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THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

LACK OF HUMAN SECURITY: A CAUSE OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION,

THE CASE OF EGYPT

NOHA MOKHTAR FAHMY ABDEL GAWAD ASHARY

A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR

THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

DECEMBER/2008

The American University in Cairo

LACK OF HUMAN SECURITY: A CAUSE OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION
THE CASE OF EGYPT
A Thesis submitted by
Noha Mokhtar Fahmy Abdel Gawad Ashary

To the Department of Political Science
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In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts

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Department Chair   Date   Dean of HUSS   Date

To: my beloved: Papa and Maman,
my lovely sisters: Sarah and Manal and my adorable brother: Ahmed,

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ABSTRACT

The concept of human security was officially introduced for the first time by the 1994 UNDP Human Development Report. In that report, human security components are classified into seven categories: food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, political security, and economic security. Unlike the conventional definition given to security, as one focusing on military issues and on borders' protection, human security was put forth as a security centered and focusing on people and their protection. This thesis focuses on Egypt as a case study to try to link human security with irregular migration. It argues that the more people feel insecure, especially economically insecure; the more they will be tempted to migrate. As migration laws and borders' control are stricter, since 9/11, people have no other option but to resort to illegal migration; which puts their lives at risk. Human insecurity is taken, in this thesis, as a main push factor of migration. In the case of Egypt, the main reason playing this role of push factor is the economic insecurity endured by people. Irregular migration becomes a solution to improve their living conditions. The thesis looks at some of the programs established in Egypt to reduce irregular migration and to provide people with more economic security so that they are not tempted to migrate. The Commission on Human Security and the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security –two international bodies responsible for the issue of human security– work is also looked at in an attempt to learn from their achievements but also from their failures.

INTRODUCTION

Security is the "protection of a person, building, organization or country against threats such as crime or attacks by foreign countries" (Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary)[1]. This is a very broad definition for security; referring to this definition, security could be associated with persons, organizations, countries, or ideologies and hence, in that sense, security would involve different focuses and approaches. But unfortunately security within the international relations' field does not necessarily refer to the security of persons or organizations, but is rather more associated with states and their territories and borders' security. It is well known how security has and is until now often associated with conflicts and state protection (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 3). Indeed, security is more often looked at as related to state and it's preservation of borders and territories rather than being linked to persons, their life and dignity. This thesis talks about the security, often put aside in favor of the state security[2], which has to do with human beings and their protection: this security type is what has become known as "human security" (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 3).

In the 1994 United Nations Development Programme Human Development Report, human security is referred to as equivalent to facts such as: "a child who did not die" and "a job that was not cut;" human security is "a concern with human life and dignity" (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 22). Human security is the type of security dealing with aspects that have often been ignored by decision makers. It

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[1] This is the definition given to security by the online Cambridge University Press' dictionary.
[2] The type of security that has to do with states' border and territories' protection will be referred to throughout the thesis as state security.

focuses on people rather than on states, territories, and borders. Indeed, the 1994 UNDP report introduced the notion of human security where security is associated with humans rather than states and territories (Human Development Reports, UNDP). The first question that then comes to mind is what would be the use of such an idea of security? Why would a special focus be made on humans? The idea behind the introduction of a security based on freedom from fear and want was to adjust security to the realities and threats faced in a changing world (Ogata 2004, 28). Threats to international security are now different from the types of threats faced few years ago, and, hence, security should be adjusted accordingly. Focusing on state security is still of extreme importance and is a necessity, but this should not mean that human security be neglected. Both types of security are needed and complementary to one another and should be taken into consideration, with equal importance, by decision makers. Human security does not substitute state security, but rather complements in better ensuring future security. While state security focuses on a state's territorial and borders' security, human security is based on people and their safety and protection as will be seen later in the thesis.

The Seven Categories of Human Security:

In the 1994 UNDP report, the threats to human security are identified and classified into the following seven categories: food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, political security, and economic security (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 24-25). The thesis' main concern is to explore the possible link between human security, by focusing on each of the seven mentioned

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categories, and international irregular migration demonstrating[3], through the use of various indicators, how: the more human security is threatened, the more irregular migration will increase. The thesis attempts to prove that when people feel insecure in their own country, they will consider migration as their way out to improve the conditions in which they are living; and if people end up resorting to irregular migration and not to legal means of migration, it is because migration laws have become tougher and tougher; but because people are still very much in need of migrating, they will take the risk and irregularly migrate no matter what the consequences could be. Throughout the thesis, Egypt is taken as a case study. An analysis of the various types of insecurity people are confronted with is linking this with the reason why people resort to irregular migration.

Decreasing irregular migration is also very important because, as the thesis will be showing, irregular migration is a threat to international and national stability. Controlling irregular migration by focusing on human security would therefore notably lead to more international and national stability.

The Research Questions:

The thesis attempts to answer the following questions: Is there a correlation between human security and irregular migration? What was the role played by the Commission on Human Security to reduce irregular migration through a focus on human security?

Accordingly, the thesis is composed of two parts. The first part of the thesis focuses on the concept of human security. Chapter one gives a detailed definition of

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[3] The reason why the non-legal way of migration is referred to as irregular rather than illegal will be explained later on in the thesis: see chapter five in the thesis.

what is meant by human security highlighting the reason why this notion of security is put forward as a security type as important as state security.   The chapter also looks at the Commission on Human Security and the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security's activities answering the following questions: did the Commission fail, through a focus on human security, in addressing irregular migration, one of the main threats to international and national stability? The Commission on Human Security and the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security are the main international bodies dealing with human security. Chapter two talks about six of the seven main threats to human security: food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political types of human security. The chapter looks at each of the threats figuring out how they could be a cause, a push factor[4], behind migration. Chapter three applies what has been said in chapter two taking the case of Egypt. Through the use of various indicators, to be introduced in chapter two, this chapter's objective is to measure the extent with which Egyptians are confronted with insecurity. Chapter four focuses on economic insecurity, the seventh category of human security, in Egypt demonstrating, also through the use of indicators, how this insecurity to which people are confronted is a major push factor for migration.

It is important to note that part one is very important as part two of the thesis builds upon what has been discussed in part one. Once the situation of human security in Egypt is discussed and once a general link is made between human security and migration, this will allow the discussion, in part two, to emphasize the causal link between insecurities faced in Egypt and migration of people, as a result of the faced insecurity, through irregular means.

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[4] Push factors are problems in the country of origin pushing people to migrate. Pull factors, to be mentioned later in the thesis, are factors in the receiving countries attracting people to migrate via these countries. See Appendix 3 for more information.

Part two of the thesis links human security to irregular migration. Chapter five talks about the phenomenon of irregular migration discussing the negative consequences it could pose to national security and to international security. Chapter six focuses on Egypt and links human security and irregular migration, by going into more detail in regard to the seven threats to human security discussed in part one, showing how the lack of human security could push people to resort to irregular migration as their only way out to improve their living conditions. Chapter seven demonstrates how human security should be put as a top priority on decision makers' agenda; human security is as important as state security so to ensure international and national stability. This chapter looks at different projects implemented in Egypt with the aim of enhancing human security and/or of halting irregular migration.

Methodology

The thesis is based on literature and official reports written in the field of human security, irregular migration, on the Commission on Human Security, and on the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security.

The thesis is also based on several interviews:

- An interview with a representative from the Egyptian Ministry of Manpower and Immigration, Mrs. Magda Abdel Rahman. The objective of this interview is to know more about the issue of irregular migration in Egypt: What are the push factors of irregular migration in Egypt? Which states are the most attractive to

Egyptian irregular migrants? Which means of irregular migration are resorted to? How does the Ministry attempt to put an end to this type of migration? etc..

- An interview with the Director of the International Migration Program of the International Labor Organization in Geneva, Dr. Ibrahim Awad, in order to get more information on the concept of irregular migration, its negative consequences, and its possible link with human security. The case of Egypt was focused on throughout the interview.

- An interview with the Director of the Center for Migration and Refugee Studies at A.U.C., Dr. Philippe Fargues, to get further information on irregular migration in general and its negative consequences.

- An interview with the Director of the Girls' Education Initiative, GEI, at the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood –NCCM–, Mrs. Dalia Hassan, to be better informed on the initiatives taken in Egypt in the field of girls' education as a mean to empower future generation. This project is looked at in the thesis as one the programs undertaken to reduce the push factors of irregular migration in Egypt.

Besides these conducted interviews, a lecture at the American University in Cairo – AUC–, on the 2008 Arab Human Development Report, given by Dr. Mustapha Kamel El Sayyid, the lead author of this report whose main topic is human security, was attended.

In addition to this, various small interviews were made with different persons, such as Ambassador Moushira Khattab, NCCM Secretary-General, and Ambassador Hussein El Sadr, NCCM Counselor, serving as guidance throughout the thesis in learning more about the ways to confront threats to human security.

PART I
HUMAN SECURITY
(EGYPT AS A CASE STUDY)

CHAPTER 1
HUMAN SECURITY AS A FRAMEWORK

It is important to pinpoint that this part of the thesis focuses on the issue of human

security, first in general, defining the concept and the possible indicators to be used in

measuring human security in a given country. Then, in that same part, the thesis analyzes

the situation of human security in Egypt looking at the main security problem from which

Egyptians suffer. Part two of the thesis links the findings of part one to the issue of

irregular migration. Taking the case of Egypt, part two will link the situation of human

security to the reason why people are pushed to migrate.

1.1 State Security Versus Human Security?

If security is often associated with states' territories and borders this is in denial of

another very important type of security: human security. Human security differs from

state security, or the conventional type of security, as it focuses on human beings and

their protection rather than on the protection of the state itself. As mentioned in the last

report of the Commission on Human Security[5], "Human Security Now": "a new

paradigm of security" was needed (Commission on Human Security, 2003 Report,

"Human Security Now," 2). It is not that one type of security substitutes the other.

Human security will never be replacing state security; what is rather true is that both

complement each others –see table 1–; both types of security are needed (Commission on

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[5] The Commission on Human Security is the main United Nations body that had for mission the spread of human security worldwide before its activities ceased. More details will be given on the Commission's creation and its objectives later in the thesis.

Human Security, 2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 2). In fact, human security is now as needed as the conventionally known type of security. Focusing on state security will not be enough in confronting the different threats faced in the twenty first century. If it is of major importance to protect states and their boundaries, the twenty first century has proven that protection of people is as needed as the protection of states. In fact, threats are more and more complex, targeting not only states and their territories but also people themselves, so that if one solely relies on state security, there will be a failure in the total protection that could be afforded within a state because that state's people will not be protected. In other terms, the twenty first century's threats are not necessarily military threats any more but can be threats of different nature, ecological or social threats (Nye 1990, 157), and this would explain the necessity to have human security all along state security. Thus, in providing full security, a state needs to focus on state security as well as human security (Commission on Human Security, 2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 2). This is how the UNDP has been arguing that limiting the notion of security to the security of nation-states is reductionist and that therefore human security should also be taken into consideration (Lammers 1999, 45). A state will not succeed in fully securing itself if people are not ensured with security. Securing borders and territories is a good thing, but people's security is also very important. A state with borders, but with insecure people will not be as powerful as a state where both, borders and people, are secured.

Table 1 (Gasper 2005, 225)

Situating 'Human Security' as Concept and Discourse

		ATTENTION TO WHAT TYPE OF THREAT	
		PHYSICAL VIOLENCE	PHYSICAL VIOLENCE & NON-MILITARY SECURITY
WHAT TYPE OF UNIT	INDIVIDUAL	'Personal Security'	[UNDP's] 'Human Security'
	STATE	'National Security'	'Comprehensive Security'

FIGURE 1. Four images of security (adapted from Acharya, 2001, p. 14).

1.2 Human Security – A Soft Power Approach

In the final report of the Commission on Human Security, human security is defined as the following: human security is "to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfilment. Human security means protecting fundamental freedoms—freedoms that are the essence of life. It means protecting people from critical (severe) and pervasive (widespread) threats and situations. It means using processes that build on people's strengths and aspirations. It means creating political, social, environmental, economic, military and cultural systems that together give people the building blocks of survival, livelihood and dignity" (Commission on Human Security,

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2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 4). This section of the chapter is interested in knowing: what is human security and what are the pillars it relies on?

As referred to in the 1994 UNDP Human development Report, human security can be characterized by four main points. First of all human security is a "universal concern;" in other terms, human security is a universal concept that is applicable to people worldwide because threats to human security, such as unemployment and human rights violation, could be faced by anyone and anywhere (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 22). It is interesting to note that in this respect, human security is very similar to state security in that both are of universal nature. Indeed, human security is not a matter concerning one specific state or continent but concerns all states. Second, human security's threats are "interdependent" because threats faced by people in a certain state could have an impact on another state. In other terms, threats to human security can propagate as they are not confined to national borders (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 22). An interesting example to illustrate that case would be the 1997 economic crisis where the crisis mainly started in Asia but then did not confine itself to Asia and resulted into a worldwide economic crisis. The same is true for the 2008 financial crisis currently facing the world; the crisis started in the United States to then get generalized to the rest of the world. Third, human security is "easier to ensure through early prevention" (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 22). As the proverb would say *prevention is better than cure*. It is better to solve the problem before everything gets aggravated possibly leading to a situation where a too important number of people are living in insecurity. Fourth, human security's essence is based on the fact that it is "people-centered;" people are human security's main concern (UNDP, "1994

Human Development Report," 22). If state security is focusing on state and on its territories and borders' protection, human security focuses on people and on their protection. Human security attempts to protect and empower people in confronting various threats (Commission on Human Security, 2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 2). This is mainly the reason why both types of security are complementary and dependent on each other. In fact, while state security is centered on the state itself, human security's core concern is the protection of people within a given state.

Furthermore, human security is about safety and protection. Providing people with safety from threats, such as those affecting their health and conditions of life, and protecting them from anything that could further endanger their life are the basic principles behind human security (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 23). This is how the two major constituents or messages to convey by human security are freedom from fear and from want, as it was always put forth by the United Nations (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 24). People should be first provided with safety so that the insecurity they are facing is minimized and then be protected so to be empowered in facing any other threats in the future.

1.3 Human Security – Theoretical Framework

So far this thesis has argued that both types of security are needed and are complementary to one another. State security is as important as human security for any state's prosperous development and progress. Borders need to be secured, but people also must be provided with security. Theoretically, this means that international

relations' security is dominated in an intertwined way by Realism and Liberalism. On one hand, Realism stresses on states as the main actor on the international scene. In terms of security, Realism perceives military security as the solution to cope with international security threats. Realists strongly emphasize the importance of military security because, according to them, the world system is an anarchic one where states have to use force –hard power– in order to protect themselves (Nye 2003, 4). This idea represents very well the conventionally known state security type where the main objective is to be ready to use power at any time so to confront military threats and protect the territory and the borders of the state. On the other hand, Liberalism's view is that states cooperate with one another in a world that is not necessarily chaotic. Liberalists believe in the fact that the world is composed not only of state actors but also of non-state actors and that threats to be faced are not all only militaristic in nature (Nye 2003, 4). This would of course represent human security. Human security is, indeed, well represented by the theory of Liberalism because it recognizes that the world faces threats other than the military one and that the way to confront threats should not necessarily be related to hard power. The question to be now answered is what human security is specifically and if it does not rely on the use of force then on what it relies to protect people?

Human Security and the Concept of Soft Power:

Theoretically speaking human security can be associated with Joseph Nye's idea of soft power. The concept of soft power is based on the fact that military threats are not the only threats to be faced in the world and that accordingly the way to respond to threats

are not anymore solely militaristic in nature (Nye 2004, 5). The 21ˢᵗ century is facing

threats that are not any more necessarily of the militaristic type. Economic, health,

poverty, and ecological threats are now as weakening for international stability as

military threats are. To face these emerging threats, hard power is not the solution to

resort to, rather the objective, in overcoming such new threats, is to protect and empower

people. As referred to above, human security is not centering itself on the use of hard

power or force in facing threats to international security. Human security rather focuses

on people and on their empowerment. Rather than focusing on hard power, human

security is concerned with providing people all over the world with job security, income

security, health security, etc. (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 3). This is

how, if territorial security is more prone to the concept of hard power, or the use of force,

human security is associated with soft power or the non-use of force in solving problems

(UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 24).

The Border Line between Human Security and Human Development:

Another important point of clarification to make about human security is bound in

answering the following question: what is the difference between human security and

human development? Human security and human development are not to be confused

with one another because they do not mean the exact same thing. Human security comes

prior to human development; in other terms, human security is the basis for human

development; both concepts are interlinked with one another (UNDP, "1994 Human

Development Report," 23). For human development to exist, there should be human

security. In fact, human beings' development would only be possible if they are provided with their basic rights of safety and protection.

The following section will be portraying the example of one main international body recognized for dealing with the issue of human security: the Commission on Human Security. The following sections will first look at the Commission's creation and objectives to then focus on the Commission and its successor, the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security's achievements in targeting irregular migration through the focus on human security.

