The Role of Entrepreneurship Spirit in Mitigating illegal Migration: Evidence from Algerian Youth

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Abstract:
This study investigates the role of fostering an entrepreneurial spirit as a strategic mechanism to mitigate the phenomenon of illegal immigration among Algerian youth. Utilizing a deductive *approach within a quantitative research design, data were collected via a structured questionnaire distributed to a purposive sample of 70 youths in the Chlef province, yielding 58 valid responses. The conceptual framework explores four primary dimensions of the entrepreneurial spirit: social, familial, economic, and financial backgrounds. Data analysis, conducted using SPSS v.25, included descriptive statistics, ANOVA, and simple linear regression. The findings reveal a statistically significant impact of all four entrepreneurial dimensions on deterring illegal immigration, with the social background exhibiting the highest explanatory power (R^2 = 0.521). Furthermore, while demographic variables such as gender and age showed no significant variances in attitudes, educational level and occupational status significantly influenced perspectives on immigration. The study concludes that cultivating an entrepreneurial ecosystem—bolstered by targeted educational programs, specialized financial instruments (including Islamic finance), and robust institutional support—is critical to retaining human capital and reducing clandestine migration.*
Key words: Entrepreneurial Spirit, Illegal Immigration, social, familial, economic, and financial backgrounds, Algerian youth.
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"دور الروح المقاولاتية في الحد من ظاهرة الهجرة غير النظامية (الشرعية): دراسة ميدانية على عينة من الشباب الجزائري"

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الملخص:

تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى استقصاء دور تنمية الروح المقاولاتية كآلية استراتيجية للحد من ظاهرة الهجرة غير الشرعية في أوساط الشباب الجزائري. وبالاعتماد على المنهج الاستنباطي في إطار تصميم بحث كمي، جُمعت البيانات باستخدام استمارة استبيان وُزعت على عينة قصدية قوامها 70 شاباً بولاية الشلف، تم استرجاع 58 استمارة صالحة للتحليل. تناول الإطار المفاهيمي للدراسة أربعة أبعاد (محددات) رئيسية للروح المقاولاتية وهي: المحيط الاجتماعي، والأسري، والاقتصادي، والمالي. وقد تمت معالجة البيانات باستخدام برنامج الحزمة الإحصائية للعلوم الاجتماعية (SPSS v.25)، بالاعتماد على أساليب الإحصاء الوصفي، وتحليل التباين (ANOVA)، والانحدار الخطي البسيط.

أظهرت النتائج وجود أثر ذي دلالة إحصائية للأبعاد المقاولاتية الأربعة في الحد من الهجرة غير الشرعية، حيث استحوذ البعد الاجتماعي على أعلى قدرة تفسيرية ($R^2 = 0.521$). إضافة إلى أنه لم تُسجل أي فروق ذات دلالة إحصائية في اتجاهات المبحوثين تُعزى للمتغيرات الشخصية والديموغرافية (الجنس والسن)، أظهرت النتائج أن للمستوى التعليمي والوضع المهني تأثيراً دالاً على تلك الاتجاهات نحو الهجرة. وتخلص الدراسة إلى أن إرساء نظام بيئي مقاولاتي فعال ـ مدعوم ببرامج تكوينية مقاولاتية موجهة، وآليات تمويل سهلة ومتخصصة (بما فيها صيغ التمويل الإسلامي)، ومرافقة حكومية قوية ـ يكتسي أهمية بالغة في الحفاظ على المورد البشري والتقليل من ظاهرة الهجرة السرية بين الشباب الجزائري بوجه الخصوص.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الروح المقاولاتية؛ الهجرة السرية (غير الشرعية)؛ المحيط الاجتماعي والأسري والاقتصادي والمالي؛ الشباب الجزائري.

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Introduction:

Over the past three decades, entrepreneurship has garnered increasing attention from researchers, policymakers, and governments worldwide as a vital catalyst for economic dynamism and wealth creation. Beyond its traditional economic functions of job creation and innovation, the entrepreneurial spirit is increasingly recognized as a strategic mechanism to combat pressing socio-economic challenges, notably youth unemployment. In developing economies like Algeria, fostering this spirit—characterized by the proactive pursuit of opportunities, the willingness to embrace change, and the ability to navigate risk—represents a critical pathway for human capital development and retention.

