

Mission, Objectives and Demands



Mission

WSRW aims to preserve the natural resources in occupied Western Sahara for the usage of its people, inasmuch as their sovereignty over those resources is a right with *erga omnes* character enshrined in numerous UN resolutions and international human rights instruments, namely in:

- General Assembly Resolution 1803 (XVII), of 14 December 1962, the "Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources";
- art. 1, nr. 2, of both International Covenants on Human Rights, of 1966;
- and in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, of 1974, whose art. 16, nr. 2, reads: "No State has the right to promote or encourage investments that may constitute an obstacle to the liberation of a territory occupied by force".

WSRW is an international non-governmental coalition of organisations and individuals working for the protection of natural resources in WS.

Objectives

- To affirm the sovereignty of the Saharawi people over their natural resources as the corollary of their right to self-determination.
- To break the link between the exploitation of natural resources and the funding of the Moroccan occupation of the territory.
- To stop and prevent foreign companies from exploration and exploitation of natural resources in Western Sahara in disregard of the wishes and interest of the Saharawi people.
- To stop all kinds of resource exploitation activities, which are socially and environmentally destructive for the environment and people of Western Sahara,
- To ensure the preservation of the natural environment in Western Sahara.
- To collect and disseminate information and evidence documenting natural resource exploitation in Western Sahara and engage in vigorous campaigning to achieve real and effective change.
- To forge a network of local, national and international organisations that promote and protect the rights of the Saharawi people over their natural resources.

Demands that...

- ...the UN and Spain assume their responsibilities under international obligations (in particular of the UN Charter) to protect the natural resources in WS,
- ...all involved companies immediately end their activities in WS,
- ...that Morocco stops the illegal and unethical plundering of Western Sahara natural resources, and does not label products from the occupied territory as Moroccan,
- ...the European Union and its member states call upon all EU registered private and public companies to end immediately their activities onshore and offshore Western Sahara
- ...the European Union and its member states support efforts of the UN and the MINURSO to realise the right of self-determination of the Saharawi people, which includes the permanent right over natural resources,
- ...the companies assess the appropriate legal, political and ethical considerations before carrying out activities in WS and ensure that their activities respect the principles of sustainable development, sovereignty, dignity and the human rights of the people of Western Sahara,
- ...all individual and institutional shareholders exclude companies active in the area from their portfolio,
- ...all states, through a total embargo of Western Sahara products, play an active role vis-à-vis their respective national private or public companies to end their business activities in Western Sahara,
- ...all of Morocco's trading partners to demand from their Moroccan counterpart that no Western Sahara products are included in the deliveries.