



AVOCATS EUROPÉENS DÉMOCRATES
 ABOKATU DEMOKRATA EUROPARRAK
 EUROPÄISCHE DEMOKRATISCHE RECHTSANWÄLTE
 ADVOCATS EUROPEUS DEMOCRATES
 ABOGADOS EUROPEOS DEMOCRATAS
 AVVOCATI EUROPEI DEMOCRATICI
 EUROPESE DEMOKRATISCHE ADVOKATEN
 EUROPEAN DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS



**ELDH European Association of Lawyers
 for Democracy & World Human Rights**

EJDM Europäische Vereinigung von Juristinnen & Juristen für Demokratie und Menschenrechte in der Welt
 EJDH Asociación Europea de los Juristas por la Democracia y los Derechos Humanos en el Mundo
 EJDH Association Européenne des Juristes pour la Démocratie & les Droits de l'Homme
 EGDU Associazione Europea delle Giuriste e dei Giuristi per la Democrazia e i diritti dell'Uomo nel Mondo

WITH LAWYERS
 IN 18 COUNTRIES



DAY OF THE ENDANGERED LAWYER – 24 January 2018
Solidarity with Egyptian lawyers
Basic report

Introduction

The Day of the Endangered Lawyer is the day on which we call for attention to lawyers all over the world who are being **harassed, silenced, pressured, threatened, persecuted or tortured**. Even **murders and disappearances** are not out of the ordinary. In many cases the only reason for these abuses is the fact that these lawyers are doing their job, and carrying out their professional obligations, when needed the most. The 24th of January was chosen to be the annual International Day of the Endangered Lawyer because on this day in 1977 four lawyers and a co-worker were murdered at their address at Calle Atocha 55 in Madrid. This was also known as the Massacre of Atocha.

The International Day of the Endangered Lawyer aims, on the one hand, to create awareness that the practice of the legal profession in many countries involves significant risks, including that of being murdered, but it aims as well at denouncing the situation in a particular country where lawyers are victims of serious violations of their fundamental rights because of the exercise of their profession.

Every year on 24 January lawyers' organizations dedicate this day to the endangered lawyers in a particular country: 2010 Iran, 2012 Turkey, 2013 Basque Country/Spain, 2014 Colombia, 2015 The Philippines, 2016 Honduras, 2017 China. The Day of the Endangered Lawyer was established by European Democratic Lawyers (EDL) in 2010. Since then it has been co-organized by EDL and the European Association of Lawyers for Democracy and World Human Rights (ELDHR) and the Day of the Endangered Lawyer Foundation. Many other lawyers' organizations and Bar associations have supported this project.

In 2018 The Day of the Endangered Lawyer will focus its activities on the endangered lawyers in Egypt. Many human rights organizations -- among them Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, IDHAE, Euromedrights, Reporters Sans Frontières, Worldwide movement for human rights (FIDH) -- confirm that the Egyptian authorities have moved beyond scaremongering and are now rapidly taking concrete steps to shut down the last critical voices in the country's human rights community.

EGYPT 2018

Today in Egypt, human rights activists, lawyers, political activists and independent journalists, all have to live with their phone calls being tapped, endless smear campaigns and hate speech from state-affiliated media as well as continuous harassment and intimidation from the authorities. Egypt is going through the most serious human rights crisis in its history. Every day security forces arbitrarily displace 3 or 4 people (AI Secretary General, 18 Dec. 2016).

After the overthrow of President Mohammed Morsi the human rights situation deteriorated dramatically. The government severely restricted freedom of expression, freedom of assembly and freedom of association. The authorities have taken harsh actions against dissidents, tens of thousands have been arbitrarily arrested, and many of them tortured during custody. Security forces who killed demonstrators have not been held accountable. After harsh unfair trials, hundreds of people have received prison or even death sentences. Victims of this persecution include not only alleged members and supporters of the Muslim brotherhood but also any other opponents to the present government, in particular alleged members of left-wing organizations and human rights activists.

