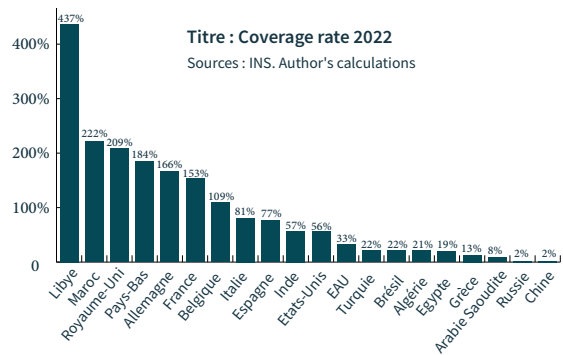
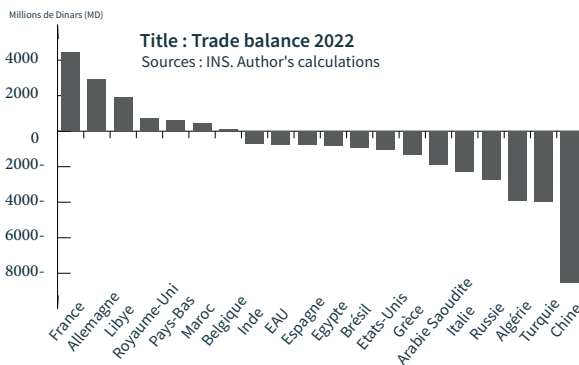
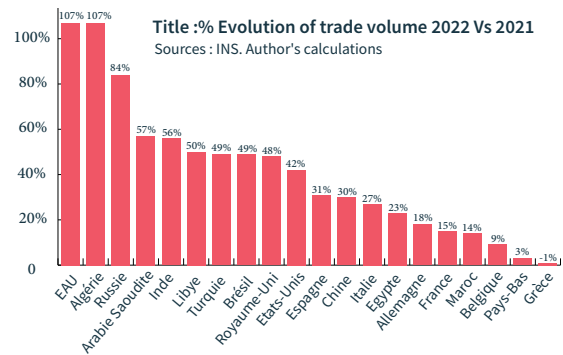


## Foreign Trade in Tunisia: in 2022, Italy and China Outperform France for the First Time

### Key highlights :

- Italy becomes the first trading partner of Tunisia in volume of trade
- China becomes the second supplier of Tunisia before France
- The year 2022 is the year of diversification of trade partners.



The year 2022 was a dynamic year in terms of changes in the foreign trade of Tunisia. While Italy had become Tunisia's leading supplier ahead of France in 2017 ([see DA17](#)), five years later it passed France in 2022, becoming Tunisia's leading trading partner by volume. Moreover, like Italy in 2017, this time it is China that passes France in 2022 and becomes the second supplier of Tunisia behind Italy. France remains however the first export market of Tunisia.

These changes at the top of the ranking of trade partners of Tunisia hide deeper changes. Indeed, the volume of trade with the first four trading partners of Tunisia (Italy, France, Germany and China) increased in 2022 but did not exceed 30%. In comparison between 2021 and 2022, trade volume more than doubled with Algeria (107%) and the UAE (107%) and increased by about 50% or more for the United Kingdom (48%), Brazil (49%), Turkey (49%), Libya (50%), India (56%), Saudi Arabia (57%) and Russia (84%). We thus see the emergence of an active diversification of trade partners with the come back of historical partners such as Libya and the United Kingdom. We note a strong dynamism of exports which have increased by 141% to Brazil, 97% to India and 87% to the United Kingdom.

With a coverage rate of imports by exports of 437% in 2022, Libya is by far the most advantageous partner for Tunisia, followed by Morocco (222%) and the United Kingdom (209%). The Netherlands, Germany and France are also countries with rates above 100%. On the other hand, Tunisia exporting almost nothing to China and Russia, it finds itself with extremely low coverage rates of 2% with these two countries. While exports to Algeria and Turkey have increased by 54% and 50% respectively, they have decreased by 36% and 10% for China and Russia respectively. An export strategy towards these two markets is thus necessary.