

## ***The Role of Algeria's Security Strategies in Confronting Security Threats from Neighboring Countries***

دور استراتيجيات الأمن الجزائرية في مواجهة التهديدات الأمنية من دول الجوار



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### **Abstract:**

The Algerian approach to securing national borders emphasizes participation in initiatives rooted in dialogue and non-interference in states' internal affairs. It prioritizes consultation, mutual benefits, and shared interests, enhancing security in neighboring countries, as long as this aligns with Algeria's sovereign principles. Neighboring states are entitled to establish security systems suited to their internal needs, free from external interference. Since its independence, Algeria has implemented various strategies to address security threats at individual, regional, and international levels.

**key words:** Algeria, security threats, security strategies, security initiatives.

ملخص:

ترتكز المقاربة الأمنية للجزائر في تأمين وحماية حدودها الوطنية على عدم رفض أي شكل من أشكال المشاركة في مختلف المبادرات القائمة على الحوار وعدم التدخل في الشؤون الداخلية للدول. كما تشدد على التشاور وتبادل المنافع والمصالح المشتركة، مما يسهم في تحقيق الأمن في دول الجوار، شريطة ألا يتعارض ذلك مع المقاربة السيادية الجزائرية وامتدادها الأيديولوجي. وفي ضوء هذهمقاربة، يحق لكل دولة مجاورة أن تتمتع بالأمن الكامل وأن تختار نظاماً محدداً لأمنها الوطني يتوافق مع خصوصياتها الداخلية، ويضمن القضاء على مختلف التهديدات دون أي تدخل أو إكراه خارجي. ولذلك، اعتمدت الجزائر، منذ استقلالها، استراتيجيات أمنية متعددة للحد من التهديدات والمخاطر الأمنية المحيطة بها، سواء على المستوى الفردي أو الإقليمي أو حتى الدولي.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الجزائر، التهديدات الأمنية، الاستراتيجيات الأمنية، المبادرات الأمنية.

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## **Introduction:**

Given the necessity of preserving the national security of the state and safeguarding it from any security risks that may undermine its foundations and existence, especially those related to border threats, which are often decisively influenced by neighboring countries. Algeria has adopted numerous security strategies to protect and ensure its security stability, considering its geographical location, which has always been a vital area and strategic depth for neighboring countries. This is due to its open land borders with many of these countries and its vast territory, particularly the desert regions. Additionally, the spread of political and security chaos in parts of the Arab region, especially Libya in 2011, and the Sahel region, particularly Mali in 2012, these crises have become sources of real security threats to Algeria's national security. Therefore, in light of the increasing negative repercussions of security instability in neighboring countries, it has become imperative to exert more efforts and preventive measures to secure land borders with these countries, whether individually, regionally, or internationally, as a reality and urgent necessity.

In light of the above, **how have Algeria's security strategies contributed to confronting and containing security threats from neighboring countries?**

This question can be addressed through the following points:

Introduction :

The first section: Individual Security Initiatives.

The second section: Security Strategies within the Maghreb Framework.

The third section: Algeria's Efforts within Regional and International Security Strategies.

Conclusion.

## **The first section: Individual Security Initiatives**

Algeria has sought to propose and implement numerous security initiatives aimed at securing and protecting its borders with neighboring countries, with the goal of mitigating potential security risks emanating from these nations. The most significant of these initiatives can be outlined as follows:

1. Establishment and accession to the African Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism in June 1999.
2. Organization of a high-level meeting of African Union member states on combating terrorism and organized crime in Africa, held in Algiers on September 11, 2002.
3. Establishment of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism in 2004.

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4. Organization of the Algiers Seminar on Security and Stability in the African Sahel on March 16, 2010.
5. Exploring avenues of cooperation to reduce threats to security in the Mediterranean region, particularly organized crime and terrorism<sup>1</sup>.
6. Efforts to criminalize the payment of ransoms to terrorist groups in exchange for the release of hostages. Algerian diplomacy successfully secured the support of the African Union during its ordinary session in Sirte, Libya, in June 2009, to adopt a project criminalizing ransom payments to these groups. At the international level, Algeria played a leading role in the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1904 on December 17, 2009, which criminalized ransom payments to terrorist groups in exchange for the release of hostages.
7. The Tamanrasset Agreement and the Security Work Organization, held on August 12-13, 2009, following the outcomes of the preparatory ministerial conference held in Bamako in November 2008.
8. The Coordination and Communication Unit (UCC - Unité de coordination et de communication), established on April 6, 2010, in Algeria.
9. The Joint Operational Staff Committee (CEMOC - Comité d'état-major opérationnel), announced on April 21, 2010<sup>2</sup>.
10. Organization of the Algiers International Conference on Security, Partnership, and Development on September 7-8, 2011.

