

# **IRD 315: REVOLUTIONS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

## **WEEK 4: Reactions and Responses of Other States to Revolutions**

### **4.0. INTRODUCTION**

Revolution in the International System is most times an internal occurrence. It means they occur within the geographical space of a particular society. Despite that, it does not relegate the roles played by external entities in a revolution. Said external actors, respond and react to the occurrence of a revolution in a particular way or manner depending on their interest. Hence, in order to understand how other states react and respond to revolutionary events and occurrences in a follow state, is why this topic emerges.

### **4.1. OPPORTUNISTIC RESPONSE AND REACTION**

In this level, a state on learning of a revolution makes rational calculations to estimate and extrapolate what benefit they will derive from such a revolution if they choose to support, oppose or abstain from making any move. They seek to exploit odds beneficial to them. Example of this is the Libyan Revolution (Western Powers involvement), The Arab Spring (Saudi Opposition) etc.

## **4.2. ANTAGONISTIC RESPONSE AND REACTION**

Here, a state response or reaction to a revolution come in the form of opposition to the revolution itself. They take a position of antagonism and seeks to counter or reverse such a revolution. E.G the Houthi Uprising/Revolution in Yemen (Saudi Opposition).

## **4.3. PRO-REVOLUTION RESPONSE AND REACTION**

For this, we have other states external to the terrain of a revolution being positively predisposed to a revolution. They are comfortable to work with the revolutionary and even have aided the revolution to fruition. Example of such, include the French support to the Americans during the American Revolution.

## **4.4. NEUTRALIST RESPONSE AND REACTION**

For this, states seek to trend the part of neutrality; they lack any interest in the revolution and seek not to be dragged into it. They abstain from making any move in support or in opposition to the revolution. Example of such is the USA, during the French Revolutions.

## **4.5. CAUTIONARY RESPONSE AND REACTION DIMENSIONS**

In said scenario, state actors, not being sure of the outcome of a revolution or not sure how its citizens or political structure will permit it to react or respond to such a

revolution choose to trend the part of caution. Example of such is the Umbrella Revolution.