1.4 The Commission on Human Security: Creation, Objectives, and Approaches of Work

The Commission on Human Security is the first international body created to handle the issue of human security worldwide. It was created in January 2001 as a result of the 2000 UN Millennium Summit and of an initiative from the Government of Japan (Commission on Human Security, *homepage*). The Commission was co-chaired by Sadako Ogata, who is the former UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and Amartya Sen, who is Nobel Laureate in Economics and Master of Trinity College (Commission on Human Security, "Establishment of the Commission"). The idea behind the Commission's creation was to reach a situation of "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want," as referred to by former UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, and before him by late U.S. President, Franklin Roosevelt (Ogata 2004, 25). Per these concepts of "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want," the Commission had three main objectives it wished to fulfill; these objectives were: "to promote public understanding, engagement and support of

human security and its underlying imperatives; to develop the concept of human security; as an operational tool for policy formulation and implementation; and to propose a concrete program of action to address critical and pervasive threats to human security" (Commission on Human Security, "Establishment of the Commission"). In achieving these objectives, the Commission based its work on protection and empowerment of people approaches (Ogata 2004, 25). Accordingly, people should be first protected from any threats to their security and then, once protected, they should be empowered so to be capable of facing any future threat (Commission on Human Security, 2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 11). Furthermore, in dealing with human security, the Commission based its work on six areas: people in situation of conflicts, refugees, people in post-war situation, economic security, health, and education (Ogata 2004, 26-27). The Commission focuses on human security rather than territorial security. Protecting states' borders is very important, but protecting and empowering people is as important as protecting borders according to the Commission.

In its final report in 2003, *Human Security Now*, the Commission formulated a number of recommendations to be followed in order to ensure human security worldwide. Following are the Commission's final report's recommendations: "Protecting people in violent conflict; Protecting people from the proliferation of arms; Supporting the human security of people on the move; Establishing human security transition funds for post-conflict situations; Encouraging fair trade and markets to benefit the extreme poor; Providing minimum living standards everywhere; According high priority to universal access to basic health care; Developing an efficient and equitable global system for patent rights; Empowering all people with universal basic education, through much stronger

global and national efforts; Clarifying the need for a global human identity while respecting the freedom of individuals to have diverse identities and affiliations" (Commission on Human Security, 2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 133). Talks on this Commission will be later elaborated throughout the thesis. Chapter six of the thesis will be looking at the achievements and failures of the Commission in the field of irregular migration. Chapter six will also be introducing the successor of the Commission: the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security looking at how it deals with the issue of human security and with the issue of irregular migration.

The following section looks at the Commission on Human Security and on the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, UNTFHS, as two main international bodies operating for the sake of human security worldwide seeing how, through their projects, the issue of migration is being dealt with; looking at whether these two bodies are dealing with the irregular type of migration to finally discuss the failures of these bodies [6].

1.5 The Commission on Human Security and Achievements

The Commission on Human Security committed itself to protect migrants all along ensuring that this does not violate states' interests (Ogata 2004, 27). This section looks at the Commission's achievements in the field of regular and/or irregular migration. As previously stated in the thesis, one of the Commission's formulated recommendations in their last report is: protecting people on the move. In its recommendations, before it put

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[6] The concept of migration and irregular migration will be talked about later in details in part two of the thesis.

an end to its activities, the Commission was tackling the issue of migration highlighting that people migrate because they lack human security in their own country (Commission on Human Security, 2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 41). Moreover, the report stresses how people are sort of forced to resort to irregular means of migration due to the restrictive migration laws imposed by most of the developed countries (Commission on Human Security, 2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 42).

A very important point mentioned in the Commission's report that has to be highlighted is the one where migrants are lacking human security in their own country and then also lack it in the country in which they migrate (Commission on Human Security, 2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 41). Unfortunately what is very common is that people escape human insecurity in their own country but end up also being insecure in the receiving countries in which they have migrated because they are treated as irregular migrants perceived as carriers of threats to international security as well as to the country's internal stability – also see appendix 3. This is why not only it is important to control irregular migration because it can threaten international and national security, as will be seen later in part two of the thesis, but also because it could endanger migrants themselves who would be not necessarily provided in the receiving country with the security they were looking for.

The Commission on Human Security's Successor:

After releasing their final report, on the 1ˢᵗ of May 2003, the Commission ceased its activities on the 31ˢᵗ of May 2003 (Commission on Human Security, *homepage of the website*). The Advisory Board on Human Security, ABHS, chaired by Sadako Ogata

(United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, "Board Members' Biographies"), was created to continue the mission and recommendations formulated by the Commission and to advise the U.N Secretary-General on the following: the guidelines for the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, UNTFHS, the different ways to increase the positive effects of the projects and activities that are being funded by the UNTFHS, and to promote and spread human security and its importance worldwide (United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, "Advisory Board on Human Security").

The Commission on Human Security's Recommendations in Dealing with Migration:
To better protect migrants, the Commission makes recommendations such as: the opportunities for migration should be increased, migrants should be protected from racism, and migrants should be ensured that their human rights will not be violated (Commission on Human Security, 2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 135). The Commission has, indeed, not really been undertaking any activity to confront issues of human security directly or of migration. Instead the Commission achieved recommendations that were formulated so that its successor could follow them ensuring human security worldwide. The important question to ask, therefore, is what has really been done in implementing the recommendations of the Commission on Human Security in dealing with human security and also in dealing with migration per se.

1.6 The United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security: Successor of the Commission on Human Security

The UNTFHS was created in March 1999 by a joint initiative from the Government of Japan and the United Nations Secretariat. The objective of this Fund is to, under the guidance of the ABHS, fund projects, mainly implemented by U.N. organizations, focusing on and targeting human security (United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, "United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security"). The UNTFHS supports activities that have to deal with issues such as protecting people living in countries devastated by conflicts, protecting people on the move, improve people's living standards, protect people's health security, and promote education (United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, "United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security"). Table 2 highlights the number of projects funded throughout the world by the UNTFHS, since its creation until 2007; those projects mainly covered the issues enumerated above. On the other side, map 1 highlights the different regions targeted by the UNTFHS and figure 1 outlines the distribution of the UNTFHS' fund to the various UN agencies –through the year 2004–.

Table 2 (United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, "Projects Funded under the

United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security")

**Number of Projects implemented with the Support of the UNTFHS
from 1999 to 2007**

Region	1999-2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Total
Africa	1	3	5	10	9	10	9	3	50
Asia & Pacific	12	8	16	10	10	10	5	2	73
Eastern and Central Asia	7	3	0	1	1	1	3	3	19
Latin America & Caribbean	0	2	2	2	1	1	5	0	13
Middle East	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	3
Global or Regional	1	1	1	2	4	1	0	1	12

Map 1 (United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, "UNTFHS Activities Around the World")
UNTFHS Activities Around the World

Distribution of Funds by Agency in 2004

Funds allocated

UNODC - 6%
UNICEF - 21%
UNHCR - 17%
FAO - 13%
UNDP - 30%
UNIDO - 13%
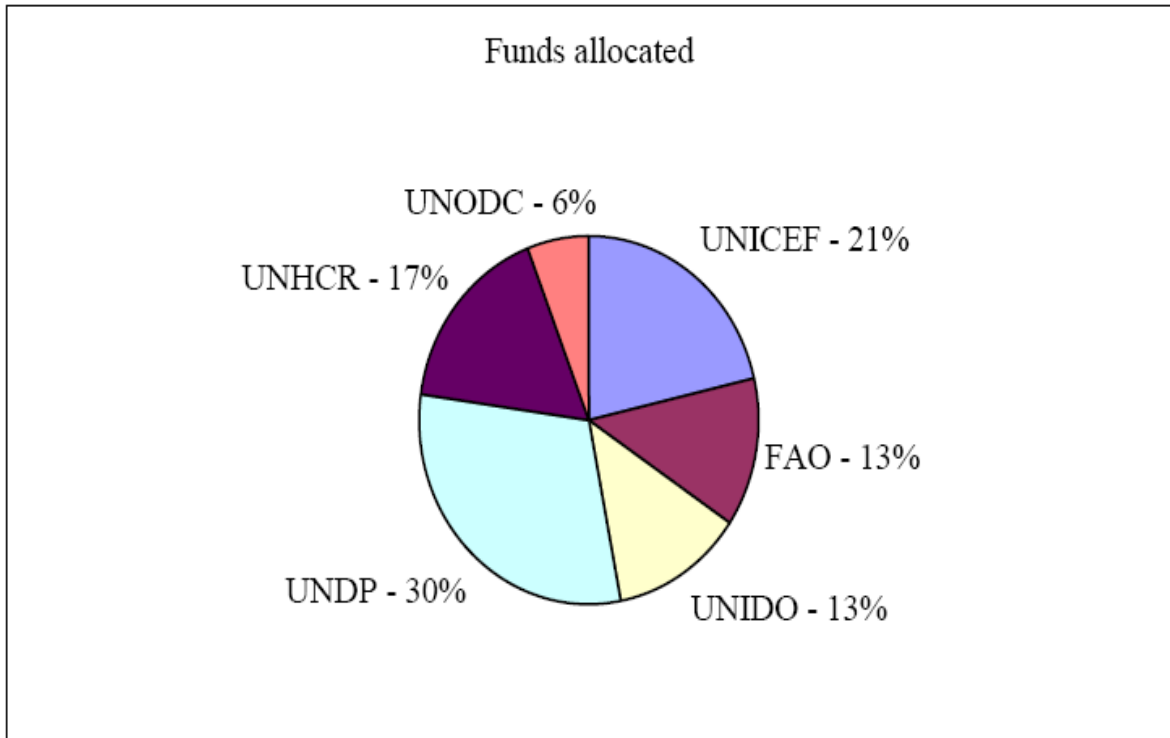
1.7 The UNTFHS and Achievements in the Fields of Human Security and Irregular Migration

The achievements of the UNTFHS, acting under the guidance of the ABHS, in the field of irregular migration is analyzed in this section. The UNTFHS tackles the issue of human security and migration through the funding of various projects worldwide. Following are some of these projects:

The Community Development through Employment Creation and Improved Migration Management Project:

The Community Development through Employment Creation and Improved Migration Management in Tajikistan is a project funded by the UNTFHS having for objective to increase economic and personal security of people on the move in Tajikistan. Many people in Tajikistan are deprived of security since the civil war, from 1992 until 1997, which devastated the country. The project therefore tries to improve the situation there so to regulate the mass migration of people that leave the country as a result of the civil war's atrocities and to protect families of migrant workers (International Labour Organization, "Community Development through Employment Creation and Improved Migration Management in Tajikistan"). This project deals with human security issues related to personal insecurity and community insecurity. It also deals, as stated in the project's objectives, with the economic security of this population.

Project Implemented in Thailand:

Another project funded by the UNTFHS, implemented by the World Health Organization and the International Organization for Migration, targets Thailand to improve the health situation of migrant workers (United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, "Minutes of the ABHS Sixth Meeting"). This project, unlike the one in Tajikistan, does not deal with the regulation of migration but rather with the migrants themselves and their protection.

Projects on Human Security:

Other than dealing with migration directly, the UNTFHS also tackles the issue via targeting the root cause of migration by spreading human security worldwide[7]. From projects providing food security to people in Cambodia, protecting people living in conflict situation in Liberia, and to providing people with health security in Indonesia, the UNTFHS spreads human security worldwide[8].

Looking at the above mentioned projects, it can be said that the UNTFHS deals with migration therefore through two ways; first by directly funding projects that have to do with migration issues; and, second, indirectly by spreading human security worldwide because by ensuring human security, migration is reduced as seen throughout the thesis.

1.8 The Failures of the Commission on Human Security and of the UNTFHS

As seen in the above sections, the Commission, through its recommendations, and the UNTFHS, through its funded activities, deals first with human security as a cause of migration and second with migration itself. Despite these activities, certain weaknesses could be identified in the Commission and the UNTFHS' activities. The first weakness to be identified is that the UNTFHS coordinates its work and funds projects that are mainly, if not only, implemented by UN agencies, as indicated in figure 1. This is an important weakness because there are other agencies throughout the world that focus

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[7] See "Annex I – UNTFHS Summary Project Overview for 2007," ochaonline.un.org/OchaLinkClick.aspx?link=ocha&docId=1087860
[8] See the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security website for more information: "Human Security," United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, http://ochaonline.un.org/Home/tabid/2097/language/fr-FR/Default.aspx

their work on the protection of migrants and on human security issues and that need fund from agencies such as the UNTFHS. The UNTFHS should be more concerned to try helping out organizations throughout the world that wish to contribute in reducing human insecurity.

The second major weakness in the UNTFHS' activities is that there are certain countries, facing human insecurity, that are not targeted by the agency. As indicated in map 1, Egypt is not targeted by the UNTFHS' activities. This is an unfortunate situation because the UNTFHS could do a lot in Egypt by funding projects, implemented not only by the UN, but also by other governmental and non-governmental organizations, targeting human in security, and more specifically economic insecurity, and targeting irregular migration.

Third, the UNTFHS does not deal with irregular migration itself but with regular migration in general. People resorting to irregular migration and their protection are not targeted directly by UNTFHS projects. Despite that, as mentioned above, the Commission on Human Security recognizes in its final report that irregular migrants can be mistreated in the receiving countries, the UNTFHS does not really deal with the protection of these specific migrants.

CHAPTER 2
HUMAN SECURITY'S CATEGORIES AND INDICATORS

The objective of this chapter is to define the seven threats to human security and analyze

the indicators[9] to be resorted to in measuring the extent with which people are provided

with security. This chapter shows how threats to human security, represented by the

seven categories of human security, can be major causes catalyzing the phenomenon of

migration[10]. The chapter attempts to answer the following question: how the lack of

human security could push people to migrate[11]? These seven categories to be looked at

are: food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community

security, political security, and economic security.

2.1 Food Security

2.1.1 Food Security and its Indicators

Providing people with food security is equivalent to ensuring people's access to basic

food. It is important to stress the fact that food security does not only mean the

availability of food in one state, but rather people's access to this food (UNDP, "1994

Human Development Report," 27). In fact if food is available but people are deprived of

it, then these people are not provided with food security because they do not enjoy the

benefits of food availability. As stated in the 1994 UNDP Human Development report,

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[9] Indicators to be used throughout the thesis for the seven categories are those that were highlighted, for the most of them, in the 1994 UNDP Human Development Report and this is how, accordingly, they have been selected for the sake of this thesis. See "Human Development Report," United Nations Development Programme, http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr1994/

[10] The notion of migration will be defined later on in the paper (in part two) in detail.

[11] In this part of the thesis, reference will often be made to migration in general as opposed to irregular migration or to migration emanating from Egypt as will be focused on in part two.

the problem with food security is related to two components: poor food distribution and low purchasing power (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 27).

Therefore in evaluating food security, it is important to look at these two very important components. Accordingly, chapter three, focusing on Egypt as a case study, will be looking at food security based on the following indicators: per capita food production, people's purchasing power, access to food available in the country, and the country's situation vis-à-vis famine.

Indicators' Calculation:

The annual per capita food production is calculated by taking the net available food supply and dividing it by the estimated mid-year population, and then multiplying this by 1,000 (National Statistical Coordination Board, "Food Balance Sheet of the Philippines"). Purchasing power is the relation between one's income and prices in a given country; it is equivalent to what people could afford with their income (Government of Canada, "Economic Concepts Purchasing Power"). Finally, famine refers to a situation where people seriously lack access to food ("Does HIV/AIDS Imply a "New Variant Famine"?", *UNECA website*). Famine is not the simple lack of access to food but it refers to a very critical and severe situation where people are so deprived of food that this endangers their survival; famine is the critical extreme and worst situation of food deprivation. Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan are examples of countries that have gone through a food crisis (FAO, 2004 Report, "The State of Food Insecurity in the World," 16). Graphs, in the 2004 Food and Agriculture Organization report on food insecurity in

the world, highlight how the Sub-Saharan region suffers from food insecurity (FAO, 2004 Report, "The State of Food Insecurity in the World," 16-17).

One important point to refer to in talking about food security is availability and accessibility as referred to above. In fact, the following chapter argues that food security is not about having people provided with food. When dealing with food security, one has to first look at the availability of food and second at this food's accessibility. The annual per capita food production can be high, referring to a situation where food is available, but because people do not have access to this food, they are still not provided with food security although food is available.

2.1.2 Food Insecurity: a Cause of Migration?

Food insecurity is linked to migration as when people do not have access to food, they would leave in order to find a place where they would be provided with this food security they are lacking in their own country. It is well-known that food shortage can lead to mass migration in direction of areas where food is more available (American Red Cross, "Food Security Fact Sheet"). However, the important point to highlight is that food insecurity in and of itself does not lead to mass migration; it leads to a mass number of migrants in the case of famine; in other terms, famine itself is what leads to mass migration while food insecurity, represented in food production and/or access to it, will be a causal link for flows, and not in mass, of migration. In that later case, migration helps people find new areas that have food more available and accessible. Having access to food will of course imply two unchanging variables: that people have an adequate purchasing power and that food is equally distributed.

2.2 Health Security

2.2.1 Health Security and its Indicators

Confronted by poor vaccination systems, being exposed to the risk of getting various severe and dangerous diseases, and lacking the access to sanitation services or to safe drinking water are all features of health security. Health insecurity is maybe one of the most important or dangerous of human security's categories because health has a direct impact on human life. If one's health is seriously threatened, it is his entire life that is in danger. The dangerousness thing about health insecurity is that, for example, being affected by the HIV/AIDS virus is an insecurity faced by people on which they can have no control, no matter how rich or influential they are. If health security is lacking, people, most of the time, lose control of the situation. Indeed, if epidemics are taken as another example, once the epidemic is spread, it is uncontrollable; and once it is under control, it is most of the time too late as many people would have already been affected by it.

