

MPC – MIGRATION POLICY CENTRE

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MPC - MIGRATION PROFILE

Tunisia

The Demographic-Economic Framework of Migration
The Legal Framework of Migration
The Socio-Political Framework of Migration

Report written by the

MPC Team

on the basis of CARIM South database and publications

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The Demographic-Economic Framework of Migration

The labour market's poor performance together with a stalled democratization process have been the main determinants of persisting labour emigration flows from Tunisia. In contrast with the sustained economic growth of Tunisia over the last decades, unemployment has never dampened down and more recently has affected the most educated too. Tunisian emigration was traditionally directed towards Western European countries – especially France, Germany and Belgium – and to a lesser extent to Libya. After the limits put in place by European countries in the 1970s and the mass expulsion of Tunisian nationals from Libya in 1985, Tunisians resorted to family settlement in Europe, a diversification in the choice of destination countries, together with significant inflows of return migrants. Today, new European destinations (e.g. Italy and Spain) are attracting more and more Tunisian migrants, especially their irregular component. Finally, as a consequence of the 2011 revolts, both regular and irregular emigration from Tunisia has substantially increased.

As to inward migration, Tunisia does not host large numbers of regular migrants. Indeed, their (low) proportion of the total resident population (less than 1%) has not changed greatly since the 1970s. However, since the 1990s, Tunisia has evolved into an important transit country receiving flows – mainly from Sub-Saharan countries – attempting to reach southern Italy from the Tunisian coasts. In addition, Tunisia was the country most affected by the 2011 Libyan Civil war with almost 350,000 migrants arriving from Libya.