This relentless persecution can even lead to arbitrary arrest, prolonged detention, harsh sentences after unfair trials and sometimes even torture, enforced disappearance at the hands of the state or death in custody as a result of medical negligence. This is pretty much the same list of human rights violations suffered by the people whose rights such defenders are meant to be protecting through their activism and work. Victims of this persecution are not only alleged members and supporters of the Muslim brotherhood but also any other opponents to the present government in particular alleged members of left-wing organizations.

CONTEXT:

In June and July 2013 the democratically elected President, Mohamed Morsi, was massively contested by the opposition who denounces his authoritarian policy conducted in the sole interest of the "organization of the Muslim Brotherhood".

On July 1, 2013 after several weeks of demonstrations and popular meetings, Morsi was overthrown by a military coup led by General Abdel Fattah al Sissi.

On May 27, 2014, Al Sissi won the presidential elections with more than 96% of the votes in a context of electoral fraud and massive repression denounced by the opposition, the media and international NGOs.

An estimated 60,000 people have been arrested by the Egyptian authorities since 2013. The main international organizations denounce the massive use of torture (electrical shock, stress positions, beatings etc) including against children (cf. Reports of Human Right Watch, https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/report_pdf/egypt0917_web.pdf ; Amnesty International <https://www.amnesty.be/infos/rapports-annuels/rapport-annuel-2017/moyen-orient-et-afrique-du-nord/article/egypte>, EuroMed Right, <https://euromedrights.org/human-rights-behind-bars-in-egypt/#defenders>, World Organisation Against Torture <http://www.omct.org/escr/>).

According to the Egyptian Coordination for Rights and Freedoms (ECRF) at least 30 people were reported to have died under torture between 2013 and 2015 and 830 complaints of torture were received by ECRF lawyers in 2016.

For international NGOs, Egypt has been experiencing the worst human rights crisis for decades.

The adoption of new security laws since 2015 strengthens the restrictions on fundamental freedoms and the impunity of the police:

On August 16, 2015 the anti-terrorism law was ratified that creates social courts, reduces the rights of the defense, offers guarantees of immunity to the police and military, imposes very heavy penalties on journalists who publish informations contrary to officials press releases.

On April 9, 2017, after the bomb attacks on two Coptic churches, the state of emergency was proclaimed for a period of three months. Officially adopted to protect the population, this law strengthens the powers of the police and legalises police violence.

On May 30, 2017, President Al Sissi promulgated the 2016 NGO Act which gives the government unprecedented control powers and provides for very heavy penalties in case of violations of its provisions.

According to Amnesty International, the law "could sign the death sentence for human rights organizations in the country." This law also is a serious threat to human rights lawyers grouped together in association.

Since General Al Sissi came to power, the crackdown on the Muslim Brotherhood has spread to the entire democratic opposition, the media, NGOs, minorities and civil society.

Lawyers pay a heavy price. Many of them are victims of arrest, conviction, threats, travel bans from the territory and other restrictions on the practice of their profession.

By so doing, the Egyptian government violates the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers, adopted by the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, Cuba, 27 August to 7 September 1990.

Some prominent examples of endangered lawyers are:

Dr. Ahmad Abdallah



Dr. Ahmad Abdallah, human rights defender, representing the family of Italian student Giulio Regeni who was tortured and murdered in Cairo , <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20160428-egypt-detains-regeni-lawyer/>, and chairperson of the board of the Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms (ECRF). On 9 January 2016 he narrowly escaped an attempt by security agents to abduct him at a coffee shop he often frequents in Giza. Three security agents in plainclothes arrived in a privately owned unmarked car, raided the coffee shop and questioned staff about him. When they were told that he was not present, they conducted a thorough search of the coffee shop. They failed to produce an arrest or search warrant from the public prosecutor meaning there was no legal basis for the search. He was arrested on 25 April and his preventive detention was extended until 10 September 2016. On 10 September 2016 a Cairo criminal court ordered his release and that of four other people in the same case, on bail of 1,000 Egyptian pounds. After the court ordered the release on bail the prosecution decided not to appeal against the decision. <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/case/release-ahmed-abdallah>

MALEK ADLY



Malek Adly is a prominent human rights lawyer and the director of Lawyers Network at the Egyptian Centre for Economic and Social Rights (ECESR), which seeks to promote and mobilise social movements to spread the culture of human rights.

