and the November 1954 Proclamation. This proclamation explicitly emphasizes the prioritization of national interest over individual interests, ensuring the protection of civil liberties and fundamental rights.

Another point worthy of consideration is understanding electoral systems as they are crucial for political competitiveness and democratic rule. Often overlooked, election outcomes reflect voter choices, but a nation's voting system affects results and can shape political parties and administration. The Bush v. Gore controversy and Hillary Clinton's 2.9 million popular vote win led to debates particularly on the Electoral College's role in the American electoral system and the popular vote vs. electoral vote gap.

Prior to discussing the various electoral systems, it is important to provide a clear definition of what is meant by an election system. An electoral system is a formal mechanism that converts votes into legislative seats, crucial for maintaining democratic integrity. It enables voters to make informed, unrestricted choices of their favourite candidates within their constituencies. An effective system must ensure the assembly/parliament is inclusive and reflects the diverse composition of the voting community, ensuring the legitimacy of decision-making on behalf of the people. Political scientists have extensively studied how various electoral systems accomplish these translations and representations<sup>(5)</sup>.

A comprehensive analysis of the fundamental elements of an electoral system consists of five fundamental elements: voting method, districting, seat voting methods indicate choices on the ballot, while districting divides regions. Seat allocation is done using mathematical formulas. Electoral laws and regulations govern the process, while election administration involves voter registration, polling station operations, vote counting, and result certification. The impact of selecting an electoral system on a particular government is crucial and leaves long term consequences. The main characteristic of electoral systems is how votes are casted then translated into seats.

Various types of electoral systems lead to different power distribution outcomes, representation and the stability of government as summarised below:

The First Past the Post (FPTP) voting system involves voters casting a single vote for one candidate in a race, with the winner declared regardless of absolute majority. This method can lead to unequal representation and bias towards larger political parties. Proportional Representation (PR) system distributes seats based on party votes, using techniques like List PR, Mixed-Member Proportional (MMP), and Single Transferable Vote (STV) in Public Relations.

Majoritarian systems involve election arrangements where the winner wins, ensuring their victory. However, these systems tend to waste more votes than proportional systems due to the less effective representation of losing candidates' views and interests. There are two majoritarian rules: alternate vote and two-round method.

Mixed member proportional representation (MMP) is an electoral system in Germany that involves voters to cast two separate votes for a party list and a single-member constituency candidate. After single-member contests, some seats are filled from party lists, aiming for proportional representation. This system offers an additional seat to political parties with more single-member seats than they would have received through a proportional allocation, thereby enhancing the number of seats in the house.

Merit-based systems of ancient Chinese electoral systems, and appointed systems have been used for 1400 years to select candidates for civil service appointments. These systems assess intelligence and competence, require candidate qualifications, and actively select leaders to choose the best leaders<sup>(6)</sup>.

Comparatively, it can be seen that each electoral system possesses its own set of benefits and of drawbacks. The selection of a particular system can exert a substantial influence on the representation of diverse interests within a community, the stability of governments, and the functioning of democracy as a whole resulting a complex field of study in political science

encompassing voting procedures, voter preferences, representation, equitable treatment, inclusion of all groups, marginalized voices, party dynamics, coalition formation, and stability of democratic institutions. A comprehensive examination of political, institutional, and societal elements is essential to fully understand this relationship.

On influence on regime types, Ian Rebouças Batista and others assume that several diverse electoral systems are preferred by the various forms of governance. Generally speaking, autocracies opt for majoritarian systems, whereas democracies gravitate toward proportional representation systems. Electoral systems also ought to be designed in such a way that they closely correlate with voter preferences and the true aspirations of the voters, rather than pandering to the particular interests of political elites or oligarchies. On the other side, they have a direct impact on political dynamics particularly in European contexts where they exert substantial impact on political dynamics, encompassing the interplay and rivalry between political parties<sup>(7)</sup>.

In the same way, proportional representation seeks to reflect more properly the distribution of popular support among various political parties while majoritarian systems may distort this representation, but also promote greater governmental mandates. It is argued that the transparency and consistency of electoral procedures are essential elements in the formation of democratic outcomes that are both foreseeable and enduring throughout time.

It is argued that the effects of electoral systems on democracy depending on how they are designed and depending on how they are implemented have the potential to either undermine or strengthen support for democratic rule. This impact is a reflection of the success that democratic institutions have had over the long term and can significantly differ based on a nation's historical context, political culture, and degree of democratic development.

