



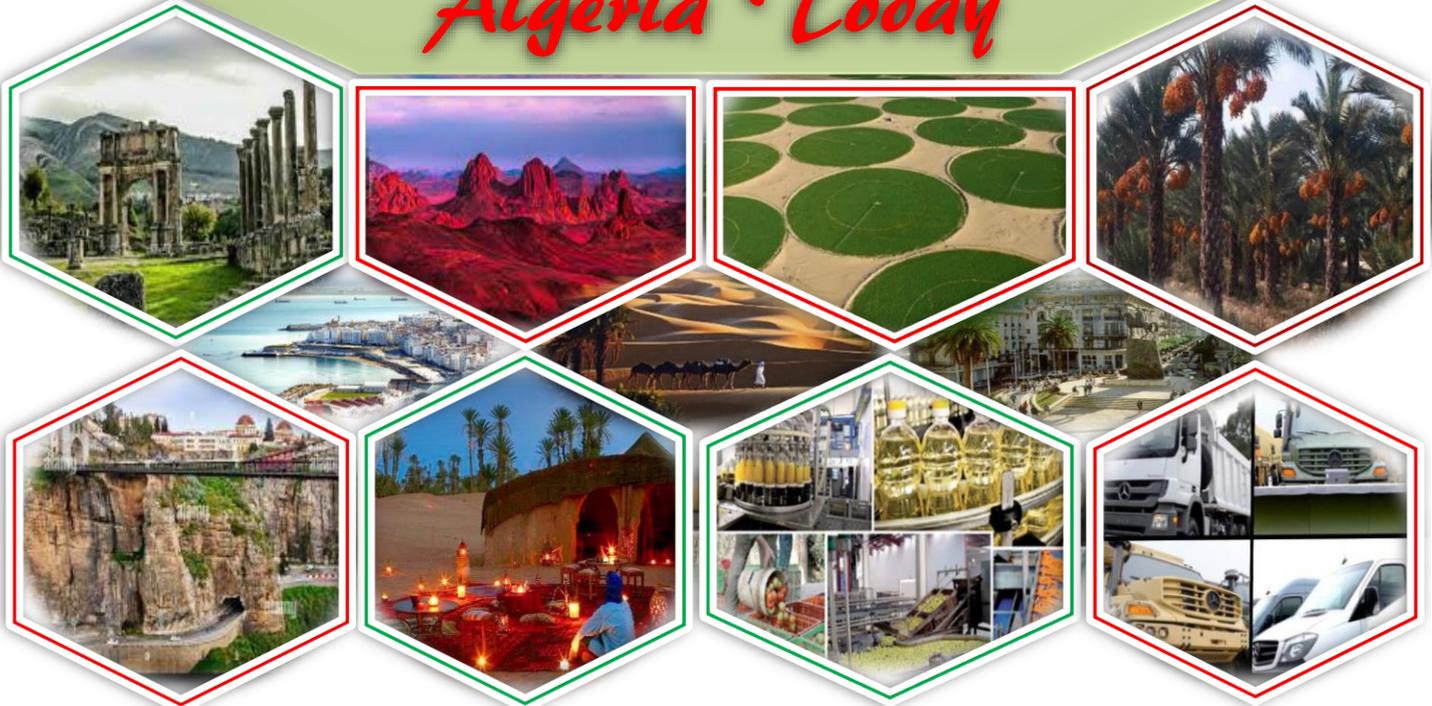
*Embassy of Algeria to Finland*



*Monthly Newsletter*



*Algeria Today*



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### Algeria, Portugal: Full convergence of views, depth of historical relations stressed



The President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, began a two-day State visit to the Republic of Portugal from Monday 22 May 2023". This visit was part of the "strengthening of the historic friendship, cooperation and neighbourly relations between the two countries". It aims to "open up new prospects and extend bilateral ties to other areas in the interests of both countries".

President of the Republic Mr. Abdelmadjid Tebboune held discussions with his Portuguese counterpart, Mr. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa. The two leaders held one-on-one discussions at the headquarters of the presidency of the Portuguese Republic, which were subsequently extended to the delegations of the two countries.

The President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune announced Tuesday 23 May 2023, evening from the Portuguese capital Lisbon the holding of the Algeria-Portugal bilateral summit in the second half of the year 2023, saying he agreed with his Portuguese counterpart to make 2023 a "pivotal year for the revival of major bilateral events.

