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the Master's Degree in field of English Language and Literature
Specialty :Literature and Civilisation**

**The socio-economic effects of the
Russian-Ukrainian War on North
African countries /Algeria as a case**

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Dedication

This dissertation is dedicated to my dearest parents

*To my lovely sister all my friends for their unconditional support, who encouraged and
helped me*

To all whom I know, I express my gratefulness, Thanks for all

Ouled Larbi Chaima

Dedication

A special feeling of gratitude to my loving parents

I also dedicate this dissertation to many friends and church family who supported me throughout the process. I will always appreciate all they have done

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Abstract

The Russian-Ukrainian War is an ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine that began in 2014. The conflict had a significant impact on various countries around the world including North African countries. This dissertation concentrates on the socio-economic effects of the Russian-Ukrainian war on North African countries, Algeria specifically. In an attempt to show the effects of the conflict, this study uncovers the serious effects of war and how it affected North African countries socially and economically. To conduct this study, we have opted for the historical descriptive approach through which relevant documents are scrutinized then analyzed; along with an interview held with an expert in international relations. The study reveals that North African countries are negatively affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war because they consume Russia raw food stocks such as wheat in large quantities, and depend on Russia and Ukraine for imports. The rise in oil and gas prices also causes high prices in their markets what made their communities suffer from high cost of living, high prices, and shortage in food stocks.

Key Words: Conflict, Dependency, Socio-Economic Effects, Living standards, North-East Relations.

Table of Contents

DEDICATION.....	I/II
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	III
ABSTRACT	IV
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v/VI

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1. Background of the Study.....	9
2. Statement of the Problem.....	9
3. Aims of the Study.....	9
4. Research Questions.....	10
5. Methodology.....	10
6. Justification of the Study.....	10
7. Structure of the Study.....	10/11

CHAPTER ONE: The Russian-Ukrainian War

Introduction.....	13
1. The origin of the Russian and Ukraine war.....	13/16
2. Impact of the Russian and Ukrainian war on North African countries.....	16
2.1. Economic effects of the war on North African countries	17/20
2.2. Social effects of the war on North African countries.....	20/22
Conclusion.....	23

CHAPTER TWO: The Socio-economic effects of the Russian - Ukrainian War on Algeria

Introduction	26
1.The Algerian-Russian-Ukrainian relations	26/28
2.Algeian Economy	29/32
3.Economic effects	32/35
4. Social effects	36/39
5.Analysis and Interpretation of the Interview	39
5.1. Description of the interview.....	39
5.2.Questions' answer	39/40
5.3.Interpretation of the interview	40/41
Conclusion	41/42
General Conclusion	44
References	46/47
Appendices	49
Abstract.....	50
Résumé.....	50

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1. Background of the Study

The Russian-Ukrainian War is an ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine which bursted out in 2014. The conflict began with the Euromaidan protests in Ukraine, which ultimately led to ousting of the pro-Russian Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich . In response, Russia annexed Crimea in March 2014 and supported separatist movements in eastern Ukraine.

The neighboring countries and the entire world were affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war, as the war caused great and significant social and economic repercussions on the neighboring countries of Ukraine and Russia , and among these countries we find the North African countries. The North African countries were affected by the socio-economic effects of the Russian – Ukrainian war as well as Algeria since it is a part of North Africa.

2. Statement of the Problem

The Russian and Ukrainian war resulted in serious socio-economic effects on North African countries. Many political leaders in Africa are wondering about the short and the long term of these effects implicates of this crisis will be on North African countries. This study attempts to shed light on the socio-economic effects of the conflict on North African countries, Algeria as case.

3. Aims of the Study

The present study seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- 1) To find out the social and economic effects of the Russian and Ukrainian war on North African countries .
- 2) To find out the social and economic effects of the Russo-Ukrainian war on Algeria.

4. Research Questions

The study intends to answer the following research questions:

- 1) What are the socio- economic effects of the war on North African countries ?
- 2) What are the socio-economic effects of the war on Algeria?

5. Methodology

Since this research attempts to highlight the socio-economic effects of the Russian – Ukrainian war, it is convenient to adopt the descriptive historical approach to understand the current Russian-Ukrainian conflict. To look at the historical context of the relationship between the two countries in order to identify the causes and reasons which contributed to the emergence of the crisis between them. To enrich this thesis with data, a structured interview was conducted in which five (05) questions were posed to an Algerian Doctor in political sciences and international relations.

6. Justification of the Study

Any study attempts to achieve a certain goal, the significant of this study is to highlight the socio-economic effects on North Africa countries and Algeria, since Algeria is a part of Africa.

7. Structure of the Dissertation

The dissertation is divided into two chapters. The first chapter is devoted to the background of the war under the title “The Russian and Ukrainian war ”. It sheds light the historical roots between the two countries . It also discusses the economic and social effects of the war on North African countries. The second chapter discusses Algeria and its relations with Russia and Ukraine also deals with Algeria economy. The second chapter of this research sets out the economic and social effects of the Russian and Ukrainian war on

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Algeria. Furthermore, The second chapter is also concerned with the interpretation of the data collected wherein we interpret and discusse the findings with the intent to answer the above research questions.

Chapter One

The Russian and Ukrainian War

Introduction

1. The origin of the Russian and Ukrainian War

2. The impact of the Russian and Ukrainian war on North African countries

2 .1. Economic effects of the war on North African countries

2. 2. Social effects of the war on North African countries

Conclusion

Introduction

The Russian-Ukrainian war, also known as the Russo-Ukrainian conflict, is an ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine that began in 2014. The conflict arose from a dispute over the sovereignty of the Crimean Peninsula, which was annexed by Russian-speaking population in Eastern Ukraine. The conflict had a significant impact on various countries around the world, including North African countries. This chapter will discuss the origins and the historical roots of the war. And also shed light on the social and economic effects of this conflict on North African countries.

1.The origin of the war

1.1.Historical roots :

The roots of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis goes back to the period following the fall of the Soviet Union. In 1991, Ukraine gained independence, with 90 percent of its population voting to secede from the Russian Federation, which brought together Russia, Belarus and Ukraine. The turning point for Ukraine in terms of its relations with the West was in 2004 when the Orange Revolution, which led to the overthrow of Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich and the assumption of the presidency by Viktor Yushchenko, where Yanukovich was closer to Russia and its leaders and Yushchenko closer to the Western powers, and this stage was considered a new stage of rapprochement between Ukraine, the Soviet Union and NATO. But in 2010, Russia's closest president, Yanukovich, returned to power after winning an election, at which point he began to halt any ties between Ukraine and the European Union or NATO. Despite this, there remained a clear division within Ukraine between a group that wants to strengthen relations with the European Union and join NATO, represented by the western regions of Ukraine, and a group that wants to get closer to Russia and join it, represented by the eastern regions of Ukraine, where most of the population speaks Russian as a first language. In 2014, a new revolt broke out against Yanukovich, and the president used violence and many people were killed, but the revolution ended with Yanukovich's escape from Kiev to the eastern regions of the country. The opposition took over from Yanukovich, but the eastern provinces did not recognize the new authority, most notably Crimea, where fighting between separatists and the Ukrainian government had intensified, eventually leading to Crimea's declaration of independence from Ukraine. In the

same year, the ruler of Crimea sent a letter to Moscow asking to join Russia, where Russian troops entered Crimea and announced their official accession to Russia.

Despite the sanctions imposed on Russia over its annexation of Crimea by the United States and Europe, this did not make Russia stop its support for separatists in Ukraine's eastern regions. This leads us to realize that Russia has always felt that Ukraine's rapprochement with America, and specifically its intentions to join NATO, is a threat to its entity, as Putin justified his invasion of Ukrainian territory by saying that contemporary Western-leaning Ukraine is a constant threat and that Russia cannot feel "safe, developed and existed." Putin's list of demands goes on, but the main goal of the invasion of Ukraine for Russia is to control Ukraine and dismiss its government, which means eliminating Ukraine's desire to join NATO.