## **2- Historical Context and Evolution of Electoral Systems:**

The development of voting systems was an intricate and a lengthy process which was shaped by changes in political ideology, government goals, and public expectations. The following paragraphs shows that the process is too old and present a concise historical account of electoral systems that is accompanied with pertinent and intellectual perspectives

In ancient and medieval times, the Greeks and the Romans used lotteries to avoid corruption and promote citizen involvement in elections. Nobles dominated medieval European electoral systems while commoners were excluded. Distinctly, the Enlightenment, spurred by French and American revolutions, led to contemporary election systems in the 18th and 19th centuries. Male suffrage was emphasized, marking a shift away from property-owner-dominated institutions. The British Reform Acts of the 1830s and 1860s laid the groundwork for future political reforms and increased suffrage for more males<sup>(8)</sup>.

Further investigation shows that the most significant transformative advancements were place during the twentieth century: Some nations, such as Belgium, adopted proportional representation systems in the early 2000s to more accurately represent the political landscape in their parliaments. The suffrage movement, advocating for women's right to vote, originated in New Zealand in 1893 and subsequently gained global momentum. Election systems were established to support emerging forms of governance as nation's attained independence from colonial powers. This was a component of the process of decolonization. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was a significant reform in the United States aimed at eliminating racial discrimination in voting, in line with the global trend towards inclusive democratic participation observed in civil rights movements.

Moreover, most revolutionary democratic advances occurred in the 20th century: Belgium implemented proportional representation systems in the early 2000s to better represent the political landscape in its parliaments. Similarly, the suffrage movement, which began in New Zealand in 1893, spread worldwide as nations gained independence from colonial powers. It is debatable when the 1965 US Voting Rights Act sought to eradicate racial discrimination in voting, following civil rights movements elsewhere.

It is argued that technological advancements, such as electronic voting, have improved the accessibility and efficiency of elections in recent decades. Efforts to improve the fairness of elections have also been made. During the contentious 2000 election in the United States, discussions exclusively arose over the Electoral College due to its ability to choose a candidate who did not receive the majority of the vote. In addition, ongoing reforms embrace discussions regarding electoral reform mostly focus on subjects such as campaign funding, the impact of social media, and tactics to combat election manipulation<sup>(9)</sup>. Several comprehensive reforms have been enacted in nations like Greece and Italy, aiming to stabilize their voting systems and adapt to changing political landscapes.

The above review highlights the dynamic nature of voting system enhancements, which continuously adapt to address emerging challenges and paves the way to fulfil the increasing expectations of voters for democratic governance.

Historically, the development of voting procedures in democratic societies has been influenced by a range of political ideologies and societal demands. The following paragraphs trace the evolution of voting systems, by examining their roots and their significant milestones, from older, outdated versions to more modern frameworks.

In modern democracies, the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) system relies basically on the British parliamentary tradition<sup>(10)</sup>. Likewise, several nations such as the United States and Canada continue to employ the First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) electoral system, despite its criticism for its perceived unfairness and tendency to exclude certain groups<sup>(11)</sup>. In the mid-twentieth century, proportional representation (PR) systems acquired popularity in an effort to represent diverse political perspectives more fairly. Gallagher adds that it promotes coalition administrations and multiparty competition by allocating seats in proportion to the percentages of party votes.

Hybrid systems emerges as Mixed-Member proportionate (MMP) to achieve a balance between local representation and proportionate outcomes by combining features of First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) and Proportional Representation (PR). Its adoption in Germany had a significant impact on other countries that were looking to achieve comparable political balances.

According to Blais and Massicotte, there is still a little debate on the continuous developments about electoral systems to achieve increased representation, to enhance accountability and greater democratic legitimacy. Two potential advancements that could potentially yield improved outcomes are electronic voting and ranked-choice voting.

Alongside that, we find that the impact of colonial legacies on the electoral systems on post-colonial states is complex and extensive, shaping patterns of representation, political competition, and the dynamics between the State and society. To promote democratic governance and widespread political participation in these contexts, it is advocated to comprehend and address these historical consequences. Understanding the phenomenon of colonialism and its consequential effects on political processes, especially in Africa, has always been a contentious issue. Despite the fact that most of the African countries gained their political independence more than five decades ago, the legacy of colonialism seems to be still present as most of them hardly manage to consist in their political systems.

