

# The Muslim Brotherhood, the Islamic Current, and Prospects for Post-Mubarak Egypt:

## An Early Assessment

by [Robert Satloff \(/experts/robert-satloff\)](/experts/robert-satloff)

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### ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Robert Satloff \(/experts/robert-satloff\)](/experts/robert-satloff)

Robert Satloff is executive director of The Washington Institute, a post he assumed in January 1993.



Articles & Testimony

**O**n April 13, 2011, Washington Institute executive director Robert Satloff testified at a U.S. House of Representatives panel on the Muslim Brotherhood's role in Egypt following the end of the Mubarak regime.

I believe deep concern about the Muslim Brotherhood's potential emergence as a major player and even power-broker is warranted. As I noted in previous congressional testimony, the Brotherhood is not, as some suggest, simply an Egyptian version of the March of Dimes -- that is, a social welfare organization whose goals are fundamentally humanitarian. On the contrary, the Brotherhood is a profoundly political organization that seeks to reorder Egyptian (and broader Muslim) society in an Islamist fashion. Tactically, I believe the organization will exploit whatever opportunities it is offered; it has renounced its most ambitious goals and the violent means to achieve them only as a result of regime compulsion, not by free choice. Should the Brotherhood achieve political power, it will almost certainly use that power to transform Egypt into a very different place. The best case analogy would be Turkey under Erdogan, where the secular state is gradually being Islamized. A more realistic situation would see deeper and more systemic Islamization of society, including the potential for a frightening growth of sectarianism between Muslims and Copts and even deepening intra-Muslim conflict between Salafis and Sufis....

[Download Dr. Satloff's full testimony \(PDF\). \(http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/html/pdf/Satloff20110413.pdf\)](http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/html/pdf/Satloff20110413.pdf)

[Watch C-SPAN video of this hearing \(http://www.c-span.org/Events/Hearing-Examined-the-Role-of-Muslim-Brotherhood-in-Middle-East-Politics/10737420863-1/\)](http://www.c-span.org/Events/Hearing-Examined-the-Role-of-Muslim-Brotherhood-in-Middle-East-Politics/10737420863-1/). (Dr. Satloff's testimony begins at the 13:30 mark.) ❖

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