Simultaneously, the Mediterranean basin, particularly North Africa, faces an escalating demographic and humanitarian crisis: illegal immigration. Driven by complex economic, social, and political imbalances, this phenomenon has grown from a predominantly male youth issue to one affecting broader segments of society, including women and minors. Illegal immigration poses profound threats to the macroeconomic stability, social fabric, and national security of both sending and receiving nations. Consequently, state interventions must transition from purely punitive or security-based measures to addressing the root socio-economic push factors through targeted empowerment and opportunity creation.

This research investigates the critical intersection of these two domains, positing that cultivating an entrepreneurial ecosystem can serve as a systemic deterrent to clandestine migration. The central research problem addressed in this study is: **What is the role of the entrepreneurial spirit as a tool to reduce the phenomenon of illegal immigration among Algerian youth?** The significance of this study stems from its contemporary relevance; as illegal immigration takes on a dangerous and rapid upward trajectory, it is imperative to explore mechanisms like entrepreneurship that offer youth a viable, domestic alternative to emigration.

The primary objective of this study is to explore the contribution of the entrepreneurial spirit to limiting illegal immigration among Algerian youth. Specifically, it seeks to assess the extent to which Algerian youth possess this spirit, gauge the level of institutional and official support available, and precisely define the relationship between entrepreneurial drivers and the intent to migrate illegally.

To achieve these objectives, the study formulates and tests several key hypotheses. First, it hypothesizes that there are statistically significant differences in views regarding illegal immigration attributable to demographic variables, specifically gender, age, educational qualification, and occupational status. Secondly, the research posits that specific, localized components of the entrepreneurial spirit have a statistically significant impact on curbing illegal immigration. These predictive hypotheses test the respective impacts of the social background, family background, economic background, and financial background on the propensity for illegal immigration.

By addressing these variables, this paper aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of how familial, social, and institutional frameworks can be optimized to retain young talent. Ultimately, this research aspires to inform policymakers and educational institutions, providing actionable insights into designing environments that transform the desire to flee into the drive to build, thereby stabilizing the socio-economic landscape of the region.)

I- Literature Review:

The theoretical foundation of this study necessitates a critical synthesis of two primary conceptual domains: the nature and models of the entrepreneurial spirit, and the drivers and dimensions of illegal immigration.

I-1- Conceptualizing the Entrepreneurial Spirit: The entrepreneurial spirit extends beyond the mere act of establishing a commercial enterprise. It encompasses a cognitive and behavioral matrix characterized by an openness to change, a propensity for calculated risk-taking, and the continuous pursuit of value creation (Fayolle, 2003). Scholars such as Fayolle (2003) define it as a specific state facilitating the creation of economic and social wealth, characterized by an individual's acceptance of risk and behavioral adaptability. Similarly, the distinction between the "spirit of enterprise" (focused on the business entity) and the "entrepreneurial spirit" (focused on initiative and individual mindset) is critical (Léger-Jarniou, as cited in Pendeliau, 1997). The latter is a proactive posture applicable across various life domains, driving individuals to experiment with novel ideas and adapt to environmental shifts with flexibility.

A foundational framework for understanding this phenomenon is the socialization model proposed by Gasse (2003). Gasse's model posits that entrepreneurial intention is deeply embedded in the social environment, shaped by family, culture, education, and institutional support (Gasse, 2003). The model delineates three levels of entrepreneurial evolution: the desire for entrepreneurship (shaped by social values and family background), the perceived feasibility of entrepreneurship (shaped by access to resources, financial support, and skills), and the actualization or creation of the venture. This model highlights that an individual raised in a family with a history of self-employment (the "entrepreneurial reproduction" effect) is significantly more likely to develop entrepreneurial intentions (Römer-Paakkanen, 2009).

Furthermore, the model proposed by Bachelet et al. (2003) emphasizes the role of educational environments in shaping entrepreneurial competencies, focusing on attitudes, normative beliefs, and self-efficacy (Bachelet, Verzat, Frugier, & Hannachi, 2004). Self-efficacy, as derived from Bandura's (1997) social cognitive theory, is particularly relevant; it represents the individual's belief in their capability to mobilize cognitive and motivational resources to execute a task (Bandura, 1997, as cited in Verzat, 2012). In environments lacking formal employment opportunities, self-efficacy dictates whether a youth will attempt to create their own venture or succumb to the pressures of out-migration.