The indicators that are used in chapter three to look at health security in Egypt are: the infant mortality rate, vaccination measures, people's exposure to various diseases, people's access to sanitation services, the number of doctors and nurses, and the number of health units established at the disposal of the population.

2.2.2   Health Insecurity: A Cause of Migration?

Health insecurity can be an obvious cause of migration among the many other causes behind this phenomenon. As was the case for the first human security category discussed above, if people are not provided with health security, they will try to migrate to another state in search of better security and protection. It can be said that health security is, however, not a real major cause behind migration. If it was only for health insecurity, people would not migrate in great number except if they are faced with major epidemics. Health problems are not a tangible issue; most of the time people realize their sickness only at an old age and even if they discover the disease at an early age, they think it will not affect them that much; others even put aside the probability that they can get sick. Moreover and unfortunately, people, most of the time in the most underdeveloped countries, are more preoccupied by their income and conditions of life rather than by their health; and this is why most of the time health insecurity, in and of itself, is not a sufficient cause pushing people to migrate. There is a causal link between it and migration, but it is more one where people will be pushed by migrating if besides health insecurity, they are also confronted to other types of insecurity, such as economic insecurity, as will be seen later.

2.3   Environmental Security

2.3.1 Environmental Security and its Indicators

Threats to the environment are of two natures. The first types of threats are the ones that have an impact only on the long-term and the second types are the ones that have a

"sudden and violent" impact (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 29). In fact, there are environmental events that have an effect only on the long run, such as global warming or pollution; indeed, pollution will have a very negative impact on people's health (Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 83) that might not be felt on the short term but will be on the long run. Other events have an immediate effect, such as droughts or hurricanes. From the tsunami or Katrina disasters, to Cairo or Mexico's severe air pollution, and to water future expected disputes, conflicts, and wars, environmental security has become a major issue. Environmental disasters have already been affecting many populations worldwide and are expected to continue having an impact on many other populations.

The indicators to be used in that chapter in measuring the extent of environmental security are: the country's ratification of international environmental agreements, the ratification of agreements would imply the extent with which a country is legally in obligation to ensure environmental security. The second indicator to be looked at is the country's total renewable water resources because water is one of the major current and future threats to environmental security (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 29); in fact, as will be seen later in the thesis, water scarcity is expected to be one of the main reasons behind future disputes and conflicts. The prevalence of pollution, the frequency of environmental disasters, and climate change are three other important indicators to be analyzed.

2.3.2   Environmental Insecurity: A Cause of Migration?

Environmental threats are rarely felt on the short term. Air pollution and water scarcity are all environmental threats that are, most of the time, not considered a priority danger by people on the short term, but might and will be considered major threats on the long run. Water scarcity, for example, is a long term threat to environmental security that is still not felt by people. For the time being, water is not a reason for mass migration; even though, it might be later on in the future a major reason for mass migration because people will not have access to water in their own country and will, therefore, be seeking water resources in other countries. There are, however, other cases where environmental security can be a major cause of migration. This corresponds to the situation of environmental disasters, such as droughts, hurricanes, and storms, felt on the short term by people, that push population to migrate in mass so to escape from the disaster they could endure and the danger they could be confronted to in the case of such environmental disasters. This is what happened with the Tsunami event; people had no other choice but to migrate in mass and find refuge in other countries.

2.4   Personal Security

2.4.1 Personal Security and its Indicators

Personal security is people's security and protection from physical violence. Many threats could be a cause behind human insecurity: torture inflicted to the humans; threats to which people are confronted to in a situation of war; threat of being exposed to ethnic conflicts; threats from street violence and crimes; threats of being exposed to rape; the

threat where children could be exposed to abuse, corporal, or sexual violence; and the threat of being pushed to commit suicide (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 30). The lack of personal security is, in other terms, the threats that directly affect an individual in its person.

Two indicators are used in looking at this category of human security. The first indicator is the frequency of ethnic conflicts. To what extent are people's life and survival threatened by the risk of being exposed to ethnic conflicts? The second indicator is about the frequency of crimes, such as rape and corporal violence, with, in the case of crimes, a focus on the most vulnerable groups of the population, such as children and women.

2.4.2   *Personal Insecurity: A Cause of Migration?*

How could personal insecurity be a cause of migration? Personal insecurity could be a cause of migration in the case where people feel their life is endangered by several threats. In the case of a country where wars and conflicts are prevalent, it is quite obvious that people will migrate to safer places. Wars and conflicts are among the main and major reasons behind mass migration of population from one state to another, leading to many political refugees. Crimes could also be a reason for migration but is of course not as influencing migration as wars and conflicts do. Crimes could lead individuals to move if they feel their life and their children are in danger facing too many crimes: street violence, raping, stealing, etc.. As will be shown later in the thesis, however, personal security, if it is not for wars, is not a sufficient cause in and of itself pushing people to migrate.

2.5 Community Security

Community security is about the security an individual gets from belonging to a specific community or group of people (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 31). Community security is mainly measured by community conflicts and tensions in one country (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 31-32). This is therefore quite similar to the discourse held for one of the components of personal security in discussing the issue of ethnic conflicts. Although Egypt is not confronted to a situation of ethnic conflict, such as what is going on in Iraq, it is, however, facing a problem of ethnic tensions[12].

2.6 Political Security

2.6.1 Political Security and its Indicators

Political security provides people with their basic human rights by allowing them to exert their political rights (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 32). Living under repression and being deprived of basic human rights are some of the characters outlining a population living in political insecurity (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 32). In other terms, the lack of political security is represented in people's restricted political activities and in people's limited access to many of their rights, such as their rights of: expression, association, assembly, etc..

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[12] This point will be further explained in the following chapter.

In order to measure political security in one country, many indicators can be looked at. People's access to their basic rights by focusing on the ratification of international human rights agreements and the situation of the country as depicted in various international reports on human rights are very important to analyze. Looking at these indicators would pinpoint the extent with which people are provided with their basic rights and whether or not they can have a political voice. Other indicators to be looked at are the extent of freedom of press and association in the country. These indicators are important because they would also reveal the extent with which people are provided with their rights and their say within the society. In many countries, people do not have, unfortunately, access to their political rights due to state repression and state authoritarianism; political insecurity is, indeed, most of the time associated with undemocratic states where people do not exert any real political activity.

2.6.2   Political Insecurity: A Cause of Migration?

Personal insecurity is one of the main reasons behind what can be called political migrants. People, being deprived of their basic rights and having no political say or voice, feel deprived of any political security and, hence, see in migration an escape to where they could go and exert their political ambitions and activities. Human rights violation is known to be one of the causes behind migration (Mission Permanente de la Suisse auprès des Nations Unies, "Statement by H.E. Ambassador Walter Fust," 5) because people should be left free to feel politically secure and active.

2.7   Economic Security

2.7.1 Economic Security and its Indicators

Many people live in economic insecurity without any stable income or job and in the case where they have a job, the working conditions are most of the time unbearable. There are many growing signs of the greater and greater economic insecurity in which people live: unemployment is on rise worldwide and insecurity of incomes is also rising. Economic insecurity is growing in importance to the extent that people are more and more forced to resort to the informal sector of the labor market so to be able to earn a living (UNDP, "1994 Human Development Report," 25-26). This, in and of itself, is very unfortunate because resorting to the informal sector is not a situation resolving anything because the conditions of work in the informal sector are also unlivable, be it in terms of salaries or be it in terms of working hours and the way workers are treated.

In measuring economic security, several indicators will be looked at: the real Gross Domestic Product –GDP– rate, the unemployment rate, the poverty situation, the inflation rate, workers' average income, and the income gap.

Indicators' Calculation:

The real GDP is a tool of measurement to know how big an economy is; the GDP is "the total market value of goods and services produced within a given period after deducting the cost of goods utilised in the process of production" (Nzier, "GDP: Its Measurement

and Meaning")[13]. Second, the unemployment rate is calculated by dividing the number of individuals searching for job by the total number of individuals constituting the labor force (Eldredge, B., "How is the Unemployment Rate Calculated?"). Then, the poverty situation in any country is a very important indicator because it shows the extent with which people are secure economically. The more poverty will be present in a country, the more people of that country will be living in economic insecurity. The poverty situation in the thesis will be itself based on two indicators: the Human Poverty Index, the Human Development Index, and the GDP per capita. Fourth, the inflation rate is an important indication of economic security because it has a direct impact on people's purchasing power. The greater the inflation rate, the smaller will the purchasing power be in the case where people's income does not increase all along the increase in the inflation rate. It is in that case where people's purchasing power is low that people's ability for a decent life is limited. Fifth, workers' income is very important because it will indicate the extent with which they will be economically secure. The income indicator, of course, should be associated with the inflation rate because what is important is the people's purchasing power. Income and inflation rate are important indicators when they are associated with one another so to be able to really analyze what people can afford with the income they get taking into consideration the increase in prices. In fact, one's income could be high but if inflation rate is growing at a higher rate, then the person does not really benefit from this high income. The last indicator to be looked at is the income gap making people not only economically insecure and

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[13] Real GDP is nominal GDP after having taken into consideration inflation. For more information, see: "GDP: Its Measurement and Meaning," Nzier, http://www.nzier.org.nz/Site/economics_explained/GDP.aspx

unhappy, but also making them socially insecure. The gap existing between people, as a result of income gap, could lead to social frustration between them.

2.7.2 Economic Insecurity: a Cause of Migration?

How can human security be a cause pushing people to migrate? When an individual is in a situation where he is living without a stable job and with no appropriate income, especially when prices keep rising, this individual will have nothing but a desire, leave that country in search for another one that would provide him/her with the economic security he/she is lacking in his/her own state. As will be seen later in the thesis, economic insecurity is one of the major reasons, the main reason in the case of Egypt, behind people's migration with the objective of improving their living conditions, especially that people now have rising expectations.

2.8 Human Security: A Cause of Migration?

As discussed throughout the above sections, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, political security, and economic security could all be reasons behind people's migration. People will migrate seeking a better shelter and place to live in. However, it should be pointed that, most of the time, it is the accumulation of many of these insecurities that will push people to migrate. In other terms, people will not migrate if it was only for environmental security or health security rather they will migrate if many of these categories are added to one another making their lives in the country where they live unbearable forcing them, thus, to migrate.

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The case where people would immediately migrate, and notably in mass, would be in extreme cases; for example, if a state is in a war, people would not wait until another factor comes and pushes them to migrate because in the case of wars and ethnic conflicts, it is their direct life that is endangered. Migration is not an easy thing because it implies a complete move and change of living style and conditions; hence push factors of migration have to be very strong and convincing, putting individuals in such a tough situation of living that the only way for them to survive is to migrate.

In this chapter and in this part of the thesis in general, the link between human security and migration is made in a general or in a theoretical way. In part two of the thesis, the link will be made in practice between human security and irregular migration with a focus on the case of Egypt.

CHAPTER 3
HUMAN SECURITY IN EGYPT

The human security situation in Egypt is analyzed in this chapter based on six of the seven categories and the indicators discussed in the previous chapter. The conclusion reached will allow taking Egypt as a case study, linking human security to numbers of migrants Egypt produces[14]. Economic insecurity in Egypt will be dealt with in a separate chapter, in chapter four, as this type of economic insecurity, as will be shown, is the major cause of migration in Egypt.

3.1 Food Security in Egypt

3.1.1 Per Capita Food Production and Purchasing Power[15]

Egypt is doing quite well in terms of its per capita food production with a constant rise in the values –see figure 2. Food production is therefore not really a problem in Egypt; food is, indeed, available to people; there is not such a shortage of food availability or production. But does that mean that people have enough access in an equal way to that food? This is the question to be explored into more details in the following sections.

As will be discussed when talking about the inflation rate, purchasing power in Egypt is not very high because people's incomes are already quite low with an inflation rate that keeps rising. The lesson to be drawn from this information is that even if food is available, it is not always easy for people to have access to it because they cannot afford

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[14] This will be part two's main objective.
[15] Indicator to be also referred to into more details when talking about economic insecurity in Egypt, see chapter four.

it. Therefore, this means that food might be available, but because they cannot afford it, people do not benefit from this food's availability, hence face food insecurity.

Figure 2 (EarthTrends Country Profiles, "Agriculture and Food—Egypt," 1)
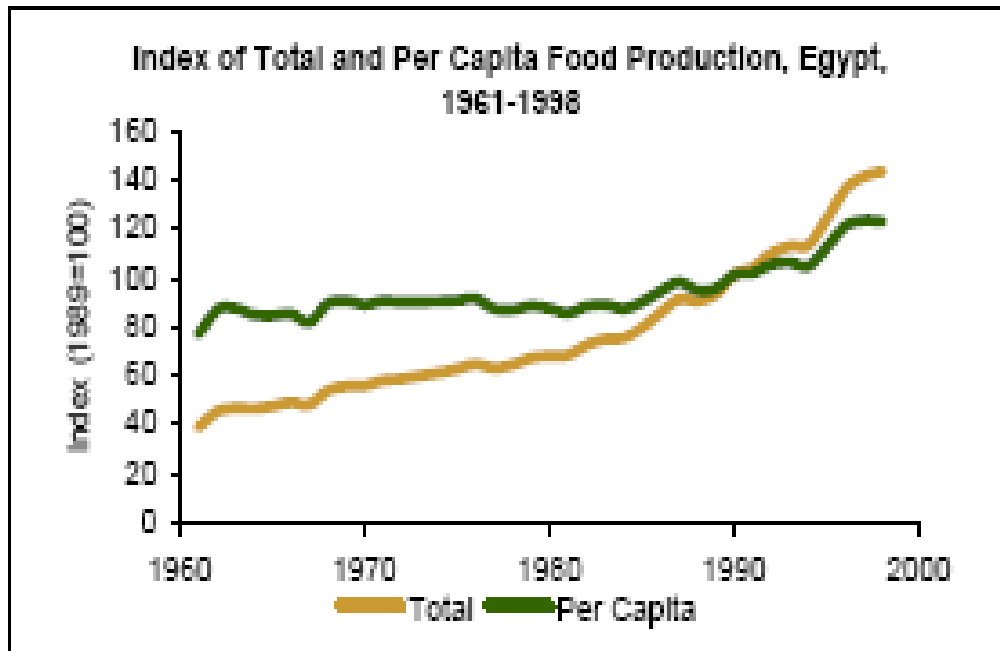
3.1.2 Access to Food

Looking at food distribution and accessibility in Egypt supports the idea that many people do not have access to food and/or cannot afford to have access to it, as explained in the previous section. An event pointing at people's inability to afford or access food is the event of the people who fought to death over a place in a bread queue (IRIN, "Middle East: Climate Change Could Threaten Food Security – FAO Report"). This is an example among various others supporting the idea that accessibility to food in Egypt is problematic; and this is mainly due to people's poor purchasing power. Although food

production is adequate in Egypt, there is, however, a problem in these people's accessibility to this food[16].

3.1.3 Famine

Famine in Egypt is not a problem on high officials' agenda. Indeed, the problem of famine is not really present in Egypt. In 2006, 6.2% of children under five were suffering from under-weight (Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 34). Egypt is suffering not from an issue of famine nor from a situation where the country is lacking food, rather the problem is about people's access to that food, as discussed earlier on. Although food is available, many people do not have access to it.

Food Insecurity in Egypt?:

Therefore, at a first glimpse, there is no food insecurity in Egypt because food is available; but when one looks at the details, it is very easy to figure out that some people, unfortunately the most vulnerable, live deprived of food as the events in bread queues demonstrate. The main causes behind this are, as explained, people's low purchasing power, which is a very important problem in Egypt as will be demonstrated when talking about economic insecurity in Egypt in the following chapter.

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[16] Equality between people will be explored in more details when talking, in chapter four, about economic insecurity in Egypt.

3.2 Health Security in Egypt

3.2.1 Infant Mortality Rate and Vaccination Measures

The first indicator to be looked at is the infant mortality rate. The infant mortality rate has been decreasing in Egypt for now a couple of years – see table 3. Per 1,000 live births, the infant mortality rate was of 30% in 2001, of 24.5% in 2002, of 22.5% in 2004, and of 20.5% in 2006 (Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 34). This is a positive indication because it shows that infant mortality is not a very big issue in Egypt. Moreover, young children are not affected in mass by dangerous diseases that would endanger their lives.

The second indicator to be considered is vaccination in Egypt. Vaccination is a very important indicator because vaccination is what empowers people, preventing them from catching various severe and dangerous diseases later on in their life. Indeed, people that are not vaccinated run a very high risk of catching a disease. Data on vaccinations in Egypt clearly demonstrate that Egypt's vaccination measures are quite effective (UNICEF, "Egypt Statistics")[17].

