

# THE NEWSPAPER THE KEY

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## Fuel Prices At An All-Time High

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to the production of cleaner and more environmentally-friendly green hydrogen. One of these countries was Mauritania, with two green hydrogen-production projects that are set to become some of the largest in the world, Nour and Aman.

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The Ruling Party:

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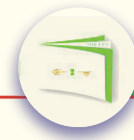


Ask An American

Why is gun ownership still a constitutional right while thousands of innocent Americans die every year because of gun shootings?

P2





**Ask An American**

**Why is gun ownership still a constitutional right while thousands of innocent Americans die every year because of gun shootings?**

This is an exceptionally controversial and difficult question to answer but I will do my best to provide a balanced explanation. The Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution states that “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” This is the entirety of the amendment, and you will notice that it is rather vague. This vagary lies at the root of the debate over gun ownership in the United States. Beliefs surrounding gun ownership cover a wide spectrum, ranging from those who believe that there should be no laws regulating the ownership of guns, to those who believe that private ownership of guns – in any form – should be made illegal. Those who argue for little-to-no regulation believe that the second amendment, by saying “shall not be infringed” forbids any regulation of gun ownership. Those who support the regulation or banning of gun ownership often argue that “militia” does not refer to private citizens and that the writers of the Constitution did not comprehend the advances in gun technology that would lead to weapons such as assault rifles. This is a greatly-simplified overview of this issue but is nonetheless illustrative of some of the arguments made by proponents of and against gun ownership.

**2- Lately, we’ve been hearing a lot about «Roe v. Wade,” could you please explain it?**

Roe v. Wade was a 1973 Supreme Court decision that ruled that women in the United States have a constitutional right to have an abortion. “A constitutional right” is a right that cannot be limited by any federal or state law. The ruling has been – or now had been – controversial. The ruling was opposed by many conservative Americans, who saw abortion as morally wrong. From the time of

**Ask an American**

**H**ello! My name is Alex, and I am a college student and ESL teacher in the United States. Each month I will answer your questions about learning English and about life in the United States. Send your questions of less than 100 words to [thekeynewspaper21@gmail.com](mailto:thekeynewspaper21@gmail.com) to have your question printed and answered here in The Key.

the ruling, several conservative groups worked to overturn the decision and again limit the right of a woman to seek an abortion. These groups – through a complicated and wide-ranging effort to shape the Supreme Court – saw their efforts vindicated by the Supreme Court’s decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* on June 24, which overturned *Roe’s* ruling and found that there is no constitutional right to abortion in the United States.

**3- Speaking of Roe V Wade, how does the U.S. Supreme Court work?**

The Supreme Court is the highest court in

the Judiciary, one of the three branches of the U.S Federal Government, the other two being the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the United States and serves as the final court of appeal. This means that the court only hears cases that have moved up from the lower levels of the court system through appeals. The court also has original jurisdiction in some rare cases.

The Supreme Court is made up of nine “justices” who serve for life. These justices are expected to be the most qualified jurists in the country and are nominated by the president before being confirmed by the Senate. The power of these justices is significant, as they can unilaterally strike down laws passed

by Congress or states.

The Supreme Court is one of the most controversial parts of the U.S. Government, and the work it does is quite complicated. I encourage anyone who is interested in learning more about the court to visit the Supreme Court’s website, which provides an easily digestible overview of the Court and its work.

**4- Every June, we hear a lot about Juneteenth, what is it about?**

Juneteenth is the United States’ newest holiday, having been enacted into law on June 17, 2021. The holiday celebrates the emancipation of slaves in Galveston, Texas at the end of the Civil War. Juneteenth celebrates the announcement of General Order No. 3 by General Gordon Granger on June 19, 1865. Granger was a general in the Union Army (the “North,” which fought to end slavery) who was charged with managing the control and occupation of Galveston after the surrender of Confederate forces (the “South”). It is important to note the difference between Granger’s announcement and the Emancipation Proclamation, which was given two years earlier by President Abraham Lincoln, and freed all slaves in Confederate territory but notably not all slaves. Granger’s proclamation, while insignificant in the grand scale of the war, nevertheless marks a key moment for Black Texans. Since that time, African Americans in the United States have celebrated this event privately, with limited official recognition. That changed following the George Floyd Protests, which gave new life to a campaign for federal recognition of the holiday. Throughout 2020 and 2021, a number of states officially recognized Juneteenth as a holiday. This trend culminated in the signing of an executive order by President Biden last year making Juneteenth a federal holiday.

