

# THE PHENOMENON OF ILLEGAL MIGRATION THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA AND ITS IMPACT ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL NEEDS OF ADOLESCENTS: A FIELD STUDY ON A SAMPLE OF ADOLESCENTS IN THE CITY OF GHARDAIA, ALGERIA

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## **Abstract:**

The phenomenon of illegal migration among youth in the city of Ghardaia, Algeria, is a social problem with significant psychological and social implications, especially in the age of information technology. Through the use of social media platforms such as YouTube and Facebook, which are the most widely used communication channels, young people may become more susceptible to imitating and simulating behaviours related to the phenomenon of illegal migration. This may have an impact on their psychological and social needs, posing a risk to the psychological and social fabric of the community. The research question is: How do young people in Ghardaia City use social media platforms for illegal migration and how does this affect their psychological and social needs? The hypothesis is that excessive exposure of youth to social media platforms may increase their tendency to imitate and simulate migration behaviours, affecting their self-esteem and professional stability. To collect data, a field study was conducted on a sample of Algerian youth in relation to illegal migration to Europe. The results of the study show that excessive viewing of YouTube videos depicting successful migration experiences among adolescents has increased imitation of adventurous and exploratory behaviours by 45%. In addition, communication via Facebook has led to a 66.51% simulation rate among young people seeking similar experiences. The results highlight a new technological dimension to the phenomenon of migration, namely imitation and simulation through social media platforms. It represents a mixture of organic and artificial societies, resulting in an "organic-artificial" community. The study also reveals a desire for migration to fulfil self-esteem and socio-professional needs.

**Keywords:** Illegal migration, social media platforms, psychological needs, social needs.

## **Introduction:**

Illegal migration has taken a dangerous turn in the present era, both in the countries of origin and in the countries of destination of illegal migrants. Despite the negative consequences, individuals still hold on to the beautiful dream and wish to realise it regardless of the serious consequences. Today, individuals, especially young people, seek adventure for a dream that may or may not come true, but has become realistic. In addition, the interaction of young people within neighbourhoods and peer groups, characterised by direct and influential

communication, has been influenced by modern technologies, which have provided services for building interactive social relationships virtually and have widened the circle of community interaction. As a result, youth have become more exposed to different cultural categories through social media platforms such as YouTube, where successful experiences of illegal migration are presented in detail, inspiring and motivating youth in southern Algeria to imitate them. The repetition of such platforms and their influence on recipients has encouraged this imitation. In addition, the interaction between young people via Facebook, the second social creator after the family, allows a large number of young people, who are unfamiliar with each other's characteristics and orientations, to describe the possibilities of adventure and encourage them to embark on such experiences. Consequently, the issue is no longer limited to social, economic and political problems, but these technologies have had a significant impact on the lives of young people, making them inclined to imitate any behaviour or action they see through constant repetition and frequent use of social media platforms, which have become a primary driver of individual behaviour. Furthermore, the presence of activists promoting illegal migration on these platforms has strengthened the determination of young people to engage in illegal migration.

The aim of this study is to objectively understand the social and psychological phenomenon of how social media platforms influence the behaviour of recipients and bring about change through imitation and emulation of others in relation to migration, and to understand the psychological and social impact of such migration experiences, which are extremely dangerous.

The importance of this study lies in recognising the danger of excessive exposure to social media platforms that showcase illegal migration experiences, influencing the behaviour of young people and leading them to imitate the phenomenon. I objectively chose this topic because of the seriousness of its implications, as the state has failed to effectively address the situation through various deterrent measures. The personal reasons for choosing this topic stem from the fact that young people in the city of Ghardaia, in southern Algeria, have begun to discuss this issue with the intention of migrating to Europe, believing it to be the beautiful dream.

Research question: Illegal migration is a social and psychological phenomenon that affects societies and has a negative impact on the social fabric and structure of host countries. Algeria is one of the countries that have experienced the phenomenon of illegal migration for a long time, and its impact extends to individuals and communities. The proliferation of African migrants among the indigenous populations of the cities of southern Algeria, together with their interaction and engagement, has become a catalyst for engaging in experiences of illegal migration in today's information society. However, these experiences are not always successful, which can lead young people to follow unsuccessful experiences and lead to disasters. As a result, they become victims of communication through excessive and incorrect consumption of social media platforms.

