



# **EMHRN ACTIVITY REPORT JANUARY 2004 – APRIL 2006**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### Methodology

This report is addressed to the 7th general assembly of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN) which convenes 12-14 May 2006 in Spain. The aim of the report is to present the work of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN) since its last General Assembly which took place 5-7 December 2003 in Malta. The report covers the period from January 2004 until April 2006.

The report will assess the work of the EMHRN on the basis of the EMHRN Action Plan 2004-2008 adopted at the 6th General Assembly in Malta and look at the achievements and shortcomings in relation to the stated objectives in the Action Plan.

## 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Activity Report relates the EMHRN activities from January 2004 to April 2006 to the Plan of Action 2004-2008 adopted by the GA in Malta December 2003. It outlines the main achievements of the EMHRN in the period 2004-2006 as well as the main obstacles and presents the evaluations of the EMHRN. Hereafter, it relates EMHRN activities to the Plan of Action 2004-2008.

### *Achievements of the EMHRN*

The EMHRN has succeeded in developing into a regional focal point for human rights NGOs in the region as well as consolidating its internal structures and working methodologies. Among other main achievements is the EMHRN's fundamental role in the setting up of the Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for Support to Human Rights Defenders (EMHRF). The EMHRF has, throughout 2005, supported several human rights organizations in the region enabling synergies with EMHRN work. The EMHRN also took the lead in establishing the Euro-Med Non-governmental Platform, bringing together civil society organizations from the fields of human rights, culture, environment, sustainable development and trade unionism to work together on a human rights basis in relation to the civil fora and the EMP. Furthermore the EMHRN has started a regional project on migration, refugees, and asylum seekers, employing a coordinator in Morocco, initiating a local presence of EMHRN bodies in the South. Following meetings on gender and women's rights during 2004, where an action plan for the EMHRN was developed, the EMHRN will employ a coordinator to run the EMHRN project on women's rights and gender mainstreaming from Amman, Jordan.

The EMHRN also engaged in conducting a training program on the European Neighbourhood Policy and the human rights action plans with training sessions in Egypt, and later in Lebanon and eventually in Morocco and Israel. Training materials are being developed and will be made available on the new EMHRN website. The Network also launched two very successful reports that inquire into the EU's commitment to its human rights obligations in its dealings with Israel as well as publishing a report on access to justice in the Mediterranean.

### *EMHRN Advocacy in Brussels*

Throughout 2004 to 2006, the EMHRN office in Brussels has become an increasingly valuable interface between the EMHRN membership and the EU and EMP institutions.

It has followed the EU and EMP calendar, informed the EMHRN and its members of relevant events, and suggested actions and undertaken advocacy work with the EU Institutions in this regard. This has included acting in relation to the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights, and the New Financial Instruments for 2007-2013, as well as lobbying the European Parliament for hearings and urgent resolutions on specific countries. The EMHRN also engaged in advocacy work towards the EU Institutions for establishing subcommittees on human rights within the framework of the association agreements and for consulting NGOs in this context. Finally, the EMHRN developed its advocacy work towards the EU Council and Member States, with EU Member States' foreign affairs ministries and EU representatives in some Mediterranean countries. An important result was the large support expressed by all EU Member States to the work of the EMHRN which helped the Network to overcome its financial crisis. EMHRN also

commissioned research into uncovered fields in relation to justice, economic and social rights, as well as migration and refugee rights.

#### *Internal Communication*

The EMHRN strengthened internal communication and networking between members by employing a part time coordinator; placing two EMHRN staff members in the Maghreb; as well as appointing a political referent for the working group responsible for creating synergies between the work of the different working groups. The EMHRN provided specific support to members in countries where civil society is weak or under attack, and the report outlines initiatives taken in relation to Tunisia, Syria and Algeria. In relation to networking, the EMHRN has strengthened cooperation with the international human rights movement and actively forged alliances with civil society on a human rights agenda.

The EMHRN has developed a new and more comprehensive website to increase the visibility of the EMHRN and the work of its members.

#### *Organizational Development*

Since the General Assembly in Malta the EMHRN has put much effort into developing its internal structures to become more efficient, professional and transparent. By-laws have been adopted, and agendas of meetings are circulated to EMHRN members. General Assemblies, Executive Committee meetings, as well as management and staff meetings have been conducted regularly. The main achievement has, however, been the development of a strategy for the EMHRN, not only putting the action plan and work plans into an overall framework, but also enabling criteria and benchmarks for evaluating the work of the EMHRN to be established.

#### *Evaluation*

The EMHRN has been evaluated by its two main donors, the EU Commission and the DANIDA (Danish Development Agency). Both evaluations are very positive, stressing the impact of the EMHRN as a regional focal point for human rights both in relation to the EU institutions as well as in relation to civil society in the region especially with regard to capacity building and increased networking.

#### *Obstacles*

The EMHRN has, in the period between the two general assemblies, overcome a major funding crisis. Due to a delay in promised EU funding the EMHRN decided to focus on securing the continued existence of the Network and to prioritize a limited number of activities. However, the EMHRN has now secured funding for 2006-2008 as well as diversified its funding sources.

In relation to strengthening communication and media work, it is regretful that the Network was not able to advance due to the financial crisis, but, now that funding has been secured, priority has been giving to employing a communication officer as well as a media relations officer. Despite the lack of a media strategy the EMHRN has been able to attract media attention on several occasions and has published weekly news bulletins as well as bi-monthly newsletters distributed to approximately 1200 subscribers.

### **3. ACTIVITY REPORT**

#### **3.1 Achievements**

The EMHRN has, in the two year period between the General Assemblies, succeeded in strengthening its status as a regional focal point for human rights NGOs in the region as well as consolidating its internal structures and working methodologies.

The EMHRN has been instrumental in establishing the Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for Support to Human Rights Defenders (EMHRF), which grants small scale, flexible funding to human rights defenders outside main donor access. The EMHRF was launched on international human rights defenders day, 9 December

2004 and is hosted by the EMHRN. It started giving grants after its board meeting in February 2005 and has supported several human rights organizations in the region enabling synergies with EMHRN work.

The EMHRN has been one of the leading agencies in establishing the Euro-Med Non-governmental Platform, consisting of civil society organizations active in the fields of human rights, culture, environment, sustainable development and trade unionism. The EMHRN hosted the Secretariat of the Platform until September 2005, organizing local consultation meetings in several countries ahead of the extended meeting of the Platform in Cyprus in 2004 and the civil forum in Luxembourg in 2005. The EMHRN is currently holding the post of Secretary General of the Platform.

The Network has started a big regional project on migration, refugees and asylum seekers, employing a coordinator and an assistant to run the project from Rabat, Morocco, ensuring a local presence of the EMHRN bodies in the South. Currently, there are discussions whether this program should develop into a regional office of the EMHRN.

The EMHRN has engaged in a pioneering training program on the European Neighbourhood Policy and the human rights action plans that have been developed between the EU and some of its Mediterranean Partners. A report on the ENP, as well as training materials have been developed, which have been tested at a training and advocacy seminar in Egypt in January 2006 and will be further developed for a seminar in Lebanon in June 2006. The training material will then be adjusted and made available on the EMHRN website, and further training in other countries undertaken. The seminars aim at gathering civil society representatives in Egypt and Lebanon, both countries which have undertaken negotiations with the EU for an ENP Action, train them on the European Neighbourhood Policy and the opportunities it presents for the promotion of human rights and democratization, discuss experience of ENP Action concluded with other EU neighbours and make recommendations for the negotiations and future implementation of the Action Plans.

The Network has launched a very successful project that inquires into whether the EU respects its own human rights commitments in its dealings with Israel. This project has been led by the EMHRN working group on Palestine, Israel and the Palestinians and has until now produced two annual reports, *Human Rights Review on the EU and Israel* (covering 2003-2004 and 2004-2005). The reports have been widely welcomed by the civil society community and proven useful as lobbying tools. The reports were presented in Brussels in December 2004 and December 2005 to the relevant EU institutions and debated intensely. The second review was also followed by an advocacy tour to London. Further advocacy is planned for spring 2006. An 'easy reader' – summarising the main findings of the report with recommendations and suggested actions in easy, accessible language will be available in spring 2006.

The EMHRN finalised a very interesting project on access to justice in the Mediterranean. A draft report was produced by two researchers – from the North and the South – on access to justice in the East and South Mediterranean. The draft report was then discussed at a seminar attended by about 80 people from the legal profession from the region. A final report was released in 2005 which has been welcomed as a useful presentation of the state of affairs of justice in the region. This report will be reprinted in 2006 and presented at regional and national seminars.

As a means to better present the work of the EMHRN members as well as to make EMHRN more visible a new website is being launched at this General Assembly. It is the outcome of a participatory process that involved consultation with several EMHRN members.

On the basis of the EMHRN work – including an assessment of Barcelona+10 – the EMHRN has developed a new strategy for the Network putting the action plan and work plans into an overall framework. This has been a very useful exercise – which you will hopefully all agree – as it establishes the identity of the Network more clearly and hopefully hereby facilitates communicating to the outside as well as to ourselves, who we are and what we do in a more comprehensive way.

### **3.2 Obstacles**

The EMHRN has, in the period between the two general assemblies, overcome a major funding crisis. The major EU grant ran out in June 2004 and despite a very positive evaluation (see below) and promised further funding from the EU, the EMHRN was faced with a financial crisis that necessitated prioritizing fundraising and securing the continued existence of the Network. The EMHRN president as well as members of the EC and the staff devoted time and energy to take the Network through this very difficult situation, which also meant that it was necessary to prioritize a limited number of activities foreseen in the very rich Action Plan 2004-2008.

The EMHRN is very pleased to announce to the GA that it has overcome the financial problems and has been able to secure funding for the coming two years (and possibly longer). Due to a generous grant by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the EMHRN was able to continue its work in 2004 and 2005 and with additional bridging funds from the Dutch, Irish, Luxembourg, Swedish, Greek and Hungarian governments; the EMHRN was able to maintain its basic functions throughout 2005. For 2006-2008 the EMHRN has secured a two year contract with the EU Commission, a 27 month contract from AENEAS as well as a substantial grant from the Danish Development Agency (DANIDA). Furthermore, the EMHRN has diversified its funding sources and decided to establish a pro-active funding strategy.

### **3.3 Evaluation**

#### ***The EMHRN***

The work of the EMHRN has been externally evaluated twice since the last GA. An AidCo Evaluation Report prepared by two consultants (who participated in the GA in Malta) was finalized in 2004 and concluded that

*'The EMHRN has proven an invaluable and indispensable NGO partner to the work of EU members, EC officials and EMP institutions. It has contributed to a better understanding of the Barcelona Process, has lobbied effectively and has brought its members closer to EMP institutions. The activities of the EMHRN have had an impact on civil society, both in the Mediterranean countries and in the European Union [...]. The EMHRN contributed directly to the capacity of NGOs to work with their constituencies [...] Membership with the EMHRN has generated more horizontal cooperation among members and exchange of expertise [...]*

***EU Evaluation of the EMHRN, 2003 - EuropeAid/ME8/B77050/IB/1999/0283B***

*An evaluation undertaken by the Danish Development Agency (DANIDA) stated that:*

*'The EMHRN is developing into a major NGO networking resource in the region, with considerable knowledge and regional expertise. Likely the single most important achievement of the Network has been its ability to support and facilitate civil society organisations and the fact that it has emerged as the only autonomous organization to function as a) a forum for human rights organization in the Mashrek and Maghreb region, and b) as a direct partnership between NGOs in the South and North. As such, the Network has considerable potential as a bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation partner for European institutions and governments who wish to develop and implement democracy and reform agendas in the region [...].*

***DANIDA Evaluation of the EMHRN, 2004 - DANIDA, March 2005***

The evaluations also stressed, as did the GA in Malta, the need for the EMHRN to improve its communication. It was suggested that one way of enhancing communication would be to clarify the identity and strategy of the Network – as it would facilitate the task of conveying the message of the Network both internally and externally. The president as well as the executive committee and the executive director have worked on developing such a strategy to present to this General Assembly throughout 2005, and are pleased to present it to you and get your feedback.

### **3.4 Plan of Action 2004-2008**

The Plan of Action 2004-2008 adopted by the GA in Malta, December 2003, divides the EMHRN activities into the following main categories: awareness raising and information; research, advocacy, and dialogue; capacity building and education; networking, solidarity and promoting participation; and EMHRN structure

and implementing bodies. As the EMHRN, as mentioned above, has been through a process of developing its strategy, this has naturally affected the way we perceive our work – and resulted in a re-grouping of our activities into different categories. For the sake of clarity and in order to better to assess the work in relation to the Plan of Action adopted in Malta, the main categories in the Plan of Action will be kept, while some actions will be put under new headings – and some activities will be found under several categories.

#### **3.4.1 Awareness raising and information**

The Plan of Action 2004-2008 focuses on three main areas of EMHRN intervention under awareness raising and information: a strengthening of the EMHRN office in Brussels as an interface between the EMHRN members and the EU and EMP institutions; the publication of bi-annual human rights reports evaluating EU and EMP compliance with their human rights commitment, as well as strengthening external communication and media work.

##### *Strengthening of the Brussels office as an interface between the EMHRN members and the EU and EMP*

The EMHRN office in Brussels has worked on building relations to the relevant EU and EMP institutions' representatives throughout 2004 and 2005. Following the elections to the EU Parliament in spring 2004, relations with the new EP have developed. These contacts have regularly been fed with information on human rights concerns of the EMHRN and its members and press releases and statements have been sent to them raising awareness of the EMHRN and human rights issues in the region. Contacts have also been developed with the new Commission and emphasis has been put on developing contacts with EU Member States' representatives who are the most important decision makers in the EU system.

The Brussels office has also been receiving EMHRN member delegations and set up and joined them for meetings with representatives of the EU institutions (such as delegations from the Libyan League for Human Rights, Palestinian Human Rights Organisation in Lebanon, Tunisian and Algerian human rights defenders, Aktham Naisse, etc) as well as coordinated work with other international human rights organizations in relation to lobbying and awareness raising initiatives. The Brussels office has been essential in organizing the launch of the EU-Israel Human Rights Reviews (see below) in Brussels. It has fed information on EU and EMP initiatives into the bi-monthly newsletters and weekly bulletins. It has taken initiatives to alert members to EU-Partner country association council and committee meetings (see annex for list of activities in this regard) and coordinated statements to be forwarded to these meetings. Finally it initiated a series of training and advocacy seminars on the ENP to be held in the region over the next two years. Reviewing the above actions, it is clear that the EMHRN office in Brussels has become a very successful and valuable interface between the EMHRN membership and the EU and EMP institutions.

##### *Publication of bi-annual human rights reports evaluating EU and EMP compliance with human rights*

The EMHRN has published two human rights reviews evaluating EU and EMP compliance with its own human rights obligations and commitments in relation to its dealings with Israel. The reports show that the EU is violating its own HR commitments - and sometimes even facilitates continued human rights violations - and comes up with concrete "practical arrangements" on how to counter act this. The EMHRN Working Group on Palestine, Israel and the Palestinians has taken the lead in this initiative. The WG mandated Susan Rockwell from the MATTIN group to write the reports, which were then commented on by the WG before being presented and discussed in Brussels with representatives from the European Commission, the European Parliament, the European Council as well as individual EU Member States and NGOs. The second report *A Human Rights Review on the EU and Israel (2004-2005)*, a follow up to the first report, evaluates what has been done in the past year since the first report. It also looks at EU actions in relation to the new European Neighbourhood Policy and the Action Plan. The second review was presented in Brussels, London, as well as in two more EU capitals. The advocacy team, consisting of members of the WG on Palestine, Israel and the Palestinians, has been very successful in raising awareness of the issue. The EMHRN has not yet succeeded in identifying necessary resources to draft reports on other countries though it commented on and followed a number of countries in relation to Association Council meetings (cf annex for list)

On behalf of the Dutch United Civilians for Peace (UCP) and the Dutch Jurist Committee for Human Rights (NJCM), the Working Group on Palestine, Israel and Palestinians wrote a report, *Israel's Human Rights*

*Behaviour July 2004-July 2005.* The report was presented by UCP and NJCM as a shadow report to the annual report of the Dutch Foreign Minister on the human rights situation in countries with which the EU has Association Agreements. The report exposed a lack of political conditionality in bilateral relations between the EU and Israel. In a period in which Israel grossly violated human rights and international humanitarian law, significant steps were taken by the EU and its member states to *expand* trade and other advantages for Israel.

#### *Strengthening external communication and media work*

In relation to strengthening external communication and media work the EMHRN has not been able to advance in this field because of the financial crisis. However, it succeeded in raising funds to employ a coordinator responsible for external communication to be based at the Secretariat in Copenhagen as well as a part time media relation coordinator to be based in Brussels within 2006. One of the first tasks of the external communication coordinator is to develop a media strategy for the EMHRN and the media relation coordinator to set up a network of human rights interested journalists.

Despite the regrettable absence of a media strategy, the EMHRN has succeeded in attracting the interest of the media on an ad hoc basis. The Brussels office has built up a large data base of Brussels based journalist who are regularly fed EMHRN information. Around 200 contacts are in the data base which includes most EU, EU Member States and Arab media correspondents in Brussels. Excerpts from EMHRN statements and press releases have been quoted in Agence Europe, several EU and Arab media and the EMHRN president and the Brussels office coordinator have on several occasions been interviewed to the international media (with Al-Jazeera on Syria, other Arab media on elections in Tunisia etc). The EMHRN has held press conferences on the arab reform in June 2004 before an EU-US Summit and to launch the first HR Review on the EU and Israel in Brussels.