Nevertheless, the entrepreneurial spirit transcends the mere mechanical act of establishing a business; It embodies a proactive posture driving individuals to experiment with novel ideas, create value, and manage ambiguity. The development of this spirit is not isolated but is deeply embedded in four critical sub-variables:

i- Social and Family Backgrounds: The socialization model proposed by Gasse (2003) posits that entrepreneurial intention is deeply rooted in an individual's social and cultural environment. Gasse highlights that a society that values and respects entrepreneurial behavior significantly increases the desire of its youth to pursue self-employment. Furthermore, the family plays a pivotal role in this ecosystem. Research demonstrates an "entrepreneurial reproduction" effect; individuals raised by entrepreneurial parents or within a family that encourages responsibility and initiative are significantly more likely to inherit an

entrepreneurial orientation (Römer-Paakkanen, 2009). The moral support, accumulated experience, and network provided by the family background act as primary catalysts for youth to consider local business creation over emigration.

ii- Economic and Financial Backgrounds: While social and family ties build the desire for entrepreneurship, economic and financial backgrounds dictate its feasibility (Gasse, 2003). The economic dimension encompasses the broader market environment, including access to raw materials, market demand, and the complexity of administrative and bureaucratic procedures. Models by Bachelet et al. (2004) emphasize the necessity of educational and institutional support, highlighting that a lack of training or navigating complex administrative files dampens entrepreneurial self-efficacy.

II-2- The Phenomenon of Illegal Immigration: Illegal or irregular immigration involves crossing international borders outside the regulatory frameworks of the destination state (Vaïsse, 2000). In the Mediterranean context, it is historically linked to post-colonial labor flows, which transitioned into undocumented migration following the restrictive border policies enacted by European nations in the late 20th century (Zimmermann, as cited in De Arcangelis, Chiuri, & Ferri, 2002).

The "push-pull" theory of migration provides a robust explanatory framework for this phenomenon (Fayadh, 2018). Push factors represent the adverse conditions in the home country that compel individuals to leave. In Algeria, these predominantly include structural economic deficits: high unemployment, particularly among university graduates; low wages that fail to meet the cost of living; and a lack of formal pathways for upward mobility (Tapinos, 1974). Wahdan (as cited in Guenaoui, 2015) notes that illegal immigration is often a reflection of the profound despair generated by joblessness, which creates a sense of detachment and loss of identity among youth.

Moreover, institutional and political factors serve as potent push variables (Palidda, 1999). A perceived lack of government commitment to poverty alleviation, pervasive administrative corruption, and bureaucratic opacity erode institutional trust (Yaddou, 2012). When the regulatory environment—such as the complexity of starting a business or securing a loan—is viewed as hostile, the youth are disincentivized from local investment.

Pull factors, conversely, are the perceived advantages of the destination country. The revolution in telecommunications and the advent of social media have exacerbated the contrast between the Global South and the Global North. The constant digital exposure to higher living standards, civil liberties, and economic stability in Europe creates an idealized, almost magnetic pull for North African youth, overriding the inherent physical and legal risks of the "Harraga" journey (Coindreau, De Gramont, & Metz, 2007).

Furthermore, the drivers of this phenomenon are complex and can be categorized into three primary sub-variables:

i- Economic Factors: Economic marginalization is the most potent "push" factor for illegal migration. The theoretical framework of Tapinos (1974) views migration as a direct reaction to economic underdevelopment and disparities in income and employment levels between the Global South and the Global North. High rates of unemployment, particularly among university graduates, combined with low wages and diminished purchasing power, create a profound sense of despair. As noted by demographer Alfred Sauvy, "either wealth travels where people are, or people travel where wealth is".

