

ACTIVITIES REPORT

2014



C.L.D.H

Centre Libanais des Droits Humains
Lebanese Center for Human Rights
المركز اللبناني لحقوق الإنسان

Contents

Presentation of the Lebanese Center for Human Rights	4
Donors	5
Arbitrary Detention and Torture in Lebanon	6
1. Legal Assistance to Vulnerable Inmates in the Lebanese Prisons	6
2. Implementation	7
3. Events	8
4. Participation of CLDH team members at other events	9
5. Important Achievements	10
Centre Nassim for the Rehabilitation of Victims of Torture	11
1. Services	11
2. New foreseen activities	13
Enforced disappearance	14
1. Events	15
Migrant Workers, Asylum Seekers and Refugees	16
1. Individual cases follow-up	16
2. Events	18
3. Participation of CLDH team members at other events	21
Overview of the Human Rights situation, capacity building and networking	21
1. Human Rights Journalism campaign	22
2. Social Media	23
References	24

Presentation of the Lebanese Center for Human Rights

The Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH) is a local non-profit, non-partisan Lebanese human rights organization based in Beirut. CLDH was created in 2006 by the Franco-Lebanese Movement SOLIDA (Support for Lebanese Detained Arbitrarily), which has been active since 1996 in the struggle against arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance and the impunity of those perpetrating gross human rights violations.

CLDH monitors the human rights situation in Lebanon, fights enforced disappearance, impunity, arbitrary detention and racism and rehabilitates the victims of torture. CLDH regularly organizes press conferences, workshops and advocacy meetings on human rights issues in Lebanon and collects, records and documents human rights abuses in reports and press releases.

CLDH team on the ground supports initiatives aimed at determining the fate of all missing persons in Lebanon.

CLDH regularly follows up on numerous cases of arbitrary detention and torture in Lebanon in coordination with Lebanese and international organizations, and with the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) and the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture.

CLDH opened in 2007 a Rehabilitation Center for the victims of torture in Beirut, Centre Nassim, member of IRCT (International Rehabilitation Council for Torture victims), which provides multi-disciplinary professional support and case management for victims of torture and their families.

CLDH compiles a daily press review on human rights violations and on-going judiciary cases in Lebanon and updates several human rights blogs.

CLDH is a founding member of the Euro-Mediterranean Federation against Enforced Disappearance (FEMED), a member of the Euro-Mediterranean Network of Human Rights (REMDH), a member of the SOS Torture Network of the World Organization against Torture (OMCT), and of FIDH (International Federation of Human Rights).

Donors

CLDH is extremely grateful for the financial support it receives from individuals, foundations and embassies, which makes our work in Lebanon possible. Their generosity allows CLDH to respond to Human rights violations, and to operate independently from political, economic or religious interests.

- **AEDH** (Working Together for Human Rights) – Supported the legal assistance activities to migrant workers.

- **Heinrich Boll Foundation Middle East Office** – Supported the project titled “National conference for the rights of the refugees from Syria, including the most vulnerable groups”.

- **La Luz** - Financially supported Centre Nassim through IRCT (International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims) for its rehabilitation activities towards women and girls who have survived sexual, physical and psychological torture.

- **Oak Foundation** - Financially supported Centre Nassim.

- **OMCT** (World Organization Against Torture) - Supported beneficiaries of Centre Nassim through its social assistance program.

- **Open Society Foundation** - Renewed its support to the project “Legal assistance to vulnerable inmates in Lebanese prisons”.

- **The Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Lebanon** – Provided CLDH with funding for various activities.

- **The Swiss Embassy in Beirut** - Provided

CLDH with funding for various activities.

- **UNDEF** (United Nations Democracy Fund) – Supported the project titled “Promote a culture of human rights in Lebanon”.

- **UNVFVT** (United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Victims of Torture) - Supports Centre Nassim in the rehabilitation of the victims of torture.

- **Private donors** - Regularly contribute to the funding of the organization’s activities.

Arbitrary Detention and Torture in Lebanon

Objective- Contribute effectively to reducing the practice of arbitrary detention and torture in Lebanon

1. Legal Assistance to Vulnerable Inmates in the Lebanese Prisons

In Lebanon the prison population is exceeding almost three times the capacities of detention facilities. Meanwhile, a large amount of detainees and prisoners could be immediately released if they could avail adequate legal assistance.

