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Country/ entity	Algeria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Plate-forme de l'entente nationale
Date	17 Sep 1996
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict (Algerian Civil War (1990 - 1998))
Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Algeria: Bouteflika Process

Parties

LISTE DES PARTIS POLITIQUES, ORGANISATIONS ET ASSOCIATIONS
NATIONALES CONCERNES
PAR LA SIGNATURE DE LA PLATE-FORME DE L'ENTENTE NATIONALE - 14 - 15
SEPTEMBRE 1996

PARTIS POLITIQUES

SBENHAMOUDA Boualem, Secrétaire général du Parti du Front de Libération Nationale

TALEB Mohamed Chérif, Président du Parti National pour la Solidarité et le Développement

BOUKROUH Nouredine, Président du Parti du Renouveau Algérien

KHELIL Ahmed, Président du Parti Social Libéral

DJABALLAH Abdellah, Président du Mouvement de la Nahda Islamique

MERBAH Abdelkader Secrétaire général du Mouvement Algérien pour la Justice et le Développement

NAHNAH Mahfoud, Président du Mouvement de la Société Islamique HAMAS

MALEK Réda, Président de l'Alliance Nationale Républicaine

BENDRIDI Ibrahim, Président du Front du Salut National

BELHADJ Khelil, Président du Parti de l'Union Arabe Islamique Démocratique

SASSI Mebrouk, Secrétaire Général du Parti Progressiste Démocratique

HAMIDOU Redouane, Président du Mouvement de la Jeunesse Démocratique

LASSOUED Amar, Président du Mouvement des Forces Arabo-Islamiques

ZEGHDOUD Ali, Président du Rassemblement Arabo-Islamique

MEGDOUD Foudil, Président de l'Union du Peuple Algérien

SAAD Mohamed, Président du Front du Djihad pour l'Unité

YOUSFI Mohamed, Président du Front des Générations de l'indépendance

SEDDIKI Abdelkrim, Coordinateur de l'Union pour la Démocratie et les Libertés

TLEMÇANI Mustapha, Président du Front des Forces Populaires

BELHAI Abdelkader, Président du Parti du Rassemblement National Algérien

LEKAL Yacine, Président du Rassemblement pour l'Unité Nationale

AINOUCHE Mohand Ameziane, Président du HIZBOLHAQ

LAKHDARI Lazhar, Secrétaire général du Rassemblement des Jeunes de la Nation Algérienne

SENIGR} Mohamed Ali, Président du Parti National Démocratique Socialiste

BOUACHA Amar, Président du Mouvement National des Jeunes Algériens et Algériennes

RABIE Naji, Président du Parti Libérateur Juste

AKIF Abderrahmane, Président du Mouvement National pour la Nature et le Développement

ORGANISATIONS NATIONALES

BENHAMOUDA Abdelhak, Secrétaire général de l'Union Générale des Travailleurs Algériens

ABBES Mohamed Chérif, Secrétaire général de l'Organisation Nationale des Moudjahidine

NAIMI Abdelkader, Secrétaire général de l'Union Nationale des Paysans Algériens et des Travailleurs du Secteur Agricole

BENBAIBECHE Tahar, Secrétaire général de l'Organisation Nationale des Enfants de Chouhada

BOUZGHOUB Mohamed Tahar, Président de l'Association Nationale des Retraités de l'A.N.P.

KHALFA Mebarek, Secrétaire général de l'Organisation Nationale des Enfants de Moudjahidine

TOUTAM... Comité National de l'Union Nationale des Travailleurs Algériens

Third parties

-

Description This agreement clarifies the basis of Algerian national identity and principles of political pluralism in the state. It defines the constitutive elements of the platform for national understanding being based on Islam, Berber, and Arab cultural component. Its annex provides for an electoral timetable.

Agreement document

[DZ_960917_Plateforme de l'entente nationale_tr.pdf](#)  | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language)

[DZ_960917_PlateformedelEntenteNationale1996.pdf](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth

No specific mention.

Disabled persons

No specific mention.

Elderly/age

No specific mention.

Migrant workers

No specific mention.

Racial/
ethnic/
national
group

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical

Page 1, I. PREAMBLE:

[...]

3 – The November Revolution was also a work of consolidation of the Algerian character in all its forms, a national character strengthened by its Islam, Arab and Amazigh identities.

