

Illegal Immigration in Algeria and The Role of Human Security in Curbing This Phenomenon

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Received: 04/09/2023

Accepted: 06./12/2023

Published: 31/12/2023

Abstract:

Illegal immigration is one of the problems that has occupied and continues to occupy the attention of governments and public opinion. It raises concerns worldwide as it has become a primary focus of countries due to the resulting challenges that negatively affect their stability and security. Consequently, countries are actively seeking to identify the causes leading to this phenomenon in order to prevent and address it. Like other nations, Algeria has developed a range of strategies and approaches, with a significant emphasis on the human security approach, to mitigate the occurrence of illegal immigration. Throughout the process of countering this issue and employing multiple strategies—including legal, security, and economic measures—Algeria has aimed to combat this phenomenon, which is often associated with crimes such as terrorism, human trafficking, and drug-related offenses. These crimes have evolved into significant threats to Algeria's security and stability.

Keywords: Algeria; Illegal immigration; Human security.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This study on illegal immigration to Algeria revolves around the unprecedented and dangerous growth of this phenomenon. Its aim is to uncover the causes and negative repercussions on Algeria's security and stability across various domains. Additionally, it seeks to shed light on Algeria's policies and actions taken to confront and mitigate this phenomenon's danger. The study underscores the importance of its findings by highlighting the gravity of the threat posed by illegal immigration to Algeria. As a result, the study concludes the necessity for intensified regional and international efforts to address and mitigate the seriousness and scale of illegal immigration. This is because no single country can effectively combat this global phenomenon alone, given its expanding reach and associated threats.

Illegal immigration has recently sparked widespread controversy, particularly concerning the search for solutions to eradicate or alleviate its effects. One of these solutions, if effectively implemented, is the human security approach. Thus, this study raises the question: What is the true extent of illegal immigration in Algeria, and what strategies are being employed to reduce it? Furthermore, what role does the human security approach play in addressing this phenomenon? To tackle these questions, we have formulated the following hypotheses:

- The first hypothesis suggests that economic and social factors are driving the desire of young people to engage in illegal immigration.
- The second hypothesis posits that the absence of human security fundamentals within the Algerian context contributes significantly to the occurrence of illegal immigration.

1.1 The Significance of The Study

The issue of migration holds both academic and scientific importance. Throughout history, the migration phenomenon has stood as a key variable influencing regional and international transformations. Due to the intricacies inherent in its nature, it remained an under-addressed research priority for many decades, failing to encompass all its facets and the associated challenges. Furthermore, the political, economic, and social ramifications

tied to illegal immigration accentuate the importance of research in this domain. This research serves to draw the attention of decision-makers to the intricacies of this phenomenon and possible approaches for its management. This is particularly pertinent in the case of Algeria, which has emerged as a significant corridor for migration towards the northern Mediterranean shores in recent years. The multifaceted nature of this phenomenon, coupled with its wide-ranging impact in Algeria and the myriad issues it presents, necessitates a scientific and impartial analysis. This is exemplified by the issue of the escalating rate of illegal immigrant numbers.

1.2 Research Objectives

The research aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Illuminate the concept of illegal immigration.
- Identify the causes and factors contributing to illegal immigration.
- Explore strategies to address the issue of illegal immigration.

1.3 Methodology Used

The research employs a descriptive analytical approach, encompassing the description, documentation, analysis, and interpretation of the various circumstances surrounding the phenomenon under investigation. This approach incorporates diverse methods that aim to unveil relationships between variables by collecting accurate and pertinent information that reflects reality. By meticulously describing these variables and elucidating their attributes and underlying causes, this approach facilitates the derivation of specific conclusions.

2. The Modern Concept of Illegal Immigration

There exist various definitions and concepts related to migration. As outlined in political dictionaries, migration denotes the sustained movement of individuals or groups from one location to another—an inherent facet of human history. This term is colloquially employed to encompass all movements resulting in a change of residency. Demographically, migration signifies the process of movement, transformation, or alteration of an individual or group from one region within or outside the country's borders.

Migration is classified into several types: internal and external, voluntary or involuntary, permanent or temporary, and other delineations. Consequently, migration pertains to the movement of populations, whether within national borders or across them, encompassing refugees, displaced individuals, and economic migrants.