Insufficient judiciary assistance by the Lebanese state, insufficient amounts paid to the lawyers at the end of each

calendar year that do not cover their real expenses in the cases, are at the core of this problem. Consequently, the lawyers do not have a possibility to effectively defend low-income inmates who are not in a position to cover certain expenses. In addition, foreigners that have been convicted for illegal entry or stay are not included in the judiciary assistance provided by the Lebanese state, thus, they are left in a limbo state without lawyers defending their cases.

Every year, CLDH provides lawyers for inmates who cannot afford it and this legal assistance allows dozens of inmates to be released.

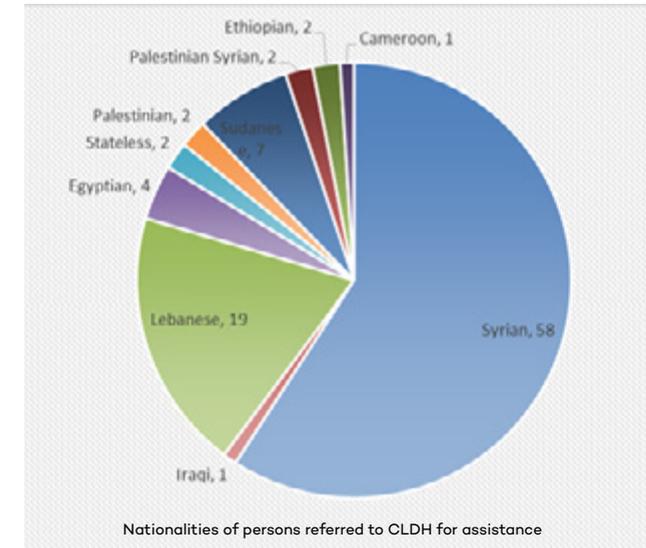
This project implemented with the support of Open Society Foundation, the Swiss Embassy in Beirut and the Kingdom of Netherlands Embassy in Lebanon, improves access to Justice for all and helps reducing the practice of arbitrary detention in Lebanon, with a particular focus on the protection of marginalized people.

2. Implementation

During the reported period, CLDH continued to visit Lebanese prisons and to meet victims of arbitrary detention and victims of torture. It also received many cases referred by relevant prison visitors, families and relatives of inmates. CLDH continued to document and follow up their cases in accordance with the demands and specific needs of the beneficiaries of the program.

In 2014, the lawyers were referred 98 new cases of vulnerable inmates. Since the beginning of the program entitled “Legal assistance to vulnerable inmates” in 2012, the two lawyers in charge have dealt with an average of 100 cases per year, and ensured the release of 60 % of them, reflecting the reality in the Lebanese prisons; indeed the regular assessment of the legal situation in the prisons conducted every two years by CLDH show an average rate of arbitrary detention of 60 to 70 % of the inmates. The cases of vulnerable inmates who were taken care of in the framework of this program but can’t be released immediately are however assisted in order to protect their rights as much as possible, and to obtain a fair trial.

CLDH is expecting to be able to develop



this much needed program in 2015 and to hire new lawyers in order to be able to deal with more cases.

The legal assistance program implemented by CLDH covers the following interventions to inmates in Lebanese prisons:

- Legal advice;
- Contacting the corresponding embassy;
- Helping travel;
- Defense in court;
- Sentence reduction;
- Paying judiciary fees;
- Assistance in police stations;
- Having the sentences run concurrently.

On **October 17, 2014**, The Lebanese Center for Human Rights published its new report entitled “Legal Aid in Lebanon”. The report addressed the following issues:

- The issue of detention in Lebanon
- The judiciary system in Lebanon
- Legal aid in the law
- Legal aid beneficiaries
- Legal aid stakeholders

The report also gave recommendations to the Government of Lebanon. ⁱ

3. Events

During the reported period, the following events were hosted or co-hosted by the Lebanese Center for Human Rights:

“The situation in the detention places in Lebanon and access to vulnerable inmates” Roundtable - 13 March 2014

A roundtable was held on March 13, 2014, at the residence of the French ambassador bringing together NGOs and relevant institutions, Lebanese institutions (Internal Security Forces, General Security, Army, Ministry of Justice, etc.), representatives of the United Nations Agencies and embassies. This roundtable allowed the participants to take stock of the situation in the detention places in Lebanon and of the issue of the access to vulnerable inmates.

