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Original scientific work

Ibrahim O. Sabri**THE CONCEPT OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND ITS CAUSES IN THE MAGHREB REGION**

Abstract: We have considered the phenomenon of illegal immigration in the Maghreb a major security threats at the moment facing the national security and also has its consequences on the economic and social of the Maghreb region. Illegal migration is a global phenomenon in many countries of the world, but immigration from North Africa to Europe has become one of the issues that are urgent and considerable attention in recent years. Southern Europe is familiar with irregular migration from core Maghreb countries of Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia. Since the early 1990s, thousands of North Africans have attempted to cross the Mediterranean to reach Spain and Italy each year. But, as the recent migration crises made clear, sub-Saharan Africans are increasingly migrating to Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco, often using the region as a point of transit to Europe and others remain in the Maghreb region. Although there is a consensus that the reasons for the growth of this phenomenon is mainly due to economic aspects, but the political and social conditions are also playing a role, which can be detailed as follows.

Key words: illegal immigration, Maghreb, economic aspects

The concept of illegal immigration

the migration in the simplest sense is the movement of moving an individual or a group from one location to another in search of a better position socially, economically, religiously or politically. There are many indications of migration between the migration of a secret, illegal immigration, immigration illegal is the transmission of individual or group from one place to another in ways that secret violation of immigration law as is customary internationally as for the migration between the two shores of the Mediterranean, the focus of this study is going according to the logic of political instability and economic interests. If the immigration in the past are in flow depending on the purpose of pre-determined, as was the role of demographic primarily through immigration in the first confrontation between East and West, which tried to exploit in his favor (Abdul Latif Al Mahmoud, Immigration and the threat of Arab national security. Cairo: Center of Arab Civilization 2003 p. 14) The adoption of the principle of demarcation between the State and conflict of political and economic interests has increased The intensity of dealing with the issue of immigration with one important difference is that the waves of immigration in

this part of the world in recent decades was done rapidly from the south towards the north. The illegal immigration or other legal or illegal or irregular international phenomenon that exists in developed countries like the United States and the European Union or in developing countries in Asia as countries Gulf and the Levant, and Latin America and Africa where the borders inherited from colonialism which do not constitute barriers to a buffer, especially in the Some countries such as Ivory Coast, South Africa and Nigeria. However, this phenomenon has taken on great importance in the Maghreb region and Mediterranean Basin due to the attention of the media by, making a fundamental bet in the relations between the two banks. The European Commission illegal immigration is "the phenomenon of variety include the nationalities of the countries three entering the territory of a Member State illegally by land, sea or air, including the transit areas at airports, and is usually done with false documents, or with the help of organized crime networks of smugglers and dealers, and there are a number of people who enter legally with a visa valid, but they stay or change the purpose of the visit, they remain without obtaining the approval of the authorities, and finally there is a group of asylum seekers who do not receive the approval of their request, but they remain in the country. so an illegal immigration is dropping out of the mother country to another country without a visa and in secret, either for business or as a transit point to a third country, such as that is the reality in the Maghreb region in particular, and there are three categories: (Tobeal, Fatima Zahra, the civilized dialogue, August 2009)

1. The category that migrate in order to stay in.
2. Cross-category is made by the station to cross the Maghreb to Europe.
3. The category of smugglers operating in the field of trafficking in its various forms.

The causes of illegal immigration

The growing instability in some Africa countries, civil wars, and economic decline in several parts of West and Central Africa contributed to increasing trans-Saharan migration from the mid-1990s onward. Refugee migration to Morocco gained momentum after the fall of president Mobutu in the Democratic Republic of Congo in 1997 and the subsequent war in the Great Lakes District. This was supplemented by migration from civil war-torn Sierra Leone (1991-2001) and Liberia (1989–1996 and 1999–2003), and violence-ridden Nigeria. Recurrent warfare in Sudan and the Horn of Africa has fuelled migration to Egypt and Libya. Also, the outbreak of civil war in 1999 and associated economic decline in Côte d'Ivoire combined with the lack of alternative migration destinations, prompted increasing numbers of West Africans to migrate to North Africa become a phenomenon of illegal immigration a concern for many countries of the north Africa can be

summarized their causes, as seen by specialists in economic and social conditions and political experienced by the individual in the Maghreb countries, also highlights other reasons of great importance in directing streams of illegal immigration, including geographic proximity, as well as an ambitious young and the search for success. (Trans-Saharan Migration to North Africa and the EU: Historical Roots and Current Trends. Hein de Haas. University of Oxford).