The president of the Republic paid a visit to the Portuguese Parliament in Lisbon, where he was welcomed by the speaker, Augusto Santos Silva.

During his State visit, President Tebboune co-chaired with Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Costa, the signing ceremony of several agreements and memorandum of understanding (MOUs) on cooperation and partnership between the two countries in many sectors.

As part of his state visit, the President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune chaired, jointly with the Portuguese Prime Minister, Antonio Costa, the opening of the Algeria-Portugal business forum. The forum aims to bring together investors from both countries, to consider opportunities for cooperation and partnership and boost bilateral economic cooperation.

### The President of the Republic meets in Lisbon representatives of the national community established in Portugal



The President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, met representatives of the national community established in Portugal, on Monday 22 May 2023, in Lisbon.

President Tebboune listened to the concerns of various speakers present at the meeting before answering their questions on issues relating to Algerian skills abroad and their role in contributing to the country's development.

The main issues of interest to the country and the ways and means of promoting Algerian-Portuguese relations in the interests of both States and peoples were also raised by the President of the Republic.

On this occasion, President Tebboune stated that his meeting with members of the national Community abroad "is a tradition instituted by the Algerian State to communicate with them, to reassure them of the situation in the country and to listen to their concerns".

### 32nd Arab Summit: President Tebboune stresses the need of reform, and to improve joint Arab action



President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune, said in an address at the opening of the 32nd ordinary session of the Arab League Council at the level of the Summit, in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia on Friday 19 May 2023, the inevitability of reform and the need to improve joint Arab action according to a new approach, placing the concerns of Arab citizens at the centre of priorities. "We cannot talk about the situation in the Arab world without mentioning the deep changes and the frantic developments in the world, and which promise of a new multipolar world order standing on the ruins of the unipolar order," President Tebboune said

"This situation with its multiple complications and its significant impact requires us to strengthen solidarity and action as a unified community driven by the principle of common destiny, to be able to play an active and effective role in the definition of new international balances to preserve our common interests," the President of the Republic said.

"We have the capacity and the potential to have a prominent place to contribute to the definition of benchmarks, for a better future for our peoples."

"Aware of the extent and the nature of the major challenges facing the Arab Nation and based on our deep conviction of the importance of the renewed joint Arab action, I insist on the necessity of reform and to improve joint Arab action according to an approach placing the concerns of Arab citizens at the centre of priorities."

The president of the Republic expressed his gratitude for the support of Algeria's proposals for the activation of the Arab League's role in prevention and resolution of conflicts, the strengthening of the place of the young and innovation in the joint Arab action.

President Tebboune stressed "the need to speed up the implementation of the reform process to meet the challenges at the regional in and international levels."

### Attaf chairs in Jeddah the Preparatory meeting for Arab League Summit



Minister of Foreign Affairs and National Community Abroad, Ahmed Attaf, chaired on Wednesday 17 May 2023, in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia), the Preparatory meeting for Arab League Summit to monitor the implementation of decisions adopted by Arab leaders at the Algiers summit.

"During this Ministerial meeting, which took place in the presence of the foreign Ministers of the member countries of the Arab League, the implementation of the Algiers Summit results was discussed, as well as the prospects for pursuing joint Arab efforts to implement the decisions and guidelines adopted by the Arab leaders last year in Algeria".

In this regard, and according to the custom, "President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, in his capacity as chairman of the 31st Arab Summit, presented a comprehensive report on the assessment of joint Arab action during the period between the Algiers and Jeddah summits. This report was presented at the 32nd Arab Summit in Jeddah".

## Foreign Policy

### Algeria-KSA: Attaf co-chairs with Saudi counterpart 4th political



The Minister of Foreign Affairs and National Community Abroad, Ahmed Attaf, co-chaired, with his Saudi counterpart Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah Al Saud Tuesday 16 May 2023, in Jeddah, the fourth session of the Algerian-Saudi Political Consultations Commission.

The meeting, part of Attaf's official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, focused on the ways and practical steps to enhance bilateral cooperation, with consultations and coordination on many political issues of common interest, mainly those on the agenda of the ministerial meeting ahead of the Arab Summit in Jeddah that was held on 17 May 2023.

