

Abstract

The Muslim Brotherhood has gone through a lot of changes since 1928 when it was founded by Hasan al-Banna. The Brothers moved away from being a social-religious movement dealing with moral values and teachings about Islam to violent activism and even terrorism, and subsequently they officially abandoned violence. Following the Arab Spring protests in 2011, the political stream of the Brotherhood got into the government, and one of their members even became the first democratically elected president. On its journey to success, the Brotherhood had to cope with periods of repression and illegality, and I will focus on one such period, namely the reign of President Mubarak from 1981 to 2011. During his reign, an anti-terrorism law was adopted including a controversial definition of terrorism based on which, that time non-violent Muslim Brothers, but also other subjects criticizing the regime, were being accused of terrorism. The relationship between the Muslim Brotherhood and the Egyptian regime during this period as well as the definition of terrorism of 1992 are my main focus in this thesis.

Key words: Muslim Brotherhood, Egypt, terrorism, definition, Mubarak