3.2.2 Exposure to Diseases

The third indicator to be looked at is people's exposure to various diseases. If the two previous indicators were showing quite positive signs of health security, this is not the case in terms of Egyptians' risk to be a victim of a dangerous disease. Despite that

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[17] More data on vaccination in Egypt against various diseases could be found on this referenced source: "Egypt Statistics," UNICEF, http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/egypt_statistics.html

Egyptians are immunized, as seen in the above section, the risk to catch a dangerous disease is very high because the vaccination process is quite ineffective. For example, Tuberculosis is a problem in Egypt (USAID, "Infectious Diseases Egypt"). Unfortunately, this is not the only type of disease Egyptian people are victims from. Regarding the situation of Hepatitis C, Egypt is in an extremely dangerous and critical situation. Egypt has, indeed, the highest rate of Hepatitis C presence in the world. The causes behind such a high presence of the Hepatitis C virus are mainly due to inappropriate sterilization techniques, to be discussed below, and to schistosomiasis, which is a parasitic disease that one gets by swimming in contaminated waters (Mezban and Wakil, 1). The fact that Egypt has the highest prevalence of that virus is even more alarming when one knows that the Hepatitis C virus can cause liver cancer and cirrhosis (Oxford Journals, Life Sciences, Molecular Biology and Evolution, "The Epidemiology and Iatrogenic Transmission of Hepatitis C Virus in Egypt: A Bayesian Coalescent Approach").

3.2.3 Access to Sanitation Services

The access to sanitation services in Egypt is quite problematic in urban and even more in rural areas especially that the number of persons having access to these services has been decreasing – see table 3. In 2001, 2002, and 2004, the rate has remained unchanged concerning the persons having access to sanitations services in urban areas, 93.6%. Not only this, but this rate decreased in 2006 to be 82.5%. In rural areas, the rate has also remained constant, 78.2%, in 2001, 2002, and 2004; to then decreases in 2006 and

becomes only 24.3% (Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 34).

3.2.4 Indications on the Number of Doctors, Nurses, and Health Units

Fifth, another important indicator to take into consideration in talking about health insecurity is the number of doctors, nurses, and health units made available to the population. The important questions to ask are: is the ratio doctors per persons or nurses per persons adequate? Are there enough health units at the disposal of people? Unfortunately here again for this indicator, the answer is a quite sad one. The number of doctors and nurses per persons is very low. Moreover, the number of health units is also very low – see table 3. In 2006, the number of doctor (accredited by the Ministry of Health and Population) per 10,000 people is of only 6.5 and the number of nurses (accredited by the Ministry of Health and Population) per 10,00 people is of 13.8. Concerning the health units, per 100,000 people, in 2006, there are only 3.8 units (Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 34).

Health Insecurity in Egypt?:

Diseases are a risk in Egypt for many different reasons; one of them, as previously stated, is: health tools' lack of sterilization. The key problem in Egypt is not that people are not being vaccinated rather the problem is that the vaccination process is in and of itself very unhygienic; there is a real sterilization problem. This unhygienic vaccination process is one of the major reasons behind the high prevalence of Hepatitis C virus. Indeed, in the

1980s, Egyptians received injections to treat schistosomiasis, a water disease mentioned earlier on; the problem is that the needles used to make the injections contained the Hepatitis C virus and this is how many of the Egyptians got contaminated. According to a 2007 Egyptian government-commissioned study, 10 to 15% of the Egyptian population suffers from that disease (Anahtar, in Spring 2008 Issue of the MIT International Review). This is, unfortunately, a very important portion of the population. The other problems to which the Egyptian people are confronted are about their access to sanitation services and the number of doctors, nurses, and health units made available to them. The very poor number of doctors per persons is very alarming.

Table 3 (Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 34)

Health Indicators

Indicator		2001	2002	2004	2006
Households with Access to:					
Piped water:	Urban	91.3	91.3%	91.3%	98.8%
	Rural	82.1%	82.1%	82.1%	92.9%
Sanitation:	Urban	93.6%	93.6%	93.6%	82.5%
	Rural	78.2%	78.2%	78.2%	24.3%
Doctor per 10,000 people	(MOHP)	6.0	8.8	8.9	6.5
Nurses per 10,00 people	(MOHP)	13.5	14.3	14.7	13.8
Nurses/Doctor ratio	(MOHP)	224.4	170.0	165.2	210.6
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)		60.7	68.9	67.6	52.9
Beds per 10,000 people:	Total	20.0	21.7	21.7	21.5
	MOHP	16.7	18.0	12.1	11.1
Health units per 100,000 people		2.4	3.8	3.8	3.8
Public expenditure on health:	% of Total	7.2%	2.9%	5.2%	3.8
	% of GDP	2.4%	1.9%	1.8%	1.3
Pregnant women with prenatal care		61.1%	61.1%	70.5%	69.6%
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)		30.0	24.5	22.5	20.5
Under five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)		39.1	31.4	28.6	26.4
Children ever breastfed		93.3%	95.2%	95.2%	95.2%
Birth attended by health personnel		56.5%	94.7%	71.7%	80.0%
Children 12-23 months fully immunized		97.9%	97.9%	99.6%	88.7%
Underweight children under age 5		8.8%	1.3%	1.3%	6.2%
Life expectancy at birth		67.1	70.1	70.6	71.3

Source: Egypt Human Development Report, various issues; Ministry of Health and Population, National Institute for Health Information and Population.

3.3 Environmental Security in Egypt

3.3.1 Ratification of International Environmental Agreements

Egypt has ratified a multitude of international environmental agreements. The African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, the Convention Concerning Prevention and Control of Occupational Hazards Caused by Carcinogenic

Substances and Agents, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Kyoto Protocol are some among the many international environmental agreements that have been

ratified by Egypt (Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, "Register of Multilateral Environmental Agreements to which Egypt is a Signatory")[18]. The importance is, however, not in the number of agreements signed or ratified and not in whether those agreements entered into force or not; rather the concern should be put on those agreements' implementation. It is good to ratify agreements but it is then even more important that these agreements be implemented. Looking at other indicators would help determine whether some of those many agreements have been implemented or not; if environmental security is indeed accorded enough importance.

3.3.2 Renewable Water Resources

Renewable water resources in Egypt are of three types: the renewable surface water resources, the renewable groundwater resources, and internal recharge. The renewable surface water resources mainly originate from the River Nile, the renewable groundwater resources mainly come from the Nubian Sandstone aquifer, under the Western Desert, and from Libya, and, third, the internal recharge mainly originates from irrigation water in the Delta and the Valley. All of these make Egypt's total renewable water resources, equivalent to: 58.3 km3/year (The Encyclopedia of Earth, "Water Profile of Egypt") –see table 4. Again, the problem here is not in the renewable water resources itself, rather the

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[18] For more information on the full list of international environmental agreements Egypt has ratified or signed, see "Register of Multilateral Environmental Agreements to which Egypt is a Signatory." Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency.
http://www.eeaa.gov.eg/English/main/intlaw.asp

problem is, first, the fact that the renewable surface water resources mainly depend on the River Nile is very risky as dependence on one main source is always problematic; what if a natural disaster occurs preventing Egypt from using the River Nile as a resource? Dependency on one main source is risky because if access to this only one source is restricted, Egypt's access to its water resources will be limited.

Table 4 (The Encyclopedia of Earth, "Water Profile of Egypt")[19]

Water: Sources and Use

Water: sources and use			
Renewable water resources			
Average precipitation		51	mm/yr
		51.07	10^9 m^3/yr
Internal renewable water resources		1.8	10^9 m^3/yr
Total actual renewable water resources		58.3	10^9 m^3/yr
Dependency ratio		97	%
Total actual renewable water resources per inhabitant	2004	794.4	m^3/yr
Total dam capacity	2002	169 000	10^6 m^3
Water withdrawal			
Total water withdrawal	2000	68 300	10^6 m^3/yr
- irrigation + livestock	2000	59 000	10^6 m^3/yr
- domestic	2000	5 300	10^6 m^3/yr
- industry	2000	4 000	10^6 m^3/yr
• per inhabitant	2000	1 008	m^3/yr
• as % of total actual renewable water resources	2000	117	%
Water use for navigation and hydropower	2000	4 000	10^6 m^3/yr
Non-conventional sources of water			
Produced wastewater	2001	3 760	10^6 m^3/yr
Treated wastewater	2001	2 971	10^6 m^3/yr
Reused treated wastewater	2000	2 971	10^6 m^3/yr
Desalinated water produced	2002	100	10^6 m^3/yr
Reused agricultural drainage water (including seepage to gw)	2001	10 967	10^6 m^3/yr
Use of fossil water	2000	825	10^6 m^3/yr

Source: FAO-Forestry

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[19] This is the URL of this source: http://www.eoearth.org/image/Egypttable2.GIF

Second, and most important, the fact that Egypt depends on sources, coming from other countries, in order to possess renewable groundwater resources and internal recharge, is extremely risky because it means that at any time Egypt could lose control over these resources; these resources are, indeed, originating from other countries and not from within Egypt itself.

3.3.3 Pollution and Frequency of Environmental Disasters

The third indicator to be looked at is pollution. Pollution, be it air or water pollution, is a very big problem. Pollution in Egypt is notably caused by vehicles' gases, factory gas emissions, and burning by farmers (Japan International Cooperation Agency, "Environmental Management Egypt"). This is why the Ministry of Environmental Affairs undertakes many programs to control this pollution which could have a negative effect on people's health (Egypt State Information Service, "Environment and Development"). Pollution is, in fact, a threat for people's health; it could be a reason behind many diseases and this is why it is very important to control its spread. The problem, however, with pollution is that most of the time people do not realize its dangerousness on the short-term. Pollution has indeed an impact on the long-run rather than on the short-run and this is how people do not realize how dangerous pollution can be and how important it is to control its diffusion. The danger of pollution is even more highlighted when one takes into consideration its transnational influence as a result of the emissions of Greenhouse gas (UNDP, 2007/2008 Human Development Report, 58).

The fourth indicator to be looked at is the regularity or occurrence of environmental disasters. Environmental disasters are not a problem to which Egypt is

confronted. Except for few and minor earthquakes, Egypt is not endangered by natural disasters. In fact, Egypt is not a country facing problems such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and storms.

3.3.4 Climate Change

Climate change is another indicator showing how Egypt could be faced with environmental security on the long run and not on the short run. As pinpointed to by Mohamed Bayoumi and Nahla Zeitoun from UNDP Cairo, Egypt will probably be suffering from the climate change impacts. The three sectors that are most likely to be confronted to these impacts are the coastal zones, agriculture, and water resources leading to problems such as rising sea levels and complication in crops agricultural production (Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 222).

Environmental Insecurity in Egypt?:

In the short term, people in Egypt are not environmentally threatened. On the long term, however, people might be highly threatened, first, by pollution. Pollution has, indeed, very negative effects on people's health. Even if now people are not feeling the negative impact of pollution on their health, the impact will appear more obvious on their health in the long run. The second environmental threat Egyptians might be exposed to is, as previously said, the probability of not having access to water.

3.4 Personal Security and Community Security in Egypt

3.4.1 Ethnic Conflicts and Its Impact on Persons' Security

Egypt's population is composed of a majority of Muslims and of a minority of Copts. The country is not in a situation where it is divided between two main and major ethnic communities fighting for having the power and government under their hands such as is the case in a country like Iraq. What Egypt is rather confronted to are ethnic tensions between Muslims and Copts. What is important to highlight in that point is the impact of this on people's personal security. For the time being, Egyptian people's lives are not really threatened by ethnic conflicts, but might be in the future if relations between Muslims and Copts worsen leading to a possible risk of future sectorial conflicts. The solution would therefore be to regulate these ongoing tensions between both communities ensuring that they coexist together and reduce as much as possible their small disputes reducing therefore the possibility of having people's life threatened and endangered by possible conflicts.

3.4.2 Frequency of Crimes

Crime is a problem that has to be faced by Egyptians as in many other countries. According to the Ministry of the Interior, many women are raped every day (IRIN, "Egypt: Are Attitudes to Rape Beginning to Change?")[20]. Women are also subject to domestic violence. Domestic violence is considered to be the most prevalent form of violence against women (ChildInfo UNICEF, "Statistics by Area/Child Protection"). It is

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[20] As indicated by this source: IRIN website, in an article entitled: "Egypt: Are Attitudes to Rape Beginning to Change?": around 55 women are raped per day.

also a form of violence to which children are, unfortunately, exposed to. According to a survey, 37% children in Egypt are victims of beating or of being tied up by their parents, and due to these violent acts against children, 26% children suffer from fractures and other negative consequences (UNICEF, "Child Protection from Violence, Exploitation and Abuse"). The unfortunate thing is that vulnerable groups, children and women, are the most touched by such crimes.

Community Security in Egypt:

Egypt is not confronted to a situation of ethnic conflict. For the time being the situation in Egypt has not turned into a major community insecurity situation. Egypt is rather confronted to a situation of ethnic tensions that can turn into a major problem if these tensions between both communities, the Muslims and the Copts, get aggravated dividing not only individuals against individuals but putting one against another both communities.

3.5 Political Security in Egypt

Before trying to know whether people in Egypt are provided with political security, a brief note should be made on Egypt's political situation. Egypt, whose ruling party is the National Democratic Party, is ruled by the 1971 Constitution, amended for the last time in March 2007 (Egypt State Information Service, "Overview"). With 24 existing political parties, Egypt is considered, according to officials, to be a multi-party system where

people are allowed to create political parties as long as they do this in accordance with the law (Egypt State Information Service, "Political Parties"). Egypt also has conducted several political reforms. In fact, the Constitution has been amended a couple of times lately; different laws have been amended such as the People's Assembly Law and the law regulating practice of political rights. It is important to note that these reforms were made with the objective of providing people with more political rights[21]. Reforms and amendments are necessary for any country's political progress and development. However, these amendments and reforms will only be effective if they are really and indeed implemented. Amending on paper is important but it becomes useless if these amendments do not enter into force. Looking at the indicators, discussed in chapter two, would, therefore, allow determining if people are sufficiently provided with their rights and if the amendments undertaken in Egypt have been really implemented so that people can enjoy more and greater political rights.

3.5.1 Access to Human Rights and Ratification of International Human Rights Agreements

Constitutionally, Egyptian people are considered to be the source of power, the concept of political freedom is enshrined in the Constitution, people have the right to run into elections, and equal opportunities, freedom of speech, and respect of people's privacy are issues in Egyptian laws (Egypt State Information Service, "Human Rights"). Furthermore, Egypt has acceded to several international human rights agreements through which it should provide its people with greater political rights. The international

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[21] For more information on political reforms in Egypt, see: "Political Reform in Egypt," Egypt State Information Service, http://www.sis.gov.eg/En/Politics/reform/040600000000000001.htm

Convention on Women's Political Rights, the International Convention on Combating Torture and Other Forms of Cruel, Inhuman or Humiliating Treatment, and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights are some of the many international and regional agreements acceded by Egypt on human rights[22]. Constitutionally and as per the laws, the Egyptian people seem to be provided with adequate political rights and security.

3.5.2 International Reports on Human Rights vis-à-vis the Situation in Egypt

Reports from international human rights organizations reflect, however, a different picture of the situation in Egypt. If Egypt's Constitution, the government's several amendments and political reforms, and Egypt's accession to several international agreements on human rights indicate that efforts are made in Egypt aiming at providing people with better and greater political rights and security, human rights' organizations' reports hold a more pessimistic discourse on the situation of human rights in Egypt. Amnesty International 2007 report on Egypt outlines some of the political freedoms not provided to Egyptians stating, for instance, how peaceful protesters are not allowed to manifest, how members from the Muslim Brotherhood are arrested, and how detained people are tortured and badly treated (Amnesty International, "Egypt"). Their 2008 report continued to hold that Egypt's human rights situation is bad despite the conducted political reforms (Amnesty International, "Amnesty International Report 2008 Egypt"); the fact that people suspected of terrorism continue to be detained and tortured and that many journalists until now do not enjoy freedom of expression are some of the dark points outlined by the report on Egypt (Amnesty International, "Amnesty International

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[22] For more information on the international and regional agreements on human rights to which Egypt has acceded, see: "Human Rights," Egypt State Information Service,
http://www.sis.gov.eg/En/Politics/HRights/041200000000000001.htm

Report 2008 Egypt").   The Human Rights Watch 2007 World Report on Egypt also

highlighted a pessimistic picture of Egypt's human rights situation showing, for example,

how people are still deprived from their freedom of association and expression and how

detainees are often tortured (Human Rights Watch, "World Report 2007 Egypt Events of

2006").

3.5.3 Freedom of Press and of Association

Although the Egyptian law guarantees a certain extent of freedom of press, what happens

in reality is a bit different. Freedom of press is, in fact, quite restricted. Journalists, for

example, do not have an easy access to information (Egyptian Institute of National

Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 264).   Freedom of

association is still an important problem in Egypt. Taking NGOs and their work, the lack

of freedom of association does not allow them to exert their activities as they would wish

(Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development

Report, 10, 98).

Political Insecurity in Egypt?:

This indicates that constitutionally Egypt has made tremendous efforts, through various

reforms, to provide people with more political rights. However, the conclusion, which

could also be reached from this section, is that these efforts do not really coincide with

what is being implemented because reports from human rights' organizations relate that

Egypt's performance in the field of human rights is still quite poor. The solution would

therefore be for Egypt to continue the efforts they have made by effectively

implementing what the amendments stipulate so to give greater political rights to people.

