



# North Africa and armed elements.. Predicting the future of ISIS





# Abstract

In 2016, the terrorist organization ISIS called on its militants to launch attacks in Morocco against several targets, including the United Nations Mission in Western Sahara.

The organization vowed in a voice recording targeting tourist complexes, security headquarters and foreign companies in Morocco.

The threats came in a voice recording attributed to Abu al-Walid al-Sahrawi, "the emir of the Almoravid group," which he claimed to sponsor the "ISIS" organization in 2013. It was interesting in the recording is the organization's call to target the United Nations Mission to Organize a referendum in Western Sahara, Left the Western Sahara following a dispute between Morocco and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

Over the past few years, the number of cells and terrorist networks associated with the "ISIS ", which the Moroccan authorities have been able to dismantle in various cities of the country, has doubled, according to some statistics, to more than 31 cells since 2013.

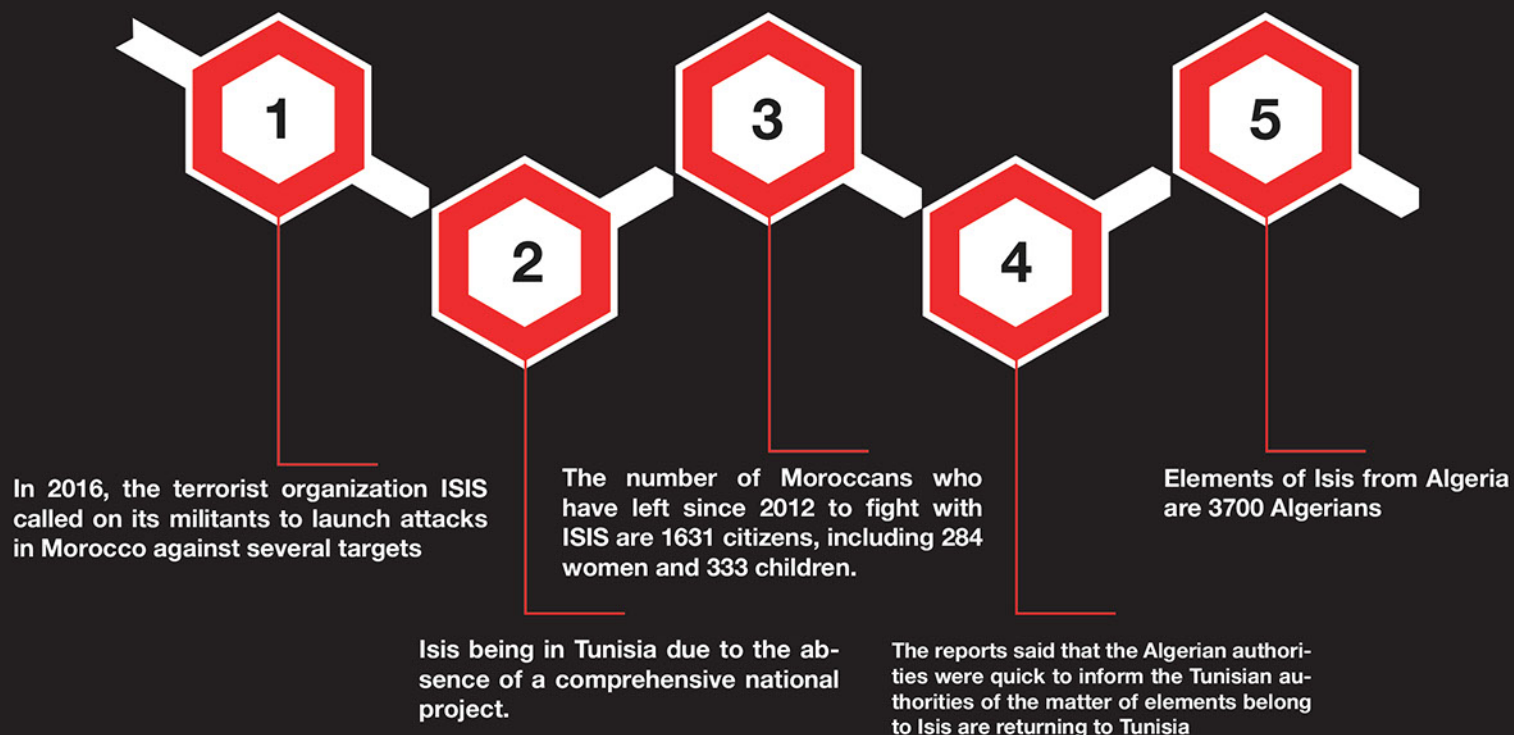
Despite the pre-emptive strikes and security and military successes against the armed groups, Tunisia still suffers from the danger of these groups that threaten its nascent democratic experience. The return of Tunisian fighters in the ranks of ISIS to Tunisia, the most important threat to the country, as UN reports estimated the presence of nearly 3000 Tunisian fighters within the armed groups.