Page 3-4, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 1/ THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY:

17 – In order to develop a pluralist democracy within a republican State and a united Nation with a clearly preserved identity, we must protect from the field of competitive politics and any partisan or political exploitation, the fundamental components of our national identity, which is the common heritage of every Algerian, namely:

- Islam,
- Arab,
- Berber.

Page 3-4, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 1/ THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY:

- ARAB:

24 – Arabic-Muslim values provide the Arab dimension of the national identity of the Algerian people.

25 – The Arabic language has expanded and helped to spread the sacred Message to which the Algerian people have faithfully subscribed, and confirmed their attachment to Arabic as the national language. The Algerian people have contributed brilliantly to the development of the Arabic language, using it to help unite the nation and to withstand colonialism's constant attempts to destroy their national identity.

Page 3-4, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 1/ THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY:

- BERBER :

27 – Every Nation recognises itself in its History, which reflects its unity on the basis of its origins. This is the basis for specifying the personality and national identity of the Algerian Nation, which includes Berber, the heritage of all Algerians.

[...]

29 – As for the other components of national identity, it is in the Nation's interests to protect the Berbers from any partisan or political exploitation.

Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Substantive

Page 3-4, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 1/ THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY:

26 – The Arabic language, a basic attribute of the Algerian people, is one of the basic elements of national identity. It must be protected from any political, ideological or partisan instrumentalisation. State structures shall continue to be used to promote and develop it as the national and official language of the country.

Page 3-4, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 1/ THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY:

28 – The Berber dimension is a fundamental component of national identity. The State shall rehabilitate the Berbers, and promote the Berber language in the education, cultural and communication sectors.

Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/ displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	<p>Page 8, Singatories: ‘Organisations Patronales Publiques et Privées’, ‘Patronat Privé’: [...] Association pour la Promotion des Femmes Managers (Association Promoting Women Managers) [...] ‘Associations de Jeunes’ signed by the Commissioner for Algerian Muslim scouts ‘pour les associations suivantes’/also representing the ‘Association nationale pour la Promotion et la Protection de la Femme et de la jeune Fille’ (Association for the Promotion and Protection of Women and Young Girls). [...] ‘Associations Féminines’ signed by ‘Présidente de l’Association Nationale pour la Lutte contre l’Analphabétisme (IQRA) pour les associations suivantes : Association Voix de Femmes, Association Nationale pour la Lutte contre l’Analphabétisme, Mouvement des Femmes Algériennes pour la Solidarité avec la Famille Rurale, Association Nationale des Familles Victimes du Terrorisme, Association Nationale de Soutien aux Enfants en Difficulté en Institution, Rassemblement des Femmes Nationalistes Algériennes’</p>
Men and boys	No specific mention.
LGBTI	No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general)

Page 1, I. PREAMBLE:

1 – For several years Algeria has been living through a crucial stage in its history. Thanks to their maturity and patriotism, the Algerian people have been able to withstand all attempts to destabilise the country. Taking inspiration from their history marked by struggles for their liberty and dignity and faithful to the message of the Revolution of November 1st 1954 and to the pledge made to its martyrs, the people have set themselves the task of building a pluralist democracy, strengthened by its national values.

2- The November Revolution was the expression of the will of the people to recover national sovereignty and build a strong and respected State, based on pluralist democracy. It was both the extension and the crowning achievement of all of the resistance struggles of the Algerian people against the occupying forces.

3 – The November Revolution was also a work of consolidation of the Algerian character in all its forms, a national character strengthened by its Islam, Arab and Amazigh identities.

4 – Algeria has recovered its national independence and regain its place among the community of Nations [Concert des Nations], thanks to the unity and mobilisation of its people.

5 – The sacrifices endured by the Algerian people during the November Revolution have contributed to the strengthening and deepening of democracy and fundamental liberties, in an independent Algeria, an Algeria of national enlightenment and development.

7- Independent Algeria has made great advances in all domains of economic, social and cultural life. It has expanded knowledge and culture for the benefit of the entire population. It has worked to construct a strong and respected Nation State, of which its people may rightly be proud.

