Back to the old system

The wave of protests in the Arab world also swept through Egypt in 2011, demonstrations flared up on Tahrir Square in Cairo and elsewhere, but now there is disillusionment. With an overwhelming 92 percent of the votes, incumbent Abdel Fattah al-Sisi was confirmed as president in 2018. Of the approximately 60 million eligible voters, only around 21 percent voted in the three-day election. After the fall of Mubarak, hope for a democratic future briefly grew in the predominantly young population of the country on the Nile; now the low voter turnout is a clear expression of disappointment at the lack of political prospects. President al-Sisi rules with an iron fist and tries to portray himself as guarantor of stability and security. However, the increased security measures throughout the country have in no way helped to ease the situation, but have rather led to the return of a repressive police state. Human rights organisations deplore the unlawful imprisonment and torture of opposition members and journalists and arbitrary police brutality. At the same time, problems such as rising food prices and continuing youth unemployment have plagued the country for years.

Elections

Elections are held, but they are neither free nor fair. Most opposition groups boycott votes in the face of vote buying, censorship and repression. Voter turnout is very low because many Egyptians do not believe that the outcome of the elections will change the distribution of political power.

- poor playmaking

Civil rights protection

The violation of civil rights is massive and has increased dramatically since the ousting of the Islamic Mursi government. Egypt today is a repressive police state in which the rights of accused "public enemies" and the physical integrity of prisoners are not guaranteed.

- poor defense

Corruption prevention

Corruption and abuse of office are widespread and are not being effectively fought. The prosecution of misconduct and corruption has a politically instrumentalized function, patronage networks operate almost unhindered, while control and supervisory authorities are relatively powerless.

- flawed fair play

Freedom of speech

The Egyptian constitution allows freedom of expression, but in practice, since al-Sisi seized power, the media have effectively been muzzled. Journalists are being detained, government critics are facing reprisals, and a new media law expands the scope for state intervention and censorship.

- poor fan culture

Social inclusion

About half of the population is affected by poverty and malnutrition. The high population growth generates increasing social pressure, which is hardly cushioned by government measures. In a patriarchal order, women are discriminated against in almost all areas of society.

- poor team spirit