**Press Release**

**Yanick Douyon Selected again by U.S. Department of State for English Language Teaching Fellowship**

The U.S. Department of State announced the selection of Yanick Douyon for an additional 10-month fellowship project training teachers and teaching English in Mauritania at the University of Nouakchott. Douyon is one of only 200 U.S. citizens selected for the 2022-2023 English Language Fellow Program.

In 2019 Ms. Douyon had come to Mauritania but that 10-month project was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic. Still, during that time, in addition to teaching graduate students in the Faculty of Science and Technology, she did some presentations at the American Corner at the U.S. embassy, at ISERI, and at several other organizations in Nouakchott. She returned in 2021 and thankfully was able to complete the academic year. Beginning in November 2022 she will

come once again for similar work. Douyon is eager to meet even more Mauritians and to discuss English and American culture with them.

The English Language Fellow Program is the premier opportunity for experienced teachers of English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) to enact meaningful and sustainable changes in the way that English is taught abroad, and is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) with funding provided by the U.S. government. Through projects developed by U.S. Embassies in more than 80 countries, Fellows work directly with local teachers, students, and educational professionals to improve the quality of English language instruction offered at prestigious universities and other academic institutions.

Since 1969, the English Language Fellow Program has sent thousands of TESOL scholars and educators abroad to promote English language learning, enhance English teaching capacity, and foster mutual understanding between the U.S. and other countries through cultural exchange. On assignment, Fellows teach English, conduct teacher training, develop resources, and organize events and conferences. These projects are challenging and the teachers selected represent the best of the U.S. TESOL community. In return, the program provides professional development opportunities to help participants experience different cultures and build skills that can greatly enhance their TESOL careers back home. English Language Fellows are counted among the more than 50,000 individuals participating in U.S. Department of State exchange



*Yanick Douyon in Melehfa*

programs each year. The Fellow Program is administered by the Center for Intercultural Education and Development at Georgetown University. For further information about the

English Language Fellow Program or the U.S. Department of State, please visit our website, contact us by telephone at 202-632-6452, or e-mail [ECA-Press@state.gov](mailto:ECA-Press@state.gov).



# Mauritania's Green Hydrogen Projects To Include Africa's First Offshore Wind Farm



Hydrogen has been used for decades as a fuel and can be produced from multiple different renewable and non-renewable energy sources. Currently, hydrogen is still largely produced by converting fossil fuels such as natural gas. However, producing hydrogen using fossil fuels still poses an environmental problem due to its large amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Producing eco-friendly hydrogen comes at a significant cost. Nevertheless, numerous countries around the world have announced in recent years their plans to shift to the production of cleaner and more environmentally-friendly green hydrogen. One of these countries was Mauritania, with two green hydrogen-production projects that are set to become some of the largest in the world, Nour and Aman.

In May 2021, CWP Global, a multinational energy development company, signed a memorandum of understanding with the Mauritanian government to build the 30GW Aman wind, solar, and green-hydrogen project. The project will be constructed over an area of 8,500 km<sup>2</sup> in the northern desert of the country. "Aman will be one of the biggest green hydrogen projects in the world," stated Mr. Lehib Khroumbaly, an advisor to the Ministry of Petroleum, Mines, and Energy. "The project is still in its early stages, but we are expecting to start production no later than 2030," he said.

Project Nour, the second green hydrogen project in the country, will include Africa's first offshore wind farm. The Mauritanian government has given exclusive development rights to a British firm, Chariot Ltd., a company that focuses on transitional energy projects in Africa.

"Project Nour has been given exclusivity over an onshore and offshore area totaling approximately 14,400km<sup>2</sup> to carry out pre-feasibility and feasibility studies with the intention of generating electricity from solar and wind resources to be used in electrolysis to split water to produce green hydrogen and oxygen," stated Chariot.

