

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Embassy of Algeria in the Republic of Namibia



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DOMESTIC NEWS

University scholarships for researchers on Algerian Revolution

ALGIERS - Scholarships will be granted to academics working for the elaboration of researches on the various stages of the Algerian Revolution, "which require further in-depth studies," Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad announced Saturday in Algiers.

Speaking on the sidelines of a meeting, hosted at the National Archives centre, in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of 11 December 1960 demonstrations, Djerad indicated that the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research will be instructed to allocate scholarships to post-graduation students "for research on the key stages of the Algerian Revolution, which still need to be deepened, in coordination with the National Archives Center."

The Prime Minister also called for larger cooperation between the National Archives Center and the Public Television Company (EPTV) with a view to producing a historical work on the Demonstrations of December 11, 1960, which constituted "a decisive turning point in the process of November 1st Revolution."

A public TV channel, called "Memory" and dedicated to the history of Algeria, was launched on the occasion of the commemoration of 66th anniversary of the Glorious National Liberation War outbreak. For Djerad, this channel is intended to be "a solid bulwark" against attempts to obscure and falsify national history and to attack the National Liberation War, popular resistance, the national movement and its symbols.

National strategy under preparation on Covid-19 vaccination

ALGIERS - Minister of Health, Population and Hospital Reform Professor Abderrahmane Benbouzid said on Friday that "a national strategy is being elaborated in preparation for the Coronavirus vaccination operation, as soon as the vaccine is purchased."

Speaking to the weekly program of the Television Channel, the minister said that a "plan has been drawn up as part of the National Strategy in preparation for the Coronavirus vaccination operation, which will take place upon acquisition of this vaccine."

Two commissions have been set up. The first one which is chaired by the Minister of the Interior will be tasked with ensuring the logistical aspect while the second, chaired by the Minister of Health, will monitor the vaccination operation through health facilities.

This vaccine "is not compulsory, but it will be accessible for any Algerian who wishes to be vaccinated," said Benbouzid, noting that the vaccination will concern, as a priority, people with chronic diseases and the elderly. As part of the Covax group which has 172 countries, including developed countries and others with low and middle income, Algeria "follows all the developments of clinical research, some of which are at trial 3."

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Regarding the epidemiological situation, the minister said that a "downward trend" is being recorded in recent days, which led to an occupation of around 40% of hospital beds nationwide, i.e. 5,212 beds out of a total of 20,000 beds having been mobilized to deal with the situation.

TECHNOLOGY

14th INJAZ El Arab competition: Young Algerian students win Best Product Award

ALGIERS - A young team of Algerian students from the Electrical and Electronic Engineering Institute of Boumerdes (50-km east of Algiers) has won the Best Product Award at the 14th regional competition for young entrepreneurs "INJAZ El Arab," by presenting a hygiene product intended for the fight against the global pandemic Covid-19.

"The IT drops team, the sole representative of Algeria at INJAZ El Arab's 14th regional competition for young entrepreneurs, wins the Best Product Award, crowning a yearlong effort with a product designed to fight the global pandemic Covid-19," the Algerian association INJAZ El Djazair said Saturday in a statement.

Made up of students from the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, the young team managed to "take up the challenge" and "marvel" the 13 participating countries, winning Algeria's fifth distinction after 10 years of INJAZ El Djazair's existence.

As part of the 14th regional competition for young entrepreneurs of "INJAZ El Arab," which began on November 1st, Tdrops team participate in a series of challenges among the biggest companies, including Google, Fedex, Investcorp, Citi Bank, Mastercard and Schneider Electric), the statement pointed out.

The IT drops team, a project combining IT and hygiene created during the covid-19 pandemic, has developed a new approach to disinfection through the "Drop & Hands" product that comes in response to the expressed needs for disinfection following the health crisis.

In October, the IT drops team won the national competition of INJAZ El Djazair, which was created just ten years ago and has provided training for more than 45,000 young people. INJAZ El Djazair is a member of INJAZ El Arab, a network composed of 14 countries from the MENA region.

COVID-19 NEWS

COVID-19: Algeria will acquire vaccine with strong guarantees, says Djerad

ALGIERS - Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad said Saturday that Algeria "will acquire an anti-coronavirus vaccine with strong guarantees," hence the need to avoid acting hastily or taking a random decision."

"We will take the necessary and appropriate decision to choose the vaccine that has strong guarantees," Djerad said on the sidelines of the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the protests of 11December 1960, in response to a question on the acquisition of the anti-Covid-19

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vaccine. Stressing the imperative to avoid any haste or random decision, the Prime Minister said that "when we make the decision, we owe 100% guarantees out of respect for our people and our citizens, and on the basis of the scientific work we have undertaken since the beginning of the pandemic."