For Russia, Kiev has to abandon the idea of applying to join NATO and Zelensky, the Ukrainian president, has already acknowledged this. Russia also demands that the Russian language be protected in all Ukrainian regions and that Ukraine accept that the disarmament process be carried out in order to make sure that Russia is not threatened. The other side of the demands, which many consider the most difficult side, is that there is an assumption that the Russian demands include the Ukrainian government's abandonment of some areas in eastern Ukraine, as well as Putin's desire to negotiate directly and face-to-face with the Ukrainian president on the aforementioned points and the status of both Crimea and Donbas. Some believe that the demands in general do not need to shed all this blood and this amount of destruction, but it is clear that Putin wants to make sure that there will be no threat to Russia, even if this costs him a lot of losses in military and human resources. His desire is to send a clear message to the United States of America that Russia has enough power to get what it wants and will not be stopped by any sanctions.(Aljazeera,2023)

1.2 Hot February

On February 2022, the United States announced the deployment of two thousand troops in Poland and Germany and additional thousand troops in Romania, and NATO also put its forces on alert, and strengthened its military presence in Eastern Europe by pushing more ships and fighter jets, at a time when several countries called on their citizens to leave Ukrainian territory, and a number of these countries withdrew their diplomatic teams from Kiev after reports that the Russian invasion was approaching.

On the tenth of February 2022, Moscow rejected US statements about a Russian invasion of Ukraine, accusing the West of misinformation, but the United States decided the next day to

send 3,000 additional troops to Poland to join the 1,700 troops there, while the Kiev Municipal Council approved a plan to evacuate residents if an attack occurs. Biden continued to warn Putin of the heavy and immediate losses Russia would incur if it invaded Ukraine. But Putin made his decision to escalate towards US and Western moves and statements on February 21, 2022, by recognizing the "republics" of Donetsk and Lugansk, which prompted Biden and some Western countries to impose a series of sanctions on Russia.(Aljazeera,2023)

1.3 Russia's War in Ukraine

On February 24, 2022, Putin signaled the start of a military operation in Ukraine, calling on Ukrainian soldiers to immediately lay down their arms and go home. Since the beginning of the invasion, Russian forces have taken control of large areas of the southern province of Kherson and then began on February 26, 2022, to expand their attacks to all areas.

At the beginning of March 2022, despite Western US pressure, Moscow continued its incursion into Ukrainian territory, as it came close to taking control of Kharkiv, one of the largest cities in northeastern Ukraine. April 2022 also witnessed an escalation in military confrontations between the Russians and the Ukrainians, who announced the recapture of the city of Kiev after Russian forces withdrew from it in late March 2022.

Developments on the ground accelerated, leading Kiev to recognize the eastward advance of Russian forces and their control of several cities of the Donbas region on April 2022. In May 2022, Moscow announced full control of the economically and militarily important city of Mariupol, and in the same month pro-Moscow forces managed to take control of the city of Liman, which is the center of railway activity in the Donetsk region.

In early June 2022, Ukrainian President Zelensky announced that Russian forces had taken control of 20% of Ukrainian territory. Russian forces intensified artillery shelling on the Donbas region and then on the strategic Severdonetsk, which fell to the Russians on June 21, 2022, followed by tightening their grip on the Lugansk region the following month.

In the face of this accelerated Russian progress, the Ukrainian Minister of Defense announced on July 11, 2022, that his country seeks to form a two-million-dollar army to recover the south of the country from Russian forces, and on the 24th of the same month, Zelensky announced that his forces were heading towards Kherson, which is under Russian control.

The most prominent developments of field events took place in September 2022, as Ukrainian forces were able to make progress on more than one front, on September 11, 2022,

Kiev announced significant military gains after a quick attack on Russian forces in the east of the country, which led to a Russian withdrawal from key towns. Ukrainian forces advanced south in October 2022 following the withdrawal of Russian forces from the city of Liman, so on October 13, 2022, Moscow began evacuating civilians from Kherson, an operation that Russia completed on October 28, 2022 in preparation for the battle of Kherson.

By 2023, the Ukrainian president promised his people victory, at a time when the Kremlin is talking about "war" instead of "special military operation" in Ukraine, as it continued to spin amid an intensification of Russian attacks, while the Ukrainian General Staff announced the response to dozens of drones launched by the Russian army.

After about a year and months of battles between Russia and Ukraine, the number of tanks used by the Ukrainian army in its battles decreased due to the loss of a number of them, and some of them were out of service due to the lack of necessary spare parts, since all Ukraine's weapons are remnants of the Soviet stage, and Russia is the only source of spare parts.(Aljazeera,2023)

2. Impact of the Russian and Ukrainian War on North African countries

2.1.The importance of the African continent

The importance of the African continent is evident in several aspects, because it is a continent that is not like other continents and has strategic importance for many major countries in the world. The African continent covers an area of 2.30 million square kilometers, or 6% of the Earth's total surface area, and there are 54 countries within this continent. Its population is 5.1 billion according to 2020 and is expected to reach 4.2 billion in 2025.The population of the African continent speaks more than 2,000 languages, which also means that it is a continent with great cultural diversity. At the economic level, six of the 20 fastest growing cities in the world and three of the fastest growing economies in the world are located within the African continent, but this does not mean that it is against shocks, as the African continent is affected by external shocks and international crises, just like many countries, if the impact of shocks on them is not greater due to their population density, continuous needs and the poverty of many of their countries.

(Information and Decision Support Center)

According to Baku, an African politician: Africa is a geographically distant area from the battlefield in Eastern Europe on Ukrainian territory since the end of last February (2022), but it is strategically close in light of the size of the Russian-African entanglement on the one hand, and the Western-backed Ukrainian African on the other hand, which raises many fears among the countries of the African continent of the effects of this crisis and its repercussions on their economic, political, security and military conditions, as it imposed several challenges on them, some of which are related to internal conflicts and ongoing battles in many. Some of them are related to the entanglements of African countries' relations with both parties to the crisis on the other hand, and some of them are related to the effects of that crisis on the living conditions of African citizens, especially with regard to their main food needs that depend on grains imported from the war zone on the third hand. At the same time, however, the crisis has created many opportunities that can be seized if the countries of the continent manage their position wisely and rationally, taking into account the various dimensions and aspects of the crisis. (Tahar,A,2022)

Although the Russian-Ukrainian war does not take place in North Africa, it has a significant impact on this region economically and socially. For example, some North African countries rely on Russia and Ukraine as sources of energy and basic commodities such as oil, gas, and other food items. With the escalating tensions between the two countries, North African countries may face problems meeting their economic and food needs, which affects the lives of citizens and leads to deterioration of the social situation in these countries.

2.1. Economic effects of the war on North African countries

Amr Adly, an Egyptian economist and researcher at the Carnegie Institution, affirms that the war negatively affected the economies of many North African countries mainly,

"because they are densely populated countries and depend on Russian and Ukrainian imports, especially foodstuffs such as grains or oils, which affected prices first and then affected supplies later, in addition to these countries suffering from a drought."(Dw,2023)

He clarified that among the countries significantly affected by the war are North African countries, where many of them rely and depend on Russia and Ukraine as source of imports the essential commodities.

The North African countries more vulnerable to economic impacts due to Russian-Ukrainian crisis:

Egypt : Egypt is particularly vulnerable to the economic shocks of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. And it is one of the countries most affected by this crisis, as Egypt imports about 89% of its imports of 9.12 million tons of wheat from the two countries, and in light of the significant rise in wheat prices as a result of the crisis, the general budget will incur a large cost to manage Egypt's needs of wheat and sunflower oil. Egypt also suffers from high energy prices, because Egypt imports a large part of petroleum products to meet local consumption, and tourism will be severely affected. The Russian and Ukrainian market represents about 40% of the Egyptian tourism market. The average value of Egypt's imports from the Russian Federation and Ukraine reached \$ 8.5 billion during the period (2016-2020), representing 1.8% of the total imports during the same period. Grains come at the top of the list of products that Egypt imports from the two countries, if they represent 65% of imports from Russia and 75% of imports from Ukraine, followed by wood and iron, and wheat comes at the top of the list of grains that Egypt imports from the Russian Federation and Ukraine, if Egypt imports 80% of its wheat imports from the two countries on average during the period (2016-2020). Egypt is the world's largest importer of wheat and the disruption of imports due to the war means the government faces a complex challenge, as it has to look for new suppliers while trying to absorb the blow of rising food prices.

