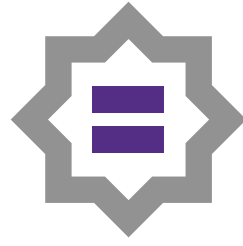


منا
لحقوق
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MENA
Rights
Group



ANNUAL
REPORT 2025

MENA Rights Group (MRG) is a Geneva-based legal advocacy NGO defending and promoting fundamental rights and freedoms in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. We assist and represent victims and survivors of human rights violations before international protection mechanisms, draw on this documentation to identify systemic patterns of abuse and push for the legal and policy reforms needed to prevent them from recurring.

We achieve our mission through documentation and monitoring, litigation, analysis and reporting, awareness raising, capacity development and the assessment of national human rights institutions. We adopt a collaborative approach, engaging closely with local and international civil society to ensure that local perspectives are effectively represented across international fora.

Our geographic mandate covers the 22 Member States of the Arab League. Among those, we focus on countries where we believe our work can have the greatest impact, considering our capacities and strategic priorities.

We focus primarily on violations of civil and political rights, such as the right to life, liberty and security of person, due process and fair trial rights, freedom of opinion, expression, peaceful assembly and association. We consider the protection of these rights essential, as they create the conditions necessary for individuals to safely claim and exercise all other rights without fear of reprisals.

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Foreword

Dear friends and supporters,

As I write these words, I reflect on another year of profound violence and repression across the Middle East and North Africa. Our first thoughts go to the victims of genocide in Gaza and Sudan, whose suffering continues with complete impunity. At MENA Rights Group, we remain deeply committed to denouncing human rights violations and supporting those who dare to speak out against injustice, despite the immense risks they face.

2025 has been marked by intensified attacks against civil society across the region, compounded by significant funding cuts to human rights organisations. Adding to these challenges, the mounting practice of transnational repression has meant that members of civil society are attacked even when they try to flee and seek safety elsewhere – and no place is truly safe for MENA human rights defenders. These obstacles have made our work increasingly difficult, limiting our capacity to respond to the growing number of individuals seeking our support. Yet despite these challenges, we were pleased to see some impact from our efforts – several individuals we assisted regained their freedom, and critical human rights issues gained the attention they deserve.

However, we must be honest: the overall human rights situation across the region is not improving. It has become increasingly difficult to capture international attention and generate meaningful action. Most concerning is that the UN system and human rights mechanisms on which we rely – the last remaining vestiges of international human rights law – are themselves facing severe difficulties and unprecedented attacks. This erosion of the very foundations of human rights protection is deeply alarming.

Internally, 2025 has brought important changes to our team. I want to bid a heartfelt goodbye to my dear friend and colleague Alexis Thiry as he moves on to new adventures. Alexis was a pillar in building MRG and has been with us since our foundation – his contributions have been invaluable, and he will be greatly missed.

I am pleased to announce key changes in our team as we head into 2026. Falah Sayed has been appointed Senior Legal Officer and Advocacy Lead, and Tanya Boulakovski has been appointed Senior Legal Officer and Research Lead. I am especially proud that these leadership appointments reflect MENA Rights Group's commitment to building a young, dynamic, and female-led team. When MENA Rights Group was created, we had a clear vision of what we wanted it to be: women-founded, women-led, dynamic, and different from what we'd experienced elsewhere. I am grateful to have such dedicated professionals guiding these core areas of our work, and I look forward to the meaningful impact their leadership will bring in the years ahead. I

also want to thank Justine Lager and Estelle Allemann, who are continuing to bring their energy and dedication to our mission.

Last but not least, I want to honour the survivors, victims and their families who continue to place their trust in us, despite the egregious abuses they face and the risks of speaking out. I also want to thank our partners from this incredible human rights community we are part of, as well as our board members and volunteers, without whose passion and commitment MENA Rights Group would not stand as it does today.

I am deeply grateful to our funders for their continued belief in our work: Open Society Foundations, the State of Geneva, the City of Geneva, Hans Wilsdorf Foundation, the Global Center for Cooperative Security, Access Now, the CSO Coalition on Human Rights and Counter-Terrorism, Carouge Municipality, The REDRESS Trust and the International Center for Not-For-Profit Law.

In solidarity,

Inès Osman,

Co-founder and executive director

2025 highlights

We represented and supported **248 individuals** subjected to human rights violations across **12 countries** of the MENA.

We litigated **38 new cases** before international protection mechanisms.

19 individuals were released in 2025 following our strategic advocacy actions.

We monitored compliance with human rights standards of **6 countries** during their assessment by international human rights mechanisms.

We launched and joined **various campaigns** to raise awareness on human rights violations and **highlighted victims' and survivors' stories** by publicising and sharing their cases on our website and social media platforms.

We organised and participated in **23 public and online events**.

Our team members have been regularly quoted in major publications and our work covered by **international and local media outlets**, including Reuters, France 24, Middle East Eye, ARTE and BBC News Africa.

Legal advocacy

We rely on litigation, research and advocacy to address serious human rights violations. We support victims and survivors of human rights abuses and represent them before international mechanisms to put an end to violations, or obtain redress for past violations. We also draw on our casework and research to promote human rights-based reforms and raise awareness among decision-makers. By combining these tools, we aim to secure justice for individuals and advance lasting change.

In 2025, we were pleased that a number of people we defended regained their freedom:



January 6

Issa al-Nukheifi is released after 8 years and 19 days of arbitrary detention.



January 7

Mohamed al-Qahtani is released after 11 years, 9 months, 29 days of arbitrary detention.



January 20

Sulaiman Ahmad is released after 1 year, 2 months, 26 days of arbitrary detention.



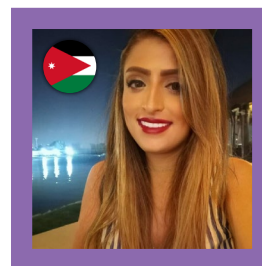
February 10

Salma al-Shehab is released after 4 years, 26 days of arbitrary detention.



February 8

Yacine Mekireche is released after 6 months, 2 days of arbitrary detention.



February 13

Hiba Abu Taha is released after 6 months, 2 days of arbitrary detention.



February 12

Idris Hasan is released after 3 years, 6 months, 24 days of arbitrary detention.



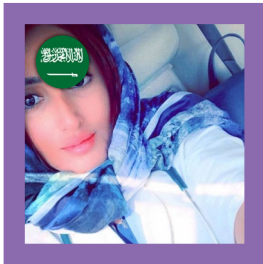
April

Abdullah al-Duraibi is released after 3 years and 1 month of arbitrary detention.



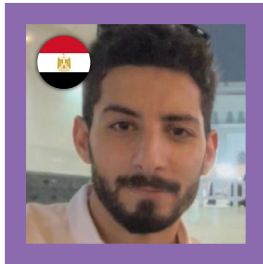
May 5

Kamil al-Zoubi is released after 33 days of arbitrary detention.



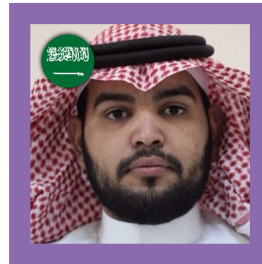
May 19

Lina al-Sharif is released after 4 years of arbitrary detention.



June 6

Ahmed Kamel is released after 6 months, 25 days of arbitrary detention.



July 13

Abdulaziz al-Shubaili is released after 11 years, 7 months, 25 days of arbitrary detention.



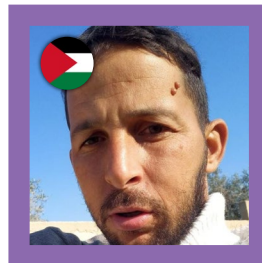
June 2

Omar al-Khatib is released after 1 year, 3 months, 25 days of arbitrary detention.



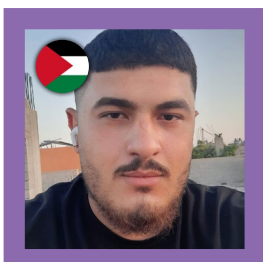
October 2

Said and Ayman Chabli are released after 3 months, 5 days of arbitrary detention.



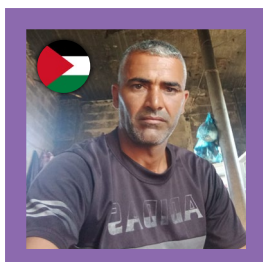
October 11

Ashraf Abdeen is released after 3 months of arbitrary detention.



September 5

Majd al-Jazzar is released after 1 month, 27 days of arbitrary detention.



October 13

Mohammed Qeshta is released after 2 months, 11 days of arbitrary detention.



December

Mohammed al-Kayali is released after almost a year of arbitrary detention.



Plane model on Saudi Arabia part of world map. Flights/ travel in Saudi Arabia concept © Ms. Li, licensed under Shutterstock.

Transnational repression

Transnational repression (TnR) continues to be a growing concern across the MENA region, and 2025 saw no abatement in these practices. In light of this growing trend, MRG continued to expand its work and expertise on this critical issue, building a robust portfolio that combines casework with structural research. MRG represented numerous victims of TnR, including individuals at risk of extradition to countries where they would face torture and other human rights abuses. At the structural level, MRG produced reports and evidence-based research to expose legal and institutional drivers of repression, and advocated for systemic reforms to ensure accountability and strengthen safeguards against abuse.

Challenging the drivers of cross-border repression

The Arab Interior Ministers Council (AIMC)

Often misleadingly referred to as “Arab INTERPOL”, the AIMC is an Arab League body tasked with enhancing cooperation among

Arab states in the fields of internal security and crime prevention. Through its Department of Criminal Prosecution and Data, the AIMC circulates state-requested warrants to liaison divisions in Member States and facilitates wanted individuals’ extradition.

In 2023, MRG conducted the first ground-breaking research on the AIMC, unveiling the impact of the Council’s framework and operations on human rights and its role in enabling TnR across the MENA. Over recent years, MRG has documented the cases of 8 individuals who were subjected to political extraditions within the Arab League – likely just the tip of the iceberg.