Through this intervention, we sought to understand the reasons for the persistence of illegal migration in Algeria, focusing specifically on the role of imitation and emulation among

youth through the use of social media platforms. We therefore considered it necessary to analyse this phenomenon by posing the following main question:

- How does illegal migration through the use of social media platforms affect the youth in the city of Ghardaia socially and psychologically?

**Secondary questions:**

1. How does YouTube influence young people to engage in illegal migration by imitating the experiences of others in European countries?

2. How does imitation among youth through Facebook contribute to discussions and engagement in illegal migration?

**Main hypothesis:**

- The experiences of youth engaged in illegal migration through social media platforms influence the youth in the city of Ghardaia psychologically and socially, leading to imitation and emulation of the phenomenon.

**Subsidiary hypotheses:**

- Viewing experiences of illegal migration on YouTube encourages youth to imitate such behaviour.

- Facebook communication among young people about illegal migration helps young people in the city of Ghardaia to engage in the phenomenon.

**3a- Migration:** In its simplest sense, migration refers to "the individual or collective movement from one place to another in search of a better social, economic, religious, political or security situation"<sup>1</sup>. It is divided into legal and illegal migration on the basis of its legitimacy or legality.

**3b- Legal migration:** It is defined as "migration that occurs with the consent of two countries to allow the migrant to move from the country of origin to the receiving country". Legal migration takes place between countries that do not impose restrictions or laws prohibiting migration, and entry into these countries does not require an entry visa. It also takes place in countries that admit migrants according to their systems, procedures and specific needs for migrants. These countries grant regular entry visas to those they wish to receive as migrants<sup>2</sup>.

**3c- Illegal migration:** It is difficult to provide a precise international definition of migration because of the variety of concepts presented by different countries, given the different purposes and objectives they seek to achieve.

In general, migration is considered as "the movement of people from one place to another, whether individually or collectively, for political, economic, social or security reasons"<sup>3</sup>. It takes place "illegally, without migrants obtaining entry visas or residence permits"<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> - Abdel Nour Nagi, "Non-Military Dimensions of Security in the Mediterranean (The Phenomenon of Illegal Migration in the Arab Maghreb)", Constantine Conference, 2008, p. 119.

<sup>2</sup> - Osman Hassan Mohammed Noor, Yasser Awad Al-Karim Mubarak, "Irregular Migration and Crime", Riyadh: Naif Arab University for Security Sciences, 2008, p. 17.

<sup>3</sup> - Zouzou Abdel Hamid, "The Role of Algerian Migrants in the National Movement Between the Wars 1919-1939", Algeria: Algerian Publishing and Distribution Company, 1984, p. 11.

<sup>4</sup> - Ali Al-Hawwat and others, "Studies Journal", Tripoli: Global Centre for Green Book Studies and Research, Issue 28, 2007, p. 2.

Illegal migration or irregular migration "encompasses a number of different phenomena and includes persons who enter or remain in a country in violation of its internal laws. It includes migrants who enter or remain in a country without authorisation, victims of human trafficking and illegal trade, rejected asylum seekers who do not comply with deportation orders, and individuals who circumvent immigration controls through arranged marriages"<sup>1</sup>.

It is worth noting that the definition of 'illegal migration' can be controversial. Hein de Haas used a broad definition of illegal migration, where it "corresponds to international movement or residence that violates immigration laws". According to this researcher, illegal migrants are either migrant workers who respond to job offers in the local labour market without being granted the right of residence (informal employment), or asylum seekers and refugees who find themselves stranded in the country where they have sought refuge without being granted the right of residence, awaiting possible resettlement or return to their country of origin<sup>2</sup>.

### **3d- Social media platforms (Facebook):**

Facebook is a social platform for communication between individuals in the global community. It serves as a network to connect groups of people for dialogue, discussion and exchange of opinions on common issues. Facebook is the most widespread and extensive network among the various social media platforms and websites. At the time of writing, Facebook is the second largest website in terms of the number of visitors, after the global website Google, and it was the first website in terms of usage among Egyptians, according to a report by Alexa in 2013<sup>3</sup>.

### **4- Social and psychological theories of learning:**

**4-1- Behavioural theory - social psychology:** Proponents of this theory, including Albert Bandura, believe that the process of socialisation is a result of learning socialisation in the environment and through imitation. One of the pioneers of behaviourist theory, Albert Bandura, believes that "external stimuli influence behaviour through the intervention of cognitive processes"<sup>4</sup>.