Egypt is considered a net energy importer country, and the Russian-Ukrainian crisis caused a rise in energy prices, which were already high before the crisis, in April 2021, the price of the OPEC basket was 24.63 dollars, this price continued to rise due to increased demand as a result of the recovery from the Corona pandemic, supply chain bottlenecks, and policies to confront climate change until it reached about 94 dollars before the Russian-Ukrainian crisis at the beginning of February 2022, and then rose due to the crisis to 48.113 dollars per barrel in March 2022 .(Crisisgroup,2022)

Libya :The war in Ukraine has already had repercussions on Libya's import-dependent economy. Bread is a staple commodity, and the country imports more than 90 percent of its wheat, half of it from Ukraine and Russia. The government subsidizes part of the wheat it imports. Since the conflict began, wheat prices in Libya's local markets have risen dramatically, and prices for other foodstuffs, such as sunflower oil, fruits and vegetables, have

risen drastically over the past month. There has also been a shortage of gasoline. It may seem illogical that oil-rich Libya would run out of gasoline, given that it produces crude oil and has its own refineries. But locally refined oil is not enough for domestic consumption, and as a result, Libya buys most of its additional needs from abroad at market prices, then sells fuel domestically at heavily subsidized prices. (Crisisgroup,2022)

Tunisia : Tunisia is a net importer of gas and oil, leaving it vulnerable to global price increases. While it meets 50 percent of its domestic gas needs from its national production, Tunisia pumps about 30 percent of the oil it consumes from its own fields, importing the rest at market prices. Therefore, each dollar-rate increase in oil prices results in an additional cost of about \$40 million in the government budget. The 2022 budget was based on a price of \$75 per barrel of oil. Given that crude oil is currently sold at \$100 per barrel, the cost of energy imports will rise from \$1.6 billion in 2019 to an estimated \$4 billion in 2022, which includes gas and other fuels. President Kais Saied's government has been forced to raise fuel prices monthly, fueling inflation and popular discontent as well. It has raised prices several times so far, by a few percentage points at a time. Tunisia's food imports are another source of concern. The country produces between 70 and 90 percent of its domestic durum wheat needs and 10 to 30 percent of its soft wheat consumption (for flour for bread, the country's staple food). Imports from Ukraine account for about 50 percent of total wheat imports, while an additional 4 percent comes from Russia. The government has confirmed that wheat stocks will cover national demand until June, but sporadic shortages have already occurred since January, before the Russian invasion. (Crisisgroup,2022)

Morocco :Like other North African countries, Morocco has also seen several effects on the economy, and while Russia's military intervention in Ukraine is escalating, many wheat consuming countries, including Morocco, are experiencing fears of signs of a shortage crisis. Morocco's cereal imports during the last agricultural season (2020-2021) amounted to about 3.97 million tons of soft wheat and 1.02 million tons of durum wheat. Given that it imports only 20-30 percent of its wheat from Russia and Ukraine. But in general, the Kingdom remains vulnerable to price shocks, given that it buys 40 percent of the wheat consumed by its population from abroad, and recently recorded an unprecedented drought that has sharply reduced its domestic production.

In this regard, The economic expert Zakaria Verano explained in an interview with Sky News Arabia that :

"due to the Ukrainian-Russian war, the import system on which Morocco depends will be directly affected. In particular, Morocco imports about 12% of the world's cereal from Ukraine alone".(skynewsarabia,2022)

From Ukraine, Morocco is one of the most prominent importers of wheat along with corn, semi-finished products of iron or steel, plastics and others, Russia, while on the commercial level, Morocco imports wheat, coal, fuels, steel, ammonia, diesel, fuel oil, petroleum gasoline, petroleum gas, hydrocarbons, natural and chemical fertilizers. Regarding oil, Verano explained that the price of a barrel on the global market reached \$ 129 on Monday, March 7, 2022, a figure we have not seen since the US financial crisis in 2008. This rise will affect Morocco, which is one of the importers of this raw material." Verano does not rule out that the increase in the price of gas globally will also affect the Moroccan state budget.(skynewsarabia,2022)

2. 2. Social effects of the war on North African countries

Conflicts and wars have negative impacts on the communities affected by them, including countries that do not directly participate in the conflict .The Russian-Ukrainian war is considered one of the most impactful regional conflicts in the world, leading to social, economic, political, and security repercussions on North African countries .

Among the social effects of the Russian-Ukrainian war on North African countries :

1.Lack and High prices of food feedstocks

The Russian-Ukrainian war had repercussions in the lack and high prices of food feed stocks faced by the societies of North African countries from these countries, Egypt and Tunisia.

Egypt: Egypt, the Arab world's largest demographically, has been hit hard by the war in Ukraine because it has caused skyrocketing prices of wheat, the staple food of some 104 million Egyptians. This war coincided with Cairo's economy taking a severe blow following the dramatic and unprecedented decline of the local pound against the US dollar, which increased prices and planted a number of concerns about the country's food future.

Russia is a major exporter of wheat to Egypt, which imports 85 percent of its wheat from Russia and Ukraine combined. Egypt's total grain imports are nearly \$5.5 billion, including \$1.6 billion from Russian wheat and about \$1.4 billion from its Ukrainian counterpart.

Egypt really suffers from a problem in the high prices of commodities, especially food commodities," says Egyptian economist Abdel Nabi Abdel Muttalib, "where the prices of red meat rose by 30% to 50%, and the prices of poultry, fish, bread, oils and sugar rose by 50% to 70%".(Ghabchi,B,2023)

Tunisia : Since Russian President Vladimir Putin announced his intention to invade Ukrainian territory on Tuesday, February 20, global economic indicators have begun to decline, between the decline of the "Hang Song" index in Hong Kong by 3.2% in early trade, the decline of futures of the "S&P" index by 1.7% and the decline of contracts "Dow Jones" industrial index by 1.5%. But part of these findings threaten a number of countries, including Tunisia, which relies heavily on Ukrainian and Russian bread baskets for its food needs. Tunisia relies on 80% of its grain imports in total, while wheat imports from the two countries reach 60%, especially from Ukraine, from which Tunisia imported 984,000 tons last year compared to 111,000 tons of Russian wheat.

There is no doubt that Tunisia's grain needs will be higher this year due to drought and environmental changes, as well as exacerbating structural problems related to the agricultural sector and supply, as the country lived last December on the impact of delayed payment of grain supplies due to the lack of sufficient amount of hard currency.

The Russian attack on Ukraine will contribute to postponed difficulties for Tunisian food security, with the possibility of a 50% rise in the price of cereals globally, as futures contracts for shipments of US wheat and corn recorded the highest trading level on Thursday, February 24, and the prices of soybeans used in vegetable oils recorded their highest level since 2012.(Bacha,K,2022)

2.The high cost of living and the high prices

The high prices of food feedstocks had an impact on the purchasing power of citizens in North African countries

Egypt : According to observers, the war will lead to high inflation rates in Egypt, exacerbating the living crises of citizens. According to the economist, Abdul Nabi Abdul Muttalib, Russia and Ukraine are among the most important suppliers of wheat to Egypt and

the Arab world, where Egypt imports \$ 3 billion, including about \$ 1.7 billion Egypt's imports of Russian wheat, and about \$ 0.7 billion Egypt's imports of Ukrainian wheat. He pointed out that the military tension has already caused the rise in energy and wheat prices globally, and therefore this will be reflected in prices domestically.

After reducing the weight of subsidized loaf, the government is now considering increasing its price. Due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, U.S. wheat and corn shipments futures jumped to the highest level in more than nine years last weekend.(Alaraby,2022)

Morocco: Morocco is suffering from high inflation due to the Russian-Ukrainian war, but the impact has become severe, especially since the recent high prices affected key commodities in an unprecedented way during the war.

