

A sociological Reading of Health Security

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Abstract: This research paper includes the topic of health security as one of the most important topics in modern security studies, as well as among the topics on the international political agenda due to the importance of health and its role in the system of human security and comprehensive community development.

We have touched on health security from a social, economic and political point of view, in addition to its fundamental impact on social stability. Therefore, countries are working to achieve health security, which faces several threats that could create a state of health security that negatively affects social stability, as well as on the policies pursued at the international and local levels .

Keywords: health; health security; health care; health spending; health culture .

الملخص:

تتضمن هذه الورقة البحثية موضوع الأمن الصحي باعتباره من أهم المواضيع في الدراسات الأمنية الحديثة، وكذلك من المواضيع المطروحة على الأجندة السياسية الدولية نظرا لأهمية الصحة ودورها في منظومة الأمن الإنساني والتنمية المجتمعية الشاملة، لذلك جاءت هذه الورقة للتطرق إلى الأمن الصحي من الناحية الاجتماعية والاقتصادية والسياسية، بالإضافة إلى تأثيره الجوهري على الإستقرار الإجتماعي، ولذلك أصبحت الدول تعمل على تحقيق الأمن الصحي الذي يواجه تهديدات عدة يمكن أن تحدث حالة من اللأمن الصحي الذي يؤثر سلبا على الإستقرار الإجتماعي، وكذا على السياسات المنتهجة على الصعيد الدولي والمحلي.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الأمن الصحي؛ الصحة؛ الرعاية الصحية؛ الإنفاق الصحي؛ الثقافة الصحية.

I- Introduction :

The issue of health security is one of the most important issues that concern governments and international organizations, and it has become for many considerations the attention of several scientific branches in terms of access to the various reasons that made it a pivotal issue that requires study and search for various solutions that serve the interests of countries. Therefore, there are many dimensions and aspects of the security issue, at the same time, the visions, entrances and levels of its treatment vary, it holds such importance that it occupies the top rank in light of the specific social, economic and private political conditions.

The matter of health security is one of the basic determinants to ensure social stability, and to meet the needs of individuals for health care, and subsequently achieving a certain level of health services, and it can not be left to the changing conditions that do not seem to be safe, considering that the problem of health is no longer an individual issue only, but has exceeded borders to become a social issue in the first place, especially since recently, some diseases and epidemics have spread, which led to profound transformations in the field of health. In addition to the emergence of what is called the concept of health security as the latter is inherent to human life. Therefore, it occupies an important place in the policies of countries and international organizations such as the World Health Organization.

Health security expresses the sum of plans and strategies directed to protect society from health threats such as infectious diseases and epidemics, which requires the provision of the necessary health care for individuals and improving the level of health services. Mainly, it focuses on health care through which the necessary health services are provided to ensure care for the sick individual, in addition to health spending, which is also one of the main pillars of health security, and of course it varies according to the methods and sources of funding from one country to another. In order to achieve health security, it is essential to have an effective health system that serves as a bridge between health institutions and healthcare. This requires integrated coordination between both parties and the provision of everything necessary to ensure the right to health services and healthcare.

On this basis, the concept of health security has evolved to become a dimension of human security and its importance has increased on the international arena as one of the security fields, because the threats related to it have affected several humanitarian, social, economic, political and security aspects.

The security framing of the concept of health security has emerged over time in response to specific health challenges and many political developments, as scientific analysis seeks on a large scale to include health in the theories of security studies and their approaches, and for this, it came the scientific paper that tries to understand health security from the perspective of sociology, economics and politics. Also, to put forward some theories explaining health security by posing the following problem: How can social, economic and political factors shape the concept of health security in societies? How can social theories provide an explanation for health security in light of contemporary health challenges?

This scientific paper proceeds from the hypothesis that says that: the social, economic and political factors contribute in forming the concept of health security in societies. A deep understanding of this concept is achieved through the integration of social theories that explains it.