Page 3-4, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 1/ THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY:

13. The pluralist presidential election of November 16, 1995, an essential step towards a global solution to the crisis, enabled the Algerian people to exercise their choice freely and democratically for the first time in the history of independent Algeria. This sovereign choice expressed by the Algerian people gave the country its first legitimate institution.

14. Therefore and thanks to the eloquent message of November 16, 1995, the Algerian people were able to clearly reaffirm their resolute attachment to unity, and the development of the nation. They made clear their wish to build a strong and democratic State, a State built on the national values of tolerance, dialogue and understanding.

15 – The national dialogue embarked on by the President of the Republic, was open to all political forces and to civil society in general, with due respect for national values and norms. This highlighted a common will to work to consolidate a pluralist democracy and to build the institutional foundations of the State based on free and fair elections.

16 – To this end the participants in the Conference of National Understanding:

17 – In order to develop a pluralist democracy within a republican State and a united Nation with a clearly preserved identity, we must protect from the field of competitive politics and any partisan or political exploitation, the fundamental components of our national identity, which is the common heritage of every Algerian, namely:

- Islam,

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum Page 7, ANNEX, ELECTORAL TIMETABLE:
In order to provide an indicative timescale, a timetable is proposed for the different due dates:
- the referendum on revision of the Constitution shall be organised before the end of the year 1996;
[...]
In this respect, the “Conference on National Understanding” Committee has expressed its full confidence in the person of the President of the Republic to make any necessary changes to this timetable in the light of events, in order to best serve the current process to overcome the crisis.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)

Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references

Page 2, I. PREAMBLE:

[...]

12. Thanks to its citizens' patriotic awakening, it was possible to end this destabilisation of the countries' institutions. This leap forward would turn the situation around, and lead to the organisation of a National Consensus Conference resulting in the adoption of a Platform. This Conference enabled some organs of transition to be put in place, and for elections to be held in a pluralist democratic environment. It meant that the process of restoring national stability could also begin.

13. The pluralist presidential election of November 16, 1995, an essential step towards a global solution to the crisis, enabled the Algerian people to exercise their choice freely and democratically for the first time in the history of independent Algeria. This sovereign choice expressed by the Algerian people gave the country its first legitimate institution.

Page 2, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING:

15 – The national dialogue embarked on by the President of the Republic, was open to all political forces and to civil society in general, with due respect for national values and norms. This highlighted a common will to work to consolidate a pluralist democracy and to build the institutional foundations of the State based on free and fair elections.

16 – To this end the participants in the Conference of National Understanding:

- convinced of the need to provide the pluralist political system with a coherent framework,

[...]

- respectful of national values and wishing to strengthen, promote and defend the superior interests of the Nation, aiming to strengthen the foundations of the new pluralist political system, and to build the institutional framework, and to pursue these objectives while respecting:

- o the fundamental components of national identity,
- o the broad principles of political pluralism,
- o and democracy, the sovereign choice of the people of Algeria.

Page 4-6, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING: 2/ THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL PLURALISM:

30 – In the area of practical politics, the founding principles of political pluralism embody the constitutional and democratic rules which the Algerian people have chosen. Hence, all of the stakeholders in the political life of the nation and all electoral candidates are governed by a national or local political mandate. These principles ensure the proper functioning of democracy and are:

- Respect for and implementation of the principles of November 1st, 1954,
- Respect for the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic and an undertaking to comply with them,
- Rejection of violence as a means of expression and/or political action and of access to and/or maintenance or termination of power,
- Respect for individual and collective liberties and respect for Human Rights,
- Consolidation of national unity,
- Preservation of national sovereignty,
- Support for democracy which respects national values,
- Adherence to political pluralism,
- Respect for alternation in government through the free choice of the

Elections

Page 2, I. PREAMBLE:

[...]

12. Thanks to its citizens' patriotic awakening, it was possible to end this destabilisation of the countries' institutions. This leap forward would turn the situation around, and lead to the organisation of a National Consensus Conference resulting in the adoption of a Platform. This Conference enabled some organs of transition to be put in place, and for elections to be held in a pluralist democratic environment. It meant that the process of restoring national stability could also begin.

13. The pluralist presidential election of November 16, 1995, an essential step towards a global solution to the crisis, enabled the Algerian people to exercise their choice freely and democratically for the first time in the history of independent Algeria. This sovereign choice expressed by the Algerian people gave the country its first legitimate institution.