When analysing the complexities of ethnic politics and its subsequent consequences, colonial rulers frequently employed the tactic of "divide and rule," a policy that exacerbated religious, racial, and tribal divisions<sup>(12)</sup>. On the other side, post-colonial administrations often used ethnically-based party politics or election quotas, as they have inherited these divisions from their colonial past<sup>(13)</sup>. Englebert mentions that due to the lasting effects of colonialism, post-colonial regimes often depend on external influences and suffer from inadequate institutional structures while Lindbergh sets up two ways by which electoral systems might demonstrate their dependence: firstly, through international assistance in organizing elections and secondly by the impact of former colonial powers on electoral procedures<sup>(14)</sup>.

The economic mechanisms of disparity and dominance that existed during the colonial era frequently resulted in the establishment of long-lasting inequities and the domination of state institutions by the elite in which electoral systems of post-colonial states can sustain these inequities, as the ruling elites exploit electoral regulations and resources to preserve their authority<sup>(15)</sup>.

Alongside that, we find that the implementation of democratic changes in post-colonial nations is hindered by the enduring impact of colonial control on electoral processes which results in an established privileged group who profit from colonial-era agreements and typically resist efforts to promote inclusiveness, transparency, and responsibility.

### **3- The Impact of Electoral System Changes on Democracy: Case of Algeria**

The historical period of colonization, the struggle for independence, and the subsequent efforts to establish a functioning State in Algeria have greatly influenced the country's political framework and leadership. Following its declaration of independence from France in 1962, the nation embarked on the task of establishing a robust and enduring government. Algeria has pursued a socialist and a highly centralized political path after independence and the State's control over economy and government had a direct reflection on the ideologies which were held by the ruling elites. However, following the economic difficulties caused by the oil crisis in the 1980s, Algeria started to reassess its economic plans and government structures. The Algerian significant experience of social and political turmoil during the 1990s and 2000s resulting in a devastating civil war which had a profound impact on the country's governance which led to long-lasting changes led the State responded immediately to these dangers experiencing alternating periods of repression and liberalization in order to maintain stability by political restriction and vice versa.

In 1989, a constitutional amendment was made in Algeria, which permitted the establishment of new political parties. This change had a significant impact on the political landscape of the country. The political instability within the government and the resulting civil unrest during the 1990s hampered the progress made during a short period of political openness and increased competition. More recently, there has been a significant and rapid increase in both level of involvement in politics and presence of individuals representing various groups in political processes. The events of the Arab Spring in Tunisia, Egypt, and other Arab States influenced the Algerian political arena and pushed the government in 2011 to a significant change and a notable increase in political activity. Volpi notes that the government terminated the 19-year state of emergency and enacted laws to facilitate the activities of political groups and non-profit organizations. The latter steps promoted greater civic engagement in politics. An instance of this is the incorporation of quotas for female candidates as a component of the election legislation amendments in 2012 and 2017. The purpose of this action was to enhance gender parity in the parliament and enhance the level of openness in elections<sup>(16)</sup>.

The emergence of several political parties in Algeria throughout the latter half of the twentieth century brought about a significant transformation in the country's political landscape. As a result of these advancements, the competition between political parties has undergone significant changes, becoming much more heated compared to previous times.

After the achievement of independence, the National Liberation Front (FLN) became the sole political party in the country. However, the political landscape expanded in 1989 as a result of constitutional reforms that permitted the formation of multiple political factions. Despite the significant turmoil, particularly during the 1990s civil war, which posed challenges to establishing a competitive political landscape, the objective of this transformation was to enhance the democratic process of selecting leaders.

Currently, the Algerians are engaged in ongoing discussions over the need to diversify their economy, to minimize the role of the military in political affairs, and the imperative of implementing political reforms due to the nation's tumultuous past. The complex interplay of historical, social, and economic factors that have influenced the Algerian governments led to

the development of a political system that combines elements of authoritarianism with regulated political participation.

In order to achieve an enhanced democratization, voting systems in Algeria has had significant change over decades by inspecting the political environment change and its endeavours. The recently witnessed changes have been associated with progress and obstacles due to internal political dynamics regional patterns.

2017 parliamentary elections were decisive in the development of election system of the country, in particular, and the political landscape, in general, due to low voting turnout, notable discontent, and the bad economic conditions. It is argued that in spite of numerous challenges, the vote was conducted with a new electoral system aiming to enhance fairness and transparency. The unique experience in Algeria compared to other Arab nations marked that it has actively participated in political life since independence. There were amendments made to the constitution and the changes made to electoral laws in an effort to stabilize the country and enhance more democratic governance.

The new election regulations were implemented in order to address the fundamental issues that had been compromising Algeria's voting process. These measures included initiatives to enhance the accuracy of voter registration, bolster the independence of the electoral commission, and ensure equal opportunities for political parties to access the media.

