

RESEARCHED AND COMPILED BY THE REFUGEE DOCUMENTATION CENTRE OF IRELAND ON 31 MAY 2024

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COI QUERY RESPONSE

ALGERIA - CHRISTIANS

In May 2023 the *United States Department of State* notes that: “Christian leaders said some Christian converts continued to keep a low profile due to concern for their personal safety and the potential for legal, familial, career, and social problems.”¹

A report published in 2024 by *Freedom House* reviewing events of 2023 points out that: “Algeria's population is overwhelmingly Sunni Muslim. Members of religious minorities, including Christians and non-Sunni Muslims, suffer from state persecution and interference.”²

A report published in January 2024 by *Open Doors International* states that: “...atheists and those who openly question Sunni Islamic doctrine are likely to face hostilities in Algeria.”³

In May 2024 the *United States Commission on International Religious Freedom* states that: “In 2023, religious freedom conditions in Algeria remained poor, with major impacts on Christians and Muslim minority communities.”⁴

In March 2024 *Bertelsmann Stiftung* states that: “Religious minorities face significant limitations and discrimination. Most churches and chaplaincies have been converted into mosques...”⁵

¹ United States Department of State (15 May 2023) 2022 Report on International Religious Freedom: Algeria, p.13

² Freedom House (2024) Freedom in the World 2024: Algeria, p.6

³ Open Doors International (17 January 2024) World Watch List 2024: Situation of Religious Freedom for Christians - Algeria Summary Report, p.8

⁴ (United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (1 May 2024) United States Commission on International Religious Freedom 2024 Annual Report: Algeria, p.1

⁵ Bertelsmann Stiftung (19 March 2024) BTI 2024 Country Report Algeria, p.14

ADF International in March 2024 points out that: "Governments and the international community have highlighted the ongoing plight of religious minorities in Algeria."⁶

References

ADF International (25 March 2024) *Algerian pastor defends right to religious freedom, appeals "illegal worshipping" conviction*

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⁶ ADF International (25 March 2024) *Algerian pastor defends right to religious freedom, appeals "illegal worshipping" conviction*, p.2

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New Humanitarian
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