In February 2025, marking the AIMC’s 42nd annual conference in its headquarters in Tunis, MRG led a campaign together with 15 NGO partners urging the AIMC to cease its facilitation of arbitrary extraditions of peaceful dissidents and human rights defenders across Arab League countries and to align its legal framework and systems with international human rights law. The coalition sent a joint letter to the AIMC calling for an end to its role in transnational repression and demanding reforms to ensure compliance with international human rights standards. The campaign received media coverage from Middle East Eye.

Strengthening INTERPOL safeguards against abuse

In 2025, INTERPOL continued to pose human rights concerns regarding its partnerships and potential facilitation of transnational repression. In February 2025, Saudi Arabia and INTERPOL announced an agreement to open a Regional Bureau for the Middle East and North Africa in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. In response, MENA Rights Group and ALQST for Human Rights addressed a letter to INTERPOL urging the organisation to reconsider this decision. The letter highlighted Saudi Arabia's egregious human rights record and the country's prominent role in transnational repression, including through politically motivated extraditions of human rights defenders and violations of *non-refoulement*. MRG emphasised that such partnerships undermine INTERPOL's constitutional obligations to respect human rights and prohibit political extraditions, while enabling the very abuses INTERPOL should be working to prevent.

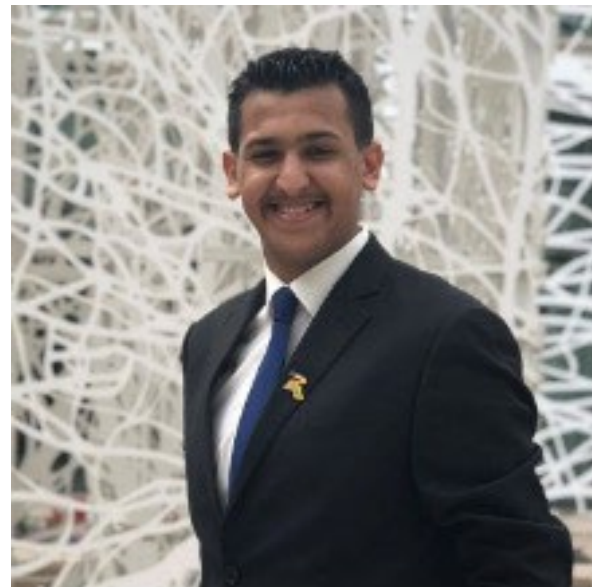
Alongside this advocacy, MRG engaged constructively with INTERPOL in view of strengthening its internal safeguards. In April 2025, MRG produced a briefing paper analysing INTERPOL's new draft amendments to the Commission for the Control of INTERPOL's Files (CCF)'s Statute concerning its procedure of examination and right to access, correct, and delete data. The paper shed light on how these amendments could make it harder for applicants to challenge politically motivated INTERPOL notices and made concrete recommendations for strengthening safeguards against abuse.

This paper was shared with INTERPOL, and we were pleased that the final Statute took into account MRG's recommendation to add a paragraph to article 28, requiring the CCF to notify

applicants and provide reasons when dismissing requests deemed abusive. This demonstrates MRG's influence in shaping INTERPOL policy and its ability to advance critical safeguards against the abuse of INTERPOL mechanisms for transnational repression.

2025: a rising number of targets of transnational repression

Salman al-Khaldy



The year started with the arrest of Kuwaiti activist Salman al-Khaldy on January 1, 2025, in Iraq, based on a warrant circulated by the AIMC. He was promptly extradited to Kuwait, where authorities had sentenced him *in absentia* to several years in prison for criticising the government on social media. In 2024, he was stripped of his Kuwaiti nationality in reprisal for expressing his opinions. Al-Khaldy remains arbitrarily detained in Kuwait, and MRG continues to advocate for his immediate release.

Abdulrahman Youssef al-Qaradawi

Egyptian poet Abdulrahman Youssef al-Qaradawi was arrested by Lebanese

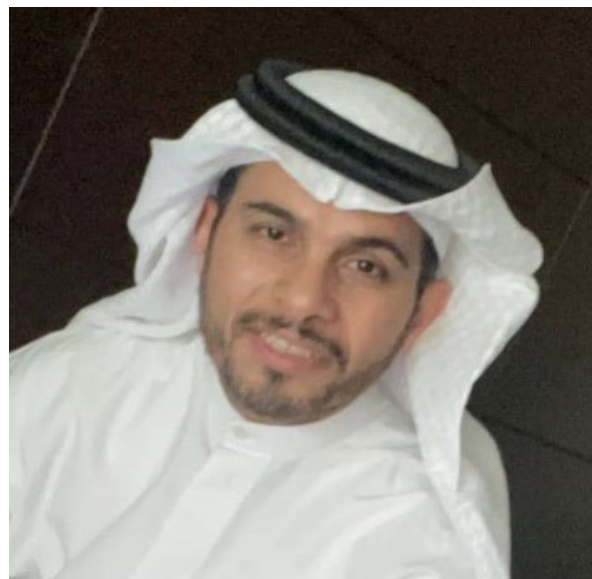


authorities and extradited to the UAE on January 8, 2025, after criticising Arab League countries online. Upon learning of his extradition and enforced disappearance, MRG promptly reported his case to the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, which subsequently requested UAE authorities to clarify his fate and whereabouts. Fearing that Royal Jet, a UAE-based airline, would be involved in his extradition after noticing that Royal Jet airplane A6-RJA was set to depart from Beirut airport, MRG sent a [letter](#) urging the company not to enable his transfer. Royal Jet never responded. Royal Jet had previously been implicated in the wrongful extradition of a [Bahraini dissident from Serbia in 2022](#).

Throughout the year, MRG undertook extensive advocacy actions around al-Qaradawi's case. We notably joined a [call for his immediate release](#) signed by over 500 organisations worldwide and an [urgent appeal to the UK and EU](#) to pressure UAE authorities to end his enforced disappearance. To mark a grim milestone, we highlighted that [200 days had passed since his enforced disappearance](#), demanding that authorities reveal his whereabouts and ensure his safety.

As part of collective civil society efforts to shed light on his case, MRG was invited to provide its expertise on the AIMC and the broader TnR phenomenon at the root of al-Qaradawi's extradition throughout the year, including at high-level public events at the UN. The MRG team was also featured in international media coverage of the case, including in an [investigative report by DropSite News](#), where MRG Human Rights Officer Tanya Boulakovski provided expert analysis. In January 2025, MRG's Executive Director Inès Osman published an [op-ed in The New Arab](#) analysing the implications of his case and arguing that no Arab League state is safe for dissidents following this extradition.

Jasem al-Shamsi



[Jasem Rashed al-Shamsi](#), an Emirati dissident in exile, was arrested on November 6, 2025, by Syrian security forces in Damascus. He was transferred to an undisclosed location, placing him at imminent risk of extradition to the UAE, where he faces serious risk of torture, arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance. Al-Shamsi had been sentenced *in absentia* to 15 years in prison in the 2013 "UAE94" mass trial after supporting democratic reforms in the UAE. In December 2023, he faced new

baseless terrorism-related charges as part of the “UAE84” group and was later sentenced to life imprisonment. MRG promptly filed his case with the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances. His case is similar to that of Khalaf al-Romaithi, another exiled Emirati dissident tried as part of the UAE94 case, who was extradited from Jordan to the UAE in May 2023 on the basis of a warrant circulated through the AIMC. Al-Shamsi remains missing, and MRG continues to call for information about his whereabouts.

Ahmed Kamel



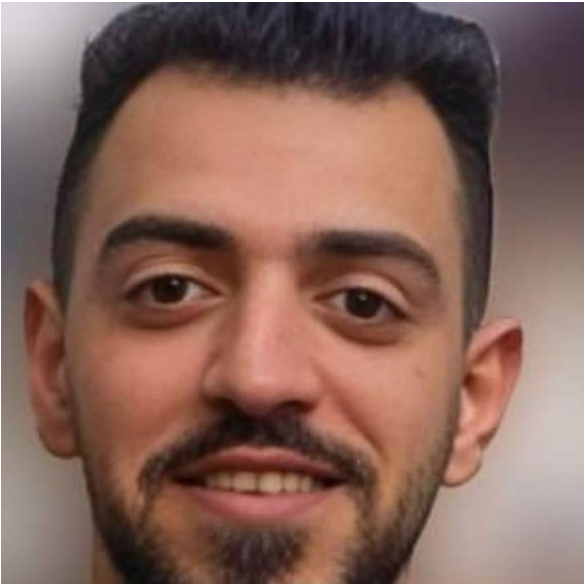
MRG continued to support Ahmed Kamel, an Egyptian national sentenced *in absentia* to 25 years in prison in reprisal for his participation in the Arab Spring protests. He was arrested in Saudi Arabia in November 2024, in circumstances suggesting that the arrest was facilitated through the AIMC. Despite urgent appeals filed by MRG, Kamel was extradited to Egypt on March 5, 2025. Fortunately, advocacy efforts, including a joint letter to the U.S. State Secretary requesting assistance to secure his release, contributed to a positive outcome. Following a retrial, he was acquitted and released, and was allowed to travel to a safe third country.

Mohamed al-Kayali



Mohamed al-Kayali, a Syrian human rights defender, was arrested by Turkish authorities on December 28, 2024, based on an INTERPOL red notice issued by Saudi authorities in 2016. MRG submitted an urgent appeal to UN Special Procedures in April 2025, prompting them to issue a communication expressing concern about his detention and risk of extradition to Saudi Arabia, where he would face serious risk of torture and ill-treatment. These advocacy efforts contributed to al-Kayali’s subsequent release.

Hassan al-Rabea



MRG continued to support Hassan al-Rabea, a Saudi national extradited from Morocco to Saudi Arabia in 2023 on the basis of a warrant circulated through the AIMC. Al-Rabea, who belongs to the Shi'a minority and comes from a family that has faced a long history of persecution, with several relatives executed or on death row, has remained arbitrarily detained ever since. His case remains pending before the UN Committee against Torture, where MRG submitted comprehensive legal arguments rebutting the Moroccan government's denial of wrongdoing and demonstrating how the extradition violated Morocco's obligations under international law, particularly the principle of *non-refoulement*. The case is now ready to be adopted at any session, potentially establishing a significant precedent for AIMC-facilitated extraditions and offering an important opportunity to hold Morocco accountable for the violations al-Rabea has endured.