The Tunisian security and military units have repulsed an armed attack to organize



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a "ISIS" targeting security and military installations in the border town of Ben Qardan with Libya in order to control the city last March. Groups loyal to the Islamic state are trying to reunite, unite and expand their influence after successive strikes in different parts of the Maghreb.

## Important reasons in Tunisia

1 - The first reason behind the joining of the youth of Tunisia to ISIS is the widespread despair of the Tunisian youth. The reason is the absence of a comprehensive national project. We in Tunisia live without a national dream that has the capacity to sharpen the enthusiasm and enthusiasm of young people. There are political forces that struggle ideologically and each party believes that it is capable of crossing Tunisia towards freedom and development alone.





2 - The dominance of radical secularism over the cultural, media and educational field under former President Ben Ali, which imposed secularism on oppression and violence and the nature of things for every reaction, created Islamic extremism as a reaction to the imposition of secularism on the power of society. Political and all state institutions, because in his view he fights Islam. When the spirit of the revolution came to an end, the door of freedom was opened by young people from their fundamentalist ideas which they considered to be the core of religion (such as the dream of the Islamic Caliphate and the Islamic state), and this coincided with the growing ideological discourse.

3 - The other reason for the young people joining the organization is that the Tunisian arena is free of an advocacy movement. The invitation in Tunis for decades has been limited to Friday sermons and a weekly lesson before Friday prayers, both boring and unattractive, and does not address the major public issues of concern to young people. Even after the revolution, the religious associations were either Salafists who carried out advocacy and social activities, as was the case with supporters of the shari'a, which are now banned for their involvement in the political assassinations of 2013, or associations close to al-Nahda that carry out charitable activities

## Important reasons in morocco

1 - The number of Moroccans who have left since 2012 to fight with ISIS are 1631 citizens, including 284 women and 333 children. According to official statistics, 558 Moroccan fighters were killed in the battlefields there, and 265 people returned to the country after the experience of "jihad", including 52 women and 15 children

2 - The Internet is the main means of attracting Moroccan fighters to go to the battlefields in Syria and Iraq by linking private relations with male and female youth and nurturing the ideology of jihad in order to decide to travel to Turkey via Turkey.

3 - As for the backgrounds and factors that drive children and women in Morocco to join ISIS that can be summed up in three main motives. The first motive is linked to the classic factors that fuel extremism, primarily the fragile social situation and extreme poverty of these groups. These factors constitute the infrastructure of polarization and expansion of the circle of those affiliated with jihadist ideology.

4 - The second motive is family ties and closures that force children and women to join these extremist movements. The polarization of the male element leads in some cases to the joining of other groups, whether children or wives, and all those who have a special relationship with the first element.





5 - The third motive is the recruitment and dissemination of some false religious perceptions to attract women and motivate them to provide fun for jihadists. In this regard, their adherence to these trends is described as legitimate and serves Islam.

## Concerning the elements of ISIS from Algeria

1 - In 2017, the Commissioner of the Middle East for Human Rights and the Secretary General of the European Department for Security and Information, Ambassador Haitham Abu Said, revealed a census of 3700 Algerians in the ranks of ISIS warning that these people to activate their work in Africa in accordance with a planned plan and decree.

2 - The statement by Ambassador Haytham Abu Said refers to the classification of Algeria ranked 26th out of the list of Arab and foreign countries whose citizens belong to the terrorist organization, which is the list topped by Iraq with 35 thousand elements, Syria 25 thousand and third Saudi Arabia with 18 thousand elements, while referring to the census of 4700 Libyan and 15 A thousand Tunisians, while Moroccans number 2500, and 1300 from Mauritania compared to 11 elements from France.

## The risk of returning some elements Of ISIS to their home countries

1 - In 2017, an Algerian military source revealed that Algeria had obtained a "very secret" European security and intelligence report stating that at least 10 Tunisian terrorists of "ISIS" in Syria had managed to reach infiltrators in Tunisia.