Additionally, Algeria's political and diplomatic initiatives in addressing the Tuareg issue in Niger and Mali date back to the 1990s, through Algerian mediation between various Tuareg movements and factions and the central government in Mali. During the 2012 crisis, Algerian authorities reaffirmed their previous commitments by exclusively and individually sponsoring all prior peace agreements signed between the parties. This was evident through the efforts of Algerian diplomacy, which, since the beginning of the crisis in early 2012, urged all conflicting parties to cease fire and engage in negotiations to

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1 Abdel Nour Ben Antar, *The Mediterranean Dimension of Algerian Security: Algeria, Europe, and NATO*. Modern Library, Algeria, 2005, p. 207.

For further details, see also: - Mohamed Jaaboub, "The Logic of Border Security in Algeria", *Political Orbits Journal*, Vol. 4, Issue 3, June 14, 2020, p. 19 ff.

2Arabi Boumediene and Fawzia Qassi, "Algeria's Security Approach in the African Sahel Region: Towards Activating the Principle of Humanitarian Diplomacy", *Arab Future Journal*, Beirut, (n.d.), p. 137.

reach a peaceful and consensual solution acceptable to all. Dialogue and negotiation rounds continue to this day in the Algerian capital.<sup>1</sup>

### **The Second section: At the Maghreb Level**

The Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) has witnessed several initiatives aimed at combating security risks that have affected some of its member states (such as Libya), as well as the repercussions of security deterioration in neighboring countries (such as Mali). In this context, the Maghreb countries have called for the adoption of a set of political, economic, and security policies. However, the focus has always been on the security dimension (security threats) within the Maghreb integration process and the forms of interdependence. This does not necessarily mean that the Maghreb Union is primarily a security bloc, but rather that this dimension has become central to the convergence efforts among the Maghreb countries. The vision is to move closer to the experience of the "Gulf Cooperation Council" and extend beyond security to other areas, as outlined in the founding treaty of the Maghreb Union, to contribute to the maintenance of peace. In line with the objectives of the common defense policy among member states, Article 14 was introduced to reinforce this, stating that "any aggression against one member state is considered aggression against all other member states<sup>2</sup>."

There have been several consultative meetings at the level of foreign ministers, the most important of which was the extraordinary session held in Algiers in July 2012. This meeting was dedicated to studying security issues, and the participants in the "Algiers Declaration" emphasized the necessity of combating crises that threaten the Maghreb region within an integrative, complementary, and coordinated framework. This framework should be part of a comprehensive plan that integrates the developmental dimension coupled with a spirit of solidarity, as well as the religious, cultural, and educational dimensions based on the principles of moderation and balance. The declaration also called for intensifying consultative and coordination meetings to develop a shared vision and establish a unified approach to the regional security situation<sup>3</sup>.

Additionally, the Council of Interior Ministers of the Maghreb countries, meeting in Rabat in 2013, reviewed the challenges and risks threatening the

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1 Arabi Boumediene and Fawzia Qassi, *Ibid.*, p. 138.

2Manei Jamal Abdel Nasser, *The Arab Maghreb Union: A Legal and Political Study*, Algeria. Dar El Uloum for Publishing and Distribution, 2004, p. 151.

3"Towards a Common Maghreb Security Strategy", Meeting of Interior Ministers of the Arab Maghreb Union, Rabat, February 10, 2025. Website: <http://www.interieur.gov.dz/index.php/ar>

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security and stability of the Maghreb states, especially in light of the worsening security situation in the Sahel and Sahara regions. They emphasized that terrorism, cross-border organized crime, particularly the trafficking of weapons, drugs, money laundering, and illegal migration, pose serious threats to the security and stability of the Maghreb countries and their surrounding regions. The following agreements were reached:

- Emphasizing the necessity of adopting a comprehensive Maghreb approach that combines efforts to provide security foundations and enhance development frameworks in coordination with all strategic partners.
- Working to unify efforts and intensify cooperation among security agencies through the exchange of information and expertise, while adopting the same approach in confronting this phenomenon and thwarting the methods of terrorist organizations. This should be done within the framework of shared responsibility at both the bilateral and Maghreb levels, taking into account the international commitments of each Maghreb country.
- Exploring ways to establish the foundations of a security partnership between the countries of the Arab Maghreb Union and the Sahel-Saharan region.
- Affirming the commitment to exert all efforts and utilize all available methods to combat terrorism and eradicate its roots.
- Condemning all forms of direct or indirect support and financing of terrorism, including funds obtained from ransom payments. Efforts should be made to prevent such activities and deprive terrorist groups of safe havens or any form of support. There should be a firm rejection of kidnapping, hostage-taking, and all forms of threats used by terrorist groups to finance their crimes. The payment of ransoms should be criminalized, and adherence to United Nations Security Council resolutions, particularly Resolution 1904, should be emphasized.
- Calling for intensified cooperation among Maghreb countries in exchanging information about the activities of terrorist groups, their locations, sources of funding, and preventing their members from crossing borders. They should be extradited to requesting countries based on legal and judicial agreements between them.
- Combating drug trafficking networks and psychotropic substances, given their close connection to criminal activities, particularly those of terrorist organizations<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup>Yacine Saidi, "New Security Challenges in the Maghreb", (Master's Thesis in Political Science and International Relations, University of Oran 2, Algeria, 2016), p. 156.

The Interior Ministers of the Maghreb countries also stressed the importance of considering the humanitarian dimension when addressing migration issues. They encouraged the freedom of movement and legal migration, as these contribute to cultural and developmental enrichment at both regional and international levels. They also emphasized the need to confront human trafficking networks and reduce illegal migration flows while respecting the dignity of migrants within a comprehensive, balanced, and solidarity-based approach. This can be achieved through the following measures:

**Firstly: Political and Economic Approaches**

- The necessity for decision-makers in the Maghreb countries to recognize the importance of collective action and regional coordination in enhancing security and peace in the Maghreb region.
- Supporting development efforts in the Maghreb countries and strengthening their capacity to confront various threats.
- Accelerating the completion of the Maghreb Union's construction, activating its institutions and structures, overcoming environmental disputes, and finding solutions to pending issues that hinder the Maghreb integration process.
- The importance of sustainable development, strengthening cross-border cooperation, supporting large-scale regional projects, and the necessity of human solidarity in facing emergency situations.
- Raising awareness among civil societies about the importance of establishing the Maghreb Union and giving them a role in building security policies, as they can bridge gaps and build connections through cultural and social ties, rather than relying entirely on governments and states<sup>1</sup>.
- Working to promote the creation of a unified identity for the Maghreb countries, utilizing economic returns to achieve social stability, and gaining authority and empowerment to enhance security in the region.
- Promoting the principles of citizenship, human rights, and acceptance of others, and ensuring that the media plays a positive rather than a negative role.
- The necessity for Maghreb countries to recognize that the international community is moving towards blocs rather than isolationism and unilateralism.
- Working to build an economic partnership by establishing a free trade zone and providing financial aid to southern countries to reduce the development gap between the two shores of the Mediterranean. This can be achieved by

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<sup>1</sup>Yacine Saidi, "New Security Challenges in the Maghreb", Ibid., p. 157.

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encouraging European investments and directing them towards the Maghreb countries to create a space for stability and security<sup>1</sup>.

- The imperative to activate the Maghreb Union project and revitalize its institutions for the purpose of security cooperation and confronting challenges<sup>2</sup>.

**Secondly: Security and Military Approaches**

- Mandating the implementation of the Algiers Convention for the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, signed on July 14, 1999, along with various regional agreements to combat terrorism.

- Developing a regional security map based on coordination to address challenges such as arms smuggling and drug trafficking, which generate funds that contribute to securing desert routes for smuggling groups. This has led to the consideration of tightening checkpoints and intensifying inspections. In 2011, an agreement was reached to deploy 5,000 soldiers along the borders in coordination with Niger, Mali, and Mauritania to secure the borders from the infiltration of terrorist elements, such as Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb. During a meeting of the chiefs of staff of the four Sahel countries held in Algiers in April 2011, it was decided to reinforce the military unit in Tamanrasset, southern Algeria, with an additional 5,000 soldiers.

