



EuroMed Youth III Programme



STUDIES ON YOUTH POLICIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN PARTNER COUNTRIES

ALGERIA



Prepared by Kamal RARRBO



This programme is funded by
the European Union



This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The content of this publication is the sole responsibility of the EuroMed Youth Technical Assistance Unit and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the EU.

The third phase of the **Euromed Youth Programme*** (Euro-Med Youth III), funded by the European Commission (DG EuropeAid) and launched in October 2005, is a regional Programme set up within the framework of the third chapter of the Barcelona Process '*Partnership on Social, Cultural and Human Affairs*'. The overall objectives of the Euro-Med Youth Programme are to promote intercultural dialogue among young people within the Euro-Mediterranean region, motivate active citizenship as well as to contribute to the development of youth policy.

The overall aim of the studies undertaken in **Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey** on Youth Policies, was to be a reference tool which would give all stakeholders in the field of youth, as well as youth project organisers, an overview of the situation of young people and of provisions available for them in the 10 partner countries. The objectives were to identify whether there was a Youth Policy, legislation or any other national strategy addressing the needs of youth and what kind of provision was made through non-formal education and youth work in the relevant partner countries.

Research for the studies was carried out by 7 experts and involved gathering of information, during a 5-month period, on basis of available written materials and resources, and as a result of missions to the studied countries to interview relevant youth authorities, organisations and young people individually or through focus groups.

The outcomes of the studies, each produced in a report format following a common structure for all the ten studies, give an enlightening overview of the definition and situation of youth in the Mediterranean partner countries. The studies focused on young people's rights and entitlements as active citizens, such as opportunities to vote, get elected and contribute to the decision-making process; the challenges faced by youth such as unemployment, immigration, housing, marriage, generational and cultural conflict, young women's place in society; young people's reactions in response to such challenges and description of provision for leisure-time activities and non-formal education through governmental and/or non-governmental youth institutions and organisations.

A reading of all the studies shows that a national youth policy is not yet fully implemented in any of the partner countries. However, each of them has a number of national directives, legislations, policies and/or strategies to address youth issues, usually at cross-sector level, even if youth are not, in some cases, recognised as a priority. The definition of youth varies from country to country, sometimes even within the same country depending on the responsible national authority. Non-formal education has no, or limited, place in most of the studied countries, formal education being the main priority of national authorities. The Euromed Youth Programme is assessed positively and considered to be an essential tool for the promotion of youth work and non-formal education.

Each report, published individually, provides a factual background on youth issues on basis of information collated by the relevant researchers. In addition, one document bringing together the executive summaries from each of the ten studies has been also produced to highlight an overview on the situation of youth within the Mediterranean region.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

.....	6
-------	---

COUNTRY REPORT : ALGERIA

1. INTRODUCTION	9
1.1. Objectives	9
1.2. Methodology	9
1.3. Challenges of the study	9
2. STATE OF THE YOUTH	10
2.1. Definition of youth	10
2.2. General Statistics: demography, youth rights and conditions.	10
2.3. Youth culture and trends	13
2.4. Young people's needs and challenges	14
3. STRUCTURAL, INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE ASPECTS OF YOUTH POLICY	16
3.1. Provisions	16
3.2. Institutional approach to the youth sector	18
3.3. Non-formal education and youth work	21
4. THE YOUTH ASSOCIATIONS AND NGOS DEALING WITH YOUTH	23
5. EUROMED YOUTH PROGRAMME	24
6. OTHER YOUTH SUPPORT MECHANISMS	25
7. ACTORS' PERCEPTION	27
8. CONCLUSION	28

ANNEXES

Annex 1 : Acknowledgements	30
Annex 2 : Country profile	30
Annex 3 : List of abbreviations	31
Annex 4 : Glossary	32
Annex 5 : Bibliography and resource materials	32

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The demographic effect of the youth omnipresence generates symbolic representations of young people in Algeria, either as an asset for the country or as a burden. Today, the Algerian youth is socially considered through the mirror of the social crisis. To define an Algerian young person necessarily means to recognise some elements such as generalisation of secondary education, the actual increase in the age of marriage for both sexes (around 30 years old) and a delayed and difficult access to first employment and to accommodation. To be a young Algerian also consists of a multiple, plural cultural identification. It is at the same time an urban culture made up of innovations (e.g. the *rai* and rap music, etc.) and of finding their roots (e.g. different kinds of 'chaabi' music depending on the region). To be a young Algerian means to be open to the modern technologies of communication such as the internet and mobile phones, but with a high sensitivity to familial solidarity. Thus, there is not just one Algerian youth but several Algerian youths.

According to the estimates, 10.7 million young people (aged 15-29) live in Algeria, which corresponds to 30% of the overall population. Net enrolment rate for primary education is 95% and that of secondary education is slightly higher than 60%. This ratio goes down to 20% for higher education. Young women play an important role: most of the successful candidates to the 'Baccalauréat' in 2008 were girls (67% of the overall accepted candidates). Young people below 30 are the main victims of unemployment, representing 72% of all unemployed people. When they have jobs, nearly 77% of them do not have national insurance even though it is compulsory in Algeria. This is due to the fact that the informal sector is the main employer of young Algerians. Juvenile delinquency generated by the development of social inequalities and poverty is on the increase. Accordingly gangs or violent groups appear, especially in the urban areas.

Young people have a pluralistic vision of the Algerian culture(s), somewhere between tradition and modernity. Most young people do still have important familial and religious solidarities, progressively absorbed by the dominant urban culture, open to cultures from the West as from the East and to new technologies. Language and religion are the two factors of cultural identity in Algeria and have passed through tensions, revolts, tragedies and political manipulations over the past two decades. The main leisure channels of youth are sports, television, music, cinema, internet, video games and reading (mainly newspapers). These practices differ between the privileged and urban youth and youth of modest and rural conditions.

The main challenge faced by Algeria is to provide support to youth. Over 70% of the population is under 30 years old, which explains the challenges regarding training, education, vocational counselling, employment, accommodation, sanitary prevention, access to leisure activities, to new technologies, to culture and sports. Emigrating is a dream of millions of young Algerians. According to a 2002 survey, nearly 37% of young people aged 15-29 (43.5% of young men and 29.1% of young women) plan to emigrate in order to find a job, attend training, and get a better standard of living. This is a

genuine social phenomenon, shared by both urban and rural youth, and a real challenge for Algeria and its bordering European countries, as reported by the unfortunate phenomenon of 'harragas' or 'kamikazes', i.e. young people who try to reach the Italian or Spanish coasts by boarding small boats. This phenomenon reveals how deep the feelings of despair and abandonment are for young Algerians. Other matters which endanger the Algerian youth are using drugs, leaving school, lack of sanitary protection, violence and delinquency.

The Algerian Constitution guarantees the right to education, which is free, universal and compulsory until the age of 16. The Labour Code allows young Algerians to work after being 16 years old. Minimum age to get married had been set to 18 for men and 16 for young women. The age of civil majority is 19, which also refers to voting and exercising civil rights. The institutional approach defines youth mainly through biological categories, limited by age. Each institution has different categories: for example, the Ministry of Employment defines youth from 18 to 35 years old, whereas the Ministry of Youth and Sports considers the age group as 18-30. Nevertheless, most policy makers refer to youth as those under the age of 30.

There is a multiplicity of public actors dealing with youth issues in Algeria. The main sectors of investment are education and training, in which three ministries intervene simultaneously: the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Higher Education and the Ministry of Vocational Training. The Ministry of Youth and Sports is the main institutional actor in the development of youth policy with other specialised actors such as the Ministries of Employment, Solidarity, National Education, Culture or Justice.

In October 2007, the government dedicated its biennial meeting of Government and Walis (governors) to youth policy, during which two objectives were underlined: to examine how policies are relevant and able to address youth concerns and to respond satisfactorily to their expectations; and to define the content and main lines of a coherent and integrated policy in its vision towards youth, with a participatory approach. This was the first conference on youth organised by the Algerian state, the outcomes of which were the identification of six lines of actions: expectations of youth; education, training, learning and access to knowledge; employment and socio-professional integration of young people; integration of youth in the social environment; fighting against deviant acts and social evils; and a multi-sectoral approach to youth issues ensuring consistency between the various institutional approaches. In addition, two programmes dealing with youth unemployment were adopted in 2008: one dedicated to young graduates and the other focusing on giving young people, who do not have any degree and did not receive any vocational training, the opportunity to get their first job.