1 . Conceptual framework for health security:

1.1 Health security within the framework of expanded security:

The concept of security is one of the most controversial political terms for its association with the survival and continuation of individuals, peoples and states. Most arabic and foreign dictionaries have indicated that "security means tranquility and peace of mind, and is sometimes used to express freedom from fear, all of which are non-synonymous terms, but they approach the meaning of the absence of security."

Therefore, we tried to identify security in language and terminology and then talk about health security and how this concept emerged to find a place within the framework of expanded security.

- Definition of security:

- "The root of the verb to be secure includes forms such as security and safety, and to ensure safety. It means safdety; for example, one says " to be safe from harm", meaning to be free from it. (Tashtoush, 2012, p. 12)

- **Idiomatically:** Robert defined it as: "development and economic, social or political development under the protection of its content, the real security of the state is reflected in its deep understanding of the factors that threaten its various capabilities and confronting them and to provide opportunities to fully enhance these capabilities in various fields, whether at the present time or in the future." (Tashtosh, 2012, p. 18) Among the most important definitions of security adopted in the field of security studies are:

- **Arund Wolver defined:** "Security from an objective point of view means that there is no threat to the gained values, while from a subjective point of view it means that there are no fears that these values will be threatened." (Smith, 2004, p. 414)

The most common definition of security can be focused on the definition of Barry Buzan, who is one of the most prominent specialists in security studies and defines it as: "The quest to get rid of the threat, and within the framework of the international system is the ability of societies and states to maintain their independent entity and functional cohesion against the forces of change that they consider hostile." (Smith, 2004, p. 415)

The meaning of security includes two inseparable meanings, it does not mean a means of freedom from danger and confronting various threats only, but also means a way to limit it and make it restricted or develop mechanisms to end the causes of insecurity and the presence of danger, and if fear has created the need to adopt countermeasures to contain it, this is what makes **the concept of security based on four foundations (Al, 2017)**

1 – Total awareness of threats , whether external or internal.

2 - Develop effective plans to develop the capabilities of the state.

3 - Securing the ability to counterthese threats by achieving military force.

4 - Develop solid plans and take the necessary precautionary measures to address potential threats .

Security is a difficult concept to deal with in terms of scientific analysis, as it is one of the most prominent concepts in international relations, which is still characterized by a lot of ambiguity, which made it lack a specific definition for it.

Barry Buzan believes that security is a complex concept, when defining it, it is necessary to identify three important aspects, starting with the political background of the concept and then passing through its multiple dimensions, up to the variation and complexity related to it during its application in political relations. (Al-Harbi, 2008, p. 09)

Therefore, the cognitive problems raised by the process of controlling the concept of security can be identified as follows:

- Security studies are still part of the field of international relations, which is shared by many competing perspectives or models on epistemological issues.
- The unprecedented growth of factors of intense interaction at the national level and the retreat of national sovereignty in the face of non-international actors. In addition to the ethnic explosion and conflicts in the international environment according to the identity factor. These are all factors that helped complicate the concept of security.

The concept of security includes some standard elements that are difficult to define by agreeing on it, whether from the theoretical side or based on data and field studies.

1.2 The emergence of the concept of health security:

The annual human development report issued in 1994 entitled "**New Dimensions of Human Security**" is the starting point for the emergence of the concept of health security, although many national committees and groups have issued reports before it on human security, but the report of the United Nations Development Program had a special impact as one of several attempts to define human security. As the report describes the interactions of human security between the security of individuals and nation-states, and as a necessary platform for achieving sustainable development. The UNDP Human Development Report identified five categories of threats to human security: economic, food scarcity, environmental, societal and political health (Shan, 2003, p. 15)

This report came after the submission of the committee on human security a report entitled "**Human Security Now**" to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in 2003, and this report described human security as complementary to state security but with a focus on human rights and human development. Among the ten policy recommendations issued by the committee, where one of the recommendations referred to health by giving higher priority to ensuring access to basic health care for all.