Food prices in Morocco have risen in conjunction with the Russian invasion of Ukraine, as Morocco is one of the importers of basic needs, including energy and basic food stocks. The government has allocated \$1.7 billion in subsidies for cooking gas, \$1.4 billion for electricity, \$60 million per month for soft wheat flour, and \$300 million for sugar, in the context of rising prices in the international market.(Gamas,M,2022)

3.Rise in the unemployment rate

The economic crisis in Egypt as a result of the Russian-Ukrainian war led to a rise in the unemployment rate. The labor force in Egypt reached about 29.985 million individuals during the second quarter of 2022, of which 24.75 million were males, and 5.134 million females, while the number of unemployed reached 2.151 million, or 7.2 percent of the total labor force, according to data from the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS).

The Egyptian government has implemented many national projects in the past years with the aim of absorbing a large number of female workers and reducing unemployment, and experts' expectations were pessimistic regarding the trends of the unemployment rate after the outbreak of the Ukraine war, but official data indicated a decrease in the unemployment rate from 7.4 percent in the last quarter of 2021 to 7.2 percent of the first quarter of 2022 The data indicated that the number of unemployed in Egypt increased slightly by 0.3 percent on a quarterly basis in the period April-June 2022, bringing the total rate of unemployed to 7.2 percent, or about 2.15 million people, and the unemployment rate in Egypt during the second quarter of 2022 stabilized at 7.2 percent recorded during the previous quarter, due to the absorption of national labor projects.(Abd-esallam,2023)

Conclusion

In this chapter the background of the war and the historical roots between the two countries have been discussed, after discussing the economic and social effects of the war, we conclude that the Russian-Ukrainian conflict has caused negative economic and social effects on North African countries.

Chapter Two

The Socio-Economic Effects of the Russian-Ukrainian War on Algeria

Introduction

1.The Algerian-Russian-Ukrainian Relations

2.Algerian Economy

3.Economic effects

4.Social effects

5.Analysis and Interpretation of the Interview results

5.1 Description of the interview

5.2Questions' answer

5.3Interpretation of the interview results

Conclusion

General Conclusion

References

Appendices

Abstract

Résumé

Introduction

Although Algeria is thousands of kilometers away from the battlefield in Eastern Europe between Russia and Ukraine, it found itself concerned with the effects of the conflict between the two countries. This chapter intends to shed light on the economic and social effects of the Russian-Ukrainian war on Algeria.

1. The Algerian-Russian-Ukrainian Relations

1.1. Algerian-Russian Relations

Algerian-Russian relations date back to the Soviet era, when Algeria was under French colonial rule and the Soviet Union supported national movements in Algeria. In 1962, Algeria gained its independence and diplomatic relations between the two countries began. The history of bilateral relations between the two countries can be summarized as follows:

Diplomatic relations were established between the Soviet Union and Algeria on March 23, 1962. On December 26, 1991, Algeria officially recognized Russia. Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika paid an official visit to Moscow on April 3 and 6, 2001, bringing a new quality to bilateral relations and becoming a major milestone in the expansion of Russian-Algerian relations. During the visit, the two parties signed a declaration on the strategic partnership between the two countries and an intergovernmental agreement for cooperation in the fields of culture, science, education, sports, tourism and archives.

On September 24, 2003, the meeting of the heads of state was held in New York within the framework of the regular session of the United Nations General Assembly. Dmitry Medvedev spoke on July 7, 2008 with A. Bouteflika at the Group of Eight Summit in Toyako. On July 9, 2009, Dmitry Medvedev, on the sidelines of the meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the Group of Eight in L'Aquila, Italy, received the Algerian Prime Minister A. Ouyahia. The next meeting of the Presidents of Russia and Algeria was held on 24 September 2009 on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly session in New York.

On March 10, 2006, the official visit of the President of the Russian Federation to Algeria took place. Intergovernmental Agreement on Trade, Economic and Financial Relations and Debt Settlement of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the Russian Federation on Loans Previously Granted, Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation, Agreement on

Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection Investments signed.

Algerian President Bouteflika paid an official visit to Moscow on February 18 and 19, 2008. On the sidelines of the visit, an agreement was signed between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria on air communications between the two countries. In October 2010 The President of the Russian Federation, Dmitry Medvedev, paid an official visit to Algeria. During the visit, an agreement was signed between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria on cooperation in the field of maritime transport, and five memoranda.

Parliamentary relations were established. In September 1998, the Speaker of the National Assembly (upper house of parliament) was in Moscow to participate in the work of the hundredth Inter-Parliamentary Conference. During an official visit to Russia on 22-26 September 1999, the President of the People's National Assembly (Council of Algeria) of Algeria (NNS) A. Assembly of Russia and Deputies signed On 28-31 March 2000, Russian parliamentarians headed by the Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation paid a visit to Algiers. On an official visit to July 10-14, 2006, the Speaker of the National Assembly, Bensalah, paid a visit to Russia. On October 27-30, 2008, a delegation from the National Assembly of People's Deputies of Russia headed by its President A. Ziari was received in Russia. The first working visit of the Russian Foreign Minister to Algeria took place on October 7 and 8, 2000 in the history of bilateral relations.

Meetings of Ministers for Foreign Affairs are held at sessions of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. Trade and economic cooperation has been carried out since the beginning of the sixties. Algeria has received a lot of assistance in establishing a national industrial base and developing industries such as energy, mining, metallurgical industries, mechanical engineering, water management, etc. Thus, with our help, a large part of the mining plant facilities were established. (Ministry of foreign affairs Russian federation, 2011)

1.2 Algeria-Ukraine Relations

The history of cooperation between Ukraine and the Algerian Republic dates back to the Soviet era, when the Soviet Union, including the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, which was a member of the United Nations General Assembly, was supportive of the liberation movement of the Algerian people from the hateful French colonialism. Bilateral relations between Algeria and Ukraine, in particular in the military-industrial field, have been

strengthened and continue to this day.

The history of bilateral relations between the two countries can be summarized as follows :

Algeria was the first Arab country to recognize the independence of Ukraine from the Soviet Union on December 27, 1991, where the protocols of diplomatic dealings were held on August 20, 1992, which culminated in the opening of the Embassy of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria in independent Ukraine, and in return the Ukrainian Republic opened its embassy in Algeria in the same year, where a high-level official in the Ukrainian government at the level of deputy minister visited Algeria during the period June 27 - July 1.

The military attaché was opened at the Algerian Embassy in Ukraine in 1994 and Algeria was the first Arab and African country to open the military office in Ukraine, and during the period (1993-1994) all official protocol procedures between the two countries were terminated to establish cooperative diplomatic bridges in many fields. December 15, 2002 Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoly Zelenko visits Algeria. In December 2007 The Chief of Staff of the Algerian Armed Forces with a delegation of military experts visits Ukraine to discuss joint cooperation between the two countries, and in the same year cooperation in the peaceful use of outer space was agreed and signed. In April 2008 Visit of the Minister of Defence of Ukraine, Mr. Yuri Ikhanurov, to Algeria and the conclusion of an agreement between the Ukrainian and Algerian governments "on cooperation in the military and technical fields".

April 2009 the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Kiritchenko visited Algeria and talks with the Algerian military authorities in the field of joint cooperation. In May 2010 Formation of the Algerian-Ukrainian parliamentary friendship group in Algeria. August 2010 Reopening of the military office at the Algerian Embassy in Ukraine.