Hundreds of local and national associations exist in the youth sector, most of which work on social development or childhood and youth matters. The associations' influence remains modest not only because of the weakness of financial and material resources, but also because of the lack of training and isolation of the associative activities. It is only since 1989 that a new, more liberal law has been governing associations and therefore, it has only been a short decade since the association movement has developed and structured. There is no local or national youth council in Algeria, nor is there any federation of associations involved in the youth sector. There are, however, more and more networks of associations of young people, which are getting organised at local or regional levels.

The civil society potential, the start of cooperation and partnerships between the structures of the state and of the associations bode well for the reinforcement of the Algerian associative sphere in youth matters. The requests for proposals come from the Ministry of Youth and Sports as well as from the Euromed Youth Programme or from the NGOs' plan of action (with the Ministry of National Solidarity), directly or indirectly to contribute to the development of associative frameworks and convey a project culture in practices of non-formal education and development of associations.

There are some international support mechanisms, working to support Algerian civil associations of development, such as the European Union's cooperation with the Algerian government and other bilateral mechanisms with countries such as France.

Regarding the perceptions of actors involved in youth related policies, the public authorities acknowledge that national policies have not always reached the expectations of youth and lacked effectiveness and consistency because of the lack of mechanisms for consultation and coordination of the various institutions dealing with youth issues. The opinion polls carried out on youth expectations confirmed this observation of relationship disconnection between youth and action by public authorities. One of the important issues raised by the representatives of organisations is the relationships between civil society, NGOs and the state, emphasising the need for cooperation, and partnership between government and the associations. Others denote the need for public subsidies, and the need for the associations to be autonomous and independent. The concern of the majority lies in the realisation of actions, such as the development of inter-associative cooperation, the establishment of municipal centres for drug prevention, and the facilitation of relationships between associations and public authorities. From the young people's perspective, their loss of hope and failure to communicate are their biggest problems.

In conclusion, few people recognise the presence of a youth policy in Algeria, but refer to the priority given to sports. Indeed, actions and schemes do exist, but there is no policy, no comprehensive vision in the medium- or long-term. Youth related policies tend to move towards being inter-sectoral and general. Public action for youth cross-cuts various areas: unemployment, job training, drug prevention, non-formal education and sports. There is not yet any inter-ministerial coordination for youth issues. In addition, there is no perception of any strategy that takes the resources and problems into account and that establishes priorities for youth matters. However, the outcomes of the conference on youth policy were positively received, because it give the highest Algerian authorities the opportunity to realise the actual situation of youth in Algeria and especially to observe a situation that gets characterised by a "gap between the young Algerian generations and institutions and public authorities". In addition, a local policy with national guidelines adapted to each region is requested. A political vision and the will to act on young people, who represent a large section of the Algerian society, as well as the implementation of youth related policies, are also demanded. There is also a need for the development of research about Algerian youth, as there are very few studies, research, and resources available on youth issues. Despite the political importance of the matter, only a limited number of academic or scientific works have been published, most of which are based on the themes linked to the understanding of social relationships between young people and traditional social institutions such as family or the cultural or linguistic heritage.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Objectives

The aim of this study is to identify the current evolution of the youth sector in Algeria, and to understand the Algerian policy, regulations and structures for youth.

The objectives are to analyse whether a youth policy has been set up in Algeria and to understand how the Algerian public authorities address youth issues as well as the youth NGOs' role and the impact of non-formal education.

1.2 Methodology

The methodology adopted to achieve this study was to organise and collect, at the first instance, a specific and bibliographical documentation. Indeed, no similar work had been achieved so far, apart from some opinion polls with young people and a study from the Ministry of Youth and Sports that has never been published. This work also made the identification of centres of documentation and research possible, allowing thus the completion of jurisdictional, legislative and statutory information. That preliminary work on documentation allowed clearing the main set of themes of the Algerian youth. It has then been possible to prepare a questionnaire adapted to the local situation.

A series of interviews with local managers took place, gathering leaders of the local NGOs made up of and/or dedicated to young people, jurists, representatives of the European Commission local delegation, the Euromed Youth Unit and managers of other international programmes.

1.3 Challenges of the study

Few studies or research have been conducted on youth policy in Algeria. Only a few have been done on cultural issues or the occupational integration of young people. While the issue of youth is strongly present in the social context and in political debates, the paradox lies in the small number of written material on youth in Algeria.

The geographical spread of the country, its population size and the extent of the associative movement, made it impossible to meet young people, representatives from associations and youth structures from every region of the country. The carrying out of this study also suffered from a lack of local support. Nevertheless, the availability and welcoming of the associations' managers met helped to overcome the encountered difficulties.

2. SITUATION OF YOUTH

2.1 Definition of youth

Youth as a massive social phenomenon is an eminently contemporary notion, even though it already existed during the past centuries (including in the Arab societies) for a minority coming from the political and intellectual elite of those times.

It is easy to fall into the trap of illusion by considering Algeria by its large population, which, of course, shapes its representation as predominantly youthful. Speaking of youth as a social structure means to evoke the widespread of secondary education, of postponement of the age of marriage, continuous urbanization and the postponement of the entry into active life (youth unemployment).

The demographic effect of the youth omnipresence generates symbolic representations that position young people either as an asset for the country, a resource that gets scarce in other countries as the ones of the Continent; or as a burden, a financial abyss that could not be incorporated into the productive system of Algeria.

Today, the Algerian youth is socially considered through the mirror of the social crisis. It is also associated with 'social evils', such as unemployment, drugs, political violence and delinquency, urban riots and 'harragas' (those who emigrate clandestinely).

It is also often seen as a burden for society, difficult to manage. The Algerian youth is rarely seen as a resource for the country, as an opportunity for the future.

This negative vision is internalized by young people themselves. It is therefore possible to understand the fact that they develop feelings of abandonment, of guilt and revolt.

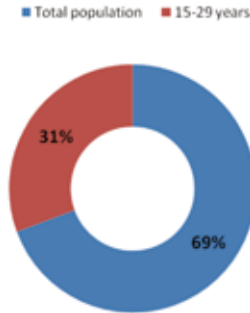
2.2 General Statistics : demography, youth rights and conditions.

At the last general census (April 2008), the Algerian population was estimated at 34.8 million of inhabitants. The Algerian youth (in this case aged between 15 and 30 years old) represents one third of the Algerian population, that is to say 30% more than the penultimate population census realised in 1998. But the overall weight of youth is of importance within the society as nearly 67% of Algerians are under 30 years old.

In 2007, young people aged from 15 to 29 years old represented over 32% of the overall population, that is to say around 10.7 million of inhabitants (provisional estimate of the National Office of Statistics). The proportion of people under 20 years old that reached 57.4% of the population in 1966 represented 39.6% in 2007.

Graph n°1 - Proportion of 15-29 years

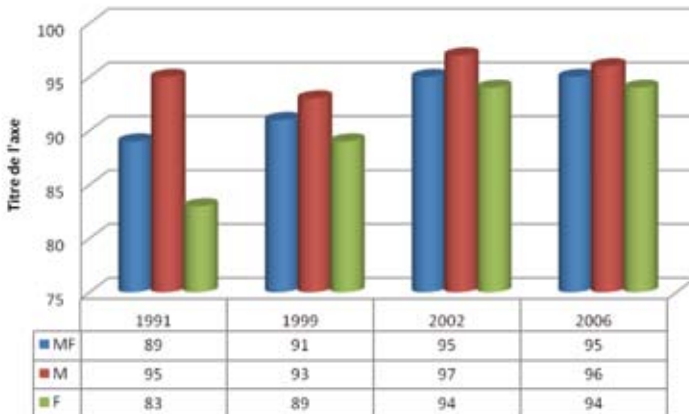
Proportion of 15-29 years in the total population in 1998.