Economic reasons

With respect to the southern border of the Maghreb region as a source of illegal immigration of Africans to the region due economic reasons to the collapse of the economies of the African countries despite the ownership of a tremendous natural resources but that stagnation of industrial to these countries to make their members rely on farming and agriculture as a supplier is essential, however, that this resource unable to turn to fill the needs of individuals due to the difficult conditions such as desertification and drought, which generate about the rapid spread of poverty and unemployment, which consider further critical areas are strong migration towards European countries, and in turn record of these countries a steady rise for demographic growth year after year and have been generated for these factors combined the spread of famine that threatens to become the inhabitants of those countries. We can see that the illegal immigration from the Maghreb to Europe is a contrast in the economic level is clearly in the South and the North attractive due to the fluctuation of the pace of development in the South Mediterranean, the failure of government policies, the continued government policy of reliance on the private sector only to provide opportunities new work adds to disaster unemployment in excess of the phenomenon, in addition to the estimated non-Maghreb governments to put forward real solutions to the problem of radical and growing unemployment in the countryside and the city, and in addition to the permanent search for stability and a better life.

Social causes

Migration is taking place in two different demographic, one knows population increase that amount to the inability to meet the national demand for employment, housing and social services ... and know each other a decrease in the number of the population, especially the proportion of young people, for the countries of eastern and southern Mediterranean, the population growth according to estimates by the United Nations candidate to rise over the next 20 years, in the year 1997, for example, the population of the countries bordering the Mediterranean more than 300 million people will move to approximately 500 million people in 2025. The first results of the explosion of the demographic, we find the problem of unemployment, if the individual worker

finds that low-income adequate justification for the migration of the purpose of raising revenues, the unemployed felt that the justification is more than enough, so unemployment is one of the main causes of migration abroad for work, and increases in unemployment in third world countries, including the southern Mediterranean countries, in Africa, for example, unemployment is one of the highest unemployment rates in the world, it is not evenly distributed among countries according to gender and age groups, the unemployment rate in sub-Saharan Africa increased slightly in the period between 1996 and 2006, rising from 9.2% to 9.8%, despite the achievement of GDP growth in the annual rate of 3.9% The unemployment rate fell in the Middle East and North Africa from 13% to 12.2%, on the other hand the rate of unemployment in developed economies, including countries north of the Mediterranean, from 7.8% in 1996 to 6.2% in 2006, due to the intensity of economic growth and slower growth in the labour force and increase the productivity of work (The General Assembly of the United Nations, the 2007 report on the social situation in the world: the inevitability of employment, session 62, item 64 (a), July 30, 2007, p. 4.) It is noticeable that unemployment is affecting people of all levels of scientific, professional, and even obtaining advanced degrees, and the inability of the national labour market to secure this work makes demands on individuals are turning to overseas demand, even in difficult working condition in addition to the failure in solving the social problems of poverty, famine, unemployment and diseases. And social success as well as the image shown by immigrant when he returned to his country for the holiday, which is dedicated to highlight the aspects of the rich: a car, gifts, investment in real estate. Etc., are all manifestations fuelled by the visual media.

Political reasons

Marked the end of the twentieth century movements important of refugees individually or collectively, as a result of wars and conflicts that have defined many of the regions of the world, as the instability caused by civil wars, conflicts and human rights violations because of their ethnic or religious or political, is one of the main causes of migratory movements that individuals are forced to flee from insecure areas to other, more secure, a so-called forced migration or asylum (Ben Zyosh expensive, migration and cooperation Euro - Mediterranean since the seventies, Master of His Messengers (unpublished), University of Algiers, 2005, p. 39).