The Algerian community consists of about 700 citizens registered with the consular section of the Algerian Embassy, the majority of whom are active in the field of entrepreneurship, and Algerian students continue their studies in various Ukrainian universities and institutes.(Aures,2011)

2. Algerian Economy

We cannot discuss the economic effects of the war without highlighting the Algerian economy before and during the Russo-Ukrainian crisis :

2.1 The history of Algerian Economy 1962-2022

What distinguishes the French colonization of Algeria from the rest of the African colonies is its settler nature, that is, it linked the colony to France by means of bringing in people of European origin to replace the indigenous population. The result of this policy in its economic aspect is the creation of a new economic system, which is capitalism, parallel to the traditional economy, thus creating an exceptional situation in Algeria, where the capitalist economy is adjacent to and parallel to the local economy with a special livelihood. The French colonial capitalist economy is based on the agricultural sector, where the minority of French origin controls the most fertile agricultural land (3 million hectares out of 7 million hectares). The mechanism of acquisition and expropriation of land dates back to the beginning of the occupation through the enactment of the Senators Consult Laws, which imposed private property to allow the establishment of the capitalist system. Unlike the English in the British colonies who struggled to secede from the motherland, French settlers worked to link their economic ties with the motherland through commercial activity that exported.

The agricultural sector is the pillar of the French economy in the colony of Algeria, and the commercial sector generated a real lobby linking the colony and France. The dominance of the large owners of agricultural land extended to the rest of the sovereign sectors and they were able to control political institutions by imposing their supporters within the elected councils (municipal and parliamentary councils). This situation continued until the independence of Algeria in 1962, despite the attempts of French politicians to change the system of colonialism by including industry, since the beginning of World War II, then the first industrialization project in 1946 and the Constantine project in 1958, but all these attempts failed due to the opposition of the peasant lobby. This is because they fear losing control of the new situation to the new industrialists from France and the emergence of unions in factories that could form the nucleus of political movements for Algerians. (Bougchor, M, 2022)

Algeria's independence represents not only the defeat of France but also the defeat of the capitalist system. It was the Algerian people and the Vietnamese people who only challenged the world capitalist system, because France did not alone suppress the Algerian revolution, but also partnered with other capitalist powers with their military wing: the Atlantic Alliance.

Therefore, the building of a new economic system in Algeria has had internal and external challenges. The great delay in infrastructure because all the facilities during the colonial period are the centers of nutrition of the capitalist system, i.e. the northern coastal cities and the plain cities where the agrarian capitalist system is. Unemployment is also one of the biggest challenges facing the Algerian state, so the Algerian state had to create an economic base capable of solving social problems: for all these reasons, the state made the choice of industrialization. In the absence of the conditions for industrial renaissance, such as what is the case for European countries that witnessed an early industrial renaissance, where they relied on engineers and inventors who established their companies after their scientific inventions, these innovators established their institutions, which turned after the first generation into family institutions to turn with the third and fourth generation into global institutions. French colonialism left no room for industry and industrialists, who were active in Algeria, the vast majority of whom were French and very few Algerians represented 2% and were active in the field of food industries .

The emergence and development of industry in Europe was from below and with private investments, Algeria, in the absence of these conditions and due to the great challenges, chose a strategy from above, i.e. direct supervision of the state in theorizing, planning, completion and management. During the period from 1967 to 1977, Algeria devoted a lot of money, investing between 40% and 50% of GDP, a huge number of the highest levels in the world, and of these invested funds, Algeria allocated a percentage ranging from 55% to 60% to the industrial sector. The source of this financing was through external borrowing, and the revenues of the hydrocarbon sector contributed to ensuring this financing. Despite the efforts made, this strategy did not bear the desired results. Many economic institutions found themselves in problems that required state intervention to cover the fiscal deficit. During the decade of 1980, these companies, numbering more than 300 institutions, cost 60 billion dinars, and in 1998, the size of the financial deficit of national institutions amounted to 208 billion dinars. The failure of this strategy led to the abandonment of many of these companies in favor of the private sector with amounts amounting to the symbolic dinar in the majority. What can also be valued for this period is the sovereign decisions taken by the Algerian state, the most important of which is the financial disengagement with France by changing the currency in April 1964, where the franc was replaced by the Algerian dinar. The second challenge lies in the nationalization of oil, which is a difficult decision for Algeria by virtue of previous experiences in this field for many Countries including Iran, that paid for oil insurance.(Bougchor,M,2022)

The year 1989 was a turning point for the Algeria of the revolution by abandoning the socialist management of the economy and following a market economy approach. This radical change was characterized by the decline of industry and the abandonment of a large number of economic institutions by the state, which allowed the import sector to return strongly. The industrial sector, which accounted for 18% of GDP in 1982, now accounts for only 6% in 2004, and this percentage has remained stable to this day. Since 2000 and until 2020, despite Algeria's huge hard currency incomes, and despite the existence of economic plans such as the "Economic Recovery Support Plan", the economy has not witnessed a significant change, as the import sector benefited from fiscal rents and reached astronomical figures: \$ 51 billion in 2015 and \$ 46 billion in 2016. This policy opened the door to financial corruption and enormous funds of hard currency were transferred to many countries. The policy of economic openness did not give what was expected of it, as is the case for some countries such as China, which became a global economic power after changing its economic approach from socialism to a market economy in 1978. Another phenomenon that characterized the end of this period was the negative role played by some management interests on investors by obstructing their industrial projects. The figures presented by the Mediator of the Republic in January 2022 show the magnitude of the operation that amounts to economic crime against the national economy, the broker found 877 companies waiting for the decision of the local administration to start their industrial activity, some of them waiting for the document for more than 5 years. The state's interest in the industrial sector led to the liberalization of 679 companies. The new institutions will create 39,242 direct jobs, which means that they will contribute to the creation of indirect jobs that may reach 150,000 jobs.(Bougchor,M,2022)

2.2 Algeria economy during the ongoing conflict

Five years ago, Algeria was living the specter of bankruptcy, to the extent that Ahmed Ouyahia, the Prime Minister at the time, said that his government was unable even to pay the salaries of its employees, after a painful economic crisis that hit the economy of one of the largest producers and exporters of gas and oil in Africa, as a result of mismanagement and great corruption that wasted about a trillion dollars on the country during the years of the rule of the late President Abdelaziz Bouteflika.

Algeria has struggled with this crisis over the past years, defying the specter of a rapid decline in monetary reserves, and was able, despite political instability, to overcome in 2022 the seven lean years that the Algerian economy went through, starting in 2014, which witnessed a decline in oil prices, which is Algeria's main source of hard currency This was

thanks to the Russian-Ukrainian war and its repercussions, which opened the door for Algeria to gradually exit its economic crisis, with the rise in oil prices globally, the country's hard currency income rose to form record numbers during the first five months of this year.

The value of Algeria's hydrocarbon exports until May 2022 amounted to about \$ 21.5 billion, and the country's importance as an energy exporter doubled as a result of the crisis in Europe following the imposition of major sanctions on Russia, which made Algeria acquire part of Russia's position as the second main supplier of gas to Europe, so that Algeria exports about 90 million cubic meters per day to Europe, while Russia fell to third place by about 80 million cubic meters per day. Perhaps the most prominent scenes that painted the new situation of Algeria from an economic point of view is the huge military parade organized by Algeria on the fifth of July 2022 to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of independence, a celebration that gave messages stating that there is a financial abundance in the country, as evidenced by the advanced weapons that were displayed at the independence celebration, as well as the cost of the military parade and the accompanying celebrations, which amounted to 30 million euros. In this context, the successful organization of the Mediterranean Games in Oran last June, indicators that suggest that Algeria is beginning to recover significantly from its economic crisis.(Abd-El Kader Ben Massoud,2022)

3.The Economic Effects

3.1 The Field of Oil: Oil is one of the important vital resources in Algeria and has a prominent role in shaping its economy, as Algerian oil was significantly affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war.

In Algeria, a country where oil revenues account for 95 percent of the economy, this rise is a positive thing that will contribute to making the trade balance positive and being able to cover the budget deficit.

Algeria last year recorded a rise in oil revenues of \$34.5 billion, according to Sonatrach State CEO Taoufik Hakkar. The government expects to achieve an increase in the value of its oil revenues this year, if the price of oil continues above the threshold of \$ 100, even if it does not fall below \$ 80 per barrel, which will enable raising the value of the country's foreign exchange reserves, which are currently suspended at \$ 44 billion, and will enable it to implement its oil projects.Observers believe that oil-producing Algeria is one of the most prominent beneficiaries of the Ukrainian crisis, in light of the rise in oil prices at their highest levels since 2014, which exceeded \$ 100 per barrel of Brent basket crude, as it is likely to

raise its production and income of hydrocarbons to significantly enhance its trade balance and exchange reserves.