More than 7.6 million of pupils are enrolled in classes at elementary, middle and secondary schools. The decrease in the number of pupils between 1991 and 1999 had resulted from the events related to terrorist violence which caused the population's displacement, leading to significant numbers leaving school.

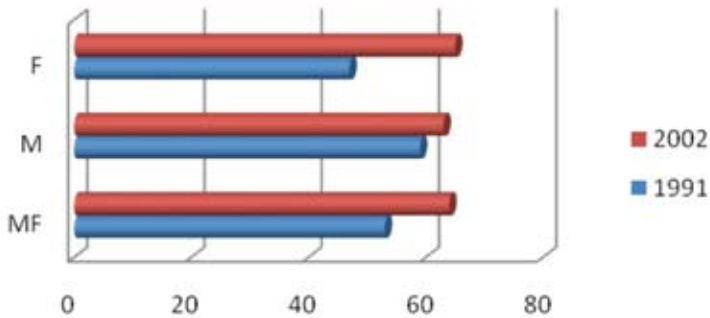
Graph N°2 - Net enrolment in education

**Net enrolment in primary education by sex (1991-2006).
Unesco.**



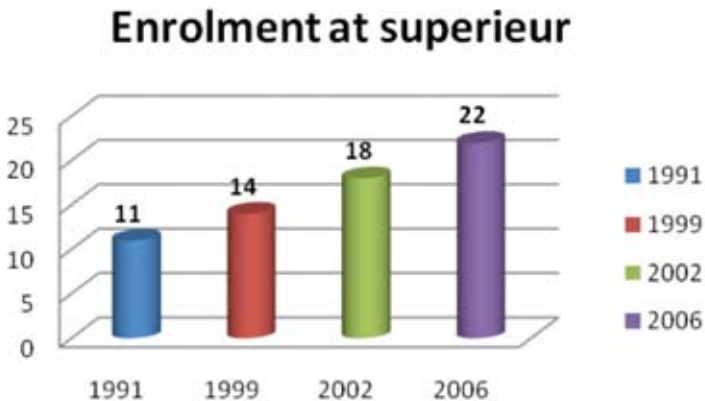
Over half of the relevant age bracket receives a secondary education. Secondary and higher education classes are mainly attended by girls. This evolution is due to better scholar results obtained by girls but also to young men leaving early school to seek a remunerated activity.

Graph n°3 - Enrolment at secondary level



A fifth of young people of the same age group do advanced studies. Thus, nearly a million of them study at university or in institutes of higher education in Algeria.

Graph N°4 - Enrolment at tertiary level



A third of the youth population is unemployed and others are employees within the informal economy. During the last quarter of 2007, the overall unemployment rate had been estimated by the ONS (National Office of Statistics) at 13.8%. Young people are the main victims of unemployment, since people under 30 years old represent 72% and people under 35 years of age represent 85.6% of all unemployed people.

The local observers, the people interviewed in Algeria, the Algerian press, and all the observers of society insist on the important impact of unemployment in Algeria, and of its effects on the juvenile fraction of society. A survey on employment achieved by the ONS stated that unemployment among young people aged between 16 and 29 reached 28.7% in 2006 (26.6% for young men and 38.6% for young women).

And when young people have jobs, nearly 77% of them do not have any national insurance number even though it is compulsory to get one in Algeria. But this regulation does not apply to the informal sector. The latter is therefore the main employer of young Algerians.

Juvenile delinquency is increasing. It is generated by the development of social inequalities. The phenomena of gangs or violent groups appear.

« 'Mad-Max' groups are developing today and they attack anyone out of stadiums in order to rob them. At this point, the police deployment is impressive.»

«There are differences between young people of each region between the coastal cities, cities of the interior and some regions like the Kabylie»

Delinquency involves about 15,000 young Algerians. The majority of observers reported a significant increase in the number of acts of delinquency in urban areas⁽¹⁾.

This situation results – among other reasons - from the level of poverty of some backgrounds of society. Although the figures on poverty in Algeria coming from international institutions and the ones coming from the Algerian government do not coincide, they both observe the same phenomenon: poverty is a reality which affects a part of the Algerian popular backgrounds.

2.3 Youth culture and trends

Young people think of the Algerian culture or cultures as a pluralistic vision_ a vision that first positions the Algerian society somewhere between tradition and modernity. The vision and the situation in the main cities of Algeria should not delude anyone as 'the modern' Algiers does not stand for Algeria. But the spread of youthful cultures as urban models has considerably grown in recent years. Today, more than 7 Algerian people out of 10 live in urban areas (according to the latest census of April 2008).

The two factors of the cultural identity in Algeria (language and religion) have passed through tensions, revolts, tragedies and political manipulations over the past two decades: tensions around the Arabic language with uncompleted attempts of arabization; the presence – still strong – of the French language; and the recognition after many changes (the Berber Spring in 1980) of the Amazigh language⁽²⁾.

The 1990s were a period when Islam was used as a tool in order to serve political purposes establishing an Islamic republic. That period of time considerably bruised the Algerian youth in its flesh and consciousness.

(1) 'Explosion de la délinquance juvénile en Algérie. Faute de stratégie, les pouvoirs public éparpillent leurs moyens.' (Explosion of juvenile delinquency in Algeria. Because of a lack of strategy, the public authorities scatter their means). In El Watan, January 23, 2007, Mohand Aziri.

(2) Law No. 02-03 relative to the constitutional revision adopted on April 10th, 2002, notably allocating to Tamazight the status of national language.

The emptiness of youth culture does exist if one refers to film production, art, theatre, museums, exhibitions and juvenile activities in Algerian neighbourhoods and villages. But even if the idle young people define themselves as 'hittists' (young people supporting walls; hit means wall in the Algiers language), they still do a number of activities that contradict the paradigm of emptiness. This representation of leisure activities is closely linked to the emergence of the status of young teenagers.

The main current leisure channels of youth are:

- Sport: its practice has considerably decreased since the attacks of the 1990s. Attending football matches in stadiums has become an extraordinarily powerful way to give voice to the revolt of a specific category of youth, and this as well towards the institutions as towards the rich. The end of football matches have become moments of rebellion for young people. It is necessary to understand this phenomenon to make sense of the riots that occurred in Oran in May 2008. Indeed, the relegation of the local club (Oran's Mouloudia) to a lower division had been a pretext for violence lasting several days.
- Television: satellite dishes have considerably enlarged the cultural perimeters of the young Algerians.
- Listening to music: it is here possible to refer to Rai, 'Chaabi'⁽³⁾ music, the Algerian Rap, but also the Eastern and Western music.
- Cinema
- Surfing on the Internet (thanks to instant messengers, the creation of blogs, etc.)
- Video games
- Reading, mainly of newspapers as book distribution remains a problem.

These practices do differ depending on the type of youth as the practices of the privileged and urban youth cannot be compared to the ones of modest and rural condition.

2.4 Young people's needs and challenges

Since the 1980s, addiction to soft drugs has emerged in Algeria. Today the situation is quite different. Indeed the media coverage of this 'social evil' is quite important and gives the impression of a widespread practice among youth. Yet, even if consumption seems geographically widespread, it seems confined to a relative minority of young people. The development of the consumption of soft drugs since the 1990s has been confirmed: 3,375 persons have been arrested in 1991⁽⁴⁾ and more than 10,000 people in 2006⁽⁵⁾.

Completing their secondary, higher or professional education successfully remains a challenge for young Algerians. Just as achieving their socio-occupational integration and avoiding unemployment which affects an important part of young people in Algeria.

Emigrating is a dream of millions of young Algerians. It is a challenge for Algeria but also for all the countries of the region.

(3) of Algiers popular musical kind derived from the Andalusian music during the years 1920.

(4) D. Chaouch, 'jeunesse et drogue : encre et toujours', in El Moudjahid, 17/02/1992.