The works of the meeting wrapped up with the strengthening of the structural framework governing the bilateral relations through the signing, by the two officials of an agreement on the creation of an Algerian-Saudi high council of coordination.

The council's main task is "to increase contacts and step up cooperation between the two countries, especially as it will receive special attention and be subjected to direct monitoring by the leaders of the two countries".

The discussions were also an opportunity for the two delegations to "stress the commitment of both sides to intensify their efforts to increase the volume of trade and investments between the two countries in their best interests, according to the priorities that will be identified shortly by the two sides."

### Minister Attaf lands in New York ahead of elections of Security Council non-permanent



The Minister of Foreign Affairs and National Community Abroad, Ahmed Attaf arrived Tuesday 30 May 2023, at the headquarters of the United Nations (UN) in New York for a working visit ahead of the elections to renew the non-permanent members of the Security Council.

Algeria will participate in the UN General Assembly elections scheduled for June 6, as a candidate for a non-permanent seat on the Security Council for 2024-2025.

Algeria's candidacy is endorsed by the African Union (AU), the League of Arab States, and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), as well as the support of several brotherly and friendly countries.

Mr. Attaf will hold bilateral talks with several representatives of UN member countries, as well as with the Secretary-General and senior officials of this international organization, with a view to discuss the goals and priorities that Algeria wishes to achieve during its term of office on the Security Council, and mobilizing further support in the run-up to the June 6 elections, in addition to preparing for the events that will follow this important rendezvous.

### 2nd Algerian-Serbian political consultations in Algiers



The second session of Algerian-Serbian political consultations were held on Monday 8 May 2023, in Algiers, under the co-chairmanship of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Community Abroad, Mr. Amar Belani, and the Secretary of State to Serbia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Goran Aleksic.

During the consultations, the two sides discussed the bilateral relations and the prospects of strengthening them, in the light of Algeria's political and economic reforms and the quality of the historical relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides reiterated their mutual commitment to give a fresh impetus to bilateral cooperation and to actively and substantially prepare for the next bilateral events.

They also agreed on working together to establish a mutually beneficial economic cooperation, benefitting from the comparative advantages of the new legal framework of investments in Algeria. In this respect, the two officials agreed on the necessity of promoting bilateral cooperation in agriculture, information and communication technologies (ICTs), infrastructure, water, tourism, energy, teaching and culture.

They expressed their commitment to raise them to the quality of the political relations between the two countries, in line with the guidelines of the President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, and his Serbian counterpart, Aleksander Vucic.

### Algeria takes part in the C24 Annual Seminar in Bali



**United  
Nations**

The annual seminar of the UN Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonised Countries and Peoples (C24) opened on Wednesday 24 May 2023, in Bali (Indonesia), with the participation of an Algerian delegation led by the Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Amar Bendjama.

This year's event was marked by a large number of delegates, including representatives of the 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories on the United Nations decolonisation agenda, UN member states and experts in the field of decolonisation.

The majority of delegations present did not fail to reiterate their attachment to the principle of decolonisation stemming from the historic resolution 1514 adopted in 1960, which forms the basis of the UN doctrine on self-determination.

Many delegations expressed regret that the objective of complete decolonisation of the 17 territories remains unfulfilled, at a time when the UN has proclaimed the Fourth international decade for the eradication of colonisation.

The question of Western Sahara was at the centre of the C24's deliberations from the second day of work. Delegations from countries supporting the Sahrawi cause, including Algeria, who were present at the seminar, reiterated their firm support for the right of the people of Western Sahara to self-determination.

### Algeria, Portugal discuss strengthening of bilateral trade, investment



The Minister of Trade and Export Promotion, Mr. Tayeb Zitouni, received Monday 15 May in Algiers the Portuguese Minister of Economy and Maritime Affairs, Mr. Antonio Costa Silva, with whom he discussed the prospects for the strengthening of bilateral economic relations, especially in investment and trade. During the meeting, the two Ministers examined the economic and trade relations between the two countries and "the prospects for their development and strengthening." In this respect, the "new incentives and new benefits of the new Law on Investment for foreign investors" were highlighted. Mr. Zitouni stressed "the need to increase the efforts to establish partnerships based on the win-win approach and to encourage joint investments in vital sectors, such as food processing and manufacturing industries." The Portuguese Minister of Economy and Maritime Affairs said "Algeria is an important economic partner for Portugal." He added that his country would work for activating cooperation and partnership with Algeria.