The Maghreb region in particular and Africa in general the most important areas of exporting and receiving refugees due to wars and internal instability especially in the sub-Sahara region, in this context we can say that the Maghreb region is a major transit of refugees and immigrants from Africa, especially from the Great Lakes region and the Kingdom of Morocco is a major

crossing point towards the Spain, annually there are about 100 boats cross the Strait of Gibraltar, was recorded between the years 1997 and 2001 about 3286 victim drowned in the strait, Libya ,Algeria and Tunisia are the other areas of transit for migrants coming from sub-Saharan Africa, where these countries began to identify widespread remarkable African migrants. We also can not ignore the negative effects of wars, the Arab-Israeli, which led to the emigration of Palestinians and Lebanese, part of them went to the Persian Gulf, and headed the other part to the Maghreb region or to Europe, and also Golf war (invading of Iraq) led to waves of Iraqi emigrants to north Africa especially to Libya as crossing point to Europe ,and it must be noted also to the migration of the political opposition in Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco to Europe, which found a safe haven. In addition to the factors contributing to the migration of the economy and policy, proximity to Europe, that Libya and Algeria, constitute the main gate and the link between Africa and Europe, this geographical location, contributed to facilitate the movement of Africans in general and Moroccans in particular, to the north bank of the Mediterranean, also contributes to the widening Algerian and Libyan border in the aggravation of the phenomenon (Abadila Mohammed, illegal immigration, Journal of the National Gendarmerie, Algeria: cell contact, led by the Algerian National Gendarmerie, Issue V, June 2005, pp. 27-28). As it comes to countries adjacent to the coast of the Maghreb region, where these countries experiencing severe natural fluctuations, such as desertification and sand encroachment on oases of safe living and drought as well as located in areas with a continental climate where the percentages attributed to less rainfall. With this, I have considered the phenomenon of illegal immigration in the Maghreb, a major security threats at the moment facing the national security of the Maghreb and in this sense we can say. The different forms of illegal immigration to and from the Maghreb region depending on the reasons leading to it, they take it the region with a strategic location for many countries a haven for its ambitions. Southern African countries are considered for the region as an important station of the cross beyond the Mediterranean Sea and access to Europe, and with Moroccans find that the region does not achieve the level of their aspirations and their hopes and their future.

The reality of illegal immigration

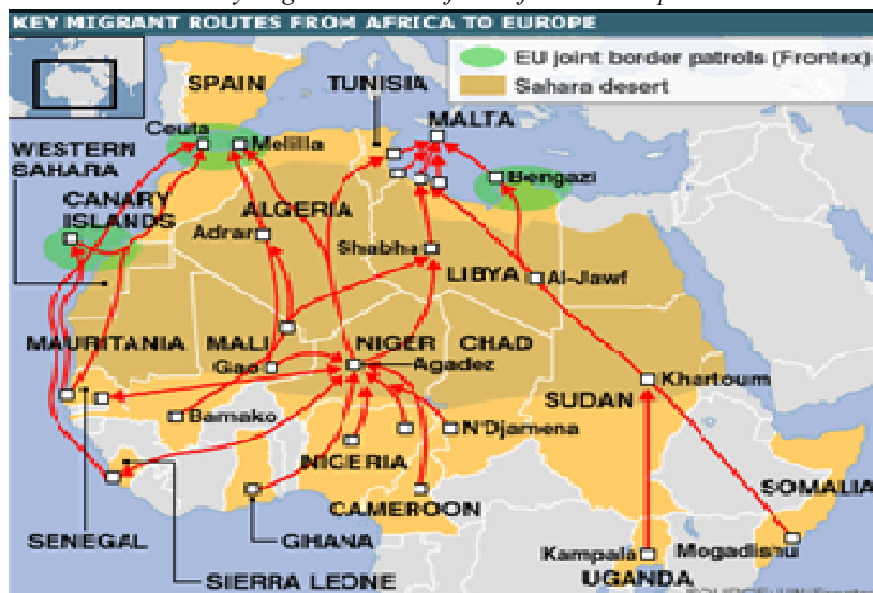
The Maghreb region, it is a strategic location it has witnessed the phenomenon of illegal immigration through two phases to gain access to the Western world of Europe. In the past two decades, irregular immigration and related phenomena such as human smuggling and trafficking has become a high ranking issue on national and international policy agendas. Politicians seem increasingly responsive to public fears of being engulfed by immigrants through publicly reasserting the need to stem these flows. The issue has created

considerable tension in relations between the European Union (EU) and its Mediterranean neighbours. For instance, in 2002, the European Commission proposed to link EU development aid to the willingness to readmit irregular migrants originating from these and also third countries. At an EU summit in Sevilla in 2002, British and Spanish Prime Ministers Tony Blair and José María Aznar proposed to no longer give aid to migrant sending countries that would not cooperate in containing irregular immigration. (Turning the tide? Why development will not stop migration, Hein de Haas, International Migration Institute, James Martin 21th Century School, University of Oxford, 2007).

