



ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION IN ALGERIA, REALITY AND CHALLENGES

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Abstract:

Illegal immigration is one of the most important topics that has attracted and continues to attract the attention of academics, actors and politicians. The study deals with the reality of this threat between the African and European sides, namely migration from southern Africa to northern Europe. It is in three main axes that illegal immigration in Algeria to Europe is studied from the perspective of the loss of the right to development, the primary motive for migration and the search for a more appropriate life, that is to say with the loss of the fundamental right authorized to seek the best outside national borders. And the introduction of the study of the Afro-European situation through a set of agreements, treaties and meetings that have been concluded over many periods of time, and whose main axes have always been the phenomenon of illegal immigration and how to solve it. Algeria has used all these international and regional agreements to deal with them, which is part of its efforts to reduce this threat, but despite this, this threat remains, which has created many repercussions on the general situation in Algeria.

Keywords: Algeria, illegal immigration, development.

Introduction:

Illegal immigration is closely linked to development, and from this point of view we have studied this subject, because it results in low development. Its absence or insufficiency has many disastrous political, social and economic consequences. Among these repercussions is the phenomenon of a social situation that pushes him to seek a better life, and the surrounding economic conditions have not provided him with the conditions for integration, and many ineffective policies that have restricted his work, accusations have accumulated for illegal immigration to become an ideal option to get out of these

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surrounding conditions because the lived reality has not provided the necessary development for get out of these conditions. Thus, the loss of development justifies and places immigration in a position sought by the age groups. The study will place this belief in the light of several Algerian policies adopted to get out of this situation and the negative consequences it has, and accordingly we suggest the research problem.

Research problem

To what extent has the failure of development in Algeria led to an increase in illegal immigration?

Hypotheses

- There is a correlation between development and illegal immigration : the weaker the development, the greater the desire for illegal immigration.
- There is a relation ship between middle-class consciousness and illegal immigration : the more aware it is, the less illegal immigration there is.
- The desire of young people to migrate abroad increases by marginalizing them and losing the conditions for a decent life.
- There is a correlation between the policies adopted and illegal immigration.

In order to address the problem, the study was divided into the following themes:

Introduction

First axis : the reality of illegal immigration.

Second axis : the repercussions of illegal immigration in Algeria.

Third axis : Algerian efforts to deal with it.

Conclusion

THE REALITY OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

Illegal immigration is known as a modern phenomenon dating back to the 90s of the last centuries, when the doors were closed to legal immigration, and therefore immigration has turned into a secret phenom on that takes place in secret, as the immigrant crosses countries far from border posts, check points and security agents under the cover of night and in secret. Some have defined it as "those who cross the borders of the state and in which the immigrant or refugee holds no official documents, i.e., entry is done in an unofficial or legal manner". It was there fore necessary for the international community represented by the United Nations to take the necessary measures to curb that phenomenon, such as the adoption of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols there to, including the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air.^[1]

There are several names given to this term, including irregular immigration, which is in agreement with the term illegal immigration, and both call this phenomenon due to the fact that it is in violation of the laws established by countries regarding the border crossed, and given that it is hidden from the eyes of border guards, it is alsocalled illegal immigration. The immigrant thus enters the country of destination and lives there stealthily. However, these labels, despite their plurality, are rejected by all international non-governmental organizations, such as the International Labour Office, because to call them illegal or illegal is contrary to the requirements of Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that everyone has the freedom to move and choose his place of residence within the borders. Every individual has the right to leaveany country, including his or her own, and he or she has the right to return to it.^[2]



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Political, security and social problems are among the most important factors that have led to the acceleration of the pace of illegal immigration. Among the political reasons behind immigration are lack of democracy, civil wars and political instability, in addition to deteriorating security. All this contributes to the rush for illegal immigration, but economic reasons represent a major factor for illegal immigration due to its ability to influence the decision to emigrate, as immigrant windows for economic reasons are considered one of the most important reasons. Which were addressed by experts on immigration issues related to high unemployment rates and the presence of a significant percentage of people living below the poverty line.^[3]

Algeria is one of the exporting countries of immigrants to different parts of the world, and it is experiencing a growing trend, including groups of highly skilled and skilled youth, towards emigration. Algerians in France represent more than 80% of the total Algerians abroad. Algeria hosts about 270,000 immigrants, mostly from Morocco, Palestine, Somalia and Iraq.^[4]

Development constraints in Algeria have multiplied, despite the multiplicity of strategies and policies adopted to get out of this weak development framework and unable to meet the necessary social needs and ensure a decent and stable life. And one of the most important of these constraints on the development process in Algeria.