"Benefiting from Mauritania's world-class solar and wind resources, Project Nour has the potential to allow Mauritania to produce the cheapest green hydrogen in Africa and to become one of

the world's main producers and exporters of green hydrogen and its derivative products, close to potential large European markets."

"The holy grail to be successful in green hydrogen is that you've got to bring the cost of green hydrogen down to \$2 per kilogram. No one is there yet, but in order to get to that magic number, you need wind, sun, land, and access to water," said Adonis Pouroulis, Chariot's acting chief executive, "all of which Mauritania has in abundance." The pre-feasibility study for Project Nour has been completed and a framework agreement has been signed.



**Lehib Khroumbaly, an advisor to the Ministry of Petroleum, Mines, and Energy**

The offshore area designated for the project sees wind speeds of more than 10 meters per second. "Mauritania's wind speed and solar insolation levels – the amount of sunlight experienced – are some of the highest in the world," said Mr. Khroumbaly, "wind, sun, large uninhabited areas, and proximity to the European market – one of the most important markets in the world – give our country a great advantage."

Despite the country's optimal wind speed, solar insolation levels, and access to water, the projects still face some challenges. The most significant of these is the scale. "In green hydrogen production, we use electricity to separate hydrogen and oxygen molecules in water," explained Mr. Khroumbaly, "in order to do that, we use a technology called electrolysis. The problem we have with this project [the Aman project], is that there are no electrolyzers of this scale."

Another issue with green hydrogen production is its cost. "Compared with blue and gray hydrogen, green hydrogen production is very costly," explained Mr. Khroumbaly. "At the moment, we're working with a budget of \$40 billion." In addition, the technology used in green hydrogen production is "not mature enough," he said.

The projects are attracting important European investors. On 23 June, The Mauritanian government and the Euro-

pean Investment Bank (EIB) agreed to consolidate mutual cooperation to expand solar, wind, and green hydrogen investment. "The EIB is committed to supporting climate action and clean energy investment across Africa," stated Werner Hoyer, President of the EIB.

Eren, a subsidiary of Total, is also reported to have shown interest in Mauritania's green hydrogen production and plans on joining Project Nour.

Two projects of this scale offer significant job opportunities. "The government is planning to develop domestic expertise," stated Mr. Khroumbaly. "After finishing the preliminary studies stage, we can then know the number of people and the qualifications needed to train and prepare for by the time the development stage starts."

The minister of Petroleum, Mines, and Energy, Abdessalam Ould Mohamed Saleh, stated that "Developing Mauritania's green hydrogen industry promises to bring a combination of environmental, economic, and social benefits to our country. We have the potential and desire to be a world leader in the field of hydrogen production from renewable energy sources."

President Mohammed Ould Ghazouani has also expressed his hopes for the country's production of renewable energy. "Development of Mauritania's huge renewable energy potential can both enhance access to affordable energy in our country and allow clean energy to be converted to green hydrogen."

In terms of energy – renewable and non-renewable – Mauritania would be unlikely to ever struggle to provide power to its population of 4.65 million. As mentioned above, the country sees ideal quantities of wind and sun, yet it has also seen significant oil and gas discoveries in recent years that hold great potential. Despite this potential, however, Mauritania still suffers from frequent power outages and fuel shortages. Green hydrogen promises better and cleaner energy at lower costs, significantly increased power capacity, greater job opportunities, and a much-needed boost to infrastructure.