Foreigners in the Maghreb

Libya is the main destination country and is currently considered the main transit country in North Africa, its authorities estimate that currently the foreign population residing legally in Libya is 600,000, and that a further 750,000 to 1.2 million are residing illegally. Moreover, the same authorities estimate that each year 75,000 to 100,000 foreigners enter Libya. Regarding the foreign populations in the other APS (Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia), the relevant authorities confirm that their numbers are higher than a few years ago and that the flows are moving more rapidly. In 2003, for instance, the Lebanese authorities estimated the number of irregular migrants residing in the country as 140,000 and growing.

Key Migration Routes from Africa to Europe



Source: © UN 2011. Migrants use numerous land and sea routes to reach their desired destinations.

APS have also indicated that more and more migrants are becoming stranded in their countries due to the heavy reinforcement of border control activities, particularly in Spain, Italy and Turkey. Most of the APS used to be countries of origin and transit, but nowadays they are also increasingly becoming countries of destination because migrants choose them as such.

This situation will continue to increase since disparity between GDP per inhabitant in the sub-Saharan countries, Maghreb and Mashreq on the one hand, and European countries on the other continue to grow (African Migration to Europe', Obscured Responsibilities and, Common Misconceptions. Dirk Kohnert).

Migration Routes and their Methods

The trans-Saharan journey is generally made in several stages, and might take anywhere between one month and several years. On their way, migrants often settle temporarily in towns located on migration hubs to work and save enough money for their onward journeys, usually in large trucks or pick-ups they use numerous land and sea routes to reach their desired destinations. The minority who travel by air aside, the majority of migrants enter the Maghreb overland from Agadez in Niger despite the existence of multiple, alternative routes. (See map for details).

Agadez is located on a historical crossroads of trade routes that now extend deep into West and Central Africa. From Agadez, migration routes bifurcate to the Sebha oasis in Libya and to Tamanrasset in southern Algeria. From southern Libya, migrants move to Tripoli and other coastal cities or to Tunisia; from the coast, migrants travel by boat to either Malta or the Italian islands of Lampedusa, Pantalleria, and Sicily. (Trans-Saharan Migration to North Africa and the EU: Historical Roots and Current Trends, By Hein de Haas, University of Oxford). Libya's pan-African policies have also played a key role in linking East African migration systems with the Euro-Mediterranean migration system. Besides the growing number of Egyptians crossing the Mediterranean to Italy via Libya, migrant workers and refugees from Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea, and Ethiopia who often used to settle in Cairo now also migrate to Libya through Sudan, Chad, or Egypt. Even migrants from China, India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh have recently migrated through Morocco via Saharan routes. They usually fly to West African capitals such as Accra or Bamako, sometimes via the Gulf States, and from there they follow the common Saharan trails via Niger and Algeria to Morocco and Europe. (African Migration to Europe', Obscured Responsibilities and, Common Misconceptions. Dirk Kohnert). In Algeria, From Tamanrasset migrants move to the northern cities or enter Morocco via the border near Oujda. In reaction to intensified border patrolling in the Strait of Gibraltar, In Morocco, Migrants have increasingly moved southward to the Western Sahara in order to get to the Canary Islands, a

Spanish territory in the Atlantic Ocean. In the process of crossing the Sahara to North Africa, migrants spend hundreds of dollars on bribes, smugglers, transportation, and daily necessities. In 2003, the Moroccan researcher Mehdi Lahlou estimated that a boat crossing from Morocco to Spain cost from \$200 for minors to \$500 to \$800 for Moroccans and up to \$800 to \$1,200 for Francophone and Anglophone sub-Saharan Africans, respectively. Prices for the Libya-Italy crossing seem to be roughly similar. (Trans-Saharan Migration to North Africa and the EU: Historical Roots and Current Trends, By Hein de Haas, University of Oxford).