Abuses against asylum seekers and refugees

Asylum seekers and refugees across the MENA continue to face systematic human rights violations, even in countries where they sought safety. In 2025, MRG documented cases of abuse targeting those who fled persecution, both within the region and beyond its borders.

Abdulrahman al-Khalidi

MRG continued to support Abdulrahman al-Khalidi, a Saudi dissident and political activist who fled Saudi Arabia after receiving threats from authorities in reprisal for his activism. Arrested in Bulgaria in October 2021, he has remained detained ever since, making him the longest detained asylum seeker in the European Union. He continues to face ongoing



risk of deportation to Saudi Arabia, where he would face serious risk of torture and arbitrary detention. MRG continued to provide support and advocate for his immediate release, including through joint NGO statements and calls for the Bulgarian authorities to grant him protection. Despite MRG's sustained advocacy, al-Khalidi remains detained and at risk.

Idris Hasan



In another case involving INTERPOL, Uyghur asylum seeker Idris Hasan was finally released in February 2025 after years of sustained litigation and advocacy. Hasan had been detained in Morocco since July 2021 based

on an INTERPOL red notice issued at China’s request. Although INTERPOL cancelled the Red Notice, Moroccan authorities approved his extradition in late 2021, prompting MENA Rights Group and Safeguard Defenders to request provisional measures from the UN to ensure his protection. MRG had obtained a decision from the UN Committee against Torture in July 2024, which called on Morocco not to extradite him and to release him. Despite this decision, Morocco continued to detain

him. In 2025, MRG secured a UN decision declaring his detention arbitrary, a significant ruling that recognised Morocco’s continued detention of Hasan after INTERPOL lifted the warrant as a violation of international law. Following sustained advocacy by MRG and partner organisations, Morocco freed Hasan on February 12, 2025. He was subsequently allowed to relocate to a third country and is no longer at risk of extradition.



New Delhi, India-Aug 24 2021: Afghan women holding placard protesting outside at UNHCR demanding to be given refugee status in India or other country. © PradeepGaur, licensed under Shutterstock.

In 2025, MRG received a precedent-setting decision from the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UN WGAD), holding the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and United States (US) jointly responsible for the arbitrary detention of Afghan refugees in the Emirates Humanitarian City. MRG filed the case on behalf of an individual who was held for years in the facility before being released in 2024. Following the Taliban’s takeover of Afghanistan in 2021, the U.S. facilitated the transfer of more than 2 000 Afghan refugees from Afghanistan to the UAE, where what was intended as a 14-day transit stop transformed into years of detention.

This decision represents the first time international attention has been brought to the situation of refugees in the UAE’s Humanitarian City, where thousands remained in limbo

IN FOCUS

MRG obtains a landmark UN decision on Afghan refugees held in the UAE

under conditions the UN found may amount to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment. The UN WGAD explicitly recognised the facility as a place of deprivation of liberty, with refugees facing severe restrictions of movement, intense surveillance, denial of medical care, and obstruction of their right to seek asylum. Crucially, the decision established U.S. responsibility in the arbitrary detention of the Afghan refugees, a critical achievement given that they promised the relocation of many refugees who became stuck in the UAE awaiting resettlement that never materialised.

This dual accountability represents a significant legal victory in establishing state responsibility for refugee rights violations. The decision generated substantial international media coverage, with Reuters prominently featuring the story, amplifying global awareness.

Challenging the abuse of security and counter-terrorism frameworks

In 2025, states across the MENA continued to weaponise counter-terrorism laws, measures, and rhetoric to silence dissent and commit widespread abuses, including arbitrary detention, torture, unfair trials, executions, and genocide. In response to this alarming pattern of repression, MRG expanded its thematic work on counter-terrorism and human rights, combining individual casework with strategic advocacy to expose abuses and push for systemic reform.

Urgent intervention on Iraq's Amnesty Law

In January 2025, one day before the Iraqi Parliament adopted an amendment to Iraq's

General Amnesty Law, MRG alerted UN human rights experts that this move would broaden the categories of terrorism-related offenses excluded from amnesty, exposing hundreds of individuals to the death penalty amid ongoing secret mass executions. Following our intervention, three UN Special Rapporteurs issued a communication to Iraqi authorities in March 2025, warning that the amendment violated international law.

Raising alarm about the UAE's "extremism" definition and risks of abuse

In December 2025, MRG submitted a contribution to inform the UN Special Rapporteur on counter-terrorism and human rights' thematic report on the definitions of "terrorism", "terrorist organisation" and "violent extremism" to be presented to the Human Rights Council in March 2026. Our

[La police anti-terroriste a observé un exercice tactique noir © Fotosr52, licensed under Shutterstock.](#)



submission focused on the United Arab Emirates' dangerous expansion of the concept of "extremism" through its 2023 Law on Combating Discrimination, Hatred, and Extremism. We raised serious concerns about provisions allowing individuals deemed to have a "risk of extremism" to be placed indefinitely in counselling centres and subjected to administrative measures including travel bans, surveillance, and residence restrictions.

15 years of security-related reprisals: analysis & UN advocacy

Building on our [annual submission](#) documenting cases of reprisals against those engaging with the UN, MRG conducted a comprehensive 15-year [analysis](#), mapping all UN-documented reprisals cases across the MENA and their connection to the abuse of security and counter-terrorism frameworks. Examining 296 cases from 2010 to 2024, our research revealed that 62% of all intimidation and retaliation against individuals and organisations cooperating with the UN in the region involved the weaponisation of security and counter-terrorism measures. In seven countries – Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Oman, Somalia, Lebanon, and Tunisia – 100% of documented reprisals cases involved counter-terrorism or security elements, while Israel led in targeting organisations, with every single one subjected to terrorism or security accusations. MRG published these findings in a visual [factsheet](#) to raise public awareness about this systematic pattern of abuse.

To highlight these alarming findings, MRG co-organised a [side event](#) during the UN Human Rights Council session in September 2025 with the Global Center on Cooperative Security, [livestreamed](#) via MRG's social media platforms. The panel brought together two

UN Special Rapporteurs and human rights defenders from Bahrain, Palestine and Saudi Arabia, who shared their expertise and direct experiences of being targeted through counter-terrorism measures for engaging with the UN.

Informing the UN Secretary-General's report on terrorism and human rights

In May 2025, MRG submitted a [report](#) to inform the UN Secretary-General (UNSG)'s report to the General Assembly on terrorism and human rights, relying on case studies in Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE, how counter-terrorism laws and measures are systematically abused to silence dissent and commit grave abuses. We also highlighted transnational repression through the Arab Interior Ministers' Council and Israel's abuse of counter-terrorism rhetoric to justify genocide in Gaza. The UNSG's September 2025 [report](#) highlighted key trends raised by MRG, including overly broad terrorism definitions, administrative measures such as travel bans, terrorism listings and citizenship stripping, and importantly, Israel's "reckless and indiscriminate application of the term 'terrorist', seemingly in an effort to justify violence against a group as a whole".

Bringing MENA civil society voices to the UN Human Rights Council

In March 2025, MRG co-organised with Saferworld a [side event](#) at the UN Human Rights Council to shed light on troubling patterns of counter-terrorism abuse across the MENA and its negative impact on human rights and fundamental freedoms. [Livestreamed](#) via MRG's social media platforms, the panel featured the UN Special Rapporteur on

counter-terrorism and human rights alongside civil society experts from Palestine and Tunisia. MRG arranged additional private meetings between speakers and UN human rights bodies to ensure their concerns were raised and heard beyond the public event.

Challenging MENA states' influence in the UN counter-terrorism architecture

In July 2025, with support from the CSO Coalition on Human Rights and Counter-Terrorism, MRG published a groundbreaking [analysis](#) examining the influence of MENA states in the UN counter-terrorism architecture. Through detailed case studies of Algeria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Israel/Palestine, we demonstrated how countries with egregious counter-terrorism-related human rights records have secured influential roles at the UN, thereby legitimising and enabling repressive practices beyond their borders.

Building on this work, MRG and ALQST for Human Rights directly challenged the UN counter-terrorism architecture's relationship with Saudi authorities. In October 2025, we sent a [letter](#) to UN counter-terrorism chief Alexandre Zouev, raising alarm about increasing collaboration with the Saudi Arabia's Presidency of State Security (PSS), whose head Abdulaziz al-Howairini was implicated in the 2018 murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi. Despite assurances about adherence to UN human rights principles, merely weeks later, Zouev signed a Memorandum of Understanding with al-Howairini to enhance counter-terrorism cooperation. In December 2025, we sent a second [letter](#) condemning this agreement. Our concerns were [covered](#) by Middle East Eye, amplifying international attention on the UN counter-terrorism architecture's inability to

act independently from major governmental donors and its willingness to enable repressive states to commit grave abuses under the guise of counter-terrorism.

Engaging in global dialogue on counter-terrorism reform

Expanding these discussions globally, in November 2025, MRG [participated](#) online in a panel discussion at the International Civil Society Week in Bangkok, Thailand. Alongside panellists including the UN Special Rapporteur on counter-terrorism and human rights, MRG's Human Rights Officer Tanya Boulakovski discussed Israel's weaponisation of the fight against terrorism to justify its genocide of Palestinians in Gaza and the urgent need to fundamentally rethink the global counter-terrorism agenda.



Washington DC, USA - 21 octobre 2023 : Manifestants pro-Palestine, anti-Israël. Israël et la Palestine dans la bande de Gaza. Guerre entre Israël et la Palestine. Guerre de Gaza en Palestine. La guerre du Hamas au tsahal. Palestines © Volodymyr TVERDOKHLIB, licensed under Shutterstock.

IN FOCUS

Confronting atrocities in Gaza and the suppression of pro-Palestinian voices

As Israel relentlessly pursued its genocide of Palestinians in Gaza since October 2023, MRG documented grave abuses committed in this context and brought cases before UN human rights mechanisms to seek accountability and justice for Palestinian victims. MRG also engaged in public awareness raising and advocacy to challenge Israel's efforts to legitimise its genocide under the guise of counter-terrorism on the international scene.

