

## Analyzing the Relationship between Inequality and Social Unrest: Iran and the Selected Countries

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### Abstract

Analyzing the relationship between inequality and social unrest is a crucial issue that requires a deep investigation. Adequate historical evidence has indicated that countries with more political and social stability have been more successful in achieving economic development as well. Poverty position, inequality, unemployment, hyperinflation and the status of civil liberty, have had influential roles on political stability and economic development too. Inequality leads to unrest which in turn causes much more instability. In addition, instability threatens property rights and productive investment. This trend finally will decline economic growth and economic welfare. Hence, this article is testing and analyzing the relationship between inequality and politico-social unrest among 36 developed countries on one hand and 17 MENA countries (including Iran) on the other. Some findings of this work indicate that inequality causes unrest and political instability, which eventually declines economic growth. According to the result of it, improving political and social stability and alleviating inequality will decrease social unrest.

**Keywords:** Inequality; economic stability; social unrest; economic growth.

**JEL Classification:** C44, D39, D74, H44.

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