He is one the founders of the Front for Defending Egypt's Protesters, a group comprising of 34 human rights organisations and several lawyers, which documents illegal practices carried out by state police forces against peaceful protesters.

Upon his arrest in Cairo's Maadi district on 5 May 2016, Malek Adly was charged with attempting to overthrow the regime, accused of "inciting protests" rejecting the deal between Egypt and Saudi Arabia over two Red Sea islands. He was transferred to Tora prison where he was reportedly mistreated and beaten in detention, and denied family and lawyer visitation rights.

On 28 August 2016, he was released from prison after having spent nearly four months in pre-trial detention in solitary confinement. Although free, the case against him has not been dropped. Additionally, in August 2017, Malek Adly was summoned for interrogation by the investigative judge in case 173/2011, known as the Foreign Funding case, accused of conducting activities with the purpose of "harming national security" as an employee at the Hisham Mubarak Law Center in 2010. He is subject to a travel ban.

<https://euromedrights.org/fr/activistes-droits-humains-prison-egypte/#defenders>

Khalid Ali



Khalid Ali, a lawyer for workers' rights and one of the founders of the Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights, obtained a number of important judicial rulings including a 2001 ruling that gave syndicates more freedoms, a 2010 case he won that mandated a higher minimum wage for workers, and a case leading to the nationalization of three large companies that had been privatized.

- On September 25, 2017, Khaled Ali was sentenced to three months' imprisonment and a £ 1000 guarantee to suspend the sentence until the appeal verdict was issued on the grounds that he had been accused of shaming the public because of a photograph he had taken during his celebration following his acquittal and that of two other lawyers.

NASSER AMIN



Nasser Amin is the director of the Arab Centre for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession in Egypt, as well as the Chairman of the Complaints Committee of the quasi-official National Council for Human Rights. He has worked on cases of enforced disappearances and torture, which he has described as a systematic pattern.

On the 14 July 2016, he was prevented from travelling to Beirut for a conference by the security officers at Cairo International airport based on an order of the Public Prosecutor. The reason behind the travel ban was not stated by the authorities.

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MOHAMED AZMY



Mohamed Azmy is a Nubian lawyer and former president of the General Nubian Union, a recently founded movement based in Aswan promoting the Nubians' right to return to their ancestral land. As a human rights defender he is mostly known for advocating the land rights of Nubian people and calling for resettlement in their historical homeland in the South of Egypt, since their forced displacement which has taken place as a result of president Gamal Abdel Nasser's forced migration policies of the 1960s. Aside from being confronted with land expropriation and displacement, Nubians in Egypt are also subject to racism, cultural marginalization, government neglect and faced with the danger of extinction and disappearance from Egypt.

Mohamed Azmy was arrested along with 24 other demonstrators (including human rights defender Maysarah Abdoun and president of the Nubian Lawyers Association Munir Bashir) in September 2017 whilst peacefully protesting for the rights of the Nubian population. The protesters were detained on charges of organizing an unauthorized protest, disrupting public order and halting traffic to pressure the government to fulfil their demands.

Azmy, Abdoun and the other Nubian detainees have yet to be transferred to court.

<https://euromedrights.org/fr/activistes-droits-humains-prison-egypte/#defenders>

Hossam Baghat,



Cairo, human rights defender. He was arrested from 8 November 2015 to 10 November 2015 for "publishing false news that harms national interests and disseminating information that disturbs public peace", during the presidency of Abdel Fattah el-Sisi. From 2002 to 2013, he was the founding executive director of the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights where he still serves as chairman.

