

1 **EFGP 3rd Congress, Berlin – Draft Resolution**

2 by Green League, Finland

3 4 **REFERENDUM ON INDEPENDENCE NEEDED IN WESTERN SAHARA**

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6 The conflict in Western Sahara, a territory often referred to as "the last colony of Africa", has been going on
7 for more than 25 years. All this time, Morocco has continued to occupy the area of Western Sahara by force
8 while most of the Saharawi people have lived in the desert, in refugee camps of
9 Southern Algeria.

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11 Ever since it existed, the problem of Western Sahara has been recognised as decolonization conflict by the
12 United Nations. The solution to this decolonization conflict lies in the exercise, by the Saharawi people, of its
13 right to self-determination. The referendum on the future of their territory
14 has still not come true, a right guaranteed by the United Nations already in 1966.

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16 The exercise of this right is precisely the goal of the Peace Plan, which was worked out jointly by the UN and
17 the Organisation of Africa n Unity in 1991. Accepted by both parties at war, it prepared the ground for a
18 cease-fire and then for the holding of a referendum of self-determination.

19 The UN Security Council gave the green light to the MINURSO - the UN mission for the organisation of a
20 referendum in Western Sahara.

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22 The UN has been playing a very important role in decolonisation process of the Western Sahara for more
23 than a decade. However the Saharawi people are still awaiting the promised referendum on
24 self-determination. Despite the efforts by the UN and international declarations, Morocco is refusing to fulfil its
25 commitments and to accept the preparations for the referendum.

26 The UN legal department has recently stated as its opinion that Morocco does not have any right to
27 sovereignty over the territory and that the people of Western Sahara are entitled to sovereignty as well as to
28 the natural resources of the territory.

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30 The justice has triumphed in Namibia and East-Timor, it is high time to bring justice also to Western Sahara.
31 The conflict creates instability and tensions in the whole region of North Africa. The stability can only be
32 secure by the solution of the Western Sahara conflict.

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34 As the only way towards a peaceful solution in accordance with international legality and the legitimate
35 expectations of the Saharawi people, the UN peace plan is irreplaceable.

36 37 **The participants of the Congress of the European Federation of Green parties**

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39 - support to the people of Western Sahara and to their right to exercise the basic right of
40 self-determination through a free and fair, transparent referendum
41 - call upon the UN and the EU and Morocco to respect the widely recognised right of self-determination
42 of the Saharawi people and call upon the Secretary General of the UN to do at most his efforts to
43 secure that the Western Sahara will be able to express its view without any constraint.
44 - call upon Morocco to respect human rights in the occupied territories of Western Sahara and to allow
45 the observers and mass media to visit the occupied territories.
46 - urge Polisario to continue negotiations as a means towards fulfilling the Peace Plan
47 - demand that the EU takes an active role in facilitating the negotiations and bringing peace and
48 stability to the area
49 - demand that as long as the conflict goes on the Saharawi refugees must have secure and sufficient
50 humanitarian assistant in all fields.
51 - urge all foreign companies to refrain from all business relations, which include the exploitation of the
52 resources of the territory of Western Sahara, occupied by Morocco.