The issue of economic development has been and continues to be debated as the main option to get out of the crisis of under development. From this point of view, development in general has been placed at the fore front, so many policies and plans have been drawn up for and financial and human resources have been allocated to it to achieve various ambitions. Algeria, to make up for this delay in the development axes inherited from the various economic and security crises, has relied on the dynamism of investment to revive growth. Faced with these colossal financial endowments, many questions arise as to the extent to which the development objectives for which they were intended are achieved.^[5]

In this area, Algeria faces many challenges in achieving a comprehensive development that offers a decent social life to Algerian society, which makes it independent of thinking about immigration and heart burn. We cite the sum of these challenges:

- Unsustainable growth of the economy.
- High population growth rates that push a considerable number of people into the labour market every year.
- High unemployment and increased poverty.
- A tense economic situation that prevents it from moving and having a public sector within its independent decision-making, and a small fragmented private sector, which lacks the necessary dynamism.
- There is no high protection system for domestic industry.
- The absence of a developed banking sector.
- Absence of developed industrial zones.
- Low export capacity outside the oil sector, suggesting the absence of export industries.
- The existence of distortions in the price structure of goods, services and factors of production.^[6]

In addition to these restrictions, however, the continuous increase in population growth as a phenomenon in Algerian society that has experienced a demographic explosion, and for this reason it was necessary not to ignore this important factor when formulating development policies and strategies, and this was reflected in employment policies, which have led to an increase in unemployment continues, accompanied by an increase in poverty rates. These two



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variables are among the most important social factors that motivate society and its inability to continue in the situation. The following table lists the phenomena:

Lessthan 20 years	35.36	34.30
From 20 to 24 years	31.04	29.90
From 25 to 29 years	26.61	22.70
From 30 to 34 years	15.31	12.70
From 35 to 39 years	9	7.40
From 40 to 44 years	6.21	4.30
From 45 to 49 years	5.57	4.10
From 50 to 54 years	4.19	3.10
From 55 to 59 years	3.50	2.30
Total	17.65	15.30

Source : C. N. E. S. National Report on Human Development.
Translated by the researcher

Throughout the table, the unemployment rate varies from one category to another, and there is a much-accentuated increase for young people.

We conclude that social and economic conditions have a key role in the increase and development of illegal immigration outside national borders, and it is the weakness of the social living situation, especially the group of young people who suffer from a protracted unemployment crisis, and there fore the spread of poverty in the social environment All these conditions are due to a serious weakness In the achievement of development and in the pursuit of development strategies, society emerges from this situation and must seek this youth to find a way out and from their current position to a better situation outside their homeland, which did not meet their aspirations.

THE REPERCUSSIONS OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION IN ALGERIA

Illegal immigration has affected Algeria in many magazines in its security and economic aspect, and in many other areas that have negatively affected the situation in Algeria, among these aspects.

In the area of security, illegal immigration creates cooperation between terrorist networks and smugglers^[7], which affect security in the region in different ways. The geopolitical nature of Algeria for neighboring countries represents a direct threat to security in Algeria from all border



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aspects, as Algeria represents Africa's gateway to Europe. This facilitates the trafficking of drugs and weapons through various networks across Algeria, which has been a security burden for Algeria within its vast borders^[8], as Algeria is confronted in this area with international drug and arms trafficking networks. Because the vast area of the Algerian borders is an easy out let for the entry of weapons to support terrorist groups. Including the spread of drug trafficking of all kinds, and shows here a relationship between illegal immigrants with smuggling and organized crime, since many security investigations of the Algerian security services have revealed the ease of the possibility of recruiting illegal immigrants in cases of organized crime and smuggling and the intelligence of foreign countries, there fore illegal immigrants are considered. The legitimate are the most active in this aspect, which represents the greatest threats to the general security situation in Algeria.^[9]

As for the economic aspect, illegal immigration has been reflected on Algeria through the huge budgets that Algeria pays to combat illegal immigration across its vast borders and maritime coasts due to the influx of waves of illegal immigration of African foreigners that are present in Algeria^[10], and the unemployment rate has increased due to the availability of cheap labor that seeks to ensure daily subsistence, this has affected the factor of increasing population growth on the social situation in various sectors, which has had a negative impact on the national economy. And what has become clear in economic transactions, the increase in the weakness of the national currency, the deterioration of the purchasing power of the citizen.^[11]

On the social level, this economic recklessness has led to the emergence of many social ills, the spread of social phenomena that have continued to weaken the economy, such as drug trafficking, the spread of corruption, and hence the anger and demand for change of citizens, internal in stability, and the deterioration of the condition of poverty and unemployment of citizens, and therefore a direct reflection on the political situation, the loss of stability and the increase in immigration, and these are among the most important characteristics of the countries of the African continent.