He also refers to observational learning, stating that most human behaviour is learned by following a live and realistic model or example, rather than through classical or operant conditioning processes.

Social learning is defined as "the acquisition or learning of new responses or patterns of behaviour by an individual through a social situation or setting"<sup>5</sup>.

### **4-2 Mimicry and imitation theory:**

Some sociologists and thinkers see mimicry as "following others without considering whether or not this imitation benefits the individual"<sup>6</sup>. Tardt also sees mimicry as "spreading from the

<sup>1</sup>- "Migration in an Interconnected World, New Trends in Work", Report of the International Migration Committee, October 2005, p. 35.

<sup>2</sup>- De Haas, Hein, "Irregular Migration from West Africa to North Africa and the European Union: An Overview of General Trends", IOM Migration Research Series No. 32, 2008.

<sup>3</sup>- <https://socio.yoo7.com/t3888-topic>, 09/05/2023.21.09

<sup>4</sup>- "Psychology of Learning" by Fathi Mustafa Al-Ziyat, 1996, 1st edition, University Press, p. 86.

<sup>5</sup>- Same reference.

<sup>6</sup>- Ayah Sabahi Lami Hasan and others, "Imitation in Lifestyle Patterns", for obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Statistics, Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University, 2011, p. 9.

top down" through social interaction. In our information society, most of its media are social media, and constant and repeated interaction through text messages and virtual replay creates interaction between people without the boundaries of time and place.

While explaining the concept of mimicry through the phenomenon of illegal migration, one of the most dangerous social phenomena, which claims the lives of young people at sea in pursuit of the beautiful dream that the waves of the sea have turned into a nightmare, it leads to social harms such as suicides, family disintegration and significant social tragedies. This is because young people imitate each other, especially by imitating successful experiences. In particular, survivors of maritime disasters are filmed and portrayed through hot media platforms such as social networking sites, and the repetition of these images helps to foster curiosity about the experience. According to Gabriel Tarde, one of the early and prominent sociologists interested in the theory of mimicry to explain social behaviour, "it is a pattern of social behaviour that must be associated with similar behaviour, and the individual can imitate certain ideas, actions and things that make him a mere follower"<sup>1</sup>.

This is in line with Émile Durkheim's explanation in his book "The Division of Social Labour", where he divides society into mechanical solidarity (community), where individuals find themselves in similar situations that they are unable to change. Despite the fact that we live in the era of modern technologies, the repetition of behaviours and actions through social media platforms and their continuous repetition has facilitated the process of imitation and mimicry among young people in various crimes, leading to social damage and, consequently, social phenomena. Therefore, the phenomenon of illegal migration among young people through imitation and mimicry through social media platforms represents a realistic manifestation in our communities (organic-mechanical).

**4-3 Abraham Harold Maslow's theory of needs:** Advocates of the socio-psychological perspective also draw on Abraham Maslow's theory of the hierarchy of needs (1943). The theory looks at immigrants from the perspective of their biological, social and psychological needs. Maslow argued that the immigrant's needs grow hierarchically from lower to higher levels. He preferred to use the term "needs" rather than "motivation or desire", based on the idea that unsatisfied human needs create tension in individuals, forcing them to direct their behaviour towards actions that serve their personal goals, which appear more beneficial to them. Maslow organised these needs as follows: 1) physiological needs, 2) safety needs, 3) affiliation and love needs, 4) esteem needs, 5) self-actualisation needs.

On this basis, Maslow applies these needs to the behaviour of immigrants, emphasising that if they satisfy their primary needs, they will strive to satisfy higher needs, moving from one level to another within this hierarchy. However, if they are unable to satisfy these needs, this leads them to rebel against the social norms and international laws of their country, which leads them to consider migrating by any means necessary to satisfy these needs<sup>2</sup>.

**5- The procedural concept of the study:** It is the learning of behaviours or ideas among young people through social media platforms, which is considered a manifestation of

<sup>1</sup> - For simulation as a social act, see: <https://annabaa.org/arabic/community/918> .

<sup>2</sup> - Ibrahim Mohammed Ayash, "Illegal Migration - Part 02 - Al-Hewar Dialogue", issue 2386, [www.alhewar.org/debat/show.art](http://www.alhewar.org/debat/show.art), 28 November 2010.

imitation and mimicry in following behaviours that can be positive or negative. Its effects are reflected in psychological and social needs.

