



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Forty-eighth session

13 September–1 October 2021

Agenda item 2

**Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner  
for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the  
High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

### **Written statement\* submitted by Réseau Unité pour le Développement de Mauritanie, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[18 August 2021]

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\* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



## **Western Sahara issue and Biased Political Point of View**

We, a group of associations working in the field of human rights in Western Sahara, have decided to write out of our responsibility and duty to correct and clarify to the international human rights family the true state of the human rights situation in the Western Sahara, especially since some experts and stakeholders seem to be misled when extracting information from biased and politicized parties regarding the conflict in the Sahara which reflects vividly in their communications and recommendations.

It is important to make clear that the sympathy of some experts and international mechanisms with the issue of some activists loyal to Algeria and the Polisario, who are active in Western Sahara, is exploited by Algeria and the Polisario in order to escalate the situation in the cities of Western Sahara, which achieved important levels of stability and development under human rights based developments plan and independent governance by locals who were democratically elected, which is worrying Algeria, especially after the failure of the Polisario and the exposure of its plan to the world in order to threaten peace in the Western Sahara region in particular, and the Sahel and Sahara in general, and that is, after its violation of the cease-fire agreement signed with Morocco since 1991 under the auspices and guarantee of the United Nations.

The authorities may not have been 100 percent successful in dealing with these activists of Algeria and the Polisario. But we have directly monitored that these citizens violate purposely and repeatedly the procedures taken during the general quarantine imposed due to the Corona pandemic, and most of the authorities' interventions were within the framework of implementing procedures in the neighbourhoods in which these activists are present, who insist on violating the law in order to inflame the situation and push the police to commit mistakes that may make Experts' sympathy with the Polisario and Algeria used to gain space in political conflict with Morocco.

We were very surprised by the extent of inaccuracies that appeared in the joint communication on the 1st of July concerning the situation in the Western Sahara. We tried to deal with some of the allegations mentioned in the communication, but the concerned people refuse to deal with civil society for the sake of mediation and human rights support, with the purpose to achieve the required escalation against the authorities of law enforcement in order to involve international mechanisms in political issues that lack best practices, as they are aware of the unconditioned support of the international community to women and children, and thus exploit them horribly in their actions to achieve international sympathy, because most of human right family are not aware of these unacceptable practices.

As result;

- we refuse any human rights violations in Western Sahara.
- we condemn the use of minors and women in the political conflict.
- We urge your mechanisms and experts to extract information from neutral sources and apply the ideal practices you insist on in order to approach the situation of human rights in Western Sahara in a just and credible manner
- we urge Honorable Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to reveal the outcomes of his communication to the Algerian authorities registered under the reference AL DZA7/2020 about extrajudicial executions of two Sahrawi by the Algerian security forces in a mining site in the south of Auinat Balakraa.

Finally, please receive our distinguished regards and we hope we have managed to clarify the circumstances in which these biased communications emerged hoping that next time the procedures will take into considerations all sources and credible ones particularly because this communication in particular doesn't raise to the level of the credibility and professionalism of your respected Council.