

Newsletter n°63

April, May, June 2017



Tribute to Annie-France Berthod



On April 21st, 2017, the CFDA and Sos Disparu(e)s lost a great friend, Annie-France Berthod, a tireless Human Rights activist, vice-president of the CFDA and treasurer of the FEMED. Annie-France has been involved for many years in the fight against enforced disappearances, and especially with the families of the disappeared in Algeria.

Advocacy campaign for the legislative elections

Just before the 4 May legislative elections, Sos Disparu(e)s in Algeria met political parties and their candidates and asked them to seize upon the issue of enforced disappearances and to make the fight for Truth and Justice a priority of their political programs.



Although our association was not able to meet all the parties and their candidates, a delegation has been received at the Party for Freedom and Justice's office on April, 20th, at the Socialist Forces Front and at the Nahda-Adala-Bina Union headquarters. Furthermore, Sos Disparu(e)s met other candidates, such as one of the National Rally for Democracy, who declared himself very worried about the issue of enforced disappearances.

The Universal Periodic Review of Algeria



On May 8th, 2017, Algeria has been reviewed by the United Nations Human Rights Committee in the context on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

The CFDA and Sos Disparus swung into action long before the review. An alternative report has been written together with four other Algerian associations and has been transmitted to the Committee in September 2016. An advocacy mission was led in Geneva at the beginning of April together with the network EuroMed Rights.

The advocacy campaign was successful. Several countries including France, Argentina, Spain, Zambia and Iraq invited Algeria to take all the necessary measures to shed light on the 1990's missing persons' fate, as well as to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

Moreover, the Human Rights Committee will review Algeria's report on the respect of the rights enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in July 2018.

The action plan of the new government

On June 21st, 2017, the Tebboune government has introduced its action plan, whose first chapter deals with «the strengthening of Rule of Law, liberties and democracy». However, the CFDA noticed some contradictions.

If the action plan insists on the necessary adaptation of the national legislation with the ratified international conventions, there are still some shortcomings. For instance, the Algerian penal code does not establish the inadmissibility of confessions made as a result of torture as evidences in a procedure. However, Algeria has ratified the International Convention against torture since 1986.

In brief

The CFDA's webradio, the Radio des Sans Voix celebrates its first birthday

On June 15th, 2017, the CFDA and Sos Disparus celebrated the one-year birthday of the Radio des Sans Voix. To listen to the last programs : www.radiodessansvoix.org

Disappearance and murder of Saïd Djouder

The NLF candidate to the legislative elections, Saïd Djouder, disappeared on March 30th, 2017, has been found dead in Bejaïa on April 19th. This murder remains a mystery. The public prosecutor of the Bejaïa courthouse stated in a communiqué that Saïd Djouder's murder was part of "ordinary crimes and did not have other reasons".

Lauch of the Algerian Social Forum in Algiers

On May 19th and 20th, the first Algerian Social Forum was held at the Sos Disparu(e)s' office in Algiers. The discussions were on liberties and the slogan was "let's work all together for making another Algeria possible".

Convivial afternoon for Mothers' Day

On the occasion of Mothers' Day, SOS Disparu(e)s and the CFDA organised a convivial afternoon at the association's offices in Algiers

and Oran to point out the efforts done by mothers of disappeared for years and their courage.

Solidarity with Palestinian prisoners

A CFDA member and the brother of a disappeared went to the Palestinian embassy in Algeria on May 25th, to attend an event organised by the Algerian section of Amnesty International in order to show support to the Palestinian detained by Israel. Thousands of prisoners were hunger-striking since April 17th. Among the prisoners, at

least 300 of them are minors, 57 are women of whom 13 women under 18.

RAJ Forum on liberties

On May 2nd, the RAJ organised a forum on the theme of liberties at its office in Algiers. It dealt with “the draft labour Code : between reform and social setback.” Nourredine Bouderba, expert and consultant in work relations and Nacer Djabi, sociologist and researcher, were invited.

Press Releases

Disappearance of Said Djouder, candidate to the legislative elections

12 April 2017

<http://bit.ly/2ooSkey>

SOS Disparu(e)s calls out to the legislative elections’ candidates

3 May 2017

<http://bit.ly/2q22hjz>

Is the new government action plan incoherent with the Rule of Law?

28 June 2017

<http://bit.ly/2toeaSb>

Press Reviews

April

<http://bit.ly/2q6KNBI>

May

<http://bit.ly/2s3pAtz>

June

<http://bit.ly/2v9g1s5>

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