## 6- Field Study:

**6-1- Study Community:** The study was conducted on a sample of young people from the city of Ghardaia, located in the northern Algerian Sahara, on the phenomenon of illegal migration through social media platforms and its psychological and social impact on them.

## 6-2 Method and techniques used:

A- Study method: In our study, we relied on the descriptive method, which is defined as "a method used to describe and quantitatively present the phenomenon under study by collecting standardised information on the problem, classifying it, analysing it and subjecting it to detailed study"<sup>1</sup>.

B- Research community and sample: The research community is a "group of elements with one or more common characteristics that distinguish them from other elements and that are the subject of research or investigation"<sup>2</sup>. For the field study, we used a purposive sample of young people from the city of Ghardaia in northern Algeria. "The research community is not dimensionally defined"<sup>3</sup>, and our study includes both psychological and social dimensions necessary to understand the phenomenon. The sample consisted of 60 participants, whose opinions on illegal migration were collected by watching the experiences of young migrants to European countries on YouTube and by communicating with migrant youth on Facebook on the topic of migration to Europe. We used a questionnaire as a tool to collect data from the participants and supplemented it with complementary interviews.

**6-3 Some of the rules and statistical measures used in the study** Statistical measures are among the most important tools for statistical analysis in the humanities and social sciences, and they are necessary for the statistical processing of field data<sup>4</sup>.

Mean (arithmetic mean): A measure of central tendency, the mean is defined as "the sum of the values divided by their number". It can be calculated using the formula<sup>5</sup>

$$\text{Mean} = (s_1 + s_2 + \dots + s_n) / n$$

We have used simple tables to present variables such as age and level of education.

**Table 01: Shows the distribution of individuals in the sample by age.**

Age	Frequency	Percentage %
16 to 20 years	30	50%
21 to 25 years	20	33.33%
26 to 30 years	10	16.66%
Total	60	100

<sup>1</sup> - Slatniyah (Belqasim) and Al-Jilani (Hassan), "Methodology of Social Sciences", Ain M'lila Publishing and Distribution House, Algeria, 2004, p. 31.

<sup>2</sup> - English (Maurice), "Research Methodology in Humanities", Practical Exercises, Dar El Qasba Publishing House, 2004, p. 98.

<sup>3</sup> - Zrouati (Rachid), "Research Methodology in Social Sciences", Scientific Foundations and Exercises, Dar El Kitab El Hadith Publishing and Distribution, Algeria, 2004, p. 187.

<sup>4</sup> - Same reference, p. 153.

<sup>5</sup> - Same reference, p. 154.

From the results of the table showing the distribution of individuals in the sample by age, it can be seen that 50% of the participants are between 6 and 20 years old. This is followed by 33.33% of individuals aged between 21 and 25, and then 16.66% of individuals aged between 26 and 30. It seems that the group of teenagers is the most adventurous and tends to belong to non-family groups.

**Table 02: Shows the distribution of individuals in the sample by level of education.**

Educational Level	Frequency	Percentage %
Intermediate	17	28.33%
Secondary	29	48.33%
University	14	23.33%
Total	60	100%

From the results of the table showing the distribution of individuals in the sample by level of education, it can be seen that 48.33% of the participants have a secondary level of education. This is followed by 28.33% of individuals with a medium level of education and then 23.33% with a university level of education. These proportions indicate that the majority of participants come from the secondary and middle levels of education, groups more inclined to exploration and adventure.

**Table 03: Represents the opinions of the participants regarding the imitation of successful migration behaviour by watching their experiences on YouTube.**

	Love for adventure		Following others' behavior		Doesn't matter		Total	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Excessive viewing of migration experiences.	20	40.81	21	42.85	8	16.32	49	99.99
Looking at migration experiences only out of curiosity	3	27.27	6	54.54	2	18.18	11	99.99
Total	23	38.33	27	45	10	16.66	60	100

From the results in the table, we can see that the general trend is that the majority of respondents who say they imitate the behaviour of others in illegal migration are those who watch a lot of such experiences on YouTube, with 49%. In addition, 42.85% of respondents who imitate the behaviour of others and 40.81% who enjoy adventures also fall into this category. On the other hand, 11% of respondents said they watched migration experiences on YouTube, 54.54% of them imitated the behaviour of others and 18.18% said they did not care. From the statistical data, it is clear that the majority of participants admitted to being influenced by excessive viewing of successful migration experiences on social media platforms such as YouTube. This exposure has solidified a mental image of the migration process and made it easier for them to engage in such behaviour at a lower cost. It also made them want to imitate the same behaviour they had observed. Some participants expressed a desire to migrate and imitate the social actions they had witnessed in successful stories shared on YouTube. When asked about the reasons behind their passion for migration, whether it was due to social or economic conditions, most of them attributed it to excessive viewing of YouTube videos featuring successful migration stories. In addition, some participants mentioned that their curiosity had been aroused, leading them to consider migrating to Europe.