### Qatar Economic Forum: Minister Henni takes part in workshop on food security



Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr. Mohamed Abdelhafid Henni, took part Wednesday 24 May 2023, in Doha in a workshop on food security as part of the 3rd Qatar Economic Forum.

Regarding his participation in the 3rd Qatar Economic Forum, under the theme "A New History of Global Growth," Minister Henni attended the workshop on "Food security in the light of climate change and international geopolitical events and the Covid-19 pandemic," in the presence of President of the National Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CNESE).

Important topics were discussed such as the future of inflation, the competitiveness of companies and enterprises, the economy of technological innovation, economic growth, the monetary climate, food security and the future of education and teaching.

### The Chief Executive Officer of Sonatrach paid work visit to China



The Chief Executive Officer of Sonatrach Toufik Hakkar paid, from 15 to 18 May 2023, a working visit to China, leading a large delegation made up of the executives of the group, of the company ASMIDAL, subsidiary of Sonatrach, and of the group Manadjim El-Djazair (MANAL).

This visit is part of the development of the integrated phosphate project (PPI), supervised by the Algerian-Chinese company "Algerian Chinese Fertilizers Company" (ACFC), created on 22 March 2022 between the Algerian groups ASMIDAL and MANAL, on one hand, and the Chinese companies "Wuhuan" and "TIAN'AN" on the other hand. This project includes the exploitation of the phosphate deposit of Bled El Hadba in the region of Djebel Onk in the province of Tebessa, the chemical processing of phosphate and the manufacturing of nitrogen fertilizers and chemical products on Oued Keberit (Souk Ahras). During this visit, meetings were held with the officials of China National Chemical Engineering Co., Ltd (CNCEC), exclusive owner of the company Wuhuan, specialized in the chemical industries and fertilizers. The two sides discussed the development of PPI, as well as cooperation prospects in the fields related to research, development and production of green ammonia, and the recovery of industrial waste coming from fertilizer processing.

### Sonatrach sign LPG supply contract of Wanhua petrochemical complex in China



The national hydrocarbon company Sonatrach signed on Tuesday 16 May 2023, with the Chinese company Wanhua Chemical a term contract for the supply of LPG to the petrochemical complex of this company in China. The contract covers "a regular supply of the Asian market with Algerian LPG, thus marking a significant turning point for Algerian LPG exports, also allowing the introduction of the Algerian LPG price reference on the largest regional market in the world". This agreement confirms the willingness of both companies to set up a "lasting and fruitful commercial relationship in the field of LPG in particular and petrochemicals in general".

### Sonatrach: Petrochemical complex worth USD 1.5 billion to be built in



The Sonatrach group, through its subsidiary "STEP Polymers Spa," has attributed a contract for the construction of a petrochemical complex, worth 1.5 billion dollars, in Arzew to the Petrofac-HQC consortium. STEP Polymers Spa, a 100% subsidiary of Sonatrach, has attributed the EPC (Engineering, Procurement, Construction) contract to the British-Chinese consortium Petrofac-HQC, in the industrial zone of Arzew (west of the country), for a petrochemical complex intended for the production of 550,000 tons/year of polypropylene for an amount of 1.5 billion USD. "This is the result of a process, launched in April 2021, through a restricted consultation, towards world leaders in the field of construction of petrochemical complexes". The contract was attributed to the best bidder, the Petrofac-HQC consortium, in accordance with the procurement procedure in force within STEP Polymers Spa, for a construction period of 42 months.

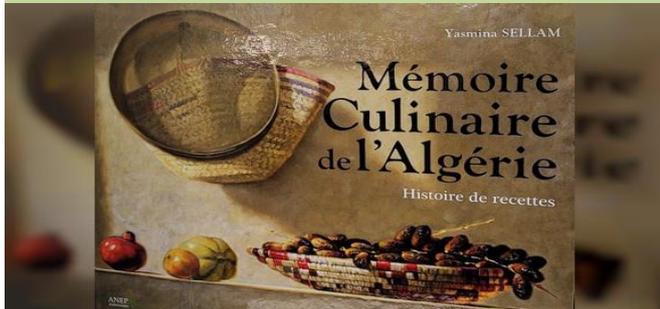
### TSGP gas pipeline: the AfDB supports the project, praises Algeria for its efforts in Africa



The President of the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group, Akinwumi Adesina, on Monday 22 May 2023, in Sharm el-Sheikh, expressed the AfDB support for the Trans-Saharan Gas Pipeline (TSGP) project linking Nigeria to Europe via Algeria, while hailing Algeria's efforts to support development in Africa.

