

## Report of November 2023

### Executive summary

#### National Syndicate of Tunisian Journalists

#### Monitoring Unit of the Occupational Safety Center

Assaults on journalists and photojournalists went uninterrupted during the month of November 2023 compared to October 2023. The Monitoring Unit of the Occupational Safety Center of the National Syndicate of Tunisian Journalists has recorded 13 attacks out of 15 notices of received cases or through social media networks and the websites of media institutions, by following programs and news in the media and through direct calls with attacks' victims or eyewitnesses.

Month	September 2023	October 2023	November 2023
Number of assaults	20	10	13

The assaults affected 14 victims, divided, according to gender, into 2 females and 5 males in addition to 7 media institutions. The victims' assignments were distributed to 7 journalists and 7 media institutions. The victims of the attacks are represented in 12 media institutions of which 9 radio channels and 3 websites and these institutions fall into four categories : 2 confiscation institutions, 5 private institutions, 3 public institutions and 2 association institutions. Moreover, 5 cases of electronic bans reached the victims of the attacks in addition to 2 cases of forensic tracking and 2 cases of prior monitoring. Journalists were as well affected by a case of withholding, a case of arbitrary detention and another of cyber hacking of which 6 cases in virtual space and 7 in real life.

« Meta » company topped the list of aggressors against journalists, photojournalists and media organizations with 5 attacks for each, followed by judicial authorities on 3 occasions. Also, hackers, media department, public and security officers and deputies got all engaged in a single attack for each. And these assaults upon journalists and photojournalists were concentrated in the governorate of Tunis in 8 cases and in each of Gafsa, Ben Arous, Kairouan, Tataouine and Medenine in one case per each governorate.

### Recommendations

The National Syndicate of Tunisian Journalists, after its recorded assaults on journalists and photojournalists during the month of November 2023, calls on :

**1. The Presidency of the Republic to :**

- Suspend the application of Decree 54 on Combating Information and Communication Systems Crimes and to stop governmental procedures for prosecuting crossing points in the digital space in implementation of this decree.

**2. The Prime Minister to :**

- Cancel the leaflets that disrupt the statements of state employees to the media, respect the right of citizens to obtain timely and updated information from its sources and respect the right of journalists to obtain information that represents the spirit of journalistic work.

**3. The judicial authorities to :**

- Cancel the decision of the investigating judge issued on June 18, 2023 to ban media circulation in the case of what is known as the "file of conspiracy against state security" because it affects the constitutional right of citizens to obtain information.
- Stop referrals outside the framework of the law regulating the press sector and filing all complaints based on other texts.
- Accept the request for comment and the request for suspension of execution in the file of the journalist Khalifa Al Qasimi, deposited in Mornaguia Prison.
- Review the deposit card of journalist Shatha Al-Haj Mubarak in Al-Masadin Prison and immediately free her.