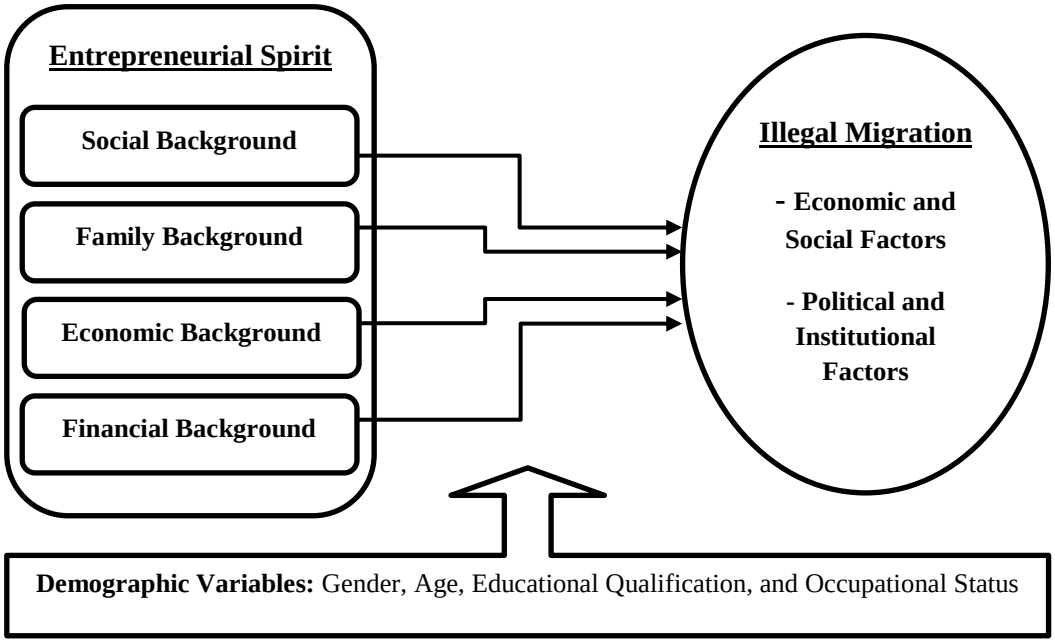
ii- Social Factors: The social drivers of illegal migration are rooted in societal breakdown and a lack of basic services. Weak family ties, social instability, and inadequate access to fundamental social services like healthcare, housing, and quality education exacerbate the desire to leave. The resulting social isolation and loss of identity propel youth to seek alternative communities and better living standards abroad.

iii- Political and Institutional Factors: Institutional failures significantly contribute to youth out-migration. Palidda (1999) and other scholars point out that a lack of government commitment to combating poverty, coupled with pervasive administrative corruption and bureaucratic opacity, erodes the youth's trust in their home country. Furthermore, a lack of creative freedom and rigid investment laws stifle local initiative, leaving migration as the perceived only viable path for self-actualization.

II-3- Synthesizing Entrepreneurial spirit and Illegal Migration

The intersection of these two domains forms the crux of this research. When economic and financial backgrounds are weak, and the state's bureaucratic machinery stifles initiative, the entrepreneurial spirit is suppressed. Consequently, migration becomes a substitute for entrepreneurship—a highly risky "venture" undertaken to achieve economic liberation. By enhancing the social and family support structures for entrepreneurship, and critically, by dismantling the economic and financial barriers (e.g., providing Islamic finance options, simplifying administrative procedures), the state can recalibrate the youth's risk-reward matrix. Supporting the entrepreneurial spirit transforms the individual from a potential undocumented migrant into an active agent of local economic development.

Figure No. 1: Proposed Theoretical Model



Source: Author's elaboration based on literature review

III- Methodology:

To empirically test the theoretical propositions outlined above, this study adopted a quantitative, deductive research design. The deductive approach is highly appropriate for this research as it facilitates the testing of pre-defined hypotheses derived from established

theories (such as Gasse's socialization model and push-pull migration theories) against empirical data gathered from a specific population.

III-1- Population and Sample:

The target population for this study comprised Algerian youth, specifically those harboring intentions of illegal immigration or those who had already attempted undocumented migration. Due to the clandestine nature of this demographic and the logistical complexities of identifying them, a purposive, convenience sampling technique was employed. The geographic scope was confined to the Chlef province in Algeria, alongside youth encountered in France who had migrated via irregular channels. A total of 70 questionnaires were distributed. After data cleaning and the exclusion of incomplete responses, 58 valid questionnaires were retained for statistical analysis. While this sample size is relatively small, it provides valuable exploratory insights into a highly marginalized and difficult-to-reach population.