The Trans-Saharan gas pipeline is a mega gas transport project linking Nigeria, Niger and Algeria over a distance of 4,000 km. The Energy Ministers of the 3 countries signed a memorandum of understanding to launch the construction of the Trans-Saharan Gas-Pipeline (TSGP), a project which forms part of the implementation of the NEPAD programme and which, for Algeria, is an example of the desire of the three partners to "set up a regional infrastructure of international scope". Once operational, it will also supply the Sahel countries. Mr Adesina also praised Algeria's efforts and its "commitment" to supporting development on the continent. "I salute Algeria's efforts to support African countries with very low incomes. I also salute the commitment of the Algerian State for its contribution to the replenishment of the African Development Fund, with 10 million dollars, a very significant contribution, which makes Algeria one of the largest African contributors to this fund". "I appreciate your commitment and collaboration together. Algeria is a very important country for the AfDB; it is one of the shareholders that have been present since the creation of the Bank", he stated. Then he added "Algeria supports everything to do with Africa and regional integration, especially infrastructure. There is also the pharmaceutical sector, where Algeria is making a great deal of progress from which Africa can benefit".

**Gourmand World Cookbook Awards:  
Yasmina Sellam wins 1st prize**



Algeria won on Saturday 27 May 2023 in Umea, Sweden, first prize in the prestigious international Gourmand World Cookbook Awards competition, thanks to the book "Mémoire culinaire de l'Algérie" by chef Yasmina Sellam.

The book, published in 2022 by Editions Anep, was selected as one of the top 3 contenders in the Culinary History category, where books from 18 other countries, renowned for their distinguished culinary arts, were shortlisted, including China, Turkey and Portugal.

The organisers of the competition, in which 230 countries and regions entered 100,000 books and publications in all categories, described the book as "an important and essential contribution to the world's culinary history".

**18th "Andaloussiates El djazair" opens in  
Algiers**



The 18th "Andaloussiates El Djazair", a cultural event celebrating the Andalusian cultural heritage, kicked off Wednesday 17 may 2023, in Algiers with two performances by the cultural ensembles of Andalusian music "Dar El Gharnatia" from Kolea and "Essendoussia" from Algiers.

Several Andalusian music associations has performed in this event, in celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the national sovereignty recovery.

The orchestra of the cultural Andalusian music association, "Dar El Ghernatia" from Kolea, with its twenty instrumentalists, including six female musicians, was the first to perform under the direction of Moahmed Cherif Saoudi.

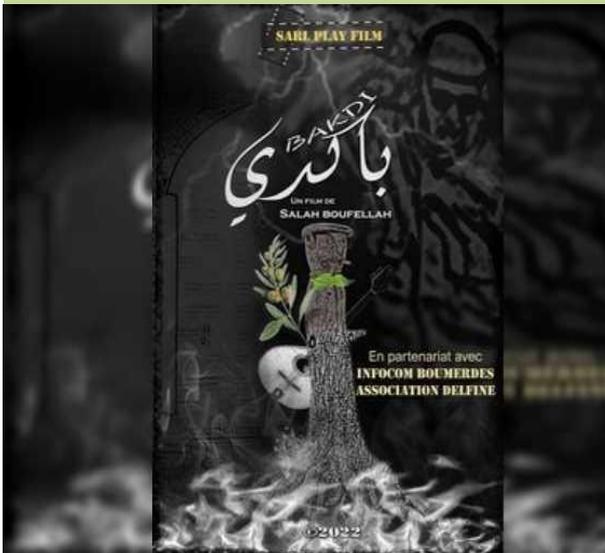
**Recovery in London of an Algerian pistol dating from the 18th century**



An Algerian coral-encrusted pistol with a flintlock case, dating from the period of the Ottoman Empire (18th century), was recovered on Tuesday 23 may 2023, by the Algerian Embassy in London.