An illustrative table of the number of Algerian sarrested in the context of illegal immigration from 2000 to 2006.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2004	2006	Total
Issues	17	10	17	6	7	21	73	151
Male	42	21	33	9	12	57	707	881
Female	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	9
Total	42	22	33	9	12	57	714	890
Imprisonment	4	0	2	4	0	6	479	495
Pre-trial release	38	22	31	6	12	51	235	395

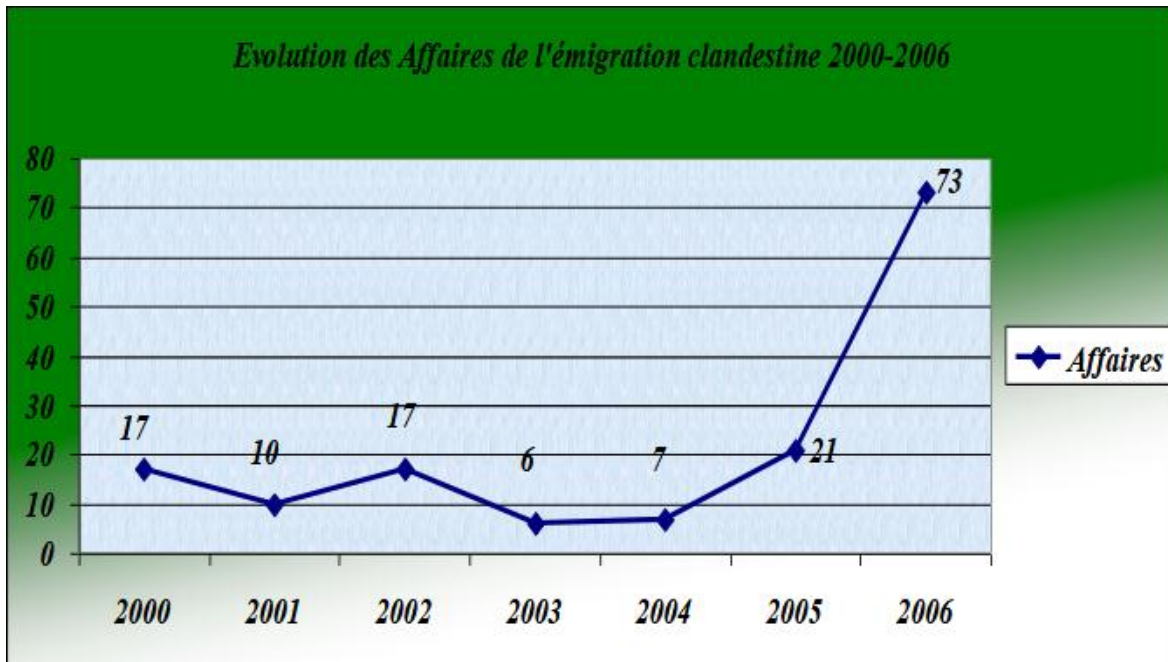
Source: National Gendarmerie Command Algeria

Translated by the researcher



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An illustrative curve showing the number of cases related to Algerians in the context of illegal immigration from 2000 to 2006.



Source: National Gendarmerie Command Algeria

ALGERIAN EFFORTS TO CONFRONT ELLEGALIMMIGRATION

Algeria has followed many policies to deal with illegal immigration with a set of security, legal and economic policies, and through this axis we will try to summarize these Algerian efforts.^[12]

Firstly: Security Policy :

The Algerian space has forced security policies to set up special border teams responsible in particular for monitoring and ensuring border security, responsible for these missions to prevent any tendency to illegal entry or illegal trade^[13]. Among these units, the Border Guard Unit, which is a group affiliated with the units of the National People's Army that operates along the Algerian land borders and guarantees permanent guarding through the presence of foot and mobile units responsible for pursuing and thwarting all smuggling attempts or the entry of terrorists or illegal immigrants, and the interests of border guards were able to arrest hundreds of people of different nationalities accused of illegal immigration. As for the other group, the coast guard is a service attached to the Ministry of National Defense that is mainly responsible for guarding the Algerian coasts and protecting them from all attempts at maritime smuggling. On



boats carrying illegal immigrants, it also carries out rescue missions. And discover many bodies floating at sea or those rescued after being discovered aboard boats of death at sea.