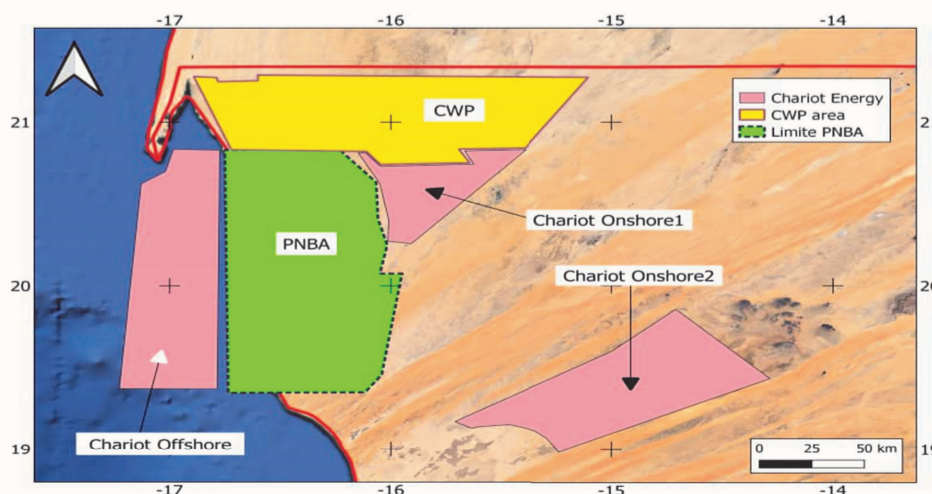
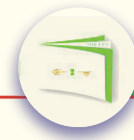


Image: Chariot Ltd.





# The US Embassy in Nouakchott Celebrates 4th of July

**O**n Thursday evening, June 2022, The US embassy held a celebration of the 4th of July, American Independence Day. The celebration was attended by multiple Mauritanian and foreign high-profile personalities. The US Ambassador Cynthia Kierscht gave out a speech on the occasion, this is the text of the speech:

Dear Ministers, and members of the government delegation,  
Fellow members of the diplomatic corps,  
Friends from the business community, civil society and the government,  
Ladies and gentlemen, honored guests.

Good evening. Thank you all for being here tonight to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of the United States. On the 4th of July, 246 years ago, the Continental Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, and since then, Americans have recognized the day with celebrations of many kinds. The first 4th of July celebration is reported to have been held in Philadelphia, in 1777. There were bonfires, parades, and fireworks – and a ship fired a thirteen-gun salute to honor America’s then thirteen colonies. This year, Americans in the United States will celebrate with barbecues, picnics, parades, and fireworks. And we will do much the same here this evening. But before we get to tonight’s festivities, I’d like to highlight a few issues of importance to the United States and Mauritania.

Our relationship with Mauritania is a growing partnership – built on shared interests and common goals. We work together daily with our Mauritanian partners to realize Mauritania’s full potential as a leader in regional security, building social cohesion and addressing human rights issues, and supporting an inclusive and diversified economy. In fact, Secretary Blinken met with his counterpart Minister Merzoug just yesterday in Madrid to discuss these issues.

A word on security. Without peace and stability, no country can prosper. I commend the leadership role Mauritania has taken to combat violent extremism within its own borders and in the Sahel region, and the Embassy welcomes opportunities to continue this partnership. In fact, just this past year, the United States deployed a team of special operations experts to train alongside the Le Groupement des Fusiliers Marins; we concluded a multi-year, \$14.9 million program for the Mauritanian Battalion supporting the



G5 Defense Force; we conducted training with the Mauritanian Air Force; we sent military officers to elite American military institutions to study with their American counterparts; and we trained 66 Mauritanian law enforcement officers through the Anti-Terrorism Assistance program, with much more training on the horizon. Mauritania should know that America will remain a steadfast partner in countering the threats of extremism and violence.

On our shared goal of enhanced social inclusion and human rights, we applaud the important progress made by Mauritania in these fields. As President Biden has said, “Defending human rights and demonstrating that democracies deliver for their people is a fundamental challenge of our time,” and we will continue to work with our Mauritanian partners to ensure that we face this challenge together. President Ghazouani has introduced an ambitious reform agenda to promote social inclusion and to provide access to services to all Mauritanians, and we stand ready to support these reforms. Indeed, the U.S. Embassy has a long history of working with the government and civil society on such issues as ending slavery, protecting women and girls from gender-based violence, and supporting freedoms of all kinds. For years, we have worked in Nouakchott and in the wilayas to promote civic engagement, to support girls’ empowerment and end gender-based violence, and to help build the capacity of schools.

