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**Politics**

# Lingering Tensions Intensify as Algeria accuses Morocco of Real Estate 'Provocation'

This comes amid escalated tensions between the two countries as Algeria's regime continues to challenge Morocco's territorial integrity.

[Safaa Kasraoui](#) Mar. 18, 2024 4:53 p.m.



Algeria President Abdelmadjid Tebboune



On Sunday, the Algerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a [statement](#) to denounce the alleged real estate expropriation.

For the Algerian regime, this act is an “unqualifiable violation of respect and duty to protect diplomatic representations of sovereign states, sanctified by both law and international custom.”

The statement came after news outlet Maghreb Intelligence reported on Friday that Morocco had decided to “expropriate several real estate properties and lands belonging to the Algerian state.”

The news outlet said that it obtained documents showing that the government decided to “expropriate the properties for the expansion needs of the premises belonging to the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The documents consulted by Maghreb Intelligence [reportedly](#) include a land property of 619 square meters, as well as 630 square meters of land housing a residence and offices on the group floor.

Morocco’s government has made no official announcement on the matter.

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The Algerian regime’s statement comes amid an already precarious situation as tensions between Algeria and Morocco continue to escalate.

Perhaps more tellingly, this latest spat between the two countries comes at a time when the Algerian regime, which has a notorious history of lashing out at Morocco as a diversionary tactic, is showing signs of stepping up its efforts to undermine Rabat's recent gains in a variety of diplomatic arenas.

Late last year, a report by the risk analysis firm Menas Associates revealed that Algeria has adopted a siege mentality when it comes to Morocco’s growing diplomatic outreach.

Driving the decades-long tension between the two neighbors is Algeria’s unwavering support for the Polisario Front, a separatist movement seeking independence for the Western Sahara region in southern Morocco.

The Algerian regime’s provision of financial support, weapons, and sanctuary to the separatist group in the Tindouf camps has only served to exacerbate already tense relations between the neighboring nations over the past several decades.

In addition to desperately playing catch-up in the Western Sahara dispute as the international conversation on the territorial dispute takes an undeniably pro-Moroccan turn, Algeria is now resorting to accusing the UAE of conspiring with Morocco to undermine Algerian stability and Algeria’s strategic interests.

Over the years, Algeria has repeatedly leveled such unproven accusations at Rabat. In the summer of 2021, for example, the Algerian regime accused Morocco of being the “invisible hand” behind a wave of devastating wildfires that ravaged northern Algeria.

A few days after this unverified accusation, Algeria severed ties with Morocco in a remarkable diplomatic rupture. In response, Morocco vehemently denied the allegations and dismissed them as baseless claims.

And despite Morocco’s persistent efforts to extend an olive branch and reconcile differences, the Algerian regime has repeatedly rejected such peace overtures. The longstanding political stalemate between the two countries continues, casting a shadow over the prospects for a resolution.

As this latest controversy adds to an increasingly alarming pile of political divergences, from Algiers’ pledge to support Polisario’s separatism to its manifest determination to counter Morocco’s growing African leadership and



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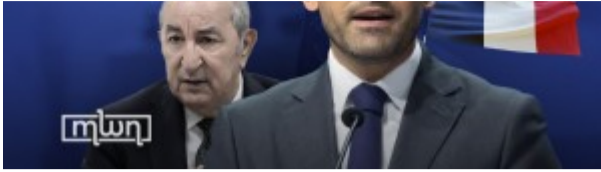


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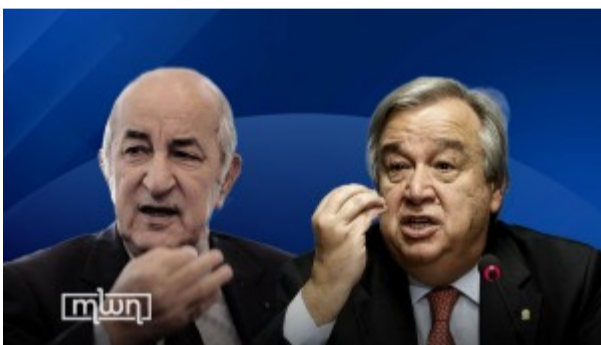
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