

## **Abstract**

The importance of this thesis comes from the importance of studying the changes in the U. S. Strategic Thought after Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> attacks .The thesis studies the doctrine of Preemption in the U. S. National Security Strategy (Sept. 2002), and its application in the War on Iraq( March 2003), through using the "Decision Making" Approach. The study concluded that although Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> attacks have offered the opportunity for such changes to take place, adopting preemption as a doctrine in the U. S. Strategic Thought was a well-organized plan by the Neoconservatives, who managed to gain important positions in the George W. Bush Administration (2000-2008). And those changes successfully reflected the imperial ambitions for the U.S. foreign policy in such International System that clearly reflecting the American hegemony.

## **Key words:**

- Preemption and Preemptive wars.
- Preventive wars.
- Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> attacks.
- International Coalition against terrorism.
- Patterns of Global Terrorism Report (May, 2002).
- War on Afghanistan (Oct., 2001).
- Neoconservatives.
- National Security Strategy (Sept., 2002).
- War on Iraq (March 2003).
- Rogue states.
- National Security Strategy (March 2006).
- Baker-Hamilton Report (Iraq Study Group Report).
- The U. S. Strategy in Iraq (January 2007).

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