“Debate on Legal Assistance to vulnerable inmates in the Lebanese Prisons” Debate - 22 May, 2014

This debate was organized as a capacity building for the Lebanese legal aid system. The debate followed a previous meeting with the Head of the Bar Association and its various commissions (human rights, prison, legal aid, etc).

Stop torture of migrants and refugees! Solidarity Sit-In with the detainees at General Security detention center - June 26, 2014

On June 26, 2014 - International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, the Lebanese Center for Human Rights in collaboration with Nasawiya, Anti-Racism Movement, ACAT France and Alkarama for Human Rights called to a solidarity sit-in with the migrants and refugees detained at the General Security Detention Center in Adlieh. However, due to the previous day's dramatic deterioration of the security situation in Lebanon, and in order not to endanger the lives of the participants, the sit-in was postponed for July 18, 2014. For more information please visit the Facebook event of the postponed solidarity sit-in. ⁱⁱ

Even though the solidarity sit-in was postponed, the aforementioned organizations published a press release calling on the Lebanese Government to:

- Close immediately the General Security detention center in Adlieh;
- Stop using administrative detention as a method of torture against migrants, asylum seekers and refugees;
- Release immediately any asylum seeker or refugee detained for the sole reason of his/her illegal entry or stay;
- Stop immediately deporting refugees to countries where they are at risk of torture. ⁱⁱⁱ

4. Participation of CLDH team members at other events

In 2014, the Lebanese Center for Human Rights as part of its advocacy activities attended meetings with:

- The Minister of Justice;
- The Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- The General Director of the General Security;
- Two meetings with the Human Rights Commission of the Parliament;
- The EU Special Representative for Human Rights;
- The EU representative for Human Rights Defenders in Lebanon.

February 28, 2014: CLDH team member attended the IDC Lebanon Members Meeting where detention related matters were discussed. Special accent was put on immigration detention.

March 13, 2014: CLDH staff member attended a book launching ceremony by AJEM.

March 27, 2014: CLDH team member

attended the “Victims of Terrorism Seeking Justice” a seminar organized by the Special Tribunal for Lebanon.

March 26, 2014: CLDH team attended launching of the “Observatory of the criminal justice in Lebanon”

April 03, 2014: CLDH attended the launching of the campaign “Torture Is A Crime” by Restart Center.

April 04, 2014: CLDH attended a press conference entitled “Guilty until Proven Innocent” which marked the launching of the campaign by ALEF to limit arbitrary detention, lengthy pretrial detentions, and delays in trials.

May 06, 2014: CLDH attended the exhibition of Media Pieces by Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering, Dar Al Amal, Caritas Migrant Center and Diakonia.

July 30, 2014: CLDH team member attended a launching of the book titled “The Special Tribunal for Lebanon: Law and Practice” at the American University of Beirut. The book launching was followed by a panel discussion.

July 2014: CLDH team member attended a round table to discuss the issue of prisons in Lebanon, an event that was organized by the Ministry of Justice.

October 20, 2014: CLDH team member attended a publication of “Recommendations on Confronting the Legacy of Political Violence: A Program of Change” organized by ICTJ with EU and FES.

October 10, 2014: On the occasion of the World Day against Death Penalty, The Lebanese Center for Human Rights issued a press release which condemned the Death Penalty in Lebanon. ^{iv}



The situation in the detention places in Lebanon and access to vulnerable inmates – Roundtable



Legal Assistance to vulnerable inmates in the Lebanese Prisons – Debate

November 27, 2014: CLDH team member attended a lecture on forensic science and human rights – experiences from around the world organized by ICTJ and Act for the Disappeared.

December 10, 2014: CLDH team members attended a sit-in under the title “Freedom for all prisoners” organized by KRC.

CLDH took part in several protection and legal aid meetings of UNRWA and UNHCR.

5. Important Achievements

The work of CLDH is gaining recognition since it became the main NGO in Lebanon providing legal representation to vulnerable inmates in courts and with administrative institutions.

