

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4119

To provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to the Polisario Front, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 24, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. PANETTA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to the Polisario Front, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Polisario Front Ter-
5 rorist Designation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Polisario Front, founded in 1973, is a
2 separatist group operating primarily in Western Sa-
3 hara and the Tindouf region of Algeria, seeking
4 independence for Western Sahara from Moroccan
5 sovereignty.

6 (2) The Polisario Front has a documented his-
7 tory of ideological and operational ties with Iran, a
8 state sponsor of terrorism, dating back at least to
9 1980, when Polisario fighters publicly posed with
10 portraits of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in a bid to
11 attract revolutionary credibility and Iranian patron-
12 age.

13 (3) According to reporting by Jeune Afrique, 3
14 Hezbollah officers served as trainers in the Tindouf
15 camps in 2018. One of the named trainers, since
16 killed in a November 2023 Israeli airstrike in Syria,
17 had previously been sanctioned by the United States
18 for orchestrating the 2007 Karbala raid in Iraq that
19 killed 5 American soldiers.

20 (4) Iran’s support has reportedly advanced
21 from training to the provision of lethal hardware. In
22 a 2022 livestream, Polisario “Interior Minister”
23 Omar Mansour stated that his fighters were training
24 on “assembling and operating armed drones”. A
25 year later, images disseminated via Polisario-con-

1 trolled social media channels showed Iranian-type
2 munitions, as confirmed by open-source weapons re-
3 searchers.

4 (5) The Washington Post reported in April
5 2025 that Iran has trained Polisario Front fighters
6 and provided them with unmanned aerial vehicles
7 (UAVs), deepening concerns about the group’s grow-
8 ing capabilities and external sponsorship.

9 (6) The Syrian wing of the PKK, a designated
10 terrorist organization, took part in the front’s meet-
11 ing called “Sahrawi Solidarity Summit” in the
12 Sahrawi camps on January 4–7 2025.

13 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

14 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
15 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to
16 the appropriate Congressional committees a report on the
17 Polisario Front to include the following:

18 (1) A description of the Polisario Front’s lead-
19 ership, military operations, and foreign sponsorship.

20 (2) A description of the Polisario Front’s rela-
21 tionships, support, funding, and associations with
22 Iran and Russia.

23 (3) A description of the Polisario Front’s rela-
24 tionships, support, funding and associations with

1 Foreign Terrorist Organizations Hezbollah, the
2 IRGC, and the PKK.

3 (4) A description and analysis of whether the
4 Polisario Front has ever intentionally attacked civil-
5 ian targets.

6 **SEC. 4. DETERMINATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE IMPOSI-**
7 **TION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST THE**
8 **POLISARIO FRONT.**

9 (a) DETERMINATIONS BY THE SECRETARY OF
10 STATE.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the en-
11 actment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit
12 to the appropriate Congressional committees a determina-
13 tion, including a detailed justification, of whether the
14 Polisario Front meets the criteria for—

15 (1) designation as a foreign terrorist organiza-
16 tion under section 219 of the Immigration and Na-
17 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189); and

18 (2) imposition of sanctions under section 1263
19 of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Account-
20 ability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law
21 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note).

22 (b) DETERMINATION BY THE SECRETARY OF THE
23 TREASURY.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the
24 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall
25 submit to the appropriate Congressional committees a de-

1 termination, including a detailed justification, of whether
2 the Polisario Front meets the criteria for the imposition
3 of sanctions under Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C.
4 1701).

5 (c) FORM.—The determinations required by sub-
6 sections (a) and (b) shall be submitted in unclassified
7 form, but may include a classified annex.

8 **SEC. 5. WAIVER.**

9 The designations and sanctions described in section
10 (4) of this bill may be waived by the President if it is
11 determined that the Polisario Front is engaged in good
12 faith negotiations to implement the autonomy plan for the
13 Western Sahara put forward by the Kingdom of Morocco
14 and submitted to the UN Security Council in 2007, which
15 proposes granting the Sahrawi people a high degree of
16 self-governance within a framework of Moroccan sov-
17 ereignty.

○