

Emergency Resolution1 : Proposed to War on Want AGM 2025

Title: War on Want reaffirms its support for the Saharawi people and their inalienable right to self-determination.

Noting War on Want's charitable objective to promote human rights and its consequent support for self determination as enshrined in the UN Charter, namely the right of people to choose their own political status and freely pursue their economic, social, and cultural development;

Noting that Western Sahara is the last territory in Africa to be defined by the UN as a non-self-governing territory, and thus subject to a process of decolonisation through self-determination of the Saharawi people overseen by the UN security council;

Noting that Morocco has illegally occupied part of the territory of Western Sahara for almost 50 years as a colonial power and has denied the Saharawi people their rights to have control of their economic, social and cultural development. Indeed it is illegal for Saharawi in the occupied territories to express their support of self-determination and many women and men have suffered imprisonment and torture for expressing their support for independence for Western Sahara;

Noting that since 1990 the UN security council has been unable to organise the solution agreed by all parties, namely a referendum of self-determination of the Saharawi people with the option of independence, due to Moroccan obstruction;

Noting that War on Want has supported the Saharawi people since 1984 both through practical support to the refugee camps in southern Algeria (where the majority of Saharawi have fled to escape the brutal occupation of their homeland) and through mobilising support in the UK for the achievement of their inalienable right of self determination;

Noting the communique published on 1st June 2025 by the UK and Moroccan government includes the statement that the UK government “considers Morocco’s autonomy proposal, submitted in 2007 as the most credible, viable and pragmatic basis for a lasting resolution of the dispute.”;

Noting that this represents a significant departure from the UK’s previous position on the question of Western Sahara, whereas previously the UK stood as the only permanent member of the UN Security Council to clearly uphold the Saharawi people’s right to self-determination, the support for the Moroccan Autonomy plan

undermines the UN's efforts to implement the agreed plan for a free and fair referendum.

Therefore War on Want reaffirms its support for the Saharawi people's right to self-determination and Charter calls for the UK Government to reaffirm its support for the fulfilment of the right of self-determination of the Saharawi people.

And also resolved to

Inform War on Want supporters (and its wider network) of the UK government's change of policy.

Ask supporters to take action in support of the right of self-determination for the Saharawi people including asking them to sign the online petition at <https://www.change.org/p/we-call-on-the-british-government-to-demand-justice-for-the-saharawi-and-western-sahara>

Write to David Lammy expressing its continued support for the principle of self-determination for Western Sahara through a referendum of the Saharawi people which includes the option of independence.

Meet regularly with the UN recognised representatives of the Saharawi people, the Polisario Front, so it can remain informed about the situation and what action can be taken to support the achievement of self-determination for the Saharawi people and the final achievement of political decolonisation of the African continent.

Please return this form by 12 noon Thursday 12 June 2025

By email: drudkin@waronwant.org

By post: David Rudkin, War on Want, 44-48 Shepherdess Walk, London N1 7JP