III-2- Data Collection Instrument:

Primary data were collected via a structured questionnaire developed explicitly for this study. The instrument was divided into three main sections. The first section gathered demographic data, including gender, age, educational level, and occupational status. The second section assessed the dependent variable—Illegal Immigration—comprising 15 items that measured social, economic, and political push factors. The third section evaluated the independent variable—The Entrepreneurial Spirit—using 20 items categorized into four dimensions: social background, family background, economic background, and financial background.

Responses were recorded using a four-point Likert scale, ranging from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 4 (Strongly Agree). The deliberate omission of a neutral midpoint was intended to compel respondents to express a definitive directional attitude, minimizing central tendency bias.

III-3- Reliability and Validity:

To ensure the rigor of the instrument, face validity was established by submitting the questionnaire to a panel of five academic experts in the Faculty of Economic, Commercial, and Management Sciences at the University of Chlef. Based on their feedback, ambiguities were resolved, and specific items were refined.

Internal consistency reliability was evaluated using Cronbach's Alpha. The overall reliability coefficient for the 35-item questionnaire was 0.712. Specifically, the entrepreneurial spirit construct yielded a reliability of 0.732, and the illegal immigration construct yielded 0.702. As these values exceed the widely accepted threshold of 0.60, the instrument was deemed reliable for administration. Furthermore, internal consistency was verified through Pearson correlation matrices, confirming significant positive correlations ($p < 0.05$) between individual items and their respective construct totals.

III-4- Data Analysis Procedures:

Data processing and analysis were conducted utilizing the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS, version 25). The Kolmogorov-Smirnov test confirmed the normal distribution of the data ($p > 0.05$), justifying the use of parametric inferential statistics. Analytical techniques included descriptive statistics (frequencies, percentages, means, and standard deviations) to profile the sample and assess general attitudes. One-way Analysis of

Variance (ANOVA) was utilized to test for significant mean differences across demographic subgroups. Finally, Simple Linear Regression was employed to test the four primary hypotheses, assessing the predictive impact of the independent sub-variables on the dependent variable.

IV- Results:

The empirical findings of the study are presented in two phases: a descriptive analysis of the sample and key variables, followed by the inferential hypothesis testing.

IV-1- Demographic Profile:

The demographic analysis indicates a male-dominated sample, with males constituting 65.5% (n=38) and females 34.5% (n=20). This gender disparity aligns with sociological observations that the "Harraga" phenomenon is predominantly, though no longer exclusively, undertaken by young men due to socio-cultural expectations regarding breadwinning and physical risk-taking. Age distribution revealed that the majority of respondents (60.3%) fell within the 25–30 years bracket, identifying a critical life stage where the pressure for career establishment peaks. Educationally, the sample was highly qualified; 69.0% held a university degree, challenging the misconception that illegal immigrants are entirely unskilled laborers. Rather, this highlights a systemic "brain drain" fueled by the structural unemployment of graduates. Occupationally, 36.2% were unemployed, and 29.3% engaged in freelance or informal work, underscoring profound labor market precarity.

IV-2- Descriptive Analysis of Study Variables:

An examination of the respondents' attitudes toward the Economic Background of entrepreneurship revealed high levels of dissatisfaction. The mean score for this dimension was 3.91 out of 4.00. Respondents strongly agreed (M = 3.95) that there is a severe lack of information and advisory services for taking a project from ideation to realization, alongside immense difficulties in securing markets. Furthermore, bureaucratic complexity and delayed processing of administrative files were cited as major barriers (M = 3.88).

Regarding the Financial Background (M = 2.87), respondents highlighted the punitive nature of the banking system. The assertion that banks employ arbitrary and bureaucratic procedures achieved the highest possible mean (M = 4.00). The difficulty in obtaining financial resources and the complex collateral requirements also scored highly (M = 3.72).