- Unifying efforts and coordinating security policies among Maghreb countries to address security challenges, thereby avoiding any form of foreign intervention in the region. This requires a political will free from internal disputes to establish the foundations of security and peace in these countries, either within the framework of the Maghreb Union or at least between two or more countries, as this is an indicator of the success of the regional security system. This should be done within the framework of security coordination rather than coordinated security.<sup>3</sup>

- Establishing effective mechanisms to combat terrorism while enhancing border surveillance to limit arms smuggling, money laundering, and organized crime.

- Encouraging and developing the process of exchanging security informations in all its forms and types. For example, coordinating with the 5+5 Western

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<sup>1</sup>Hicham Saghour, "The Impact of New Security Threats on the Stability of Maghreb Political Systems: A Study in Light of Traditional and Human Security Approaches", (PhD Dissertation, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Specialization in Maghreb Studies, 2017-2018), p. 277.

<sup>2</sup>Sulaiman Abdullah Al-Harbi, "The Concept of Security: Its Levels, Forms, and Threats (A Theoretical Study of Concepts and Frameworks)", Arab Journal of Political Sciences, Issue 19, 2008, p. 13.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid., p. 15.

Mediterranean countries to establish mechanisms for intelligence cooperation to contain the spread of terrorism.

- Intensifying cooperation based on effective security strategies and working to manage the Libyan crisis by expanding regional cooperation to find a solution that serves everyone's interests before it is too late. This could include establishing the nucleus of a joint military command to coordinate security affairs and develop strategies to combat terrorism and organized crime.

- Enhancing coordination with major international powers, but in accordance with national agendas<sup>1</sup> rather than merging into strategies that serve their interests, such as AFRICOM (the United States Africa Command), which aims to develop military cooperation with African countries and conduct military operations in Africa when necessary<sup>2</sup>.

### **The third section: Algeria's Efforts within Regional and International Strategies**

The recent escalation of threats emanating from Libya has prompted neighboring countries to explore ways and possibilities for collective action to address the Libyan issue. The primary reason for this move is the intensification of militia warfare in Libya and the inability of several Libyan political factions, as well as the entity overseeing the state, to align with the proposed solutions amid the ongoing military conflict between rival militias. This situation has increasingly threatened neighboring countries more than ever before. Signs of this collective effort emerged in Algeria in May 2014 when Algeria initiated a meeting of foreign ministers from Libya's neighboring countries on the sidelines of the Non-Aligned Movement's ministerial meetings. This was followed by a second meeting in Guinea at the end of June of the same year during the African Union summit.<sup>3</sup>

In the context of ongoing engagement and interaction with the Libyan issue, which has fueled regional threats, Libya's neighboring countries held a third meeting of foreign ministers in Hammamet, Tunisia. The meeting was attended by foreign ministers or their representatives from Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt, Sudan, Chad, and Niger, as well as representatives from the Arab League

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<sup>1</sup>William Lewis, translated by Abdullah Jumaa Al-Hajj, "The Middle East Challenge After the Cold War". Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, Abu Dhabi, 1996, p. 88.

<sup>2</sup> Hicham Saghour, Ibid., p. 279.

For further details, see also:

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<sup>3</sup> Hicham Saghour, Ibid., p. 266, 267.

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and the African Union. As usual, the call for this meeting was to address the regional danger arising from the instability in Libya and to halt the violence threatening the unity of Libyan territory and the safety of its citizens. Consistent with the outcomes of similar meetings held by Libya's neighboring countries over the past three years, the final result of this meeting did not differ from its predecessors.<sup>1</sup>

Shared security policies represent one of the most important forms of security cooperation, whether formal or informal, through the link of preserving common interests between neighboring regions. This requires the establishment of intensive interdependent relationships between the parties, where the option of mutual benefit and available advantages cannot be abandoned. The more intensive the interdependent relationships between a group of countries, the more security cooperation relations emerge, uniting the interests of both parties. Security partnerships are centered around mutual reliance on cooperative security measures, building and maintaining trust between the units involved in the cooperative process. This is practically manifested through the exchange of information and coordination in the areas of surveillance and implementation, relying on security arrangements in the region by activating various forms of agreements, such as formal security treaties and joint action agreements, among others<sup>2</sup>.