Shortly after the submission of the commission's report, the human security unit was established in the united nations office for the coordination of humanitarian affairs, which gave human security an organizational base within the United Nations (Al-Bishri, 2003)

This resolution supported the positions calling for a review of the International Health Regulations and state compliance, which was initiated in 2007 when health security was chosen as the theme for World Health Day and for the annual World Health Report (WHR) entitled "The Safer World's Future": Global Public Health Security in the Twenty-first Century.

This report deals with "Global Public Health Security", distinguishing between "global public health security" and "individual security" (Global Health Security, 2007)

In 2007, the Women's Rights Report, which focuses on specific issues threatening women's health and global compliance with the International Health Regulations, came into force in June 2007,

when it renamed the group of infectious diseases as "Environmental and Health Security". (Pubchiche, 2022, p. 190)

The first analytical framework for understanding the nature of the relationship between health and security is credited with the contributions of the Copenhagen school, and a renewal of the theoretical work led by Barry Buzan and Ole Waever associated with the Peace Research Institute in Copenhagen, where the first beginnings of the theoretical movement to reformulate the concept of security and the trend towards expanding and deepening it appeared at the beginning of the eighties of the last century. The security perception of the Copenhagen School is summarized in the idea of going beyond thinking exclusive to state security as a reference subject for security, by expanding it to sectors other than the military sector. This expansion to encompass the security of groups and individuals, this transformation has been known as the process of rebuilding the concept of security, and it is intended to build the concept of security, "horizontal movement from the military sector to include other sectors such as politics, economy, environment and society."

2. Health and related concepts:

Health is one of the basic determinants that ensure the survival of the individual, health has been known since ancient times, it varies by the changing of societies and according to the degree of development of science, whether natural or social, in the past man knew the disease and used rituals and sorcery to treat all the symptoms of the disease that afflicts him, believing that the disease is only the result of supernatural forces that exceed the power of humans. Over time, people began to understand the nature of disease and started using herbs to treat some ailments. This method of healing still exists today in many communities. Furthermore, the concern for health has become a matter that involves both individuals and organizations alike.

1.3 The concept of health:

In Webster's English Dictionary, the word "health" refers to the following connotations:

- "The state of safety in the body, mind and soul, and in particular freedom from physical illness and pain."

- "The condition of the body (bad or good)".

- "A state of prosperity and happiness, it can be launched in the general context of it. (line, 2023) "

Dorland's lexicon considers health to be "an ideal state of physical, mental, and social well-being, not merely absence, disability, or weakness." (Dorland's, 2022)

This concept is also used in two senses :

- **First:** "It refers to a state of relative equilibrium of bodily functions, and thus corresponds to disease as a deviation from the normal state."
- **The second:** "refers to the science and art of disease prevention and health promotion through efforts organized by the community and includes many fields." (Mahmoud, 2003, p. 25).

Marshall has cited in the fifth chapter of the fourth part of his book "Principles of Economics" to examine the impact of health on population and economic wealth under the title "The Health and Strength of the Population".

He defined health as "the physical strength and mental strength of the individual, his health level is related to the housing need, the level of education, the level and diversity of food, the level

of cleanliness of the environment and the available health services, also the extent to which they can be obtained" (Taylb, 2020, p. 65)

This definition is comprehensive because it combines what is material and moral to achieve health as well as the need to provide basic factors that fall within the framework of achieving the general health of the individual.

While the world health organization refers to it as "the state of complete physical, mental and social improvement, not merely the absence of disease or illness" (Qattash, 2000, p. 36)

It is also "a state of complete physical, mental and social sufficiency and integrity, not merely freedom from illness or disability" (Saleh, 2009, p. 35)

2.2 The concept of health security:

In its 1994 report, the United Nations defined health security as: "ensuring the minimum number of diseases and their prevention".