CHAPTER 4
ECONOMIC INSECURITY IN EGYPT:
A MAJOR PUSH FACTOR FOR MIGRATION

4.1 The Real GDP

In measuring economic security in Egypt the first indicator to be looked at is the real Gross Domestic Product, GDP. The real GDP is an important indicator because it will indicate the economic capacity of Egypt and how prosperous is the country's economic growth. Egypt's GDP growth rate, during the first nine months of 2007-2008, was of 7.5% (Ministry of Economic Development, "Follow-up Report on Economic and Social development During the Third Quarter of 2007/08," 3) –see figure 3.

Figure 3 (Ministry of Economic Development"Follow-up Report on Economic and Social development During the Third Quarter of 2007/08," 3)

GDP Growth Rates (Quarterly) During 2006/07 and 2007/08
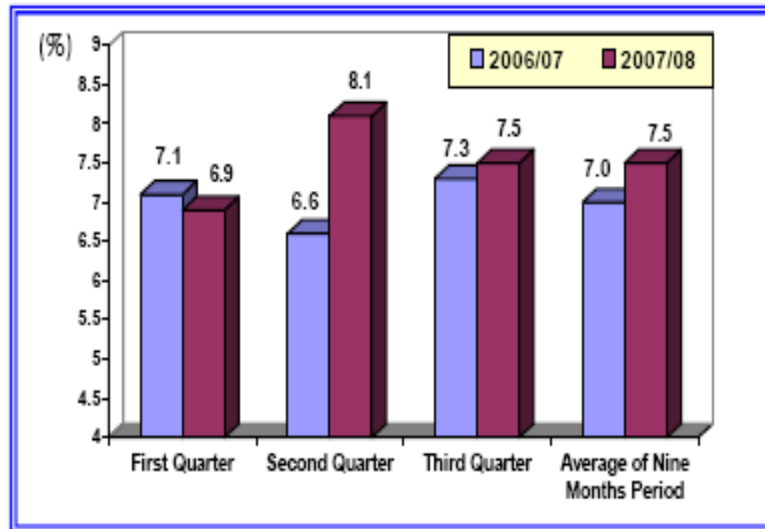
Not only the above mentioned indication shows that Egypt's performance in terms of

GDP is quite satisfactory, but also, as described by the Egyptian Ministry of Economic

Development's "Follow-up Report on Economic and Social Development," Egypt's GDP

is rising –see figure 4–; the economy, according to the report, is doing well despite some

economic obstacles faced, such as incessant changes in capital markets and the constant

rising prices in food commodities (Ministry of Economic Development, "Follow-up

Report on Economic and Social development During the Third Quarter of 2007/08," 3).

The official causes given behind the GDP's growth were the rise in economic activities in

the following sectors: tourism, Suez Canal, construction, and telecommunications (Nasr,

in Issue No. 914 from Al-Ahram Weekly Online). Accordingly, the situation in terms of

GDP seems to be quite satisfactory, which is a beneficial sign when it comes to economic

security.

Figure 4 ("Egypt on the March of Development," *from the Egyptian Information Decision Support Center,* 36)

Source: Ministry of State for Economic Development.

Such an economic growth leaves one believe that Egypt is a country where the economy keeps growing healthy and that Egyptians benefit from this situation. The situation in Egypt, however, as will be seen in the below section, is a bit different. Positive economic growth does not necessarily mean that people are provided with more security. In fact, looking at other indicators is very important for knowing if people benefit or not from this economic growth. Moreover, the following section will also elaborate on the issue that it is not only required to identify if people benefit from the

growth, but it is also important to know if the population equally and fairly benefit from the fruits of this economic growth.

4.2 The Unemployment Rate

The second indicator to be looked at is the unemployment rate[23]. According to the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, CAPMAS, the unemployment rate in 2007-2008 was of 9% with 24.2 millions of individuals in the labor force – 22 millions being employed and 2.2 millions being unemployed (Ministry of Economic Development, "Follow-up Report on Economic and Social development During the Third Quarter of 2007/08," 20) –see table 5[24]. The official explanation behind this quite low unemployment rate is represented in the efforts exerted by the Ministry of Manpower and Immigration in providing the labor force with job opportunities; during the third quarter of 2007-2008, about 225 thousand jobs were offered (Ministry of Economic Development, "Follow-up Report on Economic and Social development During the Third Quarter of 2007/08," 20). The Social Fund for Development also offered an important number of job opportunities to the labor force contributing, therefore, to this mitigating of unemployment (Ministry of Economic Development, "Follow-up Report on Economic and Social development During the Third Quarter of 2007/08," 22). Both governmental agencies attempt, therefore, to act in a way so that the offer of jobs would help in

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[23] It will be later in the thesis explained that the problem in Egypt is not necessarily one of unemployment but might rather be a problem of underemployment.
[24] Part two of the thesis will be giving a description of the profile of a person most likely to migrate due to his/her inability to find a job or an adequate job in Egypt.

lowering the unemployment rate leading to a population satisfied with the job employment opportunities.

Despite these efforts in keeping unemployment at a low rate and despite the fact that the official unemployment rate is indeed not very high; a problem, however, still persists. As indicated in table 5, the unemployment rate has remained the same in 2006/07 compared to 2007/08. If Egypt would have done enough efforts in providing economic security, this rate should have decreased. This unchanged rate means that Egypt was not able to sufficiently satisfy its labor force in terms of job opportunities; it is true that many jobs were offered, as mentioned above, but the fact that the rate is still the same means that these efforts were not effective compared to the labor force needs. This indicator demonstrates that Egyptians are still confronted to an unemployment problem despite the job opportunities offered from different organizations.

Table 5 (Ministry of Economic Development, "Follow-up Report on Economic and Social development During the Third Quarter of 2007/08," 20)

Development of the Labor Force and Unemployment During Third Quarter of 2006/07 and 2007/08

No. in millions

Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate (%)
2006/07	23.3	21.2	2.1	9.0
2007/08	24.2	22.0	2.2	9.0

Source: The Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, CAPMAS

4.3 The Poverty Situation in Egypt

Despite the indications of growth illustrated by an adequate GDP rate, in 2005, 19.6% of the Egyptian population still lived below the poverty line (Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 38). In talking about poverty, this section of the thesis focuses on two indicators: the Human Poverty Index, HPI, the Human Development Index, HDI, and the GDP per capita. Before analyzing the situation of Egypt in terms of these two indicators, the variables on which the HPI and the HDI are based will be analyzed.

The HPI:

The HPI is composed of two measures: HPI-1 and HPI-2. HPI-1 measures poverty in developing countries, while HPI-2 measures poverty in developed countries ("What is Poverty? – Defining and Measuring Poverty Internationally"). For the case of Egypt, the thesis will, therefore, be interested in HPI-1 rather than HPI-2. HPI-1's calculation is based on the following variables ("What is Poverty? – Defining and Measuring Poverty Internationally"): the percentage of a population likely to die before the age of forty; the percentage of people over the age of fifteen and who are illiterate; the percentage of children under age five who are underweight; and the percentage of people without access to public and private services such as health care and clean water.

In 2004, Egypt's HPI-1 was of 20; ranking the country as the 48th among 108 developing countries (UNDP, "Egypt The Human Development Index – Going Beyond Income"). This is not a very good indication especially that in this ranking, Egypt was not compared to developed countries but to developing ones and, despite this, it is still quite ranking behind.

The HDI and The GDP per Capita:

The calculation of the HDI, which is an index ranking from 0 to 1, is based on the three following variables (UNDP, "The Human Development Index (HDI)"). The first variable is life expectancy having for minimum value 25 years and for maximum value 85 years. The second variable is the educational attainment, whose calculation is based on the adult literacy rate and the combined gross enrollment ratio for primary, secondary, and tertiary schooling, with a greater focus given to adult literacy. The last variable on which the HDI is based is the income, having for minimum value $100, PPP, and maximum value $40,000, PPP.

In 2005, Egypt's HDI was 0.708; ranking the country as the 112th among 177 countries (UNDP, "Egypt The Human Development Index – Going Beyond Income"). Here again this is not a very positive indication because it shows that Egypt is still lacking behind in terms of development.

The GDP per capita corresponds to an estimation by the Egyptian Ministry of State for Economic Development (Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 290). This GDP per capita in Egypt in

2005/2006 was of L.E. 6371.7 (Egyptian Institute of National Planning and UNDP, 2008 Egypt Human Development Report, 293).

The Poverty Situation in Egypt:

Taking into consideration the number of people living under the poverty line in addition to the HPI-1, HDI, and the GDP per capita of Egypt, one could come to the conclusion that poverty is still an important problem to which Egyptians are confronted. The thesis will be showing in following sections how Egypt's level of poverty is a major reason pushing people to migrate.

4.4 Inflation Rate and Worker's Average Income (Purchasing Power)

In 2001, the average per capita income in Egypt was of L.E. 5,538 per year (Carey, *in Business Monthly May 03 from the American Chamber of Commerce in Egypt website*) which is equivalent to about €692.25. This is of course a very low income to receive especially when one looks at the Egyptian inflation rate that keeps rising (Ministry of Economic Development, "Follow-up Report on Economic and Social development During the Third Quarter of 2007/08," 25). According to CAPMAS data, the inflation rate was of 12.1% in February 2008 to become 16.4% in April 2008 (Ministry of Economic Development, "Follow-up Report on Economic and Social development During the Third Quarter of 2007/08," 25). This is quite problematic because the inflation rate keeps rising while workers' income is not sufficiently high, limiting, therefore, people in terms of their purchasing power, affecting their every day living

conditions. In fact, purchasing power is the "value of money in terms of the quantity of goods and services it can buy" (Government of Canada, "Economic Concepts Purchasing Power"). This purchasing power will vary depending to the inflation rate meaning that if prices rise, the purchasing power will decrease (Government of Canada, "Economic Concepts Purchasing Power").

The Problem of Low Purchasing Power:

The combination of the inflation rate and the average income is of very big relevance because it could be linked to the unemployment rate. In fact, people may find a job, and not suffer from unemployment, but salaries are so low, especially with rising prices, that having the job is as if they were unemployed because their purchasing power is very low. The purchasing power indicator could also be linked to the poverty situation in Egypt. In fact, if people are poor, it is notably due to their very limited purchasing power. People might be employed and gain a salary, but, compared to the rise in prices, this taken salary would be useless so to live a proper life and be able to nourish an entire family leading, therefore, to more and more poverty.

4.5 Income Gap

As figure 5 shows, income is very unfairly distributed in Egypt. Rich people are getting richer and poor people poorer.

Figure 5 (Earth Trends Country Profile, "Economic Indicators – Egypt," 2)
Distribution of Income in Egypt
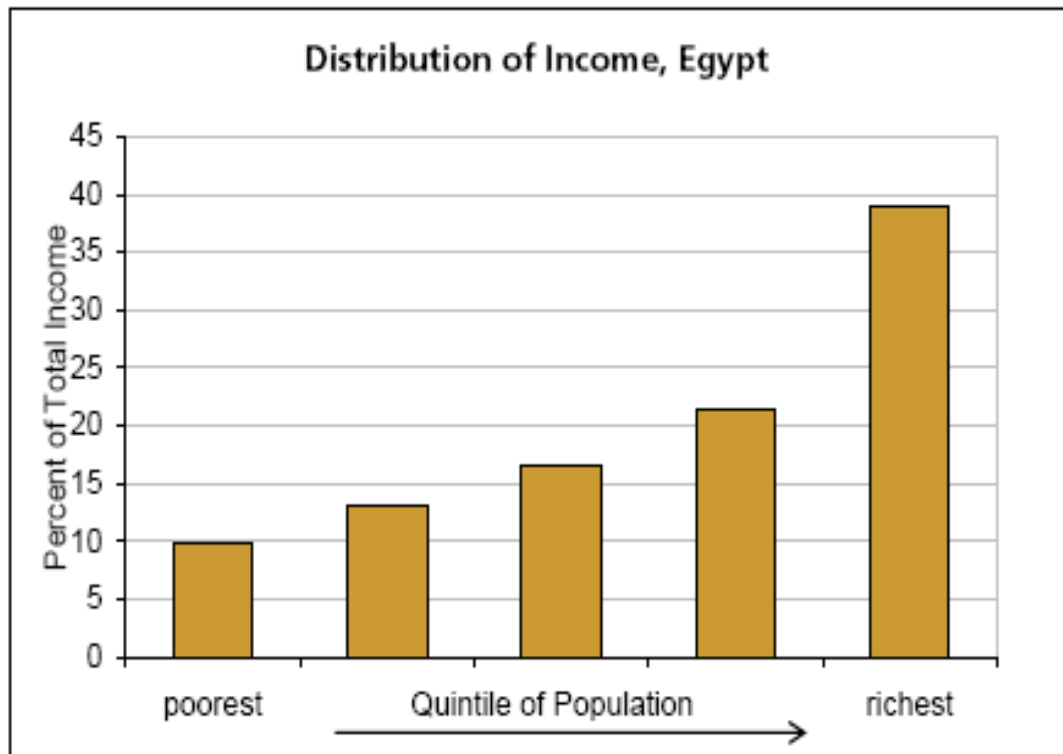
The difference between the income the rich are getting and the income the poor are getting is considerably important. In fact, while the poorest 20% of the Egyptian population earns 9.8% of the total income, the richest 20% of the population gets 39% of the total income (Earth Trends Country Profile, "Economic Indicators – Egypt," 2). This indicator is very important because it shows how in Egypt people suffer not only from economic insecurity but also endure social frustration.

Economic Insecurity in Egypt?:

As seen above, Egypt is doing quite well in terms of its GDP, but this, unfortunately, does not mean that Egyptians are benefitting from this. The other indicators talked about

in that chapter helped showing how the Egyptian population is still very insecure economically. The one main reason, reached as a conclusion from this chapter, is the very low purchasing power. Many people in Egypt either suffer from unemployment or work but earn a very low income hence having a very low purchasing power not allowing them to enjoy decent life conditions.

The very low purchasing power endured by Egyptians is the major reason behind economic insecurity. As discussed in the previous chapter, Egyptians do not really suffer from health, environmental, or personal security. What rather really affects their everyday life conditions is the economic insecurity in which they live. Egypt is not up to the standard in terms of incomes, especially taking in mind that the inflation rate keeps rising. The salary given to employees is not satisfactory, nor attractive, nor competitive enough, especially when comparing it with other countries. As said above, the average income in 2001 in Egypt was €692.25. Comparing this salary to average income earned in Europe shows a big discrepancy. In France, in 2002, the net monthly income of a non-qualified worker was €960 meaning €11,520 per year (World Salaries Group, "France Average Salaries & Expenditures"). The gross monthly average income in Austria, in 2002, of a chambermaid was €972 meaning €11,664 per year (World Salaries Group, "Austria Average Salaries & Expenditures").

This part of the thesis has been focusing on the notion of human security and the situation of human security in Egypt through the use of various indicators. The following part of the thesis will be linking what has been said in part one on human security in Egypt to explore the reason why people in Egypt are tempted to migrate.

PART II

HUMAN SECURITY:
A CAUSE OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION
EGYPT AS A CASE STUDY

CHAPTER 5
IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES

This part of the thesis links part one, meaning human security, to not only the regular type of migration, but also to the irregular type of migration taking Egypt as a case study. Chapter five will be introducing the notion of irregular migration; chapter six will be linking part one with part two by highlighting how human insecurity in Egypt, and most particularly economic insecurity, is a push factor for migration. Chapter seven will be exploring solutions to irregular migration.

5.1 Regular/Irregular Migration

Before going into details and defining what irregular migration is, the notion of regular migration should be first defined. "Immigrants are people who move from one country to another in order to settle there" (Guskin and Wilson 2007, 15). Migration is also often defined as the move of people from their country of birth to another country (IOM, "About Migration," *website homepage*). Table 6 shows the countries to which people migrate the most. Africa is considered to be one of the regions from which most migrants come in the direction, most of the time, of Europe seeking better conditions of life (Sarr, 2). One more important point to stress on before going into detail in the talk on irregular migration is that individuals that are most likely to migrate are often not the poorest, even if those are the ones that the most in need to migrate. In fact, migrating implies that the person has the minimum economic capacity to afford the entire migration process, be it regular or irregular. Therefore, it is the upper lower class and lower middle

class persons, facing human insecurity, that are the most likely to migrate – see appendix 3.

Table 6 (Commission on Human Security, 2003 Report, "Human Security Now," 41)

Countries with the Largest Number of International Migrants, 2000

Country	Number of people
United States	34,988,000
Russian Federation	13,259,000
Germany	7,349,000
Ukraine	6,947,000
France	6,277,000
India	6,271,000
Canada	5,826,000
Saudi Arabia	5,255,000
Australia	4,705,000
Pakistan	4,243,000

Source: United Nations, Population Division 2002b.

5.1.1 The Notion of Irregular Migration

After having referred to what is meant by regular migration, the focus will now be made on irregular migration explaining the reason why people are in a way put in a situation where they have no other choice but to resort to irregular means of migration. Prior going into these details, a word should be said on the reason why this thesis has been talking about irregular rather than illegal means of migration. The terminology here

counts a lot because illegal migration is not anymore a suitable notion to refer to the situation of migrants abroad staying in a non regular way. In fact, many migrants access the receiving country in a legal way with a touristic or student visa. They, however, become non-regular individuals in the receiving country by, most of the time, overstaying their visa. Here is why, illegal migration is now rather referred to as irregular migration – see appendix 4. In other terms, an irregular migrant is not necessarily an individual that entered into the receiving country in an illegal way but s/he might be an individual that migrated in a legal way but then chose to remain in that country in an irregular situation.