Since the beginning of the year, the price of Algerian crude, known as "Sahara Plund", has witnessed a huge rise, breaking records every day since 2014, until it reached a record level of \$ 136 per barrel on the ninth of March 2022, to become one of the most expensive oil crudes in the world.

Algerian oil export revenues during the first five months of this year amounted to about \$ 21.5 billion, compared to about \$ 12.6 billion at the end of May last year, an increase of about 70%, achieving the best recovery over the past eight years.

The forecasts of the American magazine "Mais" specialized in energy indicate that Algeria will record revenues ranging between \$ 35 and \$ 36 billion by the end of this year from oil exports, at a time when the hydrocarbon company "Sonatrach" expects to achieve \$ 50 billion in revenues by the end of 2022.(Abd-El Kader Ben Massoud,2022)

3.2 The Field of Gaz: Algerian gas is a vital resource and an important source of energy in Algeria, where Algeria is one of the largest producers of natural gas in the world and has large reserves of laurel, where the Russian-Ukrainian war had an impact on the Algerian gas industry in:

The inflated oil prices were not the only benefit the country reaped from a war thousands of miles away and made its economy recover: Algeria quickly jumped to the second place of Europe's largest gas exporter via pipelines, surpassing Russia, after about 90 million cubic meters per day flowed through Algerian pipelines towards Europe, while Russia fell to third place with about 80 million cubic meters per day.

Algeria is among Europe's largest gas suppliers using cross-border pipelines, and the country, with its resources and proximity to Europe, is well positioned to take advantage of new European trends in the search for alternatives to Russian gas. Here, it can be noted that Algerian gas exports rose by a record 43% in 2021 to reach 55 billion cubic meters, of which more than 80% are destined for Europe.(Tamimi,N,2022)

Algeria is striving steadily to secure the needs of many European countries seeking to get out of the Russian "energy blockade"; over the past months, Algeria has signed a number of deals, most notably a deal with Italy to increase supplies to Rome via the Transmed line, and the country has also readjusted gas agreements with France and Spain, and reviewed gas prices with the two countries without causing the loss of its partners despite the political crisis that is

roiling Algeria's relations with Paris and Madrid. The latest chapter of the country's efforts to play an important regional role in the developments witnessed by the world at the level of the deal signed by Algeria with the American company «Occidental», the Italian Eni and the French Total Energy, with investments of up to \$ 4 billion. The new deal aims to produce about one billion barrels of oil equivalent from the Berkin Basin, the site southeast of Hassi Messaoud, and will also increase exports to Europe, reinforcing the North African country's position as a reliable global energy exporter. Moreover, Algeria announced a doubling of its gas exports to Italy to 25 billion cubic meters, after an agreement to increase them by 4 billion cubic meters, during Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi's visit last week to Algeria. It is expected that the country's incomes will rise further after reviewing gas prices in its contracts with France and Spain, which are among the most prominent importers of Algerian liquefied and liquefied gas, and what reinforces this rise is the expectations of the Algerian treasury to achieve record revenues this year, knowing that Algeria is building its internal budget on a reference price of \$ 45. (Abd-El Kader Ben Massoud, 2022)

Identical media reports show that resorting to Algerian gas was from the beginning within the rescue plans developed by the West to confront Russia, as a report by the American agency "Bloomberg" at the beginning of February stated that Algeria was put forward in meetings of economic experts to be an alternative to Russian gas.

Bloomberg quoted an informed source as saying that the United States was discussing the issue with companies operating in Algeria or Algerian companies, not with the government itself. Euronews has previously pointed out that the West is thinking of resorting to Algeria, as it can supply Europe through 3 gas pipelines, the first is the trans-Mediterranean pipeline "Transmed", the second is the "Med Gas" pipeline linking the port of Beni Saf west of Algeria with Almeria, Spain, which was commissioned in 2010, and its current capacity is 10 billion cubic meters, and Algeria says it is able to raise its capacity to 14 billion cubic meters per year. The third line is an old project that NATO is trying to revive, which is the "Medicat" pipeline linking Algeria with Spain and France through the regions of Catalonia and Midi-Pyrénées, without forgetting the Moroccan pipeline linking Algeria and Madrid through Morocco, which was suspended in early November, as part of Algeria's measures to cut relations with Rabat. Spain's environmental transition minister, Teresa Ribera, told state television on Tuesday that the Algerian government had assured her that "if we or our European partners need more gas via Spain, Italy or ships, they are ready to provide it." (Abd-El Kader Ben Massoud, 2022)

3.3 Algerian Food: As an importer of food products from Russia and Ukraine, the food industry was significantly affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war.

Unlike the oil sector, the effects of the Russian war on Ukraine are not honey for Algerians in the food field, as the country, which is the second importer of wheat in Africa after Egypt, will be hit by the inflammation of wheat prices, and will be reduced in the import options for grains and wheat that it seeks to diversify.

In terms of numbers, Russia tops the list of wheat exporters in the world, while Ukraine comes in fourth place, which made them have 30% of the percentage of wheat offered for trade in 2020, and because of this global weight, the price of wheat rose on the first day of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in an unprecedented manner, reaching about \$ 384 per ton.

Although Algeria imports wheat from Russia and Ukraine, it is not one of their big customers, given that most of the wheat imported into Algeria comes from France, but the absence of these two markets will stop its new policy of getting rid of French wheat and seeking to diversify suppliers Last year, Algeria issued a tender to import 250,000 tons of wheat, which was won by Russian suppliers, and the Algerian Professional Grain Office in charge of importing wheat confirmed that the crisis between Russia and Ukraine will not affect wheat imports, given that Algeria adopts a policy of diversifying trade partners, and the new term sheet opens the door to competition for several foreign suppliers.

According to government sources, Algeria will not be affected this year by the consequences of the Ukrainian crisis, given that it issued tenders to import all its wheat stocks for 2022 at the end of last year, and the wheat stock for the current year was guaranteed from local production for 2021 and imported quantities

Statistics indicate that Algeria's annual imports of cereals, including wheat, amount to about 7 million tons, with a bill of more than two billion dollars.

Despite the comfort in which Algeria is located, at least currently, it will be affected by this crisis within the so-called imported inflation, resulting from high production costs due to high energy prices, especially since many goods and services are imported despite the government's policy in recent years to reduce the import bill and support local production, which made the contribution of agriculture to Algeria's economy reach \$ 25 billion last year. (Sajal,A,2022)

4.The Social Effects

4.1 High prices of food feedstocks: The Russian-Ukrainian war caused a rise in food staples on a large scale due to its impact on food supply chains.

This increase in food commodity prices came on the one hand after the health crisis (COVID-19) combined with strong interventions by a number of countries (including China) in those global markets, and on the other hand after the interruption of cereal supplies from the Black Sea in connection with the Russian-Ukrainian war . All products imported by Algeria have risen – wheat, barley, corn, milk products, sugar and edible oils. These rises, affected by world energy prices, are the origin of the high food bill and the inflation of agricultural prices.

Wheat and maize prices skyrocketed immediately after the start of the war, with the price of one ton of wheat reaching at least 344 euros, a level it has never reached, given that Ukraine and Russia control two-thirds of the world's production of this material. Algeria imports both soft and durum grains, and fears that the longevity of this war will affect the supply of grain to the global market, which has raised fears that will increase the likelihood of prices reaching other unprecedented levels in the coming days and weeks. Higher maize prices on world markets would also affect prices at home, especially the already high prices of red and white meat. The price of wheat rose on the first day of the invasion, unprecedentedly, reaching about \$ 384 per ton, in return for a drought that threatens Algeria in addition to the repercussions of the Corona pandemic.(Muslim,M,2022)

4.2 The cost of living and high prices: The Russian-Ukrainian war caused high prices to rise significantly, due to the impact of the war on the economy and trade what led to a rise in the cost of living

Signs of high prices in the Algerian markets began Ramadan ago with an upward trend, to be added to a wave of high prices that began months ago due to the repercussions of the Corona pandemic that affected most countries of the world, and then the consequences of the Russian-Ukrainian war.