It was also defined in 2000 as: "the availability of health services for all at reasonable prices in exchange for the ability of individuals to obtain those services, whether related to care and prevention systems, or health insurance systems, especially in light of the spread of epidemics and infectious diseases." (Abla, 2014, p. 11)

The World Health Organization also defined it in its 2004 report as "freedom from diseases, absence of disability or deficiency in human capabilities, in addition to the high level of mental and physical competence of the human, which is reflected in his ability to deal and adapt to his environment and the variables it contains." (Mohammed, 2019, p. 05)

Through this definition, health security is not only the prevention of diseases, treatment and medicine, but also enables an increase in the human capacity to face all health threats and risks and adapt to the environment with its changes.

It also defines it as "required activities, both proactive and reactive, to minimize exposure to severe events that could endanger the collective health of populations living across geographical areas and international borders". (Global M. a., 2010).

It is not just a system that the public authority seeks to preserve by developing public health policies and enacting procedures and laws aimed at preventing the spread of infectious diseases and public epidemics. (Maamari, 2020). It is "an integrated political, economic and social system, a way of life in society with the aim of preserving the human species, state policy and societal behavior that is established through mandatory rules or through sensitization and awareness." (Persians, 2020)

3.2 Healthcare:

The concept of health care has been associated since ancient times with the term "social care" as a sociological field of study, as health care is one of its branches, where the philosophical perspective of health care requires that it is continuous and comprehensive care and is not restricted to a period of time or place. Also, it is not associated with the period of treatment only, but carries with it many dimensions, as it is considered as a " set of activities put into practice for the treatment, prevention, detection of physical and mental moderation, and the promotion of physical, social and

psychological well-being." (**Diabetes, 2000, p. 238**)

Health care is defined as: "a comprehensive program provided to all individuals in the form of health services that include medical examination, diagnosis and treatment, in addition to the free dispensing of medicines and some medical supplies." (**Younis, n.n., p. 49**)

The Almaty Conference defined the concept of health care as: "a set of guiding values for health development, and a set of principles necessary to organize health services from the methods to be followed to meet health needs and address the basic determinants of health" (<http://www.inet/dg/2008/ak/index.html>, 2023)

Therefore, through the previous definitions, it can be said that health care represents a system of principles, rules and programs that all pour into health services provided to individuals at the community level with the aim of achieving health development.

4.2 Health Spending:

Health spending is the expenses related indirectly to health, representing the total expenditure incurred by the funders of the health system (state, local authorities, social security, complementary protection organizations, households). It represents " both total medical consumption and individual and collective expenses, where health spending consists of four groups: spending on patient health, spending on prevention, spending for the benefit of the health care system, and spending on public health management. There are four types of financing current health spending: public funding, social security, mutual assistance, the private sector". (**m.s., 2010, p. 56**)

5.2 Health Culture:

Health culture is "the process of transforming known health facts into positive healthy behavioral methods at the level of the individual and society, with the aim of changing negative attitudes and habits, as well as helping the individual to acquire skills and practice healthy behaviors." (**Others, year of publication, p. 14**)

Health culture is also considered as: "a system of ideas and values that are used or embodied in a conscious or unconscious way in daily life, it is not a strict set of behavioral traits, but a soft and adapted system for the distribution of feelings. The cultural origin of a person greatly affects beliefs, attitudes, perceptions, emotions, language, nutrition, body image and attitudes towards disease, pain and misery, all of these factors can affect health and health care uses." (**& .2008, pp. 947-951**)

Therefore, health culture is a summary of the expertise and experiences that individuals have lived in the past, including the crises they have been exposed to, the goals they have set, the methods they used, the values and standards they have adhered to, and the relationships they organized. In this sense, culture is the basis for the human existence of the individual and the society to which he belongs to.

3 . Health security: a comprehensive study from the perspective of sociology, economics and politics:

Health security occupies a prominent place within the interests of the field of security studies.

The controversy regarding interest in it lies in the difference concerning its association with security threats, and its reflection on the efficiency of countries in responding. In order to theorize health security, it is possible to identify the contributions of the three prominent perspectives in the field of academic studies: sociology, economics and politics and their view regarding health threats and risks with a health dimension that countries are unable to face, such as epidemics.