Hence, CLDH was awarded in March 2014 the “2013 Special Mention of the French Republic Human Rights Award” for this program;

The award ceremony and the roundtable following it were well recorded in the Lebanese Media .^v

Press release was published following the Award ceremony and the roundtable.^{vi}



H.E. Patrice Paoli awarded to CLDH the Special Mention of the Human Rights Award of the French Republic

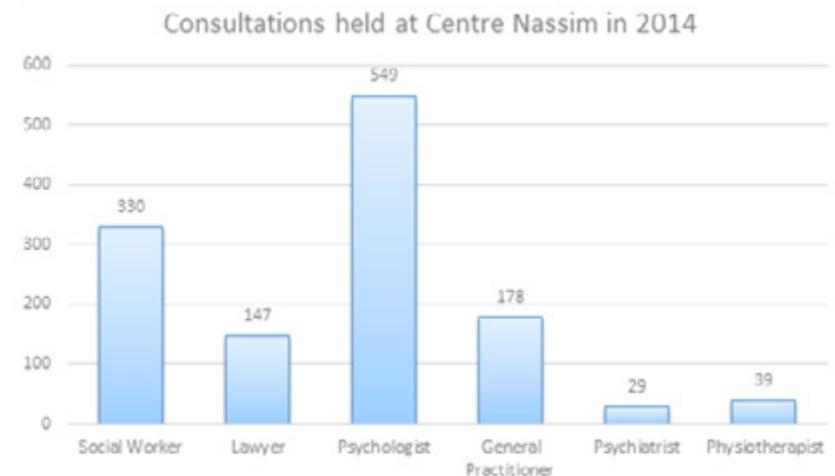
Centre Nassim for the Rehabilitation of Victims of Torture

Objective: Offer and provide multi-disciplinary assistance to the victims of torture

1. Services

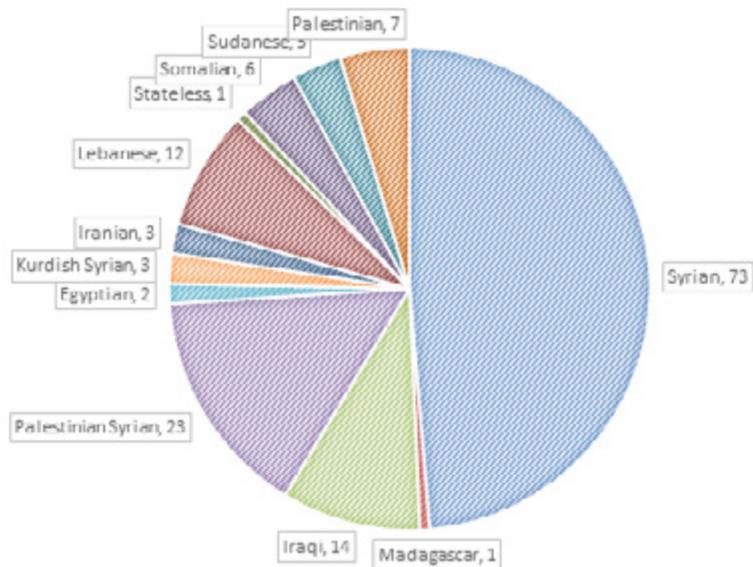
In 2014, 102 new beneficiaries availed to the services of Centre Nassim. In the

meantime, Centre Nassim continued its support to 48 beneficiaries which had been registered in the previous years. In total, Centre Nassim dealt with 150 beneficiaries during the reporting period. In total, 1272 consultations were held with the beneficiaries. The consultations were as following:

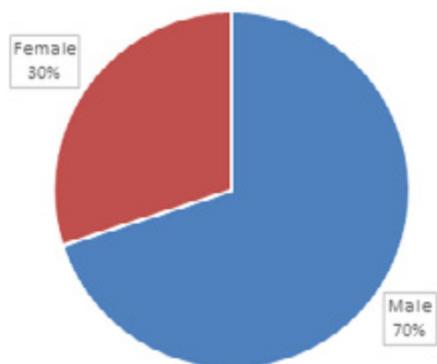




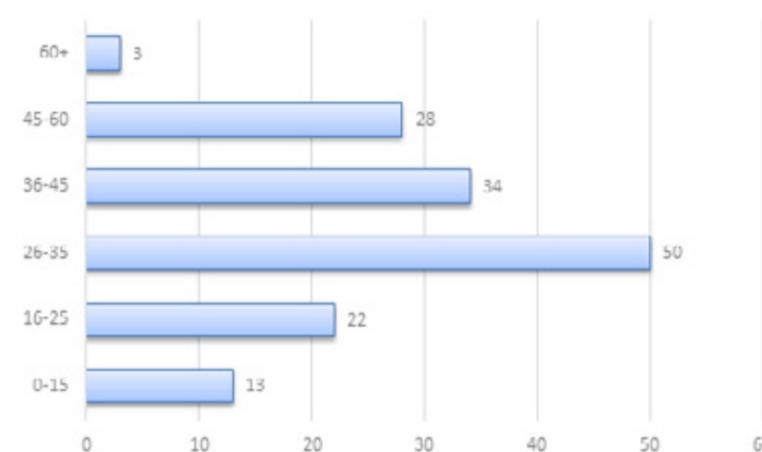
The nationalities and number of Centre Nassim's beneficiaries is shown in the following chart:



The gender of the victims of torture that were beneficiaries at Centre Nassim can be seen on the following chart:



The age group of the beneficiaries of Centre Nassim is as following:



November 03 – 06, 2014 Centre Nassim as part of the IRCT participated in the MENA Regional Meeting in Amman, Jordan. IRCT's 5-year strategy was presented and discussed.

2. New foreseen activities

As shown in the previous graphs, the highest number of beneficiaries are from Syria. CLDH will stay committed to helping these vulnerable groups.

For the following period, CLDH is planning to continue its rehabilitation activities, but also to increase its advocacy and awareness raising activities through organizing conferences and workshops with judges, lawyers and prosecutors. This is planned because of the findings in CLDH's previous reports on torture as well as UNCAT's findings in its latest report and it will be funded in part by the continuous support of the Netherlands Embassy in Lebanon.

Enforced Disappearance

Objective: Support the families of disappeared and NGOs working with this issue, and contribute effectively to the establishment of truth and justice for all victims of Human Rights violations

Since 1996, CLDH works closely with the families of the disappeared, who are suffering from the psychological torture of not knowing what happened to their loved ones and who are therefore not being able to properly mourn their relatives if indeed they have been killed as a result of enforced disappearance, or to get information on their whereabouts in case they are still being detained in foreign jails. At the very least, the authorities should respect their right to Truth and help shed light on the fate of all disappeared persons in Lebanon in

order to resolve this issue and start a real national reconciliation process.

For this reason, CLDH is calling for improvement of the draft law on enforced disappearance and the missing, prepared by a number of NGOs. In 2014, CLDH continued to be in the forefront of various activities undertaken in support of families of disappeared and working towards the establishment of truth and justice for all victims of Human Rights violations.

1. Events

April 11, 2014 On the occasion of the 9th anniversary of the sit-in at the tent in downtown Beirut, CLDH with the Committee of Relatives of Lebanese Detainees in Syrian prisons, held a sit-in to express solidarity with their just cause.



Press Conference at the sit-in ^{vii}

December 10, 2014 On the occasion of the International Human Rights Day, the Lebanese Center for Human Rights in collaboration with the “Support of Lebanese in Detention and Exile (S.O.L.I.D.E)” held a sit-in to express solidarity with the families of disappeared in front of the ESCWA building.



Press Conference at the sit-in ^{viii}

Following the sit in, a letter ^{ix} was sent to the Prime Minister of Lebanon Mr. Tammam Salam, which was signed by CLDH and S.O.L.I.D.E and supported by: ACAT-France (Action by Christians Against Torture), Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN), AEDH (Working together for Human Rights), Alef – Act for Human Rights, FEMED

(Euromed Federation against enforced disappearance), FIDH (International Federation of Human Rights) and Khiam Rehabilitation Center.

In the letter, it was highlighted that: *Lebanese society needs to see the State accept its responsibilities towards its citizens and more particularly towards the families of the victims of enforced disappearance. These people have been waiting for decades for a practical gesture that would represent a first step on the road towards the launching of a complete action plan to solve the issue of the victims of enforced disappearance and the missing through a Truth, Justice and Reconciliation commission.*

September 17-20, 2014 Mr. Wadih Al-Asmar (General Secretary of CLDH) attended the “International Conference: Sharing Best Practices in Advocating for Legislation Against Enforced Disappearances” ^x in Manila, Philippines as a representative of FEMED (Euro - Mediterranean Federation Against Enforced Disappearance) and CLDH. He raised during his presentation the situation of enforced disappearance in the Euro - Mediterranean region, focusing on the importance of denouncing this crime that still affects thousands of persons in the region and is aggravating every day because of the conflicts in Syria, Iraq and Libya. After describing the situation in each of the 12 countries members of FEMED, he raised the lobbying efforts of the federation in collaboration with Moroccan NGOs that led to the country’s ratification of the International convention for the protection of all the persons against enforced disappearance.