(5) Synthesis of the national conference 'le rôle de la société civile dans la prévention contre la drogue', 26th and 27th of June 2007, Hôtel El Aurassi. Published on the Internet website of the CENEAP: www.ceneap.com.dz

The Algerian youth context is difficult: how is it possible to think about and analyze youth policy in Algeria whereas hundreds of desperate young people are currently running away aboard dinghies for a deadly crossing of the Mediterranean Sea? The symbolic power of 'harragas'⁽⁶⁾ is dramatic.

How to interpret this fact⁽⁷⁾? How can this desire of leaving can be translated and made intelligible, not to flee the Algeria of ancestors but the one of the everyday life? Young people in difficulty are the ones who dream the most about the opposite shore of the Mediterranean Sea.

According to a survey achieved in 2002 by the CENEAP (Centre for national studies and analyses for the population in Algiers), nearly 37% of young people between 15 and 29 years of age – 43.5% for young men and 29.1% for young girls – plan to emigrate in order to:

- Find a job (36.4%)
- Attend training: (14.8%)
- Get a better standard of living (42.8%)

The desire to leave is widely shared among various Algerian youth – whether urban or rural, girls or boys, whatever their social class. This is a genuine social phenomenon and also a real challenge for Algeria, as for the European countries bordering Algeria. This desire to leave is widely present in the Algerian daily life: talks about passports, visas, current news, the press, songs – Rai in particular –, cartoons, novels, etc.

Two migratory phenomena are currently in motion:

- The first one relates to a migration of senior executives and of middle managers that increased with the black decade (the 1990s) towards France, today perpetuated towards Canada (the Algerian community is today estimated to more than 35,000 Algerians in Quebec whereas they were only a few thousands 10 years ago).
- The second phenomenon relates to unemployment among young people, often without any qualification. They have created a new form of social posture: the 'harragas'. The latter 'burn' their papers and their country, symbolically. They organize immigration attempts in conditions at the edge of suicide. On boats or dinghies for the luckiest, with GPS⁽⁸⁾ and a terrible fear, they try to reach the shores of Sardinia, Spain or Sicily. Many are intercepted by the Algerian coastguards – 2,000 in 2007 – but an unknown number die on the way. There are no statistics on those who manage their crossing. A real madness guided by a worrying watchword of the youth: 'I prefer to be eaten by the fish rather than having to face problems.'

It is easy for analysts to establish the link between suicide attempts and the real 'harragas' candidates. But symbolism is strong in a case where even the President has recognized that this is a tragedy that policy-makers should address urgently.

(6) Arab word "to burn". "Harragas" are the young people who want to leave the country on board zodiac.

(7) 'En attendant le bateau d'Australie' (By waiting for the Australian boat): During summer in 1989, a mad rumour went through the big and small Algerian cities. It stated that an Australian boat abreast the Algerian shore was on the verge of coming alongside in order to load all candidates to a southern immigration. As a consequence, hundreds of Algerian young people 'squatted' the consular services of the embassy of Australia in Algiers to register and apply as candidates. This rumour grew so big and was so widespread that it lasted several months, and that the general consul of Australia was forced to bring a denial by means of written press and radio». In K. RARRBO. L'Algérie et sa jeunesse. Marginalisations sociales et désarroi culturel. éd. L'Harmattan, Paris, 1995. p. 210.

(8) Global Positioning System

3. STRUCTURAL, INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE ASPECTS OF YOUTH POLICY

3.1 Provisions

The basic Algerian law (constitution of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria) guarantees the right to education in its article 53. The same article even talks of obligation in terms of basic education which is the first level of schooling in Algeria.

This is a free and universal education, compulsory until the age of 16. Similarly, the state must facilitate equal access to education and vocational training⁽⁹⁾.

In Algeria, the labour code allows young Algerians to work once they have reached their 16th birthday⁽¹⁰⁾. In the aftermath of independence (in 1963), Algeria adopted a law setting the minimum age to get married. Thus for men, this age had been set to 18 years old and to 16 years old for women⁽¹¹⁾. In 2005, a directive set that age to 19 years old both for men and women⁽¹²⁾. Nevertheless, the family code adopted in 1984 allows minor girls to get married (with the required presence of a guardian).

The threshold of marriage age was in the past one of the main criteria that allowed separating adolescence from adulthood. It is no longer the case and especially in urban areas. If the legal text limited to 19 the age to get married for men and for young women, reality of the effective exercise of marriage is quite different from legal texts. As table n° 5 shows it, the age with the marriage is 30 years on average.

Table n°5 - Evolution of the age of marriage (ONS)

Gender	1966	1977	1987	1998
Male	23,2	25,3	27,7	31,3
Female	18,1	20,9	23,7	27,6

In Algeria the age of civil majority has been set at 19 years old since its independence. Thus the minimum age for voting is 19 years both for women and men⁽¹³⁾. The civil code stipulates in its article 40 that the age of majority is also 19 years for the exercise of civil rights⁽¹⁴⁾. On the other hand, a driving licence can be obtained from 18 years onwards.

(9) Article 53 of the CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA, JORADP No.76 of December 8th, 1996 changed by the law 02-03 of April 10th, 2002 JORADP No. 25 of April 14th, 2002

(10) Law 90-11 on the working relationships codified the legal working age, which is set at 16 years, except for people under apprenticeship contracts, and authorized the employment of minors only with the authorization of their legal guardian .

(11) Law No. 63-224 of 29/06/63 fixing the minimum age of marriage. Article 1: man under 18 past years and woman before 16 past years cannot marry

(12) Order No. 05-02 of 27.02.2005. Article 7: the wedding capacity is deemed valid when the man or woman is 19 years old.

(13) Law No.63-305 of 20/08/1963 regarding the age of voters and the organisation of the next electoral consultations. Article 1: are voters all citizens of both genders over 19 years-old at the polling date and enjoying their civil rights.

(14) Art. 40. of the civil code - Every major person enjoying his/her mental faculties and not having been forbidden, is entirely capable for the exercise of his/her civil rights. The age of majority is set up at 19 years old.

The national service, for all young men aged 19 and over, lasts 18 months whereas it used to be 24 months. A new reform of the national service is being prepared, linked with the modernization of the Algerian army.

The Algerian Code of penal procedure sets specific rules for juvenile delinquency (Art. 442 to 492). In terms of crime or offence, a minor under the age of 18 may go through one or several measures of protection or education:

1. he/she may be returned to his parents, his guardian, or a trustworthy person;
2. a system of probation may be implemented;
3. the minor may be supervised by an institution, a public or private educational
4. or a vocational training centre designated for that purpose;
5. he/she may be placed in a special medical or medico-educational centre;
6. he/she may be placed by the public service in charge of assistance;
7. he/she may be placed in a residential school building designed to receive juvenile offenders of school age.

Exceptionally, regarding the minors aged over 13 and when the juvenile judge considers it indispensable, because of circumstances or the personality of the offender, he/she can impose a fine or send the minor to jail by giving special grounds for his/her decision. Each court has a section dedicated to minors.

However, the repressive measures must follow certain basic rules. Among them:

- a. the offender who has not reached 13 years of age cannot, even temporarily, be imprisoned in jail;
- b. if it is decided that a minor from 13 to 18 years of age must be sentenced, the penalties must be pronounced as follows:
 - if he/she may have incurred the death penalty or life imprisonment, the penalty is changed: he/she will be imprisoned from 10 to 20 years;
 - if he/she incurred the penalty of imprisonment for a number of years, he/she will be imprisoned for half the length of time he/she would have been condemned to if he/she had been major (Art. 50 of the criminal code);
 - if the minor has no counsel for his/her defence or no legal representative, the juvenile judge names or appoints a leader to find a counsel for the defence ex officio;
 - in case of crime or offence when the minor is co-author or has major accomplices, the examining magistrate serves the case regarding the minor and returns it to the juvenile division.

3.2 Institutional approach to the youth sector

The institutional approach defines youth mainly through biological categories, limited by age. But each institution defines youth through various biological limits.

For example, the Ministry of Employment defines the youth category limited by the age brackets of 18 to 35 years old. Whereas the Minister of Youth and Sports defines youth by the age group 18-30. Nevertheless, most policy makers talk about youth in terms of youth under the age of 30. As the end of compulsory schooling is 16 years old, one can presume that the consensus concerns people aged from 16 to 30.