Internal political dynamics and the socio-economic pressures, and the aspirations for democratic governance as well are among the major variables in order to improve electoral systems in Algeria. More importantly, the desire for political reform and the transition towards a more democratic government which is evident in the activities aimed at increasing participatory democracy and tackling the undemocratic components within the existing system, such as military influence and political police assistance. This latter reform corresponds with the political intention to enact substantive changes within the context of third wave democracies<sup>(17)</sup>, where the electoral system is seen as a measure of the reformist intent.

The evolving relationship between influential political personalities and the administration also serves as further motivation. According to Mourad Bensaid and Salah Ziani on the need to transition from a strictly superficial role to one that may actively facilitate political transformation and reshape Algeria's political environment has necessitated modifications to the electoral system. The transition mentioned here is influenced by the previous political developments in other Arab States, which exemplify a greater regional trend towards democracy. The necessity to tackle accusations of electoral fraud and systemic irregularities were among the practical considerations and revisions made by government. In this regard, Youcef Bouandel notes that the 2009 presidential election as an instance where the nation's political stability and endeavours to establish democracy were reevaluated due to the requirement for a stronger and more transparent voting system. It is argued that electoral reforms have been motivated by both societal demands and economic difficulties, such as the decline in oil prices. This further illustrates the intricate connection between economic causes and political mechanisms<sup>(18)</sup>.

The outcome is a politically diverse landscape. Algeria stands out among Arab nations for its remarkable representation of women in parliament. According to the Global Database of Quotas for Women in 2020, the current representation of women in seats is approximately 32%.

Despite these achievements, there are still hindrances; Elabed asserted that bureaucratic regulations, disenchantment with the government, and the excessive influence of the military are the factors contributing to reduced political participation. Algeria must prioritize the resolve of these challenges in order to achieve an increase in its political engagement and impact<sup>(19)</sup>.

In the aftermath, there has been a growing demand for further political liberalization especially in recent years. In order to enhance representation of multiple political factions and

reduce instances of electoral misconduct, the electoral legislation was changed in 2012. It is noted that the results have been varied. The emergence of new political groupings that pose risks to the existing order, alternatively the FLN and its allies, such as the Rally for Democracy (RND), continue to maintain their influence.

Regardless of these advancements, the present condition of the Algerian political parties indicates a contest for dominance between established organizations and emerging political factions. Although it still has a considerable distance to cover in order to establish itself as a robust multiparty system, this does suggest the presence of a structure that allows for competition.

There has been considerable scholarly interest in examining the impact of Algeria's electoral system on governance and policy-making. A recent academic study conducted by an Algerian researcher has revealed how much is complex the nature of the country's electoral process and its influence on the government, moreover, he has categorized them into several significant aspects.

According to Salim, economic considerations are aggravating the political engagement crisis, posing a challenge to the stability to the country's democratic institutions. Consequently, the problem underscores the connection between the structure of the electoral system and civic participation, suggesting that financial influences may reduce public confidence and engagement in government<sup>(20)</sup>.

Further investigation shows how much deeply the electoral and constitutional frameworks have impact on the democratic transition and on policies and on administrative decisions as well. Rumman argues that the absence of strong and transparent election processes paralyses the achievement of democratic goals and the effectiveness of policymaking (2017). An analysis of the Algerian parliamentary elections in 2008 conducted by professor of political science in the University of Algiers on electoral systems and several aspects of government illustrated: "in order to attain efficient governance and maintain political stability, it is imperative to modify existing legislation". Besides, the analysis also concluded that electoral systems have the ability to either facilitate or impede democratic transitions.

Election systems play an important role at the level of involvement of civil society in the democratic processes; a study confirms that civil associations took a crucial part in the processes of democratization and policymaking in Algeria which made possible through the use of electoral frameworks.

To sum-up, a well-designed election system can strengthen the ability of civil society to exert influence on the government ;hence, promoting democratic participation and policy formation. The electoral processes in Algeria have a substantial influence on the establishment and trajectory of the government. These systems have an impact on various areas such as democracy, legislative reform, gender equality, and civic participation. Efforts should be made to establish transparent and fair mechanisms in order to enhance the effectiveness of its programs and ensure democratic governance.

#### **4- New Perspectives on Electoral Systems and Democracy:**

There is consensus that voting systems have recently witnessed various breakthroughs and trends which caused major changes in the domestic and the world political process. Particularly, the use of technology to optimize elections procedures, especially by the use of e-voting and voter registration marked a notable advancement. It should be pointed out that electronic voting has a lot of advantages like enhancing accessibility, expediting vote tabulation, and reducing human potential faults and cyber security concerns. Even more important, Wang et al suggest that to enhance trustworthiness and safeness through depending on blockchain technology which establishes verifiable and immutable vote records<sup>(21)</sup>.