The distinctive feature of the strategic security convergence among the Maghreb countries lies in bilateral efforts rather than collective action within a Maghreb vision, based on vital interests and the interactivity of relationships between countries in terms of influence and responsiveness, which has come to dominate the calculations and strategies of states in dealing with current transformations and their expansion towards activating the regional security concerns emanating from neighboring countries. This is aimed at confronting the prevailing security challenges affecting various dynamics and actors in the Maghreb region, despite the ambiguity and uncertainty surrounding the behaviors and intentions of some countries and their positions in dealing with the existing security situation. It also pertains to their ability to adapt to the risks and emergent conditions produced by transnational characteristics that transcend the national borders of individual states. Several reports in this regard have

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<sup>1</sup>Ibid,p 267.

2 - Yacine Saidi, "The Arab Maghreb Union in the Context of Security Transformations in the Maghreb Region", Arab Future Journal, Issue 462, Center for Arab Unity Studies, Lebanon, August 2017, p. 52.

revealed the intensive visits and activities of Maghreb officials among themselves, aiming to activate bilateral efforts and establish cooperative coordination mechanisms that would reduce the growing risks in the region.<sup>1</sup>

### **Firstly: Algeria and Libya**

In March and April 2012, Algeria and Libya signed bilateral agreements on shared security issues in the region, due to the ongoing cross-border incursions by smugglers and terrorists faced by both countries. In August 2013, Libya and Algeria decided to activate a joint body in the security field to support Libya in developing its army and police, as confirmed by former Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zeidan, who stated that "Libyan police were sent to Algeria to attend training courses."<sup>2</sup>

### **Secondly: Algeria and Tunisia**

Algerian-Tunisian rapprochement began after the fall of the Ben Ali regime, with that period witnessing intensive visits by officials from both countries. It was inaugurated by Mr. Beji Caid Essebsi, the head of Tunisia's interim government, in March 2011, followed by a visit by the leader of the Tunisian Ennahda Movement, Mr. Rached Ghannouchi, in November of the same year. This was followed by a visit by the Algerian Foreign Minister to Tunisia to settle the maritime border issue, with the Algerian government pledging financial support to the Tunisian treasury.<sup>3</sup>

On April 7, 2014, the High Joint Committee signed a series of agreements in various fields, notably security cooperation agreements to combat terrorism, as well as to fight smuggling along the shared border and enhance financial cooperation between the central banks, resolving pending financial issues. Air routes were established between Algerian and Tunisian cities, and the train linking Tunisia and Annaba in eastern Algeria was reactivated to boost joint tourism. Additionally, Algeria and Tunisia agreed, during a regional meeting of high-level officials in the border province of El Tarf, on a joint plan to address the security risks arising from the Libyan crisis. The agreement focused on

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<sup>1</sup>Abdelrazzak Mokri, "Arab Revolutions and Inter-Maghreb Relations", Paper presented at the conference "The Maghreb and Current Regional Transformations", Doha, Al Jazeera Center for Studies, February 17–18, 2013.

<sup>2</sup>Shivit ,Bakrania ." **Libya: Border security and regional coperation** "UK :GSDRC . Rapid. Literature Review, University of Birmingham, 2014.

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<sup>3</sup>Yacine Saidi, "The Arab Maghreb Union in the Context of Security Transformations in the Maghreb Region", Op. cit., p. 53.

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securing the borders, given the weak and fragile capabilities of the Libyan authority in its current state and the increasing threat of jihadist organizations. This was to be achieved by involving local populations and tribes to control the volatile borders, with an emphasis on developing shared regions to prevent them from falling into the trap of joining ISIS.<sup>1</sup>

**Thirdly: Algeria and Morocco**

The visit of Moroccan Foreign Minister Saad Eddine El Othmani to Algeria in January 2012 had a significant impact on the Maghreb political scene in general and on bilateral relations between the two countries in particular. This was due to the warm reception given to the Moroccan delegation, as well as the convergence of views on improving relations and enhancing cooperation between the two countries. Some media reports in 2013 indicated that the strained relations between Algeria and Morocco concealed strong security coordination in the fight against terrorism. This was explained by Professor Dr. Kouï Bouhania, who stated, **"Algerian-Moroccan security coordination exists in practice and on the ground, but it is not translated into a formal partnership or a declared strategic agreement..."**<sup>2</sup>.