In evaluating the push factors for Illegal Immigration, Economic Factors scored the highest (M = 3.90). The lack of job opportunities leading to unemployment, as well as the allure of better living standards in destination countries, both achieved perfect mean scores (M = 4.00). Politically, the perception of widespread administrative corruption thwarting attempts at success also resonated universally among respondents (M = 4.00).

IV-3- Hypothesis Testing:

IV-3-1- Variance Analysis (ANOVA):

One-Way ANOVA was conducted to test for differences in perspectives based on demographic variables.

ANOVA testing revealed no statistically significant differences in attitudes toward illegal immigration based on Gender ($p = 0.066$) or Age ($p = 0.115$). However, significant variations were observed based on Educational Level ($p = 0.000$) and Occupational Status ($p = 0.007$).

IV-3-2- Simple Linear Regression:

The core of the study involved testing four sub-hypotheses using simple linear regression to ascertain the impact of entrepreneurial dimensions on illegal immigration.

i- Social Background (H1): The regression model demonstrated that social background has a statistically significant impact on illegal immigration ($F = 32.082$, $p < 0.05$). The regression equation, $Y = 1.884 + 0.818X_1 + e_i$, yielded a Beta coefficient of 0.818. The coefficient of determination ($R^2 = 0.521$) indicates that 52.1% of the variance in illegal immigration intentions can be explained by the social support framework surrounding the entrepreneur.

ii- Family Background (H2): Family background significantly impacts the reduction of migratory intentions ($F = 23.002$, $p < 0.05$). The equation $Y = 3.537 + 0.727X_2 + e_i$ shows a strong positive regression weight ($B = 0.727$). The R^2 value of 0.291 indicates that family experience and encouragement account for 29.1% of the variance.

iii- Economic Background (H3): The economic environment significantly influences migration decisions ($F = 31.157$, $p < 0.05$). With the equation $Y = 1.004 + 0.726X_3 + e_i$ and a Beta coefficient of 0.726, the model explains 44.3% ($R^2 = 0.443$) of the variance in the dependent variable.

iv- Financial Background (H4): Financial support structures act as a major deterrent to illegal immigration ($F = 33.020$, $p < 0.05$). The derived equation, $Y = 1.920 + 0.806X_4 + e_i$, alongside a high Beta value of 0.806, shows that financial accessibility accounts for 36.5% ($R^2 = 0.365$) of the shift in immigration tendencies.

Consequently, the overarching hypothesis is confirmed: there is a statistically significant impact of supporting the entrepreneurial spirit (via social, family, economic, and financial dimensions) on reducing illegal immigration among Algerian youth.

V- Discussion:

The empirical results of this study offer profound insights into the mechanics of youth disenfranchisement and the ameliorative potential of entrepreneurship. The data unambiguously substantiate the premise that a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem serves as a powerful counterbalance to the push factors of illegal immigration.

The most potent predictor identified in the regression analysis was **the Social Background**, which accounted for 52.1% of the variance in migratory intentions ($R^2 = 0.521$). This finding aligns closely with Gasse's (2003) socialization model, which argues that the macro-environment—comprising peer networks, societal valuation of success, and community support—shapes individual intentionality. When youth observe successful local entrepreneurs acting as role models, and when the community provides mentorship rather than marginalization, the psychological imperative to flee the country diminishes. The fact that respondents cited profound administrative corruption ($M = 4.00$) as a major political push factor highlights a breakdown in the social contract. Fostering localized, transparent social networks through entrepreneurship helps rebuild this trust, embedding the youth within their communities.

Similarly, **the Economic Background** emerged as a critical variable, explaining 44.3% of the variance ($R^2 = 0.443$). The descriptive statistics paint a stark picture of the current economic hurdles: complex, slow bureaucratic procedures ($M = 3.88$) and the inability to access markets ($M = 3.95$) are actively stifling initiative. These are the exact structural deficiencies highlighted by the push-pull migration theory. When a university graduate (representing 69% of this sample) attempts to navigate the legitimate economy but is met with

insurmountable red tape, their human capital is wasted. The data strongly imply that simplifying administrative processes, creating business incubators, and removing regulatory friction would drastically reduce the economic desperation that drives the "Harraga" phenomenon.