**7- Analysis of hypothesis 2:** This hypothesis is related to the communication among young people on Facebook about illegal migration, which helps young people in the city of Ghardaia.

Table 04: Represents the opinions of the participants regarding the nature of communication on social media platforms (specifically Facebook) and its influence on the imitation and simulation of illegal migration methods among them.

_Researchers' opinion on imitating and mimicking illegal migration to Europe _Researchers' opinion on migration through communication via Facebook	Imitating others regarding migration		Not imitating others regarding migration		Total	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage		
Communication among youth within the city about migration	8	61.53	5	38.46	13	99.99
Communication	21	44.68	26	55.31	47	99.99

with peers who have experienced migration						
Total	29	44.33	31	51.66	60	100

From the results of the table, we can see that the general trend is rather represented by the group of respondents who stated that they communicate with peers who have experienced illegal migration, with a share of 47%. They also mentioned conducting research and simulating migration at a rate of 55.31%, along with those who enjoy adventure at a rate of 40.81%.

Furthermore, we can see from the results of the table that the general trend is rather represented by the group of respondents who stated that they actively seek information about migration, with a rate of 66.51%, followed by those who expressed the urgency among young people regarding migration to Europe, with a rate of 33.48%. This is supported by the group of respondents who indicated that they were looking for companions who had experienced migration at a rate of 68.44%, further supported by those who were engaged in ongoing discussions on the topic at a rate of 46.38%.

From the statistical data, it can be seen that the majority of participants stated that they were influenced by discussions about successful experiences of young people who migrated to Europe. This made them want to have similar experiences. They actively look for companions who have experienced migration to Europe or who have a connection to it, in order to communicate with them and to discuss such actions and how they can be carried out successfully, according to their perspective.

Table 5: Represents the opinions of the participants regarding the communication on Facebook about illegal migration and its impact on their psychological and social needs.

The opinion of the researchers regarding the impact of using social media platforms on their psychological and social needs.	Desire for experimentation		Desire to belong to a group of friends involved in migration		Total	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
The opinion of the researchers						

by age:						
16 to 20 years old	22	47.82	8	57.14	30	50
21 to 25 years old	16	34.78	4	28.57	20	33.33
26 to 30 years old	8	17.39	2	14.28	10	16.66
Total	46	76.66	14	23.33	60	100

Based on the results of the table, the researchers' opinion on the communication through Facebook about illegal migration and its impact on their psychological and social needs is as follows:

The general trend is represented by the 16-20 year old age group, which represents 50%. They are supported by the group who stated that they communicate to achieve a sense of belonging with their friends regarding migration, with a rate of 57.14%. This is followed by the group who have a desire to experience migration, with 47.82%. The next group is the age group of 21-25 years, supported by the group who expressed a desire to experience migration with a rate of 34.78%, followed by the age group of 26-30 years, where they stated that the use of migration-related social media platforms affects their psychological and social needs with a rate of 16.66%. They are supported by the group who expressed a desire to experience migration at a rate of 17.39%, and further supported by the group who stated that the use of social media platforms on illegal migration affects their desire to belong to a group of migrant friends at a rate of 14.28%.

From the statistical data, it is clear that the majority of the participants stated that the use of social media platforms related to illegal migration affects their psychological and social needs. It is noteworthy that teenagers, in particular, are more susceptible to the aspirations and imitations of others in their observations on social media platforms. In interviews with some young people about their use of social media platforms (YouTube and Facebook) in relation to illegal migration, they expressed a desire to find ways to engage in such activities. Some of them mentioned that they communicate with their friends abroad in order to satisfy their need for belonging.

Table 6: Represents the opinions of the participants regarding communication through Facebook about illegal migration to engage in the experience and its impact on their self-esteem and socio-professional stability.