1.3 Health security from a sociological perspective:

From a sociological perspective, health security is understood in multiple ways according to the followed research methodology :

Sociologists describe health security as "preserving the life and health of individuals and communities, by providing a healthy environment and conditions that can be relied upon to achieve good health."

According to the perspective of functional sociology, "health security is an essential element for the stability and prosperity of society, as it affects the economic and social capacity of individuals and communities."

Also, some sociologists point out that health security requires universal health care and health equity, which guarantees equal access to health services and the opportunity to be protected from health risks.

But, from a systems perspective, sociologists use health security "to describe protection from health hazards and improve communities' response to health crises and proactive measures to deal with them" (**Bärnighausen & Canning, 2020**)

Throughout the above, it has been illustrated how sociologists consider health security as part of social, political and economic interactions. They focus on improving responses to health challenges and enhancing individual and community's well-being. They also emphasize the importance of health equity and equal access to health services and improved health for all. (**Keune & De Vos, 2018, pp. 55-70**)

2.3 Health security from an economic perspective:

Health security is an important concept for economists, as it is a key factor in achieving sustainable economic development and social prosperity.

Health security can be defined as "the state of securing and providing adequate and appropriate health care for the individual and society in general" (**Bärnighausen & Canning, 2020, p. 136**)

Health security includes several basic elements, including universal access to appropriate health services and high quality. In addition to sustainable financing of those services. As well as equal and fair medical treatment opportunities must be available to all, without discrimination or preference for any social group. Also, it includes protection from potential health risks, such as epidemics, infectious diseases and unexpected accidents. In addition to that, health security requires an early warning system and full readiness to deal with those risks, including the management of health crises with a rapid and effective response (**Organization., 2007**)

Also at the economic level, health security is a necessary element to achieve economic stability and sustainable development, as there is a negative impact on economies when there is a

lack of health care or public health problems. It also contributes to increasing the volume of production and productivity, improving the quality of work and reducing the cost resulting from the disease.

In addition to the above, it is an important factor in achieving social justice, as it promotes equality of opportunities, and reduces economic and social disparities between the individual and society. As it is a basic human right considering the preservation of health and the provision of health care as the responsibilities of the state and society alike.

Therefore, health security is a state in which stability and well-being prevail for the individual and society, which contributes to sustainable economic and social development and achieving social justice.

From this, the definition of health security among economists can be summarized as follows: For economists, health security refers to "the situation that enables the continuity and stability of health systems, through the provision of effective health care to the individual and society."

- Some economists view health security as "an investment in human capital, where maintaining good health increases labor productivity and improves the workforce."
- Health security focuses for some economists on providing economic incentives to maintain the highest goal and encourage them to take health precautions and behaviors.
- Health security in the economy focuses on assessing and organizing health expenses and directing economic resources to ensure the provision of health services in an effective and sustainable manner.
- -According to some economists, health security includes the economic analysis of the impact of health measures and investments in health on economic growth and community development (**Organization., 2007**)

3.3 Health security from a political perspective:

Health security is an essential part of government duties towards the individual, as it includes many aspects including making health policies to ensure necessary health care, improving health services, providing equipment and medicines, and promoting the prevention of diseases and potential health risks.

- In this context, Münd mentions what he calls the "political self," which reflects a mixture of varying proportions of different emotions and orientations. At the core of the individual lies their public identity and beliefs, such as nationalism, the individual's perception of their social or tribal status, value commitments, and an internal sense of their rights and duties towards society (**Pawel, 1997**)

- Organizing the health sector by formulating policies and taking measures at the government level to enhance the protection of public health and achieve social welfare through the political framework.

- Political perspective considers health as a public policy priority and seeks to achieve health justice and social solidarity by focusing on the provision of high-level health services.

- Coordination of efforts between different sectors, including the health sector and related sectors such as the education and housing sector, with the aim of enhancing joint cooperation to achieve sustainable health security.