5.1.2 Why Do People Resort to Irregular rather than Regular Migration?: Restrictive Migration Laws

As a result of the constantly rising number of migrants from poor to rich countries and because, as will be seen later in the thesis, migration is perceived as a carrier of many problems to internal and international stability, several European countries rendered their migration laws stricter vis-à-vis migrants. European countries have also made tougher their control mechanisms; these tougher migration regulations were done with the objective of decreasing the number of migrants (Van Selm 2005, 51). Furthermore, the 9/11 events worsened the situation because as the result of these events, with the war on terrorism, European countries were in a situation where they had to tighten their migration laws and control their borders even more (Kjaerum 2005, 51). Migrating from one country to another has become a harder and harder task to do. Borders are now, especially since 9/11, extremely controlled and migration laws are stricter; with this, many people are forced to resort to irregular migration in order to quit the country in

which they live and where they are not provided with security, in the direction of a rich country where they would live in much better and secure conditions to the extent that they do not wait anymore until they get a visa (Sarr, 2). The other scenario is the one, as explained above, where they opt for a touristic or student visa but then overstay the visa duration and become irregular migrants as the ones who entered the country in an irregular way from the beginning. Hence, irregular migration is the only escape for many poor people living in insecurity; it is because they do not have the opportunity and chance to regularly migrate that many resort to irregular means of migration – see appendix 1. Estimating a number of irregular migrants is hard because, per definition, irregular migrants are not registered and, hence, getting an exact number is very complicated – see appendix 2 and appendix 3. However, estimates and numbers indicate that around 200 million people live out of their country of origin; this number being in constant rise (Sarr, 2).

5.1.3 Why Do People Resort to Irregular rather than Regular Migration?: Insufficiency of Channels for Regular Migration

A second reason, specific to Egypt[25], behind irregular migration is the insufficiency of channels for regular migration – see appendix 4. Projects and joint agreements should be implemented to provide people with more opportunities to migrate through regular means and to find jobs in receiving countries that would allow them to reside in a regular situation – see appendix 4. In fact, if people are provided with possibilities to migrate through regular means, they would not be tempted to migrate in an irregular way

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[25] Section 5.1.2 was discussing the rise in irregular migration in general taking the more restrictive migration laws as a phenomenon faced worldwide. The following causes, behind irregular migration, to be mentioned will be focusing on Egypt.

especially when knowing the dangers of the irregular migration means, to be discussed in following sections.

5.1.4 Why Do People Resort to Irregular rather than Regular Migration?: Pull Factors in the Receiving Countries

Many Egyptians irregularly migrate to European countries such as Greece and Italy; push factors, enunciated throughout the thesis: lack of human security, insufficient channel of regular migration, and more restrictive migration laws are all reasons behind such a move. However, what is also important to mention is that if Egyptians are tempted to migrate into these countries, it is because of pull factors. One of the major factors attracting Egyptians to migrate to a country such as Italy, for example, is the fact that the labor market is quite open to receive these irregular migrant workers – see appendix 3 and appendix 4. The informal sector in Italy is, in fact, an important element in the country's economic growth (Kuchta-Helbling, 6).

5.2 Is Irregular Migration a Threat to International and National Security? What are its Negative Consequences?

Migration is often considered as a catalyst for many sociopolitical problems (Sarr, 2) due to this idea that migrants help in rising the unemployment rate. In fact with the arrival of migrants, the labor force increases with stagnant job opportunities. In such a case, migration becomes a threat to the receiving countries' internal economic security.

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A second negative consequence associated with irregular migration is the idea of "cultural integration" (United Nations University Tokyo, 2). It is believed that irregular migrants, or migrants in general, will be excluded culturally from the society because of different traditions and culture creating, therefore, cultural discrepancies in the receiving country.

A third negative consequence associated with irregular migration is the fact that it is believed that irregular migrants are suspected of being behind many crimes (Republic of Slovenia Government Communication Office, "Illegal Migration – A Threat to Slovenia's National Security"); not only this but irregular migration is also associated with terrorism (Kephart, *from the Center for Immigration Studies website*). Irregular migrants are considered to be "conveyors of insecurity" – see appendix 3; and this is of course, for decision makers, one of the most alarming consequences to irregular migration because this link between irregular migration and terrorism as well as crimes would mean that irregular migration is a threat to international as well as national security and stability.

This is why irregular migration rather than regular migration was chosen as a main focus in this thesis because, other than the fact that irregular migration is a more and more growing problem, but also irregular migration can lead to international and national insecurity.

5.3 Irregular Migration and Egypt[26]

In respect to irregular migration, Egypt, particularly since 2000, is a receiving and sending country for migrants. Egypt is a receiving country because many migrants, from Sub-Saharan Africa and more particularly from Southern Sudan and Eritrea, come to Egypt as a place where they could be provided with better living conditions and security than in their country. The security situation in countries such as Sudan is very risky so that for these population Egypt is a safe and close place that would provide them with security and better living conditions. But Egypt is also a sending country of migrants in search for better security (Abdel-Latif, 1). One could conclude from this that the lack of human security is a quite relative phenomenon. One goes to a country that would ensure him/her with better human security compared to what he had to endure in his/her sending country. Human security is not an absolute term; taking the case of Egypt, it is a receiving country because compared to other countries, Egypt's level of human security is satisfactory. However, if Egypt's level of human security would have been that satisfactory, then it would not have been a sending country. Although, Egypt is a sending and receiving country, the approach to be focused on in this thesis is Egypt as a sending country.

5.3.1 Who are the People that are most Likely to Migrate?

Most of the Egyptian migrants are young in age, 21-35 years old, they are most likely to be male, and most of them are educated but have failed in getting a job in Egypt (Abdel-

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[26] The cause behind this irregular migration, economic insecurity being the main one, will be looked at in chapter seven.

Latif, 2). A point here should be stressed on, which is that most of the migrants are educated. This is very unfortunate because it means that migrants from Egypt are skilled and educated people who could give and enrich so much Egypt, but have to leave because they lack security and cannot find the job that would provide them with adequate conditions of living.

A second interesting question to ask in here is what are the means for Egyptians migrants to irregularly migrate? The mostly used means of irregular migration in Egypt is done via traffickers who are paid an average amount of $5,000 (Abdel-Latif, 2). Once having received this amount, traffickers would be the liaison person taking in charge the irregular migration of these Egyptians who are willing to migrate as they are in search for security and better living conditions.

5.3.2 The Danger of Irregularly Migrating

The means resorted to in order to cross borders irregularly put these people's life in real danger; this shows how much these people are living in misery in their country and are ready to take all risks in order to migrate. People are so desperate that they would risk their lives, ready to die, only for improving their living conditions. Taking the case of Mexico and migration in the direction of the U.S. for example, many Mexicans die while crossing the U.S. borders (Krikorian, *from the Center for Immigration Studies website*). Furthermore, it has been estimated that worldwide, since 1988, at least 13,148 individuals died along the European borders; many of them also die in the sea in their way to the country where they will be migrating (Fortress Europe, "Fortress Europe"). The problem is that by becoming irregular migrants, they might not solve their problems nor improve

their living conditions because many of the countries receiving irregular migrants treat these migrants in an inconvenient way as they perceive them as a threat or carrier of problems, as previously mentioned.

5.3.3 Most Frequent Destinations

Most Egyptian irregular migrants go in the direction of Italy, Greece, and Cyprus, but also in Qatar, Jordan, and Libya – see appendix 2. There are two main reasons making that these are destinations to which Egyptians migrate the most through irregular means. First of all, those are countries that are in need of a cheap and not necessarily skilled labor; these are the pull factors mentioned earlier – see appendix 2. Egyptians go in the direction of these countries knowing that they will be employed; they know that employers in these countries look for the type of work they could offer, a work that, most of the time, natives would not accept doing especially if the salary is low. They know there is a work market at their disposal; such as is the case in Italy with an important informal sector. The second reason is that Egyptians can easily travel in the direction of these countries. These countries are, for the most of them, Mediterranean states and, therefore, it is very easy for Egyptians to have access to them via maritime routes – see appendix 2; moreover, the distance that separates these states is not important and hence this facilitates even more Egyptians' access to these countries.

A final important point to focus on in conclusion to this chapter is that irregular migration can represent a threat to international stability, leading to terrorism, and to national security. This point highlights how important it is to overcome, therefore, the negative consequences irregular migration could lead to. In chapter seven, the thesis will

be talking about implemented projects in Egypt aiming at increasing human security and putting to a halt irregular migration from Egypt to other countries. These projects are very important if irregular migration and its negative impacts on international and national security is to be controlled.

CHAPTER 6
HUMAN SECURITY IN EGYPT AND ITS
LINK WITH IRREGULAR MIGRATION

The situation of human security in Egypt has been already analyzed in detail in part one of the thesis. Each of the possible threats to human security, regrouped into seven different categories, was looked at to determine the extent with which human insecurity is prevalent in Egypt. Food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, political security, and economic security were all looked at. According to the indicators used, Egypt is not in an extreme situation where life has become unbearable and where Egyptians have to migrate in mass because they are living into too much insecurity.

However, Egypt is in such a situation where certain difficulties are faced by people so that they end up being provided with not enough security and live in quite bad conditions; and in that case, migration becomes a way out for them so to ensure their security and a better living. As was stressed on in chapter four and as focused on at the end of this chapter, economic insecurity is the main reason behind people's migration. Economic insecurity is the number one pushing factor for migration. Moreover, if Egyptians end up resorting to irregular migration, it is because of migration laws and border controls that are stricter and stricter, and this especially after the 9/11 events and the War on Terrorism. The following section will be linking the human insecurity discussed in chapters three and four to migration. If part one was solely focusing on the notion of human security exploring the human security situation in Egypt, this chapter

makes the link between the situation in Egypt described in the above chapters and between the reason why this insecurity could be a push factor for migration.

6.1 Political Insecurity as Push Factor for Migration?

First, political insecurity in Egypt is represented in the lack of implementation of the political reforms undertaken, on paper, in the Constitution and in the laws. Human rights organizations' reports indicate that efforts are still needed from Egypt to provide people with their rights, in practice, because even if many amendments were made, people are still not provided with enough of their political rights. This could be linked with irregular migration in the way that people do not have enough space for expressing themselves and exerting their full political rights. Political insecurity, most of the time, ends up with the migration from Egypt of political migrants leaving because they could not have a say, and therefore they end up exerting their political rights but from abroad; political participation in that case is exerted transnationally by these people. A point to be noted here is that even if political insecurity represents a possible reason behind irregular migration in Egypt, it is still not a major factor behind people's move from Egypt to other countries.

6.2 Food Insecurity as Push Factor for Migration?

Second, in terms of food insecurity, Egypt is not confronted to a famine situation or a lack of food production that would be pushing people to migrate in mass. Rather the problem in Egypt is related to access to food; food is available but because of existing inequalities, not all people have access to it. Therefore, some people live in bad conditions because they cannot have access to food, putting in mind that this inaccessibility of food is also due to a purchasing power problem. But as was the case for political insecurity, food insecurity can still not be considered as a major push factor of migration in Egypt because the country is not suffering from severe lack of food or from famine.

6.3 Health Insecurity as Push Factor for Migration?

Third, in terms of health insecurity, Egypt is not in an extreme situation because it is not a country where epidemics are prevalent or recurrent; thus the situation in Egypt is not one where people would be pushed to migrate in mass. Even though, indications such as the number of doctors, nurses, health units per persons are very low, as seen in chapter three, health insecurity is also not really a cause for migration in Egypt; the possible reason behind this is that the impact of health insecurity is felt only on the long-run. As long as people are not confronted to epidemics, they would not take the risk to migrate. Health insecurity by itself is not really a solid cause pushing people to migrate. This scenario is quite similar for environmental insecurity.

6.4 Environmental Insecurity as Push Factor for Migration?

Environmental insecurity, as just stated, is not a very important catalyst behind people's migration. The situation in Egypt vis-à-vis environmental security is one where people are not in big danger because, unlike countries like Indonesia or Sri Lanka, the country is not confronted to several and regular environmental disasters. The problem in Egypt is rather one of pollution and climate change. But because the consequences of environmental threats are felt only on the long run, the lack of environmental security is not enough as a reason in and of itself to push people to migrate. However, the point to take care of is that, on the long run, climate change and pollution could be major causes of mass migration. It is believed that the rise in temperature in Egypt can lead to important migration of people (UNDP, 2007/2008 Human Development Report, 30).

6.5 Personal Insecurity and Community Security as Push Factor for Migration?

In Egypt, crimes do exist as in many other countries. But here again this is not a sufficient reason for people to resort to irregular migration, especially when one takes into consideration that the risk of being confronted to crimes could be faced in many developed countries. Personal insecurity could rather be the type of security that, if added to another type of insecurity, would push someone to migrate.

Community Security as Push Factor for Migration:

The present situation in Egypt, currently, is one of ethnic tensions rather than ethnic conflicts. Therefore, until now, Egypt is not in a situation where Copts or even Muslims would migrate in mass because they feel insecure or threatened. It is possible that a number of Copts migrate due to discrimination to which they might be confronted, but the point is that this migration is not a mass one. Thus, the important thing to be said is that the situation should be kept under control so that the problem does not escalate leading to insecurity for the people.

Political Insecurity, Food Insecurity, Health Insecurity, Environmental Insecurity, Personal Insecurity, Community Insecurity: A Push Factor for Migration?:

From what has been said above, Egypt is not in a critical situation when it comes to these six above mentioned types of security. In fact, even if Egypt faces some complications in terms of these types of security, the situation is not critical so that people would be tempted to migrate. Official reports and writings, as will be shown in the following section, all support the idea that Egyptians resort to migration due to economic reasons. Egyptians might suffer from health problems, from food insecurities, and from political insecurity but these are not the main factors, according to official reports, pushing them to migrate. The following section will be focusing on economic reason as the one and main reason behind Egyptians' temptation of migration. Indeed, economic insecurity in Egypt is quite important so that people perceive the resort to migration as their main way out to improve their living conditions.

6.6 Economic Insecurity as Push Factor for Migration?

Finally is economic insecurity which is, as shown in chapter four, the biggest problem of human insecurity in Egypt. Economic insecurity is, indeed, one of the major, if not the biggest, reason behind irregular migration (Abdel-Latif, 2). People in Egypt, and especially the youth, are suffering from economic insecurity. As analyzed in part one, people are suffering from unemployment and from a low purchasing power. Salaries in are very low in addition and compared to the constant rise in prices. In reference and as shown in chapter four, seeing other countries' salaries compared to Egypt's salaries is a sufficient reason pushing people to migrate. People travel abroad with the dream to have an appropriate salary on which they can rely for a living, as even the most unqualified jobs in these countries make one earns a good salary compared to what they gain in their country of origin[27]. These problems lead to a situation where people are living in very high insecurity and in very bad and poor conditions so that the only means remaining for them to survive is migrate into a country where they could get a job and be paid a adequate salary. Economic insecurity, due to underemployment and poverty, is the number one problem in Egypt behind Egyptian migration – see appendix 4. People are so desperate to migrate that they are ready to risk their lives and resort to dangerous and irregular means of migration so to improve their living conditions.

These security problems faced in Egypt are important to mention because any solution to be implemented to improve living conditions of the population will have to take these mentioned above issues into consideration. If the problem of irregular

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[27] Depending, in that country, on people's average purchasing power.

migration is to be solved, there should be a considerable focus made on tackling economic insecurity.

CHAPTER 7
ENSURE HUMAN SECURITY: A TOP PRIORITY
TO REDUCE IRREGULAR MIGRATION

The thesis has been linking human security with irregular migration. There, in fact, is a clear correlation between human insecurity and irregular migration. The more human insecurity, the more there will be irregular migration. People in a situation of insecurity will try, by any means, to migrate to a country where they would be provided with more security. In that case, it is quite obvious how human security should be ensured if irregular migration is to be reduced. It is certain that human insecurity is not the only reason behind irregular migration; the lack of human security is only one among many other reasons and motives pushing people to migrate, but it is still one of the reasons and this is why human security should be one of the top priorities on decision makers' political, economic, and social agenda. Irregular migration is, indeed, a very important socio-political and economical problem to be controlled especially when taking into consideration the threat it could cause to international and national stability.

The Two Strategies to be Adopted in Controlling Irregular Migration:

If irregular migration is to be controlled, two possible strategies are therefore to be adopted: either focus on tackling irregular migration in and of itself or ensure human security, in the case of Egypt a special focus should be made on economic security, so to reduce people's temptation vis-à-vis migration. As will be shown later in this chapter, focusing on irregular migration in itself is very important, but focusing on human security is even more important because by tackling human security, one is targeting the root

causes that have led to irregular migration. In other terms, projects on irregular migration would be trying to solve the problem once it has occurred and projects on human security would be of a preventive nature. The following discusses some of the projects implemented in Egypt having as objectives either directly to reduce irregular migration from Egypt to other countries or to ensure human security hence reducing indirectly irregular migration.

Several projects are being implemented in Egypt by various governmental organizations: such as the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, targeting children, adolescents, and women, and the Social Fund for Development, targeting fresh graduates. Projects are also implemented by various international organizations and donor agencies such as UNICEF, UNDP, the Italian Cooperation, and the World Bank. These projects all aim at providing people with more security and better living conditions.