On 17 September 2016, the Cairo Criminal Court confirmed the order to freeze the personal funds and family assets of a number of human rights defenders and their organisations, including Gamal Eid, Hossam Bahgat, the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and its Founder Bahey El Din Hassan, the Egyptian Center for Right to Education (EIPR) and its Director Abdel Hafez Tayel, and the Hisham Mubarak Law Center and its Director Mostafa Al Hassan. The five human rights defenders and three non-

governmental organisations are accused of illegally receiving foreign funding. If they are found guilty, they face up to 25 years imprisonment.

Negad al-Boraie



Negad al-Boraie is a human rights lawyer and a well-known figure in Egypt's civil society. He chairs the United Group for Human Rights, which provides legal support to civil society organisations and victims of human rights violations. He also engages in monitoring and documentation of human rights violations, public opinion, and conducts workshops to raise awareness on these issues.

In March 2015, the High Judicial Council filed a complaint against him for drafting a law for the prevention of torture in line with Egypt's international commitments, organising a workshop for open discussion with other experts and advocating for its promulgation before the Egyptian authorities. Since then, he has been summoned on five occasions and arrested for "implementing human rights activities without a license", "deliberately spreading false information with the purpose of harming public order or public interest" and "receiving illegal funds".

In July 2017, an administrative court banned United Group from conducting human rights activities; endorsing the Social Affairs Ministry's decision to prohibit the law firm's recognition as a civil society group for purportedly violating the Law on associations and non-governmental organizations (Law 84/2002).

Negad El Borai is currently under a travel ban that hinders his peaceful work. The travel ban, based on the controversial foreign funding case, was notified to him in January 2017 as he attempted to attend a conference in Jordan.

<https://euromedrights.org/fr/activistes-droits-humains-prison-egypte/#defenders>

GAMAL EID



Gamal Eid is a prominent human rights defender and executive director of the Arabic Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI). Eid founded ANHRI in 2004 with the aim of establishing an organization to defend human rights in general, and freedom of expression in particular in Egypt and the Arab world through research and legal support to victims.

On 4 February 2016, he was denied by Cairo Airport officials from boarding a flight to Athens. He had no prior knowledge, no notification or summon for investigation regarding the travel ban and did not receive any information about the judicial body responsible for it.

Eid is a lawyer who graduated from `Ain Shams University College of Law and served as a defence lawyer in several human rights cases during the Mubarak era.

He is also being investigated in the 173/2011 lawsuit.

<https://euromedrights.org/fr/activistes-droits-humains-prison-egypte/#defenders>

Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy



Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy is a human rights lawyer and the co-founder and coordinator of the Association of the Families of the Disappeared. Metwally represents families of people forcibly disappeared by the Egyptian state and has been reported to provide legal advice to the family of Giulio Regeni, the Italian Cambridge university student who disappeared on 25 January 2016 and whose lifeless body was found bearing signs of extreme torture.

Metwally was detained on 10 September 2017 at Cairo International airport right before travelling to Geneva to attend a session of the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance (WGEID) to which he was invited. Metwally is being suspected of founding and leading an illegally created organization. He is currently being held in the notorious Al-Aqrab (scorpion) prison, part of the Tora maximum security compound, where he remains in pre-trial detention.

<https://euromedrights.org/fr/activistes-droits-humains-prison-egypte/#defenders>

TAREK MOHAMED AHMED HUSSEIN



Tarek Mohamed Ahmed Hussein, known as "Tarek Tito", was arbitrarily arrested on June 17th, in the custody of the Egyptian security forces, even though the General Attorney had given the order of releasing him. During the time that he was imprisoned, he spent 12 days under incommunicado regime.

Tarek is a human Rights lawyer and works at the Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights (E.C.E.S.R.). He is currently living in Tunisia.

He is recognized as a prisoner of conscience by International Amnesty.