Illegal immigration denotes the unauthorized crossing of land and sea borders and residing in foreign countries. While immigration can be legally sanctioned, illegal residence involves unauthorized settlement. In simpler terms, an individual departs their own or another state's territory either legally or illegally, with the intent to enter another state without its consent or by securing consent for a specific duration or purpose. Subsequently, they remain on the receiving state's territory with the intention of establishing permanent residence, even after the grace period's expiry. Alternatively, they might enter the receiving state's territory through an illegal port, employing fraudulent documents to breach immigration regulations and globally recognized norms, (Fayza, 2011, p. 35).

The term "Al-Harraq" emerged with the exacerbation of the illegal immigration problem. Originating from the Algerian dialect, it is commonly used among young individuals aspiring to clandestinely migrate by crossing perilous seas, braving hardships and hazards, all in pursuit of their ultimate dream—to reach the shores of Europe, securing job opportunities and a decent life. While some achieve this goal, others meet an uncertain fate (Zayed, 2021, page 4). Many meet their demise in the depths of the sea, representing the fate of the majority. These "harragas" congregate in areas near the sea, awaiting signals from boat owners who, in turn, wait for calm waters before embarking, often under the cover of night. If apprehended by the border police of their intended destination, they start anew, awaiting their next opportunity (Al-Nawi, 2020, page 11). Four scenarios characterize illegal immigration:

- Legal entry, legal residence, illegal work.
- Legal entry, illegal stay, illegal work.
- Illegal entry, legal residence, legal work.
- Illegal entry, illegal residence, illegal work (Freja, 2013, page 5).

3. Determinants of Illegal Migration

Illegal migration is shaped by several determinants that aid in comprehending its essence by delineating its attributes and manifestations: Characteristics of illegal immigration: A cluster of characteristics sets illegal immigration apart from other human phenomena, becoming particularly evident during in-depth study.

3.1 Complex Nature

Often fraught with ambiguity and vagueness, illegal migration's complexity emerges from divergent epistemological perspectives and varied angles of analysis concerning its nature and underlying causes. The broad differences in state policies aimed at deterring the phenomenon and addressing its consequences further compound its complexity.

3.2 Statistical Challenges

Given its clandestine nature, studying and accurately quantifying illegal migration proves intricate. Consequently, obtaining precise measurements becomes challenging. Scholars often rely on statistics offered by relevant state authorities or human rights networks. Discrepancies between figures provided by source countries and destination countries arise due to differing legal classifications of migrants. What one nation deems illegal, another might regard as legally permissible, even under identical circumstances related to entry, residence, or employment.

3.3 Data Acquisition Difficulty

Challenges in acquiring statistical data persist due to the constantly expanding migrant population and the ongoing regulatory adaptations undertaken by states. The phenomenon's entwinement with political dimensions further compounds the difficulty of data collection.

3.4 Orchestrated by Private Networks

Initially, illegal migration unfolded on an individual basis. Over time, it evolved into a structured form, facilitated by specialized networks. These networks oversee the unauthorized entry of individuals or groups into foreign countries in exchange for monetary gains. Human smuggling occurs through individual or collective efforts. The escalation and intensification of illegal migration spurred the emergence of networks dedicated to smuggling people

across borders. These networks capitalize on their intricate knowledge of routes and ports. As a result, migrants may resort to illicit international organizations or gangs that boast expertise and experience in circumventing such matters.

4. Immigration Zones

4.1 Source Countries

Source countries, or immigrant-exporting countries, are the places from which individuals embark towards the diaspora or distant lands, representing the migrants' original homeland. Illegal immigration towards Europe spans across the African continent, with a noticeable increase as one moves northward. Consequently, North African countries hold a significant share, albeit with some variations. This phenomenon also applies to migrant labor, where exporting countries experience a political, economic, and social reality that propels their citizens towards illegal immigration. Many of these nations grapple with crises categorized as political development issues, namely:

- Identity crises, manifesting as difficulties in assimilation and transcending traditional affiliations.
- Legitimacy crises, tied to citizens' non-acceptance of the political system's legitimacy and decision-making authority.
- Participation crises, arising from limited engagement in political decision-making processes.
- Penetration crises, arising due to challenges in controlling and governing the state's territory.
- Distribution crises, related to the political system's responsibility in allocating material and non-material benefits.

