

The primary concern of this thesis is the topic of international recognition of Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic. It attempts to connect this issue with the conflict in Western Sahara and with the geopolitical context of this dispute. The dispute has constituted a major threat to regional stability and it impedes regional cooperation in the Maghreb region. From a legal perspective, the people of Western Sahara have the right to self-determination, but in spite of lengthy negotiations and several attempts at UN mandated referendums on the future of the territory, the conflict has not yet been resolved. The paper also focuses on the historical context and the origins of the dispute and the development of Western Sahara question. In the conclusion, it attempts to summarize the findings and to present the assessment of the possibilities of the dispute resolution.