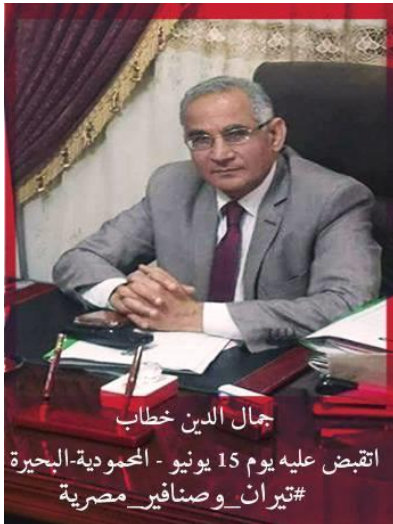
<https://www.amnesty.org/es/documents/mde12/6761/2017/es/>

[Attached you can find the link with photo from Front Line Defenders:

<https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/profile/Tarek-Hussein>].

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/sep/18/egypt-guilty-of-kidnap-torture-and-abuse-says-former-detainee>

Gamal Khattab



Lawyer and head of the Freedoms Committee at the Lawyers Syndicate, initially filed a lawsuit requesting a public referendum that the recent maritime demarcation deal between Egypt and Saudi Arabia be put up for a public referendum.. Khattab has argued that the constitution requires a referendum to validate the deal, which was signed in early April, because it alters Egypt's border sovereignty. He referred in his claim to Article 151 of the 2014 Constitution, which states the right of previewing foreign agreements related to reconciliation, alignments and border sovereignty for public referendum after the approval of parliament. However, the deal was signed and announced without having any of these approvals. On 15 June he was arrested by the police. On 19 June, the Chamber of Advocacy of Mahmudiya Misdemeanor Court decided to release him.

Mahienour El-Masry



Mahienour El-Masry is a rights lawyer and notable activist from the country's 2011. On 18 November 2017, the Alexandria Misdemeanor Court ordered the remand of Mahienour El-Masry and co-defendant Moatassem Medhat, pending charges in relation to their alleged involvement in a peaceful protest in June 2017 regarding the Egyptian Government's failure to implement certain decisions of the judiciary. The two human rights defenders, along with three others who were not detained, are being charged with "insulting the President of the Republic", committing "thuggery", and illegally protesting. Mahienour El-Masry was attending a court session when the order was made and the decision was implemented immediately. Mahienour El-Masry has faced continued harassment from Egyptian authorities, including a two year sentence in 2014 for taking part a protest, subsequently reduced to 6 months, a preventative detention order in 2015, and a one year and three month sentence upheld the same year in relation to a sit-in on police aggression.

In 2014, The Ludovic Trarieux human right prize was awarded to Mahienour El-Masry.

Last December 13th the Court of Alexandria sentenced her to two years of imprisonment, but finally the Appeal Court has acquitted her on January 13 th.

<https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/case/human-rights-defender-mahienour-el-masry-remanded>

<https://www.amnestyusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/uaa25517-1.pdf>

HAITHAM MOHAMEDIN



Haitham Mohamedin is a labour lawyer. After nearly six months in pre-trial detention he was released from Al-Saf police station in Giza, after the court ordered his release on 10 October 2016.

<http://elw-network.eu/elw-statement-elw-network-condemns-recently-renewed-detention-egyptian-labour-lawyer-haitham-mohamedin/>

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/204262/Egypt/Politics-/Egyptian-activist-Haitham-Mohamedin-ordered-detai.aspx>

In another case he is suspected of joining a banned group. The case is still under investigation.

Asmaa Naim



Asmaa Naiem is a human rights lawyer and researcher focusing on justice and accountability for human rights abuses as well as women's rights. She provides legal assistance to political prisoners and detainees. Asmaa Naiem is a member of the Front to Defend Rights and Freedoms, a coalition of NGOs, human rights defenders and journalists, and previously worked for the Egyptian Centre for Economic and Social Rights.