4.2 Transit Countries

Transit countries serve as essential way stations for reaching the receiving nations. Acting as intermediary states between departure and destination regions, migrants utilize these states as passages due to accessible ports and active smuggling networks. These regions exhibit multiple characteristics simultaneously, often functioning as both transit and departure points, driven by shared conditions and motivating factors for migration. In some instances, the same countries may serve as migrants' settlement destinations.

4.3 Receiving and Settlement Countries

Also referred to as immigration areas, these countries represent the ultimate destination for illegal immigrants. A blend of historical, political, and economic factors designates European countries as the principal target (Al-Malik, 2006-2007, pp. 34-36).

Studies underscore that human smuggling, a method commonly associated with illegal immigration, poses a threat to both national and political security. Illicit elements and subversive actors might be concealed among illegal immigrants, potentially fostering the creation of terrorist cells that disrupt host countries (Berkane, 2012, pp. 62-64).

5. Repercussions of illegal immigration on Algeria

The phenomenon of illegal immigration into Algeria carries significant negative repercussions and assorted risks that extend across diverse sectors, including the economic, social, political, security, and health domains. These ramifications exert profound effects on Algerian society's overall development, posing a dual threat to societal and state security. This threat emanates from the intertwined nature of illegal immigration, as previously discussed, with a multitude of other dangers and hazards, such as organized criminal activities encompassing trafficking, drug smuggling, arms trade, human trafficking, money laundering, and terrorism. Immoral practices and the proliferation of epidemic diseases further intensify these detrimental consequences. The transformation of illegal immigration into a perilous criminal enterprise in numerous instances compounds its negative impacts on Algeria's security, stability, and citizen safety.

5.1 Economic Implications

The illicit actions and operations carried out by illegal immigrants inflict significant harm upon Algeria's economic production and developmental endeavors. Such actions lead to resource wastage and the propagation of criminal behavior, including theft, extortion, kidnapping, corruption, smuggling, counterfeiting, and currency laundering. In the labor landscape, illegal immigrants serve as inexpensive labor at the expense of the domestic Algerian workforce, engendering unemployment concerns. These immigrants employ fraudulent means and tactics to manipulate administrative documents and securities, flooding markets with counterfeit

goods and engendering the expansion of the black market. The proliferation of such activities detrimentally impacts the Algerian economy.

These migrants also engage in the laundering of ill-gotten gains derived from unlawful pursuits, thereby exerting grave adverse consequences on Algeria's economic fabric. Consequently, even the funds generated from legitimate endeavors cannot be harnessed for local development, further hindering progress. The various illegal activities perpetrated by these immigrants leave an indelible imprint on Algeria's economic landscape, hampering developmental efforts, undermining effective economic management, and corroding administrative and financial systems. The presence of African foreign nationals within Algeria has contributed to an increased unemployment rate, fueled by the availability of low-cost labor seeking subsistence. This surge in population growth has adversely affected diverse sectors, exerting a negative ripple effect on the national economy. This economic deterioration has manifested through a weakened national currency and a diminished purchasing power for citizens (Lamara, 2021, page 6).

5.2 Social Repercussions

The illicit actions of illegal immigrants cast a shadow over the moral fabric of Algerian society. These immigrants propagate certain unethical practices and behaviors, such as drug smuggling and trafficking, thereby promoting their proliferation within Algerian communities. Regrettably, these activities have found traction, especially among the youth, leading to their corruption and moral degradation. The perils associated with drug abuse and their pervasive influence on Algerian society are undeniable.

Prostitution, another disturbing facet, carries severe social and educational implications. It is notorious for facilitating the dissemination of fatal epidemics like AIDS, Ebola, and other diseases (Medjen, 2016, p. 8). Among the grave social harms wrought by illegal immigration's impact on Algeria is the clandestine efforts of illegal immigrants to evade scrutiny and punishment by procuring bribes from Algerian authorities and administrators. These payments grant them unfettered access to various means and avenues. This undermines security and stability within Algerian

society (Majdan, 2020., pp. 4-6).

5.3 Political and Security Implications

In addition to the aforementioned concerns, the continuous and escalating influx of illegal immigrants into Algeria fuels profound political and security disturbances. Their arrival consistently correlates with various criminal activities—smuggling, arms and drug trade, human trafficking, money laundering, theft, assault, and even murder. This grim scenario fosters a pervasive atmosphere of panic and trepidation across Algerian society. Furthermore, the presence of these immigrants can escalate tribal and religious conflicts, thereby endangering both migrants and local populations.