The EMHRN has published weekly news bulletins (48 issues in 2004, 46 issues in 2005) as well as bi-monthly newsletter (6 issues in 2004, 4 issues in 2005, 2 issues in spring 2006) which have been sent to its members as well as its approximately 1200 subscribers. The EMHRN has also succeeded in fundraising for the development of a new EMHRN website, which is presented to you at this General Assembly and that will be more accessible and more useful to its members. It has been developed on the basis of a participatory approach involving several EMHRN members as well as on the basis of a survey conducted on the EMHRN information and communication needs.

#### **3.4.2 Research, advocacy, and dialogue**

The Plan of Action 2004-2008 states that research, advocacy and dialogue work is closely connected to awareness raising and information and that the main focus of the EMHRN will be to bring life to the EU and EMP human rights instruments and mechanisms. More specifically it mentions: addressing the bi-lateral association councils, committees and related working groups; publishing human rights assessments of the EU and EMP; as well as commissioning and publishing research reports on uncovered fields, such as justice; economic and social rights; migration and refugee issues, and minority rights.

#### *EU and EMP Human Rights Mechanism*

The Brussels office has been charged with the task of implementing EMHRN work in relation to the EU and EMP human rights instruments and mechanisms. The Advocacy Coordinator has been following the EU and EMP calendar, informing the EMHRN and its members of relevant events, and suggesting actions and undertaken advocacy work with the EU Institutions in this regard.

This has included regular participation in the meetings of the human rights and democracy NGO group with Brussels based NGOs where actions are coordinated in relation to the EU and EMP mechanisms. The Brussels office has also actively acted in relation to the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), which directly supports NGOs independently of governments' approval and from which many EMHRN members have benefited. As the EIDHR has been totally restructured, the advocacy coordinator in Brussels has attended meetings and forwarded recommendations concerning the EIDHR 2004 calls for proposals and the 2005-2006 programming documents.



In relation to the EU New Financial Instruments for 2007-2013 – which will replace the MEDA programmes as well as the EIDHR – the Advocacy Coordinator as well as the head quarters in Copenhagen have lobbied for the inclusion of a mechanism for support to NGOs independently of their governments as well as a specific budget line for human rights. The Brussels office has also worked extensively on the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Action Plans set up between the EU and the Partner countries. The EMHRN, in cooperation with its Moroccan members, had meetings in Morocco in March 2004 with both government and EU representatives and NGOs in relation to the action plans, stressing the need for consultation with civil society at all stages of the process.

In 2005 the EMHRN initiated a project with the support of the Open Society Institute on training and advocacy on the ENP and the Action Plans. This project included producing a guide and a power point presentation on the ENP and the action plans as well as conducting seminars in Egypt and Lebanon to raise awareness of the action plans and the ENP as a framework for human rights promotion and increasing the capacity of the NGOs to act within this framework. Seminars on the implementation of the ENP action plans are planned later in Israel and Morocco.

The EMHRN has also been active in announcing the meetings of the Association councils and committees between the EU and the Partner countries. The EMHRN has contacted members in the relevant countries and on an ad hoc basis coordinated advocacy letters as well as media actions in relation to the councils' or committee meetings.

A position paper has been produced and lobbying meetings were organized by the EMHRN on reform in the Arab world and the EU strategy towards the Mediterranean and the Middle East in June 2005.

The EMHRN has also been active in relation to the European Parliament lobbying for hearings and urgent resolutions on specific countries (e.g. Tunisia, Syria, etc) as well as giving input to the EP sub-committee on human rights, foreign affairs committees and relevant delegations and EP missions to Mediterranean countries. It also lobbied for the establishment of a human rights committee under the Euro-Med Inter-Parliamentary Assembly.

The EMHRN also engaged in advocacy work towards the EU Institutions to establish subcommittees on human rights within the framework of the association agreements and for consulting NGOs in this context. Such a sub-committee on human rights has been created under the EU-Jordan Association Council and met once. The EMHRN in Brussels was consulted as well as its members in Jordan before the meeting. Tunisia and Morocco have in principle agreed on establishing such a sub human rights committee, but it has not yet been established. The EU created a bad precedent by accepting that there is no sub-committee on human rights with Israel and the PNA.

The EMHRN and its member organizations have also largely developed their advocacy work towards the EU Council and Member States, especially with the Council Maghreb-Mashrek Group which heard on several occasions EMHRN members, with EU Member States' foreign affairs ministries and EU representatives in some Mediterranean countries, such as Morocco and Egypt. An important result was the large support expressed by all EU Member States for the work of the EMHRN which helped the Network to overcome its serious financial crisis.

#### *Human Rights Assessment of the EU and the EMP*

The EMHRN produced a 'Position paper of the EMHRN on Barcelona+10 and Human Rights' assessing progress and set backs for human rights promotion and protection since the establishment of the Barcelona Process. This paper was presented at a EuroMesco seminar, at a workshop organized by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, as well as at a Wilton Park conference on the EU Enlargement and the Mediterranean. The paper has been widely quoted and some elements included in the EU Commission's assessment of Barcelona +10. It constituted the basis for a consultation process with all EMHRN members that produced a statement: Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Euro-Mediterranean Region at the 10th anniversary of the Barcelona Declaration, which was forwarded to the Head of States of the EMP at the Euro-

Med summit in Barcelona in November 2005. The statement was also distributed to all EMHRN members, to the EU Human Rights Discussion Forum, as well as to relevant EU and EMP institutions.

#### *Research reports on uncovered fields*

##### *Justice*

As a follow up on the recommendations from the EuroMed conference on Access to Justice in Uppsala, Sweden, in April 2001 and on the basis of the concept paper prepared by the EMHRN working group on justice, the EMHRN identified a need to map the state of affairs in relation to justice in the region. The EMHRN have mandated two researchers – one from the North and one from the South – to research and write a report on access to justice in the south-east Mediterranean region, focusing on access, independence and fair trial, the legal systems, rule of law, courts with exceptional jurisdiction and the protection of rights. The aim of the report was to strengthen debate and cooperation within the judiciary in the Euro-Med region; strengthen civil society work on justice; and to provide input and recommendations to the EU and the EMP on questions related to justice in the region. The draft report was discussed at a regional seminar in Morocco in June 2004 that gathered lawyers, magistrates and human rights activists and was highly welcomed as a very useful tool for work on justice in the region. The EMHRN has secured funding to reprint the report and to present it at national level in selected countries in the region. From March 2006 the EMHRN has employed a coordinator for the justice project.

##### *Economic and social rights*

The EMHRN and the European University organized a workshop on economic and social rights in the Mediterranean region and the impact of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Areas in March 2004. As a follow up to the EMHRN projects and reports on the Human Rights Implications of the MEDA programmes and on Economic and Social Rights in the Euro-Mediterranean Area, the EMHRN in July 2005 cooperated on a project on economic and social rights in partnership with the Comisiones Obreros, Fundación Paz y Solidaridad and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. The project aimed at evaluating the impact of the EMP on employment in eight Mediterranean countries. It consisted of drafting eight national reports on the impact of the EMP on employment and the right to work as well as one report on the EU/EMP policies and practice regarding employment and the right to work in the Barcelona Process. These reports will then be gathered in a synthesis report. The aim of these reports would be to show the link between economics and human rights – and to raise awareness and increase the capacity among the NGOs to have a rights based approach to economic and social rights issues. The EMHRN secured the presence of several EMHRN members at the meetings.

##### *Migration and refugee rights*

Following recommendations from the General Assemblies of both Athens and Malta to work on migration and refugee and asylum seekers issues as cross cutting themes that link the two shores of the Mediterranean, the EMHRN in 2005 succeeded in securing funds to launch a project on Rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in the EuroMed region. The project, in partnership with the UNHCR, aimed at enhancing EuroMed civil society debate on protection of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and to inquire into the situation of transit migrants as well as of NGOs working in these human rights fields in North Africa. It consisted of, among others, producing two reports. The first on experiences of asylum seekers and transit migrants from North Africa to Europe, which will include interviews conducted in Malta, Italy and Spain. The second report on civil society organizations and structures working on asylum seekers and forced migration in North Africa and the legal and political environment in which these organizations and structures work. The reports are scheduled to be finalized in February and discussed at the meetings of the EMHRN working group on migrations, refugees and asylum seekers in March 2006. The project will be continued in 2006 and 2007 with the objective to reinforce the participation of civil society in the management of migrant and asylum seeker issues in the south of the Mediterranean and the Middle East on the basis of a human and humanitarian rights approach.

The EMHRN has not succeeded in initiating systematic work on minority rights.

### **3.4.3 Capacity building and education**

The Plan of Action 2004-2008 states that the EMHRN will strengthen initiatives to promote a human rights culture in the EuroMed region and support members' capacity to act within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. It divides the EMHRN work on capacity building and education into two major fields: Training, seminars and working groups, as well as website and human rights education.

#### *Training and seminars*

As mentioned above (EU and EMP Human Rights Mechanism) the EMHRN in 2005 and 2006 conducted training on the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Action Plans for human rights NGOs. The EMHRN produced a report on the ENP as well as a power point presentation that will be available on the new EMHRN website when finalized to be downloaded freely and used for further training. The training materials were used in training sessions in Egypt and will be used at a training session in Lebanon and eventually in other countries as well. The initial evaluation of the training which took place in Egypt in January 2006 was very positive and showed an interest among the NGOs to work on the ENP.

As part of the advocacy and lobbying on the EU-Israel Review, the members of the advocacy team received training on the human rights dimensions and the functioning of the EU institutions in this regard. The Review will also be 'translated' into an Easy Reader presenting the main findings of the Review in easily accessible language with concrete recommendations on how to use the review and its findings in lobbying work.

The EMHRN has secured funding for producing a training kit on gender mainstreaming (see working groups, women's rights), which will be used at sub-regional training courses throughout 2006 and 2007 and will be available on the EMHRN website.

The EMHRN has participated in several training courses – such as training courses for young Euro-Med diplomats – giving input on the human rights dimension of the EMP and the ENP. The EMHRN President participated as a trainer in training courses for Iraqi human rights defenders conducted in Amman organized by the Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies. The EMHRN has, throughout the period between the two GAs, facilitated the participation of EMHRN members as trainers in training courses for NGOs in the region.

In December 2004 the Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders (EMHRF) was set up. The EMHRN has hosted the EMHRF since then and cooperated closely with the Foundation, which has supported the convening of executive bodies of some EMHRN members hereby strengthening their organizational capacity.

As part of its work on justice, the EMHRN organized a seminar gathering 80 lawyers, magistrates, and human rights activists from the EuroMed region. The EMHRN has also supported training seminars conducted by its member organizations.

#### *Working groups*

The Danida evaluation concluded that "The Working groups continue to be the key movers of the organisation, and a key organisational innovation of the network. The Network strategy is to develop working groups into vehicles for programmatic funding and sub-networks based in the South". Since the last GA the EMHRN has attempted to build up working groups to take the lead in the EMHRN thematic projects.

#### *Freedom of Association*

At the end of 2005 the EMHRN secured funding to resume its work on freedom of association. A coordinator has been employed from March 2006 to take the lead in a project reviewing the situation of freedom of association in the Euro-Med region and setting up a working group on the issue.

#### *Human Rights Education*

The EMHRN Human Rights Education Working Group (HRE WG) has been working with several Palestinian groups and organizations in Lebanon on producing an educational tool on refugees (exploring the issue by using photographs) which will be launched in the refugee camps of Sabra and Shatilla during 2006. The group developed a strategic plan for 2004-2006 focusing its work on art based approaches to human rights

education and work on Islam and human rights. Unfortunately, the HRE WG was unable to secure sufficient funds to implement this work. However, as a continuation of the successful summer school on HRE convened in Lebanon 2003, and as an outcome of meetings with the Balkan Human Rights Network, the EMHRN has now secured funding to start a project on mapping the current NGO initiatives in the field of human rights education, identifying possible uncovered areas and/or synergy possibilities and organizing the convening of summer schools on HR issues addressing youth to get them involved in human rights work.

#### *Women's Rights*

The EMHRN convened the first meeting of women's rights organizations and generalist human rights organization to establish a working group on gender/ women's rights in June 2004. The working group developed a strategic plan focusing on two main strands: gender mainstreaming of all EMHRN structures and activities (including working on women's rights within the EU and ENP) as a cross cutting issue as well as a specific project on violence against women in migration. The working group met in Madrid in autumn 2004 and came up with a work plan for the coming years. The EMHRN has already started implementing gender mainstreaming in its recruitment policy and in its strategy development (reflected also in its work on a proactive membership strategy). At the end of 2005 the EMHRN secured funding for convening sub-regional workshops on gender mainstreaming as well as producing a training kit on gender mainstreaming. A coordinator to be based in the South Mediterranean has been employed to coordinate the EMHRN work on gender and women's rights in spring 2006. A gender perspective on EMHRN migration work has been included and will have to be coordinated between the WG on migration and the gender WG.

#### *Justice*

The Working Group on justice has unfortunately been unable to follow up on the very successful report on access to justice in the south-east Mediterranean published in English, French, and Arabic in 2004 because of the lack of funds. The EMHRN has, however, at the end of 2005 secured funding for a reprint of the report and a presentation of the report in selected Mediterranean countries. A coordinator has been employed at the EMHRN headquarters in Copenhagen to coordinate the EMHRN work on justice from March 2006. The EMHRN, at the end of 2005, joined a partnership with Avocats sans Frontières, Belgium, on a project on access to justice in Algeria to strengthen legal aid services to victims of human rights abuses.

#### *Palestine*

The EMHRN Working Group on Palestine in November 2005 decided to change its name to "EMHRN working group on Palestine/Israel and Palestinians" (PIP WG) The name change was to better reflect the group's mandate. At the same time the working group adopted a paper describing the group's mandate.

The working group has been very active since the latest General Assembly; convening working group meetings twice a year; taking the lead in the production, presentation and advocacy on two Human Rights Reviews on the EU and Israel; advocacy work (meetings and letters) to EU Member States and civil society in the EU – not only in relation to the HR Reviews but also in relation to WG meetings; and the production of a shadow report on Israel's Human Rights behaviour (2004-2005).

#### *Kurdish question*

The EMHRN working group on the Kurdish issue met in April 2004. The group recommended that EMHRN work focuses on Turkey. On this basis and on the background of EU's accession talks with Turkey, the EC decided to explore the possibility of setting up an EMHRN working group on Turkey. An exploratory mission went to Turkey in September 2005 to look into the added value of EMHRN work on Turkey and to identify new partners in Turkey. The findings of the mission were presented to the EC and it was hereupon decided to focus EMHRN work on Turkey. On 7 February 2006 meetings were held with Turkish NGOs in Ankara to brief them about EMHRN work and discuss modes of cooperation and participation in EMHRN work. Hereupon it was decided to invite representatives of these organizations to this General Assembly in Madrid.

#### *Website and human rights education*

Thanks to a grant from the Swedish Development Agency in 2005, the EMHRN has been able to establish a brand new website. The new website focuses more on the EMHRN members and their activities. It creates

an opportunity for members without their own websites to be represented on the internet and have a window to the outside. The process of developing the new website has been based on a consultative and participatory approach. An initial meeting of a web task group discussed their experiences and came up with a plan for the website. A test version was presented at the task group meeting in Paris in February 2006 and participants gave comments and planned the launch of the new website which is presented to you here at the GA. The new website consists of different modules that will be developed individually, depending on available funding.

#### **3.4.4 Networking, solidarity and promoting participation**

The Plan of Action 2004-2008 states that networking and participation are key elements in promoting solidarity, dialogues and synergies across borders in the EuroMed region. It divides the EMHRN work on networking, solidarity and promoting participation into three major fields: strengthening internal communication; protecting human rights defenders; and networking.

##### *Strengthening internal communication*

The EMHRN strengthened communication and networking between members by employing a part time coordinator for internal communication. The coordinator's main responsibilities are to keep regular contact with EMHRN members, coordinate the publication of the bi-monthly newsletters, and be in charge of solidarity work – including coordination with other international human rights organizations. In October 2005 the EMHRN launched the regional project on migration, refugees, and asylum seekers, placing an EMHRN staff member in the South, namely in Morocco. This has enhanced EMHRN's visibility in the South and contributed to further cooperation between EMHRN Moroccan members and EMHRN members in Maghreb in general.

Through its work on developing internal procedures and strengthening the organizational structure of the EMHRN, the EC has appointed the Vice President as political referent for the working groups. Her main responsibility is to seek integration of the different agendas of the WGs and to ensure synergies between the work of the WGs. She has worked in close cooperation with the working group coordinators to develop this work and it has been decided to convene a meeting of the political referents at the EC for the working group themes, the chairs of the working groups as well as the coordinators to strategize and coordinate the work during 2006.

Throughout 2004-2005 the EMHRN has developed both its weekly news bulletin and its bi-monthly newsletter to better reflect the work of its members as well as of the EMHRN and thus strengthen internal communication.

The EMHRN is also in a process of developing more comprehensive membership criteria, which put demands on the members to comply with membership obligations (for further information, see EMHRN bylaws).

##### *Protecting Human Rights Defenders*

It is stated that an integral part of the EMHRN mission will be to promote solidarity between EMHRN members and to provide specific support to members in countries where civil society is weak or under attack. The EMHRN will furthermore send solidarity missions and trial monitoring teams, as well as seek to mobilize the international human rights community and inform and lobby the EU human rights mechanisms.