On 11 July 2017, the Manshiya Misdemeanour Court began the trial against human rights lawyer Asmaa Naiem and six other individuals, including human rights lawyer Mohamed Ramadan, on charges of 'acquisition of prohibited leaflets', 'spreading false news and slander against the state', 'participating in a demonstration of more than five people without notice' and 'taking part in an illegal gathering'. The charges are in connection with a demonstration held on 13 June 2017, during which a group of lawyers in Alexandria took part in a protest against the Egyptian Parliament's decision to transfer two islands on the Red Sea to Saudi Arabia, despite court rulings against it. Asmaa Naiem was present at the location of the demonstration to observe and report about any potential abuses against the protesters.

Al-Montazah first Court of Misdemeanors in Alexandria decided at its hearing on Tuesday, October 24, to postpone the trial of lawyers Mahienour al-Masri, Asmaa Naim, Waleed Ammari and activists Ziad Abu El Fadl and Motassem Medhat in the case in which they are accused of demonstrating, gathering, display of force and insulting the President, against the backdrop of protesting the signing of the maritime border demarcation agreement with Saudi Arabia, to the 31 October hearing.

Ahmed Ragheb



Ahmed Ragheb is a lawyer and founder of the National Community for Human Rights and Law (NCHRL). He works to promote and protect human rights through NCHRL and in his capacity as a lawyer.

On 15 November 2016 Ragheb was told by passport control officials at Cairo International Airport that he was banned from travelling based on a judicial order issued against him in May 2016 by an investigating judge, apparently in relation to the foreign funding case against NGOs. He was travelling to Morocco to participate in the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 22) of the United Nations

Climate Change Conference. The order was issued without his knowledge and without known charges against him.

<https://euromedrights.org/fr/activistes-droits-humains-prison-egypte/#defenders>

Mohammed Ramadan



In Alexandria, lawyer Asmaa Naim (lawyer at the Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights), lawyer Mohammed Ramadan and four other lawyers were referred to the trial on the background of the lawyers' meeting before the Manshiyeh Court during the discussion of the Tiran and Sanafir Agreement on 13 June 2017. They accused them of demonstrating, False Public Security and Harm to the Public Interest and Defendants of the Attorney Muhammad Ramadan organized the demonstration without notice and the gathering

On 25 July 2017 a judgment was issued by the Manshiyeh Misdemeanors Court on the presence of lawyer Muhammad Ramadan (detained at the time of the trial) Protective defendants fined each of them 50 thousand pounds. The Public Prosecution filed an appeal against this ruling and the case is still pending and no final ruling has been issued.

Earlier the same year Mohamed Ramadan was convicted by the Court of Alexandria to ten years of imprisonment, followed by five years of house arrest and five years of internet's use prohibition. He was declared guilty of a series of crimes over national safety, like insults to the president, wrongful use of the social networks and incitement to violence, in application to the counter-terrorism law.

YARA SALLAM



Yara Sallam is a lawyer, feminist activist and human rights defender, who has worked for several Egyptian and international human rights organizations. She was Women Human Rights Defenders Programme manager for the NGO Nazra for Feminist Studies; professional legal assistant at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) in The Gambia; researcher on Freedom of Religion and Belief at the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR); research assistant at the Institute of Research for Development (IRD). In 2013, she documented the violent repression of anti-government protests, which led to the deaths of over 1,000 people. She provided technical assistance and commentary to a government

committee formed to investigate the events of 2013 and led a project to document violations in Egypt over the past 30 years to develop an institutional memory of the events that led to the popular uprising in 2011. On 21 June 2014, she was arrested along with at least 30 other activists, during a peaceful demonstration. On 23 September 2015 she was released following a presidential pardon.

<https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/fr/profile/yara-sallam>

<https://macmillan.yale.edu/news/yara-sallam-being-womens-human-rights-defender-egypt>

Mohammed al-Sharqawi



The house of lawyer Mohammed al-Sharqawi was raided from his home in Kafr Saqr in Sharqiya governorate on the morning of 19 June 2017. He was detained on charges of publishing false news through social networking sites. His case was referred to the Zagazig Criminal Court. The charge of joining a terrorist group was added, he remains in custody so far.