Furthermore, considering the vast and challenging-to-manage expanse of Algeria's borders, the perils posed by illegal immigrants multiply. This extensive area becomes a sanctuary for terrorist groups, affording them collaboration opportunities with illegal immigrants, alongside organized crime syndicates involved in arms, drug trade, and human trafficking. This convergence of factors significantly heightens the country's security vulnerabilities.

6. Diagnosing the Reality of Illegal Immigration in Algeria

Illegal immigration has now evolved into a global phenomenon, ranking third after drug and weapons trafficking in Algeria's social landscape. This trend has particularly gained traction among the youth demographic.

In the early years of independent Algeria, illegal immigration made its debut when the country offered refuge to Malian and Nigerian refugees in 1963, fleeing their homeland due to fears of ethnic persecution following a conflict with the ruling authority. Subsequently, the implementation of the Schengen Agreement in 1995 facilitated visa holders' passage through the territories of European Union countries. However, the phenomenon's surge occurred after 1990, coinciding with the European Union's expansion, especially France's initiative to attract individuals from Europe, including Algerians, proficient in the language. Various factors contributed to this shift, encompassing the decline in oil prices, heightened indebtedness, currency devaluation, and the aftermath of the 1988 October demonstrations, leading to a profound economic crisis that impacted Algeria's infrastructure.

Beyond economic factors, the deep-seated changes sparked by the late 80s crisis also drove illegal immigration. The crisis left lasting scars, notably elevated unemployment, a housing shortage, rising alienation, weakened purchasing power, reduced incomes, and a surge in domestic violence and school dropout rates.

Furthermore, Algeria's deteriorating economic state prompted it to seek assistance from the International Monetary Fund. The stipulated transition from a socialist to a capitalist system resulted in massive layoffs, the removal of subsidies on essential goods, currency devaluation in 1990, declining living standards, foreign trade liberalization, and a lack of protection for domestic products. Concurrently, political reasons played a substantial role, with ethnic-based political systems in southern countries (such as Niger, Mali, Rwanda, and Congo) fueling conflicts and armed oppositions. Geographical factors also played a pivotal role, given Algeria's location as a transit and destination point for various groups of immigrants from Africa, Asia, Morocco, and the Arab world. Regions like Élizi, Tamanrasset, Adrar, and western areas have become focal points, posing security threats.

Algeria experienced a fresh surge of illegal immigration in the past decade, spurred by exceptional circumstances and transformations. This period of uncertainty propelled numerous young individuals to risk venturing into the unknown.

Exacerbating the phenomenon is the assortment of crossing points, including land borders, driven by Algeria's extensive border lengths: Niger (1300 km), Libya (1250 km), Morocco (1523 km), Tunisia (955 km), Western Sahara (143 km), Mauritania (520 km), and its 1200 km of coastline. Maritime borders provide additional avenues; many migrants employ camouflage tactics or seek assistance from sailors to embark on ships or climb ropes onto anchored vessels. Sea-based illegal immigration is a preferred route to Western countries due to its proximity and shorter travel times, as compared to air and land crossings.

Fig.1. Figure title (this is an example of figure 1)



Source: Frontex | UNHCR

The observer studying this phenomenon realizes that it transcends mere economic or political factors; it is underpinned by a variety of other influences, including psychological and social aspects. Individuals harbor desires and ambitions that they strive to fulfill in receiving countries, catalyzed by collective aspirations for advancement. In recent years, Algeria's role has shifted from being a transit country to a destination for long-term residence. Illegally, Algeria has become a haven for migrant workers, engaging in various sectors such as agriculture, construction, public works, and even domestic tasks.

Given Algeria's steadfast commitment and vigilant border surveillance, coupled with stringent document verification processes using state-of-the-art travel document detectors, Algerian coastal guards have successfully apprehended numerous foreign nationals from Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Afghanistan, and even Algerians. This proactive intervention has thwarted attempts at illegal immigration, both towards residing in Algeria and seeking passage to Europe through sea routes.