There are also police interests, called the Border Police Group, which has entrusted these special tasks with the control of the movement of people and goods across the border, the control of travel documents and the detection of all persons under investigation, the fight against cells and networks supporting illegal movements, as well as work on the fight against illegal employment by developing a deterrent strategy against illegal immigration. Added to this is the regional investigation team on illegal immigration, which has been entrusted with the task of searching, identifying and monitoring illegal immigration and immigrant trafficking networks.

Despite these specialized security strategies in this area, illegal immigration to Algeria has remained a source of security threat on all sides, because of the bodies washed up and dead at sea, fleeing and residing illegally in Algeria, and from there these security policies have not achieved the objective including in the fight against this phenomenon on despite the progress it has made in thwarting many illegal operations.

Secondly:

The Algerian legislature has adopted numerous laws and legislative amendments that limit illegal immigration and set out its procedures. The need to treat foreign citizens within a legal framework is evident in the fight against illegal immigration, a growing phenomenon. This by making amendments to Algerian legislation under Law No. 11/08 of 21 July 2008 on the entry and establishment of the movement of foreigners, with the aim of controlling migratory flows^[14], unlike the old legislation stipulated in Law No. 212/66 of 21 July 1966, which circumvented it^[15], the new law of 2008 was more effective in dealing with migratory flows, in order to set the conditions of entry, exit, stay and movement of the party in Algeria in accordance with international standards agreements in which Algeria participates.

Algeria has also endeavored to adopt legislation, laws and laws criminalizing illegal immigration, in accordance with Act No. 01/09 amending the Penal Code of 25 February 2009.^[16] Article 175 bis 01 provides that any Algerian or foreigner who illegally leaves the national territory through a land or air border post is punishable by imprisonment for two to six months by usurping an identity or any false document or any other fraudulent means. The Algerian legislature also provided for the criminalization of smuggling of migrants in the text of articles 303 bis 30 to 303 bis 41 and gave a definition of smuggling of migrants as the offence of planning the illegal exit from the national territory of a person or group of persons in order to obtain a financial advantage.^[17]

These represent some of the legal texts in which the Algerian legislator has worked hard to curb illegal immigration, which shows that all legal measures have been taken to deal with it. However, the phenomenon of illegal immigration in Algeria continues to accelerate to cross national borders, despite all this jurisprudence.

Third: Economic strategy:

Algeria has adopted an economic strategy to deal with illegal immigration, because the economic role presents the greatest reason for immigration, in search of the best situation, including the unemployment factor.^[18]

Among these economic strategies, we will mention the National Employment Agency (ANEM), which operates within the framework of knowledge of the labour market in terms of



supply and demand^[19], and also another policy to support the promotion of salaried employment through facilities allowing to benefit from a permanent contract. jobs for young people seeking to attract as many young people as possible, in addition to another policy, which is the pre-employment contract program, and this results from the increase in university graduates This policy was adopted to reduce jobs and include the categories of university graduates, as well as the National Unemployment Insurance Fund for unemployed people aged 30 to 50 to support and connect them with the interests that operate and integrate them.^[20]

As a result, it can be said and concluded that Algeria used many economic policies, one of its priorities was to reduce unemployment as one of the main causes of illegal immigration, but all these policies adopted to reduce unemployment and therefore reduce immigration abroad were restrictive economic policies that did not have the expected result except the increase in spending without positive results compared to what was expected. Unemployment is rising, illegal immigration is on the rise, and spending on these policies is increasing without positive effects, suggesting that these are restrictive policies that are not helpful.

CONCLUSION

From the above, we conclude that Algeria has adopted many securities, legal and economic policies, all of which are aimed at eliminating illegal immigration by various means, but these policies are considered restrictive and have not had the expected results, because what limits immigration abroad is successful and sufficient areas of development: increasing unemployment, the loss of hope and low investment in youth human resources have led young people to speculate on immigration by any means, legal or illegal, for the conditions for a decent life have weakened and shrunk. The most important way to preserve the energies of young people and reduce immigration is effective global development that offers the conditions for a decent life, instead of focusing on punitive measures to limit immigration, seeking solutions to stay in the homeland out of conviction and not fear, and therefore the absence of these conditions, ill-life and rising unemployment have instilled in the minds of young people that immigration has become a right in these circumstances that we are experiencing.

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