- The political perspective of health security enhances cooperation and partnership with international organizations and institutions to achieve global health goals, as the process indicates

the pursuit of governments in the modern state to create a culture of security within the framework of new and renewed security challenges and threats.

"Health security, in its intellectual dimension, positions security responsibility as a means of building identity, protecting existence, and preserving thought—not only from external threats but also from any internal threats that carry differing ideas, some of which have abandoned their identity and drifted away from societal values".(Mohammed A., 2005)

From this perspective, we try to highlight the fact of restructuring the health system, whether at the global or local level, because health awareness has become an industry and not an official or mobilizing discourse, and because the current health threats have proven that the right to health does not only mean that countries create the conditions in which everyone can be as healthy as possible, but that the issue of consecrating the right needs a civilized cultural environment that helps to apply the guarantees of this right, so the World Health Organization has known health activity as it is an effort whose primary objective is to protect and improve health, whether within the framework of individual health, public health or in a multisectoral framework. (OMS, 2000)

Therefore, health security from a political perspective is a tool to control health crises and emergencies, as it reflects the great importance of health policies in promoting social, economic and political stability and building, also developing a healthy society that enjoys good health.

4. Theoretical frameworks explaining health security:

Colin believes that most of the literature of international relations is about to be devoid of any references to the relationship between public health and security issues. The realists in general, and structuralists in particular, look at health issues from the perspective of traditional security, and do not link them except in the case of the impact of some health issues on the military aspects, which specifically summarize those considerations associated with the military health of the armed forces and ensuring the readiness of each individual to perform his tasks in a distinctive and effective manner. In the liberal literature is completely devoid of the slightest allusions to health issues in relation to security, despite liberals interest in the idea of international cooperation and the need for states to regulate their basic policies in order to create common interests.

Therefore, these three propositions: realism, liberalism and constructivism can be summarized by giving a comprehensive look at them, which highlights the theoretical frameworks within the framework of their conception of health security.

1.4. Realistic Perspective:

Realism considers its explanation of security by focusing on military power, which among its elements is the human element, which requires capabilities, physical preparations and a good health status for soldiers, a characteristic available in advanced armies and must be taken care of, while many armies of some countries suffer from the negative repercussions of health problems, as is the case for African armies about health diseases that affect them.

- Realism presents the perspective of health security from the standpoints of the elements of material and human power and their applications in the military field, and that the general

effectiveness of the army as a stable institution can threaten and hinder the democratic process if political institutions fail to meet the immediate needs of the army. Also, the inability of these institutions to ensure their health needs or continue to provide health care, all of which increases societal unrest.

- Realistic proposals in cases of disease and cross-border epidemics are committed to the need to stay away from them in the context of preventive measures, and to urge joint cooperation to address the disease, which is not allowed for them, but they should focus on preventing the entry of those coming from areas of the spread of the disease to the country. As realistic proposals on health security revolve around the protection of the physical existence of the state and the provision of material possibilities for health care within the principle of preservation of survival. (Yourd, 2005, p. 198)

2.4 Liberal Perspective:

Liberals put forward the economic factor as part of their analysis of the security environment, and the centrality of this factor is based on establishing the relationship between good economic performance and its repercussions on the security of the state after engaging in wars, and because diseases express a state of economic decline, so it must focus on the negative effects of the decline in the health status of individuals on their development capabilities, they see that the suffering of peoples from diseases leads to the decline of their economy, because health deterioration affects the productive capabilities of individuals and therefore countries, within the economic analysis offered by liberalism. Emphasis should be placed on improving the levels of services and health care to improve the productive capabilities of the individual and reduce production costs.