Outward migration	Inward migration																																																																																																																							
<p>Stock</p> <p>In 2009, Tunisians recorded in Tunisian consulates abroad stood at 1,098,200, or 10.6% of the Tunisian population. In the last decade, consular records show a rise in the propensity to leave the country: from 2001 to 2009, the number of Tunisians abroad increased from almost 764,000 to more than 1 million, at an annual average growth rate of 6.2% (compared to the Tunisian population growth rate equal to 1.1% in the same period).</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Tunisian emigration stocks by country of residence according to Tunisian consular statistics (2001, 2009) and destination countries' statistics (years around 2012)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Country of residence</th> <th colspan="2">Tunisian consular statistics</th> <th rowspan="2">Destination countries' statistics</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2001</th> <th>2009</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Europe</td> <td>642,541</td> <td>911,400</td> <td>414,077</td> </tr> <tr> <td>of which France</td> <td>470,459</td> <td>598,500</td> <td>236,480</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Italy</td> <td>78,581</td> <td>152,700</td> <td>109,371</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Germany</td> <td>44,143</td> <td>85,500</td> <td>21,161</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Arab countries</td> <td>102,725</td> <td>154,900</td> <td>12,077</td> </tr> <tr> <td>of which Libya</td> <td>47,751</td> <td>87,200</td> <td>n.a.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North America</td> <td>17,351</td> <td>29,000</td> <td>8,175</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other countries</td> <td>1,363</td> <td>2,900</td> <td>32,266</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>763,980</td> <td>1,098,200</td> <td>466,595</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: Tunisian consular records and destination countries' statistics (population censuses, population registers, register of foreigners, etc.).</p> <p>In 2009, 83.0% of Tunisians abroad lived in Europe, mainly in France (54.5%), Italy (13.9%) and Germany (7.8%). Important numbers are also found in Arab countries (14.5%) especially in Libya (7.9%), even if an unknown proportion of them returned home as a consequence of the 2011 Libyan civil war.</p>	Country of residence	Tunisian consular statistics		Destination countries' statistics	2001	2009	Europe	642,541	911,400	414,077	of which France	470,459	598,500	236,480	Italy	78,581	152,700	109,371	Germany	44,143	85,500	21,161	Arab countries	102,725	154,900	12,077	of which Libya	47,751	87,200	n.a.	North America	17,351	29,000	8,175	Other countries	1,363	2,900	32,266	Total	763,980	1,098,200	466,595	<p>Stock</p> <p>In 2004, 35,192 foreign nationals were recorded as residing in Tunisia. They represent a very small proportion of the total resident population (0.4%), i.e. the same value registered at the 1994 Census. Irregular migrants are also living in the country, but no solid estimate of their number has been provided.</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Resident foreign population in Tunisia by sex and country of citizenship, 2004</caption> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Country of citizenship</th> <th rowspan="2">Males</th> <th rowspan="2">Females</th> <th colspan="2">Total</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Number</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Arab countries</td> <td>10,603</td> <td>10,597</td> <td>21,200</td> <td>60.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>of which Algeria</td> <td>3,835</td> <td>5,777</td> <td>9,612</td> <td>27.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Morocco</td> <td>3,757</td> <td>2,606</td> <td>6,363</td> <td>18.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Libya</td> <td>860</td> <td>878</td> <td>1,738</td> <td>4.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>European countries</td> <td>3,775</td> <td>5,892</td> <td>9,667</td> <td>27.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>of which France</td> <td>1,750</td> <td>2,862</td> <td>4,612</td> <td>13.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Italy</td> <td>867</td> <td>693</td> <td>1,560</td> <td>4.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Germany</td> <td>317</td> <td>683</td> <td>1,000</td> <td>2.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>African countries</td> <td>1,906</td> <td>1,111</td> <td>3,017</td> <td>8.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>of which Ivory Coast</td> <td>338</td> <td>271</td> <td>609</td> <td>1.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asian countries</td> <td>245</td> <td>185</td> <td>430</td> <td>1.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>America</td> <td>98</td> <td>163</td> <td>261</td> <td>0.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other countries</td> <td>226</td> <td>391</td> <td>617</td> <td>1.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>16,853</td> <td>18,339</td> <td>35,192</td> <td>100.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: Tunisian Census, 2004</p> <p>The majority of recorded immigrants comes from other Maghreb countries (27.3% and 18.1% from Algeria and Morocco, respectively) and Europe (27.5%), especially from France (13.1%) and Italy (4.4%).</p>	Country of citizenship	Males	Females	Total		Number	%	Arab countries	10,603	10,597	21,200	60.2	of which Algeria	3,835	5,777	9,612	27.3	Morocco	3,757	2,606	6,363	18.1	Libya	860	878	1,738	4.9	European countries	3,775	5,892	9,667	27.5	of which France	1,750	2,862	4,612	13.1	Italy	867	693	1,560	4.4	Germany	317	683	1,000	2.8	African countries	1,906	1,111	3,017	8.6	of which Ivory Coast	338	271	609	1.7	Asian countries	245	185	430	1.2	America	98	163	261	0.7	Other countries	226	391	617	1.8	Total	16,853	18,339	35,192	100.0
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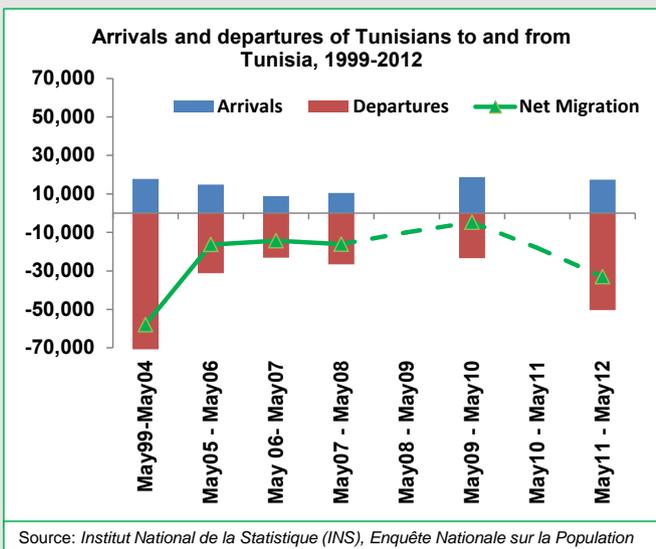
From 2001 to 2009, Italy and Germany registered the highest annual average growth rates of Tunisian emigration stocks, equal to respectively 13.5% and 13.4%. The lower rate registered in France (3.9%) confirms the rising diversification of destinations for Tunisian migrants.

If we look at destination country' statistics, smaller numbers are found: 466,595 Tunisian migrants resided abroad c. 2012. The discrepancy between consular and destination countries' statistics depends on a variety of factors. First, unlike destination sources, consular records include second and third generation migrants. Second, destination country' statistics are not available for a number of countries (e.g. Libya), since their authorities do not release data on their populations by nationality.