The main sector of investment of the Algerian state, education and training, represents more than 22% of the annual State expenditure. Three ministries intervene simultaneously: the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Higher Education and the Ministry of Vocational Training.

The responsible authorities for the conception and implementation of youth policy are the Ministry of Youth and Sports, which is the main institutional actor in the development of youth policy, with other specialised actors such as the Ministries of Employment, Solidarity, National Education, Culture and of Justice.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports is a governmental structure responsible for proposing elements of the national policy of Youth and Sports and ensure its implementation in accordance with the enforced laws and regulations. It was established in September 1962⁽¹⁵⁾. It has been linked to the field of tourism in 1963. At the end of the same year, it became a component of the Ministry of National Guidance with a status of Secretariat of State. Since December 1964, it has become a Ministry of Youth and Sports. The tasks of the Ministry are: to propose elements of the national policy in the field of youth and sports and to ensure its implementation and monitoring in accordance with the enforced laws and regulations⁽¹⁶⁾. With regards to youth:

- it promotes, develops and regulates the movement of youth associations;
- it develops the socio-educational functions of structures for youth;
- it develops information, communication, listening and expression spaces in the youth environment;
- it promotes communication and mobility of young people and citizenship education;
- it organizes, coordinates, develops and controls structures, activities and programmes of socio-educational activities and of leisure for youth;
- it sets up necessary mechanisms for a better coordination between the concerned sectors to support comprehensively and harmoniously young people;
- it controls the area of holiday centres and of leisure for youth;
- it promotes youth participation and initiatives;
- it develops a relationship with the concerned sectors, programmes for the social integration of youth, the fight against social evils and prevents youth marginalization;
- it contributes to the promotion and protection of children's rights;
- it initiates and proposes any study, research, survey and poll about youth.

18 (15) Order No. 62-1 of September 27th, 1962, mentioning the members of government.

(16) Executive order No. 05-410 of 16 Ramadhan 1426 corresponding to October 19th, 2005 fixing the minister of youth and of sports attributions.

Today the public responsible for actions and arrangements in the direction of youth are of several kinds. The multi-sectoral approach defines the intervention of the Algerian State for youth. Indeed, apart from the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the following other state services support the young generations in Algeria:

- The Council of Nation (Senate)
- Commission on culture, information, youth and tourism
- The parliament: People's National Assembly
- Commission on Youth and sports and of associative activities.
- The Higher Council of Youth
- The Ministry of National Education but also the one which takes care of Higher Education, which manages 26 universities and 67 institutions of higher education welcoming nearly a million students and 80,000 foreign students.
- The Ministry of Youth and Sports
- The Ministry of Justice through its committee of observation to fight against drug addiction. It occurs in the context of juvenile justice, but also in the context of the fight against drug addiction.
- The Ministry of Employment through its system of employment for youth
- The Ministry of National Solidarity through its plan to promote youth employment (parallel to the Ministry of Employment's plan). It includes within itself a sub-management to support youth employment.

If there is a strong centralization in the political and administrative organization of the Algerian institutions, there is no transversality on public action.

Indeed, a multi-sectoral approach is not adopted in the management of youth issues. Although the latter is highly transverse – housing for youth, employment, leisure and culture for youth, youth health, education and training of youth – youth is one of the few social components that can be defined by its transversality.

At the last Government and Walis conference organized in October 2007, one of the conclusions was to emphasize the new way of governing through a cross public action. But there has not been so far any creation of administrative instrument for the implementation of this principle of new governance.

In October 2007, the government dedicated its biennial meeting with Walis (republican governors) to youth policy. Officially two objectives were assigned to this conference:

- to examine how policies were relevant and able to address youth concerns and to respond satisfactorily to their expectations;
- to define the content and the main lines of a coherent and integrated policy in its vision towards youth, with a participatory approach.

Regarding youth employment and unemployment, the government renewed its instigation policy with two additional programmes:

1. The first one, under the protection of the Ministry of Employment and of Social Security has been called 'Plan of action for the promotion of employment and of the fight against unemployment' (adopted on 01/04/2008) which in its 11th objective states 'to strengthen the promotion of youth employment and improve the current 12% recruitment rate so that it reaches 33%'. Beyond the support to the development of entrepreneurship with the mobilisation of the National Agency for the support of youth employment (ANSEJ), the programme plans to create three contracts of integration:

- a. A contract of integration for graduates (CID): intended for young graduates and highly qualified technicians from the national schools of vocational training.
- b. A contract of professional integration (CIP) for young people coming from secondary schools, from vocational training centres or for those who have done an internship as apprentices.
- c. A contract of training and integration (CFI) intended for the young people who did not receive any vocational training or who do not have any degree.

These three contracts intended for young people from 18 to 35 years old are renewable contracts of one year. Tax measures and direct subsidy measures have been planned by the State.

2. The Ministry of National Solidarity set up that same year (30/04/2008) a new programme of insertion of young graduates intended for young people aged 19 to 35 years who do not earn any income but who either have a post-secondary degree or a degree of highly qualified technician. The State allocates bonuses from 8,000 to 10,000 Algerian dinars (1€ = 98 Algerian dinars).

In June 1997, the Algerian State acquired a national service for the fight against drugs and drug addiction⁽¹⁷⁾, which today, under the protection of the Ministry of Justice is charged of:

'The department's missions are to work out and propose – hand in hand with the concerned sectors – a national policy of fight against drugs and drug addiction within the fields of prevention, care, reintegration and repression. Its mission also consists of looking after the implementation of this policy.

In that capacity, it must:

- *centralise and collect information that can make research and repression of the illicit drug trade easier;*
- *ensure the coordination of the actions undertaken in the fields defined above;*
- *analyse the indicators and trends and assess the results in order to allow public authorities to come to the appropriate decisions;*
- *work out and adopt a battle plan against drugs and drug addiction;*
- *make sure, as part of the action plan, that the measures likely to promote the actions of prevention and improvement of the social and medical care are implemented. It must also support the reinforcement of cross-coordination and the development of the means of action within the different departments;*
- *increase activities of research and analysis of the actions undertaken in this area;*
- *develop, promote and consolidate regional and international cooperation regarding the fight against drugs and drug addictions;*
- *propose any action aiming at the creation or revision of the texts relating to the fight against drugs and drug addiction⁽¹⁸⁾.*

Some associations have been created in order to develop actions preventing drug addiction. Thus, the national department of struggle against drugs and drug addiction listed nearly 280 associations dealing with this matter.

3.3 Non-formal education and youth work

The Ministry of Youth and Sports' decentralised departments include 48 Directorates for Youth and Sports (DJS) in each of the 48 wilayas (provinces).

The Wilayas' boards manage the 48 Departments of Centres for Youth (ODEJ). The latter supervise:

Centres for youth

- Youth Centres
- Youth Hostels
- Village Halls
- Youth Camps
- Local Sport Housing Complexes (CSP)

Sports Installations

- Multipurpose Halls, Specialised Rooms, Football Stadiums, Athletics Stadiums, Swimming pools, Areas of Games, Nautical Bases, etc.

The public structures in charge of socio-cultural activities in cities and districts often implement a management which is administrative. The opening times, as an example, are based on office timetables (during the day). There is no adaptation to young people's needs and availability. These structures have a low impact on young people at local level. The status of youth workers is only

(18) Executive order No. 97-212 of 4 safar 1418 corresponding to June 9th, 1997 reporting the creation of the national department of struggle against drugs and drug addiction. Journal officiel de la RADP, Algiers.

at the beginning of its professionalization. In addition, the means of these structures are relatively weak. Nevertheless, it is on the basis of these structures and of the associations' actions that youth matters could be handled.

There is currently no programme in Algeria allowing to create and develop the local or national participation of young people to city life. Although the necessary participation of youth has been emphasized these last years, no local or national mechanism has been set up till now. The principle of youth participation had been evoked during the conference about youth policy in October 2007. Citizenship and the development of youth participation, the recognition of voluntary work and its development, are not managed by mechanisms of support in Algeria.