Since the EMHRN GA in Malta, several EMHRN members have unfortunately been under attack for their human rights work. This has been the case with members in Tunisia, Syria and Algeria – countries that EMHRN has given priority throughout this period as civil society here is weak and/or under attack.

The EMHRN has been active in supporting its Tunisian members and addressing the grave and systematic oppression and harassment of civil society in Tunisia. The EMHRN has supported and facilitated several delegations of Tunisian human rights defenders meeting EU institutions (in relation to the presidential elections in Tunisia in 2004, as well as in relation to the World Summit on the Information Society in 2005).

The EMHRN has participated in the General Assembly meetings of its Tunisian members, the CNLT and the LTDH in 2004 and 2005 respectively, as well as forwarded several letters to the European Head of States, Foreign Ministers of the EMP as well as relevant EU and EMP representatives, alerting them about the unacceptable harassment of human rights organizations in Tunisia, not least in relation to the freezing of funds for the LTDH and the AIHR, as well as the illegal suspension of the GA of the LTDH in September 2005. The EMHRN also joined a campaign initiated by its member organization CNLT demanding the immediate release of a Tunisian appeals court lawyer, M. Abbou, as well as a campaign in relation to the WSIS where a group of prominent Tunisian human rights defenders went on a lobbying and advocacy tour to France, Germany and Belgium to talk about the situation of justice in Tunisia.

The EMHRN has taken the lead in coordination and information raising on the case of Aktham Naisse, the president of the Committees for the Defense of Democratic Liberties and Human Rights in Syria throughout 2004-5. The EMHRN issued several press releases on the arrest and trials of Mr Naisse, coordinated joint press statements with other international human rights organizations, made an appeal to EMHRN members to take action (which resulted in several members issuing statements and addressing their authorities as well as the Syrian authorities), sent observers to the trials twice (in coordination with EMHRN member organizations), addressed the office of the UN special rapporteur on Human rights defenders, as well as organized meetings for Mr Naisse with the relevant EU institutions when he talked at a hearing in the EP on human rights in Syria.

On Algeria, the EMHRN supported a seminar organized by its member organization, Le Collectif des familles de disparu(e)s on forced disappearances in Algeria and on how to establish a national truth and reconciliation commission, which took place in Paris in spring 2004. The EMHRN followed up by supporting a tribunal on human rights violations in Algeria which was held in November 2004. In 2005 the EMHRN assisted in setting up meetings with relevant EU institutions for Algerian EMHRN members coming to Brussels for a hearing on human rights in Algeria. In September 2005 the EMHRN issued a statement following the refusal of the Algerian authorities to grant a visa to executive director Marc Schade-Poulsen and other international participants to the congress of the Algerian League for the Defence of Human Rights (LADDH).

The EMHRN also took action in relation to the repeated harassment of and threats against the Palestinian Human Rights Organisation (PHRO) in Lebanon as well as condemning the unlawful detention of field workers of the EMHRN members Al-Haq and Public Committee Against Torture in Israel (PCATI).

#### *Missions*

The EMHRN sent trial observation missions to Syria and Tunisia, as well as Turkey during 2004-2005. The statement from the missions were then published in the EMHRN weekly newsletter and made available on the EMHRN website (see annex 1 for EMHRN press releases)

In October 2005, the EMHRN sent a mission to Gaza to document and evaluate the HR situation on the ground on the eve of the Israeli "disengagement" from the Strip; and also to show solidarity with EMHRN members in Gaza. The mission report showed that contrary to Israeli claims the Gaza Strip is in fact occupied. The report, which was published in March 2006, discusses the effects of the restriction on freedom of movement.

#### *Networking*

The EMHRN has strengthened cooperation with the international human rights movement and actively forged alliances with civil society on a human rights agenda. The EMHRN has participated in the joint meetings of human rights and democracy NGOs in Brussels as well as co-signed and co-organised letters, statement, press releases and missions with international human rights organizations.

The EMHRN has been one of the lead agencies in establishing the Euro-Med Non-governmental Platform, consisting of civil society organizations active in the fields of human rights, culture, environment, sustainable development, trade unionism. The EMHRN hosted the Secretariat of the Platform until September 2005, organizing local consultation meetings in several countries ahead of the extended meeting of the Platform in

Cyprus 2004 and the civil forum in Luxembourg 2005. The EMHRN is currently holding the post of Secretary General of the Platform and was instrumental in having the Platform adopt a charter based on human rights.

The EMHRN supported the organization of the Arab Civil Forum which took place in Beirut in March 2004 and was attended by 87 participants from 52 organizations who discussed democratic reform and democratization and respect for human rights in the Arab world.

In relation to the first G8 Forum for the Future in Morocco, an NGO meeting was held on 8-9 December 2004, organized by the CIHRS, in cooperation with the EMHRN and others. Many EMHRN members attended.

The EMHRN has also started reaching out beyond the Barcelona Process framework. The EMHRN participated in a meeting in Geneva organized by the UN to map human rights activities in Iraq in December 2004 and in 2005 the EMHRN president and other EMHRN members participated in training courses for Iraqi human rights defenders conducted in Amman by EMHRN member Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies.

The EMHRN has initiated, developed and maintained contacts with relevant officials within the European Commission, the European Parliament and the European Council.

The EMHRN has also established contacts with and attended meetings of the newly established Anna Lindh Foundation for Dialogue Between Cultures and Civilisations.

The EMHRN also established a network of Danish organizations and individuals working on the Danish Wider Middle East Initiative. A journalist has been employed as a coordinator and will produce bi-weekly newsletters on the activities of the network members including the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### **3.5 EMHRN structure and implementing bodies**

The Plan of Action describes roles and responsibilities of the EMHRN General Assembly, the Executive Committee and the Secretariat under the heading of strengthening transparency and participation.

In general, since the General Assembly in Malta, the EMHRN has put much effort into developing its internal structures to become more efficient, professional and transparent. The EMHRN now has by-laws in place supporting and elaborating on the statutes. The by-laws contain detailed descriptions of the roles and responsibilities of the main members of the executive committee, elaborate on membership criteria as well as the functions, membership and working methodologies of the working groups.

The EMHRN publishes the agenda of each meeting (executive committee and working group meeting) to the EMHRN members and informs members that minutes of the meetings are available on request from the Secretariat. A weekly news bulletin is published announcing news from members and a bi-monthly newsletter released with information on EMHRN activities. A calendar on the EMHRN website informs about upcoming relevant human rights events.

The EMHRN has, throughout 2004-2005, worked intensively on developing a strategy for the EMHRN to facilitate presenting the network and what it does – and to facilitate establishing criteria and benchmarks for evaluating the work of the EMHRN. As part of this process organisational charts of management structure, functions and information flows have been developed, as well as more comprehensive job descriptions. The organization has been strengthened by having two staff members in the South – as well as by employing additional staff in both Brussels and Copenhagen.

The General Assembly has convened with approximately two years interval, and the current GA prepared through preparatory meetings with EMHRN members whenever possible. The EMHRN executive committee has convened three times a year for very constructive and fruitful meetings. The 'troika' (management group) consisting of the President, the Vice president and the treasurer met approximately two months ahead of the executive committee meetings to prepare the meetings. The Secretariat has convened yearly meetings for all staff to agree and discuss work plans as well as to discuss cooperation. The staff in Copenhagen convene for

weekly staff meetings and the Brussels office as well as the project in Rabat come with regular input on their work. This information is forwarded to the executive committee.

### **3.6 New EMHRN membership applications**

The EMHRN has, throughout the period, received applications for membership of the EMHRN. The Executive Committee has studied the applications and recommends the GA in Madrid to adopt the following organizations and individuals as members of the EMHRN. For a presentation of the organization/individual, kindly see annex.

#### **Regular National Members:**

ACSUR Las Segovias, Association for Co-operation with the South, Spain  
Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, PNA  
Amman Center for Human Rights Studies, Jordan  
Association Marocaine des Droits Humains (AMDH), Morocco  
Association Tunisienne des Femmes Démocrates (ATFD), Tunisia  
Collectif des familles de disparu(e)s en Algérie, Algeria  
Federacion de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promocion de los Derechos Humanos, Spain  
Humanist Committee on Human Rights, (HOM), Netherlands  
Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims RCT, Denmark

#### **Associate Members:**

Iraqi Human Rights Society, Denmark  
Foundation for International Studies, University of Malta, Malta

#### **Individual Members:**

Jon Rud, lawyer, Norway/Spain  
Negad El-Borei, lawyer, Egypt  
Georges Assaf, lawyer, Lebanon

### **3.7 Resignation of EMHRN membership**

Since the EMHRN General Assembly in 2003, the following organisations and individual members have not been in contact with the EMHRN. Prior to the General Assembly the EMHRN forwarded a letter to each member and asked if they intended to continue membership of the EMHRN (providing a ten days dead line to respond). The EMHRN received no reply and the Executive Committee therefore recommends the General Assembly to terminate their membership;

#### **Regular National members:**

Danish Helsinki Committee, Denmark  
Italian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, Italy

#### **Individual Members:**

Hans Kjellund, Denmark  
Moncef Marzouki, Tunisia  
Philip Rudge, United Kingdom  
Mohammed Tahri, Algeria



### **3.8 Acknowledgements**

In the reported period the Network received support from the following donors to which the EMHRN is deeply grateful:

DANIDA

EU Commission

SIDA

The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Cercle des ONGs, Luxembourg

UNHCR

The Ford Foundation

The Open Society Institute

Novib

ICCO

DanChurchAid

Diakonia, Sweden

Ministry of Justice, Belgium

The Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

The Heinrich Böll Stiftung

European Culture Foundation

Fondation René Seydoux

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Luxembourg

Departments of Foreign Affairs, Ireland

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Greece

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cyprus

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hungary

## **Annexes:**

### **Annex 1:**

#### **List of Publications January 2004- April 2006:**

##### ***Reports***

December 2005: **Human Rights Review on EU-Israel, 2004-2005**, (Susan Rockwell/Charles Shamas). *(English, Arabic, French, Hebrew)* <http://www.euomedrights.net/english/emhrn-documents/country-reports/main.html>

February 2005: **Justice in the South East Mediterranean Region**, (Sian Lewis-Anthony and Muhammed Mouaqit). *(English, French, Arabic)*. <http://www.euomedrights.net/english/Download/final%20english%20justice%20for%20web.pdf>

2005: **Shadow report: Israel's Human Rights Behaviour, July 2004 - July 2005**, (Marie Badarne and Erin E. Thomas). *(English)*. <http://www.euomedrights.net/english/emhrn-documents/country-reports/main.html>

2005: **Report from the 6th General Assembly of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network, Malta, 5 - 7 December 2004**. *(English, French, Arabic)*. <http://www.euomedrights.net/english/emhrn-documents/GA/ga2004.htm>

December 2004: **Human Rights Review on EU-Israel, 2003-2004**, (Susan Rockwell/Charles Shamas). *(English, Arabic, French, Hebrew)*. <http://www.euomedrights.net/english/emhrn-documents/country-reports/main.html>

2004: **Report on the trial of Syrian human rights activist Aktham Naisseh August 16<sup>th</sup> 2004**, (Mustafa Yaghi). *(Arabic, English)* <http://www.euomedrights.net/english/emhrn-documents/country-reports/main.html>

2004: **Report on the trial of Syrian human rights activist Aktham Naisseh July 26<sup>th</sup> 2004**, (Negad El Borai). *(Arabic, English)* <http://www.euomedrights.net/english/emhrn-documents/country-reports/Aktham%20trial.htm>

March 2004, **Tightened Spaces for Human Rights - Palestinian NGO Work, a discussion paper**, (Marita Roos). *(English)*. [http://www.euomedrights.net/english/emhrn-documents/country-reports/Palestine\\_NGOs\\_March%202004.htm](http://www.euomedrights.net/english/emhrn-documents/country-reports/Palestine_NGOs_March%202004.htm)

##### ***Policy Papers and Recommendations to the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EMP)***

October 2005, **Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Euro-Mediterranean Region at the**

**10th Anniversary of the Barcelona Declaration: Statement by the EMHRN to the Head of States of the EMP.**

[http://www.euromedrights.net/English/barcelonaprocess/civil\\_society/policy%20papers%20to%20the%20EMP/Barcelonastatement%20final%20October%2005-ENG.pdf](http://www.euromedrights.net/English/barcelonaprocess/civil_society/policy%20papers%20to%20the%20EMP/Barcelonastatement%20final%20October%2005-ENG.pdf)

March 2005, **Position paper of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network on BARCELONA + 10 AND HUMAN RIGHTS.**

[http://www.euromedrights.net/English/barcelonaprocess/civil\\_society/policy%20papers%20to%20the%20EMP/1.3.2005.htm](http://www.euromedrights.net/English/barcelonaprocess/civil_society/policy%20papers%20to%20the%20EMP/1.3.2005.htm)

October 2004, **EMHRN/FIDH joint Memorandum on EU - Jordan Association Council.**

[http://www.euromedrights.net/English/Download/FIDH-EMHRNJordan\\_final\\_7%20Oct-04\\_ENG.doc](http://www.euromedrights.net/English/Download/FIDH-EMHRNJordan_final_7%20Oct-04_ENG.doc)

June 2004, **Position of the EMHRN, the FIDH and the CIHRS on « international initiatives for reforms in the Arab region** <http://www.euromedrights.net/English/Download/FINAL%20DOCUMENT%2023.06.04.pdf>

June 2004, **Conclusions from the regional seminar in Rabat, 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> June 2004, on justice in the South and East Mediterranean** [http://www.euromedrights.net/English/Download/CONCLUSIONS\\_eng.doc](http://www.euromedrights.net/English/Download/CONCLUSIONS_eng.doc)

### ***EMHRN Newsletters***

<http://www.euromedrights.net/english/menu.html>

10 Newsletters in total:

[EMHRN newsletter issue 1/2006](#)  
[EMHRN newsletter issue 8/2005](#)  
[EMHRN newsletter issue 7/2005](#)  
[EMHRN newsletter issue 5/2005](#)  
[EMHRN newsletter issue 4/2004](#)  
[Newsletter 23 December 2004](#)  
[Newsletter 10 November 2004](#)  
[Newsletter 27 October 2004](#)  
[Newsletter of September 2004](#)  
[Newsletter of March 2004](#)

### ***EMHRN News bulletins***

<http://www.euromedrights.net/english/news%20bulletin/index.htm>

Newsletters in 2004 were not published on the website as a news bulletin, but each item published under 'recent news on...' in the News section of the website (see: <http://www.euromedrights.net/english/menu.html>)  
For 2005 and forward the following weekly news bulletins were published:

- [News Bulletin Issue 11/2006 17.03.2006 - 22.03.2006](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 10/2006 10.03.2006 - 17.03.2006](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 09/2006 03.03.2006 - 10.03.2006](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 08/2006 24.02.2006 - 03.03.2006](#)

- [News Bulletin Issue 07/2006 13.02.2006 - 24.02.2006](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 06/2006 06.02.2006 - 13.02.2006](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 05/2006 30.01.2006 - 06.02.2006](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 04/2006 23.01.2006 - 30.01.2006](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 03/2006 16.01.2006 - 23.01.2006](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 02/2006 09.01.2006 - 16.01.2006](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 01/2006 19.12.2005 - 09.01.2006](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 47/2005 09.12.2005 - 16.12.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 46/2005 02.12.2005 - 09.12.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 45/2005 25.11.2005 - 02.12.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 44/2005 18.11.2005 - 25.11.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 43/2005 11.11.2005 - 18.11.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 42/2005 04.11.2005 - 11.11.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 41/2005 21.10.2005 - 04.11.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 40/2005 14.10.2005 - 21.10.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 39/2005 07.10.2005 - 14.10.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 38/2005 23.09.2005 - 07.10.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 37/2005 16.09.2005 - 23.09.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 36/2005 09.09.2005 - 16.09.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 35/2005 02.09.2005 - 09.09.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 34/2005 26.08.2005 - 02.09.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 33/2005 19.08.2005 - 26.08.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 32/2005 12.08.2005 - 19.08.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 31/2005 05.08.2005 - 12.08.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 30/2005 29.07.2005 - 05.08.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 29/2005 22.07.2005 - 29.07.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 28/2005 15.07.2005 - 22.07.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 27/2005 08.07.2005 - 15.07.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 26/2005 01.07.2005 - 08.07.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 25/2005 24.06.2005 - 01.07.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 24/2005 17.06.2005 - 24.06.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 23/2005 10.06.2005 - 17.06.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 22/2005 03.06.2005 - 10.06.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 21/2005 27.05.2005 - 03.06.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 20/2005 20.05.2005 - 27.05.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 19/2005 06.05.2005 - 20.05.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 17/2005 29.04.2005 - 06.05.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 16/2005 22.04.2005 - 29.04.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 15/2005 15.04.2005 - 22.04.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 14/2005 08.04.2005 - 15.04.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 13/2005 01.04.2005 - 08.04.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 12/2005 18.03.2005 - 01.04.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 11/2005 11.03.2005 - 18.03.2005](#)
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- [News Bulletin Issue 09/2005 27.02.2005 - 04.03.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 08/2005 20.02.2005 - 27.02.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 07/2005 13.02.2005 - 20.02.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 06/2005 06.02.2005 - 13.02.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 05/2005 28.01.2005 - 06.02.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 04/2005 21.01.2005 - 28.01.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 03/2005 14.01.2005 - 21.01.2005](#)