Exposing enforced disappearances at aid distribution sites

In 2025, MRG and partners documented the cases of nine Palestinians, including three children, who disappeared as they were attempting to collect humanitarian aid in Gaza, and filed them with the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (UN WGEID). Seven of these enforced disappearances occurred at sites operated by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), a U.S. and Israeli-backed organisation criticised for operating military-controlled aid distribution sites where Palestinians seeking humanitarian aid faced daily gunfire and mass casualties. After formal requests for

information were filed, the Israeli army either denied having any information about the disappeared individuals, or acknowledged their detention without providing further details on their whereabouts or legal status. Prompted by MRG's submissions, the UN WGEID issued a public statement expressing alarm about enforced disappearances at GHF aid distribution sites, highlighting that "targeting starving civilians seeking their basic right to food is not only shocking, but amounts to torture" and calling for "the urgent dismantlement of this inhumane aid system and the return of a UN-led humanitarian system." These concerns were echoed in a documentary broadcast by ARTE and covered by major media outlets including Agence France-Presse. Following sustained advocacy, three Palestinians were released between September and October 2025.

Advocating for the release of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya

In another emblematic case illustrating Israel's systematic targeting of Palestinians in Gaza, MRG petitioned the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention regarding the detention of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya,



a Palestinian paediatrician and director of Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza. Dr. Abu Safiyya was arrested in December 2024 during an Israeli military raid on the hospital. Forcibly disappeared for over one month and tortured, he was detained under Israel's Unlawful Combatants Law, which allows for indefinite detention without charge based on undisclosed evidence. His detention order was extended for six months in October 2025, and he remains detained. MRG urged the UN Working Group to rule his detention arbitrary and call for his immediate release.

#NoSummitDuringGenocide campaign on “counter-terrorism” summit in Israel

In addition to advocacy actions at the UN, MRG launched a public campaign calling on participants and sponsors to withdraw from the 2025 “World Summit on Counter-Terrorism” organised by the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) at Reichman University in Israel. The summit, branded as “the most influential counter-

terrorism summit today”, was set to take place just 80 kilometres from Gaza, where over two million Palestinians faced relentless bombardment and mass starvation – all perpetrated in the name of fighting terrorism. Through sustained advocacy including targeted social media posts and a public statement, which garnered over 50 signatures from prominent civil society organisations and individuals, MRG exposed the ICT’s close ties with the Israeli military and intelligence apparatus, and role in perpetuating the dehumanising narrative used to justify Israel’s decade-long persecution of Palestinians.

The campaign achieved significant results: for the first time, no UN agencies attended the summit, with the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate confirming they would not participate despite past attendance. Several international participants withdrew, including representatives from Microsoft, Brussels Police, and European institutions. With the support of its partners, MRG’s campaign exposed the continued role



of international institutions and individuals in legitimising Israel’s abuse of counter-terrorism rhetoric to justify genocide.

Denouncing sanctions against Palestinian human rights organisations

As grave abuses were being committed in Gaza and the documentation work of Palestinian civil society remained essential to accountability efforts, the U.S. government imposed sanctions on leading Palestinian human rights organisations, creating severe consequences for their ability to work and a chilling effect on humanitarian operations and human rights documentation in Gaza. In October 2025, MRG [joined](#) 79 international organisations in urging the U.S. government to immediately rescind the sanctions, echoing the call by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights who [warned](#) that the sanctions posed a dire threat to independent civil society organisations engaged in essential accountability work.

Defending pro-Palestinian voices and their right to freedom of expression

Across the region, governments intensified their crackdown on pro-Palestine voices. UN

Special Procedures [highlighted](#) in March 2025 that “Jordanian authorities have intensified their repression of pro-Palestinian activists using allegedly vague and overly broad criminal provisions.” This pattern was documented in detail by MRG in a [general allegation](#) submitted to the UN in 2024, reporting multiple cases of Jordanians being arbitrarily detained or unfairly prosecuted for peacefully expressing their solidarity with Gaza or criticising Jordanian authorities’ ties to Israel.

MRG documented similar repression in Morocco, where authorities also targeted pro-Palestine activism. In 2024, MRG had supported six activists who were prosecuted for organising a peaceful sit-in at the parking lot of a Carrefour store in Salé. After they were sentenced to a six-month suspended prison term, MRG submitted a [letter of allegation](#) to several UN Special Procedures mandate holders, also highlighting violations committed by the Moroccan authorities in their crackdown on critical voices of the Kingdom’s normalisation with Israel. In February 2025, UN experts acted on the basis of MRG’s submission and sent a [communication](#) to the Moroccan government, contributing to the international recognition of this crackdown and holding Moroccan authorities accountable.

Defending prisoners on death row in Saudi Arabia

Since the rise of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to power in 2017, the number of death penalty sentences and executions has skyrocketed in Saudi Arabia. 2025 marked the deadliest year in the country's modern history, with at least 356 executions carried out, surpassing the previous record of 345 in 2024. MRG continued to defend several individuals facing the death penalty, in the hope of compelling Saudi authorities to, at the very least, comply with international legal standards regarding its application.



The execution of journalist Turki al-Jasser on June 14, 2025, sent shockwaves through the human rights community. Al-Jasser, arrested in 2018 and subjected to seven years of enforced disappearance, was believed to have documented corruption within the Saudi royal family. His execution, coming seven years after the gruesome murder of Jamal Khashoggi in 2018, is reminiscent of Saudi Arabia's brutal silencing of journalists and critics.

With partners, we continued to advocate for the end of the death penalty in Saudi Arabia. On World Day Against the Death Penalty, MRG

joined 35 NGOs in condemning Saudi Arabia's record-breaking execution rate. Following the executions of Jalal Labbad on August 21, 2025, and Abdullah al-Derazi on October 20, 2025, MRG joined over 50 NGOs in calling on the authorities to immediately halt all executions and uphold their commitment to end the death penalty for child defendants and people convicted of drug-related offenses.

Labbad, al-Derazi, and three other young men – Jawad Qureiris, Yusuf al-Manasif, and Hassan al-Faraj – were tortured and sentenced to death for protesting in 2011 against the treatment of the Shi'a minority in al-Qatif while they were still minors. In February 2025, MRG and ESOHR obtained an Opinion from the UN WGAD finding their detentions and death sentences arbitrary. The groundbreaking nature of the UN's finding of systemic discrimination against Shias was covered by Middle East Eye. Thanks to our advocacy, UN Special Procedures issued multiple public statements in April and September 2025 calling for their immediate release. Despite these interventions, Saudi authorities executed both al-Labbad and al-Derazi, breaking the Kingdom's promises, as well as its international obligations, to end the execution of child offenders. The three remaining young men remain at imminent risk of execution.

MRG also defended three Egyptian nationals on death row: Mohamed Kamel Salah Kamel, Farhat Fathi Abdel Maksoud Abu al-Saud, and Essam Shazly Ahmed Mohamed. All were subjected to torture and prolonged solitary confinement and later sentenced to death for drug-related offences, which do not meet the threshold of the "most serious crimes" enshrined in international law. With partners, we petitioned the UN WGAD calling the UN experts' body to recognise their detention as



From left to right: Jawad Qureiris, Youssef al-Manasif, Hassan al-Faraj, Jalal Labbad, Abdallah al-Derazi.

a violation of international law. Thanks to our advocacy, UN Special Procedures issued a [public statement in June 2025](#) urging Saudi Arabia to halt the imminent execution of 26 Egyptian nationals for drug-related offences. Despite these efforts, Farhat Abu al-Saud was executed on May 24, 2025, and Essam Shazly Ahmed Mohamed was executed on December 16, 2025, raising grave concerns that Mohamed Kamel might suffer the same fate.

Finally, MRG continued to advocate for two members of the Shi'a minority sentenced to death for acts of freedom of expression and peaceful assembly: [Mohammad Labbad](#) and [Mohammad Abdullah al-Faraj](#). Both were arrested in 2017 for allegedly participating in 2011-2012 demonstrations protesting the treatment of Shi'a citizens and were subjected to prolonged solitary confinement and severe torture. In March 2025, we filed detailed complaints with the UN WGAD. Following retrials, both were sentenced to death once again by the Specialised Criminal Court, with their sentences upheld by the Court of Appeal. They could be executed at any time.

Fighting impunity for enforced disappearance

Enforced disappearances remain a pervasive human rights crisis across the MENA, spanning

both historical injustices and current repression. MRG's work in 2025 addressed cases ranging from decades-old disappearances linked to mass atrocities in Algeria, Iraq and Mauritania, to more recent incidents in the UAE tied to its intensifying crackdown on dissent. While MRG continued to provide legal support to families and push authorities to clarify the fate and whereabouts of the disappeared, the practice remains widespread, with the majority of cases met with silence or inadequate responses from governments.

MRG continued to support [Ahmed al-Atoum](#), a Jordanian school teacher who worked in the UAE, who has been detained since 2020 for criticising corruption in his home country. While in detention, he was informed in January 2025 that he should be released. Instead, his family stopped receiving his calls, with the last contact occurring on January 11, 2025. In April 2025, MRG seized the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (UN WGEID), which requested the government to clarify his fate and whereabouts on June 10, 2025. MRG will continue urging his release and the implementation of the [UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention's Opinion](#) obtained in 2021, which Emirati authorities have failed to implement.

In Iraq, the country with the highest numbers of missing persons worldwide, MRG continued to assist hundreds of victims of enforced

disappearances. MRG has conducted extensive work on this topic, which remains one of the organisation's strategic thematic priorities for Iraq. In 2025, MRG continued to pursue accountability in 107 cases pending before the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances (UN CED), providing detailed comments on the Iraqi state's replies which often contained incoherent or incomplete information and generally failed to provide details on effective and tangible action taken to investigate cases of enforced disappearance. MRG also filed another new case that remains confidential for fear of reprisals.