Weeks before Ramadan, Algeria witnessed a scarcity of some consumer items such as edible oils and semolina, and queues formed in front of stores for them in several states on April 4, the National Bureau of Statistics (affiliated with the Ministry of Finance) published a report, in which it confirmed that the prices of agricultural materials rose by 3.2 percent, while food prices rose by 2 percent in February. According to the National Bureau of Statistics, the prices of poultry meat rose by more than 19 percent, and the prices of vegetables by 8.2 percent during the same period. Compared to February 2022, the prices of

widely consumed items in Algeria increased by 9 percent, while the year-on-year inflation rate was 9.3 percent. Before Ramadan, the authorities tried to pre-empt the price inflammation with several measures, including the opening of dozens of neighboring markets (across neighborhoods), in order to ensure the availability of goods for citizens due to the increasing demand.

During the discussion of a monetary law in parliament in the past few days, Finance Minister Abdel Aziz Fayed responded to questions from MPs about the reason for the crazy rise in prices, stressing that the reason for inflation in the market is external due to the repercussions of the Corona pandemic, and also for internal reasons such as speculation in prices. In this context, the head of the Algerian Consumer Protection (independent), Mustapha Zebdi, said that

"the prices of some products during the Ramadan reached price levels that they have never reached before."

Zebdi explained that the high prices were not generalized and comprehensive, but affected certain products, especially agricultural ones, noting that "the prices of state-subsidized products (semolina, oil, sugar and milk) have known a kind of stability during the Ramadan, and were marketed at reasonable prices by government offices." "But there are agricultural products in particular, whose prices have reached unprecedented record levels that have never been reached before.".(Alaraby,2023)

4.3 Rise in the unemployment rate: As a result of the impact of the Russian-Ukrainian war on the economic activities of countries, the war caused a rise in the unemployment rate in many countries:

Economic crisis in Egypt as a result of the Russian-Ukrainian war led to a rise in the unemployment rate. The labor force in Egypt reached about 29.985 million individuals during the second quarter of 2022, of which 24.75 million were males, and 5.134 million females, while the number of unemployed reached 2.151 million, or 7.2 percent of the total labor force, according to data from the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS). The Egyptian government has implemented many national projects in the past years with the aim of absorbing a large number of female workers and reducing unemployment, and experts' expectations were pessimistic regarding the trends of the unemployment rate after the outbreak of the Ukraine war, but official data indicated a decrease in the unemployment rate from 7.4 percent in the last quarter of 2021 to 7.2 percent of the first quarter of 2022. The data indicated that the number of unemployed in Egypt increased slightly by 0.3 percent on a

quarterly basis in the period April-June 2022, bringing the total rate of unemployed to 7.2 percent, or about 2.15 million people, and the unemployment rate in Egypt during the second quarter of 2022 stabilized at 7.2 percent recorded during the previous quarter, due to the absorption of national labor projects.(Abd-esallam,2023)

4.4 Algerians citizens residing in Ukraine: The Algerian community in Ukraine has been greatly affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war, where the Algerian community in Ukraine lives under difficult and volatile conditions as a result of the security and economic tensions in the country.

The Russian invasion to Ukraine touched many cities. The Ukrainian civilians, as well as the Algerian community, predominantly comprised of medical and pharmacy students enrolled in Ukraine Universities, were not exempt from the attacks. This was confirmed by the Ukrainian ambassador to Algeria in 2020 who stated that over a thousand were studying there, while media outlets discussed the departure of 750 students from the Ukrainian border for Poland, unfortunate incidents such as the tragic death of Mohamed Abdel Moneim Talbi, a student who died with gunshot wound in the city of Kharkiv, highlight the dire humanitarian situation faced by Algerians residing in Ukraine . This remains the foremost challenge currently confronting the government .On February 27, the Algerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Community Abroad expressed profound sorrow over the loss of an Algerian citizen in Kharkiv. Concurrently , the ministry urged the Algerians residing in Ukraine to exercise extreme constant communication with the embassy in Kiev . For those who have crossed the Ukrainian borders towards Poland and Romania, it emphasized the importance of staying in regular contact with the diplomatic missions of the Foreign Ministry in Warsaw and Bucharest.

The Algerian authorities have urged on European countries near to Ukraine to offer facilities to ensure the passage of the Algerian community across the borders of these countries, in in anticipation of their repatriation to their home country.

On February 28, the Algerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs convened a meeting with the ambassadors of Romania and Poland, along with the Chargé d Affairs of Hungary in Algeria, to monitor the status of the Algerian expatriate community in Ukraine.

A crisis cell was formed by the Algerian overseas forum to establish communication and coordination with citizens who found themselves stranded in Ukraine. The embassy was urged to intervene and ensure the safety of those individuals.

Given the security threats faced by the Algerian community residing in Ukraine, the forum

organized a session to assess the situation of the community there using a social networking platforms to see the situation of these students.(Andalousi,S,2022)

5. Analysis and Interpretation of the Interview:

We have conducted a face-to-face structured interview with Algerian Doctor in Political Science and International Relations at Kasdi Merbah University, Ouargla, Algeria. who is supposed to enrich our research with much information to verify our study. The following is the analysis and interpretation of the data collected from the interview.

5.1. Description of the Interview

The present interview is a composition of five (05) questions which revolve around the Russian-Ukrainian war and its economic and social effects on North African countries, specifically Algeria .

Since the Doctor is specialized in political science and international relations ; we deemed that it was appropriate to conduct the interview with him. After providing him with an insight to the study, he has answered the questions. The questions were posed in the Arabic language and translated later into English along with his answers.

Questions:

Question(1): How is Algeria's relationship with Russia after the Russian-Ukrainian war?

Answer: The continuation of Algeria's qualitative relations with Russia, especially in the field of armaments and military cooperation, as Russia promises to arm the Algerian army.

Question(2): How is Algeria's relationship with Ukraine after the Russian-Ukrainian war?

Answer: The Algerian state maintains its relationship with Ukraine because of the historical relations and the volume of trade exchanges between the two countries and one of the most important Ukrainian exports to Algeria is wheat, which is one of the most important exports on which Algeria depends.

Question(3): Why did not Algeria take a position on the Russian war in Ukraine?

Answer: Algeria has not taken a position and failed to issue any statement regarding the Russian war in Ukraine in order to avoid international conflicts and disputes and secure the

economic interest. Algeria raises the slogan of non-interference in the internal affairs of countries in its diplomacy to be away from the Ukrainian crisis

Question(4): How was Algeria economically affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war?

Answer: Algeria's possibility of compensating Russian gas thanks to its huge reserves and geographical proximity, as it is the largest exporter of natural gas to the European Union after Russia and Norway, and a major gas supplier for both Italy and Spain, which will provide the state treasury with huge incomes in addition to the rise in oil prices, and this rise is a positive thing that would contribute to making the trade balance positive. Unlike the oil sector, the effects of the Russian war on Ukraine are not honey for Algerians in the food field, as The country, which is the second importer of wheat in Africa after Egypt, will be hit by the price of wheat, and will reduce the import options for grains and wheat that it seeks to diversify.

Question(5): How was Algeria socially affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war?

Answer: The war in Ukraine has become a concern for Algeria, due to the presence of many students studying there, in addition to families and irregular immigrants. The high prices strain the pockets of Algerians The signs of high prices in the Algerian markets began Ramadan ago with an upward trend, to be added to a wave of prices that began months ago due to the repercussions of the Corona pandemic that affected most countries of the world, and then the consequences of the Russian war on Ukraine .