- [News Bulletin Issue 02/2005 07.01.2005 - 14.01.2005](#)
- [News Bulletin Issue 01/2005 18.12.2004 - 07.01.2005](#)

***EMHRN Press releases***

- [Open letter to the EU on the occasion of the meeting with the Tunisian Foreign Minister \(OMCT; EMHRN; FIDH\), 6.6.2006\(in French\)](#)
- [EMHRN Statement: Reasserting human rights principles in the current political climate is urgent, 6 March 2006](#)
- [EMHRN position on the debate regarding the Cartoons in the Danish Newspaper Jyllandsposten, 6 Feb 2006](#)
- [EMHRN President Kamel Jendoubi Harassed, 03 Jan 2006](#)
- [EMHRN Statement following the 10th Anniversary Euro-Mediterranean Summit, Barcelona 27-28 November 2005, 5 Dec 2005](#)
- [Human Rights defenders Appeal to the EU-Israel Association Council to Act, 5 Dec 2005](#)
- [Barcelona Process Human Rights Commitments Must be Translated into Action, 15 Nov 2005](#)
- [The Gaza Strip Is Still Occupied, 21 Oct 2005](#)
- [Human Rights should be taken serious, 9 Oct 2005](#)
- [The EMHRN Launches Program on the Right of Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers, 14 Sep 2005](#)
- [Yet another blow to the Tunisian League, 7 Sep 2005](#)
- [Charges against Aktham Naisse finally dropped!  
The EMHRN welcomes the decision of the Syrian Supreme State Security Court \(SSSC\) yesterday, 26.6.2005, to drop charges against Syrian human rights defender Aktham Naisse. A press release with more information will follow shortly, 27 June 2005](#)
- [Joint press release by the EMHRN, the ICJ, and the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders: Trial against Aktham Naisse on 26 June 2005](#)
- [Unfair trial against Syrian Human Rights Defender, 27 April 2005](#)
- [Trial against prominent and awarded Syrian human rights defender continues, 22 April 2005](#)
- [First meeting of the board of the Euro Mediterranean Foundation for Support of Human Rights Defenders, 23.2.2005](#)
- [Justice in the South-East Mediterranean Region, Release of a new report by the EMHRN, 25.2.2005](#)
- [Open Letter by EMHRN, FIDH and OMCT on the occasion of the EU-Tunisia Association Council, 27.1.2005](#)
- [Press Release by EMHRN, OMCT, FIDH, and the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders: Trial against Syrian human rights defender once again postponed, 17.1.2005](#)
- [President of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network Denied Entrance into Egypt, 17.1.2005](#)
- [Press Release by EMHRN, FIDH, OMCT, The Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders: Trial against prominent and awarded Syrian human rights defender continues, 16.1.2005](#)
- [Trial against prominent and awarded Syrian human rights defender continues, 14 January 2005](#)
- [Joint press release by EMHRN, CIHRS, FIDH, and OMDH in relation to the G8 Meeting in Morocco, 10-11 December: \*On the World Human Rights Day: Is reforming the Arab Regime intangible?\* 9.12.2004](#)
- [Joint press release by EMHRN, CIHRS, FIDH, and OMDH in relation to the G8 Meeting in Morocco, 10-11 December: \*What is the role of the Civil Society in the Forum for the Future?\* 10.12.2004](#)
- [The EU violates it own Human Rights Commitments - new EMHRN report, 9.12.2004](#)
- [Launch of New HUMAN RIGHTS Foundation, 9.12.2004](#)
- [EMHRN appeals to the EU to open the door to Turkey, 26.11.2004](#)
- [Trial against Aktham Naisse continues on Sunday, 21.10.2004](#)
- [Human rights under attack, 8.10.2004](#)
- [Unfair Trial Against Syrian Human Rights Defender, 13.8.2004](#)
- [Unfair trial of Aktham Naisseh, president of the CDF, before the Supreme State Security Court, 27.7.2004](#)
- [Open letter for the French Minister of foreign affairs on the occasion of his visit to Tunisia \(in French\), 13.7.2004](#)
- [Human Rights NGOs urge the EU and USA to take into account the views of civil society in their initiative for reforms in the Arab region, 23.6.2004](#)

- [Justice and human rights defenders in the Mediterranean, 21.6.2004](#)
- [Update on the EMHRN call for solidarity with the Tunesian League for Human Rights, 21.5.2004](#)
- [EMHRN calls for solidarity with the Tunesian League for Human Rights, 13.5.2004](#)
- [Open letter by EMHRN, Amnesty International, FIDH and OMCT concerning Aktham Nu'aysa, 13.5.2004](#)
- [Syrian Human Rights Defender Once Again Detained, 14.4.2004](#)
- [EU-Morocco Action Plan and Human Rights: Civil Society wants to be heard, 1.4.2004](#)
- [19.3.2004: Tightened Spaces for Human Rights –A Discussion Paper on Palestinian NGO Work](#)
- [18.3.2004: Attack on Human Rights in Madrid.](#)
- [The Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network Welcomes International Legal Consideration of the Barrier/Wall by the ICJ, 20.2.2004](#)
- [Syrian Human Rights Defender Detained and Harrassed, 12.2.2004](#)
- [Foreign medical workers facing death penalty in Libya, 5.2.2004](#)
- [CALL FOR PARTICIPATION: "Economic and Social Rights in the Euro-Mediterranean Area and the Impact of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Areas"](#)
- [Application form](#)
- [Yet Another Tunisian Human Rights Activist Attacked: Violent Assault on Sihem Ben Sedrine, 9.1.2004](#)

## **Annex 2:**

### **Meetings conducted from January 2004 – April 2006<sup>1</sup>:**

#### **EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING:**

**Kind of meeting:** The sixth General Assembly of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network

**Date and Place:** 5-7 December 2003, Malta

**Participants:** Around 90 EMHRN members

#### **EMHRN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

**Date and place:** February 6-8 2004, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi, Sandrine Grenier, Rabéa Naciri, Bahey El-Din Hassan, Randa Siniora, Klaus Slavensky, Reyhan Yalcindag, Eva Norstroem, Marc Schade-Poulsen, Michel Tubiana, Theocharis Papamargaris, Marit Flø Jørgensen, Ole Reitov (facilitator), and Maibritt Damgaard Nielsen (rapporteur)

**Date and place:** May 20-23 2004, Paris, France

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (President), Bahey El-Din Hassan (EC member), Randa Siniora (EC member), Reyhan Yalcindag (EC member, attended the meeting from Friday afternoon), Eva Norstroem (Vice President, attended the meeting from Thursday evening), Michel Tubiana (EC member), and Theocharis Papamargaris (Treasurer), Marc Schade-Poulsen (Executive Director); Sandrine Grenier (EMHRN staff), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN staff), and Maibritt Damgaard Nielsen (EMHRN staff, rapporteur)

In relation to the meeting, Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN President) and Sandrine Grenier (EMHRN Coordinator in Brussels) met with André Janier, Ambassador responsible for the Barcelona Process at the French Foreign Ministry, 24<sup>th</sup> of May.

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<sup>1</sup> The EMHRN has participated in many meetings other than these mentioned here. For further information please read our Newsletters.

**Date and place:** October 29-31 2004, The Hague, the Netherlands

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (President), Eva Norstroem (Vice President), and Theocharis Papamargaris (Treasurer), Randa Siniora (EC member), Colm Regan (EC member), Rabéa Naciri (EC member), Klaus Slavenski (EC member), Marc Schade-Poulsen (Executive Director); Sandrine Grenier (EMHRN Brussels coordinator), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN senior staff), and Sannie Nielsen (EMHRN administrative coordinator, rapporteur), Eskil Trolle (Guest speaker; Partner in Bech Bruun & Dragsted)

Prior to the meeting, Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN Senior Officer) and Sandrine Grenier (EMHRN Coordinator in Brussels) met with representatives of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Furthermore meetings were set up with two EMHRN member organizations in the Netherlands. Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN Senior Officer) and Sandrine Grenier (EMHRN Coordinator in Brussels) met with Martha Meijers (Director), Marike Radstaake (Programme Manager) from the Humanist Committee on Human Rights (HOM) in Utrecht on October 28. On October 29, Jan Jaap van Oosterzee, Coordinator of the Euro-Arab Dialogue from Below, welcomed Rabéa Naciri (EMHRN Executive Committee member), Colm Regan (EMHRN Executive Committee member) and Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director) in their office in The Hague.

**Date and place:** February 4-6 2005, London, UK

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (President), Eva Norström (Vice President), Theocharis Papamargaris (Treasurer), Randa Siniora (EC member), Colm Regan (EC member), Rabéa Naciri (EC member), Klaus Slavenski (EC member), Reyhan Yalcindag (EC member), Bahey El Din Hassan (EC member), Marc Schade-Poulsen (Executive Director), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN senior staff) and Sannie Nielsen (EMHRN administrative coordinator, rapporteur)

Prior to the meeting, Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director) and Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN Senior Officer) met with representatives from the British Department for International Development (DFID). Marc Schade-Poulsen, Marit Floe Jorgensen and Theocharis Papamargaris (EMHRN treasurer) further met with the Westminster Foundation. A meeting was also organized with Amnesty International in which participated EMHRN Executive Committee member, Colm Regan, together with Marc Schade-Poulsen and Marit Floe Jorgensen.

**Date and place:** 10-12 June 2005, Cairo, Egypt

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (President), Eva Norstroem (Vice President), Theocharis Papamargaris (Treasurer), Colm Regan (EC member), Rabéa Naciri (EC member), Klaus Slavensky (EC member), Bahey El Din Hassan (EC member), Michel Tubiana (EC member), Marc Schade-Poulsen (Executive Director), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN senior staff), Sandrine Grenier (EMHRN Brussels coordinator), Nels Lyngsoe (EMHRN controller) and Sannie Nielsen (EMHRN administrative coordinator, rapporteur).

Prior to the meeting, EMHRN President, Kamel Jendoubi, EMHRN Executive Committee member, Bahey El Din Hassan, Executive Director, Marc Schade-Poulsen and EMHRN Senior officer, Marit Floe Jorgensen, participated in meetings with the Foreign Minister of Egypt, H.E. Ahmed Abu El-Gheit, the Secretary General of the Arab League, Mr. Amr Moussa, the Secretary General of the National Council for Human Rights, Ambassador Mokhless Kotb and the Secretary General of the Arab Organizations for Human Rights, Mr. Mohammed Fayek.

A NGO meeting entitled "Does the new developments in Egypt for political reform require a new approach by international human rights organizations?" was organized by the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) on June 8 in the afternoon with the participation of Kamel Jendoubi, Eva Norstroem, and Klaus Slavensky from the EMHRN Executive Committee, Marc Shade-Poulsen and Marit Floe Jorgensen from the EMHRN Secretariat and representatives from approximately 20 Egyptian NGOs.



On June 13 2005, a meeting was held with Mr. Traugott Schoefthaler, Executive Director of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures and Eva Norstroem, Vice president of the EMHRN, Marc Schade-Poulsen, executive director, and Marit Floe Jorgensen, senior staff member of the EMHRN.

Furthermore, EMHRN Vice-President, Eva Norstroem, and EMHRN Senior officer, Marit Floe Jorgensen, had the opportunity to meet with Ms. Fadia Nahhas, communication and information officer of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures, in the Library in Alexandria as well as with Ms. Ingrid Sandstroem, the Deputy Director of the Swedish Institute in Alexandria.

**Date and place:** 7-9 October 2005, Barcelona, Spain

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (President), Eva Norstroem (Vice President) (participated on October 8-9), Theocharis Papamargaris (Treasurer), Colm Regan (EC member), Rabéa Naciri (EC member), Klaus Slavensky (EC member), Bahey El Din Hassan (EC member), Michel Tubiana (EC member) and Randa Siniora (EC member), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN Senior Officer), Sandrine Grenier (EMHRN Brussels coordinator), Nels Lyngsoe (EMHRN Controller), Habib Belkouch (director of the EMHRN project on Migration, Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Morocco) and Maibritt Damgaard Nielsen (EMHRN Administrative Coordinator, rapporteur)

Prior to the meeting, on October 6 2005, EMHRN President, Kamel Jendoubi, EMHRN Executive Director, Marc Schade-Poulsen and EMHRN Senior officer, Marit FloeJorgensen, participated in four official meetings in Madrid; with Barcelona Ambassador, Juan Prat, Human Rights Ambassador, Silvia Escobar, Secretary General Luisa Sirvent and Chairman José Antonio Gimbernat from Federacion de Asociaciones de Defense y Promicion de los Derechos Humanos, and finally with José Martin, Director, David Ortiz and Malika Abdelaziz, Project Coordinators, of ACSUR.

On October 7 2005, EMHRN President, Kamel Jendoubi, EMHRN Executive Director, Marc Schade-Poulsen, EMHRN Senior officer, Marit Floe Jorgensen, EMHRN Brussels Coordinator, Sandrine Grenier, director of the EMHRN project on Migration, Habib Belkouch, and EC member Klaus Slavensky participated in a meeting with IEMED representatives Gemma Aubarel and Pau Solanilla in Barcelona. Furthermore, Marc Schade-Poulsen, Sandrine Grenier, Habib Belkouch, and Klaus Slavensky participated in a meeting with Enric Olivé, Anna Penicho and Rebecca Tomas from the Group of Research on Gender, Interculturality and Mediterranean Cultural Studies/ Interculturality and Human Rights Euromed Observatory and Lurdes Rios from the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Observatory.

**Date and place:** 23-26 February 2006, Paris, France

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (President), Eva Norstroem (Vice President), Theocharis Papamargaris (Treasurer), Colm Regan (EC member), Rabéa Naciri (EC member) (participated on February 24-26), Klaus Slavensky (EC member), Bahey El Din Hassan (EC member), Michel Tubiana (EC member), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN Senior Officer), Sandrine Grenier (EMHRN Brussels Coordinator), Nels Lyngso (EMHRN Controller), Habib Belkouch (Director of the EMHRN project on Migration, Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Morocco), Line Gamrath Rasmussen (EMHRN Project coordinator) (participated on February 26) and Maibritt Damgaard Nielsen (EMHRN Administrative Coordinator, rapporteur)

After the EC meeting, on February 27 2006, EMHRN President, Kamel Jendoubi, and EMHRN Executive Director, Marc Schade-Poulsen, met with Ambassador in Charge of the Barcelona process Francois Gouyette and Vice Director of Development Cooperation Mr Jérôme Pasquier to discuss the developments in the Mediterranean and the Barcelona process.

In relation to the EC meeting, a task group established in relation to the new EMHRN web site that is under construction met in Paris on February 27 2006 in order to discuss the work that has been done so far. The new web site will be presented at the EMHRN General Assembly in May 2006, making it possible for the EMHRN member organisations to present their comments and ideas to the site.

### **EMHRN TROIKA (MANAGEMENT GROUP) MEETINGS:**

**Date and Place:** 17 March 2004, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (President), Eva Norstroem (Vice President), Theocharis Papamargaris (Treasurer) and Marc Schade-Poulsen (Executive Director)

**Date and Place:** 6 May 2004, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi, Eva Norstroem, Marc Schade-Poulsen, Theocharis Papamargaris, Colm Regan, Marit Floe Jorgensen and Maibritt Damgaard Nielsen (rapporteur)

**Date and Place:** 1 July 2004, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN President), Eva Norstroem (EMHRN Vice-president), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Theocharis Papamargaris (EMHRN Treasurer), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN senior staff member) and Maibritt Damgaard Nielsen (EMHRN administrative coordinator, rapporteur)

**Date and Place:** 22 September 2004, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN President, moderator), Eva Norstroem (EMHRN Vice-president), Theocharis Papamargaris (EMHRN Treasurer), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director) and Sannie Nielsen (EMHRN Administrative Coordinator, rapporteur)

**Date and Place:** 11 March 2005, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN President, moderator), Eva Norstroem (EMHRN Vice-president), Theocharis Papamargaris (EMHRN Treasurer), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN Senior Officer), Sandrine Grenier (EMHRN Brussels Coordinator), Nels Lyngsoe (EMHRN Controller) and Sannie Nielsen (EMHRN Administrative Coordinator, rapporteur)

**Date and Place:** 19 May 2005, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN President, moderator), Eva Norstroem (EMHRN Vice-president), Theocharis Papamargaris (EMHRN Treasurer), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Nels Lyngsoe (EMHRN Controller) and Sannie Nielsen (EMHRN Administrative Coordinator, rapporteur)

**Date and Place:** 1 September 2005, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN President, moderator), Eva Norstroem (EMHRN Vice-president), Theocharis Papamargaris (EMHRN Treasurer), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN Senior Officer) and Maibritt Damgaard Nielsen (EMHRN Administrative Coordinator, rapporteur)

**Place and Date:** 1 December 2005, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN President, moderator), Eva Norstroem (EMHRN Vice-president), Theocharis Papamargaris (EMHRN Treasurer), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN Information officer) and Maibritt Damgaard Nielsen (EMHRN Administrative Coordinator, rapporteur)

**Date and Place:** 29 March 2006, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN President, moderator), Eva Norstroem (EMHRN Vice President), Theocharis Papamargaris (EMHRN Treasurer), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN Senior officer), Nels Lyngsoe (EMHRN Controller) and Maibritt Damgaard Nielsen (EMHRN Administrative Coordinator, rapporteur)

### **WORKING GROUP MEETINGS:**

#### **Justice**

**Kind of meeting:** Regional seminar on 'Justice in the South and East Mediterranean' organized by EMHRN in collaboration with Espace Associatif, ADFM and OMDH with the support of the European Commission and SIDA