MRG continued to support families of disappeared persons in Algeria and Mauritania, where enforced disappearances lasting for decades continue to haunt families. In Mauritania, after MRG filed cases on behalf of Wele Ousmane Abdallah and Abdoulaye Tambadou in 2024, they were registered by the UN WGEID and sent to the authorities on June 10, 2025, but the state has not yet responded.

These cases form part of Mauritania's passif humanitaire, a legacy of mass human rights violations including enforced disappearances, executions, and torture committed against the Black Mauritanian community between 1989 and 1991. MRG has conducted extensive work on this topic.

In Algeria, MRG continued to follow the case of Ahmed Boulares, who was forcibly disappeared during the civil war that ravaged the country in the 1990s. Arrested in July 1994 by the Military Security, his family has since received contradicting information about his fate and whereabouts. His case remains pending before the UN Human Rights Committee, and in April 2025, MRG provided detailed arguments to the government's response, seeking to hold authorities accountable and to continue contributing to the jurisprudence of the Human Rights Committee on cases of enforced disappearances committed during the Algerian civil war.

© Victims of the passif humanitaire in Mauritania.





© Courtesy of the Chabli family.

IN FOCUS

Petitioning the UN following the death of Yassine Chabli in police custody in Morocco

In December 2025, MRG and its partner the Moroccan Association for Human Rights (*Association marocaine des droits humains*, or “AMDH”) petitioned the UN Committee against Torture (UN CAT) on behalf of the family of Yassine Chabli, who died at the age of 28 in October 2022 while he was in police custody. The organisations denounced the acts of torture that preceded his death and serious irregularities in the investigation and judicial proceedings that followed.

Chabli, a former security guard, was arrested while sitting in a public park, handcuffed and forcibly taken to the Ben Guerir police station, in central Morocco. Upon arrival, he was repeatedly slapped by a police officer before being placed in a cell. During the night, he was tied to the bars of his cell in a painful position and violently beaten by officers. He was found dead the following afternoon, his body bearing visible signs of torture. Since his death, Chabli’s family has faced judicial harassment for demanding justice, with several family members prosecuted and convicted in retaliation.

By petitioning the UN CAT, MRG and AMDH called for the reopening of the trial and the reclassification of the acts as torture in accordance with the Moroccan Penal Code and the UN Convention against Torture. The organisations seek to hold Moroccan authorities accountable, contribute to the Committee’s jurisprudence on accountability for torture in custody, and establish effective safeguards protecting detainees’ physical integrity in Morocco.

Defending the defenders

The year 2025 saw no respite from the widespread repression of rights advocates across the region. MRG continued to support numerous human rights defenders who have long endured abuses in retaliation for their activism.

As every year, in the context of the preparation of the annual report on intimidation and reprisals for cooperation with the UN in the field of human rights, MRG submitted an informative report to the UN Secretary-General (UNSG), providing information about individuals subjected to continued acts of reprisal in Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the UAE. The UNSG's report, presented in September 2025, echoed MRG's concerns regarding the countries MRG raised, as well as cases of reprisals in Bahrain, Israel/Palestine and Yemen.

In Saudi Arabia, several detained human rights defenders were released. Mohamed al-Qahtani

and Essa al-Nukheifi were both freed after years in arbitrary detention. These releases came after years of sustained advocacy efforts, including decisions and communications from UN Special Procedures, mentions in the UNSG's reprisals report, and public advocacy with partners. Saudi academic Salma al-Shehab was also released after four years behind bars. MRG and partners had obtained a UN decision repeatedly advocated for her case, including through a joint statement welcoming the reduction of her sentence and calling for her unconditional release. Although these releases are positive developments, those freed remain under travel bans and unable to resume their human rights activism, which would put them at risk of being detained again.

However, many were left behind and MRG continued to advocate on their behalf. Mohammed al-Bejadi remains detained two years since the completion of his prison sentence. MRG also continued to work on the case of Manahel al-Otaibi, a Saudi blogger vocal about female empowerment on social media

Les manifestants féministes défilent la nuit de la ville. manifestation du 8 mars pour le féminisme. De nombreuses bannières de démonstration. Une femme émeute contre la violence. Une piquet de grève des droits des femmes. Lutte pour le pouvoir des filles. Personnes que les rebelles portent une pancarte de grève © SibRapid, licensed Shutterstock.



who was sentenced to 11 years in prison on terrorism charges. MRG filed her case with the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, urging it to call for her immediate release. Another woman, Nourah al-Qahtani, who was using Twitter to criticise government policies and to call for the release of human rights defenders, continues to serve an arbitrary 35-year prison sentence. She has been held in solitary confinement since February 2025, precipitating a rapid deterioration of her health and prompting NGOs to call for her release. MRG had previously obtained a UN decision calling for her release, which remains unimplemented to date.

Challenging restrictions on free speech and peaceful protests

Freedom of expression and peaceful assembly remain under severe threat across the region. Retaliation for free speech continues to be a common denominator in many cases MRG handles, with legal frameworks largely undermining these fundamental rights rather than protecting them.

In Jordan, MRG continued to support Kamil al-Zoubi, a Jordanian political activist who has been repeatedly arrested and prosecuted for exercising his right to freedom of expression. In June 2025, he was convicted on charges of defaming an official body and spreading “false news” considered harmful to national morale, sentenced to six months in prison, and fined. MRG continued to cooperate with UN human rights experts to report on the judicial harassment he faces.

The crackdown on free speech also took the form of website blockings. On May 14, 2025, the Jordanian Media Commission ordered

the blocking of at least 12 independent news websites without clear legal justification or judicial oversight, raising serious concerns about politically motivated censorship and the erosion of press freedom in Jordan. MRG joined over 20 organisations in condemning the decision.

The blocking of websites has also become a pattern in Egypt, where over 500 news and human rights websites have been blocked in recent years, alongside ongoing efforts to control and restrict independent journalism through legal and administrative measures. When Zawia 3, an independent media platform known for its critical reporting and commitment to journalistic integrity, was blocked, MRG joined NGOs in condemning the Egyptian authorities’ decision and urging them to lift the blocking and ensure that independent media outlets can operate freely without interference or restrictions.

In Morocco, MRG conducted strategic litigation on behalf of Rida Benotmane, a journalist and human rights defender detained between 2022 and 2024 in reprisals for having expressed his opinions on Facebook and YouTube in 2021. In January 2025, MRG filed his case with the UN Human Rights Committee, seeking to recognise the arbitrariness of his detention and obtain reparation, as well as urging Moroccan authorities to amend their Penal Code to ensure its provisions do not violate the right to freedom of expression.

MRG also continued to call for the release of Nasser Zefzafi, a political activist detained since 2017 on whose behalf MRG obtained a UN decision which remains unimplemented. In 2025, MRG and partners urged Moroccan authorities to release him on humanitarian grounds as his father was diagnosed with stage IV cancer.



Manifestations contre la révolution numérique des smartphones © oxinoxi, licensed Shutterstock.

In Iraq, MRG continued to monitor the case of Sherwan Sherwani, an Iraqi Kurdish journalist arbitrarily detained since 2020. He continues to be detained despite the issuance of a decision by the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention on his case and renewed advocacy and NGO calls for his release. On August 20, 2025, the Erbil Criminal Court sentenced Sherwani to an additional four years and five months in prison. MRG and partners marked five years of his detention by calling on the Kurdistan Regional Government to immediately release him.

In 2025, we also followed key developments in the UAE84 case – a mass trial involving 84 Emirati human rights defenders, lawyers, and political dissidents prosecuted on terrorism-related charges widely criticised as politically motivated – which came before the Federal Supreme Court. On March 4, 2025, the Court rejected the appeals of 53 defendants, upholding the convictions and sentences issued in 2024. In a further escalation, on June

26, 2025, the Court reconvicted and sentenced 24 additional defendants to life imprisonment, bringing the total convictions in the case to 83 and the number of life sentences to 67.



IN FOCUS

Algeria's relentless repression of civic space

Algeria, Algiers - November 08, 2019: Algerians maintain pressure for the 38th week of protests, against the current government, and against the presidential elections scheduled for 12 December 2019. © Saad-Bakhouché, licensed under Shutterstock.

Civic space in Algeria continued to shrink throughout 2025, as authorities systematically targeted human rights defenders, activists, journalists, and trade unionists through arbitrary arrests and unfair prosecutions. Despite international scrutiny, Algerian authorities intensified their crackdown on dissent, wielding counter-terrorism provisions and other repressive laws to silence critical voices. MRG worked throughout the year to defend affected individuals, engaging with UN mechanisms and joining partners in advocacy efforts to hold authorities accountable. This was possible thanks to its collaboration with Algerian human rights defender Zakaria Hannache.

Challenging arbitrary detention and criminalisation of Algerian activists

MRG engaged with UN mechanisms on behalf of numerous individuals arbitrarily detained for exercising their fundamental rights. For Tahar Larbi, president of the El Abiodh Sidi Cheikh section of the dissolved Algerian League for the Defense of Human Rights (LADDH), MRG submitted his case to the UN WGAD in early 2025, arguing that his 15-year prison sentence – reduced on appeal to four years – for critical

social media posts was arbitrary. Thanks to MRG's advocacy, on February 27, 2025, several UN Special Procedures mandate holders sent a [communication](#) expressing concerns about his sentencing.

MRG extensively advocated for Mohamed Tadjadit, a renowned poet and leading figure of the Hirak movement who has faced relentless judicial harassment for years. Arrested in January 2025 after participating in the [#JeSuisPasSatisfait \(#IAmNotSatisfied\)](#) campaign and sentenced to five years in prison in an expedited trial, he was convicted again in November 2025 to an additional five years for “glorifying terrorism”. He also faces charges that could result in the death penalty. In November 2025, MRG joined 19 other organisations in a [statement](#) calling for his immediate release and the dropping of all charges.

Additionally, MRG advocated for Ali Mammeri, a trade unionist who was subjected to enforced disappearance in March 2025 and reportedly subjected to torture. Sentenced to 15 years in prison – reduced on appeal to 10 years – for terrorism-related offences, his case prompted MRG, together with the Trade Union Confederation of Productive Forces (COSYFOP), to send an urgent appeal to UN

Special Procedures in April 2025 and submit a request for Opinion to the UN WGAD in October. In November, MRG joined 18 other organisations and international trade union federations in a [joint statement](#) calling for his immediate release.