Page 2, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING:

15 – The national dialogue embarked on by the President of the Republic, was open to all political forces and to civil society in general, with due respect for national values and norms. This highlighted a common will to work to consolidate a pluralist democracy and to build the institutional foundations of the State based on free and fair elections.

Page 4-5, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 2/ THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL PLURALISM:

30 – In the area of practical politics, the founding principles of political pluralism embody the constitutional and democratic rules which the Algerian people have chosen. Hence, all of the stakeholders in the political life of the nation and all electoral candidates are governed by a national or local political mandate. These principles ensure the proper functioning of democracy and are:

- Respect for and implementation of the principles of November 1st, 1954,
- Respect for the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic and an undertaking to comply with them,
- Rejection of violence as a means of expression and/or political action and of access to and/or maintenance or termination of power,
- Respect for individual and collective liberties and respect for Human Rights,
- Consolidation of national unity,
- Preservation of national sovereignty,
- Support for democracy which respects national values,
- Adherence to political pluralism,
- Respect for alternation in government through the free choice of the Algerian people.

[...]

- Rejection of violence as a means of expression and/or political action and of access to and/or maintenance or termination of power :

[...]

36 – Violence represents the very negation of democracy. It is by respecting the Law, and by using the ballot box freely, democratically and independently that power shall henceforth be obtained and maintained in Algeria, in accordance with the free and sovereign will of the people.

Page 7, ANNEX, ELECTORAL TIMETABLE:

In order to provide an indicative timescale, a timetable is proposed for the

Electoral
commission

No specific mention.

Political
parties
reform

Governance→Political parties reform→Other political parties reform

Page 4-6, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL
UNDERSTANDING: 2/ THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL PLURALISM:

30 – In the area of practical politics, the founding principles of political pluralism embody the constitutional and democratic rules which the Algerian people have chosen. Hence, all of the stakeholders in the political life of the nation and all electoral candidates are governed by a national or local political mandate. These principles ensure the proper functioning of democracy and are:

- Respect for and implementation of the principles of November 1st, 1954,
- Respect for the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic and an undertaking to comply with them,
- Rejection of violence as a means of expression and/or political action and of access to and/or maintenance or termination of power,
- Respect for individual and collective liberties and respect for Human Rights,
- Consolidation of national unity,
- Preservation of national sovereignty,
- Support for democracy which respects national values,
- Adherence to political pluralism,
- Respect for alternation in government through the free choice of the Algerian people.

[...]

- Support for democracy which respects national values

[...]

43 – In this regard, the Algerian people, through the Republican institutions including the political parties, undertake to strictly respect the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other peoples, and to reject any tendency or attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of the Algerian State.

- Adherence to political pluralism :

[...]

45 – Political pluralism, recognised constitutionally, in accordance with the rules which govern the activities of political parties and in particular with the principle of refusing to use for partisan and political ends the three components of national identity, constitutes the essence of the democracy which the people of Algeria are determined to consolidate.

46 – This pluralist democracy may only be that which is freely chosen by the sovereign people alone in accordance with the values and the project of the Revolution of November 1st 1954.

- Respect for alternation in government through the free choice of the Algerian people :

47 – Pluralist democracy, nourished by the authentic values of the Algerian people, rejects the imposition of any single opinion or programme. Based particularly on freedom of expression and political pluralism, it requires strict respect for alternation in government through the free choice of the Algerian people.

Civil society Page 2, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING:

15 – The national dialogue embarked on by the President of the Republic, was open to all political forces and to civil society in general, with due respect for national values and norms. This highlighted a common will to work to consolidate a pluralist democracy and to build the institutional foundations of the State based on free and fair elections.

Page 5, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 2/ THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL PLURALISM:

- Respect for individual and collective liberties and respect for Human Rights :
[...]

39 – The rule of Law shall be consolidated with the active support of institutions, the political class, civil society and citizens together to become a real and integral aspect of the culture of the Algerian people.

Traditional/
religious
leaders No specific mention.

Public
administration No specific mention.

Constitution Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making

Page 2, I. Preamble:

[...]

11. Hence the whole population had to endure the national crisis. Its integrity was particularly threatened by terrorist violence. It was also subject to serious threats to and divergences from its sacred religion, in flagrant violation of the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic.