**Date and place:** 18-20 June 2004, Rabat, Morocco

**Participants:** Ghassan Abdallah (Palestinian Human Rights Organisation, Lebanon), Amine Abdelhamide (Président de l'Association Marocaine des Droits Humaine, Morocco), Mohamed Akdime (Syndicat des barreaux de Rabat, Morocco), Farouq Al Kilani (Ex. Président de la Haute Cour de Justice, Jordan), Zaha Al Majali (Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies, Jordan), Mhamed Ali Kebous (Organisation Marocaine des Droits Humains, Morocco), Khaled Al-Taher (Laywer/avocat, Jordan), Ali Amar (Vice Président de l'association Marocaine des Droits Humains, Morocco), Abderrahmane Ben Ameer (Ex. Président des associations des bareaux Maroc, Morocco), Ahmed Arrehmouch (Membre du Bureaux Exécutif de l'EA, Morocco), Georges Assaf (Laywer/avocat, Beirut Bar Association, Lebanon), Omar Azziman (Centre de Defense des Droits de l'Homme, Morocco), Abdelaziz Bennani (Former President of the Moroccan Human Rights League, Morocco), Fouad Benouna (Organisation Marocaine des Drotis Humains, Morocco), Driss Benzekri (Comission Equite et Réconciliation, Morocco), Said Bikri (Avocat, Organisation Marocaine des Droits Humains, Morocco), Mostefa Bouchachi (University of Algerian Human Rights League, Algeria), Mohamed Bouzoubaa (Ministre de la Justice, Morocco), Anna Bozzo (University of Rome III, Italy), Alya Chamhari (Avocate, Mahgreb Egalité, Tunisia), Khémairi Chamhari (Consultant, Comité pour le Respect des Libertés et des Droits de l'homme Tunisie, Tunisia), Driss Chater (L'Association des Barreaux du Maroc, Morocco), Anna Clausen (Staff Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network, Denmark), Birgitta Danielson (Swedish International Development Agency, Sweden), Nasser Dutoir (Porte Parole, Collectif des familles de Disparus en Algérie, Algeria), Abu El Kassem Nobi (Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights, Egypt), Hesham El-Bastawisy (Judge/juge, Vice President Constitutional Court, Egypt), Driss El-Yazami (Ligue des Droits de l'Homme, la Fédération Internationale des Droits de l'Homme, France, Morocco), Nour Emam (Laywer/avocat, Jordan), Mohamed Abou el Fadl (Président de l'association Marocaine des Barreaux, Morocco), Jennifer Geen (Bar Human Rights Committee, England), Mohamed Haskouri (l'Association Marocaine des Droits Humains, Morocco), Hatimy Abdeltif (Président, L'Association Marocaine pour la Défense de l'Indépendance de la Justice, Morocco), Lotfi Hidouri (Porte Parole, Conseil Nationale pour les Libertés en Tunisie, Tunisia), Abderrahim Jamai (Laywer/avocat, Morocco), Kamel Jendoubi (President, Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network, Comité pour le Respect des Libertés et des Droits de l'Homme Tunisie, France/Tunisia), Roland Kessous (Avocat Général auprès de la Cour de Cassation, France), Sian Lewis-Anthony (Human Rights Consultant, United Kingdom), Stavros Mantakiozidis (Greek Association of Judges, Magistrats Européens pour la Démocratie et les Libertés, Greece), Claudia Marinaro (Researcher, Amnesty International, Italy), Mohammed Mouaqit (Proffesor, Univerity of Casablanca, Morocco), Ghassan Moukheibir (Laywer/avocat, Adl, Lebanon), Moustafa Yousry (Ford Foundation, Egypt), Muhamad Mugraby Laywer/avocat, Mirsad, Lebanon), Rabéa Naciri (Association Démocratiques des Femmes du Maroc, Morocco), Mustapha Naoui (Laywer/avocat, Morocco), Abdelaziz Nouidi (Morocco), Maibritt Damgaard-Nielsen (Staff Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network, Denmark), Ahmed Othmani (President, Penal Reform International, France/Tunisia), Aicha Ait Oumhand (Morocco), Ignazio Juan Patrone (President, Magistrats Européens pour la Démocratie et les Libertés, Italy), Merwat Rishmawi (Amnesty International, Palestine/U.K.), Hassiba Sahraoui (Juriste, Cour Internationale de Justice, Switzerland/Algeria), Marc Schade-Poulsen (Executive Director, Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network, Denmark), Deborah Scolart (Juriste, Docteur de recherché en Droit Musulman, Italy), Mohamed Sebbar (President, Forum Verité et Justice, Morocco), Azzedine Ben Seghir (Morocco), Aziz Jabur Shaial (The Bar Human Rights Committee, Iraq), Aziz Shayan (Director of Baghdad Center for Human Rights Studies, Iraq), Caroline Stainer (Laywer/avocat, Avocat sans Frontières, Belgium), Marie Anne Swartenbroekx (Magistrats Européens pour la Démocratie et les Libertés, Belgium), Yasser Ali Mohamed Zarea (Human Rights Centre for the Assistance of prisoners, Egypt).

## **Kurds**

**Kind of meeting:** EMHRN Kurdish Working Group meeting

**Date and place:** 23-24 April 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Participants:** Klaus Slavensky (Danish Centre for Human Rights), Denmark; Jon Rud (international legal advisor), Norway/Spain; Nazmi Gür (The Human Rights Association of Turkey, IHD), Turkey; Hussain Shaban (Arab Organisation for Human Rights in the UK), Iraq/UK; Reyhan Yalcindag (The Human Rights Association of Turkey, IHD), Turkey (present only in the afternoon of the 24<sup>th</sup>); and Valerie Mercer Rud (resource person), Ireland/Spain. Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director); Marita Roos (EMHRN Coordinator), Denmark; and partly Sandrine Grenier and Sedef Selampinar (EMHRN Brussels Office)

### **Migration, refugees and Asylum seekers**

**Kind of meeting:** The first meeting of the EMHRN Working Group on Migration, Refugees and Asylum Seekers

France

**Date and place:** 21-22 October 2005, Paris,

**Participants:** Mohieddine Cherbib & Elsa Manghi (CRLDHT), Samira Trad (Frontiers Centre), Sliman Bouchuiguir (Libyan League for Human Rights), Sihem Bensendrine (Conseil Nationale pour les Libertés en Tunisie), Roula Badran (PHRO), Neji Marzouk (Ligue Tunisienne des droits de l'Homme), Boudjema Redouane (LADHH), Nadia Hakimi (ATFD), Abdellatif Chahboun (Organisation marocaine des droits humains), Amine Abdelhamid (Association Marocaine des droits humains), Saddik Lahrach (Espace associatif), Nouzha Lamrani (Association démocratique des femmes du Maroc), Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN), Michel Tubiana (EMHRN), Christopher Hein (Italian Council for Refugees), Catherine Teule (LDH), Eva Norstroem (SWERA), Borje Sjokvist (SWERA), Anitta Kynsiletho (Tapri Mediterranean Studies Project), Eleftherios Eleftheriou (International Association for Human Rights and Freedom Association), Marie Lavrentiadou (Greek Committee for International Democratic Solidarity), Laurent Giovanni & Anne Isabelle (Cimade), Ali El Baz (Association des Travailleurs Maghrébins en France), Jean-Pierre Cassarino (Euro-Mediterranean Consortium for Applied Research on International Migration), Abdelhamid El Jamri (Expert du Comité de protection des droits de tous les travailleurs), Annabelle Roig (UNHCR), Patrick Delouvin (Anmnesy International section Francaise), Maria de Donato, Mutapha Belbah, Laura Feliu & Mehdi Mabrouk (chercheurs), Marc Schade Poulsen (EMHRN), Habib Belkouch (EMHRN), Nadia Sebti (EMHRN), Mounia Maaouni (Association des Amis et Famille des Victimes de l'immigration clandestine), Fateh Azzem (Forced Migration Centre)

### **Palestine**

**Kind of meeting:** EMHRN Palestine Working Group meeting

**Date and place:** 3-5 February 2004, Vienna, Austria

**Participants:** Stefan Lütgenau (Bruno Kreisky Forum), Austria; Randa Siniora (al-Haq), The West Bank; Hassan Jabareen (Adalah), Israel; Salim Wakeem (Arab Association for Human Rights), Israel; Ghassan Abdallah (Palestinian Human Rights Organisation), Lebanon; Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), Rachel Greenspahn (B'Tselem), Israel; Orah Maggen (Public Committee Against Torture in Israel), Israel; Moataz El Fegier (Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies), Egypt; Per Stadig (International Commission of Jurists), Sweden; Theocharis Papamargaris (Greek Committee for International Democratic Solidarity), Greece; Raji Sourani (Palestinian Centre for Human Rights), Gaza; Marita Roos (EMHRN coordinator).

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with the Human Rights Committee of the Austrian Parliament in which representatives of all of the political parties were represented

**Date and place:** 2 June 2004, Vienna, Austria

**Participants:** Hannah Friedman, Hassan Jabareen, Randa Siniora, Stefan Lütgenau (Bruno Kreisky Foundation; Austria), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director) and Marita Roos (EMHRN Coordinator)

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with Member of European Parliament, Hannes Swoboda, Head of the Social Democratic MEP's Group

**Date and place:** 2 June 2004, Vienna, Austria

**Participants:** Hannah Friedman, Hassan Jabareen, Randa Siniora, Stefan Lütgenau (Bruno Kreisky Foundation; Austria), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director) and Marita Roos (EMHRN Coordinator)

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with Gerhard Pulfer, desk officer for Palestinian Affairs, Austrian Development Agency, and Wolfgang Lapuh representative of the Middle East section of the Austrian Foreign Ministry (former representative of Austria to the Palestinian Authority)

**Date and place:** 2 June 2004, Vienna, Austria

**Participants:** Hannah Friedman, Hassan Jabareen, Randa Siniora, Stefan Lütgenau (Bruno Kreisky Foundation; Austria), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director) and Marita Roos (EMHRN Coordinator)

**Kind of meeting:** EMHRN Palestine Working Group meeting

**Date and place:** 4-5 June 2004, Vienna, Austria

**Participants:** Randa Siniora (Al-Haq; the West Bank), Hassan Jabareen (Adalah; Israel), Per Stadig (International Commission of Jurists; Sweden), Marita Roos (EMHRN coordinator), Moataz El Fegeiry (Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies; Egypt), Ghassan Abdallah (Palestinian Human Rights Organisation; Lebanon), Stefan Lütgenau (Bruno Kreisky Foundation; Austria), Hannah Friedman (Public Committee Against Torture in Israel; Israel), Mireille Mendez France (Avocats Sans Frontières; France), Eva Norström (Swedish Refugee Aid; Sweden), Rachel Greenspahn (B'Tselem; Israel), Charles Shamas and Susan Rockwell (Mattin Group; the West Bank)

**Kind of meeting:** EMHRN Palestine Working Group

**Date and place:** 4 February 2005, Vienna, Austria

**Participants:** Anne Massagie (Al-Haq), the West Bank; Rina Rosenberg and Hassan Jabareen (Adalah), Israel; Marie Hoehn (Arab Association for Human Rights), Israel; Per Stadig (International Commission of Jurists), Sweden; Moataz El Fegeiry (Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies), Egypt; Ghassan Abdallah (Palestinian Human Rights Organisation), Lebanon; Stefan Lütgenau (Bruno Kreisky Foundation), Austria; Pierre Charpentier (Palestinian Centre for Human Rights), Gaza; Hannah Friedman (Public Committee Against Torture in Israel), Israel; Marita Roos (EMHRN coordinator), Denmark; Bettina Huber (Novib), Netherlands; Netta Amar (Diakonia), the West Bank

**Kind of meeting:** A working group meeting was held in Austria; the group decided to change its name from "EMHRN working group on Palestine", to "EMHRN working group on Palestine/Israel and Palestinians" (PIP WG)

**Date and place:** 12-13 November 2005, Vienna, Austria

**Participants:** Rouba al-Salem and Randa Siniora (Al-Haq), the West Bank; Rina Rosenberg (Adalah), Israel; Nasser Rego (Arab Association for Human Rights), Israel; Sarit Michaeli (B'Tselem), Israel; Per Stadig (individual member of the EMHRN, lawyer), Sweden; Ghassan Abdallah (Palestinian Human Rights Organisation), Lebanon; Stefan Lütgenau (Bruno Kreisky Foundation), Austria; Louis Frankenthaler (Public Committee Against Torture in Israel), Israel; Eva Norström (Swedish Refugee Aid), Sweden; Marita Roos (EMHRN coordinator), Denmark; Martin Siepermann (ICCO), Netherlands

**Kind of meeting:** Launching of the second Human Rights Review on the EU and Israel, presenting the Review to representatives of the EU (European Parliament, Commission and Council/Member States), to Members of the British Parliament, the British Foreign Office and to a number of civil society organisations in both cities. In London the team also met with the British Parliament's all-party Palestine Group, Labour Friends of Israel and the Media Diversity Institute

**Date and place:** 5-9 December, London, UK and Brussels, Belgium

**Participants:** Rouba al-Salem (Al-Haq, West Bank), Lior Eliasaf-Gurfinkel (Public Committee Against Torture in Israel, Israel), Orna Kohn (Adalah, Israel), Mohammed Zeidan (Arab Association for Human Rights, Israel), Susan Rockwell (Mattin Group, West Bank) and Marita Roos (EMHRN, Denmark)

## **Web**

**Kind of meeting:** EMHRN Web Task Force meeting

**Date and place:** 27 February 2006, Paris, France

**Participants:** Colm Regan (80:20 Educating and Acting for a Better World, Ireland), Omar Grech (Mediterranean Academy for Diplomatic Studies, Malta), Munir Daibes (Aman Website, SIGI project, Jordan), Klaus Slavensky (Danish Institute for Human Rights, Denmark), Lina Qurah (Sisterhood in Global, Jordan), Aiman Haddad (Translator/Arabic Web), Stefan Lütgenau (Bruno Kreisky Foundation, Austria), Fida Abu Atta (Ittijah, Israel), Marit Floe Jorgensen and Line Gamrath Rasmussen (EMHRN)

## **Women**

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting initiated by EMHRN regarding the promotion of women's rights

**Date and place:** 13-14 June 2004, Casablanca, Morocco

**Participants:** Rabéa Naciri (EMHRN Executive Committee's political referent on women), Rachida Tahiri (ADFM; Morocco), Jan de Vries (Humanist Committee on Human Rights; Netherlands), Elena Caselli (Italian Refugee Council; Italy), Bahija Quezini (Fédération Tunisienne pour une citoyenneté des deux rives (FTCR); France/Tunisia), Roselyne Tiset (Ligue des Droits de l'Homme; France), Asier Rodriques and Carmen Pellicer (ACSUR – Las Segovias; Spain), Lina al-Qourah (Sisterhood is Global; Jordan), Leila Hamrouni (Association Tunisienne des femmes démocrates (ATFD); Tunisia) and Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN)

**Kind of meeting:** EMHRN Working Group on Gender meeting

**Date and place:** 28-29 November 2004, Madrid, Spain

**Participants:** Rabéa Naciri (EMHRN Executive Committee's political referent on women), Rachida Tahiri (ADFM; Morocco), Elena Caselli (Italian Refugee Council; Italy), Bahija Quezini (Fédération Tunisienne pour une citoyenneté des deux rives (FTCR); France/Tunisia), Roselyne Tiset (Ligue des Droits de l'Homme; France), Lina al-Qourah (Sisterhood is Global; Jordan), Leila Hamrouni (Association Tunisienne des femmes démocrates (ATFD); Tunisia), Rouba Al-Salam (Al-haqq; Palestine), Rola Hbeichi (Palestinian Human Rights Organisation; Lebanon), Moattaz El-Fegiry (Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies; Egypt), Saskia Bakker (Humanist Committee for Human Rights; Netherlands), Jakob Gamlegaard (Consultant for the Danish MFA to evaluate the EMHRN), Trine Mach (Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke; Denmark) and Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN)

## **TRAINING/CAPACITY BUILDING:**

**Kind of meeting:** Workshop on the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and the Action Plan for Egypt organised by the EMHRN in cooperation with the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies

**Date and place:** 26-27 January 2006, Cairo, Egypt

**Participants:** Bahey El Din Hassan and Moataz El Fegeiry, CIHRS, Kamel Jendoubi, EMHRN, President, Sandrine Grenier, EMHRN, Brussels coordinator; Emilie Dromzée, project assistant, EMHRN; Rabéa Naciri, ADFM, Executive committee EMHRN; Laroussi Abdeljalil, AMDH; Ms Lina Al-Qurah, SIGI; Wafih Ange Al-Asmar, Solida; Rola Badran, PHRO.