In December 2025, following MRG's advocacy, eight UN Special Procedures mandate holders sent a [communication](#) to Algeria expressing grave concerns about the cases of Tadjadit and Mammeri. The experts highlighted the abuse of counter-terrorism legislation to target human rights defenders, emphasised that the charges appeared directly linked to their peaceful exercise of fundamental rights, and urged Algeria to address these serious allegations.

In March, MRG also seized UN Special Procedures on behalf of [Mounir Gharbi](#), a human rights lawyer sentenced to three years in prison *in absentia* for Facebook posts, and charged for a plea delivered in support of prisoners of conscience.

Moreover, MRG continued to monitor cases involving members of the dissolved Algerian League for the Defense of Human Rights. On February 26, 2025, the Algiers Court of Appeal upheld the acquittal of [Jamila Loukil](#), [Kaddour Chouicha](#), and journalist [Saïd Boudour](#) on terrorism-related charges, though the Prosecutor filed an appeal in cassation.

MRG also continued to support [Mustapha Bendjama](#), journalist and former editor-in-chief of the newspaper *Le Provincial*, who was arrested on December 30, 2024, and prosecuted for social media posts about the human rights situation in Algeria. Released under judicial supervision that forbids him from expressing himself on social media, he was summoned and questioned on April 21, 2025, about an investigation he had conducted in

2020 regarding police misconduct. Thanks to MRG's advocacy, UN Special Procedures sent a [communication](#) to Algeria regarding his case in February 2025. In August 2025, MRG filed his case with the UN Committee against Torture regarding violations committed during his police custody after his arrest on February 8, 2023.

Mobilising international pressure against Algeria's repression of civic space

MRG complemented its case work with sustained advocacy and awareness-raising efforts, partnering with international human rights organisations to spotlight Algeria's deteriorating human rights situation before key international forums.

In March 2025, MRG joined seven organisations in sending a [letter to the UN Human Rights Council](#) urging states to address the ongoing repression during the Council's 58th session. The letter coincided with the examination of the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders' report on her 2023 visit, who [expressed dismay](#) at the continued criminalisation of human rights defenders.

On March 7, 2025, MRG co-hosted a [side event](#) alongside Amnesty International, Article 19, the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Human Rights Watch, the International Federation for Human Rights, and the World Organisation against Torture. The event was held at the UN headquarters in Geneva and [livestreamed](#) via MRG's social media platforms. Panellists highlighted the systematic abuse of counter-terrorism legislation and the instrumentalisation of criminal law provisions to suppress human rights defenders.

Marking World Press Freedom Day on May 8, 2025, MRG joined 10 organisations in a

statement denouncing Algeria as a stark example of threats to fundamental freedoms, noting that 243 prisoners of conscience were detained in the country. In July 2025, MRG joined 11 NGOs in denouncing the adoption by the Algerian Parliament of modifications to the Code of Criminal Procedure and a new law on general mobilisation that undermine fair trial guarantees and grant the executive exceptional prerogatives without sufficient institutional oversight.

Finally, in September 2025, MRG joined Human Rights Watch and six other organisations in calling for the withdrawal of Algeria's draft law on associations, which would maintain a prior authorisation system for registering NGOs and grant executive authorities overly broad powers over associations.

Challenging administrative measures used to silence critics

In 2025, states across the MENA increasingly wielded administrative measures, including arbitrary travel bans, citizenship stripping, terrorism listings with asset freezes, and administrative detention, to target and silence peaceful critics and dissidents without due process or judicial oversight.

To shed light on this troubling regional pattern, MRG submitted a briefing paper to inform the UN Special Rapporteur on counter-terrorism and

three policemen during the patrol of the city with riot uniform and batons © ChiccoDodiFC, licensed under Shutterstock.



human rights about patterns of abuse in Algeria, Israel, Kuwait, and the UAE. As a result, the Special Rapporteur's October report to the UN General Assembly highlighted MRG's concerns, specifically referencing our documentation on Israel's widespread administrative detention of Palestinians from Gaza, the UAE's Munasaha "counselling" centres, and terrorism listing practices across the region.

To raise public awareness on these concerning practices, in November 2025, MRG organised a webinar, bringing together UN Special Rapporteur Ben Saul alongside civil society experts to shed light on abusive administrative measures in Algeria, Bahrain, and the UAE. The panel discussed how administrative counter-terrorism measures such as travel bans, terrorism designations, and citizenship revocations are weaponised to silence dissent across the MENA, providing concrete country examples and highlighting the urgent need for reform.

In Kuwait, authorities dramatically escalated citizenship stripping amid political repression following the dissolution of parliament in May 2024. Over 35 000 individuals lost their citizenship between August and December 2024, with an additional 10 000 stripped in

January 2025 alone, through decisions made by a governmental committee without judicial oversight or possibility of appeal. In February 2025, MRG led a statement joined by eight international organisations in calling on Kuwaiti authorities to immediately suspend all citizenship revocations until the Nationality Law is aligned with international human rights standards and to reinstate the nationality of all those who lost it without due process.

Citizenship revocation is also a repressive tool in the UAE, where authorities arbitrarily strip nationality or deny renewal of identity documents to silence political dissidents and their families, leaving individuals vulnerable to statelessness with no access to remedies. Following our 2024 report documenting this practice and its filing to UN Special Procedures, seven UN human rights experts issued a joint communication to Emirati authorities in April 2025, raising serious concerns about the arbitrary deprivation of citizenship. The UN communication highlighted MRG's concerns, emphasising that these practices violate international law and calling on the UAE to restore the rights of affected individuals.

Another concerning punitive measure in the UAE is terrorism listing, where authorities arbitrarily designate individuals and entities as terrorists without due process. In January 2025, Emirati authorities unilaterally added 11 political dissidents and their relatives, as well as eight UK-registered companies, to its terrorism list without notification or opportunity to contest the allegations. MRG submitted a legal analysis to UN Special Procedures, highlighting that the terrorism listing violates international human rights standards by allowing designations without clear procedures or oversight, relying on vague definitions of terrorism, and severely impacting the livelihoods and families of those affected.

Finally, in Algeria, authorities intensified the use of arbitrary travel bans to suppress dissenting voices, particularly in the context of repression of the Hirak protest movement. In February 2025, MRG and Human Rights Watch jointly documented 23 cases of arbitrary travel bans against activists, journalists, and critics, revealing they are often imposed without notice, unlimited in duration, and impossible to challenge. In October 2025, MRG published a comprehensive groundbreaking report based on nearly 30 individual cases, demonstrating that travel bans systematically isolate critical voices and sustain intimidation. MRG also petitioned UN Special Procedures urging Algerian authorities to align their Code of Criminal Procedure (CCP) with principles of legality, necessity, and proportionality. MRG's findings on travel bans in Algeria garnered significant international media attention, including from the African Press Agency. The report was presented during a webinar co-organised by MRG and EuroMed Rights in October 2025 and livestreamed via the Web TV AlternaTV. Following MRG's sustained advocacy on travel bans, Algerian authorities amended the CCP in 2025 to allow individuals to request the lifting of travel bans, addressing one of MRG's key recommendations. However, the reform falls short by failing to specify which authority has jurisdiction over such requests and introduces an almost unlimited renewal for the offence of "undermining state security", demonstrating that further reforms are needed to ensure victims' access to adequate recourse.

Ensuring civil society voices shape UN human rights action

Drawing on its monitoring and documentation, MRG ensured that UN human rights mechanisms reviewing Bahrain, Iraq, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia, incorporated civil society perspectives and those directly affected by human rights abuses into their conclusions and recommendations.

Participating in the Universal Periodic Reviews of Iraq, Lebanon and Mauritania

In 2025, MRG continued to engage with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), a peer review mechanism by which UN Member States provide recommendations to improve the human rights record of the countries under review before the UN Human Rights Council (UN HRC).

The year started with the fourth UPR of Iraq in January 2025, during which the authorities received 263 recommendations from 93 states on various issues including its human rights framework, the right to freedom of expression, and the death penalty. Following repeated advocacy efforts, Member States echoed MRG's recommendations. For example, on enforced disappearances, Mexico recommended that Iraq classify enforced disappearance as an autonomous crime and strengthen collaboration with the Committee

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND - JUNE 20, 2017: National flags at the entrance in UN office at Geneva, Switzerland. The UN Office was established in Geneva in 1947 and it is home to the UN Human Rights Council. © Giorgio Caracciolo, licensed under Shutterstock.



on Enforced Disappearances, while Croatia suggested Iraq set up a public, nationwide register on missing people. On freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, the United Kingdom and the Dominican Republic recommended that acts of violence against protestors be investigated, while dozens of states recommended that Iraq respect the right to freedom of expression. Regarding human rights defenders, Norway, Finland and Spain recommended that Iraq allow human rights defenders to work without fear of intimidation, persecution, or detention. Prior to the UPR, MRG had provided UN Member States with relevant information on the human rights situation in the country.

In July, during the 59th session of the UN HRC, the outcome of Iraq's UPR was adopted. Iraqi authorities informed the UN HRC of their intention to accept 181 recommendations, representing approximately 69% of all recommendations made, which is considered a high acceptance rate. However, MRG's analysis showed that this also represented a 26% decrease compared to the acceptance rate recorded during Iraq's previous cycle. MRG will continue monitoring the effective implementation of accepted recommendations.

Moreover, ahead of the UPR of Lebanon and Mauritania which took place in January 2026, MRG submitted reports to the UN HRC and briefed Permanent Missions on the reports' findings.

For Lebanon, MRG's report, issued jointly with the Cedar Center for Legal Studies, focuses on the country's role in facilitating transnational repression, in law and in practice, and makes concrete recommendations to Lebanese authorities for reform, in line with international human rights standards. It notably analyses

Lebanon's legal and institutional framework governing extraditions and concretely identifies the legal, institutional and procedural issues conducive to the practice of transnational repression, in light of Turkish-Egyptian dissident al-Qaradawi's extradition in early 2025.