On the other hand, the disease is an aspect of investment and profit for liberals. Research in the hospital field, and research centers are working to find medicine and treatment. The drug market is part of the global economy and a field for the movement of capital, but there are disagreements in opinions about the innocence of pharmaceutical invention and the feasibility of aid directed to eradicate diseases in countries that are weak economically. (Yourd, 2005, p. 199)

3.4 Structural Perspective:

Constructivists focus on how changing concepts and identities of the international system change, yet they avoided such analysis on health and disease issues for fear of falling under the state-centric circle that they removed from the focus of their arguments. - Fiedler argues in this context that infectious disease measures have historically been the drawing of the boundaries by which we protect ourselves from the diseases of others, and that the lack of interest in changing concepts and identities in international health about diseases among constructivists is more related to the perspective of the negative image that falls in the classification of societies and lack of interest in victims and the desire for self-prevention, such as the perceptions of individuals in the United States of America about people with AIDS. The same analysis can be dropped at the international level where the stereotype image of diseases and health remained a concise matter left to marginalization and indifference to the suffering of millions of people in poor areas (Yourd, 2005, p. 200)

We conclude through the above that health security is one of the most vital elements in achieving public health and social welfare, as it is an integrated social, economic and political

system that form a lifestyle in society whose purpose is to preserve the human species, and state policy and societal behavior that is established through binding rules, sensitization and awareness.

II- Methods and Materials:

- **Study Methodology:**

To address the details of the subject, we will rely in this study on the descriptive approach as it is distinguished from the rest of the curricula by tracking the studied phenomenon based on information related to the phenomenon at a certain time or in different periods of time to look at it in its various dimensions and developments, in order to ensure access to objective results (Mohammed, 2011), the descriptive approach ensures a desk survey by reference to the sources and references approved to build the theoretical framework of the study, in addition to the analytical approach to analyze factors Social, economic and political that contributed to the formation of the concept of health security in societies, in addition to a broad analysis of the concept to understand how it can achieve integration between the social theories that explains it according to the health threats affecting societies.

- **The importance of this study is shown by:**

Health matters are considered as a basic pillar and one of the dimensions of human security, in the sense that ensuring the health status of the citizen is included among the priorities of any country seeking to achieve its security. In addition to the threats facing countries, which are directly reflected on human life, especially since most countries in the african continent suffer from a deficit in the health sectors.

On one hand, the issue of health security falls within the security studies that have emerged its importance at all levels. On the other hand, it appears in the controversy raised by health threats among academia in light of the growing negative repercussions of these threats, due to the new discussions in this field that affect the expansion of the concept of security and its removal from the traditional concept (military) to multiple social, economic, cultural and environmental fields.

- **Study Objectives:**

This study also aims to:

- Clarify the concept of health security.
- Highlighting the theoretical frameworks explaining the issues of health security and securitization of health threats.

III- Conclusion:

Health is one of the main pillars of building society as an important indicator of the stability of society, so that health levels in developed countries have become an indicator of the state of well-being with the state of good health services. Health issues have risen frequently and urgently within

the security and geopolitical priorities of the contemporary state, through deep developments that have touched various aspects of life.

Therefore, health security is one of the prominent and modern concepts that aim to protect the health of the individual and society from potential and diverse risks and threats that include

many different aspects such as social, economic and political aspects. It is a dynamic concept that goes beyond the medical or preventive dimension to reflect the extent to which it is affected by social, economic and political factors in societies. Achieving it requires an integrated approach between these deeply influential factors as well as employing multiple social theories to interpret them.

Through the theoretical literature reviewed, we can develop a set of recommendations summarized as follows:

- ✓ Promote research into the impact of social determinants such as housing, education and lifestyle .
- ✓ Integration of civil society institutions in the development of health policies to reinforce mutual support and community solidarity.
- ✓ Designing health awareness programs based on the culture of the local community that aims at changing behaviors harmful to health.
- ✓ Develop policies that ensure access to basic health services for low-income groups such as free health insurance.
- ✓ Formulate comprehensive health policies that include economic and social dimensions, which are based on justice and equity in the provision of health services.
- ✓ Activating the integration of social theories for a deeper understanding of health security.
- ✓ Encourage participation in health policies.
- ✓ Preparing for crises from an economic and social perspective.

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