The reports said that the Algerian authorities were quick to inform the Tunisian authorities of the matter and handed them a copy of the European secret report mentioned and alerted to take all necessary security precautions and called for more vigilance and increased coordination and security cooperation especially in the coming days in anticipation of possible terrorist attacks in Tunisia and Algeria. And even some European countries and specifically France, Germany, Belgium and England.

2 - The Tunisian and Algerian security services are preparing to face the massive exodus of tens of Tunisian and foreign terrorists from Iraq, Syria and the rest of the world, in order to reshape the map of the "global jihad" after the bitter defeats received by the state organization ISIS in its main strongholds in Iraq and Syria



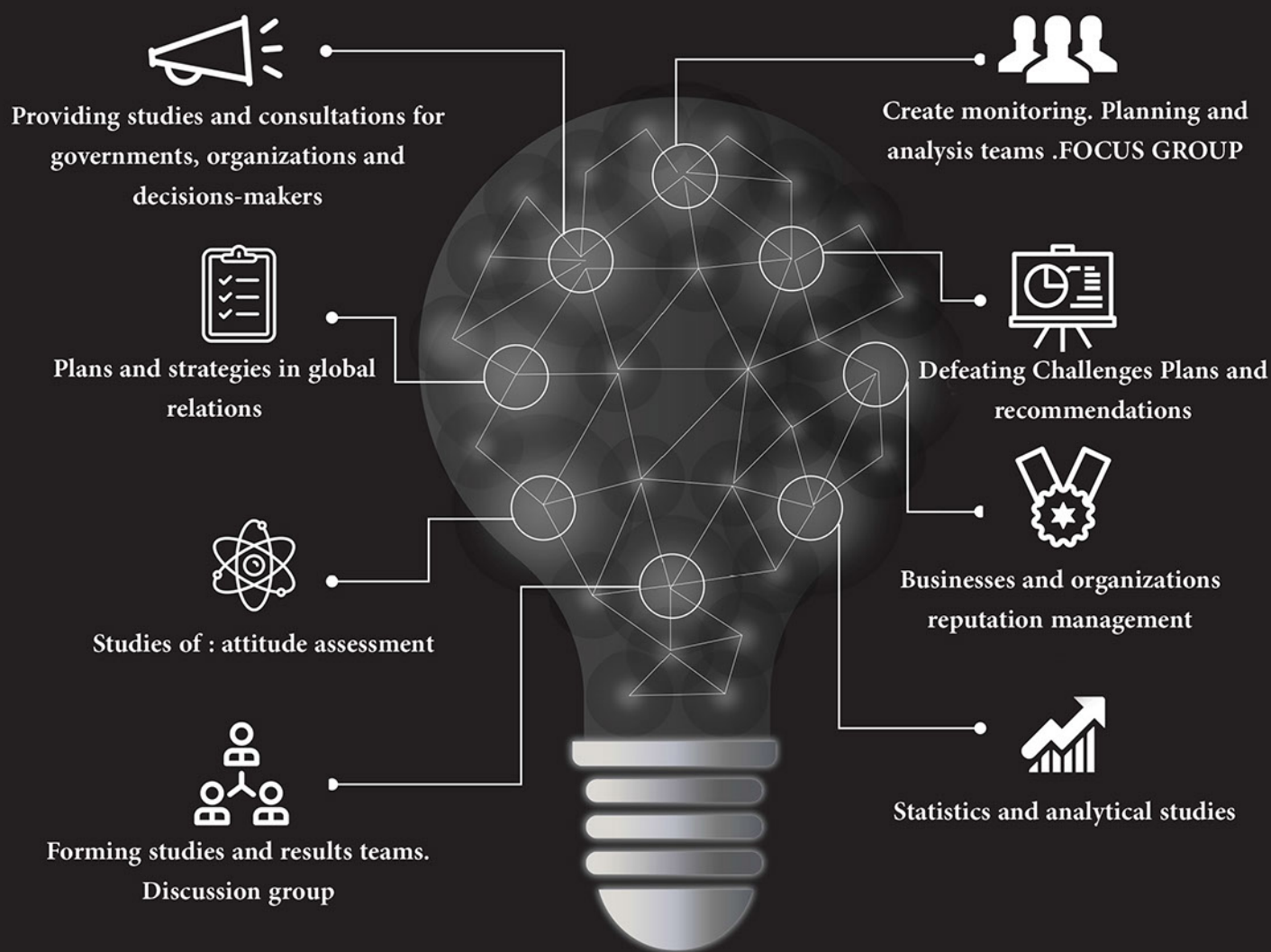


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✉ [info@smtcenter.net](mailto:info@smtcenter.net)

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