On Mauritania, MRG's report, produced in collaboration with the Orphans of Mauritania Alliance, sheds light on three key human rights issues: the persisting restrictions against freedom of opinion and expression, the absence of accountability for grave human rights violations committed during the *Passif humanitaire*, notably because of the 1993 Amnesty Law which perpetuates a climate of impunity, and the use of counter-terrorism legislation that undermines fundamental legal safeguards.

In 2026, MRG will closely follow the UPR sessions and adoption of Lebanon and Mauritania's UPR outcomes and provide a comprehensive analysis of the recommendations accepted by both states.

Evaluation of the respect of civil and political rights in Jordan and Morocco

Throughout the year, MRG provided input ahead of the adoption of lists of issues by the UN Human Rights Committee prior to the reviews of Morocco and Jordan in coming years. These lists, which identify key human rights concerns and require states to provide focused responses, ensure that civil society perspectives are reflected in the review process.

In March 2025, the UN Human Rights Committee adopted its List of Issues Prior to the Submission of the Sixth Periodic Report of Jordan. In 2024, ahead of this review,

MRG had submitted a contribution, focusing on the Kingdom's obligation to respect the principle of *non-refoulement* in the context of extradition proceedings and highlighting the case of Khalaf al-Romaithi, a prominent Emirati dissident who was extradited from Jordan to the UAE in May 2023 and has since remained disappeared.

The Committee echoed MRG's concerns regarding extradition and *non-refoulement*. In question 15, the Committee specifically asked Jordan to provide information on measures taken to ensure compliance with the principle of *non-refoulement* in law and in practice, including procedural safeguards such as access to review by an independent judicial body and effective remedies. Crucially, the Committee requested information on safeguards against *refoulement* in regard to extradition, both in the existing framework and in the proposed draft law on international cooperation in criminal matters, including whether appeals have a suspensive effect. This directly reflected the core concerns raised by MRG in its submission about Jordan's extradition framework.

In April 2025, MRG submitted a joint contribution with the Moroccan Association for Human Rights to the List of Issues, focusing on several provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, particularly articles 7, 19, 21, and 22 relating to the prohibition of torture, and the exercise of freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly, and association.

In July, the Committee adopted its List of Issues, echoing several of MRG's concerns. The Committee requested information on measures taken to prevent and eradicate torture, including ensuring that confessions obtained under torture are not accepted by courts and that complainants are protected

against reprisals. Regarding freedom of expression, the Committee asked Morocco to describe measures taken to ensure that journalists, bloggers, and human rights defenders can carry out their activities freely without fear of harassment or arbitrary detention, and to consider decriminalising defamation and related offences. On freedom of peaceful assembly, the Committee requested information on measures to ensure that legislation governing peaceful demonstrations respects the principles of legality, necessity and proportionality, and asked about allegations of arbitrary restrictions on gatherings, including those in solidarity with Palestine. On freedom of association, the Committee sought information on measures to remove barriers restricting the establishment and operation of associations, reflecting MRG's concerns about restrictions faced by civil society organisations.

Assessing Bahrain's compliance with the absolute prohibition of torture

In October 2025, MRG joined 10 partner organisations in submitting an alternative report to the UN Committee against Torture ahead of Bahrain's review in November 2025.

The joint report documented recent cases of excessive use of force during peaceful protests, dire prison conditions leading to death, and the use of torture-tainted confessions as evidence in court, including in death penalty cases. The report examined the continued and prolonged use of arbitrary detention in cases of prominent political prisoners and prisoners of conscience and described how the Bahraini government has restricted civil society and curtailed citizens' participation in public life, contributing to a climate of fear and impunity.

The Committee's Concluding Observations echoed these concerns. The Committee was concerned about consistent reports indicating that torture is routinely used to extract confessions and called on Bahrain to ensure that confessions and other statements obtained through torture are not admitted as evidence in practice. It shared reports indicating overcrowding and poor material conditions of detention in places of deprivation of liberty, and reports indicating that detainees held for political reasons are frequently subjected to collective punishment, including extended periods of solitary confinement. Finally, the Committee remained concerned about reports that human rights defenders, members of civil society, journalists, political opponents and other critics have been subjected to retaliation.

Engaging UN independent experts on human rights violations in Saudi Arabia

In 2025, MRG provided concrete, evidence-based information to UN Special Procedures mandate holders on the widespread practice of arbitrary detention in Saudi Arabia, urging the independent experts to press authorities to comply with their international human rights obligations.

In April 2025, MRG submitted a briefing to the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons ahead of her visit to Saudi Arabia. The briefing highlighted the arbitrary detention of older persons, including prominent dissidents and human rights defenders, and documented the denial of adequate medical care to elderly prisoners. MRG raised concerns about prolonged pre-trial detention without judicial review, inhumane prison conditions, and the use of the death penalty against older persons.

The Independent Expert's report following her visit strongly echoed MRG's concerns. She noted that "the denial of medical care may be being used to target specific prisoners" and was concerned that on the day before her visit to al-Ha'ir prison, authorities rejected her request to meet with a 75-year-old man with disabilities and 68-year-old prominent scholar Salman al-Awdah, allegedly for lack of time despite 24 hours' advance notice. She noted this "violated the terms of reference for country visits by special procedure mandate holders, which includes the right to establish confidential and unsupervised contact with persons deprived of their liberty". She concluded her report stating that "[a]nother group of older persons who are excluded from benefiting from the country's efforts towards modernization are those who are arbitrarily arrested, imprisoned, often in inhumane conditions, and sentenced for opposing the Government or dissenting with its policies."

In addition, together with ALQST for Human Rights, MRG filed a submission to the UN WGAD, highlighting Saudi Arabia's systematic failure to implement UN WGAD Opinions issued since 2016, with numerous individuals remaining detained despite the Working Group finding their detention arbitrary and calling for their immediate release. Most alarmingly, several individuals were executed in blatant disrespect of UN recommendations. MRG and ALQST therefore requested the group of experts to issue a dedicated follow-up communication to the Saudi government and recalled that despite some recent releases of prisoners of conscience, full implementation of the Opinions requires the unconditional release of those arbitrarily detained and the removal of all restrictions on their freedom of movement.

MRG complemented this submission with UN HRC advocacy. On September 17, 2025,

with the Gulf Centre for Human Rights, we delivered a [joint oral statement](#) at the UN HRC's 60th session during the interactive dialogue with the UN WGAD, highlighting the continued use of arbitrary detention by Saudi Arabia and the lack of implementation of all Opinions addressed to the Kingdom.

Assessing the performance of national human rights institutions

Among our tactics is assessing the performance of national human rights institutions (NHRIs), which are mandated state bodies established to ensure the protection and promotion of fundamental rights and freedoms at the national level. To that effect, NHRIs must abide by the [Paris Principles](#), namely pluralism, independence and effectiveness, "in order to be considered credible and to operate effectively".

In 2025, MRG welcomed the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA) of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) expression of concern over the ineffectiveness of Iraq's National Human Rights Institution. During its October session, the SCA decided to [downgrade](#) the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights (IHCHR) to "B" status following a special review. MRG has monitored the IHCHR for several years, producing reports in [2021](#), [2024](#), and [2025](#) ahead of the IHCHR's reviews.

Drawing on documentation and testimonies from local partners, our reports showed that the IHCHR repeatedly falls short of operating as an independent, impartial, and effective NHRI. MRG highlighted undue political influence over the IHCHR and its placement under the supervision of the Ministry of Justice, severely undermining its credibility and ability to operate independently. Our reports also raised the absence of commissioners since 2021 and the continued deterioration between 2024 and 2025, with around 90% of the IHCHR's work and activities reportedly halted.

Genève, Suisse - 23 avril 2015 : Palais Wilson. Le siège du Haut-Commissariat des Nations Unies aux droits de l'homme (HCDH). Genève, Suisse © Mike Gorsky, licensed under Shutterstock.



The SCA's 2025 decision confirming the downgrading reflects many of the concerns MRG raised regarding the IHCHR's independence, effectiveness, and capacity to fulfil its mandate. The IHCHR has challenged the decision, and MRG will continue to monitor developments.

Moreover, since 2023, MRG has also been monitoring Egypt's National Council for Human Rights (NCHR). We had notably submitted a report to the SCA, urging them to downgrade the NCHR to status "B" given its failure to protect human rights in Egypt. Although the SCA echoed our assessment and downgraded the NCHR in 2024, the latter appealed and was again reviewed in October 2025. This time, the SCA decided to grant the NCHR with "A" status, a decision we jointly denounced with partner NGOs. MRG notably urged the SCA to initiate a structured follow-up process with clear, time-bound benchmarks for the NCHR; to publish the reasoning underpinning the 2025 accreditation decision, including the draft law submitted by the NCHR; and to reaffirm that accreditation must remain evidence-based and grounded in demonstrated compliance.



IN FOCUS

Exposing the Saudi Human Rights Commission

Hala Mazyad Al-Tuwaijri, President of the Saudi Human Rights Commission of Saudi Arabia addresses the 52nd Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva. © UN Photo / Violaine Martin, licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 DEED](#).

On the 20th anniversary of the Saudi Human Rights Commission (SHRC), MRG led a campaign exposing its role in whitewashing the Kingdom's human rights violations. Building on our previous groundbreaking work monitoring the Commission, including our landmark [2023 report](#), we drafted a [report](#), published jointly with ALQST and ESOHR, documenting how the SHRC systematically fails to function as an independent national human rights institution.

Our research revealed that the SHRC engages in covering up ongoing violations rather than fulfilling its mandate. Families of prominent activists found that the SHRC blocked their attempts to raise concerns, offered false assurances, or ignored requests outright. The Commission has remained silent on critical issues including the sharp rise in executions and widespread reprisals against human rights defenders. During UN reviews in 2024, the SHRC acted as the government's mouthpiece, rejecting key

recommendations on the death penalty and the protection of human rights defenders, while denying systemic discrimination despite overwhelming evidence.

