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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(4.5.2021)

The European External Action Service (EEAS) and the European Commission are closely following the human rights situation in Algeria, including in the Tindouf area, and are not aware of recruitment of child soldiers by the Polisario Front or of their participation in military parades. However, the EEAS stands ready to pursue inquiries if any elements of substance or evidence are brought to its attention.

Human rights are essential components of the EU's foreign policy and of its regular dialogue with partner countries, notably through the regular monitoring performed by the EU Delegations. Respect for human rights is enshrined in the Algerian Constitution and also a key element of EU-Algeria relations, as reflected in the Association Agreement and reinforced by the Partnership Priorities. The EU is committed to ensuring its implementation.