

A number of European political figures have welcomed Spain's recognition of the autonomy plan proposed by Morocco as the most serious, realistic and credible solution to the regional dispute over the Moroccan Sahara, calling on other European countries to follow suit.

The message addressed to HM King Mohammed VI by the President of the Spanish government, Pedro Sanchez, is "judicious to establish a relationship of trust and sincerity" between Morocco and Spain, underlined, Saturday, March 19, the former head of the Spanish government, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero.

"The message addressed to HM King Mohammed VI was a judicious message to establish a relationship of trust on solid foundations, with absolute sincerity on the part of both parties," said José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero in a special interview broadcast on the airwaves of "Média1 radio".

Describing as "very positive" the declaration of the Spanish government in favor of the Moroccan autonomy plan for the Sahara, the former head of the Spanish government considered that this position marks the return of the "good relationship and trust between Morocco and Spain".

For its part, the Italian deputy, Alessandro Pagano tweeted that "Spain has made an important overture for the resolution of this territorial problem".

"After this Spanish initiative, all countries are called upon to follow it. Let's hope that Italy will do it soon too!", underlined the politician, member of the Lega.

Italian MEP Marco Zanni welcomed the Spanish position, saying he was "happy to know that Spain considers the autonomy initiative presented by Morocco as the most realistic and credible basis for resolving the Sahara dispute".

A position shared by the Bulgarian MEP Asim Adamov, who congratulated the Spanish government chaired by Pedro Sanchez, which has recognized the plan for autonomy of the Moroccan Sahara as the most serious and credible solution.

For Elena Valenciano, of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party, "there is no doubt that the relationship between Spain and Morocco is strategic and essential".

On his side, MEP Andrey Kovatchev indicated that this position is "a big step forward" towards resolving this conflict. "I welcome the endorsement of Spanish PM for the Moroccan autonomy plan of 2007 as "the most serious, realistic and

credible” basis for resolving the Sahara dispute. A great step forward”!“said the Bulgarian MEP in a tweet.

MEP Attila Ara-Kovacs, for his part, welcomed Spain’s constructive position. “I welcome the positive and constructive position expressed by Spain considering the autonomy initiative presented by Morocco as the most serious, realistic and credible solution to the dispute over the Sahara”, he declared.

Czech MEP Tomáš Zdechovský also described Spain’s new position on the Moroccan Sahara as a “historic step”. This is an “important historical and political step. Spain supports the Moroccan autonomy initiative under the sovereignty of the Kingdom as the most serious, realistic and credible basis for definitively resolving the regional conflict over the Sahara,” said the MEP.

The same surge of support and optimism marked the reactions of experts, jurists and opinion leaders in Europe, emphasizing the wisdom of Moroccan diplomacy, driven by the enlightened and avant-garde Vision of HM King. These analysts also underlined the promising prospects that are opening up as a result of this historic position of Spain for the definitive settlement of this artificial dispute, after that expressed and consolidated previously by the American Administration.

In a message addressed to King Mohammed VI, the President of the Spanish Government, Pedro Sánchez stressed that “Spain considers the Moroccan Autonomy Initiative as the most serious, realistic and credible basis for the resolution of the dispute” about of the Moroccan Sahara.