He added that this decision will be taken in collaboration with the Scientific Commission (monitoring the evolution of the Covid-19), to which he renewed his confidence.

"We must have confidence in our scientists and doctors and in the work we have done since the beginning of the health crisis, a methodical work that follows a rational and scientific approach."

FOREIGN POLICY NEWS

SPLA conducts new attacks on Moroccan forces' entrenchments

BIR LAHLOU (Liberated Sahrawi Territories) - The units of the Sahrawi People's Liberation Army (SPLA) conducted new attacks targeting the positions and entrenchments of the Moroccan occupation's forces along the wall of the shame, the Sahrawi Defense Ministry said on Friday.

The ministry underlined in its communiqué n 29, quoted by the Sahrawi news agency SPS, that "intense attacks were conducted on Thursday and Friday by our army, targeting large sections of the Moroccan wall of shame."

"Yesterday, SPLA's units bombed positions of the Moroccan occupier, targeting bases in the region of Tenouchad in the sector of Mehbes and the positions of the enemy in the region of Amekli Nabka, known as Amekli Atechtara in the sector of Amekli."

The Sahrawi army also targeted today "positions of the occupier's soldiers in the region of Rous Chaidamia in the sector of Mehbes, as well as in the area of Khenka Chaidamia in the same sector," added the source.

SPLA' units continue their attacks against the forces of the Moroccan occupier that sustained significant human and material losses along the wall of the shame," concluded the source.

Algeria targeted in view of real threats at our borders

ALGIERS - Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad called on Saturday the Algerian people for a true solidarity to confront the challenges facing the country, affirming that Algeria is "targeted" in the light of indicators of "real threat on our borders, reached by the Zionist entity."

Speaking in a conference commemorating the 60th anniversary of the demonstrations of 11 December 1960, at the headquarters of the National Archives in Algiers, Djerad stressed the need "not to obscure the dangers at the level of our immediate environment because of the region's instability," ensuring that "Algeria is particularly targeted."

In this regard, the minister underlined that there are foreign operations targeting the destabilization of Algeria, adding that "the indicators are today clear given what is happening on

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our borders.” He cited the ongoing developments in the Maghreb and African area surrounding Algeria in terms of dangers, instability and wars.

Djerad also broached “a real willingness to attack Algeria,” as confirmed, he added, by “the arrival at present of the Zionist entity at the gates of our borders.”

In this regard, he added, when addressing the Algerians, “Beware, when we say that we must join forces and resolve our domestic issues between us. The Algerian people must be aware of the importance of the solidarity and fraternity efforts to reach the best solutions to end this crisis.”

Djerad urged the citizens, the political class and the elites to “be vigilant and work for the preservation of the country’s stability and the citizens’ protection.” Underlining the Algerian people’s aspirations to “build a social-democrat State based on the respect of the national and religious principles,” Djerad affirmed that it is necessary to focus on essential matters to achieve this objective.

Concerning the other technical issues and those related to the management, said Prime minister “we are resolving them progressively thanks to the establishment of stability and the increase in oil prices.”

Prime minister concluded by saying he is “convinced that there is true solidarity among the Algerian people,” emphasizing “the will of the President of the Republic and the Government to work relentlessly to end this circumstantial crisis in our country.”

Western Sahara: Strong international reactions against Trump’s announcement

ALGIERS - The international reactions continued on Friday denouncing the announcement of the outgoing American President Donald Trump of his recognition of alleged sovereignty of Morocco over Western Sahara, considering it a blatant violation of the right of the Sahrawi people and the international legality.

Through the voice of its Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov, Russia said that Trump’s unilateral decision falls completely outside of the scope of the international law.

“The decision doesn’t comply with the decisions and resolution of the UN Security Council, on which the American themselves agreed,” added the Russian official.

In the United States of America, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee Jim Inhofe, also a member of the Republican party, expressed “sadness” and “disappointment” at the decision of President Trump, pointing out that such a step will never change the positions of the international community on the Sahrawi people’s right to self-determination,” stressing that the White House’ announcement alleging Morocco’s sovereignty over Western Sahara is “shocking and deeply disappointing.”

For his part, Senator Patrick Leahy affirmed that Donald Trump “can’t ignore the international law and that of the Sahrawi people to self-determination.”

