



Euro-Mediterranean Federation against Enforced Disappearances

Press release on the visit to Morocco from 5 to 9 July 2019

As part of the tireless work carried out by the Euro-Mediterranean Federation against Enforced Disappearances (FEMED) in international, regional and national bodies in the field of the fight against impunity and for the Truth, a field mission was organized from 5 to 9 July 2019 in Morocco, in the cities of Rabat and Casablanca. The mission was attended by a delegation composed of FEMED President Nassera Dutour, Federation Secretary General Rachid El Manouzi, and leaders and representatives of FEMED member associations, namely the Moroccan Forum for the Protection of Truth and Justice, the Moroccan Association for Human Rights (AMDH), the Moroccan Organization for Human Rights (OMDH), the Association of Parents and Friends of Disappeared in Morocco (APADM) and the Coordinating Committee of Relatives of the Disappeared. This mission was punctuated by various meetings to provide FEMED's support to mobilizations for the disappeared, promoting the exchange of international experiences in the relevant national bodies, and reiterating the importance of preservation of remembrance. Thus, following a first meeting with its member organizations, FEMED met the Deputy to the First Chamber Fatiha Seddas, USFP, the President of the National Council for Human Rights Amina Bouayech, representatives of associations active in the field of the fight against enforced disappearance and human rights violations accompanying this crime (torture, arbitrary detention ...), families and friends of victims, the president of the group of Progress and Socialism and Deputy in the first House Aicha Lablak, and the Minister of Justice Mohamed Auajjar.

This field mission saw among its main conclusions the reiteration, by the associations, families, friends and officials met, of two necessities: the revelation to the families of the truth concerning the disappearance of their loved ones, and the preservation of places of memory. The delegation led by FEMED also insisted on the need for harmonization between the Penal Code, the Constitution and the international texts to which the Kingdom of Morocco is party, in accordance with the agreements reached by their ratification. A point of honor was placed on the need for the Kingdom to recognize the competence of the Committee against Enforced Disappearances established by the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons against Enforced Disappearance in Articles 31 and 32. Finally, the associations decided, supported by the families of the disappeared, to continue the work initiated at the Marrakech conference, which issued as a recommendation the establishment of a new independent mechanism, able to bring the truth claimed by the families of disappeared.

**Executive Secretariat
Rabat on July 9, 2019**