

Health Security In Algeria

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Received: 29-04-2025 Accepted: 22-02-2026 Published:02-06-2026

Summary:

This study examines the concept of health security and its significance in ensuring the stability of states and societies, with particular reference to Algeria. Health security extends beyond the provision of healthcare services to include the availability of medicines, vaccines, medical equipment, qualified human resources, and the capacity to prevent and manage epidemics and health crises. The paper analyzes the relationship between national production capabilities and dependence on international markets in achieving sustainable health security. It also explores the levels and determinants of health security, highlighting the challenges faced by developing countries in attaining self-sufficiency in the health sector. Using Algeria as a case study, the research assesses the evolution of the national health system since independence and discusses the prospects for strengthening health security through strategic planning, investment in local pharmaceutical production, and international cooperation.

Keywords : Health Security ; Health System ; Pharmaceutical Production ; Public Health.

Introduction

Algeria is an independent country, enjoys sovereignty, and enjoys security and peace. In addition to securing people and property from attacks and sabotage, there is what is called securing people's health, and this requires providing conditions, requirements, structures, plans, programs, medicines, medical and quasi-medical means, and extensive operations related to import and export, providing medicines, vaccines, treatment, combating diseases and epidemics, limiting their spread, studying incurable diseases, financing studies, and working with the results of scientific research. All of this is called the health system, and until this system rises to the point of reassurance, such that The citizen does not fear for his health, nor does he fear for himself from attacks. The health aspect is called health security. If Algeria has a health system, can we say that it enjoys health security? What is the concept of health security and what is the minimum level of production and health services? If we consider Algeria to be an advanced country in terms of providing medicine and medical means, do we enjoy health security if we are a country that

International and Comparative Corporate Law Journal

ISSN:1388-7084 & E-ISSN:1875-8290

produces only a small part of the requirements of the national pharmaceutical market? Can all countries be self-sufficient and dispense with the foreign market in the field of vaccines, medicines, various medical methods, and specialized human resources?

Health security is a goal that all countries seek, and to achieve this goal, its importance and seriousness must be understood and recognized because the lack of health security in any country, including Algeria, is a dangerous thing. This is why, since 1962, Algeria has been working to reduce the danger that could affect health security after the departure of the colonialists and the departure of the medical and administrative staff that were working in hospitals.

If health security is the goal of all countries, including Algeria, is it a goal that cannot be achieved? Or can it be perceived, and how?

To study the concept and seriousness of health security and its aspects, and how to reach, stabilize and preserve it at the short, medium and long-term levels, we have prepared this plan:

Chapter One: The concept of health security and its danger to the stability of countries and peoples.

The first section: Definition of health security.

Types of health security and its characteristics.

-Security of persons and property.

The second topic: The danger of health security to the stability of countries and peoples.

Chapter Two: Levels of health security and how to reach it.

The first topic: producing and consuming countries for health security.

The second topic: How to achieve and maintain health security.

Conclusion: Prospects for health security in Algeria.

The concept of health security is based on a set of expected and imminent dangers and on a set of procedures and protocols in the form of a draft framework and implementation that responds directly when dangers occur or to prevent them.

If Algeria is not immune from imminent dangers and dangers, the National Health Security Strategy (2025-2030) is based on vigilance, foresight, and prevention¹.

The problem of monitoring risks is based on probabilities, and these probabilities must be quantitative in the form of a calculated risk. Every imminent and quantitatively calculated risk can be monitored by mathematically calculated proactive decisions, especially with the presence of artificial intelligence, which helps us determine the time of occurrence, the time of proactive decisions, and peak times. The risk, whether individual or collective, is represented by:

- 1- Infectious blood.
- 2- growth hormones.
- 3- The crazy cow crisis.

International and Comparative Corporate Law Journal

ISSN:1388-7084 & E-ISSN:1875-8290

4-Coronaviruses.

5- Ebola virus.

All of these dangers require the concerted efforts of public authorities alongside civil society. These dangers have causes that can be traced back to the type of food that caused mad cow disease, including water poisoning and genetic modifications to food and hybrid animals. Food security is linked to health security, and water poisoning can also lead to infectious diseases transmitted through water. Therefore, environmental and environmental changes are a cause of diseases. Climate is a factor in health security. Cars that emit gases that pollute the air must be monitored by laws, just like factories. And buildings that affect the flow of valleys, water, rural displacement, and demographic growth. We can keep up with simple growth, while the demographic explosion necessarily leads to a lack of response to emergency health conditions and thus a lack of control over medical emergencies. The latter is the basic criterion for measuring health security. The Corona crisis that Algeria faced, like other countries, revealed the inability of medical emergency units and departments to respond quickly to the increasing number of Corona patients who were requesting emergency services in the same place and with the same substance, which is medical oxygen.