**Kind of meeting:** Team-building meeting for the EMHRN Secretariat

**Date and place:** 14-15 October 2004, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi, Colm Regan, Marc Schade-Poulsen, Marit Floe Jorgensen, Sandrine Grenier, Sannie Nielsen, Line Gamrath Rasmussen, Marita Roos and Elaine Duncan Jessen-Klixbüll

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting for all EMHRN staff members from Copenhagen, Rabat and Brussels

**Date and place:** 3-4 January 2006, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** Sandrine Grenier, Emilie Dromzee, Habib Belkouch, Nadia Sebti, Marc Schade-Poulsen, Marit Floe Jorgensen, Line Gamrath Rasmussen, Nels Lyngsoe, Marita Roos, Ashraf Mikhail, and Maibritt Damgaard Nielsen

## **OTHER MEETINGS:**

### **Meetings in relation to EU and EMP policies:**

#### **EMHRN funding**

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with representatives of the European Commission

**Date and place:** 15 January and 19 March 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Kamel Jendoubi, Marc Schade-Poulsen, and Sandrine Grenier

#### **Meetings of the 'Human Rights and Conflict Prevention' NGOs**

**Kind of meeting:** Day-long meeting with the 'Human Rights and Conflict Prevention' NGOs

**Date and place:** 22 January 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting of NGOs discussing the next European Parliament elections, the EIDHR and the neighbouring policy

**Date and place:** 24 February 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** A public hearing on the aspects of human rights in the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) was arranged in the European Parliament by the Subcommittee on Human Rights of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

**Date and place:** 27 January 2005, Brussels, Belgium

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by members Rachida Tahri (Association Démocratique des Femmes du Maroc, ADFM) and Driss El Yazami (Ligue des Droits de l'Homme, LDH and Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme, FIDH)

#### **Human Rights and Democracy NGO meetings**

**Kind of meeting:** The Human Rights and Democracy NGO Network (HRDN) meeting

**Date and place:** 21 April 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** The Human Rights and Democracy NGO Network (HRDN) meeting

**Date and place:** 28 June 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Date and place:** 3 November 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Kind of meeting:** The Human Rights and Democracy NGO Network (HRDN) meeting

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting organised by the Head of the Human Rights unit in the European Commission's Directorate General for External Relations

**Date and place:** 3 December 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** The Human Rights and Democracy NGO Network (HRDN) annual meeting

**Date and place:** 18 January 2005, Brussels, Belgium

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** The Human Rights and Democracy NGO Network (HRDN) meeting

**Date and place:** 19 January 2005, Brussels, Belgium  
**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** The Human Rights and Democracy NGO Network (HRDN) meeting  
**Date and place:** 1 March 2005, Brussels, Belgium  
**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** The Human Rights and Democracy NGO Network (HRDN) meeting  
**Date and place:** 6 June 2005, Brussels, Belgium  
**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** The Human Rights and Democracy NGO Network (HRDN) meeting  
**Date and place:** 16 June 2005, Brussels, Belgium  
**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

### **Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EMP) and European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)**

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with representatives from the European Commission's Human Rights Unit in charge of the Barcelona Process and the Danish representation at the European Union  
**Date and place:** 15 January 2004, Brussels, Belgium  
**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Marc Schade Poulsen, Marit Floe Jorgensen and Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** In partnership with the CIHRS and FIDH, the EMHRN met with representatives from the EU Council, the European Commission and the American government and organised a press conference on the perspective of the EU-US Summit on 26<sup>th</sup> June  
**Date and place:** 22- 23 June 2004, Brussels, Belgium  
**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Kamel Jendoubi (President of the EMHRN), Sandrine Grenier (EMHRN coordinator in Brussels), Bahey El Din Hassan (Director of the CIHRS), Michel Tubiana (Vice-President of the FIDH) and Chadi Sidhom (FIDH representative in Brussels)

**Kind of meeting:** International conference on the ENP organised by the Czech [Association for International Affairs](#)  
**Date and place:** 20-21 May 2005, Prague, Czech Republic  
**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** A public hearing was organised by the EP Sub-committee on Human Rights on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Barcelona Declaration  
**Date and place:** 11 July 2005, Brussels, Belgium  
**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

### **Meetings in relation to EMHRN country issues:**

#### **Tunisia**

**Kind of meeting:** Tunisian human rights activists had meetings with members from the European Commission and the European Parliament  
**Date and place:** 12 October 2004, Brussels, Belgium  
**Participants:** The delegation was led by Kamel Jendoubi, Sihem Bensendrine (Conseil Nationale pour les Libertés en Tunisie) and Khelil Zaoiua (Ligue Tunisienne des Droits de l'Homme)

**Kind of meeting:** The anniversary and General Assembly of the EMHRN member Conseil National pour les Libertés en Tunisie (CNLT)  
**Date and place:** 10-11 December 2004, Tunis, Tunisia



**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Camilla Wass

**Kind of meeting:** The CRLDHT with the support of the EMHRN and FIDH organised a conference in the European Parliament on the relations between the EU and Tunisia, assessments and perspectives of the 10 years of Euro-Mediterranean Partnership

**Date and place:** 2-3 June 2005, Brussels, Belgium

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** A seminar on 'Justice: state of affairs' took place in the French Senate, organised in cooperation with the EMHRN, FIDH, Lawyers without Borders, Belgium, and the French Union of Magistrates

**Date and place:** 16 December 2005, Paris, France

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Kamel Jendoubi

## Turkey

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with Turkish NGOs organized in cooperation with the EMHRN member Human Rights Association (IHD) and EMHRN EC member Reyhan Yalicindag

**Date and place:** 7 February 2006, Ankara, Turkey

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Eva Norstroem and Marc Schade-Poulsen

## Morocco

**Date and place:** 14-18 July 2004, Amman, Jordan

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with members of the CDF; Nizam Assaf (Director of Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies), Saja al-Majali (HR section of the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Mohammad Daoudia (Minister of Political Development and Parliamentary Affairs), Anna Gallo Alvarez (Delegation of the European Commission to Iraq), representatives of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and several Iraqi HR organisations and associations in Jordan

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN President) and Khémaies Ksila (Secretary General of the Tunisian League for Human Rights, LTDH)

## Algeria

**Kind of meeting:** A seminar organised by Le Collectif des familles de disparu(e)s (Algerian association for the families of the disappeared) in cooperation with the EMHRN with the title: "Enforced Disappearances in Algeria: How to Establish a National Truth and Justice Commission?"

**Date and place:** 28 February 2004, Paris, France

**Participants:** More than 50 participants took part in the meeting, among them representatives from the LADDH, including Ali Yahia Abdennour, the EMHRN member CIPA (Madjid Benchikh and others), the LDH (represented by Michel Tubiana), the FIDH (Driss El Yazami) and EMHRN Executive Director Marc Schade-Poulsen

## Egypt

**Kind of meeting:** Meetings with the Foreign Minister of Egypt, Ahmed Abu El-Gheit, the Secretary General of the Arab League, Amr Moussa, the Secretary General of the National Council for Human Rights, Ambassador Mokhless Kotb and the Secretary General of the Arab Organisations for Human Rights, Mohammed Fayek

**Date and place:** June 2005, Cairo, Egypt

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by EMHRN President, Kamel Jendoubi, EC member, Bahey El Din Hassan, Executive Director, Marc Schade-Poulsen and EMHRN coordinator, Marit Floe Jorgensen

## Meetings in relation to EMHRN thematic issues:

## **Economic and Social Rights**

**Kind of meeting:** Workshop on economic and social rights in the Mediterranean region and the impact of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Areas

**Date and place:** 24-28 March 2004, Florence, Italy

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by EMHRN Executive Director Marc Schade-Poulsen

**Kind of meeting:** The first sub-regional meeting on the impact of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership on employment and the right to work

**Date and place:** 28-29 October 2005, Rabat, Morocco

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Khemais Chammari (individual member), Iain Byrne (Human Rights Centre, Essex), Souhad Triki (Collectif 95 Maghreb Egalité) Nouzha Lamrini (ADFM) and Khelil Abdelmoumene (LADDH)

**Kind of meeting:** The second sub-regional meeting on the impact of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership on employment and the right to work

**Date and place:** 11-12 December 2005, Amman, Jordan

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Khemais Chammari (individual member), Iain Byrne (Human Rights Centre, Essex), Marc Schade-Poulsen (Executive Director, EMHRN), Lina Qurah (SIGI), Nizam Assaf (Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies) and Ghassan Abdallah (PHRO, Lebanon)

## **Freedom of expression**

**Kind of meeting:** Seminar on freedom of expression organised by the Centre for Media Freedom in the Middle East and North Africa (CMF-MENA)

**Date and place:** 23-25 January 2004, Morocco

**Participants:** Hafez Abu Sa'da (the Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights), Egypt; George Assaf (Human Rights Institute, the Bar Association), Lebanon; Sihem Ben Sedrine (the Observatory for Freedom of the Press, the Book and Creative Work), Tunisia; Abdelaziz Bennani (l'Organisation Marocaine des Droits Humains), Morocco; Sliman Bouchuiguir (the Libyan League for Human Rights), Libya; Essam Hassan (Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies), Egypt; Slaheddine Jouchi (Tunisian League for the Defense of Human Rights), Tunisia; Aktham Naisse (Committees for the Defense of Democratic Liberties and Human Rights in Syria), Syria; Said Essoulami (CMF-MENA), United Kingdom.

## **Human Rights Education**

**Kind of meeting:** Human Rights Education at The summer school of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies

**Date and place:** July 7-15 2004, Malta

**Participants:** Colm Regan (80:20 Educating and Acting for a Better World; Ireland), Omar Grech (Academy of Diplomatic Studies; Malta) and Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN)

**Kind of meeting:** The EMHRN Human Right Education Working Group meeting

**Date and place:** 11-14 March 2004, Dublin and Belfast, Ireland

**Participants:** Colm Regan (in Dublin) and John Johnston (in Belfast) (both from 80:20 Educating and Acting for a Better World), Ireland; Marian Fadel (Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies), Egypt; Ruth Farrugia (Malta University, Faculty of Law, Mediterranean Master in Human Rights and Democratisation), Malta, Ida Pampiani (Italian Helsinki Committee), Italy; Lina Osseiran Beydoun (FHHRL), Lebanon; Dalal Yassine (Palestinian Human Rights Organisation) Lebanon; Omar Grech (Academy of Diplomatic Studies), Malta; Antonia Papadopoulou (Greek Helsinki Monitor), Greece; Monim El Gak (Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies), Sudan; Theresia Pedersen (Danish Institute for Human Rights), Denmark, and Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN)

## **Arab Human Rights Network**

**Kind of meeting:** Capacity building workshop organised by Balkan Human Rights Network, the Cairo Institute for Human Rights studies and the EMHRN

**Date and Place:** 6-7 Nov 2004, Sarajevo, Bosnia

**Participants:** Kamel Jendoubi (President EMHRN), Bahey El Din Hassan (EC member EMHRN), Theocharis Papamargaris (Treasurer, EMHRN), Chaouqi Benyoub (Moroccan Human Rights Organisation), Karim Fateh (Iraqi Human Rights Organisation), Negad El Borai (Individual Member) and Marc Schade-Poulsen (rapporteur)

**Kind of meeting:** Capacity building workshop organised by Balkan Human Rights Network, the Cairo Institute for Human Rights studies and the EMHRN

**Date and place:** 15-17 January 2005, Cairo, Egypt

**Participants:** Marc Schade Poulsen (EMHRN), Theocharis Papamargaris (EMHRN), Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN), Driss El Yazami (LDH), Bahey El Din Hassan (CIHRS), Khemais (LTDH), Karim Hafidh (The Iraqi Human Rights Society in Denmark), Albert Musliu (Association for Democratic Initiatives), Ranko Helebrant (Croatian Helsinki Committee), Sasa Madacki (Human Rights Centre University of Sarajevo), Snjezana Ivandic (Secretariat of the BHRN), Aida Vezic (Secretariat of the BHRN), Helene Bach (Danish MFA Danida), Issam Hassan (CIHRS), MAgdi Elna'im (CIHRS), Moataz Elfegeri (CIHRS), Abd Elmon'im Elgak (CIHRS), Hafez Abou Sea'daa (Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights), Kamal Abbas (Center of Syndicates Services), Mohammed Elsaied Sa'id (Academic consultant for CIHRS), Amal Abd Elhade (New Woman Center)

## **Migration and Refugees**

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with the UNHCR

**Date and place:** 9 January 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** Contact Group Meeting on EU asylum and immigrations policies in the European Parliament

**Date and place:** 9 November 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Sandrine Grenier

**Kind of meeting:** Conference on migration organised by the ACSUR-Las Segovias

**Date and place:** 26-27 November 2004, Madrid, Spain

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Rachida Tahri (Association Démocratique des Femmes du Maroc)

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with the UNHCR

**Date and place:** 24 February 2005, Geneva, Switzerland

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Kamel Jendoubi

## **Women**

**Kind of meeting:** A seminar on 'Personal Status Codes in the Arab World: Mobilisation of the women's movement and lessons learned', organised by The Association Démocratique des femmes du Maroc (ADFM)

**Date and place:** 11-13 June 2004, Casablanca, Morocco

**Participants:** Rabéa Naciri (EMHRN, Morocco), Leila Hamrouni (l'Association Démocrates des Femmes de Maroc, Morocco), Rachida Tahiri (l'Association Démocrates des Femmes de Maroc, Morocco), Lina Qourah (Sisterhood in Global, Jordan), Bahija Ouezini (Fédération Tunisienne pour une citoyenneté des deux rives, France/Tunisia), Asier Rodriques & Carmen Pellicer (ACSUR, Spain), Elena Casselli (Italian Refugee Council, Italy), Roselyn Tiset (Ligue des Droits de l'Homme, France), Jan de Vries (Humanist Committee on Human Rights, the Netherlands) and Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN, Denmark)

**Kind of meeting:** Working group on Gender meeting

**Date and place:** 28-29 November 2004, Madrid, Spain

**Participants:** Rabéa Naciri (EMHRN, Morocco), Leila Hamrouni (l'Association Démocrates des Femmes de Maroc, Morocco), Rachida Tahiri (l'Association Démocrates des Femmes de Maroc, Morocco), Lina Qourah (Sisterhood in Global, Jordan), Bahija Ouezini (Fédération Tunisienne pour une citoyenneté des deux rives, France/Tunisia), Carmen Pellicer (ACSUR, Spain), Elena Casselli (Italian Refugee Council, Italy), Roselyn Tiset (Ligue des Droits de l'Homme, France), Saskia Bakker, the Netherlands), Rola Hbeichi (PHRO, Lebanon), Moataz El-Fegiry (CIHRS, Egypt), Jakob Gammelgaard (Consultant, Denmark), Trine Mach (Observer, Denmark) and Marit Floe Jorgensen (EMHRN, Denmark)

### **Meetings in relation to establish partnership/outreach:**

#### **Iraq**

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting organised by United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq and Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

**Date and place:** 13-14 December 2004, Geneva, Switzerland

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Kamel Jendoubi

#### **EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders**

**Kind of meeting:** The 6<sup>th</sup> annual EU human rights discussion forum on the implementation of the EU guidelines on human rights defenders, organised by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Date and place:** 9-10 December, The Hague, the Netherlands

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Marc Schade Poulsen

**Kind of meeting:** Annual EU Human Rights Discussion Forum under the British Presidency

**Date and place:** 8-9 December 2005, London, UK

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Marit Floe Jorgensen

#### **Spain**

**Kind of meeting:** Summit on "Democracy, Terrorism and Security" organised by [Club Madrid](#)

**Date and place:** 8-11 March 2005, Madrid, Spain

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Khémaïs Chammari

#### **Danish NGO Network**

**Kind of meeting:** EMHRN coordinated a debate meeting for the Danish NGO Network which was attended by representatives from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Danish civil society and journalists working on the Danish Wider Middle East Initiative

**Date and place:** 15 December 2004, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by [Camilla Wass](#)

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with EMHRN associate member Human Rights Watch and with other key foundations and human rights organisations

**Date and place:** 15-18 November 2004, New York and Washington, USA.

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by EMHRN executive director Marc Schade-Poulsen and coordinator Marit Floe Jorgensen

#### **Algeria**

**Date and place:** 5-8 November, Paris, France

**Kind of meeting:** A tribunal on Human rights violations in Algeria; it was the 32nd session of le Tribunal permanent des peuples organised by Le Comité Justice pour l'Algérie with the support of several national and international human rights organisations.

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Kamel Jendoubi (President), Marc Schade-Poulsen (Executive Director) and CIPA (Comité pour la Paix en Algerie)

### **Arab Civil Forum**

**Kind of meeting:** A forum entitled: "Is the Arab World Moving towards Democratic Reform and Enhancement of Human Rights?", organised by the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) in cooperation with the Association for Defending Rights and Freedoms (ADL), the Palestinian Human Rights Organisation, the EMHRN, the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and the European Commission.