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The democrat elected of Minnesota Betty Mac Collum said that the actions of Trump, who will leave the White House on 20 January 2021, render “dangerously legitimate the illegal annexation of the Sahrawi territory.”

Former US national security advisor John Bolton also reacted to the decision of Trump who abandoned, according to him, “thirty years of American policy on Western Sahara.”

“Trump was wrong to abandon thirty years of US policy on Western Sahara just to score a fast foreign policy victory,” he lamented.

Head of the US House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs, democrat Eliot Engel, warned that this decision threatens the efforts of international diplomacy to resolve long-standing conflicts. (...) I am concerned this announcement upends a credible internationally supported UN process to address the territorial dispute over Western Sahara which successive administrations of both parties have supported,” he added.

For the African National Congress (ANC), which learned with “dismay” of the announcement of the US outgoing president, said that “the international and progressive forces of the continent and the world must condemn this agreement.”

While condemning the decision of the outgoing American president, the Sahrawi government and the Polisario Front underlined “a blatant violation of the UN charter and the international legality.” The Sahrawi government and Polisario Front affirmed that “the decision of President Trump will not change, in any circumstances, the status of the Sahrawi cause and that the international community doesn’t recognize Morocco’s sovereignty over Western Sahara, as it is the property of the Sahrawi people.”

For his part, Sahrawi Minister of Foreign Affairs affirmed that “Trump’s decision is legally invalid and a politically thoughtless position.”

The United Nations announced on Thursday that its position remains unchanged on Western Sahara. The left Alliance of the European Parliament expressed its “categorical” rejection of Trump’s decision, underlining that this provocative act is a flagrant violation of the international legality.”

Algeria reaffirms that Western Sahara conflict is a question of decolonization

ALGIERS – Algeria has reaffirmed that Western Sahara conflict is a question of decolonization which can only be resolved through the application of the international law, said Saturday a communiqué of Foreign Ministry.

"The conflict of Western Sahara is a question of decolonization which can only be resolved through the application of the international law and the well-established charter of the United Nations and the African Union in this matter, which provides for the authentic exercise by the Sahrawi people of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 1514 (XV) on the Granting of Independence to Colonial

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Countries and Peoples, of which the international community is celebrating this year, the 60th anniversary,” the communiqué added.

In this regard, the proclamation of 4 December, announced on 10th, is “stripped of legal effect, because it upends all the UN resolutions and in particular those of the Security Council on Western Sahara question, the last being the Resolution 2548 of October 30, 2020, drafted and defended by the American “penholder.”

The foreign ministry also warned that it (the proclamation) "could undermine the de-escalation efforts deployed in all directions in order to prepare the ground for the launch of a real political process and to convince the two conflicting parties, the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario Front, to engage, without conditions, on the path of dialogue, under the aegis of the United Nations, supported by the African Union."

Algeria, whose position is based on international legality against the logic of force and dubious markets, reiterates its unwavering support for the just cause of the Saharawi people, concluded the communiqué of Foreign Ministry.

Pierre Galand: Western Sahara is not for sale

BRUSSELS - Western Sahara is "not for sale", said on Friday Pierre Galand, President of the European Coordination of Support and Solidarity with the Sahrawi People (EUCOCO), in reaction to the decision of US President Donald Trump on the alleged sovereignty of Morocco over the occupied territory.

Pierre Galand said in a statement released on Friday that after "selling" the occupied al Quds to Israel, "denying nuclear disarmament, stopping the United States' contribution to UNESCO, UNRWA, WHO and after trying to destroy Obama Care ... Donald Trump grants, as an absolute sovereign he still believes to be", Morocco the so-called sovereignty over Western Sahara and this, "in exchange of betrayal of King Mohammed VI to the Palestinians."

"Netanyahu and the King of Morocco thus believe making their moves with regard to their annexationist projects of Palestine and Western Sahara. Trump, Netanyahu, Mohammed VI are thus trampling on the inalienable and sovereign rights of two peoples, who are today militarily occupied, colonized, repressed and stripped of their resources," he added.

"Amid the failure of the UN to guarantee respect for international law, the right of these two peoples to self-determination," the Polisario Front and following Morocco's violation of the 1991 peace agreement signed under the auspices of the United Nations," has decided to defend itself through armed struggle which it considers the only recourse to recover the most legitimate aspirations of the Saharawi people."

Trump's position upends US policy regarding Sahrawi question

PARIS - The position of outgoing US President Donald Trump on Western Sahara set "a precedent in the policy of the American administration with regard to the Sahrawi question "and

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constitutes a "flagrant violation of Sahrawi people right to self-determination," Polisario Front representative in France, Mohamed Sidati, said on Saturday.