All this good work is possible not only because of Mauritania’s stability, but also because of its democratic development. With upco-

ming elections in 2023 and 2024, the Embassy looks forward to supporting efforts to ensure that all Mauritanians can make their voices heard at the ballot boxes.

And finally, our economic partnership. We continue to focus on expanding our economic cooperation, including through opportunities arising from offshore natural gas, and Mauritania’s enormous potential as a renewable energy producer, as well as in newer, smaller industries. Working through the U.S.-Mauritania Business Forum, we have promoted increased trade and investment in the agricultural, e-commerce, and food manufacturing sectors. We will continue to encourage U.S. businesses to bring their innovations to Mauritania while supporting the Mauritanian government to move forward with economic and regulatory reforms. To better incorporate Mauritanian youth into today’s economy, U.S. Agency for International Development is investing \$24 million on youth programs to promote social cohesion and civic engagement and deliver vocational and leadership skills training. The hope is that soon all Mauritanians can fulfill their economic potential in an economy that is productive, equitable, and environmentally sustainable.

Of course, the biggest challenge we have all recently faced is the global pandemic. Through COVAX, we have donated almost two million doses of life-saving vaccines to Mauritania. Our strong cooperation with the Ministry of Health has ensured these vaccines have been distributed throughout the country and has contributed to Mauritania having one of the highest vaccination rates on the continent.

Our contributions to Mauritanian society do not end there. Since 2007, more than 1,300 economically disadvantaged students have benefitted from a two-year English program—affording them expanded opportunities in the world market. More than 500 Mauritanians have participated in our International Visitor Leadership Program, including many ministers, high-ranking officials, academics, journalists, and civil society leaders. And more than 250 Mauritanians have participated in such prestigious education programs as Fulbright in the United States. Exchange programs like these foster linkages between our two countries in profound and lasting ways and give us the opportunity to continue developing mutual respect and understanding.

Finally, I’d like to publicly acknowledge Mauritania’s recent votes at the UN General Assembly in support of Ukraine. Mauritania joined the United States and 138 other countries in adopting a resolution deploring Russia’s aggression and demanding that Russia “immediately, completely, and unconditionally” withdraw its forces from Ukraine’s territory. Our countries also voted together in March to condemn Russia’s attacks against civilians and together we expressed concern about the conflict’s impact on increased food insecurity. These resolutions sent an unequivocal message of support for Ukraine and for international law, including the UN Charter.

I commend Mauritania’s resolve in taking this stand. Like you, I am horrified by reports of unacceptable civilian casualties and massive displacement in Ukraine as a result of

Russia’s aggression. The United States strongly believes that Mauritania’s vote in support of international law including the UN Charter will be remembered as the right thing to do.

On a lighter note, and last, but not least, I would like to thank the many people who made tonight possible. Our sponsors, Kosmos Energy, Les Grands Moulins de Mauritanie, Seaboard Overseas and Trading Group, and SOBOMA Coca-Cola Company, for offering their assistance to make this event possible. And to our own Embassy staff who have worked for months on end to organize it – thank you to Stuart Nincehler, our control officer, Sarah Benchiba, responsible for protocol, Stephen Dombkoski, our sound engineer; thanks to our Public Affairs and Management teams, to our Security team for keeping us all safe, thank you for your invaluable contributions to making tonight happen. And many thanks to the staff of our General Services and Facilities Offices, for all the hours of hard work spent getting the Embassy ready for this party.

And finally, I’d also like to add a special thanks to the talented musicians of the Eleanor Dubinsky Quartet for coming all the way from America to play such beautiful music for us. Welcome to Mauritania.

With that, esteemed guests, please accept my gratitude to you. For being here tonight to celebrate American Independence Day, and for the important work you do each and every day. Now please enjoy the reception. Thank you, remerciement, shukran.