As to their gender profile, most Tunisians registered at the Consulates are men (64.7%). In OECD countries, Tunisians have, on average, a low level of education (50.5%) and are employed in low-skilled jobs, mainly as plant and machine operators and other elementary jobs (22.0%), as craft and related trades workers (17.5%), as service, shop and market sales workers (12.7%) and as plant and machine operators (year 2006 - OECD.stat.)

Flows

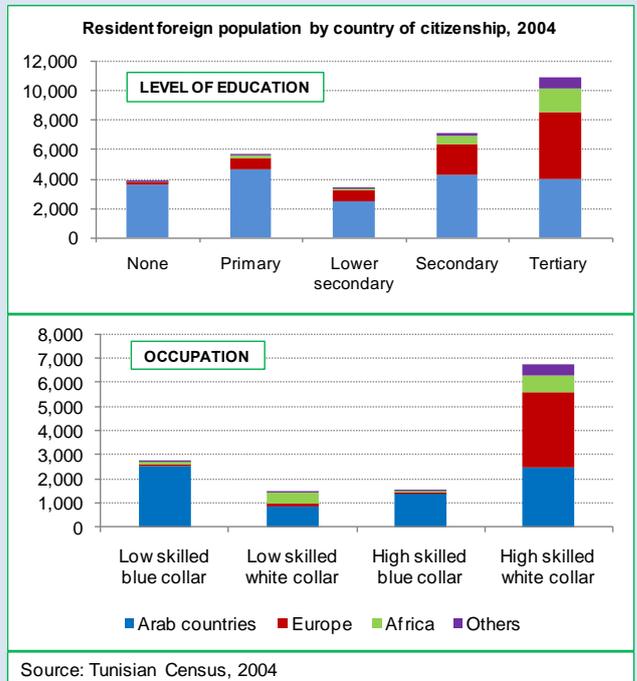
As a consequence of the 2011 revolts, in 2011-12 the annual number of migrants almost doubled with respect to 2005-2010 outflows. The total passed from 26,085 (average value – 2005-2010) to 50,391 (2011-12).



The socio-political situation has not only affected the size but also the characteristics of emigrants.

As a whole, in the last decade, the socio-economic profile of Tunisian migrants improved. Highly-skilled outward flows (i.e. those with a university degree or more) evolved into an important proportion of the total of

As to their profile, immigrants have a high level of education (58.1% are graduate or more). Indeed, they tend to be employed in highly-skilled occupations (65.1%), mainly as legislators, senior officials and managers (28.0%) and professionals (19.8%).



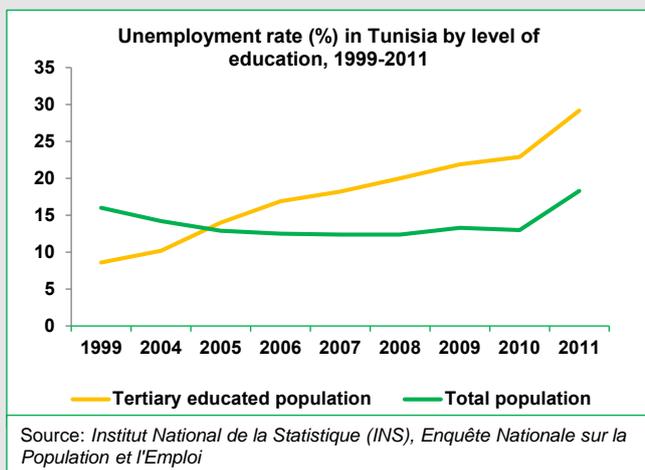
Flows

In the last decade, the African presence in Tunisia has become more important for various reasons. On the one hand, the large investments of Tunisian authorities in the education system has tended to attract more and more students from the whole continent; on the other hand, the displacement of the African Development Bank (ADB) from Abidjan (Ivory Coast) to Tunis in 2003 has gradually led to a rise in highly-skilled immigration from other African States.

However, the largest inflows from other African states transit through Tunisia, waiting to cross the Mediterranean and reach Southern Italy. According to a declaration of the former Minister of Interior Hedi Mhenni, more than 40,000 intercepted irregular migrants had been registered in Tunisia – from 1998 to 2003. They were mainly Maghreb and Sub-Saharan nationals, even if 52 nationalities had been counted.