Undoubtedly, such a phenomenon carries far-reaching implications at the political and security levels. The perpetual presence of immigrants becomes a security concern, fostering various forms of criminal activities

including rape, theft, murder, assaults, drug trafficking, and document falsification. It also fuels the rise of tribal, ideological, and sectarian conflicts, exemplified by the religious conflict among Muslims in Wardfo Valley, Mughniyeh, western Algeria, in 1999. This incident resulted in casualties and injuries. On a societal level, the influx of immigrants disturbs demographic equilibrium, as certain regions like Tamanrasset, Elizi, and Mughniyeh house over 34 nationalities, generating social challenges that can occasionally impact societal values and ethics, leading to issues like prostitution and resultant health crises, including AIDS.

The Algerian League for Human Rights has disseminated annual statistics regarding illegal migration across the Mediterranean into Algeria. Based on the Coast Guard Command's data for the Naval Forces from January 1 to December 31, 2017, the association affirms that they thwarted 3,109 attempts of illegal immigration, including 186 women and 840 minors. These individuals aimed to migrate from Algeria's coasts to the opposite Mediterranean shores. However, the statement underscores that these statistics do not mirror the complete picture, as the actual number of illegal immigrants annually surpasses 17,500, who manage to reach Spanish and Italian shores before dispersing to various European nations. Tragically, dozens of people have gone missing, drowning at sea (Small, 2015, pp. 10-12).

7. Algerian Strategies to Combat Illegal Immigration

In its battle against illegal immigration, Algeria employs a multifaceted approach, centered on three core components: legal and security strategies, and economic and social strategies.

7.1 Legal Strategies

At the outset of the surge in illegal immigration, Algeria faced a legal void, eventually resorting to the Maritime Law No. 98 05, which initially did not criminalize illegal immigration. This changed in 2009, when Law 0 8 11 established conditions for foreign entry and Law 01 09 amended the Penal Code. Law 08 0 11 mandates the arrest and deportation of illegal immigrants within a 30-day detention period. To curb demand for illegal migration, Law 01 09 penalizes illegal exit from Algerian territory and involvement in

migrant smuggling networks.

The Algerian legislature classifies illegal immigration as a misdemeanor, imposing two types of penalties: imprisonment (two to six months) and fines (ranging from 20,000 to 60,000 Algerian dinars). For smuggling orchestrators, the penalties range from three to five years' imprisonment and fines from 300,000 to 500,000 dinars. In certain aggravated circumstances, penalties escalate to 10 to 20 years' imprisonment and fines of one to two million dinars.

To enhance protection for illegal immigrants, Algeria cooperates with non-governmental organizations dedicated to refugee rights and cultivating a rights-based culture.

7.2 Security Measures

7.2.1 Command of Border Guard Units

A unit along Algeria's border is tasked with guarding against illegal activities, including smuggling and unauthorized entry. It has successfully detained individuals of various nationalities. Originally known as the Border Guards Authority, it is now the Command of the Border Guard Units within the National Gendarmerie Command.

The Border Guard Units are entrusted with:

- Continuous border area surveillance.
- Gathering and communicating pertinent information to military authorities.
- Preventing any entry compromising regional security.
- Safeguarding boundary markers.

7.2.2 Border Police Directorate

Operating under the National Security Directorate, this unit manages land and sea border control, applying administrative and legal protocols for person and property entry and exit. It secures installations within airport or port spaces, while also monitoring and suppressing criminal activities.

7.2.3 Central Office for Combating Illegal Migration

This office, established by the General Directorate of National Security, coordinates regional and investigation teams to prevent and deter illegal immigration. It targets support networks and cells involved in illegal

migrant movement and document falsification.

7.2.4 Coast Guard

Operating under the Ministry of Defense, the Coast Guard guards beaches, maritime borders, and foreign ships. It collaborates with maritime traffic surveillance guards and maritime border police to thwart illegal immigration attempts.

Algeria promotes coordination among security services, border guards, customs, and police to effectively reduce smuggling of illegal migrants.

7.3 Economic and Social Strategies

Development programs play a pivotal role in fostering economic and social growth, boosting GDP, and curbing unemployment. Initiatives like the national policy for employment promotion and unemployment reduction focus on supporting self-employment through micro-enterprise development and vocational integration.

Algeria's economic and developmental efforts are aimed at combating illegal immigration by emphasizing youth engagement, employment strategies, and unemployment alleviation.