To raise further awareness, we coordinated a [joint statement](#) with 10 human rights organisations and organised a [webinar](#). Additionally, during the UN Human Rights Council's 60th session in September 2025, MRG's Human Rights Officer Falah Sayed spoke at a well-attended side event co-organised by the Gulf Centre for Human Rights, where she exposed the SHRC's systematic failures and lack of independence. We also shared our findings with several international institutions that collaborate with the SHRC, including the European Union and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, calling for an end to partnerships that provide diplomatic cover for the Commission's lack of independence and its violations of the Paris Principles governing national human rights institutions.

Driving international attention to human rights abuses in the MENA

In 2025, MRG brought urgent human rights concerns to international fora and media, stepping up scrutiny and pressure on governments to act. Alongside this, MRG participated in a range of civil society actions such as letters, petitions, and statements to relevant authorities and stakeholders. MRG also held six events, including webinars and panel discussions on the sidelines of the UN Human Rights Council.

In 2025, MRG co-organised three side events at the UN Human Rights Council addressing critical human rights issues: a side event on the abuse counter-terrorism measures in the MENA, a side event on the shrinking civic space in Algeria, and a side event on the use of security measures to carry out reprisals against human rights defenders.



To raise public awareness on concerning practices, in November 2025, MRG organised a webinar bringing together the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and counter-terrorism alongside civil society experts to discuss how administrative counter-terrorism measures such as travel bans, terrorism designations, and citizenship revocations are weaponised to silence dissent in Algeria, Bahrain, and the UAE. In September, MRG also organised a webinar on the Saudi Human Rights Commission to expose its role in whitewashing the Kingdom’s human rights violations. In October, MRG co-organised a webinar presenting MRG’s comprehensive report on arbitrary travel bans in Algeria, based on nearly 30 case studies demonstrating how travel bans systematically isolate critical voices and sustain intimidation.

MRG staff also attended conferences and workshops held by NGO partners throughout the year. In May, our Legal Advisor Alexis Thiry attended the 14th annual Congress of our partner the Moroccan Association for Human Rights, held under the theme of solidarity with the Palestinian people and the defence of human rights in Morocco and around the



Side event on the abuse counter-terrorism measures in the MENA, March 2025.

world. In October 2025, our Human Rights Officer Falah Sayed attended Bread&Net 2025 in Beirut, an annual conference that brings together activists, technologists, journalists, and policymakers to discuss and reimagine digital rights and social justice in the Arabic-speaking region. In November, our Human Rights Officer Tanya Boulakovski attended the 5th MENA Consultation meeting with UN experts organised by the Gulf Centre for Human Rights in Istanbul, where she met with Special Procedures mandate holders and activists from the region.



Side event on the use of security measures to carry out reprisals against human rights defenders, September 2025.



Webinar on the Saudi Human Rights Commission, September 2025.

Digital engagement

2025 in numbers



24

new profiles of victims
published on our website



103%

increase of Instagram
followers and **56K** views



129K

new website users



39%

increase of
Facebook page visits
and **95K** views



620K+

impressions on X



89%

increase of LinkedIn
followers and **100K**
impressions

Media engagement

Throughout the year, MENA Rights Group team members have been interviewed and quoted in several publications and our work has received extensive coverage by various media outlets, including the regional [Middle East Eye](#), [The New Arab](#), [The Siyasat Daily](#), [L'Orient-Le-Jour](#), [Electronic Intifada](#), [Drop Site News](#), [Now Lebanon](#), [APA News](#), [Maghreb Emergent](#), [Barlamane](#), [Horizons](#), [L'Evènement Syndical](#), the global media outlets [Reuters](#), [France 24](#), [The Guardian](#), [The European Times](#), French-speaking [France Info](#), [Le 360](#), [Radio des Sans Voix](#), Arabic media [صوت المغرب](#), [Pressbee](#), [UAE71](#), [اليمن الغد](#), [الحدث 24](#), [noon post](#), [Marrakech Al Youm](#), Italian-speaking [Milenio](#), [Nigrizia](#), student-led media [JuristNews](#), Swiss media [Swissinfo](#), Algerian media [Le Matin d'Algérie](#), [Tamurt](#), [Ultra Algeria](#).

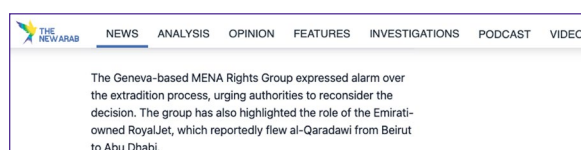
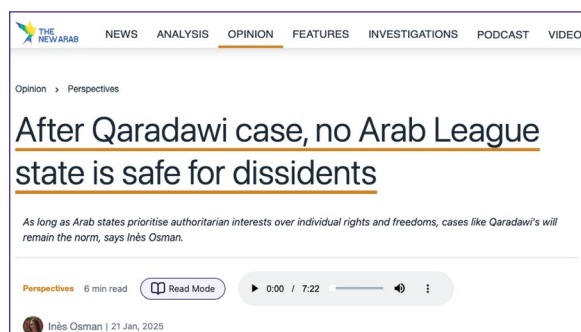
Other media outlets include [The Bengaluru Live](#), [Marokko Nieuws](#), [ESG Data](#), [The Epoch Times](#), [RTP noticias](#), [RTP noticias](#), [People in Need](#), [Africa Rivista](#), [Focus on Africa](#), [The Insight International](#), [infobae](#), [Peoples Dispatch](#), [The North Africa Post](#), [The Wire](#), [Havana Times](#), [Statewatch](#), [The Straits Times](#).

Alexis Thiry, legal advisor for the Geneva-based MENA Rights Group, said he had sent a letter to the company on Wednesday raising concerns as the plane approached Lebanon.

UN experts [urged Lebanese authorities](#) on Wednesday to reconsider Qaradawi's case, which they described as fast tracked, and reject his extradition, saying they fear he could be subject to torture, ill-treatment or enforced disappearance if he is deported.

Thiry shares these concerns. "We also fear that due to his profile and the fact that he is wanted on political grounds, he will not be granted procedural guarantees including those of a fair trial," he said.

"This fear is reinforced by the lack of independence of the judiciary in the United Arab Emirates."



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GEOPOLÍTICA DEMOCRACIA CIENCIA SOCIEDAD ECONOMÍA

HRW y MRG critican el uso de prohibiciones «arbitrarias» de viaje en Argelia

03 febrero 2025 - 10:30 3 minutos

Argel, 3 feb (EFE).- Las organizaciones de defensa de derechos humanos Human Rights Watch (HRW) y Mena Rights Group (MRG) criticaron este lunes que Argelia está recurriendo cada vez más a prohibiciones «arbitrarias» de viaje como forma de represalia contra quienes perciben como críticos y pidieron a las autoridades locales que levanten estas prohibiciones y dejen de utilizarlas como «herramienta para reprimir la disidencia».

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Saudi Arabia plans to execute Shia youths on charges UN deems 'arbitrary'

Young men, who were minors at the time of their arrest, participated in peaceful protests in al-Qatif in 2011 and 2012



The organisations, led by the Geneva-based MENA Rights Group, wrote in an [open letter](#) that the Arab Interior Ministers Council must “undertake urgent reforms, in consultation with civil society, to align its legal framework and systems with international human rights law”.

The letter comes as the AIMC concluded its [42nd annual conference](#) in Tunis amid what the organisations said is “a rise in transnational repression”.

In the past four months, there appears to have been a significant increase in the use of AIMC-circulated warrants to extradite or attempt to extradite individuals believed to be sought by Arab states for political reasons.

Lack of oversight

More broadly, there is a sense that the AIMC is a black box of information without any public checks and balances, and one with growing power.

MEE understands that the council did not respond to UN experts who [wrote a letter](#) in 2023, warning that they were concerned that the AIMC was not shielding people wanted over political activities from extradition and asking for clarity on 10 different points related to their concerns.

MENA Rights Group, which has been leading on research and advocacy about the AIMC and was among 15 civil society organisation [campaigning this month](#) to draw attention to the body during its annual meeting in Tunisia, has only heard back from the body once in an email acknowledging that the AIMC had received the NGO’s correspondence.

The AIMC did not respond to a request for comment for this article. Nor did the Egyptian, Iraqi or Kuwaiti interior ministries.

Among those documenting the cases, there is an unsettling pairing of panic and resignation.

Twice in three years, Alexis Thiry, a legal adviser with MENA Rights Group, has watched on flight-tracking websites as planes flew into airports and took away individuals, detained on AIMC warrants, whom he believed were wanted purely for political reasons.

Reuters Subscribe

In 2023, [Human Rights Watch](#) said the EHC complex was “essentially a prison” with as many as 2,700 Afghans held there.

Falah Sayed, an officer of MENA Rights Group which submitted the case, said the U.N. finding could apply to thousands of refugees locked in EHC.

The U.N. Working Group has no enforcement mechanism, but its findings are often cited in court cases and cases it covers frequently lead to detainees’ release.



List of publications

Country reports

Soumission de la liste des questions dans le cadre de l'examen du septième rapport périodique du Maroc par le Comité (in French only), April 2025.

The Saudi Human Rights Commission: 20 years of whitewashing the Kingdom's human rights record, September 2025.

Algérie : Les interdictions de sortie du territoire national (in French and Arabic), October 2025.

Lebanon's role in transnational repression, November 2025.

Universal Periodic Review of Mauritania: report to the UN Human Rights Council, November 2025.

Thematic reports

Intimidation and reprisals for cooperation with the UN: Submission to the Secretary-General, April 2025.

Counter-terrorism and security as instruments of reprisals, September 2025

Analyses

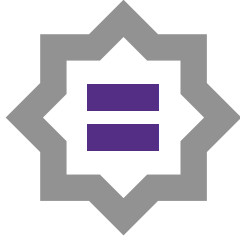
INTERPOL's new draft amendments to the CCF Statute could make it harder for applicants to challenge politically, April 2025.

Counter-terrorism practices incompatible with human rights in the MENA region, May 2025.

Silencing dissent in the name of fighting terrorism: Administrative measures as a tool of repression in the MENA, June 2025.

The influence of MENA states in the UN counter-terrorism architecture, July 2025.

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