Finally, in 2011, Tunisia received the largest number of migrants fleeing the Libyan civil war. According to IOM data, 345,238 migrants reached Tunisian borders, among whom 136,749 were Tunisian nationals. Of the remaining 208,489 third-country nationals, 115,516 were repatriated through IOM schemes.

registered outflows: from 14.1% in 2005/6 to 22.9% in 2009/10. The high investments aimed at improving the Tunisian educational system (as a percentage of GDP, educational expenditure rose from 4.0% in 2001 to 6.1% in 2011) has not coincided with a parallel development in highly-skilled job opportunities. From 2004 to 2010, the unemployment rate of highly-skilled persons rose from 8.6% in 1999 to 22.9% in 2010, while the total unemployment rate remained stable at c. 13.3%.



In 2011, the deteriorating social, economic and political conditions which fueled emigration increases affected, instead, all population categories. In this year, the total unemployment rate skyrocketed, indeed, for tertiary educated people (from 22.9% in 2010 to 29.2% in 2011) as well as for secondary educated individuals (from 13.7% to 20.6%) and for persons with only primary education (from 9.2% to 12.4%). As a result, the proportion of migrants with tertiary education, 2011-2012 was lower (16.5%) than that recorded previously.

Another major consequence of the 2011 revolts was the increase of *harragas* attempting to cross the Mediterranean and reach, especially, the Italian isle of Lampedusa. In 2011, 28,047 Tunisians were detected at Italian sea borders (vs. an average annual value of 1,702 arrivals 2000-2010). In 2012, as of 1 November, the same value stood at 2,025.

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 (*)
337	522	607	1,183	591	307	1,596	2,312	1,417	7,633	1,522	650	28,047	2,025

Notes: (*) 2012 statistics refer to the period January 1st - September 20th
Source: Italian Ministry of Interior

The Legal Framework of Migration

On 3 February 2004, three months after its Moroccan neighbour and two months after promulgating a new law to combat terrorism, Tunisia reformed its migration law. However, unlike other states in the region it limited its reform to reinforcing penal sentences against assistance to irregular migration.

The law of May 14, 1975 on passports and travel documents, modified in 2004, governs nationals' as well as foreign nationals' entry and exit. It remains in force, as does the law of March 8, 1968 concerning foreign nationals in Tunisia.

The 2004 reform, which implemented the Palermo Protocol against the smuggling of migrants, toughened sanctions against any contribution – organised or otherwise, with or without profit – to irregular migration of foreign as well as of Tunisian citizens. The 1968 and 1975 laws already provided for the penalisation of irregular – foreign or national – migrants, and sentences remain the same. All these sanctions are consistent with the practice in Europe and the Maghreb, including in the way they affect non-profit assistance, or sentence migrants, and so overstep the Palermo Protocols.

This legislative arsenal organises temporary labour migration in a strict fashion and suffers from a number of lacunae as far as foreign nationals' rights are concerned (e.g., protection from expulsion, legal appeal, family reunification and refugee status). Tunisia is reluctant to sign the Convention on the Protection of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Family, but has committed itself at international and bilateral levels concerning circulation advantages as well as readmission and border control, attempting to combine its interest in favouring its citizens' mobility with its will to control them.

Following the uprisings in Tunisia and subsequent election of a new government, a Draft Constitution was first created in August 2012, followed by presentation of the latest version in December 2012. Due to various political disputes, however, the adoption of the constitution has been delayed. The current draft keeps all articles regarding migration from the 1959 Constitution (e.g., freedom to leave and return to Tunisia for Tunisian citizens), yet removes the previous Constitution's reference to prohibition on extradition of political refugees. The Draft also includes a new article stipulating that no Tunisian citizen shall have his or her nationality revoked.