8. The Effects of the Exacerbation of Illegal Migration, Especially on Human Security

The issue of illegal immigration has evolved into a significant problem, spanning countries that host migrants. The European continent stands as the primary destination for illegal immigrants from North African and American countries, with even the Arab Gulf countries witnessing a surge in illegal immigration, often labeled as an "invasion." Illegal migration bears far-reaching consequences in the short, medium, and long term, affecting psychological and social structures of individuals, as well as the social, cultural, political, and economic frameworks of origin and destination countries (Maghreb countries and European countries).

8.1 Economic Effects

Migration, whether legal or illegal, brings about a range of positive and negative economic impacts for both sending and receiving nations.

8.1.1 Receiving Countries

While immigrants contribute positively to the economies of receiving nations, fostering development, increasing national income, and enabling societal advancement, there are adverse economic effects, including:

- Escalation of unemployment due to limited job opportunities.
- Challenges in integrating immigrants, especially post-September 11, 2001.
- Proliferation of low-productivity casual labor, fostering a shadow labor market.
- Disruption of the labor market equilibrium and supply-demand dynamics.

8.1.2 Countries of Origin

Origin countries benefit from remittances sent by immigrant citizens, which can amount to substantial sums. However, these advantages come with certain drawbacks, such as:

- Brain drain leading to hierarchical imbalances.
- Proliferation of fraudulent projects.
- Increase in money laundering activities.
- Perception of disloyalty to national institutions due to income disparities.
- Inflation triggered by shifts in consumer spending patterns due to remittances.

8.2 Social Impacts

Social analysts observe a plethora of social issues stemming from illegal migration, both in sending and receiving countries. It's important to highlight that around 98% of immigrants are males aged 20-45, resulting in the following:

- Phenomenon of foreign marriages as migrants seek legitimate reasons for their presence, sometimes leading to divorce and challenges in lineage.
- Introduction of Western customs, leading to the emergence of new values, cultures, and behaviors such as begging and loitering.
- Emergence of minority groups seeking recognition and at times resorting to violence.

- Challenges to cultural identity, leading to the erosion of original values.

8.3 Health Effects

Illegal migration carries health implications, as migrants often carry diseases during their journeys or contract them in detention centers. Health concerns also lead some North African countries to impose health certificates even for tourists and travelers to mitigate the spread of infectious diseases. Health measures are crucial for the well-being of both migrants and the receiving population, irrespective of legal status.

8.4 Psychological Effects

Illegal immigrants often face a series of psychological stages, from striving to meet basic needs to feelings of isolation, disharmony, and psychological distress. These stages can lead to anxiety, depression, withdrawal from society, and feelings of hostility.

8.5 Political Implications

Security concerns pose the most pressing and severe issue related to illegal immigration. This phenomenon can amplify crime rates, aid in smuggling weapons, explosives, and ammunition, foster extremist ideologies, and enable the infiltration of terrorist elements or criminal gangs seeking to destabilize security. Human trafficking, theft, drug promotion, and engagement in prostitution networks also contribute to the crime landscape.

9. The Role of the Human Security Approach in Combating Illegal Migration in Algeria

In the pursuit of countering the rampant issue of illegal immigration, it is evident that a comprehensive legal framework targeting smugglers must be introduced. However, a more profound solution requires the acceleration of the development of effective mechanisms, particularly through comprehensive economic and social reforms aimed at eradicating the marginalization experienced by the youth. This pivotal reform would empower Algeria's young population, constituting around 75% of the total, to ascend to influential political positions. Encouraging their active involvement in the political process will foster transparency and accountability, ensuring a more responsible governance.

For instance, addressing Algeria's prolonged housing crisis necessitates intensified efforts to facilitate affordable public housing for young individuals, particularly those who are unmarried and disadvantaged by existing laws. The expansion of employment opportunities and the facilitation of bank loans for establishing small-scale enterprises should be prioritized. Moreover, revisiting public procurement laws to mandate a certain percentage of project completion to youth-led economic institutions can further their participation in various sectors. This, coupled with the provision of job prospects in underserved regions and support for training initiatives, can significantly diminish the allure of illegal immigration.

