Democratic Transition and the Independence of Egyptian Universities in Light of	عنوان البحث
Modernization Theories: A Critical Study	
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The study aims at identifying reasons behind the retreat of Egyptian universities from the	العدد وتاريخ النشر الملخص انجليزي
democratic track in selecting university leaders through direct and free elections. The study	
successfully implemented two research designs, the historical design by using original and	
secondary sources; and critical analytical auto-ethnography to collect and analyze data. The	
results have shown that the main reasons for this decline are rampant administrative	
corruption in Egyptian public universities and political and security control over them. The	
proliferation of electoral coalitions and old power structures in Egyptian universities	
adversely impacted the experience of electing leaders. Internal conflicts in universities and	
the tendency of elected leaders toward independence are reasons to refrain from following	
the democratic path. Lastly, the study suggests a genuine proposal for enhancing real	
democratic reforms within Egyptian universities.	
Keywords: (democratic transition, selecting university leaders; autonomy; modernization	
theories, Egyptian universities)	