"We just waited for the torturers in their masks. In the middle of the night. They usually came at 5:30 a.m. and entered our house. We waited every night. Me, my sister and my mother. My mother is 86 years old.

There was no mercy.

They tied up our arms. I still carry the wounds to this day. They bandaged our legs. Then there was a blindfold, and here a mouth bandage. They stripped off our clothes and started with their hands... 10 men putting their fingers all over your body.

My mother’s blindfold was removed, but her arms and legs remained bandaged. They do this, so she can see how her daughters are being raped.

They put their hands inside us, one grabbed my breasts. They took a stick and stuck it in my mother's front and back.

I can tell you there is not a Sahrawi woman who has not yet been raped by Moroccan authorities."

— These are the words of Sultana Khaya, a Sahrawi woman who was under house arrest for 1 year and 7 months.

She was not allowed to leave her house. Why was she under house arrest? Because she opposes the brutal military occupation of Morocco in Western Sahara.

And each time she was beaten up for it. And each time she stood and stands up for her people's right to self-determination.

She lives in Boujdour, so in occupied Western Sahara.

Boujdour is the same town where Siemens Gamesa is due to finish building a new wind farm this year.

While Moroccan settlers make their way to their work in the morning, my highly qualified cousins cannot find jobs because there is systematic discrimination against Saharawi.

While Morocco sells itself as an African pioneer in the field of renewable energies, Sultana Khaya together with her mother and sister, experiences unimaginably degrading and traumatizing torture.

While Siemens is raking in the cash, this infrastructure project is further cementing the occupation.

But Siemens is proud of its presence in Western Sahara.

"We planted 808 trees in Boujdour, Morocco," the Siemens Gamesa website said in 2022.

I don't even know what to say about this. It's grotesque, shocking, and just plain dystopian.

First of all, this is not Morocco, but Western Sahara.

Second, what you’re doing is greenwashing. Oh yes, human rights are being restricted in the most brutal way, but the most thing is some more trees.

The money and the image you are contributing to the Moroccan state make it possible to maintain and build up strong repression.

You know what's happening in Western Sahara. You back them up. You finance it politely.

Just simply present the shareholders with green numbers again, and then it suits you.
I challenge them to show what generates the green numbers. Invite Sultana Khaya to tell you what she has to experience at night. Show the life in the refugee camps in Tindouf, where generations grow up without ever having seen their own homeland.

How can you possibly work with a state like Morocco?

Under the monarch, Mohammed VI, the basic rights of citizens and even more so of the Sahrawis are severely restricted. Both Amnesty International and Human Right Watch document and strongly criticize the human rights violations committed by the Moroccan state.

Marocgate and the Pegasus-espionage-scandals show once again that Morocco is not a trustworthy trading partner.

As shareholders, you also have to see what a risk the cooperation with Morocco poses.

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Western Sahara is not Morocco.

As the European Court of Justice stated in 2021, Western Sahara has a separate status and Morocco has no sovereignty over the territory. The judgment further states that any economic activity may only occur with the Saharawi people's consent.
The only legal representative for this is Fronte POLISARIO.

Every year, we criticize at the Annual General Meeting, demonstrate in front of your branches and ask you to explain your activities via mail.

And every year we only hear empty phrases again.

There is no justification and no reason for Siemens Energy to be present in Western Sahara.

Before I turn to the Board, I will speak to you, the shareholders.

Remove Siemens Energy from your portfolio as long as they are — contrary to international law— present in Western Sahara. Take The Storebrand Asset Management, Norway's largest private wealth manager, as an example. In 2021 they made the conscious decision to exclude Siemens Energy and Gamesa from their investments.

Now I want to know by the board the following:

I. Last year, the Polisario representative in Germany, Nadjat Hamdi, spoke to you at the AGM and said that you have not sought approval. Have you now contacted the Polisario and if not, when do you intend to do so?

II. Do you anticipate possible claims for damages from the Saharawi people?

III. Today you have taken a lot of time to speak about sustainability, however, how do you define sustainability? In your opinion, can a project be sustainable if it necessarily involves violence, the restriction of basic rights and military occupation?

IV. Do you think you can sleep easy tonight after hearing about Sultana Khaya's experiences?

V. Given the occupation, terrible human rights record and recent scandals, how do you justify working with the Moroccan regime?

VI. You often refer to legal opinions that supposedly legitimize your projects in the occupied territories. Were there also legal opinions that identified problems of the Boujdour project?
VII. How do you fulfill your responsibilities under due diligence with regard to your business in Boujdour?

VIII. And the most important question for me: when will Siemens Energy finally pull out of Western Sahara?