To effectively curtail the illegal immigration phenomenon, the implementation of a human security approach across various domains becomes indispensable. Initiation starts with ensuring health security and fulfilling the prerequisites for the right to health. This entails fostering conditions that empower individuals to realize their maximum potential, thereby enjoying a wholesome and robust life. The concept encompasses protective, restorative, and preventative measures aimed at safeguarding human health from regression. Importantly, this extends across all strata of society, regardless of financial standing, and is inclusive of both healthy individuals and those grappling with ailments.

The notion of health security encompasses more than the absence of diseases; it encapsulates the holistic well-being of individuals, encompassing physical, psychological, and social dimensions. This enables individuals to exert control over their own futures, mitigating the threats posed by diseases, disabilities, and preventable deaths. Moreover, upholding health security carries paramount significance in the context of illegal immigration, as migrants often bring with them health issues, which, if unchecked, can escalate to public health crises.

Elevating the political security of citizens, encompassing civil rights, is also a crucial dimension of the human security approach. Transparency in elections, the opening up of the political sphere to oversight, criticism, and accountability, and unfettered expression free from repressive intervention are all vital in ensuring citizens' political security. After all, citizens are the

cornerstone of human security, and their well-being is the ultimate goal. Relying solely on security measures, without parallel efforts to improve individuals' standard of living, as per international benchmarks across economic, social, health, and cultural domains, falls short in addressing the root causes of illegal migration.

The persistence of illegitimate migration is closely tied to societal imbalances stemming from the unequal distribution of resources within the state. This leads to feelings of marginalization, driving even highly educated young citizens to contemplate dangerous journeys to Europe via perilous sea crossings. As a holistic approach, integrating human security principles becomes pivotal, as it aims not only to counteract the symptoms of illegal migration but to fundamentally transform the conditions that give rise to it (Naseer, 2019, pp. 71-73).

Combating the intricate phenomenon of illegal immigration necessitates more than stringent laws; it requires profound economic, social, and political transformations. The human security approach stands as a robust strategy, encompassing health security, political empowerment, and overall well-being. By rectifying imbalances, empowering youth, and embracing transparent governance, Algeria can pave the way for a more secure future that discourages illegal immigration and fosters sustainable development.

4. CONCLUSION

In light of the aforementioned discussions, it is evident that the surge in illegal immigration within Algeria is driven by a complex interplay of economic, social, geographical, and demographic factors. These factors have transformed illegal immigration into a means of escape for segments of society, particularly the youth, who are grappling with deprivation and poverty. The incapacity of our societies to fulfill essential needs, especially in terms of employment opportunities and decent living conditions, compels many young individuals to consider and embark on illegal immigration as a bid to realize their lifelong dreams. This involves reaching the European shores and attaining financial prosperity, even at the potential expense of their lives. Algeria also grapples with a significant influx of Africans from neighboring countries, viewing it as a passage to the Mediterranean shore,

inadvertently thrusting the nation into a multi-dimensional crisis. Consequently, addressing the exacerbation of this phenomenon requires cohesive and integrated policies, centered around ameliorating the socioeconomic status of the populace, particularly the youth. By channeling their skills and energies towards constructive avenues and empowering their active participation in comprehensive community development, practical programs can be devised that foster information exchange, research, and studies. This collaborative approach aims to yield shared strategies and policies that effectively address the issue.

Key Takeaways:

- The elusive nature of illegal immigration complicates efforts to determine its actual scale, with varying estimates from different sources due to the diversity of patterns and manifestations.
- National security concerns are overshadowed by the broader economic, social, political, cultural, and health impacts that threaten countries' stability and well-being.
- The management of the illegal immigration dossier has proven challenging, particularly in safeguarding individuals dignity and fundamental rights.

Proposals and Recommendations:

- A comprehensive reassessment of migration dynamics is imperative, emphasizing the long-term need to confront root causes like poverty, unemployment, conflicts, and disasters. Developing a national development policy that harnesses human potential and primary resources is essential.
- Strengthening security cooperation and information exchange among concerned countries is pivotal to dismantling networks aiding illegal migration. Concurrently, updating legal frameworks is vital to deter smuggling networks and migrants.
- Encouraging medium- and long-term investment projects to generate job opportunities and diminish the allure of illegal immigration.
- Initiating investment projects to harness the economic potential of returned migrants and raising awareness among these talents to

contribute to the nation's development across various spheres.

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