Emigration of the four Maghreb countries

Libya has different history of migration policy. Owing to the development of its oil and a high per capita GDP, it was always a destination country for labour migrants. Some limited temporary emigration occurred, mostly of business men and students to Malta and Egypt (National democratic institute (NDI) report fall 2006); since Libya removed formal travel restrictions, there has been increasing travel by young people to Italy and Malta. However, the Libyan diaspora is very small. On the other hand, the number and proportion of immigrants in Libya is high: estimates range from 1.1-1.4 million up to 1.8 million, of which only 600,000 are legal workers, with a total recorded population of around 5.5m, this means that the immigrant/ population ratio is of the order of 25-30%. The majority of temporary workers traditionally have come from Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco, although more recent visa free entry for all of Africa resulted also in large numbers of sub-Saharan Africans (National democratic institute (NDI) report fall 2006) Morocco has been the only one since 1968 with a consistent policy of encouraging emigration in order to manage unemployment levels (Migration in the Middle East and Mediterranean, Martin Baldwin-Edwards, 2005). Even after the oil-shock and the closure of European labour markets to immigration in 1974, Morocco maintained its policy stance of promoting emigration, opposition to the integration of Moroccans abroad, and great emphasis on the remittances received from the Moroccan diaspora (Mediterranean migration, Philippe Fargues, 2005). Most migrants did not return and massive family reunification to European countries in the 1970s and 1980s led to an increase in Moroccans from 400,000 in 1975 to over one million in 1992 in France, Belgium, Netherlands and Germany. By 1998, the number had risen to 1.6 million in northern Europe, and despite the opposition of the Moroccan state, 430,000 were granted EU nationality over the period 1992-2001 (The social and cultural impacts of, international migration on, Moroccan sending communities, Hein de Haas, 2006). With new Moroccan migrations to Spain and Italy after 1990, the resulting diaspora by 2004 was measured at over 3 million worldwide with 2.6

million in wider Europe and 280,000 in other Arab countries (Euro-Mediterranean Consortium for applied Research on International Migration, CARIM-AS 2004/2005, Fatima Sadiqi). Tunisia started with the same sort of approach as Morocco in the late 1960s, but by 1974 the state was encouraging the return of its (Mediterranean migration, Philippe Fargues, 2005) Despite this official policy, the number of Tunisians abroad by 2003 was in excess of 800,000 around 9% of current population, with over 700,000 in greater Europe, mostly in France, Algeria from the outset was more ambiguous about emigration as a safety-valve for the labour market, preferring to denounce migration as a post-colonial form of dependency and instead relying upon development of its oil and gas reserves . Its policy left the diaspora highly disconnected from the country, and also explains the relatively low rate of refugee flows during the civil war in the 1990s. By 2000, over 800,000 Algerians were recorded mostly in France constituting just under 3% of current population. (Between a Rock and a Hard Place: North Africa as a region of emigration, immigration and transit migration, Martin Baldwin-Edwards, 2006)

Crossing areas of the Maghreb region

They considered the Arab west buffer zone between the arrivals of Africans to Europe so taken by the African fronts crossing the station to gain access to European countries. In Libya: over the past years the problem of illegal immigration to Europe and especially to the coasts of Italy Increased , where authorities estimate in Italy the number of qualifying for this kind of migration from Libya alone, 1.5 million immigrants, mostly from North African states as well as other African countries, particularly from Somalia, Eritrea, Chad and Ethiopia, the majority of these come from the neighbouring countries, and then smuggling gangs transferred them to Tripoli, and then they wait for several weeks until the smuggling gangs complete the arrangements when they approaching the date of travel they divide the immigrants into groups, each number ranging between 80 and 100 and then the smuggling gangs transferred the immigrants to the city of Zowara in the coastal of Libya, which lies on the coast of Italy about 150 nautical miles, they cut a cruise may take one day if the weather is appropriate. From the city Zowara the smuggling gangs put the immigrants in boats for a large amount of money ranging from 900 to 1000 euros, then surprised many of those that they fall after the fuss in their grip of the Italian border guard and then they send them in often to Camp shelter built for this purpose on the island of Lampedusa, south of Italy in preparation for deportation to their countries of origin. According to the Libyan authorities, the uncontrolled movement of illegal immigrants to and through Libya has reached the level of a national crisis, in particular with regards to immigration originating from sub-Saharan Africa. Authorities are concerned about the management of this situation