Observers confirm that security coordination between Algeria and Morocco is driven by the shared security risks that threaten both countries, particularly at the border level. It is also necessitated by international agreements that bind both countries to others, notably the United States, within the framework of combating international terrorism. The Associated Press had previously reported, ahead of the planned visit by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry to Algeria and Morocco—which was postponed—that the purpose of the visit was to repair relations between Algeria and Morocco, which had deteriorated due to a war of words. The report noted that Washington was concerned about the deterioration of these relations "due to its negative impact on its plans to combat terrorism in the Sahel region." Algerian journalist specializing in security affairs, Ben Ahmed Mohamed, stated that the circumstances of the global war on terrorism "have forced the authorities of both countries to cooperate in this regard, despite their sharp differences, coordination is at its peak." He explained that this coordination "is based on several key issues, including a specialized

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1 Mohamed Yassin El-Jlassi, "Tunisian-Algerian Security Cooperation and Partnership Agreements Overcome a Period of Stagnation", Al-Hayat Newspaper, February 8, 2014. <http://alhayat.com/articles/584403>

<sup>2</sup>Yacine Saidi, "The Arab Maghreb Union in the Context of Security Transformations in the Maghreb Region", Op. Cit. p. 54.

committee tasked with tracking cells recruiting Salafists to fight in Syria, in cooperation with Western countries such as Spain, Germany, and France. Additionally, the two countries exchange information on the activities of international terrorist networks involving European citizens of Maghreb origin. There are also joint security liaison committees in maritime security to prevent smuggling and the infiltration of terrorists, as well as another committee coordinating Algerian and Moroccan forces under the framework of agreements on 'combating aerial terrorism,' ensuring airspace security and protecting the safety of global aviation in the air routes that pass through both countries." He noted that this coordination "was not imposed solely by Washington," but also by the obligations of both countries under international security agreements with NATO and the security annex of the 5+5 Group, which requires the two countries to coordinate security according to EU military and security standards. He added that there is a system for exchanging security information that ensures communication between Algeria and Morocco even in the worst cases.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Fourthly: Algeria and Mali**

The visit of the Malian President to Algeria in January 2014 witnessed an agreement between the two countries to establish a bilateral follow-up committee to monitor the implementation of necessary decisions for a peaceful resolution to the crisis in Mali. The two sides also agreed to prepare and implement agreements on shared security, taking into account the intensification of military and security cooperation, combating terrorism, and all forms of smuggling. Additionally, the two countries decided to implement a special program for the economic development of the northern and border regions of both countries, as well as to carry out a special humanitarian assistance program for the affected populations in northern Mali. Algeria and the international mediation team succeeded in convincing the conflicting parties in Mali to sign a comprehensive and permanent peace agreement on March 1, 2014, to end the fighting in the impoverished regions inhabited mainly by Tuaregs and Arabs, which had become a haven for terrorist groups due to disputes. The agreement,

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1 Yasmin Boudahan, "Security Brings Algeria Closer to Morocco: Regional and Domestic Necessities Dictate Security Coordination Between Algeria and Morocco", Al Jazeera Net, December 9, 2013. <http://www.aljazeera.net/news/reportsandinterviews/2013/12/9/>(<http://www.aljazeera.net/news/reportsandinterviews/2013/12/9/>)

The document was signed by representatives of the Malian government, separatist movements in northern Mali (including the Arab Movement of Azawad and the Coordination for the People of Azawad), and the international mediation team led by Algeria. For further details, see: Hicham Sagour, Op. Cit. p. 272.

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whose initial signing took place in the Algerian capital, stipulates the implementation of a comprehensive and permanent peace that guarantees a final solution to the political and security crisis in northern Mali.<sup>1</sup>

### **Conclusion**

Despite the variety of security strategies adopted by the Algerian state to combat all forms of threats from neighboring countries whether unilaterally, bilaterally, regionally or internationally. However, its borders continue to face numerous fluctuations and breaches. This issue revolves around two main points:

1. The increasing frequency of challenges linked to "asymmetric threats, which have exacerbated risks associated with illegal migration, cross-border organized crime, and terrorism, ultimately impacting Algeria's border security.
2. The persistence of minimal symmetric interactions, primarily reflected in the "continuous closure of borders," as seen with the Kingdom of Morocco (over 20 years of complete shutdown of land border crossings). This remains a measure of the acute political tension between the two countries. However, these borders have still served as crossing points for drug and fuel smuggling, despite Algeria's often unilateral efforts to counter these activities.

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<sup>1</sup>Nouredine Dekhan and Eidoun Hamedi, "The Path to Securing Algeria's Borders: Between Unilateral Management and Regional Cooperative Frameworks", *Notebooks of Political and Legal Studies*, Issue 14, University of KasdiMerbah, Ouargla, Algeria, 2016, p. 179.

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