The development of a system of specific information for youth is only at its very beginning. Indeed, the national association 'info jeunes' (information for young people) has been created a few years ago. Its role is to develop an activity of information aimed at young people. But it remains rather confidential in regard to young people's important need to get informed.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports set up for 2008 a funding programme centred on the development of the partnership between local associations and public structures of socio-cultural activity such as youth centres for example. The topic which has been kept for 2008 is: 'Youth associations and centres for a radiance on its environment.'

This project aims to develop a non-existent partnership between associations and structures of local socio-activity around the following '*Specific objectives*':

- *Create a complementarity between the actions led by the centres for young people and those led by Youth associations.*
- *Contribution from the associative movement to the caring of young people in their immediate environment'.*

The targeted sets of themes are:

- Drugs prevention
- Education to sportsmanship and fight against violence within sport enclosures
- Support to young people facing difficulties
- Information and assistance to young people
- Promotion of sportive activities close to home
- School support to young people
- Detection and support of young talents in every field
- Mobility and exchanges of youth
- Voluntary actions for the environment and nature
- Promotion of women's activities in the countryside.

4. THE YOUTH ASSOCIATIONS AND NGOS DEALING WITH YOUTH

More than 81,000 associations currently exist in Algeria. Most of them act for social development or childhood and youth matters. According to a study funded by the European Union on the associative movement in Algeria, nearly half of the associations are involved in the social sector, a third in the cultural area and about a quarter in environmental issues. Nearly half of the presidents of associations are under 40 years old. The associations influence remains modest because of the weakness of financial and material resources, but also because of the lack of training of relevant actors and of the isolation of the associative activities (B. Salhi 2006).

The commitment of association leaders working in the youth sector is important. The majority of these leaders have a level of higher education; they speak Arabic as fluently as French. A minority of them are young women. The association leaders who organise daily activities with young people have, consequently, a better understanding of Algerian youth's problems. The perceptions and opinions are therefore based on concrete examples and real.

It is only since 1989 that a new law, more liberal, has been governing associations. The events of the 1990s have not been a benefit to the development of associations. Therefore, it has only been a small decade since the association movement has developed and got structured. Today, it tries to build new relationships with the State. This new period will require new resources: training for the management of associations, training for volunteers, and means of financial support.

Since the massacres of entire villages in the 1990's, many associations have been investing in the field of child protection. The terrorist violence has caused psychological repercussions for some children. Taking care of these children remains insufficient, despite creating a number of shelters providing psychological support.

All association leaders notice drug addiction as one of the major problems of Algerian youth, even if the actual figures are unknown despite estimates. Many of them refer to this issue, particularly for urban young people in Algerian cities and towns. Prevention campaigns are being developed. Street educators are trained to prevent this 'social plague'.

There is no local or national council of youth in Algeria. Nor is there any federation of associations involved in the youth sector. There are more and more networks of associations of young people which are now getting organized at local or regional levels and which concern particularly concrete projects. The biggest non-governmental associations have opened local centres in the various Wilayas of Algeria, as those of the foundation FOREM (about 15 local centres) or those of the association of prevention and protection of childhood and youth of Tizi-Ouzou – the latter manages a reception and prevention centre.

The creation of an inter-associative Internet portal by the ACDC (Association for Culture and Community Development) stands as a good example of initiative. Its main purpose is to make their associations and initiatives known to the general public, and to develop international relationships between associations⁽¹⁹⁾.

5. EUROMED YOUTH PROGRAMME

The Euromed Youth Programme is a regional programme, which had been launched at the end of the 1990s within the context of the Barcelona process. Due to administrative difficulties, the decentralized third phase of the Programme (2006-2008) was launched in Algeria late in 2007, with only one call for proposals as a result of which 5 projects, out of the 9 submitted proposals, were granted financial support.

The general objectives of the Programme are to foster intercultural dialogue among the young people living within the Euro-Mediterranean region, to promote active citizenship, and to contribute to the development of youth policy, through various youth and youth work projects organised by and for young people. The projects' themes focus on the Programme's major priorities, which are: gender equality; minority rights; the fight against racism and xenophobia; as well as protection of the cultural heritage and of the environment.

6. OTHER YOUTH SUPPORT MECHANISMS

The density of community life constitutes one of the characteristic signs of the degree of participation of populations to the economical, social and cultural life of the country. In Algeria, the modern associative movement which appeared in recent times remains characterised by modest results in spite of the efforts.

This observation led the European Union to co-finance with the Algerian State a first 'Programme of Support to the Algerian Associations of Development', reaching a total of five million euros. This programme allowed 76 associative projects to be financed; 73 Associations were also trained on project management cycles.

Such positive outcomes resulted in giving birth to the 'Plan of Support to the Algerian Associations of Development (NGO II)' concluded between Algeria and the European Commission in 2005. The NGO II project aims at carrying on, increasing and diversifying the activities of the first programme by earmarking most of the gathered financial means for the financing of associative projects. The first call for proposals was issued on 2 June 2007.

As a result, 300 associations were trained on project management cycles in the last term of 2007.

The NGO II programme' aims at supporting the associations by training them and by means of financial support. Besides, the institutional support brought to the Agency of Social Development has made these activities able to ensure their continued existence. The second call for proposals has the same objectives as the first one and is aimed at associations enrolled in the following areas:

- the social area, including the promotion of women's and young people's rights;
- the protection of the environment and the promotion of eco-tourism;
- the action for culture and sport;
- the protection and safeguard of the archaeological heritage;
- the community development and the promotion of sustainable development.

A particular attention will be drawn to the projects meeting the following priorities:

- the projects addressing the population's vulnerable sectors (women, young people, children);
- the projects promoting the fight against poverty and marginalization and which meet the objectives of the programmes organised by the Agency of Social Development;
- the plans aiming at strengthening the existing associative networks by stimulating their common concerns, sets of themes, regional problems and common projects;
- the plans targeting the enclosed zones.

The 'Joussour' programme or *PCPA Algeria* (Programme Concerté Pluri-Acteurs Algérie) is a programme of cooperation from one civil society to another one. Its purpose is to strengthen the Algerian associative movement which works in the aid of childhood and youth.

This action, carried out in partnership among about forty Algerian and French organisations, gets the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs support. In concrete terms, the programme intervenes to support the development of projects in the service of childhood and youth in Algeria and makes the exchange of Franco-Algerian experiences easier. It provides financial support towards the associations as well as common strengthening actions (training, animation of thematic working groups, organisation of meetings to exchange, capitalizing on experiences, etc.). The diversity expected from the concerned actors (national or local public institutions, private associations) has given this programme a multi-actor dimension. The existing or emerging relationships between associations, as between associations and public institutions, are upgraded and promoted by this programme which favours dialogue. Hence the name of 'multi-actor consulted' programme.

The objectives of the *PCPA* programme aim to strengthen, on a sustainable basis, the action led on the ground by the society actors and at the same time improving the quality of their collective dialogue with public authorities.

Twenty French organisations and twenty Algerian associations have already met and have been able to talk and exchange information about their practices. The wish to develop inter-associative partnerships but also partnerships with the Algerian public authorities has been asserted on both sides in order to act more efficiently in the service of childhood and youth.

7. ACTORS' PERCEPTION

The President of the Republic acknowledged for the first time that 'national policies have not always reached the expectations of youth. In particular, they lacked effectiveness and consistency because of the lack of operational mechanisms for consultation and coordination of the various institutions dealing with youth issues.'

The opinion polls carried out on youth expectations confirmed this illustrative observation of the disconnection of the relationship between youth and action by public authorities. The first representative of the Algerian executive power went on referring to the dramatic problem of harragas: "The problem of youth in our country... has become dramatic since the emergence of the phenomenon of the so-called 'harraga', a terrible and tragic neologism which just appeared and illustrates the severity of the crisis of youth in today's world. I don't need to emphasize how serious is this phenomenon in particular in our society which is usually very attached to its ancestral traditions and family ties. The 2,400 identified 'harragas' and the suicide bombers of Algiers, Lakhdaria, Batna and Dellys could become much more numerous if we do not take seriously care of it⁽²⁰⁾."