AZZA SOLIMAN



Azza Soliman is a prominent lawyer and the founder of the Center for Women's Legal Assistance (CEWLA). She is currently serving on its board of trustees. CEWLA is a feminist organisation that campaigns to promote gender equality, focusing in particular on legislative reform and awareness-raising.

In November 2016, Azza Soliman's personal bank account and that of her law firm, Lawyers for Justice and Peace, were frozen by instruction of the Central Bank. Shortly after that, when trying to board a flight to Jordan to participate in a training session on human rights, she was notified that she was banned from travelling.

In December 2016, she was arrested from her home and escorted to the police station by security forces. She was later transferred to the New Cairo court where she was interrogated by the investigating judge of case no 173, known as the foreign funding case. Released on bail in the evening, she is nevertheless currently under investigation, charged with tax evasion, receiving illegal foreign funding "with the aim of harming national security", and founding an illegal entity.

In July 2017, two of her colleagues at the LJP, Seham Ali and Abeer Ali, were summoned for questioning by the investigating judge, accused of the same charges. Abeer could not attend the interrogation and Seham, who was reportedly asked about Azza's activism, was released on bail.

Azza has appealed both the travel ban and the assets freeze decision on the ground that the general prosecutor's list (the only legal list regarding travel bans) did not include her name and that, as a

consequence, the travel ban is illegal. However, sessions for both cases are systematically postponed, extending the length of the judicial procedures.

Azza Soliman was a witness to a murder of activist Shaimaa El Sabbagh, who was killed while peacefully protesting on 24 January 2015. Two months later, the Qasr El Nile Prosecution Office in Cairo changed Soliman's status from being a witness to the killing of Shaimaa ElSabbagh to a defendant, accused of protesting illegally. She was acquitted of the charges, which the prosecutor subsequently appealed.

<https://euromedrights.org/fr/activistes-droits-humains-prison-egypte/#defenders>

<https://www.fidh.org/en/issues/human-rights-defenders/egypt-acquittal-of-ms-azza-soliman-human-rights-lawyer-and-founder-of>

<https://macmillan.yale.edu/news/yara-sallam-being-womens-human-rights-defender-egypt>

HODA ABD EL-WAHAB



Hoda Abd El-Wahab is a lawyer and Executive Director of the Arab Centre for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession, a regional organization established in Cairo in March 1997.

On 20 June 2016, she was travelling to Oslo to participate in an international conference on the death penalty when she was informed by officials at Cairo International Airport that a judicial order imposed a travel ban on her. El-Wahab believes that this is related to case 173/2011, known as the foreign funding case against NGOs in Egypt, which was reopened in 2016. She was not formally notified of this order and has yet to be informed of any further action to be taken.

<https://euromedrights.org/fr/activistes-droits-humains-prison-egypte/#defenders>

Ahmad Zanoun and Ahmed Yusri



In the governorate of Menoufia, Attorney Ahmad Zanoun and Ahmed Yusri were arrested on charges of inciting to demonstrate during social networking sites against the approval of the Saudi House of Representatives, Tiran and Sanafir. On July 30, 2017, they were released.

TAREK MOHAMED AHMED HUSSEIN

Tarek Mohamed Ahmed Hussein, known as “Tarek Tito”, was arbitrarily arrested on June 17th, in the custody of the Egyptian security forces, even though the General Attorney had given the order of releasing him. During the time that he was imprisoned, he spent 12 days under incommunicado regime.

Tarek is a human Rights lawyer and works at the Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights (E.C.E.S.R.). He is currently living in Tunisia.

He is recognized as a prisoner of conscience by International Amnesty.