In November 2012, the European Union and Tunisia signed an Action Plan for 2013-2017 that granted Tunisia Privileged Partnership status and aims at strengthening financial support, trade openings and improved mobility. The two parties agree to a dialogue on migration with the objective of concluding a Mobility Partnership for cooperation on: movement of people, management of legal migration, migration and development, protection of the rights of migrants, fight against illegal migration, and readmission.¹

Although Tunisia currently lacks a legal framework regarding refugees and asylum, in August 2011, the Tunisian authorities approached UNHCR for assistance in the development of a national asylum law,² and in July 2011 Tunisia signed a cooperation agreement with UNHCR.³

¹ Tunisia Ministry of Foreign Affairs. (April 2013). Relations Tunisie - Union européenne: Un partenariat axé Plan D'Action 2013-2017. Retrieved from <http://www.diplomatie.gov.tn/fileadmin/ temp /Tunisie%20-UE-Plan-Action.pdf>

² UNHCR. (2013). 2013 UNHCR regional operations profile - North Africa. Retrieved from <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e486166.html>

³ Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. UNHCHR: agreement to open Tunis office signed. Retrieved from [http://www.diplomatie.gov.tn/index.php?id=42&L=2&tx_ttnews\[arc\]=1&tx_ttnews\[backPid\]=42&tx_ttnews\[cat\]=13&tx_ttnews\[pL\]=2678399&tx_ttnews\[pS\]=1309471200&tx_ttnews\[pointer\]=1&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=310&cHash=f3afa9fdb76c6bdafa4c8018f6158262](http://www.diplomatie.gov.tn/index.php?id=42&L=2&tx_ttnews[arc]=1&tx_ttnews[backPid]=42&tx_ttnews[cat]=13&tx_ttnews[pL]=2678399&tx_ttnews[pS]=1309471200&tx_ttnews[pointer]=1&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=310&cHash=f3afa9fdb76c6bdafa4c8018f6158262)

Legal Framework	Outward migration	Inward migration
General Legal References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2012 Draft Constitution of 14 December 2012⁴ • 1975 Law n°40 of 14 May 1975, regarding passports and travel documents, modified in 1998, 2004 (Law n° 6) and 2008⁵ • 1968 Law 68-07 on foreign nationals⁶ • 1968 Decree 198 regulating the entry and stay of foreign nationals in Tunisia⁷ 	
Entry and Exit	Tunisians are exempted from a visa requirement for entrance to Maghreb countries.	European and Maghreb nationals are exempted from visa requirements, so are nationals from Niger, Senegal, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Ghana and Liberia, among others.
Irregular Migration	<p>Irregular exit from the territory is punished with one-month to one-year prison sentence and a 6 to 120-dinar fine (1968 Law).</p> <p>Irregular exit for national citizens is punished with a 15-day to 6-month prison sentence and/or a 30 to 120 dinar fine (1975 Law).</p>	<p>Irregular entry or stay is punished with a one-month to one-year prison sentence and a 6 to 120-dinar fine, also with deportation and possible prohibition from return (1968 Law).</p>
	<p>Facilitation of irregular migration punished with up to 3 years in prison and 8,000-dinar fine; up to 4 years in prison for hosting a 'clandestine'. Aggravated sentences in case of organization. Non-denouncement is also punished (Law 2004-6).</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bilateral agreements regarding irregular migration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tunisia-Italy (1998) on entry and readmission of Tunisian nationals and third-country nationals • Tunisia-France readmission agreement (2008) of Tunisian nationals only ➤ International agreements regarding irregular migration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU-Tunisia Association Agreement (1995): Tunisia and the EU agree to engage in a dialogue regarding illegal immigration and the conditions governing the return of irregular migrants. • Palermo Protocols: in 2000, Tunisia signed the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (both entering into force in 2003). • EU-Tunisia Action Plan 2013-2017 (signed in November 2012): includes dialogue on fight against illegal migration, organized crime-related immigration and readmission. 	

⁴ CARIM. Legal Database – Tunisia. Retrieved from <http://www.carim.org/index.php?callContent=400&callCountry=1330>