The nature and importance of health security requires the existence of laws in addition to the health law, and these laws are:

- Public Health Law.
- Family Law.
- Consumer Law.
- Construction Law.
- Marine fishing law.
- Environmental law.
- Labour Law.
- National Defense Law.

All of these laws must contain articles that protect against risks that directly and indirectly affect health security through:

- 1- Monitoring potential dangers.
- 2- Evaluation and strategic vigilance.
- 3- International coordination and cooperation.
- 4- Special powers in case of emergency (Article 15 of Health Law 11/18).

These special powers belong to a group of officials, headed by the head of the National Agency for Health Security.

International and Comparative Corporate Law Journal

ISSN:1388-7084 & E-ISSN:1875-8290

Therefore, health security is: “the totality of laws and regulations that govern the necessary procedures and measures before, during, and after the occurrence of dangers that affect the health of individuals and groups, represented by diseases, epidemics, and disasters.”

Health security does not only concern individuals, but also groups and society, and thus the disappearance of health security leads to social and political unrest.

The discussion on the levels of health security varies from one country to another. While some countries lack basic treatments, great powers like America are interested in monitoring any attempt to threaten health security through chemical and biological weapons and nuclear radiation. America faced anthrax attacks and considered the Corona virus Covid-19 to be leaks from the Chinese Yuhan laboratory.

While Algeria is at the average level in terms of health security, this is due to its availability of basic structures, specialized services, and programs to prevent potential risks. Despite the high number of infections of Corona patients, hospitals were able to treat many of the infected, and the death rate did not exceed 2.5%, according to the declared statistics.

If Algeria wants to improve the level of health security, there must be structural reforms that affect the legal system that governs the health system. Talking about the level of health security leads us to talk about independence. A country cannot be considered high-level when it does not produce medicine and medical supplies, let alone vaccines. The Corona crisis revealed the first level of countries that were able to produce vaccines in a short time, then the second level of countries that were able to provide vaccines and medicine in a short time, then the third level, which are countries that could not even buy masks that are no longer available on the international market.

So, we can classify countries into two categories. The first category is the countries that produce health security, as they export and provide everything necessary for health security, such as medicine, vaccines, medical means, and oxygen stations, and at the same time they receive foreign patients arriving for treatment.

While the countries consuming health security are the countries that exhaust international efforts in combating epidemics and infectious diseases, their level of health services is almost non-existent, and Algeria has become one of the countries that produce medicine and insulin and has helped some countries, such as Tunisia, confront the Covid-19 crisis in 2020. Algeria was also able to provide vaccines in record time to confront the Corona virus, in addition to its availability of institutes that provided research, studies, and programs that helped eliminate bird flu, SARS, and Ebola despite the difficulties. Related to the international market and the lack of readiness of old structures, such as major hospitals in the capital, and to maintain full readiness, structural and legal reforms that affect especially..:

1- Financing the health system.

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ISSN:1388-7084 & E-ISSN:1875-8290

- 2- Financial accounting system.
- 3- The law of conduct, medical and paramedical personnel.
- 4- Transactions law for health institutions.
- 5- The system of wages, salaries and bonuses for the health sector.

Reaching the average level of health security in Algeria is the result of the efforts of workers in the health sector, but maintaining this level is the responsibility of the authority by activating the Health Law 11/18 issued in 2018 and supplementing it with regulatory decrees and introducing the necessary amendments to the health system to confront modern and emerging health threats that will be more dangerous than Corona and anthrax, behind which there are entities working to destabilize countries by flooding the drug market with hallucinogens and substances of unknown composition, and through exported toxins. In the form of foodstuffs and through consumables that have been exposed to nuclear radiation or have been subjected to improper biological modifications.

The scale of Algeria's future challenges in the field of health security is very large, and this is due to several considerations, the most important of which is:

1. The largest area of Algeria is 2 square metres.
2. High population growth rate 45 m.n.
3. The migration of medical talent to the northern countries, especially France.
4. Lack of funding sources for the health system (state - social security).

The high costs of treating incurable diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and heart disease do not allow for the provision of financial and material means to confront potential dangers and to finance studies and programs related to training abroad, especially with regard to foresight, anticipating risks, decision-making, artificial intelligence, and digitization. Because the world is developing and crises are increasing and diversifying, and Algeria is not immune to these crises.

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International and Comparative Corporate Law Journal

ISSN: 1388-7084 & E-ISSN: 1875-8290

ⁱ Statement by the head of the National Agency for Health Security, Kamal Senhaji, to national radio.