7.1 Projects Directly Targeting Irregular Migration

7.1.1 The Approach of The Ministry of Manpower and Immigration

The Ministry of Manpower and Immigration deals with the issue of irregular migration in two main ways, both relying on prevention so that Egyptians are not tempted to migrate. The first way with which the issue is dealt with is through joint agreements with various European and Arab countries, notably those to which Egyptians irregularly migrate the most. Accordingly, joint agreements have been signed with countries such as Italy, Qatar, Jordan, and Libya, and one will be signed soon with France – see appendix 2. For

example, the joint agreement between Italy and Egypt provides Egyptian workers with a possibility to go work in Italy under a regular status. Jobs in fields, such as construction, are posted on the Ministry's website; workers apply for the position and if they are eligible, they are actually sent to work there – see appendix 2. This is a very interesting project, therefore, because it attempts to provide a job to Egyptians so that they do not reside in the receiving country under an irregular status. The second means though which the Ministry of Manpower and Immigration deals with the issue of irregular migration is through awareness raising programs where it educates Egyptian citizens on the dangers of irregular migration – see appendix 2.

7.1.2 The Italian Cooperation Efforts

The Italian Cooperation exerted considerable efforts in dealing with the issue of migration in Egypt. Through the different projects it funded, and that were implemented for the most of them by the Egyptian Ministry of Manpower and Immigration and the International Organization for Migration, IOM, but also through various joint signed agreements, the Italian Cooperation aimed at regulating the phenomenon of irregular migration notably by encouraging regular rather than irregular migration.

The two main projects that have been implemented by the Italian Cooperation, in cooperation with the Ministry of Manpower and Immigration and the IOM, to deal with irregular migration from Egypt are: the Integrated Migration Information System project and the Information Dissemination on Migration project. Other than achieving the objectives just mentioned above, these projects also had for goal to raise Egyptians' awareness on the danger of irregular migration (Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs –

Italian Embassy in Cairo, Egyptian Ministry of Manpower and Immigration, International Organization for Migration, "Cooperation on Migration: Migration Policies: The Importance of Investing in Human Resources and the Role of Media," 26). These two projects were very beneficial to Egypt in that they succeeded in matching the demands of jobs coming from Egypt with job offers in Italy and media and social campaigns were successfully conducted in raising Egyptians' awareness on the ways to resort to so to regularly enter into Italy (Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Italian Embassy in Cairo, Egyptian Ministry of Manpower and Immigration, International Organization for Migration, "Cooperation on Migration: Migration Policies: The Importance of Investing in Human Resources and the Role of Media," 27).

The efforts of the Italian Cooperation are important for two main reasons. The first reason is that Italy is, as previously said, one of the countries receiving Egyptian migrants the most. Hence, Egypt obviously needs to cooperate with such a country if the problem of irregular migration is to be solved. The second reason is that the projects funded by the Italian Cooperation aim at reducing irregular migration by substituting it with regular migration. This is a very interesting approach because the problem is not in migration in and of itself. Regular migration can be a positive thing that could benefit the individual as well as the receiving country; the problem is rather in irregular migration and the negative consequences, discussed previously, associated with it. Migration, when not resorted to out of desperate necessity and in an irregular way, can be very beneficial; and these projects funded by the Italian Cooperation focus on this, so that Egyptians could migrate in a regular way and be treated accordingly and not as criminals that have

entered the country and the labor market in an irregular manner. These projects are important because they attempt to provide Egyptians with channels of regular migration.

The problem that one, however, could come up with looking at the Ministry of Manpower and Immigration and the Italian Cooperation projects is that, although directly targeting irregular migration is very important and helpful, it still does not really solve the problem because the root causes, having pushed people from the beginning to have this willingness to migrate, have not been targeted. The usefulness with projects targeting human security is that they deal with the problem from its root, especially the project dealing with economic insecurity. Following are some examples of projects implemented to ensure human security in Egypt.

7.2 Projects Having to do with Human Security

Projects in Egypt, targeting human insecurities, are implemented for most of them by a joint cooperation between the Egyptian government and foreign agencies. These foreign agencies work with the idea that supporting people by providing them with more security, would help them build a proper future preventing them from resorting to irregular migration (Guskin and Wilson 2007, 29).

7.2.1 The National Council for Childhood and Motherhood – The Girls' Education Initiative

The Girls' Education Initiative, GEI, is a project that was launched in 2003 by Egypt's First Lady, Suzanne Mubarak. The GEI's goals are to reduce the gender gap in primary

education enrollment and to focus on quality education so to reach a situation of education for all by 2015; the objective would be to make available 1,047 girl-friendly schools so that 31,410 students be enrolled in the targeted areas by the project which are: Giza, Beni Suef, Fayoum, Beheira, Minia, Sohag, and Assiut (Girls' Education Initiative 2002-2007, 1-2)[28]. The GEI is a project implemented by the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood in cooperation with eight United Nations organizations led by UNICEF, a national task force –composed of 18 ministries, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, the Information and Decision Support Center, and central NGOs–, voluntary task teams in the targeted governorates, education committee for each school, NGOs on the governorate level, and the private sector. The project's targeted groups are mainly girls who are from 6 to 13 years old and who are not enrolled yet in schools or who dropped out of schools and boys who need to be enrolled in such schools (Girls' Education Initiative 2002-2007, 3). The project's main achievements are: the opening of 710 schools in the targeted governorates, 19,445 students were enrolled, of which 97.7% are girls, and the GEI's quality education approach has been adopted by the Ministry of Education (Girls' Education Initiative 2002-2007, 5)[29].

The importance of this project comes from the fact that education is a "defense technique" for poor communities that perceive irregular migration as their only way out – see appendix 1. Education is the basis for any human's future prosperity. An educated person is empowered for the future because being educated implies that s/he is more eligible to acquire a job, hence to have an income and to be economically secure[30].

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[28] Also see Appendix 1 for more information.
[29] Ibid.
[30] Given the fact that the purchasing power does not end up being too low; decision makers should seriously be aware of the importance of dealing with this issue of purchasing power.

Moreover, by giving a special focus to girls, the project is building a better future because it is targeting future mothers that would be the agent in providing coming generations with different types of securities: health, education, and economic – see appendix 1. Basic education is indeed important and therefore an empowerment tool for people, especially, as shown, when it comes to girls' education (Ogata and Cels 2003, 279) and especially when knowing how literacy rates are not, unfortunately, very high in Egypt – see figure 6.

Figure 6 (Earth Trends Country Profiles, "Population, Health, and Human Well-Being – Egypt," 2)
Literacy Rate for Adults over the Age of 15, Egypt, 1980-2000
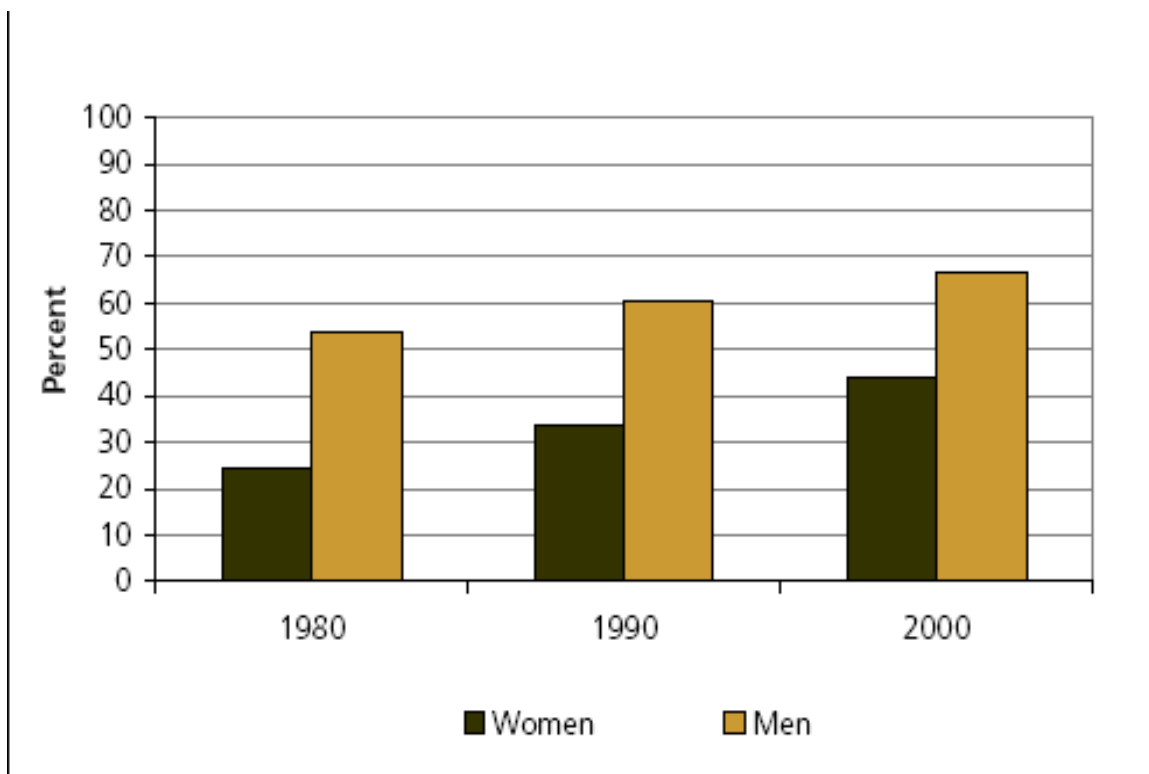
Talking about this project implemented by NCCM, it is important here to refer on the importance of focusing on children in any projects implemented not only in Egypt but in any country and seeking to enhance human security. Children represent the future generation on which the world will be based. Investing in children is thus of major importance. Ensuring children's security today is a step forward towards future increased human security. Educated and secured children today are tomorrow's secured humans.

7.2.2 The Social Fund for development – A Provider of Economic Security for Egyptian Youth

Since its creation in 1991, the Social Fund for Development, SFD, exerted considerable amount of efforts in providing Egyptian youth with economic security by economically empowering them. The SFD is a "social safety net" associated with the Egyptian government in economically reforming the country. The SFD's mission is to provide Egyptians with job offers, with credits, with technical help, and with skills, especially technological skills (Social Fund for Development, "About Us"). By helping the Egyptian youth economically, the SFD plays a role in alleviating the economic insecurity that could be endured by the population[31].

The SFD's activities, in a way, prevent young graduates to feel the need to migrate. In fact, if they are provided with convenient jobs once they are graduated and are not living under other types of insecurity –food, health, environmental, etc.– they would not feel the need to migrate or resorting to irregular migration once they cannot acquire a visa easily. The role played by an organization, such as the SFD, is therefore of

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[31] See: "Stories," Social Fund for Development, http://www.sfdegypt.org/stories.asp
for examples of success stories as a result of the Social Fund for Development's activities.

major importance because it deals with the number one insecurity faced in Egypt: the economic insecurity.

7.3 These Projects' Objectives

Programs implemented to enhance human security should aim at having a situation, as mentioned in the October 2005 Report of the Global Commission on International Migration, where migration is "migration out of choice rather than necessity" (Mission Permanente de la Suisse auprès des Nations Unies, "Statement by H.E. Ambassador Walter Fust," 5). Migration in and of itself is not a bad thing rather the problem is when people are forced to migrate because they are in need to, pushing them, thus, to resort to irregular means.

Moreover, it should be kept in mind that any project implemented in Egypt should deal with the root causes if irregular migration is to be reduced. Therefore, not only it is important to focus on human security, but it is also important to focus on the other causes pushing people to migrate meaning: the channels of regular migration and pulling factors in receiving countries – see appendix 4. Taking pulling factors in receiving countries, for example, projects should create an environment of work that would be even more tempting for Egyptians so that they do not see the need to migrate abroad. Taking the issue of channels of migration, more projects should focus on expanding the channels made available to people so that they could migrate through regular means – see appendix 4.

The other conclusion to be drawn from this chapter is that projects targeting irregular migration itself are very important, but projects dealing with human security are even more important because these projects would be tackling the root causes behind the irregular migration. Taking the case of Egypt, projects targeting economic insecurity are of major importance because they are focused on the main cause pushing people to resort to irregular migration. Projects having to do with irregular migration, such as those implemented by the Ministry of Manpower and Immigration and the Italian Cooperation, are very useful as they try to control the negative consequences impacts of irregular migration. However, projects targeting economic insecurity are of even more importance because they attempt to prevent this irregular migration from happening.

CONCLUSION

The thesis has been trying to explore the existing link between human security and irregular migration. In order to do so the link was first made between human security and migration. The thesis then went into details and looked at the issue of irregular migration per se. Throughout this process, Egypt was taken as a case study. The thesis was also interested in seeing how the Commission on Human Security, and after the Commission ceased its activities, the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security dealt with the issues of human security and irregular migration.

The thesis first demonstrated that the more the lack of human security, the more there will be irregular migration. Each of the seven categories of human security: food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, political security, and economic security were analyzed, through the use of various indicators, to show that the more people are deprived from these securities, the more they will be resorting to migration. Furthermore, if irregular means of migration are resorted to, it is because of very restrictive migration laws and borders' security rules. Especially since 9/11, it has been more and more difficult to acquire a visa; people faced with very tough security situations and confronted to very strict migration laws have no other options, therefore, than resorting to irregular migration so to ensure their living conditions.

It has also been shown that there are other reasons leading to irregular migration. These reasons are the lack of channels of regular migration and pull factors in receiving countries. Therefore, those causes should also be taken into consideration when dealing

with the issue of migration. It is because people are not provided with opportunities to regularly migrate and are tempted by very attractive job offers abroad that they choose to migrate by resorting to irregular means no matter the risk this could have on their lives.

In focusing on Egypt and its situation vis-à-vis irregular migration, it has been shown that people in Egypt are not living in a situation where they are forced to migrate in mass. People are not living under extreme security problems; for instance, people do not have to endure extreme personal security problems, the country is not devastated by internal conflicts, and people are not victims of recurrent environmental disasters.

The problem in Egypt is rather one of economic insecurity. It is true that the economic insecurity faced in Egypt is not one of extreme situation where people would migrate in mass. But it is still a major push factor, as seen throughout the thesis and as mentioned in several reports, of migration. Mainly because of very low purchasing power, people quit the country in the direction of developed countries where they would improve their living conditions. Here again if irregular means of migration are resorted to, it is due to the very restrictive migration and borders' laws. Many Egyptians migrate irregularly; despite the risk this could represent for their lives, migration means become their only way out to improve their living conditions.

The thesis was also focused on the Commission on Human Security and the UNTFHS and their achievements in tackling the issue of human security and of irregular migration. Weaknesses in their achievements have also been looked at. In terms of these two bodies' achievements, the thesis has been showing that the Commission dealt in the form of recommendations in its final report, *Human Security Now*, so to be followed by its successor. In fact, these recommendations were to be followed and implemented by

the UNTFHS under the guidance of the Advisory Board on Human Security. The Commission's achievements in the field of migration were therefore more of a theoretical nature to be put into practice by projects funded by the UNTFHS.

The UNTFHS was, in fact, successful in funding projects dealing with the issue of migration and with spreading human security worldwide. The weaknesses, however, identified in the UNTFHS' achievements are first that the UNTFHS solely deal with UN agencies, second that certain regions are not targeted, Egypt is for example not targeted by UNTFHS projects, and third that irregular migration per se is not dealt with. The UNTFHS projects are not dealing with issues of people having migrated by resorting to irregular means of migration.

It is important to pinpoint that the thesis has been stressing that regulating irregular migration was important for two main reasons. The first reason is that irregular migration could threaten international and national security and stability. Therefore controlling irregular migration and focusing on push factors, human insecurity, should be a top priority on decision makers' agenda. Second, it is important to control irregular migration because irregular migrants are under the risk of being mistreated in the receiving countries. Irregular migrants go to the receiving countries thinking that their living conditions will be improved. The sad situation, however, is when they realize once there that their life have not been improved because, in the receiving country, they are still living in insecurity and are mistreated because considered as aliens living in the country in an irregular situation.

Any state willing to put an end to irregular migration should focus on two main strategies. The main one is to target the root causes behind irregular migration: ensuring

human security to its people. Human security should be a top priority on state's political, economic, and social agenda. Irregular migration has become now an issue preoccupying more and more states' leaders. Indeed, because irregular migration, as discussed above, can represent a threat to national and international security, the focus on human security is as important as the focus on territorial security. The second strategy would be to focus on irregular migration in and of itself. What should, however, be mentioned is that both strategies should be complemented to one another because tackling irregular migration per se is very important. Dealing with irregular migration is not a solution because the root causes of the problem have not been targeted. Ensuring human security is therefore indispensable; especially when putting into mind that the spread of human security worldwide can be nothing but positive for world stability and future prosperity.

Below are two figures briefly summing up the main points and conclusions that have been reached throughout this thesis taking Egypt as a case study:[32]

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[32] These figures have been produced by me to illustrate the thesis' main ideas and conclusions.