"President Trump's reckless stance regarding Morocco's alleged sovereignty over Western Sahara sets a precedent in the successive policies of the US administration, which have always been in favor of a peaceful solution guaranteeing the Sahrawi people's right to self-determination," Sidati told APS.

In addition, Trump's position has no "legal or political basis," argued the member of the Polisario Front's national secretariat. For Sidati, "the fact that it came in the last days of Trump's mandate raises several questions as to the purpose."

The Polisario Front representative in France Sidati affirmed that "Trump's announcement is a political heist, a violation of all international laws and an attempt to undermine the UN-AU process for the settlement of the Western Sahara conflict." His endeavor will be without success as "this is a question of decolonization, the resolution of which imperatively requires international legality and the inalienable right of the Sahrawi people to self-determination," he said.

Sidati further underlined that "Trump's position will not change the legal nature of the conflict in Western Sahara," referring to the statement by the spokesperson for the UN Secretary General, Stéphane Dujarric, who affirmed that the UN position on Western Sahara "remains unchanged" after US president's announcement.

OMSAC reiterates call for Sahrawi people self-determination

GENEVA - The Global Security Organization against Corruption (OMSAC) on Saturday condemned "without reservation" the position of outgoing US President Donald Trump on Western Sahara and reiterated its call achieving self-determination of the Sahrawi people, a press release said.

The "Global Security Organization against Corruption (OMSAC) condemns without reservation and in the strongest terms this unilateral decision made by a president on his way out. A diplomatic support to Rabat, which goes against the UN position," added the release.

Recalling that Western Sahara is the last colony in Africa, occupied by the Kingdom of Morocco since 1975, the OMSAC has affirmed its "unreserved" support for the implementation of resolution 1514 of the UN General Assembly on the Declaration of the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples said the release.

"This US decision goes against regional security and stability. It has a negative impact on the UN's efforts to resolve the conflict," it said, reaffirming its calls for the self-determination of the Sahrawis and for the respect of the international legality."

"We only recognize the solutions made on the basis of Security Council resolutions and that the sovereignty over Western Sahara belongs exclusively to the Sahrawi people. We also demand the

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self-determination referendum, as planned by the UN," said the OMSAC, calling for the resumption of the UN-sponsored negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario Front.

UNGA adopts resolution reiterating Sahrawi people's right to self-determination

NEW YORK - UN General Assembly adopted, without voting, on Friday a resolution in which it supports the solution ensuring Western Sahara people's right to self-determination.

In this resolution, the General Assembly reaffirms its support for the negotiation process with a view to "reaching a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution that will allow Western Sahara people to exert their right to self-determination."

Reaffirming the "United Nations' responsibility to the people of Western Sahara," the UN General Assembly welcomes "the efforts made by the Secretary General and his former Personal Envoy to find a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute and ensure the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara."

The General Assembly asks the United Nations Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, or the Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24), to continue to monitor the situation in Western Sahara and submit a report on the issue at the 66th session of the Assembly.

It also invites the UN chief to present, at its sixty-sixteenth session, a report on this resolution. The General Assembly recalled "the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions adopted by it."

Trump violates international law over Western Sahara issue

ALGIERS - US President Donald Trump has violated the international law by recognizing the alleged Morocco's sovereignty over the territory of Western Sahara, the Algerian National Committee for Solidarity with Sahrawi People (ANCSSP) said in a statement Saturday.

"By this move, which totally violates international law and places the United States in the future at odds with its responsibilities, as a great power and as a permanent member of the Security Council, Donald Trump creates a major risk of hindering the peace process in Western Sahara led by the UN Secretary-General," the committee said.

"Trump's decree is a real blow against the doctrine of the United Nations (of which the USA is a part) in terms of decolonization, against international law, and especially Resolution 1514 of 14 December 1960, against the functions of the UN Secretary-General and against the missions and resolutions of the Security Council."

The members of the committee stressed that the outgoing US President "marked his term as President of the United States of America by indignity, irresponsibility and political adventurism," and behaved like a businessman in selling "to his crooked acolytes the Saharawi and Palestinian peoples".

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"Three known protagonists, political thugs and proponent of the use of force and violence and obsessive rape of law and justice have made a shameful, illegal and dishonest transaction on the backs of the Saharawi and Palestinian peoples," the Algerian National Committee for Solidarity with Sahrawi People emphasized. The committee's members "strongly condemn this immoral act of Donald Trump, and mainly his decree, which will not change the legitimacy of the fight of the Saharawi people."