The role of **the Financial Background** (R^2 = 0.365) cannot be overstated. A persistent theme in the literature, and heavily corroborated by this study's findings (M = 4.00 regarding arbitrary banking procedures), is the failure of traditional financial institutions to support micro-enterprises and youth startups. Young entrepreneurs lack traditional collateral, rendering them unbankable under conventional risk-assessment models. The demand for alternative financing models—such as Islamic finance, which emphasizes profit-sharing over debt and collateral—was notably highlighted by respondents. Providing accessible, low-barrier seed capital is fundamentally a migration-deterrence strategy. If a young person can secure funding to launch a venture at home, the exorbitant sums paid to human smugglers (frequently sourced from family savings) can be redirected toward productive domestic investment.

Finally, **the Family Background** (R^2 = 0.291) remains a vital incubator for the entrepreneurial mindset. As noted in the results, respondents agreed that their career paths are heavily influenced by their parents' occupational trajectories (M = 3.09). Families with an existing entrepreneurial orientation provide informal apprenticeships, seed funding, and a safety net against failure. In the absence of a supportive state apparatus, the family unit becomes the primary bulwark against the decision to emigrate illegally.

It is also vital to reflect on the demographic findings. The lack of significant variance based on age or gender suggests that the desire to emigrate illegally, and conversely, the frustration with the entrepreneurial ecosystem, is a universal youth experience in the region, cutting across traditional demographic boundaries. However, the significant variance based on educational level indicates an acute crisis of expectations among university graduates, who find their high skills mismatched with a low-opportunity environment.

VI- Conclusion:

This research set out to investigate the efficacy of the entrepreneurial spirit as a mechanism to mitigate the pressing crisis of illegal immigration among Algerian youth. Through a quantitative analysis of youth from the Chlef province, the study concludes that illegal immigration is not merely a geographic relocation strategy, but an extreme response to blocked economic and social mobility. The findings irrefutably demonstrate that when youth are supported through robust social networks, accessible financial mechanisms, streamlined economic policies, and encouraging family structures, their propensity to engage in undocumented migration significantly decreases. The entrepreneurial spirit acts as an anchor, transforming marginalized job-seekers into empowered job-creators.

VI- Implications and Recommendations:

Based on the empirical evidence, several strategic interventions are recommended for policymakers and institutional stakeholders:

i- Dismantling Bureaucracy: The state must radically simplify the administrative procedures required to establish a business. A transition towards digital governance and the creation of "one-stop shops" for youth startups is essential to combat the corruption and delays that currently act as push factors for migration.

ii- Financial Innovation: Traditional banking models are inadequate for this demographic. It is highly recommended to establish specialized microfinance institutions and

expand the availability of Islamic financial products (e.g., Mudarabah, Musharakah) that accommodate the lack of traditional collateral among youth.

iii- Educational Integration: Universities must transition from being mere academic instruction centers to entrepreneurial incubators. Curricula should integrate practical entrepreneurial skills, and institutions should foster direct linkages with the private sector to bridge the gap between graduation and market entry.

iv- Promoting Family and Social Enterprises: Given the strong influence of family background, policies should incentivize family-owned businesses and cooperatives, providing tax breaks and support for intergenerational business transfers.

VI-2- Limitations and Future Research:

While the study provides critical insights, it is not without limitations. The primary limitation is the small sample size (N = 58) and its geographic restriction to a single province (Chlef) and specific immigrants in France. The purposive sampling method, necessitated by the hidden nature of the "Harraga" population, limits the broad generalizability of the statistical findings to the entire Algerian population. Additionally, as the topic remains relatively under-explored in the regional context, defining and operationalizing variables faced theoretical constraints.

Future research should aim to replicate this study using a larger, nationally representative sample to validate these findings across different socio-economic strata and geographic regions. Longitudinal studies tracking the career trajectories of youth exposed to entrepreneurial training versus those who are not would provide causal insights into the efficacy of entrepreneurship education in preventing illegal immigration. Finally, a qualitative exploration—perhaps through in-depth interviews—could uncover the nuanced psychological transitions a young person undergoes when pivoting from migratory intent to domestic entrepreneurial action.

By strategically nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit, nations grappling with youth out-migration can not only stem the loss of their most vital demographic but also harness their innovative potential to drive sustainable domestic prosperity.

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