Opinion of the researchers on the impact of communicating about illegal migration through social media to meet	Self-esteem needs		Socio-professional stability needs		Total	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage

their psychological and socio-professional needs.						
Educational level variable						
Intermediate	10	40	07	20	17	28.33
Secondary	11	44	18	51.42	29	48.33
University	4	6.66	10	28.57	14	22.33
Total	25	41.66	35	58.33	60	100

According to the results of the table, the opinion of the researchers varies according to their educational level and communication through Facebook about illegal migration and its impact on the fulfilment of their psychological and socio-professional needs. The general trend shows that the category with a secondary education level represents 48.33%. They are supported by the group who want to fulfil their psychological and socio-professional needs with a rate of 51.42%, and further supported by the group who stated that it meets their self-esteem needs with a rate of 44%. On the other hand, the category with a medium level of education represents 28.33%, and they are the ones who stated that the use of social media platforms affects their needs to achieve self-fulfilment through migration at a rate of 40%. They are also supported by the group that stated that it affects their socio-professional stability at a rate of 20%. As for the category with a university education level, they represent 23.33% and they find that social media platforms affect their needs for socio-professional stability at a rate of 28.57%. They are supported by the group that indicated a need for self-esteem at a rate of 6.66%.

From the statistical results, it can be seen that the use of social media platforms by urban youth in relation to migration affects their psychological and socio-professional needs. Some of them mentioned in our interviews that their exposure to these experiences has had a significant impact on their psychological well-being and that they have a strong desire for exploration, especially among teenagers. Some of them expressed a desire to connect with friends abroad in order to improve their understanding of migration and to fulfil their socio-professional needs and achieve stability outside their home country, as they feel that their current work does not meet their aspirations and their psychological and social needs, including socio-professional needs.

## 8. Discussion of hypothesis results:

**8.1. Results of hypothesis 1:** The results of the first hypothesis were positive regarding the influence of social media platforms (YouTube) on the imitation of illegal migration behaviour among adolescents. Most of the respondents stated that excessive exposure to migration videos to Europe and the use of social media platforms (YouTube) had a significant influence on them, leading them to imitate such behaviour without considering its consequences.

**8.2. Results of hypothesis 2:** Similarly, the results were positive regarding the interaction and communication among young people through social media platforms (Facebook), which contributed to their desire to migrate. This aspect added a new dimension to the phenomenon due to modern technologies and the mental images presented to the recipients, making them want to model behaviour, even if it is criminal. The results also showed that the majority of respondents, especially young people, were willing to engage in illegal migration despite the dangers, driven by their psychological and social needs.

**9- Conclusion:**

Based on this study, we can conclude that illegal migration and its impact on youth in fulfilling their psychological and social needs through social media communication has significantly contributed to the spread of this phenomenon among young people. The results of the first hypothesis regarding the excessive exposure of adolescents to videos of illegal migration on social media platforms (YouTube) have encouraged them to imitate such behaviour due to their fascination with adventure and exploration. The respondents expressed their tendency to imitate the behaviour of successful survivors who migrated to Europe through (YouTube).

Similarly, the second hypothesis explored the nature of interaction among youth through social media platforms (Facebook), which facilitated migration, especially among youth in the southern regions, through continuous discussion and the search for better opportunities. In the age of information technology, the prevalence of this phenomenon has increased due to the excessive use of social media platforms. The constant exposure of successful cases of migration to Europe via "death boats" on platforms such as YouTube has further encouraged young people to follow and imitate such behaviour. In addition, constant communication through Facebook has encouraged and imitated young people to pursue this dream without considering the consequences. We are thus living in a society that combines organic and mechanical aspects.

Furthermore, the phenomenon has influenced the communication patterns of those interviewed in order to fulfil their psychological and social needs. For some, achieving their aspirations and a dream that not everyone can achieve, even through non-violent means, outweighs both personal and social considerations. Others stated that their need to communicate with friends who have experienced migration helps to meet their social and professional needs, including the desire for greater financial stability and job opportunities compared to their home country.

In conclusion, the phenomenon of illegal migration in the age of information technology has intensified among young people, leading to the coexistence of organic and mechanical aspects in our modern technological society. Through imitation and emulation of observed behaviours, young people are increasingly driven to illegal migration. Despite the legal efforts of governments to combat this social problem, it persists due to the inability of young people to satisfy their needs at home compared to the opportunities available abroad. Consequently, they do not consider the means as long as they perceive a better life after reaching their desired destination through unauthorised means.

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