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

<p>Rights and Settlement</p>	<p>Freedom to leave the territory for Tunisian citizens (Article 18, Draft Constitution).</p> <p>The state shall not revoke the nationality of any Tunisian citizen (Article 19, Draft Constitution).</p> <p>The State shall not extradite nor expatriate any Tunisian citizen (Article 19, Draft Constitution).</p> <p>Voting and eligibility rights for expatriates.</p> <p>Tax advantages for temporary or definitive return. Stay abroad is to be temporary when within technical cooperation, or for students who have a grant to study in the EU and have to return after 3 years to work in Tunisia (Decree of the Minister of Higher Education, 31 October 2001).</p>	<p>The State shall not deny repatriation of any Tunisian citizen (Article 19, Draft Constitution).</p> <p>Permits: one-year temporary stay permit, renewable once, except for nationals from countries linked to Tunisia by bilateral conventions (France, Algeria, Morocco, etc.). Renewable two-year ordinary stay permit for people who have regularly resided in the country for 5 years, or who are born and have constantly lived in Tunisia, or with Tunisian children, and for foreign women married to Tunisian men.</p> <p>Access to Employment: work if previous delivery of a contract approved by the Labour Minister, and a stay permit with authorisation to work (double ministerial visa). National preference. One-year contract, renewable once. Employment contract renewed perhaps more than once when is in the use of foreign companies operating in Tunisia as part of the implementation of development projects approved by the competent authorities. This contract and its renewal must be referred by the Minister for Employment Labour Law dispositions regarding foreign workforce (Law n°66-27 of 30 April 1966, last amendment by Law n°96-62 of 15 July 1996). Derogations for export companies and development projects. Civil service reserved for nationals, as well as most of liberal professions except special authorisation on the basis of bilateral agreements and the principle of reciprocity.</p> <p>Family reunification: absence of legal provisions.</p> <p>Access to public services: yes.</p> <p>Access to estate ownership: forbidden in agricultural zone, subject to authorisation in urban zones unless a bilateral agreement exists (e.g, Morocco, Algeria, Libya), and reciprocity is respected, free in tourist zone (+ tax advantages).</p>
<p>Labour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bilateral agreements regarding labour migration: Convention relating to property rights, labour rights, the exercise of professions and trades, the right of establishment and freedom of movement with Libya (1973); with Italy on stay and work (1995) and on seasonal workers (2000); conventions on labour force with Libya (2003) and Syria (2004); with France on stay and labour (1988), young professionals' exchanges (2004) and joint management of migration (2008). ➤ International agreements regarding labour migration: 59 ILO conventions ratified¹. 	

<p>Citizenship</p>	<p>Dual citizenship is allowed.</p>	<p>Decree-Law n°63-6 of 28 February 1963 <i>Jus sanguinis</i> by descent of father or mother. Discrimination: children born abroad to a Tunisian mother and a foreign father are Tunisian if they opt to be when coming of age or if their parents request nationality during their minority. <i>Jus soli</i>: triple - nationality of origin for the child born in Tunisia to a father and a grandfather also born there, with renunciation right at majority unless the child has an army commitment. A foreign woman can obtain nationality after two years of marriage with a Tunisian man and two years of residence in the country. Easier access to naturalization for a foreign man married to a Tunisian woman.</p>
<p>International Protection</p>		<p>No national refugee status determination procedure. No legal reference to a stay permit. UNHCR-Tunisia cooperation agreement in 2011.</p> <p>International agreements: 1951 Convention relating to the status of refugees (succession in 1957); 1967 Protocol relating to the status of refugees (accession in 1968); and the 1969 OAU Convention governing specific aspects of refugees in Africa (signed in 1969, ratified in 1989).</p>

The Socio-Political Framework of Migration

In the last years, Tunisia has made great efforts to promote the concerted and global governance of irregular and regular emigration. This approach, which rests on cooperation with destination countries – notably those across the Western shore of the Mediterranean – is based on the following axes: putting migration policies in a more global context, embedded in the partnership process with the EU (the Euro-Mediterranean partnership);⁸ multiplying options and routes for legal emigration with immigration countries (e.g. Italy and France); transcending a security-based perspective in the management of irregular emigration; and seeking to ensure the better integration of Tunisian citizens living in European countries.

