SOS DISPARUS SPEAKS AGAINST THE SO-CALLED CHARTER FOR NATIONAL PEACE AND RECONCILIATION

Hosts of the FFS political party, Sos Disparus and the CFDA organized photo exhibitions, press conferences, debates, film screenings and a seminar under the title "Days against oblivion". This event was a week of cultural expression, dynamic and interactive, likely to act positively on the civil society, to recall the necessity to actively defend human rights and mainly the preservation of memory, against the oblivion and impunity to do justice to the missing persons and their families.

- Press conference, “No to impunity, no to oblivion!”

These days against oblivion opened with a press conference at the headquarters of the association. Mrs Nassera DUTOUR drew up a report on the human rights situation in Algeria, and denounced the Charter for national peace and reconciliation and its implementing texts.
The press conference was followed by a documentary screening entitled “Where are they?” co-directed by Hacêne FERHATI and Othmane AOUAMEUR. The short film accurately recounts the suffering and the journey of the missing persons’ parents searching for truth and justice they can’t find.

- Screening / debate on the Argentinean film “History of a trial” (co-directed by Alexandra Garcia-Vilà and Franck Moulin)

Vitin, Fermin, Carlos, Olga, Martin, Carolina, Veronica and Miguel are plaintiffs, witnesses or lawyers in the trial of former dictator Jorge Rafael Videla, in Cordoba, Argentina. Through the trial, former political prisoners and victims’ families, who have been prisoners of stigmatization, fear and trauma, can finally testify and tell their stories, some of them for the first time. After more than thirty years of impunity, two generations are working to undo the legacy of the dictatorship.

Following the screening, which caused lots of interest, a moving debate was organized.

- Projection of the documentary “The burned hearts”

Directed by Fadhila Mokhtari, this documentary was first broadcasted on the private channel of El-Chourouk TV. With the help of Sos Disparus members, the journalist who directed this documentary was able to visit several missing persons’ families to interview and film them in their privacy, and show the reality of the suffering. This moving documentary reveals poignant testimonies.


Nassera DUTOUR made a brief introduction that helped understand why the Charter and its implementing texts are an umpteenth law which, like the civil concord, consecrated the impunity to the members of the armed groups and State agents. Adnane BOUCHAIB, President of SOMOUD, read an alternative charter for peace, truth and conciliation elaborated by the associations of victims of the 1990s Coalition, and

1 http://www.film-documentaire.fr/4DACTION/w_fiche_film/46712_1
to the attention of the Algerian authorities. Cherifa KHADDAR related the history of the creation of the Coalition and the drafting of the Charter for Truth, Peace and Conciliation. Hacene FERHATI closed the discussion with a direct testimony as a brother of a missing person and talked about the fight of the families to get the truth. The ensuing debate was rich in enthusiasm.

**SOS DISPARUS MEETS THE PRESIDENT OF THE NCHR**

A delegation of SOS Disparus led by Mrs. Nassera DUTOUR went to the headquarters of the National Council of Human Rights (ex CNCPPDH) to meet Mrs. Fafa BENZERROUKI, the new president at the head of the institution. During the meeting, the issue of missing persons was discussed, as well as the different obstacles encountered by the missing persons’ families in their legal proceedings with the public authorities. Mrs. DUTOUR restated her wish to see the NCHR and the Algerian authorities start a real dialogue around the issue of missing persons.

**MISSING PERSONS’ FAMILIES COMMEMORATE NOVEMBER 1ST**

The missing persons’ families held a commemorative meeting of the 63rd anniversary of the beginning of the Revolutionary National War, at the weekly meeting place on Wednesday Boulevard Bouguerra.

As usual, the police was very present, squaring the place occupied by around thirty missing persons’ families, who answered CFDA’s and Sos Disparus’ call. It aimed to demand justice and to recall their attachment to their country but also to the truth on the fate of their close family members. Around noon, the police presence was reinforced. They forced the families to board a big bus in order to disperse them. Some tried to resist but the police pressure was too strong and they were forced to leave.

**SOS DISPARUS GUEST OF HONOR OF THE POLITICAL PARTY JIL EL DJADID**

On the occasion of the 69th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a conference was organized by the political party of El Jil El Djadid chaired by Mr. Soufiane DJILALI, president of the Party.

Under the theme “In Algeria of 2017, do Algerians have the right to have RIGHTS?”, the conference, held at the party headquarters in Zeralda, was moderated by Nassera DUTOUR and Hacene FERHATI. At Party members’ request and before testifying on the disappearance of her son, Nassera DUTOUR explained the UN international mechanisms for the protection of human rights basing herself on her own experience.

At the end of the meeting, Mrs. DUTOUR received a distinction given by Soufiane DJILALI in recognition for her fight for justice.
SOS DISPARUS TRIED TO GATHER FAMILIES IN FRONT OF THE NCHR ON DECEMBER 10th, INTERNATIONAL DAY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

For the day of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Sos Disparus had planned a meeting in front of the headquarters of the Human Rights Council in Algiers or NCHR, which succeeded the CNCPPDH.

Unsurprisingly, the families who came were not authorized to access AdisAbaba square where the commemoration was held. As usual, an impressive police presence had blocked all access to the headquarters of the NCHR, both in uniform and dressed as civilians. The missing persons’ families were forced to retreat to the usual place of the meeting, on the sidewalk of Gallieni Boulevard from 10am to noon, holding the portraits of the missing persons and chanting loud slogans against injustice.

SOS DISPARUS PARTICIPATES IN RAISING AWARENESS ON THE PHENOMENON OF IMMIGRATION

Under the theme “against racism, for respect, tolerance and dignity of migrants”, the association Rassemblement Action Jeunesse (RAJ) organized a seminar on immigration on December 22 and 23 in Mostaganem on International Migrants Day.

Invited for this occasion, SOS Disparus, alongside many researchers, journalists and civil society actors, took part in the debates that took place during these two days on various topics related to the issue of migration. The CFDA also sent the correspondent of its online radio (Radio des Sans Voix) to conduct interviews with the experts who were invited to intervene on the issue of migrants as well as with many participants in this event.

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