and its possible consequences: criminal activities, a degradation of the overall health situation with particular emphasis on the possible spread of HIV/AIDS and hepatitis, economic disruption due to an excess of availability of cheap labor, cultural difficulties resulting in tensions between Libyan and foreign communities, and the possible infiltration of terrorists. Yet there seems to exist little understanding of the need for a strategic approach, except at the level of few interlocutors at a high level. (European Commission, "Technical Mission to Libya on Illegal Immigration, 27 Nov – 6 Dec 2004, Report."). in Algeria from September 2005, and with the change of the Spanish border and after the events of Tebessa and Melilla in Morocco, a turning stop illegal immigrants to the Moroccan coast to homeland has appeared increasingly Africans to the Algerian border, the South and are the countries of the border, the majority of Mali, Niger, Chad and Senegal, and took advantage of this opportunity to enter Algeria initial phase to get to Europe. ("Strengthening Coast Guard combat units to fight illegal immigration", the Alkhbr, Number: 5234. February 3, 2008, p. 5) Tmanrast is the maximum point of contact between the African neighbours Libya and Algeria and the focus of many African infiltrators to Algeria on an informal basis to be deployed in relatively quiet areas?, Gedayah crossing that became a refuge for smugglers and illegal immigrants, as well as Djelfa The former was arrested on three Africans, for example, in late February last Niger and Mali. The cause of this migration in the transfer of many forms of crime, prostitution and smuggling and transmitted diseases, AIDS, for example. (Lamia, S, "Ghardaia crossing refuge for smugglers and illegal immigrants," Alkhbr alyumi, Issue: March 1, 2010 p 17) In Morocco: there have been many migrations from Africa, but they have benefited from the closure of the Spanish border to the cities of Ceuta and Melilla, and this is allowed then the phenomenon is decreasing at the expense of Algeria, although in past years, the largest illegal border crossing linking Africa to Aruba. In Tunisia: Tunisia has never seen African migrations around compared with Morocco and Algeria. Illegal immigration to be extended not only to Africans, it included the Moroccans, where the numbers indicate that there are about half a million illegal immigrants enter Europe each year, mostly from the Maghreb, ("Fear of the European North Africa", the daily sunrise ", No. 118 116 September 2004, p 110) And are dangers in the fact that the empty states of their brains cause migration of intellectuals, as well as for cases of smuggling, smuggling of artifacts, relics, coral to Europe and the introduction of Africans to some of the social phenomena of acute diseases such as mobile epidemics, AIDS, the introduction of forms of crime, theft, smuggling, prostitution and so on. As well as the risk of migration has become rampant because of the death of many of the immigrants in the depth of the sea to Ttoverh boats from a deficit at the level of processing. (Riyadh (o) "mafia of illegal immigration follow the death of the frigate" the news daily, the number 5327.16 March 2008, p. 5).

Conclusion

There is no doubt that the phenomenon of illegal migration among the youth is a serious issue, and it is a huge challenge that is facing not only the north of Africa and perhaps the region as whole which must be faced and dealt with through an integrated system of actions and efforts at both the local and international, and therefore it should be to realize that dealing with this phenomenon is a collective responsibility should be carried out by all the state bodies ministries, agencies and official institutions, party and civil society organizations on the other hand, the trapping phenomenon of illegal immigration aimed at maintaining the basis of the strategic links between the north (Maghreb region) of the Mediterranean and south (Europe) through the provision of the best opportunities to open new horizons for action and legal immigration as partners in development, security and stability, and in more detail I think that we can face this phenomenon through a number of ways, such as seeking to reduce and stop African migrants on the Maghreb border by tighten security at the borders and dismantling all the smuggling organizations which they dealing with this phenomenon as well as information campaigns to reduce the phenomenon of illegal immigration and its dangers, and to inform young people whom wishing to immigrate to the needs of labour markets overseas and the laws regulating immigration. We should also work to focus on the need to take action towards the development of effective and sustainable to create more jobs and raise living standards. The important thing is to impose deterrent penalties on individuals and groups which manages or facilitates the smuggling of people illegally Finally, there is a need to provide a legitimate alternative for young people through bilateral agreements or multilateral agreements between countries expelling and receiving countries for labor in order to provide guarantees all, as well as for the establishment and development vocational training centres to prepare skilled workers and give them the experience necessary, commensurate with the needs of external labour markets.

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