Alternately, many countries shifted to proportional representation to solve the drawbacks of the winner-take- all system. So, the objectives of these alternatives in election procedures are to diminish political polarization and enhance election representation by accommodating a broader spectrum of voter choices. For instance, ranked-choice voting and other alternative

voting systems have gained popularity because of their ability for offering more chances to voters and minimizing the influence of strategic voting conversely to the winner-take-all system. In other words, innovative and new voting systems have deeply impacted the democratic process of many countries and they fundamentally enhanced the accessibility and responsiveness of the traditional electoral systems. For instance, Ranked-choice voting and proportional representations are two alternative methods to majoritarian systems that can produce more precise voter preferences. Consequently, the former measures have the potential to create a government that better represents the people, reduces polarization, and increases voter satisfaction.

In spite of all this, implementing these advancements can be challenging. Although blockchain and electronic voting systems offer numerous benefits, the introduction of new cyber security concerns may erode voters' trust in the political process. To Ensure the resilience of voting systems against cyber-attacks is of utmost importance. For the successful execution of new election formats, it is imperative to have public awareness campaigns and comprehensive voter education. Getting beyond the obvious, in order to preventing misinterpretations and guaranteeing inclusivity; it is recommended to follow these measures<sup>(22)</sup>.

### **5- Comparative Analysis: Successes and Challenges**

Typically, four nations—Algeria, Kenya, Mexico, and Tunisia—have implemented election reforms, and each of them experienced both successes and shortcomings. The founding of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) in Kenya was a direct result of reforms made to the election process. Due to the IEBC's efforts to enhance voter confidence and promote transparency, there has been a decrease in the occurrence of violent conflicts that arise after elections. The credibility of voting procedures is challenged, however, by accusations of corruption and persistent ethnic conflicts<sup>(23)</sup>.

It is clear that the implementation of biometric voter identification and campaign financing limitations by the Federal Electoral Institute (IFE) has resulted in a decline in voter fraud and an increase in confidence in Mexico's electoral system. Violence against political candidates and low voter turnout harm the inclusiveness and stability of the elections, despite the progress which was achieved. Most importantly, the Arab Spring led to modifications in Tunisia's proportional representation system, which in turn played a role in the country's rather stable political situation. The breakdown resulted in a prolonged political standstill, as cohesive government coalitions could not be formed. Continuing on, Algerians now have increased confidence in the electoral process due to the efforts of the Independent National Electoral Commission and the upcoming implementation of biometric voter registration. However, due to the overwhelming influence of powerful elites and their widespread distrust in the government, it is unlikely that these reforms will have a significant impact<sup>(24)</sup>.

The process of adopting election modifications on a worldwide scale has yielded a multitude of valuable findings and recommendations. Firstly, in order to sustain transparency and public confidence in the election system, it is essential to create independent electoral institutions. The examples of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) in Kenya and the Independent High Authority for Elections in Tunisia demonstrate that elections can be conducted with greater fairness and reduced fraud when the electoral management is independent and impartial.

In essence, the Federal Electoral Institute (IFE) has taken the lead in voter education programs aimed at increasing knowledge with the new voting methods. Mexico has adopted biometric voter identification as a means to incentivize greater voter turnout. In Tunisia, the challenges of implementing proportional representation have been recognized through the means of education. To guarantee citizen engagement in Algerian elections, it is necessary to implement biometric voter registration and establish an unbiased electoral commission. An effective government must give top priority to addressing socio-political inequalities and minimizing political division. Electoral methods like ranked-choice voting and mixed-

member proportional voting can enhance government representation by aligning it more closely with the preferences of the population and ensuring proportional representation.

### **Conclusion:**

The previous paragraphs above concluded that the evolution of electoral systems left a significant impact in the democratic process in many countries. These institutional reforms of electoral systems are globally gaining a significant part in the democratization process. It is also revealing that when we examine the various global contexts in implementing reforms to the framework of the electoral systems often establish more robust democratic institutions and increase the levels of popular engagement and trust in government. However, most of these reforms are inefficient and gradual.

Typically, the case of Algeria shows an increasing intention of government by adapting voting processes to align with evolving societal expectations and demands; this will further contribute to developing greater political openness and fair representation to promote a more competitive political environment.

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