## Mauritania Hosts An International Symposium Devoted To Sahel's Issues



On Tuesday June 28, a two-day long symposium dedicated to discussing the Sahel Region's issues had concluded. The symposium was organized by the Mauritanian government in cooperation with the European parliament. It was held in the capital Nouakchott under the slogan: 'The Sahel: Development, Governance, and Human Rights.. for the security of the Sahel People.' It consisted of a series of presentations and lectures focusing primarily on issues of violence, crime,

and the developmental challenges that the region faces. "The symposium represents an opportunity to explore solutions to the current challenges in the Sahel Region," stated Emanuela Del Re, the European Union Special Representative for the Sahel. "This meeting came after two days full of presentations and constructive discussions to analyze security issues and the phenomena of violence and crime in the Sahel region, the environmental challenges concerning conflicts, and the role of

governance and decentralization to address these political, social, economic and environmental challenges," said Ms. El Alya Mint Menkouss, the secretary-general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Mauritians Abroad. Marie Arena, a member of the European Parliament, also said that this meeting covered many important topics, and presented an opportunity to highlight the living situation in the region during the conflicts in the Sahel.

## Fuel Prices At An All-Time High



The government declared a price hike for fuel on Friday, July 15. Diesel went on sale for 499.5 MRO per liter on the same day as gasoline went on sale for 566.4 MRO per liter. Following the announcement, a large number of se-

curity personnel were reportedly stationed throughout the nation's capital, Nouakchott, in anticipation of any potential unrest. It is crucial to stress that the outbreak of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict is one of the factors driving the rise in world oil prices.

## The Ruling Party: From Union To Equity



In an unforeseen move, The Mauritanian ruling party changed the party's name from Union Pour la République (UPR) (Union for the Republic) to El Insaf (Equity) In an extraordinary conference called by its general secretary last week. The name change comes as an attempt to match President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani's political orientation. Additionally, the changes included the party's slogan. At the conference, the party announced that a temporary commission had elected a new party president, Mohamed Melainine Ould Eyih —minister of education and the government's spokesperson— after Sidi Mohamed Ould Amar

Taleb declared his resignation from the party's presidency. The name and slogan change is seen as an attempt by the current president to cut all ties with his precedent, Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz, who founded the party in 2009. Furthermore, these changes come in preparation for the legislative elections in the coming year, and the presidential elections that will be held in two years. The new name Al Insaf (Equity) carries within it the initial plans of President Ould Ghazouani, whose electoral program emphasized social justice and equity for the vulnerable and marginalized strata of the society, especially ex-slaves.

## UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson Resigns

On Thursday, July 7, Boris Johnson resigned from his position as the British prime minister. Johnson's resignation was inevitable after he and members of his government were involved in a series of scandals and controversies both sexual and political. These scandals included, among others, violations of the COVID-19 lockdown regulations (also known as partygate) and the appointment of a minister accused of sexual misconduct (the Chris Pincher scandal).

The scandals sparked a series of resignations from 5-7 July that resulted in the quitting of over sixty government ministers, aides, party chairmen, and other government officials, and cost Johnson the support of his party. The next step for the conservatives is to elect a new leader, which might take weeks or even months. "To you the British public - I know there will be many people who are relieved and perhaps quite a few who will also be disappointed."



Said Johnson to a crowd of supporters and onlookers in his speech on Thursday, "And I want you to know how sad I am to be giving up the best job in the world. But them's the breaks." Johnson expressed no regrets or apologies for the way things have come about and stated that he's leaving the office with his head held high.



## From Computer Engineering to Professional Photography: The Story of Daouda Corera

**By Varha Abd Selam**  
 Professor at Lebanese International University  
 M.A. in Mass Communication

I was first introduced to Daouda Corera's work through Instagram. I was instantly drawn to his unique style. Corera is a professional Mauritanian photographer who has been featured on Apple and T-Mobile's official Instagram accounts. His photographs have been published in a variety of magazines such as Jeune Afrique, The Sunday Times Magazine, Der Spiegel, and numerous others.

