

Is Western Sahara a disputed territory?

Western Sahara,formerly the colony of Spanish Sahara,is a disputed territoryclaimed by both the Kingdom of Morocco and the Popular Front for the Liberation of the Saguia el Hamra and Rio de Oro (Polisario Front),which is an independence movement based in Tifariti and Bir Lehlou.

What happened between Morocco and the Western Sahara?

The conflictbetween Morocco and the Western Sahara's pro-independence Polisario Front goes back to the end of Spanish colonial rule. It was ignited in 1975 after Spain relinquished control of Spanish Sahara,later known as Western Sahara.

Is Western Sahara a self-governing territory?

The United Nations calls Western Sahara a Non-Self-Governing Territorylacking any administrative power. Tensions there have been heating up since 2020,when a 29-year-long ceasefire between Morocco and the Polisario Front collapsed and fighting resumed.

Is Western Sahara part of Morocco?

The official position of the Kingdom of Morocco since 1963 is that all of Western Sahara is an integral part of the kingdom. The Moroccan government refers to Western Sahara only as "Moroccan Sahara",,the "Saharan provinces" [citation needed],or the "Southern Provinces".

What ethnic groups live in Western Sahara?

The major ethnic group of Western Sahara are the Sahrawis,a nomadic or Bedouin ethnic group speaking the Hassaniya dialect of Arabic,also spoken in much of Mauritania. They are of mixed Arab-Berber descent,but claim descent from the Beni Hassan,an Arab tribe that migrated across the desert in the 11th century.

Where is Western Sahara located?

Western Sahara is located on the north-west coast in West Africa and on the cusp of North Africa,bordering the North Atlantic Ocean to the northwest,Morocco proper to the north-northeast,Algeria to the east-northeast,and Mauritania to the east and south.

The Western Sahara conflict has been described as a "frozen conflict" and as "decolonisation"s last stand." Despite the multiple ceasefires throughout its history, the conflict has not been fully resolved. Since 1974, ...

Western Sahara is unique among the 17 remaining non-self-governing territories not only because it is the last African territory awaiting decolonization, but also because it lacks an UN-recognized administrative authority prepared to take on that duty.

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Morocco and Mauritania divided the territory between themselves, while the pro-independence Polisario Front, ...

For five decades, Sahrawi refugees have been displaced from Western Sahara, which many people call "Africa's last colony" and which the United Nations considers the world's largest and most populous

The group fighting for Western Sahara's independence warned it may ramp up military attacks as Morocco looks to consolidate control of the disputed territory after securing US and French backing.

The current conflict dates to 1975, when Spain relinquished its colonial rule of Morocco's Western Sahara region. Today, Western Sahara is home to fewer than 600,000 souls, or roughly 10% of the population of ...

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OverviewCultureGeographyHistoryPoliticsAdministrative divisionsDisputeEconomyThe major ethnic group of Western Sahara are the Sahrawis, a nomadic or Bedouin ethnic group speaking the Hassaniya dialect of Arabic, also spoken in much of Mauritania. They are of mixed Arab-Berber descent, but claim descent from the Beni Hassan, an Arab tribe that migrated across the desert in the 11th century.

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