5.2. Interpretation of Interview:

The obtained results from the interview revealed that Algeria have good relations with Russia and Ukraine even before the war . After the war, relations continued and further strengthened. The war indirectly impacted Algeria ; on the contrary , it had positive effects on Algeria economy, Algeria is one of the largest oil and gas producing countries in Africa and the world, and the oil and gas industries are vital sectors in the Algerian economy..Algeria's economy relies heavily on oil and gas exports to generate revenue and finance economic growth.The Russian-Ukrainian war caused oil prices to rise, causing oil revenues to rise, and this is a positive matter that would contribute to making the trade balance positive and the ability to cover the budget deficit and an increase in the value of oil revenues.

Algeria is one of the largest suppliers of gas to Europe through cross-border pipelines, and the Russian-Ukrainian war caused a rise in the proportion of Algeria exports of gas, as it is heading more than it to Europe, and with European governments striving to reduce their dependence on Russian gas, as Russia is the first supplier of gas in the world, so the European

Union seeks to increase imports from Algeria.

Unlike the oil and gas sector, the Russian-Ukrainian war caused high prices and an increase in the prices of food commodities due to the high prices of wheat and corn, considering that Russia and Ukraine control two-thirds of the world's production of this material and as Algeria is one of the importers of wheat from Russia and Ukraine, and therefore the continuation of this war leads to the continuation of high prices and scarcity of some foodstuffs in the Algerian market.

Also the Algerian community in Ukraine has been greatly affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war, where the Algerian community in Ukraine lives under difficult and volatile conditions as a result of the security and economic tensions in the country.

The Russian invasion to Ukraine touched many cities. The Ukrainian civilians, as well as the Algerian community which consists mostly of students enrolled in Ukrainian universities In light of the deteriorating humanitarian situation faced by Algerians living in Ukraine. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Community Abroad called on the national community in Ukraine to communicate continuously with the Embassy of Algeria in Kiev in order to coordinate the necessary to deal with the developments of the situation in this country, which require the utmost caution.

The Algerian authorities have urged European countries close to Ukraine to provide facilities to ensure the passage of the Algerian community across the borders of these countries, in anticipation of their repatriation.

Conclusion

Although Algeria is thousands of kilometers away from the battlefield in Eastern Europe between Russia and Ukraine, it found itself concerned in indirect effects of the conflict between the two countries. The war affected Algeria positively and negatively. On the positive side, the war had an impact on the country's economy, particularly in the oil and gas field since Algeria is one of the largest oil and gas producing countries in Africa and the world. However, on the negative side, the increase in prices of foodstocks led to rise and higher prices in Algerian market due to the high prices of wheat and corn, considering that Russia and Ukraine control two-thirds of the world's production of this material and Algeria is one of the importers of wheat from Russia and Ukraine. The Russian-Ukrainian war caused oil and gas prices to rise, causing revenues to rise, and this is a positive matter that would contribute to making the trade balance positive and the ability to cover the budget deficit.

Additionally, Algerian citizens residing in Ukraine were also affected by the war which consists mostly of students enrolled in Ukrainian universities. The Algerian community in Ukraine lives under difficult and volatile conditions as a result of the security and economic tensions in the country.

General Conclusion

General Conclusion

The Russian-Ukrainian War is an ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine that began in 2014. The conflict began with the Euromaidan protests in Ukraine, which ultimately led to ousting of the pro-Russian Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich. In response, Russia annexed Crimea in March 2014 and supported separatist movements in eastern Ukraine. The neighboring countries and the entire world were affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war, as the war caused significant social and economic repercussions on the neighboring countries of Ukraine and Russia, and among these countries North African countries. The North African countries were seriously affected by the socio-economic effects of the Russian – Ukrainian war as well as Algeria since it is a part of North Africa.

The present study highlights the social and economic effects of the Russian-Ukrainian war on North African countries, specifically Algeria.

Although North African countries and Algeria are thousands of kilometers away from the battlefield in Eastern Europe between Russia and Ukraine, but it has been indirectly affected. North African countries such as : Tunisia, Libya, Morocco, Egypt are more vulnerable to the negative economic and social effects due to the Russian-Ukrainian crisis than others, because they are countries consume food feedstocks such as wheat in large quantities considering that Russia and Ukraine control two-thirds of the world's production of this material, and depend on Russia and Ukraine for imports. The same applies to the countries that import the most energy materials since Russia is the first supplier of gas in the world, which will be affected by the rise in oil and gas prices more than others, because they import from a country that is subject to a large amount of sanctions due to its invasion of Ukrainian territory. The increase in the prices of food and energy materials led to a rise in prices in the North African market what caused the high cost of living.

Unlike Algeria, where Algeria was less vulnerable than other North African countries to the economic effects of the Russian invasion of Ukraine as one of the largest oil-producing countries and was credited to the Russian-Ukrainian war and its repercussions, which opened the door for Algeria to gradually exit its economic crisis, with the rise in oil prices globally, the country's hard currency incomes rose and its revenues rose.

The country's importance as an energy exporter has also multiplied as the result of the crisis in Europe following the imposition of major sanctions on Russia, which made Algeria acquire part of Russia's position as the second main supplier of gas to Europe.

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Appendices

Appendix One

The Doctor's Interview

Hello,Dr

This interview aims at collecting data about **the socio-economic effects of the Russian-Ukrainian War on North Africa countries Algeria as a case**. As a part of our dissertation for the fulfillment of the master's degree in Literature and Civilization, you are kindly asked to answer the following questions. Thank you in advance for your help.

The questions:

1. How is Algeria's relationship with Russia after the Russian-Ukrainian war?
.....
2. How is Algeria's relationship with Ukraine after the Russian-Ukrainian war?
.....
.....
3. Why did Algeria not take a position on the Russian war in Ukraine?
.....
.....
4. How was Algeria economically affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war?
.....
.....
5. How was Algeria socially affected by the Russian-Ukrainian war?
.....
.....

المخلص

الحرب الروسية الأوكرانية هي صراع مستمر بين روسيا وأوكرانيا بدأ في عام 2014 واستمر بشكل متقطع حتى الوقت الحاضر. كان للصراع تأثير كبير على مختلف البلدان في جميع أنحاء العالم ، بما في ذلك دول شمال إفريقيا. تركز هذه الأطروحة على الآثار الاجتماعية والاقتصادية للحرب الروسية الأوكرانية على دول شمال إفريقيا ، الجزائر على وجه التحديد . في محاولة لإظهار آثار الصراع، تستخدم هذه الدراسة المنهج التاريخي. و تنتهي الدراسة بالنتائج و الأكثر بروزا أن دول شمال أفريقيا تأثرت سلبا بشكل غير مباشر بالحرب الروسية الأوكرانية لأنها دول تستهلك مخزونات غذائية مثل القمح بكميات كبيرة، وتعتمد على روسيا وأوكرانيا في الاستيراد. وارتفاع أسعار النفط والغاز سبب ارتفاع الأسعار في الأسواق ما جعل المواطنين يعانون من ارتفاع تكاليف المعيشة ، والغلاء ، ونقص في المواد الغذائية .

الكلمات المفتاحية: الصراع ، التبعية ، الآثار الاجتماعية والاقتصادية ، مستويات المعيشة ، العلاقات الشمالية الشرقية

Résumé

Depuis 2014, la Russie et l'Ukraine ont pris une autre chemin vers une guerre mondiale qu'elle devenu enflammé exponentiellement jusqu'à présent. Ce conflit a affecté la majorité des pays y compris les pays de l'Afrique du Nord. Alors que notre intitulé s'intéresse à les effets socio-économiques de la guerre Russo-ukrainienne sur ces pays généralement et l'Algérie particulièrement, en suivant l'approche descriptive historique. Ainsi que ces effets ont affecté négativement les pays de l'Afrique du Nord d'une façon implicite, parce qu'ils adoptent certains aliments (le blé) quotidiennement et largement a travers l'importation en compagnie avec la Russie. Cependant, l'augmentation des prix(le charbon-le gaz) vont véhiculer les prix qui se dirigent dont les échanges, le quel ont rend compte les citoyens avec des salaires plus chers, qui souffrent de la manque des éléments importants tels que les alimentations alimentaires.

Mots clés : conflit, dépendance, effets socio-économiques, niveau de vie, relations du Nord-Est.