DEMANDS:

1. Immediately and unconditionally release and compensate all detained lawyers and other human rights activists;
2. Immediately drop all charges against these lawyers and other human rights activists, as these prosecutions are clearly aimed at hindering their peaceful human rights activities and put an end to all acts of harassment, including at the judicial level against them, and more generally all human rights defenders in Egypt;
3. Guarantee in all circumstances the physical and psychological integrity of these lawyers as well as all human rights defenders in Egypt;
4. Comply with all the provisions of the UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers, adopted by the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, Cuba, 27 August to 7 September 1990, in particular with
 - Art. 16. Governments shall ensure that lawyers (a) are able to perform all of their professional functions without intimidation, hindrance, harassment or improper interference; (b) are able to travel and to consult with their clients freely both within their own country and abroad; and (c) shall not suffer, or be threatened with, prosecution or administrative, economic or other sanctions for any action taken in accordance with recognized professional duties, standards and ethics.
 - Art.18. Lawyers shall not be identified with their clients or their clients' causes as a result of discharging their functions.
5. Comply with all the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders adopted on December 9, 1998 by the United Nations General Assembly, in particular with:
 - its Article 1, which provides that “everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to promote and to strive for the protection and realization of Human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international levels”;

- its Article 5(a) : “For the purpose of promoting and protecting Human rights and fundamental freedoms, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, at the national and international levels (a) To meet or assemble peacefully”
 - its Article 6(a), which foresees that “everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to participate in peaceful activities against violations of Human rights and fundamental freedoms” ; its Article 12.2, which provides that “the State shall take all necessary measures to ensure the protection by the competent authorities of everyone, individually and in association with others, against any violence, threats, retaliation, de facto or de jure adverse discrimination, pressure or any other arbitrary action as a consequence of his or her legitimate exercise of the rights referred to in the present Declaration” ;
6. Ensure in all circumstances respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with international human rights standards and international instruments ratified by Egypt.
 7. Egypt should abide by its March 2015 pledge at the conclusion of its Universal Periodic Review before the United Nations Human Rights Council to “respect the free exercise of the associations defending human rights.” This should include allowing groups to register under a new associations law that parliament should draft following consultation with independent groups, and which should abide by article 75 of the constitution, which protects groups from interference by the government. The law should comply with international standards on freedom of association.

The Human Rights Council and its member states should condemn the current crackdown in Egypt and demand concrete measures to improve respect for fundamental human rights.

It also requests the European Union to exert pressure upon the Egyptian government by economic sanctions, in particular the discontinuation of arms supply, in order to make it respect human rights. Under no circumstances must there be a refugee agreement similar to that with Turkey because neither Turkey nor Egypt are safe third countries.

The international coordination for the Day of the Endangered Lawyer is in the hands of Day of the Endangered Lawyer Foundation supported by IAPL, ELDH and AED:

- **Stuart Russell**, Monitoring Committee on Attacks on Lawyers/Comité de surveillance des attaques contre les avocats , International Association of People's Lawyers (IAPL)
<http://www.iapl.net/> Blog: <https://defendlawyers.wordpress.com/>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IAPL-International-Association-of-Peoples-Lawyers-803546399693677/?fref=ts>
jsrussell301254@gmail.com
- **Robert Sabata i Gripekoven**, advocat in Barcelona, Secretary General of the European democratic lawyers federation. Mobile: [619 30 43 77](tel:619304377) Fax: [93 457 83 58](tel:934578358) Email robertsabata@icab.cat
- **Florence de La Pradelle**, Avocat au Barreau de Bruxelles. AED commission defense for the defense. Mobile : 0496 62 74 85 florence.delapradelle@struyven-law.be
- **Thomas Schmidt**, lawyer in Düsseldorf and Secretary General of the European Association of Lawyers for Democracy and World Human Rights ELDH: <http://ejdm-online.de/home/>
 Phone: 0049-211-444001 thomas.schmidt@eldh.eu
- **Hans Gaasbeek**, lawyer and director of the Day of the Endangered Lawyer Foundation in Haarlem: <http://dayoftheendangeredlawyer.eu/> and president of the Dutch League for Human Rights.
 Phone: 0031-235318657, Mobile: 0031-652055043 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Dag-van-de-Bedreigde-Advocaat-Day-of-the-Endangered-Lawyer-1005246816248557/>
hgaasbeek@gaasbeekengaasbeek.nl