Page 4-6, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 2/ THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL PLURALISM:

30 – In the area of practical politics, the founding principles of political pluralism embody the constitutional and democratic rules which the Algerian people have chosen. Hence, all of the stakeholders in the political life of the nation and all electoral candidates are governed by a national or local political mandate. These principles ensure the proper functioning of democracy and are:

- Respect for and implementation of the principles of November 1st, 1954,
- Respect for the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic and an undertaking to comply with them,
- Rejection of violence as a means of expression and/or political action and of access to and/or maintenance or termination of power,
- Respect for individual and collective liberties and respect for Human Rights,
- Consolidation of national unity,
- Preservation of national sovereignty,
- Support for democracy which respects national values,
- Adherence to political pluralism,
- Respect for alternation in government through the free choice of the Algerian people.

[...]

- Respect for the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic and an undertaking to comply with them :

32 – The Constitution and the Laws of the Republic apply to all stakeholders in political life and to all citizens. This underlines their importance and the need to respect them within the Rule of Law to which our people legitimately aspire.

33 – No violation of the Basic Law or the Laws of the Republic shall be permitted. Ongoing respect for the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic supports the objectives of the State, as well as those of society and of the political class, because their violation would endanger the Nation and threaten democracy itself.

- Respect for individual and collective liberties and respect for Human Rights :

37 - The Rule of Law to which the Algerian people legitimately aspire, is the guarantor of all individual and collective liberties, enshrined by the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic, and to which the Algerian people have been deeply attached throughout their history.

38 – In order to respond fully to the legitimate aspirations and expectations of the Algerian people, the State shall ensure, everywhere and in all circumstances, respect for all individual and collective liberties. The State shall ensure with the full force of the Law that any attack on or denial of the individual and collective liberties guaranteed by the Constitution shall be punished.

39 – The rule of Law shall be consolidated with the active support of institutions, the political class, civil society and citizens together to become a real and integral aspect of the culture of the Algerian people.

[...]

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human
rights/RoL
general

Page 1-2, I. PREAMBLE:

[...]

5 – The sacrifices endured by the Algerian people during the November Revolution have contributed to the strengthening and deepening of democracy and fundamental liberties, in an independent Algeria, an Algeria of national enlightenment and development.

[...]

11. Hence the whole population had to endure the national crisis. Its integrity was particularly threatened by terrorist violence. It was also subject to serious threats to and divergences from its sacred religion, in flagrant violation of the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic.

Page 4-6, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 2/ THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL PLURALISM:

[...]

- Respect for and the implementation of the principles of November 1st, 1954 :

31 – The Algerian Revolution, with its roots in the Proclamation of November 1954, instilled respect for the basic principles which guide the progression of independent Algeria, through the generations. The consolidation of unity and national independence, the national interest above all other considerations, a democratic and social State, sovereign within the framework of Islamic principles, respect for all fundamental liberties, the mobilisation of all energy and natural resources in the service of the Nation, and the fundamental and non-transgressible principles of the proclamation of November 1st, 1954 are the best guarantors for the construction of a democratic, just, stable and prosperous Algeria.

- Respect for the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic and an undertaking to comply with them :

32 – The Constitution and the Laws of the Republic apply to all stakeholders in political life and to all citizens. This underlines their importance and the need to respect them within the Rule of Law to which our people legitimately aspire.

33 – No violation of the Basic Law or the Laws of the Republic shall be permitted. Ongoing respect for the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic supports the objectives of the State, as well as those of society and of the political class, because their violation would endanger the Nation and threaten democracy itself.

- Rejection of violence as a means of expression and/or political action and of access to and/or maintenance or termination of power :

34 - Rejection of violence as a means of expression and/or political action and of access to and/or maintenance or termination of power is a fundamental principle of the Rule of Law, of democracy and of any society which aspires to the development and well-being which is needed for stability.

[...]

36 – Violence represents the very negation of democracy. It is by respecting the Law, and by using the ballot box freely, democratically and independently that power shall henceforth be obtained and maintained in Algeria, in accordance with the free and sovereign will of the people.

- Respect for individual and collective liberties and respect for Human Rights :

37 - The Rule of Law to which the Algerian people legitimately aspire, is the guarantor of all individual and collective liberties, enshrined by the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic, and to which the Algerian people have been deeply attached throughout their history.