**Date and place:** 19-22 March 2004, Beirut, Lebanon

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by treasurer Theocharis Papamargaris (Greek Committee for International Democratic Solidarity)

**Kind of meeting:** The EU Human Rights Discussion Forum under the British Presidency

**Date and place:** 9 December 2005, London, UK

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Marit Floe Jorgensen

### **G8 Forum**

**Kind of meeting:** NGO meeting organised by the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, the EMHRN, the FIDH, and the Moroccan Human Rights Organisation (OMDH)

**Date and place:** 8-9 December 2004, Morocco

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Kamel Jendoubi

### **Arab- European Dialogue**

**Kind of meeting:** Training and Information Seminar for Young Diplomats in the Euro-Mediterranean Region, organised by the Academy of Diplomatic Studies, University of Malta

**Date and place:** 20-25 April 2004, Malta

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Marit Floe Jorgensen

**Kind of meeting:** Seminar organised by the Heinrich Boell Foundation on 'Beyond Iraq – a Trialogue on Modernisation, Democracy and Security in the Greater Middle East'

**Date and place:** 25-26 May 2004, Berlin, Germany

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Marit Floe Jorgensen

**Kind of meeting:** An Arab-European Legal Humanitarian Dialogue organised by the [Arab Program for Human Rights Activists](#)

**Date and place:** 4-5 March 2005, Amman, Jordan

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by treasurer Theocharis Papamargaris

### **Egypt**

**Kind of meeting:** Workshop organized by the think tank [FRIDE](#)

**Date and place:** 14-16 January 2005, Madrid, Spain

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Marc Schade Poulsen

### **Euro-Med Platform**

**Kind of meeting:** The Platform follow-up group meeting

**Date and place:** 5-6 March 2004, Paris, France

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Line G. Rasmussen

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with the European Commission

**Date and place:** 18 May 2004, Brussels, Belgium

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Kamel Jendoubi (EMHRN President), Marc Schade-Poulsen (EMHRN Executive Director), and Mourad Allal (coordinator of the Platform)

**Kind of meeting:** The Platform follow-up group meeting in Paris

**Date and place:** 28-29 May 2004, Paris, France

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Line G. Rasmussen and Marc Schade Poulsen

**Kind of meeting:** The Platform held its first extended meeting

**Date and place:** 25-26 June 2004, Limasol, Cyprus

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Line G. Rasmussen

**Kind of meeting:** EuroMed Civil Forum

**Date and place:** 1-3 March 2005, Luxembourg

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by Kamel Jendoubi, Marc Schade-Poulsen, Line Gamrath Rasmussen, Maibritt Nielsen, Camilla Wass

**Kind of meeting:** The EuroMed Non Governmental Platform regional seminar

**Date and place:** 29-30 September 2005, Malaga, Spain

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Michel Tubiana

**Kind of meeting:** The third EuroMed Trade Union Forum

**Date and place:** 5-7 November 2005, Barcelona, Spain

**Participant:** The EMHRN was represented by Line G. Rasmussen

#### **Meetings in relation to dialogue with governments:**

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, North Africa Desk

**Date and place:** 4-6 February 2005, London, UK

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by President Kamel Jendoubi and Khémais Ksila

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with British Foreign Office in London

**Date and place:** 4-6 February 2005, London, UK

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by President Kamel Jendoubi and Bahey El Din Hassan (CIHRS)

**Kind of meeting:** Meeting with representatives from the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Gabriele Boner, Coordinator for the Barcelona process, and Jochen Möller, desk officer for North Africa

**Date and place:** 25 November 2004, Berlin, Germany

**Participants:** The EMHRN was represented by President Kamel Jendoubi and Executive Director Marc Schade-Poulsen

#### **Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Foundation (EMHRF):**

**Kind of meeting:** Launching of the Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual EU Human Rights Discussion Forum on the implementation of the EU guidelines on Human Rights Defenders, organised by the Dutch Presidency,

**Date and place:** 9 December 2004, The Hague, the Netherlands

**Participants:** The EMHRF Board

**Kind of meeting:** The first board meeting of the Euro- Mediterranean Human Rights Foundation

**Date and place:** 6-7 February 2005, London, UK

**Participants:** The EMHRF Board

**Kind of meeting:** Board meeting of the Euro- Mediterranean Human Rights Foundation

**Date and place:** 13-14 June 2005, Cairo, Egypt

**Participants:** The EMHRF Board

**Kind of meeting:** Board meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Foundation

**Date and place:** 5-6 January 2006, Paris, France

**Participants:** The EMHRF Board

**Annex 3:**

**New members:**



**7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006**

**PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS**

(max 2 pages)

Date 16/03/2006

**Name of new member** ACSUR-Las Segovias (Asociación para la Cooperación con el Sur)

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☒ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** José Moisés Martín Carretero

**Residence:** Madrid

**Born** (if individuals)/ **Established** (if organisation) in (year): 1986

**Legal status of organisation** association

**Number of members** 875

**Number of staff** 49

**Board members of the Organisation** 25

**Main Human Rights Objectives**

- To develop solidarity actions and projects of cooperation that serve for the improvement of living conditions of the population and the realization of social, economic, political and juridical ordainment that has been freely elected by the people.
- To work for the promotion and defense of human, economic and cultural rights
- To raise awareness the public opinion through actions, projects and programmes of Development Education with a rights based approach.

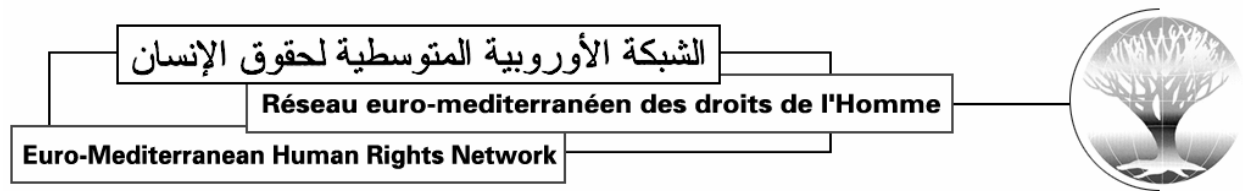


- To focus on work of political pressure and incidence trying to channelize the most needed demands of the people in the South and denouncing the unjust international order that impedes development and the implementation of Human Rights.

**Main Human Rights Activities**

Barcelona +10 Civil Event, Mediterranean women programme ([www.mediterraneas.org](http://www.mediterraneas.org)), Migrants Economic, Social and Cultural Rights project, 86 development projects in the field, several development education activities and lobby actions on Palestine and Western Sahara situation.

The presentation is written by David Ortiz



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 20/3/ 2006

**Name of new member** Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☒ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** Isam Yonis, General Manager

**Residence:** Gaza, Palestine

**Born** (if individuals)/ **Established** (if organisation) **in (year):** 1999

**Legal status of organisation** Non profit organisation

**Number of members** none

**Number of staff** 26

#### **Board members of the Organisation**

Dr. Kammal Al-Sharafi, former Health Minister and Member of the Parliament

Nafeth Al-Madhoun, Lawyer

Mazen Shaqqura, Human Rights activist

Mohammed Dahman, Director of Democracy and Labor Rights Center

#### **Main Human Rights Objectives**

- To support all efforts to implement international law principles in all issues related to the Palestinian territories, and to enable Palestinian people to practice their legitimate rights, particularly the right to self-determination and establishing a state
- Protect, respect, and promote human rights standards which are accepted internationally, particularly economic and social rights. Work to adopt Palestinian laws that are compatible with these standards.
- Consolidation of democratic structures and the separation between the deferent branches of government. Strengthening the rule of law, accountability and transparency, and civil activities in the Palestinian society.

#### **Main Human Rights Activities**

1. Monitoring and documenting human rights violations

2. Raising awareness in human rights issues and capacity building
3. Provide legal assistance to victims of human rights violations, and represent them in courts
4. Conduct legal review of laws that are adopted in Palestine
5. Conduct research and analytical reports of the economic, social, and cultural situation of human rights.

The presentation is written by Ghada Snunu, Administrative Assistance



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 17/3/2006

**Name of new member** Amman Center for Human Rights Studies

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☒ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** Anbara ABu Aiash

**Residence:** Jordan

**Born (if individuals)/ Established (if organisation) in (year):** 1999

**Legal status of organisation** Independent Studies Center

**Number of members** 159

**Number of staff** 9

#### Board members of the Organisation

- 1-Dr.Nizam Assaf
- 2-Dr.Mohamad Al-Tarawneh
- 3-Dr.Iman Al-Husein
- 4-Dr.Ibrahim Hijazen
- 5- Anbara Abu Aiash
- 6-Jamal Al-Khateb
- 7-Obaeda Faris
- 8-Attorney Zahaa Al-Majali
- 9-Attorney Manhal Al-Saede

#### Main Human Rights Objectives

- 1-To provide a scientifically-based statistical and information base on the local, regional and international human rights declarations, covenants, and conventions.
- 2-To provide a democratic platform for dialogue, coordination and integration of the efforts of the human rights governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- 3-To disseminate the human rights culture and to spread knowledge of it to all those who are interested in the various civil society institutions and government institutions.
- 4-To help government and non-government organizations in monitoring, documenting, and following up the human rights situation and to strengthen and upgrade human rights on all the legislative and applied levels.

5-To pay special attention to the human rights of the fragile segments of society, such as the children, old people, and people with special needs.

6-To participate in the building of the state that is governed by law, institutions and the democratic humanitarian society.

7-To participate in the process of reviewing the local legislation, laws and instructions and to offer scientific proposals to adapt them to the international norms of human rights.

8-To contribute to the strengthening of the humanitarian rights of women so as to enable them to effectively participate in public life and in decision making.

9-To support the actives of human rights, particularly those who participated in specialized and foreign session human rights.

10-To train those concerned on the various issues pertaining to human rights, with emphasis on the training of trainers

### **Main Human Rights Activities**

The presentation is written by Jamal Al Khateb,Excutive Director



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 21/032006

**Name of new member** Association Marocaine des Droits Humains AMDH

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☒ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:**

Abdelhamid Amine, AMDH President

Abdeljalil LAROUCSI - deals with the EMHRN dossier

**Residence:** Rabat - Morocco

**Born** (if individuals)/ **Established** (if organisation) in (year): 1979

**Legal status of organisation** non profit-making NGO directed to the public benefit

**Number of members** 6000

**Number of staff** 4

**Board members of the Organisation** 60

#### Main Human Rights Objectives

- To protect human dignity and ensure respect for human rights in their universality and globality
- To work towards ratification by Morocco of all the international pacts relating to human rights and to work towards Moroccan law harmonising with these pacts
- To defend, protect and promote human rights
- To denounce and condemn all violations of human rights
- To show solidarity with and support the victims of human rights violations

#### Main Human Rights Activities

Human rights violations: AMDH monitors human rights violations, adopts standpoints and measures to win justice for victims.

Outreach efforts: it appeals to the general public with the aim of broadening and deepening understanding of human rights

Human rights training: This mainly involves members of the AMDH but is very much open to human rights associations, women's organisations, trade unions and educational establishments.

Human rights education: AMDH organises summer camps for young people, summer schools for secondary school pupils and teachers, training sessions for women living in insecure and precarious circumstances

Publications and information: AMDH publishes a monthly journal in Arabic specialising in human rights (ATTADAMOUN=Solidarity) with several pages in French, together with an annual report and general or specific reports on human rights in Morocco; it also publishes books and pamphlets, especially giving details of training courses. It also publishes internal bulletins on debates within the association.

The presentation is written by Khadija Ryadi (member of the Central Bureau of the AMDH).



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 13/04/2006

**Name of new member** Association Tunisienne des Femmes Démocratiques (ATFD)

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☒ Associate ☒

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** Khédiya Chérif

**Residence:** 67, Avenue de la Liberté, 1002 Tunis, Tunisia

**Born** (if individuals)/ **Established** (if organisation) **in (year):** Aug. 06, 1989

**Legal status of organisation** Non-profit association

**Number of members** 125

**Number of staff** 05

**Board members of the Organisation** 09

#### Main Human Rights Objectives

- In furtherance of international declarations, instruments and conventions on human rights, in particular the Convention against all forms of discrimination against women (Copenhagen), ATFD works for:
- the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women
- the protection of women's acquired rights and the further development of Tunisian legislation guaranteeing effective gender equality
- the evolution of patriarchal mentalities
- the full participation of women in the social and political life of the country
- the full recognition of the citizenship rights of women
- the elimination of all forms of violence against women
- In accordance with inalienable principles:  
the rights of women are inseparable from all other human rights



the rights of women are an essential element of the struggle for the elimination of all forms of discrimination based on race, sex or beliefs

the rights of women are an essential element of the struggle to establish genuine democracy both in public and private life.

### **Main Human Rights Activities**

To promote and defend the human rights of women:

ATFD helps raise awareness in various fields (legal, educational, violence, public life) by organizing seminars, training workshops, awareness campaigns, by taking public stands on various matters that relate to the defence of women's rights and freedoms (declarations, petitions, press releases), by counselling women and by publishing material (books, brochures, bulletins, posters, leaflets, postcards).

Since 2000, ATFD has been campaigning to obtain equality of treatment in inheritance law.

Since 2000, ATFD has launched an awareness campaign related to sexual harassment at work and at school.

Since 2005, ATFD has been working with LTDH et FIDH to obtain the withdrawal of existing reservations to CEDAW.

The presentation is written by ATFD



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 24/03/2006

**Name of new member** Collectif des familles de disparu(e)s en Algérie

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☒ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** Nassera Dutour

**Residence:** Paris

**Born (if individuals)/ Established (if organisation) in (year):** 1998

**Legal status of organisation** Association constituted under the French law of 1901

**Number of members** 70

**Number of staff** 7

#### **Board members of the Organisation**

Fatima Yous, présidente  
 Joëlle Brunerie-Kauffman, vice-présidente  
 François della Sudda, Secrétaire général  
 Nadia AMIRI, Vice-présidente  
 Karima Hamache  
 Khadija Bechiri  
 Fatima Guerrab  
 Nassera Dutour, porte-parole  
 Aïcha Berroua  
 Zahia Bouaffas  
 Adel Rachedi  
 Khammar El Yazami  
 Serge Jakobowicz  
 Gérard Dutour  
 Farouk Belkeddar

**Main Human Rights Objectives**

- Protection and promotion of the rights of victims of forced disappearance in Algeria
- Protection of the rights of victims of forced disappearance on the regional plane (Maghreb/Middle East) and international plane
- Establishment of a Truth and Justice Commission in Algeria

**Main Human Rights Activities**

Collecting the testimonies of the victims of forced disappearance in Algeria

Establishing files on forced disappearances

Legal monitoring of the files

Delivering communications to the UN Human Rights Committee

Lodging complaints with the UN Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearance

Delivering communications to the UN Working Group on arbitrary detention

Establishing a data base on forced disappearance in Algeria

Lobbying on the national and international plane

The presentation is written by Nassera Dutour



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 22/March2006

**Name of new member** Federación de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos humanos-España

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☒ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** Luisa Sirvent

**Residence:** Spain

**Born (if individuals)/ Established (if organisation) in (year):** 1989

**Legal status of organisation** Association

**Number of members** 12

**Number of staff** 2

**Board members of the Organisation** 4

#### Main Human Rights Objectives

- Promoting all kinds of education in Human Rights
- Public denounce of human rights violations
- Institutional lobby for the defense of human rights
- Join member's efforts in their human rights work
- Defense and promotion of Human Rights, as they're recognized in the United Nation's Declaration of 1948 and other instruments of international law.

#### Main Human Rights Activities

Yearly participation in the United Nations' Commission of Human Rights.

Denounce of human rights abuses in Palestine and Colombia.

Participation in national, european and international networks.

Advocacy in individual cases of human right's abuses.

The presentation is written by Monica Grunfeld (Secretary)



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 22/032006

**Name of new member** Humanist Committee on Human Rights

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☒ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** Marike Radstaake

**Residence:** Utrecht, The Netherlands

**Born (if individuals)/ Established (if organisation) in (year):** 1981

**Legal status of organisation** Foundation

**Number of members** none

**Number of staff** 14

**Board members of the Organisation** Rob Buitenweg – chair, associate professor in human rights, University for Humanistics, Utrecht; Gemma Crijns – vice chair, Managing director of EIBE / Institute for Responsible Business at Nyenrode Business University; Els Boerhof – treasurer, manager of FMO's Micro and Small Enterprise Fund (MASSIF); Els Berman, Board member of Humanitas; Frans Huijnen, senior advisor, Dutch ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport and former chair of Amnesty International Dutch Section; Jitta Miedema, Judge; Marc Moquette, Senior advisor, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

#### Main Human Rights Objectives

The Humanist Committee on Human Rights (HOM) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) based in the Netherlands which is dedicated to the implementation of human rights throughout the world. HOM embraces the concepts of universality, indivisibility and interdependence of human rights. Fulfilment of one set of rights is often a condition for the realisation of others. Civil and political rights allow people to strive for the enjoyment of their social, economic and cultural rights. The reverse is also true: people cannot enjoy their freedoms fully if their socio-economic position limits their opportunities for self-development.

HOM is convinced that changes towards a more just world will only be possible if they are directed towards empowerment of people and improvement in the human rights situation. Respect for human rights is a precondition for human dignity and vice versa. A Human Rights Based Approach implies that human rights be taken as a starting point for the development of policies and practices. To this end, human rights theory needs to be translated to an operational level. Also, in order to enhance the positive effects of policies and

practices, it requires the development of instruments that enable measuring the effects and impact of these policies and practices on the fulfilment of people's human rights. HOM aims to contribute to this process by its work on such instruments combined with capacity enhancement.

HOM has a humanist background. Human dignity, freedom and equality lie at the heart of humanism and guide the work of the organisation. HOM is committed to the implementation of human rights and translates human rights norms to practice.

HOM is committed to enhancing the implementation of human rights by the development and promotion of instruments that maximise the effects and impacts of policies and practices on a particular human rights situation. These instruments will assist various stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations, governmental institutions and the business community, in the formulation and implementation of effective policies. It will also help to prevent negative effects. By taking human rights norms as a starting point and offering methods to assess the consequences and impact of policy and activities in specific human rights situations, HOM contributes to the operationalisation of a Human Rights Based Approach.

The main objectives are to:

- Develop, test and promote instruments that enable measuring effect and impact of policies and practices on human rights. HOM does this in close cooperation with various stakeholders;
- Facilitate a platform for exchange on theory and practice of HRIA: HOM functions as a liaison between the academic research in this area and the practical requirements;
- Enhance the capacities of organisations, to improve the effectiveness of human rights work.

