The key to a successful constitution lies in its enforcement mechanisms. Typically, states interested in the rule of law and democracy have relied on a strong and independent constitutional court as the prime guarantor and enforcer of the constitution. Paradoxically, the role of the constitutional court can be subverted and derailed by the constitution itself. This has happened in Egypt over the past two years. In the aftermath of the Arab Spring, the Supreme Constitutional Court of Egypt has found itself under continual attack, particularly from the Muslim Brotherhood as they try to cement their power. This talk unpacks the Egyptian transition and looks at the continued attacks on the Constitutional Court in an effort to show how a constitution itself can be used to subvert the rule of law.

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