**The Key: Could you please introduce yourself?**

**Daouda Corera:** My name is Daouda Corera. I'm a photographer and a computer engineer born in Nouakchott.

**The Key: You're a computer engineer, what got you into photography?**

**Corera:** After completing my studies, I spent a while searching for a job. And while waiting on replies from the places where I had applied, I started keeping myself busy with photography, as a way to pass time. After a few months, I saw an ad on l'Institut Français de Mauritanie's Facebook page about a photography contest. The ad read: "Photo Contest "Nouakchott, A New Perspective!" Organised by Sahel Production and l'Institut Français de Mauritanie." I didn't intend to participate, but a friend suggested I participate since at that time I had already been taking pictures. So, I applied just two days before the contest closed. And one week later, the l'Institut Français called to tell me that I had won the contest. So, I told myself, "why not continue taking photos and at the same time, apply for jobs in the computer engineering CE field?" For three years, I didn't get a response from any of the jobs I applied for in the CE field. I continued taking photos, and it has become my passion following the first few months after the contest. I started photography in 2010 and since then it has become more than just a passion, it has become my profession.



Self-portrait by Daouda Corera.

**The Key: What a career shift! What types of photography do you usually do?**

**Corera:** I do fashion photoshoots, photojournalism, editorial, and corporate. I am also an artistic director.

**The Key: Which magazines do you work with?**

**Corera:** I've worked with Jeune Afrique, The Sunday Times Magazine, Die Zeit newspaper, Der Spiegel, New York Times "Lens" blog, Takepart, and others. I was also the first to ever do mobile photography and videography in Mauritania back in 2014.

**The Key: Which types of photography are your favorites?**

**Corera:** Fashion, photojournalism, and corporate.

**The Key: What cameras and lenses do you use?**

**Corera:** I use two cameras, a Canon 6D and a Sony A7R iii. As for the lenses, I usually use a 24 -70mm and a 50mm lens.

**The Key: When you first started as a photographer, how did your family and friends react?**

**Corera:** My family was surprised that I won a photography contest as a computer engineer, but they've accepted that I've become a photographer. Most of my friends didn't believe it, and they criticized me for leaving CE to become a photographer. To them, what I was doing was a waste of time and I had no future as a photographer. To them, success was to work at a bank or a company like Tasiast.

In the 2010s, and even before I started doing it, photography was frowned upon by most Mauritians. Those who did photo-

graphy were seen as failures. I think we've convinced the new generation to love and do photography. Masha' Allah, today you see many young girls and boys who are interested in photography, probably because of social networks as well.

**The Key: «Influencers».**

**Corera:** Exactly.

**The Key: Do you think that getting a job as a photographer in Mauritania has become easier?**

**Corera:** Nowadays, everyone can wake up, buy a camera and take pictures. The problem is, do people do photography for passion or do they do it to make money with it? Before making money through photography, one must first love it.

Many people nowadays see that there are people who are making a living out of photography. So, they automatically want to buy a camera and make a living out of it as well. This is why nowadays we have many photographers in Mauritania, some do it for the passion, but many do it just for the money, without really understanding the craft.

**The Key: Who's your favorite photographer? And what influences your work?**

**Corera:** I have many favorites, some are Africans, and others are Americans. My work is influenced by interactions between people, the colors and textures of traditional clothes, and landscapes.

**The Key: How do you deal with people on the streets when you're taking pictures? Do they stare as you walk around with a camera?**

**Corera:** I never use my camera when I'm doing street photography. As I mentioned at the beginning of the interview, since 2014, I've been using an iPhone to capture those instantaneous moments.

**The Key: What advice would you like to give to aspiring photographers?**

**Corera:** To love what they do, and to do it well



A man sitting under a palm tree. Photo by Daouda Corera



A family riding a scooter in the streets of Nouakchott. Photo by Daouda Corera





The Sports Page : By Mr. Cheikh Sidi Elmokhtar Mohamed Yeslem

## Aboubakar Kamara Becomes The Most Expensive Mauritanian Footballer Ever

Aboubakar Kamara is a professional Mauritanian footballer born in France and the national team's striker. The 27-year-old had played for numerous international football clubs before leaving Aris Thessaloniki FC to sign with the Greek Super League champion, Olympiacos FC, in June with a transfer fee of €5m, or

around 200m MRU (Mauritanian Ouguiya), and an annual salary over 30m MRU, making his transfer the most expensive of a Mauritanian player ever. Kamara was the first Mauritanian player to play in the English Super League when he played for Fulham FC, before moving to the Turkish Süper Lig on a loan.