Figure 7 First Concluding Figure

Irregular migration is resorted to due to:

REASON ONE AND MAIN REASON:
The lack of human security

REASON TWO:
More and more restrictive migration laws, especially since the 9/11 events

REASON THREE:
Insufficient channels of regular migration

REASON FOUR:
Pull factors in the receiving countries

SOLUTION:
Ensure human security and this not only to regulate irregular migration, but migration in general, so to have migration be made not out of desperate need motives

SOLUTION:
Provide people with opportunities to migrate through regular means so that they do not find themselves there treated in a bad way as considered irregular residents

Mainly the existence of a considerably important informal sector, and because in Egypt the main human security problem is an economic one, people are tempted to migrate

In the case of Egypt, a special focus should be made on economic insecurity. More projects should be implemented to deal with this issue so that people do not be tempted to migrate with the objective of improving their living conditions

This solution could be made available through the signing of joint agreements as was made by the Egyptian Ministry of Manpower and Immigration with a country such as Italy

SOLUTION:
Implement projects to prevent people from being tempted by the labor market abroad. Job opportunities offered in Egypt should be more attractive and tempting

Figure 8 Second Concluding Figure

Irregular migration should be controlled

FIRST REASON:
Irregular migration can threaten international and national security and stability

SECOND REASON:
Migrants' security could be threatened due to their irregular status in receiving countries

SOLUTION:
Adopt two complementary strategies: target irregular migration in and of itself but also target the root causes of the problem by aiming at ensuring human security worldwide
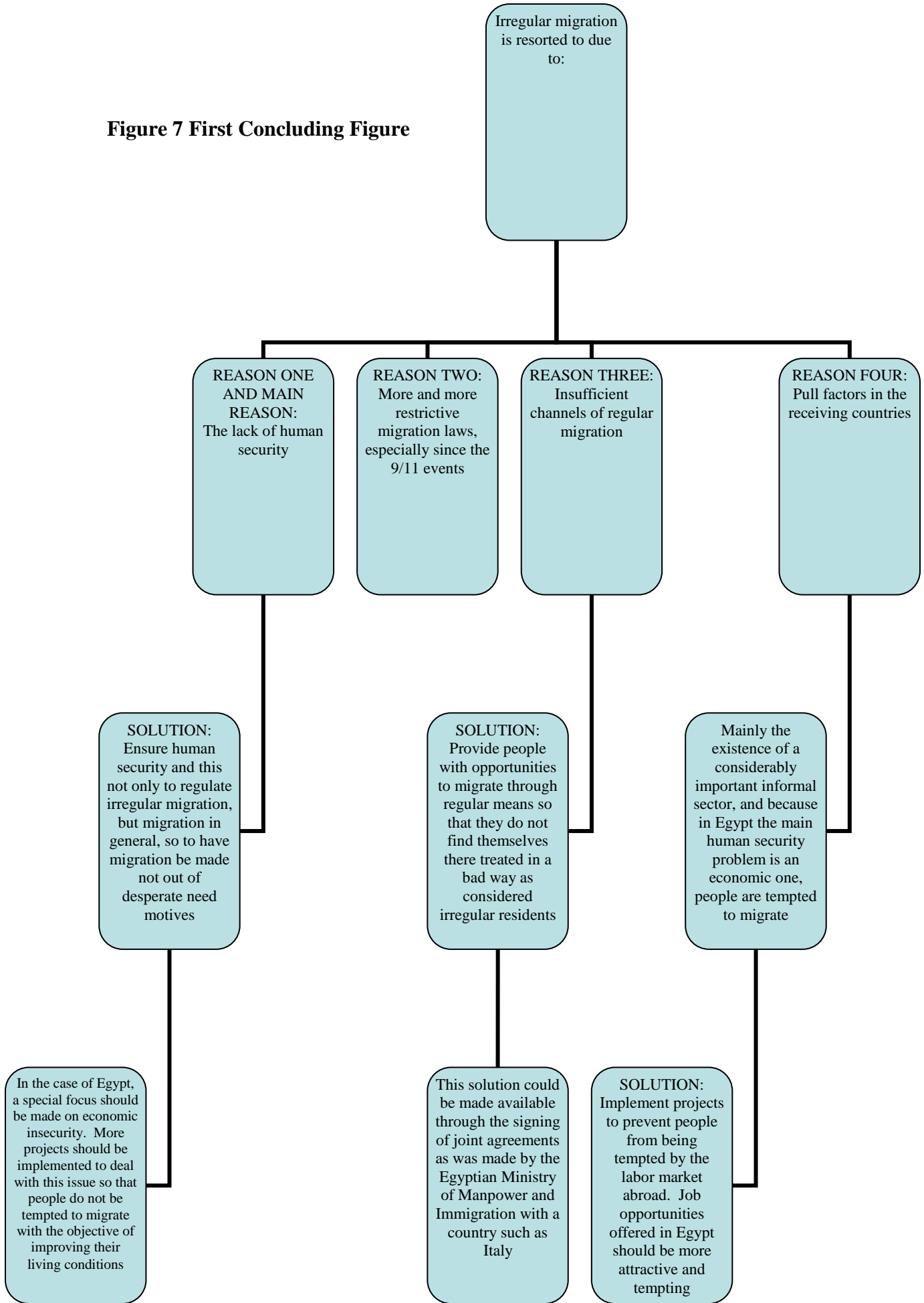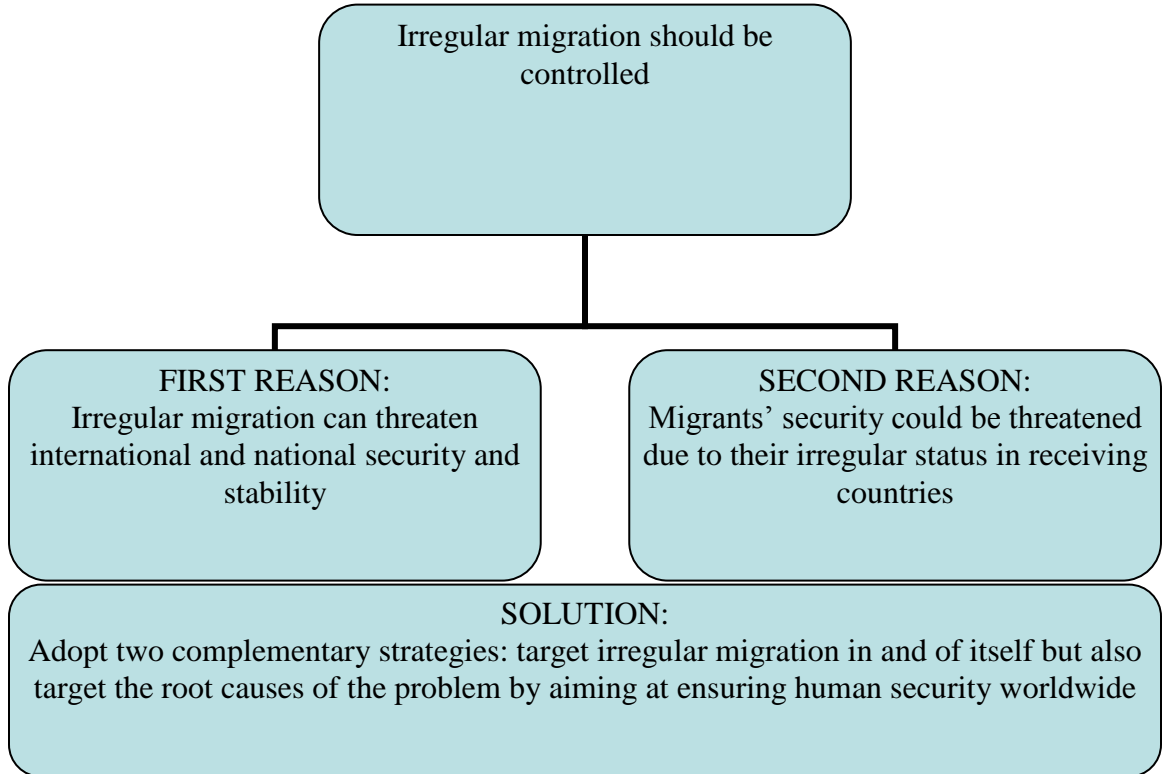
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APPENDIX

APPENDIX 1

<u>Interview with the Director of the Girls Education Initiative in Egypt:</u>
<u>Mrs. Dalia Hassan</u>
(28th of September 2008 at the
National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, NCCM)

As was explained in chapter 7, projects, targeting irregular migration in a direct way or in an indirect way, by focusing on human security, are of major importance. Indeed, these projects offer solutions to provide people with more security so that they are not tempted to migrate.

The objective of this interview conducted with Mrs. Hassan was to know more about the Girls' Education Initiative, how the initiative could empower future generation so that they do not see the need to resort to irregular migration. This interview was a way to show how education could be a powerful tool in the present to prevent irregular migration in the future.

In addition to the interview, I was provided with several brochures and flyers to better be acquainted with the Initiative's mission, objectives, and achievements.

<u>Question:</u>

How can the Girls' Education Initiative, GEI, empower future generation so that vulnerable population today do not resort to irregular means of migration in the future?

<u>Answer:</u>

- Education is the most important entering point to sustainable development. Taking this into consideration as well as the rights based approach adopted by NCCM in all its implemented projects, came the willingness to implement the Initiative.
- The GEI targets the poorest communities in the most deprived areas because they are the ones the most in need and those are the areas from where illiteracy will emanate.

- The GEI has two main goals: close the gender gap and foster quality education so to have it implemented in the Egyptian education system. The GEI's active learning approach has already been adopted by the Egyptian Ministry of Education.

- Irregular migration comes as a result that poor people see no opportunities nor options other than to resort to irregular migration for improving their lives. Education is a defense technique for these poor communities. Education is a solution to many developmental problems and the focus on girls' education is even more important because girls are future mothers. Having educated mothers is of extreme importance because an educated mother would know how to provide its children with proper health security and would help in decreasing the family poor conditions of living because by being educated, she will be able to work. Being educated also ensures for the woman that she will be ready to politically participate in the society.

Phone Interview with a representative from the
Ministry of Manpower and Immigration:
Mrs. Magda Abdel Rahman
(7th and 13th of October 2008)

The objective of this interview conducted with Mrs. Abdel Rahman was to get more information on the issue of irregular migration with a specific focus on Egyptian irregular migrants.

The interview's objective was to know more about the push and pull factors to irregular migration and on the way the Ministry of Manpower and Immigration was dealing with the issue which, mainly, directly results from the economic insecurity endured by Egyptians.

Question:

Do you have numbers on Egyptian irregular migrants?

Answer:

The number of irregular migrants is very hard to determine because they migrate through irregular means hence their move is not a registered one and this is why it is complicated to get an exact number of irregular migrants.

Question:

Which are the destinations to which Egyptian irregular migrants are most likely to go?

Answer:

They most likely go to Mediterranean countries such as Italy, Greece, and Cyprus; a large number of them also goes to France but this number is not as important as the ones who migrate in the direction of Italy, Greece, and Cyprus. If they specifically go to these three countries, it is for two main reasons. First of all those are the countries that are in need of a cheap labor and have jobs to offer for people that are not always very qualified

and the second reason is that, through maritime routes, those are the countries to which the migrants could access the easiest, even if border controls are becoming tougher and tougher.

Question:

Which means do Egyptians resort to in migrating irregularly?

Answer:

Most of them use maritime routes as it is easier for them. They travel from ports to ports.

Question:

How does the Ministry of Manpower and Immigration attempt to reduce the phenomenon of irregular migration of Egyptian citizens?

Answer:

There are joint agreements between Egypt and several countries in order to offer jobs abroad to a number of Egyptians so to ensure that they have a legal status, more specifically a legal work status in these countries. For example, a joint agreement has been made between Egypt and Italy to offer jobs in the field of construction and information technology for Egyptian citizens. These job offers can be browsed on the Ministry's website; citizens apply and if eligible for the position, are allowed to go work there. Similar joint agreements have been made with several European countries, such as Greece as many irregular migrants migrate in the direction of this country; one will also be made soon with France. Joint agreements are also signed with many Arab countries, notably Qatar, Jordan, and Libya because here again these are the countries to which irregular Egyptian migrants go the most.

The Ministry of Manpower and Immigration also tackles the issue of irregular migration by raising Egyptians' awareness and this in various governorates, such as: Fayoum, Giza, Menoufia, and Gharbeya, on the dangerousness of irregular migration.

Interview with the Director of the
Center for Migration and Refugee Studies at A.U.C.:
Dr. Philippe Fargues
(8th of October 2008)

The objective of this interview conducted with Dr. Fargues was to get more information on the phenomenon of irregular migration and the extent with which it could be linked with human security.

The main question behind this interview that was going to help in writing the thesis was: to what extent can human insecurity in one's country push people to migrate and resort to irregular means when facing no other options but to migrate in an irregular way.

Question:
To what extent can we link human security to irregular migration?

Answer:
The link is represented by this differential human security situation between what one is living in (the push factors) and what one wants to reach or aim at living in (pull factors). The link is quite clear: the more people feel insecure, the more they would be attracted to migrate.

Moreover when talking about irregular migration, one has to take care of the fact that what was an opportunity could become a future problem because these people are treated as irregular migrants in the receiving countries.

Another aspect of irregular migration to put into consideration is that migrants can be in an irregular situation due to sudden circumstances. Many Egyptians in Libya and in Jordan are irregular workers due to changes in the country's labor law. In 2007, the labor law in Jordan changed making certain jobs inaccessible to migrants; but because

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Egyptians were already employed in these jobs, they kept working in them, despite it has become illegal. Many employers are gaining from this situation because irregular workers work for very low salaries and taxes are not paid on them.

Furthermore, an aspect to note is that there is a minimum threshold for the people able to migrate. Migrating implies that the person is able to afford the cost of migration, be it through regular or irregular means; hence migration is exerted not from the poorest population but from the upper lower class or lower middle classes.

Question:
What are the negative effects of irregular migration?

Answer:
Irregular migration implies a security issue because irregular migrants are considered most of the time as conveyors of insecurity.

Question:
What is the average number of irregular migrants worldwide?

Answer:
There is no exact number to be given because the characteristic of irregular migrants is that they are not registered; except in Spain where all people in the country are registered whether natives, legal migrants, or irregular migrants. In Spain, all people have the right to access certain services even if the person is an irregular migrant so it becomes in the interest of the migrant to register so to have access to the offered services.

But to give estimations: Arab countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea receive around 3.5 million irregular migrants. Around 8 million irregular workers can be found in Europe, from 10 to 12 million irregular workers can be found in the U.S., around 700,000 irregular workers are in Saudi Arabia, and around 300,000 irregular workers to be found

in the Emirates. This would make a total average number of at least around 25 million irregular workers worldwide.

Question:

Which means are the most commonly used to irregularly migrate?

Answer:

People take a tourist visa and then do not come back or they also migrate by boats. Many migrants die in this process of irregular migration.

(Dr. Fargues recommended me to refer to the Fortress Europe website in order to get more information on people dying while irregularly migrating).

APPENDIX 4

Interview with the Director of the
International Migration Program of
the International Labor Organization – Geneva:
Dr. Ibrahim Awad
(14th of October 2008)

The objective of this interview conducted with Dr. Awad was to get more information on the phenomenon of irregular migration and the extent with which it could be linked with human security.

This interview was also very beneficial to the thesis in better understanding how economic insecurity in Egypt is the one main reason, or the main push factor, behind people's irregular migration.

Dr. Awad given information on irregular migration:

The notion of illegal migration is not in use anymore rather this phenomenon is now referred to as irregular migration which is a short formula for referring to migration happening in an irregular situation. The European Commission, other countries, and international organizations abandoned this notion of illegal migration since last September. Indeed, irregular migration better suits the present conditions of migrants in irregular situation because many migrants enter in a regular way but then find themselves in an irregular situation because they, for instance, overstayed their visa.

There obviously is a link between human security and irregular migration. The main problem in Egypt is actually economic insecurity. People in Egypt suffer from poverty, underemployment, and unemployment; and, therefore, try to find countries where they would improve their living conditions. Moreover, in talking about unemployment in Egypt, one has to know that it is not that people do not find jobs, rather it is that they are under-employed; they work as valet parking or any other unqualified job. These people therefore count as employed, while in reality they are underemployed and do not gain enough to live in suitable conditions.

<u>Dr. Awad's comments on why irregular rather than regular migration is resorted to:</u>

People resort to irregular migration not only due to restrictive migration laws but also because the insufficiency of channels of regular migration. In order to remedy to the problem of the lack of channels of regular migration, projects, programs, and joint agreements should be implemented in Egypt so to ensure that regular migration is made available to Egyptians. The second main reason is that there are factors in the receiving countries encouraging Egyptian migrants to go there no matter the regularity with which they will improve their economic conditions. This main second factor is the large informal sector in many of the receiving countries. If Egyptians irregularly migrate in mass to Italy or Greece, it is due to the important informal sector existing there; they will, for example, not be tempted to go to Sweden partly because the informal sector there is not really prevalent.

An important point to note is that to reduce irregular migration, regular migration should be expanded.

Taking the case of Egypt, it is the lack of human security added to the insufficiency of channels for regular migration and added to pull factors in the receiving countries, such as the prevalence of an informal work sector, that lead to irregular migration. The solution would therefore be to implement programs and sign joint agreements to improve employment conditions and alleviate poverty in Egypt but to also expand channels of regular migration.