One of the important issues raised by charitable organisations lied in the relationships between civil society, NGOs and the State. Many of them emphasized the need to cooperate and strengthen the partnership between government and the association. Others indicated the need for public subsidies, while some others stressed the associations' rights for autonomy and independence.

There were contradictions in reports with the State's requests for political positioning while the law on associations insisted on this aspect of the law with a ban on associations of political positioning. The state had to delegate some of its powers so that civil society could develop channels of communication with young people. The state could take civil society as a first choice partner for resolving social problems.

The association actors have a sensitive perception of the school which remains a vector of social climbing and equality, despite the increasing number of children who quit school. They stressed the importance of tutoring and the most important academic success of girls. Some referred to the situation of young people, from cities inside the country, who have difficult conditions of study. Currently, there are many children who quit school despite the fact that school education is compulsory until the age of 16 years.

Drug addiction was linked to the loss of hope: no training, no work, housing is a dream, rejection everywhere; therefore automatically young people rushed for 'zetla' (drugs).

The main current phenomenon for Algerian youth was the question of «harragas.» But the two extremes were suicide bomber terrorists, «human bombs» and «harragas.» According to the association actors met, these phenomena reflected either the loss of hope among some young

(20) Speech of President Bouteflika in front of the Government-walis conference. Algiers, on October 23rd, 2007

Algerians, or the lack of support for these youth. The symbolism of the phenomenon of «harragas» created critical speeches. Association leaders have developed projects to accompany the young «harragas» or humanitarian actions for families who have lost young «harragas».

The first problem for the young Algerian was unemployment. Graduate unemployment led to a devaluation of diplomas as the youngest graduate was in the same situation as the one who did not pursue studies. Both can get into drugs.

Few of the interviewed persons recognised the presence of a youth policy. Some of them referred to the priority given to sport. People suggested that a future youth policy should be adapted to the specifics of each region of Algeria.

But the concern of the majority of actors lied in the realization of actions: conducting a national meeting of unemployed graduates, the establishment of municipal centres of drug prevention, development of inter-associative actions, facilitation of relationships between associations and public authorities; a local policy with national guidelines adapted to each region was needed.

Some actors said that the first problem of the Algerian youth was the lack of dialogue and communication between institutions and youth. This non-listening process created marginalization and loss of hope. Among the young people who wished to conduct projects, few could achieve them, because few resources existed to help and support them.

8. CONCLUSION

To think and analyze the youth policy of a country, namely Algeria, means to take indirectly part into the conceptualization of the same policy because most observers would answer that there is no youth policy in Algeria. Indeed, actions and schemes do exist, but there is no policy, no comprehensive vision on a medium-term or on a long one. There is no strategy that takes into account resources and problems and that establishes priorities. This political vision to act on a category which represents most of the people within the society can only be produced by policy-makers. Political will is therefore central in this matter.

In addition, the social context is marked by many urban riots in some of the Algerian cities mostly caused by young people. The riots that occurred in the city of Oran - using the pretext of the relegation of the local football club to a lower division – cannot deceive anyone. Indeed, marginalized and excluded young people are the ones reacting violently in such situations. It is therefore urgent to clarify the Algerian State's public action in direction of the younger Algerian generations.

Dealing with the Algerian youth and its related issues is an important challenge for Algeria. Beyond the hydrocarbon resources management and exploitation, it is the country's future which is at stake in its capacity to propose alternatives to the nearly dramatic situation in which the Algerian youth currently finds itself. But two requirements must be respected for a youth policy to be developed:

- The first one regards the indispensable political will to carry out efficient measures and programmes
- The second one is linked to the necessity of a civil society to be supported by a diversified and powerful associative union.

For, in this matter, the State and the territorial authorities will not be able to do anything without the associations' action but also without the one coming from young people themselves.

It is lastly a case of emergency. It has now become urgent to act for the young people who are so idle that they end up elaborating projects of clandestine emigration aboard dangerous boats, as well as to act for the young people who do not find any other solution than consuming drugs, committing violent acts or attempting suicide.

Youth policy in Algeria is under construction. It tends to move towards an inter-sectoral and general policy. Indeed, public action in the direction of youth intervenes in various areas: unemployment, vocational training, drug prevention, non-formal education and sports. There is not yet any inter-ministerial coordination in charge of youth issues.

The capacity of the local structures to meet the very important needs of the Algerian youth is still inadequate. But the main resource lies in the diversification of the operators involved in the field of youth (structures of the State, local or national associations, private foundations, etc.).

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Acknowledgements

This study would not have been possible without the kindness, the availability and the enthusiasm of association leaders

Annex 2: Country profile (part 1)

Full name of the Country	People's Democratic Republic of Algeria	
Government Type	Republican	
Area	2 381 000 km ²	
Capital City	Algiers	
Other main cities	Oran, Constantine, Annaba	
Population	34,8 millions	
Gender Ratio (F/M)	F: 49,50	M: 50,50
Ethnic composition	Arab, Berber	
Age Structure		
0-14	36,15	
15-24	22,04	
25-30	08,59	
Median age	26	
Educational background (F/M ratio)		
Primary	F: 47	M: 53
Secondary	F: 58	M: 42
Tertiary	F:	M:
Literacy rate	Youth: 92	Adult: 74,6
Unemployment rate		
	Youth: 28,7	Adult: 6,3

Annex 2: Country profile (part 2)

Summary of age related regulations and rights	
Compulsory education (up to.....)	16
Compulsory military service	18 months
Legally employable (from...)	16
Marriage without parental consent	19
Minimum voting age	18
Minimum age to be elected	28
Driving licence	18
Purchase of alcohol and drinkink	
Purchase of tobacco products and smoking	

Local Currency/ Exchange rate (Euro)	1 € = 98 Algerian dinars
--------------------------------------	--------------------------

Annex 3: List of Abbreviations

ANSEJ	National agency for the support of youth employment
CENEAP	Centre for national studies and analyses for the population
CFI	Contract of training and integration
CID	Contract of integration for graduates
CIP	Contract of professional integration
CREAD	Research Centre in applied economy applied for development
DJS	Directorates for Youth and Sports
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
ODEJ	Departments of Centres for Youth
ONS	National Office of Statistics

Annex 4: Glossary

Algerian Dinars: 1 € = 98 Algerian Dinars

Chaabi: Algiers popular musical kind derived from the Andalusian music during the years 1920

HARRAGAS: Arab word “to burn”. “Harragas” are the young people who want to leave the country on board zodiac.

PCPA – Algeria: Multi-actor Programme

Walis: Governors

Wilayas: Provinces

Annex 5: Bibliography and resource materials

- **Adolescence et identité, (1990)**, Actes du 1er congrès maghrébin de psychologie de 1989, éd. Hommes et perspectives/[Le journal du Psychologue](#), Paris, 266 p.
- **Bentahar M., [La jeunesse arabe à la recherche de son identité](#)**, éd. El Kalam, Rabat, s. d., 144 p.
- **Breviglieri M ; et Cichilli V. (2007), [Adolescences méditerranéennes. L'espace public à petits pas](#)**. collection Débats Jeunesses, L'Harmattan, 2007. Paris.
- **Bourdieu P. (1980), [Sociologie de l'Algérie](#)**, coll. Q-S-J, éd. PUF, Paris, 127 p.
- **Kenouche T., Haddab M. Et Kheinniche I., (1979) [Les jeunes et l'école. Mythes et réalités](#)**, Alger, éd. CREA, (Centre de recherche sur l'économie appliquée), 356 p.
- **Rarrbo K., (1995), [L'Algérie et sa jeunesse. Marginalisations sociales et désarroi culturel](#)**, éd. L'Harmattan, Collection Histoire et Perspectives Méditerranéennes.
- **Toualbi N., (1984), [Les attitudes et les représentations du mariage chez la jeune fille algérienne](#)**, éd. ENAL, Alger, 198 p.
- **Turin Y. (1983), [Affrontements culturels dans l'Algérie coloniale](#)**. (écoles, médecine, religion, 1830-1880), éd. ENAL, Alger, 434 p.
- **Zerdoumi N. (1982), [Enfants d'hier. L'éducation de l'enfant en milieu traditionnel algérien](#)**, éd F. Maspero, Paris, coll. Domaine Maghrébin, 302 p.

