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**Author:** Tunisia

With a population of about 12.4 million, Tunisia is a country in North Africa that is experiencing major social, economic, and demographic changes. The nation continues to face significant obstacles with regards to economic diversification, and youth unemployment despite significant advancements in infrastructure, health care, and education.

The younger generation is most severely impacted by the high unemployment rate, which sits at 18%, despite the country's \$46 billion GDP and \$3,900 average per capital income. Even though Tunisia has a well developed educational system, youthful unemployment and economic stagnation are made worse by an imbalance between educational outputs and market demands. Additionally, the lack of employees in essential domestic sectors has been intensified by emigration among the 20–35 age range.

Climate change is having a significant effect on Tunisia's labour market; the country's agriculture and tourism-dependent industries are particularly vulnerable economically, as evidenced by the drought and water shortages in 2028. Despite these difficulties, it is still unclear how Tunisia might incorporate automation and artificial intelligence into its labour force. Automation and artificial intelligence (AI) have the potential to increase production, but they also present issues of social injustice, job displacement, and a potential decline in the wealth divide. The government of Tunisia is thinking about implementing automation gradually, encouraging innovation while protecting vulnerable labour.

Automation and artificial intelligence (AI) have enormous potential to boost productivity in industries like manufacturing, logistics, and even agriculture as Tunisia shifts to a more technologically sophisticated economy. Tunisia is aware, meanwhile, that uncontrolled technology may make job displacement worse, especially in low-skilled occupations. In order to match workforce skills with the requirements of a changing labour market, the nation is concentrating on a balanced strategy that includes concentrated professional development, upgrading their skills, and educational reform. In order to create regulations that properly include AI and shield workers from any potential harm, Tunisia is looking at working with the ILO.

There is ongoing debate about the possible introduction of a Universal Basic Income (UBI) as a way to reduce economic inequality in light of the strains on Tunisia's labour market. Although the government of Tunisia agrees that UBI might provide unemployed people with financial stability and lessen poverty, such a program would necessitate significant financial resources as well as a reorganisation of the social safety net. A phased or trial approach to UBI would be a workable alternative for Tunisia, enabling the government to evaluate its viability and effect on inequality. Tunisia is striving to broaden its social welfare programs in unison with UBI, guaranteeing that disadvantaged populations, including women working in the informal sector and young people, have access to social security and steady income.

Tunisia is dedicated to enhancing the working conditions of its labour force, especially for migrant workers, women, and young people. Because women are frequently under-represented in higher-paying industries and have obstacles when trying to enter the formal workforce, gender inequalities in employment continue to be a problem. Equal pay, more child care assistance, and the advancement of women in leadership roles in the public and private sectors are among the policies being implemented by the Tunisian government. Furthermore, as Tunisia strengthens its position on migration, it is giving migrant workers' rights top priority and facilitating their entry into the official labour market by enhancing their access to social services and legal protections.

The country acknowledges that collaboration across national boundaries is necessary to address many of these labour issues. Recognising the economic and social advantages of a shared commitment to labour

rights, the administration is fortifying its links with the European Union and the Arab Maghreb Union in order to advance regional commerce and labour mobility. Tunisia urges the ILO and other international partners to provide financial and technical support for job development programs, particularly in green industries. Furthermore, Tunisia aligns its foreign policy with a commitment to social justice and regional stability by supporting frameworks that safeguard the labour rights of migrants.

In order to address the issues facing its labour market, Tunisia is prepared to work with international partners. It also reiterates its commitment to the ILO's goal of decent work for all. Tunisia wants to establish a more formalised economy, youth employment, and climate resilience in order to create a more equitable and sustainable labour market that benefits all of its residents. The government is optimistic that Tunisia can overcome its present obstacles and further the larger objectives of social justice and sustainable development with the ILO's assistance.