Indeed, the newly-elected Government developed a strong interest in linking with Tunisians abroad after the revolution in 2011. Out of the 217 Constituent Assembly members, 18 MPs were elected to represent Tunisians abroad. In October 2011, furthermore, a Secretary of State for Tunisian Expatriates was created under the Ministry for Social Affairs. One of its first initiatives was to conduct a survey among Tunisian consulates on clandestine migrants, in particular those missing or dead who fled during the crisis. Newly elected political parties, moreover, are in favour of greater political participation seats in the Parliament for Tunisians abroad, and some parties have strengthened their engagement with expatriates (e.g., Ettakattol by opening an agency for Tunisians abroad to invest in Tunisia, located in Paris; and Ennahda, by creating cultural programmes for reviving the Arab and Muslim identity of Tunisians abroad⁹). Civil society also generated new organisations - e.g., the *Haut Conseil des Tunisiens à l'étranger* - to sustain links with Tunisian expatriates and to ensure that the new government takes into consideration the demands and aspirations of its citizens abroad.¹⁰

Notwithstanding governmental efforts to manage legal emigration and reform Tunisian legislation along these lines, there has been an upsurge in irregular emigration flows from Tunisia as well as efforts to control such migration. Following the Tunisian uprisings in 2011, cooperation between Tunisia and the EU, and particularly Italy, regarding irregular migration increased as thousands of Tunisians reached Italian shores. The EU has offered Tunisia a Mobility Partnership, which would include readmission of irregular migrants, and Italy has worked with Tunisia on strengthening Tunisia's coastal patrols. Civil-society actors have consequently called for the balanced and human-centred governance of clandestine emigration, and many associations have highlighted the need to map out the real causes underlying the phenomenon.¹¹

Following the outbreak of violence in Libya, Tunisia opened the Shousha refugee camp to accommodate those fleeing the Libyan border into Tunisia. The country has also recently agreed to work with Algeria and Libya in enhancing security in the border areas between the countries in order to secure borders, fight illegal immigration, and other crimes following the deterioration of security in the wake of the revolutions.

⁸ See Abdelrazak Bel Hadj Zekri, « La dimension politique de la migration irrégulière en Tunisie », *CARIM Analytical Note* 2008/53, p. 8, retrieved from http://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/10098/CARIM_AS%26N_2008_53.pdf?sequence=1.

⁹ Boubakri, H. (2013). *Revolution and International Migration in Tunisia*. Migration Policy Centre – European University Institute. Retrieved from <http://www.migrationpolicycentre.eu/docs/MPC-RR-2013-04.pdf>

¹⁰ See for example, *Le Haut Conseil des Tunisiens à l'Etranger* website at <http://www.atf-federation.org/article-le-haut-conseil-des-tunisiens-a-l-etranger-hcte-108679034.html>

¹¹ See for example the speech hosted by the Tunisian League of Human Rights Defence at the migration forum organised by Social Watch in Rome, 2004 quoted in Zekri, « La dimension politique de la migration irrégulière en Tunisie », p. 16.

Socio-Political Framework	Outward migration	Inward migration
Governmental Institutions	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Social Affairs, Solidarity and Tunisians Abroad Secretary of State for Tunisian Expatriates Ministry of Labour	Ministry of Interior Ministry of Labour Ministry of Social Affairs, Solidarity and Tunisians Abroad Ministry of Women's Affairs
Governmental Strategy	<p>Develop Diaspora links: develop national policies to support the Tunisian Diaspora; promulgate legislation encouraging remittances and investments; carry out a census of Tunisian professionals abroad (repertory of Tunisian professionals abroad); benefit from Tunisian potential abroad in higher education and research; develop a strategy for disseminating information to the Tunisian Diaspora communities; elaborate a cultural program consolidating the attachment of Tunisian emigrants and their families to the homeland; launch negotiations with destination countries on entry and residence conditions for Tunisian emigrants.</p> <p>Encourage and regulate the recruitment of Tunisian nationals abroad by launching negotiations and devise bilateral accords (e.g., with Italy¹² and discussions on employment with Libya¹³); and conduct investigations and background checks of recruitment agencies operating in Tunisia and ensure recruitment agencies sign contracts with the Ministry of Employment before they can recruit workers to work in Gulf countries.¹⁴</p>	<p>Set up rules concerning the entry and residence of foreign nationals.</p> <p>Develop government policies on economic immigration and recruitment procedures for economic migrants.</p> <p>Curbing irregular immigration, transit migration, and trans-border crime (e.g., working with neighbouring countries – especially Algeria and Libya - regarding border controls to decrease irregular migration and trans-border crime).</p> <p>Organise migratory flows in the Maghreb region by establishing frameworks and/or bilateral and regional agreements so as to better.</p> <p>Assist vulnerable migrant categories by developing cooperative mechanisms with international organisations such as UNHCR and foreign governments; create refugee camp for those fleeing the Libyan crisis, and work with international organisations towards their resettlement to third countries.</p>