Journal Articles:

- « **L'emploi des jeunes en Algérie** », [Les cahiers du CREAD](#), Jeunesse et société, n°26, 2^e Trim., Alger, 1991, pp. 79-92.
- **Bourdieu P. (1984)**, « La jeunesse n'est qu'un mot », in [Questions de sociologie](#), éd. De Minuit, Paris, pp. 143-154.

- **Adam A.**, « Urbanisation et changement culturel au Maghreb », in [Villes et sociétés au Maghreb. Etude sur l'urbanisation](#), éd. CNRS, pp. 215-232.
- **Ait Belkacem L.**, (1991), Réalités et perspectives des jeunes de 15 à 29 ans, communication au [8^e colloque de démographie maghrébine](#), Sidi Fredj (Algérie), octobre 1991, 17 p.
- **Bendiab A.T.**, (1984), «La politique de la culture en Algérie », in [Annuaire de l'Afrique du Nord 1984](#), éd. CRESM-CNRS, Aix-en-Provence.
- **Benkheira M.H.**, (1987) « Algérie : La boisson, la prière et le football », in [Islam. Le grand ma-lentendu](#), édition Autrement, Série Mutations, n°95, 248 p.
- **Boucebci M.**, (1989), «Filiation, identité et rôles sociaux dans un monde en changement », in [Peuples Méditerranéens](#), n°48/49, juil./déc.
- **Boucetta A.**, (2006), Etre fille et avoir vingt ans en Algérie. In '[El Annabi](#)', 'Infosoir', 22.11.2006.
- **Bouzidi A.**, (1991) « Jeunes. L'enjeu incontournable », in [Algérie Actualité](#), Alger, n°1344, 18 au 24/7/1991, pp. 22-23.
- **Carlier O.**, (1988), « Espace politique et sociabilité juvénile : La parole étoiliste en ses quartiers. Contribution à une étude de l'incorporation du « nous », in O. Carlier, F. Colonna, A Djeghloul, M. El-Korso, [Lettres, intellectuels et militants en Algérie. 1880-1950](#), éd. OPU, Alger et URASC, Oran, pp. 107-174.
- **Fargue A.**, (1989), « Emploi et chômage en Algérie », in [Economie et Humanisme](#), n°309, Sept./Oct. 1989, pp. 30-37.
- **Fates Y.**, (1990), « Jeunesse, Sport et politique », in [Peuples Méditerranéens](#) Juil.-Déc. 1990, pp. 57-72.
- **Gadant M.**, (1982), « L'apolitique culturelle » in [Autrement. Algérie. Mémoire et jeunesse: un affrontement ?](#), Série Monde, n°38, Mars 1982, pp. 242-253.
- **Hakiki-Talahite F.**, (1988), « Crise du salariat et chômage des jeunes dans les pays arabes », in Touraine A., Hartmant J., Hakiki F., Lê Than Khoi [Quel emploi pour les jeunes ? Vers des stratégies novatrices ?](#) éd. UNESCO, Paris, 1988.
- **INSP**, « Relevé épidémiologique mensuel (REM) », n°2 et 5, Jeunesse et changement social, (Tunis 1982), [Cahiers du CERES](#), série sociologique, n°10, 1984, Université de Tunis.
- **Les associations à l'index.** [Algérie News](#), n°54, 14 juin 2008.
- **Les jeunes universitaires peinent à trouver des postes d'emploi.** Enquête sur la galère des diplômés chômeurs. [Liberté](#), n°4793, 15 juin 2008.
- **Musette M.S.**, (1989), « Quel avenir pour la jeunesse », in [Economie et Humanisme](#), Paris, n°309, Septembre-Octobre, pp. 38-47.
- **Rarrbo K.**, (1987), La galère de la jeunesse algérienne, in [Agora Débats Jeunesses](#), n°10, 1997, 4^e Trimestre, pp. 117-127.
- **Rarrbo K.**, (1996), Les jeunes algériens : entre chômage et quête identitaire, in Revue [Passerelles](#), Hiver 1995-1996. p. 140-146.
- **Rouadjia A.**, (1991), « Les enfants au centre des problèmes d'alcoolisme et de toxicomanie », in [L'état du Maghreb](#), éd. La Découverte, Paris, 1991, pp. 210-211.
- **Sayfuddin.A.** (2001) : [Voices of Youth on National Youth Policy](#). Formulation and Implementation through New Governance.

Reports:

- **European Commission (2001): [Study on the State of Young People and National Youth Policy in Europe IARD.](#)**
- **Commission sociale et économique des Nations Unies pour l'Asie et le Pacifique (1999) : [Youth Policy Formulation Manual.](#)**
- **Council of Europe (2003): [Experts on Youth Policy Indicators. Final Report.](#)**
- **Conseil international sur la politique nationale en faveur de la jeunesse (2002): Youth Participation Handbook: [A Guide for Organisations seeking to involve Young People on Boards and Committees.](#)**
- **Commonwealth Youth Programme <http://www.thecommonwealth.org/cyp>**
Ibid (1997): The Participation of Young People in Europe.
Ibid (1998): Assessment of National Youth Policies for Further Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth.
Ibid (2001): Training Manual on the Fundamentals of a National Youth Policy.
Ibid (2002): Supporting Young People in Europe: Principles, Policy and Practise
- **ICNYP (International Council on National Policy) (2002): [Background Paper on the Fundamentals of a National Youth Policy.](#)**
- **[La stratégie de Dakar pour le renforcement de la capacité d'action des jeunes](#) (2001).**
- **Lansdown,G (2001):** Global Priorities for Youth. **[Youth Participation in Decision-Making.](#)**
- **[Le programme d'action mondial pour la jeunesse à l'horizon 2000 et au-delà](#) (1995).**
- **Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (1999): [La francophonie à l'écoute de sa jeunesse.](#)**
- **[Plan d'action en faveur de la jeunesse de Braga et Déclaration de Lisbonne sur les politiques et les programmes en faveur de la jeunesse](#) (1998).**
- **[Rapport mondial sur la jeunesse 2003.](#)**
- **Salhi B., (2006), [Le mouvement associatif en Algérie : Histoire, législation, état des lieux.](#)** Programme d'appui aux associations algériennes de développement,
- **Commonwealth Secretariat (1998): [The Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment to the year 2005.](#)**
- **Tolman,J./Pittman,K. (2001): [Youth Acts, Community Impacts.](#)** The Forum for Youth Investment.
- **UNESCO Brazil Editions (2002): [Cultivating Life, Disarming Violences.](#)** Experiences in Education, Culture, Leisure, Sports and Citizenship with Youth in Poverty Situations.
- **www.confejes.org** (Conférence des Ministres de la jeunesse et des sports des pays francophones).
- **www.icnyp.net** (Conseil international de la politique nationale de la jeunesse).
- **www.infoyouth.org/index_fr.php** (Réseau mondial d'information sur les questions de la jeunesse initié par l'UNESCO, des autorités gouvernementales, des agences appropriées et des organisations de jeunesse).
- **www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/helsinki/** (Rapports sur la Réunion des experts des Nations Unies sur les priorités globales pour la jeunesse, 2002).
- **www.un.org/youth** (Nations Unies, Département des affaires économiques et sociales).
- **www.unesco.org/youth** (section pour la jeunesse, Bureau de la Planification Stratégique).



EuroMed Youth III Programme

Institut national de la Jeunesse et de l'Éducation populaire
Regional Capacity Building and Support Unit
/ Unité Régionale de Renforcement des Capacités
11, rue Paul Leplat
F78160 - MarlyleRoi - France

Telephone : + 33 1 39 17 27 55
Telefax : + 33 1 39 17 27 57
Email: rcbs@injep.fr

Web: www.euromedyouth.net



This programme is funded by
the European Union