This historic piece, 61cm long and the work of Algerian gunsmith Mohamed Al-Mawhub, consists of a steel barrel with chased bands running the length of the barrel, held in place by three silver bands, the lock and the brass cock inlaid and sculpted with plant interlacing, Wooden stock and grip inlaid with silver and set with ovoid pieces of red coral forming flower heads and tendrils, leafy trigger, trigger guard finials with inscriptions, ramrod with bone finial. The pistol, which was presented at the sale by the London auction house Bonhams, is part of a batch of firearms made mainly as diplomatic gifts during the reign of Hammouda Ibn Ali, Bey of Tunis (1759-1814). When the auction of this pistol was announced, many members of our community abroad alerted the Embassy to the risk of this weapon being lost and expressed their willingness to purchase the piece so that it could be returned to its true owner, the people of the Algerian people. The intervention of the Algerian Embassy in London to acquire this pistol is part of the State's determination to recover the national historical and cultural heritage held abroad.

### Documentary film “Bakdi” awarded 12 times in international events



The documentary film “Bakdi...the spirit of the nature,” made in the Casbah of Dellys has, since July 2022, won twelve prizes in different international competitions. The last award won by this film was 2nd prize (silver) at the Durban International Film Festival (South Africa) which saw the participation of 1,200 works from different countries. This new prize will be added to the Silver Kellal won at the Médenine International Short Film Festival (Tunisia), the Jury Prize at the Al Dhahira International Film Festival in the Sultanate of Oman, and the Jury Prize at the Senegal International Film Festival.

The film, which took two (2) years to shoot, evokes nature, its torments and the spirit of the Kasbah of Dellys, using the waste products of man and nature to create artistic shapes, figures and paintings in wood. The director used modern techniques to shoot the scenes in this documentary, such as the drones used to film the scenes at height and to explore the narrow streets of the ancient Kasbah.

### Sahrawi football team plays first match in its history against Mouloudia of Algiers



The Sahrawi national football team played Saturday 20 May 2023, its first match in its history at “Nelson Mandela” stadium, in Baraki (Algiers), against Mouloudia of Algiers, in a great atmosphere celebrating the fiftieth (50) anniversary of the creation of the Polisario Front and the outbreak of the armed struggle.

The stadium, named after late South African leader Nelson Mandela, witnessed historical moments, as it was the first match played by the team of Western Sahara, attended by members of the government, including Minister of Youth and Sports Abderahmane Hammad, as well as the ambassador of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) to Algeria Abdelkader Taleb Omar.

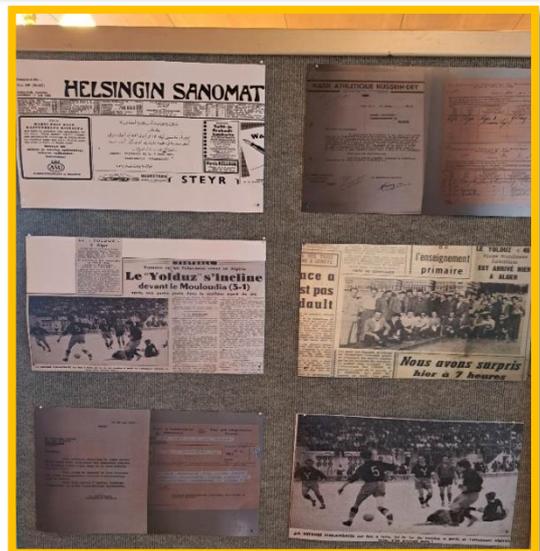
There was a festive atmosphere in the presence of the Sahrawi families living in Algeria, in addition to Algerian families, who seized this opportunity to affirm the Algerian people’s solidarity with their Sahrawi brothers in their struggle for independence.

The choice to play against Mouloudia of Algiers is symbolic, as it was the first Algerian club set up in 1921, which struggled in its own way to make the voice of the Algerian people heard.

**The Embassy of Algeria to Finland and the Finnish-Algerian Society in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland organized on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023, an event on the occasion of Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Algeria and Finland**



The Embassy of Algeria to Finland and Finnish Islamic Congregation, Sport Club Yolduz organized on the 22 May 2023 an event on Finnish football club Yolduz's journey to Algeria in June 1954, and the Algerian football club NAHD's visit to Finland in August 1954



Africa Day in Finland  
25 May 2023