### **Main Human Rights Activities**

HOM has a track record of translating human rights principles into practice in relation to specific thematic areas. In 2005 HOM has taken the initiative to set up an online Human Rights Impact Resource Centre, that:

- Will be a portal to all online information relating to human rights impact assessment;
- Brings together experts and organisations working on HRIA and provide space for networking, strategising and exchange;
- Provides an online workshop for the development, testing, training, use and maintenance of instruments and tools that support organisations to assess human rights, the opportunities for improvement and strategies for advocacy and change;
- Supports the development of a sustainable network of stakeholders who will advance the development, understanding and implementation of HRIA.

HOMs activities concentrate on the following thematic areas:

- **Women's Human rights**

The various women's human rights projects of HOM help NGOs to base their lobby or dialogue with the government or other international actors on human rights arguments and - where possible- advise the government on possible strategies to improve the implementation of women's human rights. HOM has developed the Women's Health Rights Assessment Instrument (HeRWAI), a hands-on tool for NGOs and women's organisations to assist them in making an analysis of the effects of a specific government policy on women's health rights. Together with 14 partners in the Western Balkans, HOM has developed and applied a method to analyse the compliance of national legislation and policy on domestic violence with international norms (the Legal Advocacy Tool Domestic Violence).

- **Enforced disappearances**

The Linking Solidarity project focuses on capacity building of organisations of family members of disappeared and strengthening of regional federations. It develops tools and is engaged in lobbying activities with the aim

of increasing the effect of the new and existing UN instruments to protect all persons from involuntary disappearances. The project facilitates exchange, searches for and distributes information, provides incentives and ideas, and gives advice on all relevant questions concerning enforced disappearances.

- Human rights and business

The Human rights and business project focuses on the development of a basic human rights and business approach for companies. It engages larger MNE's as well as Small Medium Enterprises (SME's) in human rights matters. As a pilot-component, the Human Rights and Business Project aims to enhance the capacity of selected civil society and business organisations in South Africa. HOM works with the Human Rights Compliance Assessment Instrument of the Danish Institute of Human Rights.

- Human Rights at Home: EU internal and external human rights policy:

HOM has developed a general eight-steps Human Rights Impact Assessment Approach, HRIA. This can be used to determine ways in which a policy, programme, or project will have a maximum positive impact. Elements of this approach are being used for example in a project aimed at assessing the combined effects and impact of new regulations adopted in the context of the fight against terrorism, in The Netherlands. In the coming years, HOM intends to undertake case studies focussing on EU human rights policies regarding third countries.

The presentation is written by Marike Radstaake, Programme manager Human Rights Impact Assessment/deputy director HOM. For more information please consult our website: [www.hom.nl](http://www.hom.nl)



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 21/032006

**Name of new member** Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☒ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** Ms. Søs Nissen

**Residence:** Denmark

**Born** (if individuals)/ **Established** (if organisation) **in (year):** 1982

**Legal status of organisation** a self-governing institution

**Number of members** None

**Number of staff** 66

#### **Board members of the Organisation**

Mr Steen Bech, Supreme Court Attorney

(appointed by the Danish General Council of the Bar) (Chairman)

Ms Merete Bakke, Senior lecturer, Bachelor of Dental Surgery

(appointed by the University of Copenhagen)

Mr Hans Buhl, MD

(appointed by the Danish Medical Association)

Ms Grete Christensen, 1st Vicepresident in the Danish Nurses' Organization

(appointed by the Danish Nurses' Organization)

Mr Hans Gullestrup, Professor PhD (Econ.)

(appointed by the Danish Research Agency)

Mr Laurids S. Lauridsen, Professor, M.Sc. (Political Science), PhD

(appointed by Department of International Development Studies, University of Roskilde)

Ms Anne-Grethe Madsen, Reg. Nurse and Master in International Health (MIH)

(appointed by the staff)

Ms Randi Nordahl, Psychologist

(appointed by The Danish Psychological Society)

Mr Henrik Rønsbo, M.Sc, PhD, Anthropologist (appointed by the staff)

Mr Hans-Otto Sano, PhD, Senior Analyst (appointed by the Board)



Mr Ivan Thaulow, Head of research unit (appointed by udpeget af The Danish National Institute of Social Research)

### **Main Human Rights Objectives**

- to expose and document torture on a health professional basis
- to develop clinical diagnoses and treatment methods of torture survivors on the basis of systematic examination of the torture survivors and research into torture and organised violence
- to apply the experiences thus achieved in the education and advocacy in order to contribute to the global effort to abolish torture.

### **Main Human Rights Activities**

1. carrying out project work in the South in co-operation with centres and programmes aiming at treating and rehabilitating torture survivors and preventing torture
2. conducting education and advocacy in order to promote knowledge of the reasons for torture, conventions and laws, treatment methods and prevention of torture
3. running a centre that undertakes clinical research and method development in order to provide knowledge on torture and the form and extent of the after-effects of torture as well as treats and rehabilitates persons who have been subjected to torture

The presentation is written by Ms. Søs Nissen



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 17/32006

**Name of new member** Iraqi Human Rights Society - Demark (IHRS)

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☒ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** Karim Al-Rabi'e

**Residence:** Denmark

**Born** (if individuals)/ **Established** (if organisation) in (year): 7/12/1997

**Legal status of organisation** registered in Denmark

**Number of members** 54

**Number of staff** None

**Board members of the Organisation** Karim Al-Rabi'e, Ali Diwan, Sa'ad Al-Zubaidi, Ena'am Musalam, Gamal Yunis, and 2 substitute colleagues.

#### Main Human Rights Objectives

- Defending human rights and basic freedoms of Iraqi people, which is guaranteed in the International Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant conventions.
- To work toward establishing a national network for human rights in Iraq, which includes organizations and activists who are exclusively concerned with this field. It would be a focal point to coordinate the efforts of these activists and human rights organizations in the process of defending human rights, documenting violations, and promoting human rights culture at the national level as a step to unify the work in a later stage.
- Condemn and expose policies of racial, religious, and sectarian discrimination anywhere in the world.
- Strengthening friendly relations and cooperation with all Arab, Danish, and international humanitarian organizations.
- Support the right of Iraqi people in achieving sovereignty. Encourage the establishment of a permanent constitution that separates between the three branches of government.

**Main Human Rights Activities**

IHRS organized many seminars about the situation of human rights in Iraq, in cooperation with other human rights organizations; participated in many conferences and seminars about the situation of human rights; sent memoranda and appeals in regard to the human rights situation in Iraq; adopted many cases pertaining to Iraqi refugees in Jordan, Turkey, and Denmark, in addition to cases pertaining to human rights violations in Iraq and provided financial support. It is worth mentioning here that IHRS have never received any financial support from any donor and that its activities are funded through the dues of its members and their voluntary work. Hence, IHRS does not have staff because of its financial situation. IHRS engaged in other activities, like publishing a magazine about the human rights situation in Iraq which used to be called "Al-Wejdan". This magazine was issued for more than 5 years, but it was suspended for financial reasons. Currently, our work is concentrated on activities that are suitable to voluntary work like seminars, meetings, appeals, and preparing reports about the human rights situation in Iraq.

The presentation is written by Karim Al-Rabi'e



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 12/042006

**Name of new member** Foundation for International Studies

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☐ Regular ☐ Associate ☒

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** Prof Lino Briguglio

**Residence:** Malta

**Born** (if individuals)/ **Established** (if organisation) **in (year):** 1986

**Legal status of organisation** Semi Government Organisation

**Number of members**

**Number of staff** 25

**Board members of the Organisation**

#### Main Human Rights Objectives

- To enhance and promote human rights and democratization in civil society, government and industry
- 2. To promote the universal principles of human rights, to strengthen democratization, good governance and the rule of law
- 3. To promote in particular the rights of women and the rights of the child, the abolition of torture, the death penalty and the eradication of racism and xenophobia.
- 4. To help prepare the basis for future intra-regional dialogue and collaboration among adversary states.
- 5. To help promote stability and security in the Mediterranean region and thus contribute to world peace.
- 6. To contribute towards long-term sustainability of business investment, thus helping develop economic prosperity which is respectful to human rights and democracy.

- 7. To ensure the widest possible diffusion of information relating to EU policies and actions in favour of Human Rights and Democratization.
- 8. To promote and enrich educational resources in the region, including human resources, in the field of human rights and democratization
- 9. To produce a number of graduates in Human Rights and Democratization from the southern countries especially from those areas which have a big human rights deficit. The ultimate objection is that these graduates, on their return home, will have diffuse a human rights culture in their country through their multiplier effect.
- 10. Provide participants with the operational skills required to operate effectively in a national and regional context through lectures by renowned and experiences personalities working in the field and through internships
- 11. Inoculate in the participants a stronger desire and a biggest commitment to work harder for the improvement of human rights and democratization in their respective countries and in the Mediterranean region as a whole.
- 12. To encourage graduates from Mediterranean Master's to link up with graduates of other regional programmes so that a strong network of Human Rights activities is formed which can exert much stronger influence than that of a single individual.

### **Main Human Rights Activities**

The presentation is written by



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 18/03 2006

**Name of new member** Jon Rud

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☒ Regular ☐ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:**

**Residence:** Altea, Spain

**Born** (if individuals)/ **Established** (if organisation) **in (year):** 04.03.1937

**Legal status of organisation**

**Number of members**

**Number of staff**

**Board members of the Organisation**

**Main Human Rights Objectives**

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**Main Human Rights Activities**

Co-founder, member and later Chairman of the Norwegian Bar Human Rights Committee (1984-2000)

Chairman of Legal Committee of Amnesty International Norway (1984-1986)

Chairman of Amnesty International Norway (1986-1988)

Co-founder and Chairman of the Norwegian Council for the Rights of the Kurdish People (1994-2000)

Member of the Human Rights Advisory Committee to the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1997-2000)

Chairman of the EMHRN Kurdish Working Group (2003-)

Secretary General of the EU Turkey Civic Commission (2004-)

Legal assistance to refugees in Norway, particularly Kurds and other people from the Middle East.

Legal Advisor in the Kurdish Human Rights Project legal team in various human rights cases brought against Turkey

The presentation is written by Jon Rud



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 23/03/2006

**Name of new member** Negad El Borai

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☒ Regular ☐ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:** Nr. Negad El Borai

**Residence:** No. 26(a), Sherif Street, Emobilia Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Downtown, Cairo, Egypt

**Born** (if individuals)/ **Established** (if organisation) **in (year):** 2000

**Legal status of organisation** Legal Civil Association

**Number of members** 1

**Number of staff** 18 Full time, with many external consultants and trainers.

**Board members of the Organisation** Negad El-Borai, Director, Senior Partner; Nebal El Borai, Partner, Coordinator of Financial Unit; Husain Kamel, Administrative Coordinator; Amal Abd Alfatah, Coordinator of Legal Assistance Unit

#### **Main Human Rights Objectives**

- Provide Legal Aid in the Freedom of Expression
- Conduct research and training in the fields of law, human rights and democracy

## **Main Human Rights Activities**

Recent projects organized and designed by UG include but are not limited to:

A training course for lawyers on the protection of intellectual property rights and industrial copyrights with the participation of the Economic Union Council affiliated with the Arab League;

6 training courses for female candidates in local council elections in cooperation with the Egyptian Centre for Women's Rights;

2 training courses to raise the capacity of local council members of the Cairo governorate in cooperation with The Decision (al-Qarar) Centre for Consulting. These training courses were funded by Dayconia, Sweden;

5 training courses in Jordan in participation with the Center for the Protection and Freedom of Journalists on the mechanisms of legal protection for those working in media. The courses were attended by 500 lawyers and 100 journalists;

Training courses for police officers and members of the public prosecution for the UNDP Capacity Building Program in the Field of Human Rights;

Training courses for lawyers on the new associations' law in cooperation with the Norwegian Human Rights fund and the Swiss Embassy in Cairo;

Training course for journalists and lawyers in Alexandria with the cooperation of the Embassy of the Netherlands on freedom of expression;

The "Looking to the Future" project, with the support of the Middle Eastern Partnership Initiative (MEPI). The project aimed to raise awareness about the 2005 parliamentary elections through the provision of training and support of mid-level party leaders, potential candidates, electoral delegates and voters.

In cooperation with the Norwegian Human Rights Fund and the Swiss Embassy in Cairo, UG formed the Egyptian Lawyers' Network in Defense of Freedom of Expression and Association. The Network is comprised of 30 lawyers in private practice throughout Egypt. It is also through the support of these partners that we have been able to provide capacity building for civil associations in the areas of legal, financial and program management.

Furthermore, 2005 saw the launching of the following projects:

- Legal Defense of Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Belief, and Combating War Propaganda: Training of 25 mid-level legal professionals on the legal framework of freedom of expression and belief within the Egyptian legal context. (March 2005 – March 2006);
- Torture in Egypt: The Crime and The punishment: A quantitative analysis of Egyptian public opinion on the prevalence of torture in the Egyptian penal system. (March 2005 – March 2006);
- Working for Change, Part II: Advanced capacity building training and legal aid for civil associations. (March 2005 – March 2006);

The United Group has published a number of monographs, research papers and guidebooks, including "A Door into the Desert", which was a study of the Egyptian Parliamentary Elections, and "The Guillotine and the Pit", a study of the freedom of expression in Egypt. The United Group's publications can be accessed in both Arabic and English on the website: [www.ug-law.com](http://www.ug-law.com).



The United Group has had the pleasure of working with, and receiving funding from the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, the Norwegian Human Rights Fund, the Dutch Embassy in Cairo, the Swiss Embassy in Cairo, and the United States State Department (MEPI).

For further information on the United Group and its activities, please visit our website at: [www.ug-law.com](http://www.ug-law.com)

The presentation is written by



## 7TH EMHRN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MADRID 12-14 MAY 2006

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

(max 2 pages)

Date 23/03/2006

**Name of new member** Georges J. ASSAF

**EMHRN member category:** Individual ☒ Regular ☐ Associate ☐

**Contact person in relation to the EMHRN:**

**Residence:** Beirut/LEBANON

**Born (if individuals)/ Established (if organisation) in (year):** 16/04/1951

**Legal status of organisation**

**Number of members**

**Number of staff**

**Board members of the Organisation**

**Main Human Rights Objectives**

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#### **Main Human Rights Activities**

Georges ASSAF has an international experience for 20 years in the field of Human Rights and institutional development, exposure to the civil society through tenures in Human Rights networks encompassing Asia Pacific, EuroMed, Francophone, and MENA countries, personal links with NGOs and with relevant governmental sectors in many countries, equal fluency in French, English and Arabic, sensitivity to multicultural environments coming myself from a plural multiethnic, multireligious society, diplomatic skills developed through contacts with high ranking foreign affairs officers in international fora and several countries, all elements indispensable to soundly develop initiatives in the Human Rights field, combined with good knowledge of the UN mandates, mechanisms and procedures. especially those related to Human Rights and Development and a solid education and academic background together with a track record in design, fund raising and management of Human Rights projects and a history in leadership in this field.

A lawyer and activist for over 24 years, Georges Assaf is specialized in Human Rights litigation (established precedent by the Higher Court of Justice in Lebanon condemning discrimination against women).

He is an expert in institutional development and a consultant to UNDP, EC and OIF (judicial reform, international judicial cooperation, training of legal professionals in Human Rights, evaluation of Human Rights projects, Human Rights and human development policy analysis).

He has a sound knowledge of International law (Institutional Law, State Responsibility, Responsibility of TNCs, Law of Treaties, Treaty Monitoring), experience with international and intergovernmental organisations in the field of Human Rights and with UN Human Rights mechanisms (participated to the Commission on Human Rights yearly sessions and to the Sub-Commission - Working Groups meetings - as well as UNHCR ExCom meetings for over 10 years as a representative of ICVA in Geneva and Chair of its Inter-Agency Task Force on IDPs) served as a member of the UN Task Force on Disaster Preparedness.

He was invited to attend sessions of the Convention on the Right of the Child and contributed a case-study to the UN Graça Machel Report on Child Soldiers.

He is a member of the Steering Committee of the EU-UNDP Project on Women's Rights and Family Law in the Arab region.

Prior to his appointment as legal advisor to Penal Reform International regional office for Arab countries, he represented PRI in Lebanon.

He participated in fact-finding missions commissioned by World Council of Churches/Caritas Internationalis as a MENA representative on its International Ecumenical Consultative Committee for Refugees (IECCR), monitored elections in Senegal, advised on the Democratic Transition Institutions in the Democratic Republic of Congo (notably the Truth Commission), contributed to the process of establishing an ombudsman in Lebanon and Jordan; he is co-founder and member of the ME Network of Centres and Programmes for Rehabilitation of Victims of Torture (an affiliate of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims - IRCT).

As a consultant to the EC, he traveled to MEDA countries to establish a framework for International judicial cooperation, combating organized crime, training of legal professionals in the Rule of Law and Democratization to be implemented by the EC Justice and Home Affairs Directorate.

He is presently a Member of the Steering Committee of the Francophone Network of Institutions and Centers for Human Rights, Democracy and Peace (31 institutions in Asia-Pacific, Africa, Northern America, Europe) under the umbrella of the OIF.

He is a member of the Beirut Bar Association, International Bar Association (London), Union internationale des Avocats (Paris) and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) with a history of leadership in bar activities; he served on the Beirut Bar Association Council and on its Disciplinary Council, founded and chaired its Legal Aid Commission, founded and headed its Human Rights Institute and initiated a process to establish similar institutes with the Council of Morocco Bar Associations and the Algerian Bar. Prior to his appointment as Senior Adviser on Human Rights and International Relations to the President of the Beirut Bar Association, he served as Personal Adviser to the Minister of Justice of Lebanon for International Relations and Cooperation.

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