



Take Action—MINURSO Mandate Renewal:

In the lead-up to the UN Security Council vote on the renewal of the MINURSO mandate at the end of October, we ask our partners and supporters to work with us and contact members of the UNSC.

For 50 years, the Saharawi people have been waiting for their promised right to self-determination. This is a crucial moment to demand that the UN Security Council supports the Saharawi people, and increases its efforts to ensure a just and lasting resolution rooted in the Saharawi right to self-determination.

UN Security Council member states need to go further in reaffirming their support for self-determination, to ensure the violent conflict in Western Sahara does not continue.

The UN Security Council must give increased support to Staffan de Mistura, the Secretary General's Personal Envoy to Western Sahara.

The US, the UK and the EU all condemn Russia's invasion and occupation of part of Ukraine and have imposed sanctions. But when it comes to Morocco's occupation of Western Sahara the silence is deafening.

The UN—if it aims to abide by its founding principles—must pursue a robust peace process to achieve a just and lasting solution rooted in full respect for the Saharawi people's right to self-determination.

50 Years in Exile

Without these changes, the Saharawi people face a future scenario where:

- Armed conflict continues—and more civilians are killed by Moroccan drones operating in the liberated territory;
- Further human rights abuses are committed by Moroccan authorities—following the systematic campaign of repression and violence outlined by UN officials;
- Generations of exiled Saharawis continue to face inhospitable conditions—which are worsening with climate change;
- And Western Sahara's natural resources continue to be illegally exploited and Morocco is allowed to greenwash its occupation through renewable energy projects.

Western Sahara Action Forum is an international coalition of organisations dedicated to the protection of human rights and the implementation of international law in Western Sahara

Take Action!

You can take action to help the Saharawi people and push for vital change.

You Can Make a Difference!

Please write, e-mail or call members of the UNSC to express your views on the need for international public support for the Saharawi people. You can prioritise the South Korean ambassador in September and the Russian ambassador in October, as they hold the Security Council Presidency then, and ask them, in their capacity as President to circulate your letter to the other council members. Contact details are below and in the attached document.

Use your own words if you can; make some of the points—but don't try and make them all. Concentrating on a few key demands will be more effective. More information is available at www.westernsaharacampaignuk.com

The UN Security Council should:

Promote a political, democratic way forward, by

- maintaining a **focus on self-determination**, which is the legal right of the Saharawi people, and setting a date for a free and fair referendum to be carried out in Western Sahara with an option for independence.

Protect human rights, by

- granting MINURSO—as the only UN peacekeeping mission to lack one—**the legal mandate to monitor and report on human rights** in the territories controlled by both the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente POLISARIO.
- calling on Morocco to **stop blocking visits to Western Sahara by UN High Commissioners** and updating the MINURSO resolution to formally note **Morocco's persistent failure to co-operate with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)** after repeated requests stretching back to almost a decade

Prevent the illegal plunder of natural resources, by

- demanding an **end to the illegal extraction of natural resources** from Western Sahara, without the consent of Polisario, the UN recognised representative of the indigenous Saharawi.

Ensure climate justice in Western Sahara, by

- monitoring the impacts of **increased desertification and flooding** on the livelihoods of Saharawi refugees.
- considering how Moroccan dominance of Saharawi natural resources impacts **GHG emissions**, and **international climate finance mechanisms**.

Uphold international law, by

- demanding an **end to arms sales to Morocco** while the Kingdom continues to breach the ceasefire and kill civilians.
- demanding an **end to the illegal extraction of natural resources** from Western Sahara, which disregards the interests and wishes of the indigenous Saharawi.
- maintaining a focus on **self-determination**, which is the legal right of the Saharawi people, and setting a date for a free and fair referendum to be carried out in Western Sahara with an option for independence.

Republic of Korea

Presidency in September

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Russia

Presidency in October

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