¹² Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. *Tunisian-Italian talks on migration*. Retrieved from [http://www.diplomatie.gov.tn/index.php?id=27&L=2&tx_ttnews\[backPid\]=27&tx_ttnews\[pointer\]=2&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=1216&cHash=555b01c752f35c5f513ebba4bbccc219](http://www.diplomatie.gov.tn/index.php?id=27&L=2&tx_ttnews[backPid]=27&tx_ttnews[pointer]=2&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=1216&cHash=555b01c752f35c5f513ebba4bbccc219)

¹³ Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. *Priority co-operation fields, focus of Tunisian-Libyan working session*. Retrieved from [http://www.diplomatie.gov.tn/index.php?id=27&L=2&tx_ttnews\[backPid\]=27&tx_ttnews\[pointer\]=12&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=605&cHash=528bb871d5bf29394505cc7516888ca4](http://www.diplomatie.gov.tn/index.php?id=27&L=2&tx_ttnews[backPid]=27&tx_ttnews[pointer]=12&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=605&cHash=528bb871d5bf29394505cc7516888ca4)

¹⁴ United States Department of State. (2012). *Trafficking in Persons Report 2012*. Retrieved from <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/192598.pdf>

	<p>Dissuade Tunisians from irregular emigration by multiplying information and awareness raising campaigns (e.g., campaigns in the primary school curriculum to dissuade teenagers and young adults from illegal emigration and potentially becoming victims of trafficking, and IOM backed human trafficking awareness campaign in refugee camps);¹⁵ and reform Tunisian legislation and policies in order to contain irregular emigration.</p> <p>Tackle migration governance in the context of political dialogue frameworks (5+5 dialogue); establish bilateral and multilateral agreements in such a way as to organise legal emigration flows to European countries (particularly Italy and France)¹⁶; cooperate with the International Organisation of Migration (IOM) in order to favour the integration of Tunisian nationals abroad or to facilitate their return (professional reintegration).</p>	
<p>Civil Society</p>	<p>Initiatives in the associative sector aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Promoting and defending the rights of Tunisian nationals abroad (e.g., CETUMA - <i>Centre de Tunis pour la Migration et l'Asile</i>; and <i>Haut Conseil des Tunisiens à l'étranger</i>); The Tunisian Association for the Defense of Tunisians abroad (ADTE); the Trade Union for Arab Maghreb Workers (USTMA); Union for Tunisian Immigrant Workers (UTIT), the Tunisians' Federation for a Two-shore Citizenship (<i>Fédération des Tunisiens pour une Citoyenneté des Deux Rives</i>, FRCR) – Finding the underlying causes of irregular emigration and promoting an understanding of irregular emigration based on human and not solely security considerations; – Consolidating Tunisian expatriates' contributions to local development. <p>Initiatives of migrant associations, professional and student Diaspora networks for reinforcing links among Tunisian Diaspora communities (e.g. ATUGE)</p>	<p>Civil-society networks and initiatives aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sensitising institutions and structures to migrants' rights (e.g. the Tunisian League of Human Rights (LTDH); the Tunisian Association of Female Democrats (ATFD) – Improving the socio-economic and cultural rights of vulnerable immigrant categories (e.g. the General Union for Workers in Tunisia (UGTT), the Tunisian Red Crescent; CARITAS).

¹⁵ Opening remarks by Khalil Amiri Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State for Immigration and Tunisians Abroad. (February 2012). *Conference on Cooperation to prevent trafficking of Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region*. Retrieved from <http://www.osce.org/cthb/99726>

¹⁶ In April 2008, France and Tunisia signed an agreement on the concerted governance of migration and solidarity development. See CARIM's socio-political database.

International Cooperation	Tunisia is a member of several international organisations in which it actively works to address issues of migration, including: International Organization for Migration (IOM); International Labour Organization (ILO); UNHCR; Arab League; and Organization for African Union (OAU), among others. Tunisia is a participant to the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) . Tunisia is a member of the Union for the Mediterranean (a multilateral partnership within the European Neighbourhood Policy) and participates in the 5 + 5 Dialogue .
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