

# Tensions in Western Sahara: The international community calls for calm

The Polisario Front group that controls the separatist region of Morocco has announced since Friday this week the termination of the ceasefire agreement reached almost thirty years ago, in 1991.

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MINURSO (the UN mission) was sent 25 years ago to manage the ceasefire agreement in the Western Sahara region. Abdelhak Senna / AFP

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The announcement was made after the operation of the Moroccan army in the

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Guerguerat area to open the road to Mauritania. The United Nations and the countries bordering Morocco have responded by asking the rival parties to refrain from another crisis that could put the country at risk.

Mauritania, whose troops have continued to be deployed in large numbers by Morocco, has called on all parties not to break the ceasefire agreement.

Algeria, which supports the Polisario Front, has called for an end to military operations. His Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sabri Boukadoum, has referred to his request for the appointment of a UN envoy to the United Nations, as soon as possible, and the resumption of negotiations that have been suspended since March 2019. Negotiations that include Polisario, Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania.

For his part, the Secretary General of the United Nations is disappointed to see that his efforts in recent days to prevent the escalation of clashes in Guerguerat have failed.

Antonio Guterres has said that he is still determined to do everything possible to prevent the breakdown of the ceasefire agreement reached in 1991.

Antonio Guterres has received a letter from the leadership of the Polisario Front asking him to refer the matter to the United Nations Security Council.