

## Morocco is Committed to Creating a Deeper Military and Economic Alliance with the United States

- Morocco has long-been a stable ally and partner of the United States. Following the September 11, 2001 attacks, Morocco showed solidarity and renewed its commitment as a strong partner of the US on counterterrorism and military cooperation. Cooperation between Morocco and the US includes data sharing, law enforcement partnership, improvement of capabilities to oversee strategic checkpoints, and termination of terrorist organization financing.  
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/5431.htm>  
<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L0255298.htm>
- Today, that friendship continues with extended cooperation in many fields, highlighted by our common commitment to combating terrorism and advancing regional security, the 2004 Free Trade Agreement, the designation of Morocco as a major Non-NATO ally, and the signing of a \$697.5 million Compact with the Millennium Challenge Corporation to reduce poverty and increase economic growth.
- The US and Morocco maintain excellent military-to-military ties. In recognition of this, the US has doubled military assistance to the country and honored Morocco with “major non-NATO ally status,” which qualifies Morocco for increased US military cooperation. These ties feature regular joint exercises and military sales totaling more than \$3 million; such transfers deepen ties and help promote a modern military in Morocco.  
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/158268.pdf>
- In 2008, Morocco chose to further strengthen its bilateral military cooperation with the United States by signing a contract for 24 Advanced F-16 Block 52 aircraft manufactured by Lockheed-Martin. According to the Pentagon’s Defense Security Cooperation Agency, “the sale will also contribute to the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by enhancing Morocco's capability to support US efforts in the global war on terrorism.”  
<http://www.reuters.com/article/tnBasicIndustries-SP/idUSN1961843520071219>  
[http://www.lockheedmartin.com/news/press\\_releases/2008/060608ae\\_f16morocco.html](http://www.lockheedmartin.com/news/press_releases/2008/060608ae_f16morocco.html)
- The US also contributes military support to Morocco through the Foreign Military Financing (FMF) and International Military Education and Training (IMET) initiatives. Under the FMF program, the US provides security assistance to maintain aging U.S.-origin equipment, including aircrafts and transportation vehicles; boost maritime surveillance to address illegal immigration, smuggling, drug trafficking, and illicit fishing; procure transport and logistics equipment; and upgrade aerial surveillance.  
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RS21579.pdf>
- Through the IMET assistance program, of which Morocco is one of the top 20 recipients worldwide, senior military officers have received training in the United States. 70 Moroccan students are sent annually to the Professional Military Education (PME) classes at US services

This information has been produced by the Moroccan American Center for Policy (MACP). [www.moroccoonthemove.com](http://www.moroccoonthemove.com)

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Additional information is available at the Justice Department in Washington, D.C.

schools. These courses cover human rights norms and the proper use of US military equipment, and allow for increased collaboration between the US and Moroccan armed forces. As the 2012 Congressional Budget Justification notes, “the Moroccan military offers a significant force multiplier for US initiatives to promote regional stability on the African continent through military education. The Moroccan military trains several other African and European militaries in their schools and training facilities,” thus contributing to peace and security in all of North Africa.

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/60654.pdf>

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/158268.pdf>

- In May 2010, nearly 1,000 U.S. military personnel from across the services and 1,000 members of the Moroccan military participated in the latest iteration of an annual military exercise known as African Lion. The exercise is designed to promote interoperability and mutual understanding of military tactics, techniques and procedures.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RS21579.pdf>

<http://www.dvidshub.net/news/86457/last-marines-land-prepare-begin-field-training-african-lion-2012#.T4RMS9laJ-R>

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