

**Question for written answer E-006257/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Economic crisis repercussions for some neighbouring oil- and gas-producing countries

Algeria's oil and gas sector generates more than 90% of its exports and more than 30% of its GDP¹²; however, its oil and gas exports have plummeted in recent years, which has increased its trade deficit³, and the EU's renewable energy development policy will only make matters worse.

Algeria's citizens depend on income from the oil and gas sector for their well-being. The country has indicated that it may change its economic model, as its GDP per capita fell from more than USD 5 000 in 2014 to USD 3 800 in 2017⁴.

The drop in living standards could sparks riots similar to those recently experienced in Venezuela⁵ and its humanitarian consequences are potentially catastrophic. The resulting mass migration could be in greater volumes than those experienced during the Syria refugee crisis, given Algeria's larger population and its proximity to the Italian, Spanish and French coasts.

1. As a crisis is highly likely to arise, does the Commission take the view that action must urgently be taken to help Algeria to diversify its economy?
2. Taking into account the potential political repercussions, has the Commission drawn up an emergency plan to deal with the mass arrival of refugees from Algeria?

¹ [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/603263/EPRS_STU\(2017\)603263_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/603263/EPRS_STU(2017)603263_EN.pdf)

² <http://www.theglobaleconomy.com/Algeria/Exports/>

³ <https://www.mees.com/2017/8/25/transportation/algeria-on-track-for-11bn-deficit-despite-gas-export-boost/f4c0d890-898f-11e7-a054-d33780b12dee>

⁴ <https://data.worldbank.org/country/algeria>

⁵ <http://elperiodicodelaenergia.com/el-peligro-de-acabar-con-el-petroleo-y-el-gas-los-fuertes-conflictos-que-se-desataran-en-los-paises-productores/>