

Tunis september 6th, 2014

The second anniversary of the tragedy of Lampedusa: The illegal migrants: between a tragic reality and dehumanized procedures

On September 06th, 2012 a tragedy stroke the Italian island Lampedusa costing dozens of young people their lives. They thought they were escaping the unemployment and a precarious social situation.

A remembrance day, which happens to be today, should mark the indelible suffering of families and their mourning in one hand and of the omerta of succeeding governments in the other hand who are neither giving the required support nor clarifications to grieving families about the fate of their children.

The anniversary of The tragedy of Lampedusa is a reminder "to our collective memory" of the Tunisia-European Mobility Partnership which set aside the civil society by immortalizing the image of the fortress European Union, which on its borders thousands of souls perish. An agreement, for the more, is to proclaim south-Mediterranean countries as border- guards of Northern countries.

One more remembrance and governments whether current ones or those deposed continue to ignore the civil society and migrants' family calls to the creation of a joint commission of enquiry to find out the truth about the fate of missing persons and give them concrete answers.

Finally, this second anniversary is taking place in a sociopolitical climate that conducts to new incidents and it despite of the tough measures of safety and control on the illegal migrants.

So, above to the use of sophisticated devices, the migratory flow continued to double its number going from 10 thousand migrants in 2012 to 31 500 migrants in 2013 and it may surpass 50 thousand in 2014, as confirmed by the report published by the agency " Frontex " specialized on European borders control.

These exodus are not mainly caused by poverty and the difficult social conditions in the South of the Mediterranean Sea, but the fragility of the security situation and to the outbreak civil wars in numerous countries, such as Syria and Libya are the main causes.

A new tragedy arises now and then leaving behind tens of bodies recovered in the port " ELKTEF ", falling off the coast of the city of Ben Guerdane, and the majority of whom turned out to be holders of Syrian nationality, who were fleeing the hell of the war in their native land.

The Tunisian Forum for Economical and Social Rights, has always been a valuable ally to the fight of the families of the missing persons to help them find out the fate of their children and with pleading the respect for the right to freedom of movement repeats its call to:

- intensify the rescue operations at sea to help thousands of migrants, so pandering to the inalienable necessity of rescuing people in danger as a must as mentioned by the international humanitarian law.
- The creation of one joint commission of inquiry working on the disappearance of the migrants, including not only representatives of the Tunisian and Italian governments but also representatives of the families of the missing persons and civil society.
- The cancellation of the Tunisian-European Mobility partnership and the implementation of an effective partnership which respects the sovereignty of both countries as well as the international conventions on migration, the freedom of movement and the asylum rights.

**The president of the FTDES
Abdelrrahmen Hedhili**