## Taleb Mohamed Participates in The International Francophone Chess Meetings in Casablanca


Mohamed Abderrahim Taleb Mohamed, winner of the golden medal at the Arabian Blitz Chess Championship, left Nouakchott earlier last week to participate in the 8th edition of the International Francophone Chess Meetings in Casablanca, Morocco. Taleb Mohamed won Mauritania's first gold medal ever last year at the African Youth Chess Championships - Under 14. He has also won the bronze medal at the African Junior Chess Championship 2022. Taleb Mohamed was the sole Mauritanian competing against 125 ranked players, some of which have won international titles. The event concluded July 9, and Taleb Mohamed ranked 26th out of the 125



players. He rose to fame during his participation in the Junior Chess World Cup. When the draw for the quarter-finals put him against an Israeli opponent, Taleb Mohamed refused to play

him. He withdrew from the championship and stated, "I decided to retire because I refuse to play with a representative of a fictional country that in reality does not exist."

## BOOKS for PEACE Includes Africa For The First Time



**BOOKS FOR PEACE**  
**LIVRES POUR LA PAIX**  
**LIVROS PELA PAZ**  
**LIBRI PER LA PACE**  
**LIBROS POR LA PAZ**

كتب السلام  
शांति के लिए किताबें

Books For Peace is a literary award started in 2017 in Italy. It aims at reflecting on issues such as the protection and promotion of human rights, the environment, non-violence, solidarity, attention to the weakest, peace, and interreligious dialogue through cultural and literary works. Peace is understood in the complexity of the concept, that is, not only peace in a broad sense, between nations at war, but specific peace among individuals, respecting they are being citizens of the world. The competition is open to all African authors. The works that the authors intend to submit to the competition must have been published in Arabic from 2017 to 2022 (before the deadline of the competition). Works

that have been submitted to other literary contests are also acceptable. The topics and themes accepted by the competition are: racial, religion, gender-based violence, bullying and cyberbullying, environment, sports as a social tool for integration, drugs and alcohol abuse by young people, and people with disabilities. The deadline for submission is August 25, 2022. For further information about submission rules and guidelines please visit: <http://www.booksforpeace.org/> or email: [nouakchottclubuniscorim@gmail.com](mailto:nouakchottclubuniscorim@gmail.com)

## Editor's Note

Better late than sorry, thus, the Key Newspaper staff would like to wish our readers a belated "mubarak" happy Eid. We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of those who have obtained their Bac, Brevet, and Concours. Congratulations (again) to those who have passed, and better luck next time for those who haven't. With this, the thirteenth issue, we begin a new era. A time, in our opinion, that will give our native English-speaking readers a platform and a voice in addition to showcasing Mauritania and its breathtaking and unique cultures to our global readers. For those learning English as a second language across the country, we believe our newspaper is an excellent educational resource. Our newspaper is a passion project of a group of committed men and women who recognized the necessity for an English-language medium to serve as a conduit between Mauritania and its overseas citizens. A connection built using a language that is now the global lingua franca. We pledge to our readers, both domestic and international, that we will uphold our neutrality and integrity and serve as their voice.

Varha Abd Selam  
Professor at Lebanese International University  
M.A in Mass Communication

# THE KEY

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**The Publishing Director:**  
Mr. Mohamed Ahmed Sidi Ely

### The Key Staff

**Editor In Chief:**  
Mr. Abdrrehim Lekh'Deyem

**Editor**  
Ms. Varha Abd Selam

**Press Advisor:**  
El Arby O. El Arby

**Consultant :**  
Dr. Med Aly Med Saleck

**Designer:**  
El hadrami Ahmedou  
47 00 00 55

**Marketing:**  
N'Demba Fall Baye Fall

**Printing:**  
The National Printing Press

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Email: [thekeynewspaper21@gmail.com](mailto:thekeynewspaper21@gmail.com)

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# 1st COMPETITION - INTERNATIONAL LITERARY AWARD

## BOOKS for PEACE for Africa 2022

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