



## **PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE (?) OF RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN WESTERN SAHARA: NOTES FROM SPAIN**

In the first part of this paper, the human rights situation in Western Sahara is analysed, both from a historical and a “contemporary” perspective.

In the second part of the work, the Author raises a question regarding human rights control and he points out the limited effectiveness of the existing mechanisms at international level, such as Universal Periodic Review established within the Human Rights Council, and at regional level, within the Arab League, the Arab Human Rights Committee and the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights, arguing for the need for more specific mechanisms.

To this aim, he calls for extending the mandate of MINURSO, the existing “United States Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara”, to assume the tasks related to the supervision of respect for human rights in the territory of Western Sahara.

(Abstract by the editorial staff)