38 - The Algerian people have the duty to defend the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic, and to ensure the continuity of the State.

Bill of rights/ similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
Civil and political rights	<p>Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Equality Page 3, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 1/ THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY: [...] 20 – Islam has been a fundamental factor in mobilising the Algerian people’s capacity to resist and fight foreign aggression, and any attempt to destroy their national character. They have drawn moral energy and strength from the justice, equality and tolerance of the Islamic religion in their victorious defeat of colonialism.</p> <p>Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Thought, opinion, conscience and religion Page 6, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 2/ THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL PLURALISM: - Respect for alternation in government through the free choice of the Algerian people : 47 – Pluralist democracy, nourished by the authentic values of the Algerian people, rejects the imposition of any single opinion or programme. Based particularly on freedom of expression and political pluralism, it requires strict respect for alternation in government through the free choice of the Algerian people.</p>
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
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Democracy Page 1-2, I. PREAMBLE:

1 – For several years Algeria has been living through a crucial stage in its history. Thanks to their maturity and patriotism, the Algerian people have been able to withstand all attempts to destabilise the country. Taking inspiration from their history marked by struggles for their liberty and dignity and faithful to the message of the Revolution of November 1st 1954 and to the pledge made to its martyrs, the people have set themselves the task of building a pluralist democracy, strengthened by its national values.

2- The November Revolution was the expression of the will of the people to recover national sovereignty and build a strong and respected State, based on pluralist democracy. It was both the extension and the crowning achievement of all of the resistance struggles of the Algerian people against the occupying forces.

[...]

5 – The sacrifices endured by the Algerian people during the November Revolution have contributed to the strengthening and deepening of democracy and fundamental liberties, in an independent Algeria, an Algeria of national enlightenment and development.

[...]

12. Thanks to its citizens' patriotic awakening, it was possible to end this destabilisation of the countries' institutions. This leap forward would turn the situation around, and lead to the organisation of a National Consensus Conference resulting in the adoption of a Platform. This Conference enabled some organs of transition to be put in place, and for elections to be held in a pluralist democratic environment. It meant that the process of restoring national stability could also begin.

13. The pluralist presidential election of November 16, 1995, an essential step towards a global solution to the crisis, enabled the Algerian people to exercise their choice freely and democratically for the first time in the history of independent Algeria. This sovereign choice expressed by the Algerian people gave the country its first legitimate institution.

14. Therefore and thanks to the eloquent message of November 16, 1995, the Algerian people were able to clearly reaffirm their resolute attachment to unity, and the development of the nation. They made clear their wish to build a strong and democratic State, a State built on the national values of tolerance, dialogue and understanding.

Page 2, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING:

15 – The national dialogue embarked on by the President of the Republic, was open to all political forces and to civil society in general, with due respect for national values and norms. This highlighted a common will to work to consolidate a pluralist democracy and to build the institutional foundations of the State based on free and fair elections.

16 – To this end the participants in the Conference of National Understanding:
[...]

- wishing to work towards the strengthening of democratic culture, based on respect for republican principles,

- respectful of national values and wishing to strengthen, promote and defend the superior interests of the Nation, aiming to strengthen the foundations of the new pluralist political system, and to build the institutional framework, and to pursue these objectives while respecting:

[...]

o and democracy, the sovereign choice of the people of Algeria.

Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles Page 4, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 1/ THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY: - BERBER : [...] 28 – The Berber dimension is a fundamental component of national identity. The State shall rehabilitate the Berbers, and promote the Berber language in the education, cultural and communication sectors.
Mobility/ access	No specific mention.
Protection measures	Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of groups Page 6, - Adherence to political pluralism: 44 – The fundamental idea of liberty is the basis of political pluralism, which implies diversity of opinion, the recognition of the will of the majority and the protection of the legitimate right of minorities to defend their opinions.
Other	Page 6, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 2/ THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL PLURALISM: - Respect for alternation in government through the free choice of the Algerian people : 47 – Pluralist democracy, nourished by the authentic values of the Algerian people, rejects the imposition of any single opinion or programme. Based particularly on freedom of expression and political pluralism, it requires strict respect for alternation in government through the free choice of the Algerian people.

Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/
rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/
nomadism
rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage

Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Intangible

Page 3-4, II. CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PLATFORM FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, 1/ THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY:

17 – In order to develop a pluralist democracy within a republican State and a united Nation with a clearly preserved identity, we must protect from the field of competitive politics and any partisan or political exploitation, the fundamental components of our national identity, which is the common heritage of every Algerian, namely:

- Islam,
- Arab,
- Berber.

- ISLAM:

18 – The people of Algeria are a Muslim people. Islam is the State Religion and is a fundamental component of Algerian identity.

19 – Islam, our sacred religion, must be protected from any behaviour or manipulation which in any way exposes it to “fitna”, and must be protected from any political manipulation.

20 – Islam has been a fundamental factor in mobilising the Algerian people’s capacity to resist and fight foreign aggression, and any attempt to destroy their national character. They have drawn moral energy and strength from the justice, equality and tolerance of the Islamic religion in their victorious defeat of colonialism.

21 – Islam has cemented together Algerian society and has made of the Algerian people a united population, attached to the same land, beliefs, and language, that of the Quran and of the divine Message. The Algerian Revolution has made Islam an essential factor in uniting the Nation and helping it to flourish.

22 – The Algerian State will continue to mobilise all means possible to preserve and promote forever the values of Islam founded on tolerance, brotherhood, solidarity, liberty, justice and progress.

23 – The Algerian State will also ensure that all places of worship are used only for their original purpose

- ARAB:

24 – Arabic-Muslim values provide the Arab dimension of the national identity of the Algerian people.

25 – The Arabic language has expanded and helped to spread the sacred Message to which the Algerian people have faithfully subscribed, and confirmed their attachment to Arabic as the national language. The Algerian people have contributed brilliantly to the development of the Arabic language, using it to help unite the nation and to withstand colonialism’s constant attempts to destroy their national identity.

26 – The Arabic language, a basic attribute of the Algerian people, is one of the basic elements of national identity. It must be protected from any political, ideological or partisan instrumentalisation. State structures shall continue to be used to promote and develop it as the national and official language of the country.

- BERBER :

27 – Every Nation recognises itself in its History, which reflects its unity on the basis of its origins. This is the basis for specifying the personality and national identity of the Algerian Nation, which includes Berber, the heritage of all Algerians.

28 – The Berber dimension is a fundamental component of national identity. The State shall rehabilitate the Berbers, and promote the Berber language in the education, culture, and administration.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or
riparian
rights or
access No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees Page 1-2, I. PREAMBLE:
[...]
10. Against a background of a deteriorating socio-economic situation, political and religious manipulation, and violence, the State has been seriously weakened, and its retreat has exposed the country to grave dangers.

11. Hence the whole population had to endure the national crisis. Its integrity was particularly threatened by terrorist violence. It was also subject to serious threats to and divergences from its sacred religion, in flagrant violation of the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR No specific mention.

Intelligence services No specific mention.

Parastatal/
rebel and
opposition
group
forces No specific mention.

Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	Page 2, I. Preamble: [...] 11. Hence the whole population had to endure the national crisis. Its integrity was particularly threatened by terrorist violence. It was also subject to serious threats to and divergences from its sacred religion, in flagrant violation of the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	Page 1, I. PREAMBLE: [...] 8 – But this Algeria of development, of productive work and of many specific achievements, was destined to take many wrong turns because of errors made and a narrow vision in which the higher interests of the Nation were sacrificed and the legitimate needs of the people were denied. 9 – The people hoped for change and fought for it in tragic circumstances, but a lack of vision in which the same mistakes were made thwarted the citizens’ desire for this. 10. Against a background of a deteriorating socio-economic situation, political and religious manipulation, and violence, the State has been seriously weakened, and its retreat has exposed the country to grave dangers.
Amnesty/pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.

Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	Page 1, I. PREAMBLE: 1 – For several years Algeria has been living through a crucial stage in its history. Thanks to their maturity and patriotism, the Algerian people have been able to withstand all attempts to destabilise the country. Taking inspiration from their history marked by struggles for their liberty and dignity and faithful to the message of the Revolution of November 1st 1954 and to the pledge made to its martyrs, the people have set themselves the task of building a pluralist democracy, strengthened by its national values.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source <http://peacemaker.un.org/>