Migrant Workers, Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Objective: Raising awareness of the Lebanese society and authorities about the rights of migrants and refugees, strengthening and promoting the legal and social protection of migrant workers, asylum seekers and refugees.

1. Individual cases follow-up

The Lebanese Center for Human Rights, which assists more than a hundred people each year in detention, is recognized for the competence of its team for legal aid. This recognition has led the organization to be more extensively consulted by migrant workers in Lebanon asking for

help from the organization.

CLDH achieved satisfactory results by resolving more than three-quarters of cases presented to it.

The situation of Migrant Workers in Lebanon is in pretty dire condition. The existence of the “kafala” system as well as the negligence for basic Human Rights by the employers of Migrant Workers have put the Migrant Workers at the bottom of the society in Lebanon. The number of committed suicides by the Migrant Workers has been on a steady rise.

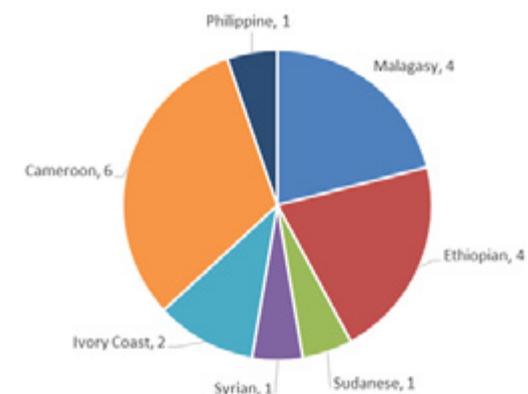
In the absence of legislation or practices that protect Migrant Workers, the

interventions of the organization are of several types:

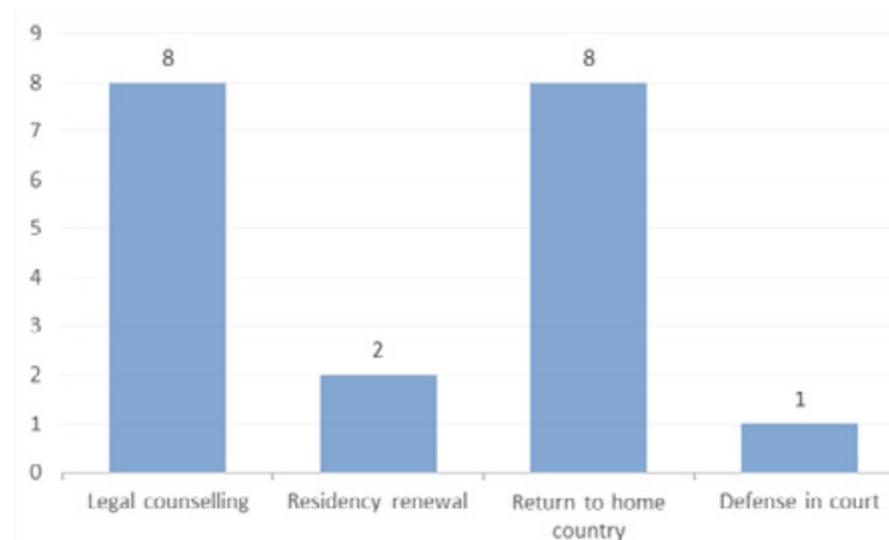
- Negotiations/Pressure on the employer - to recover the passport of the employee, to obtain permission from the employer for a change of employer, or to let the employee leave the country;
- Administrative procedures - Regularization papers, registering to the Ministry of Labor, registering to the General Security;
- Legal Assistance - Removal of false complaints, defense in courts...

In total, 19 people at the risk of becoming slaves were assisted by CLDH in 2014 thanks to a grant of the organization Working Together for Human Rights. These were brought into contact with the organization in several ways:

- Referred by community leaders;
- Referred by neighbors for abuse cases;
- Reported by relatives;
- Referred by other NGOs and the ICRC



Nationalities of assisted persons



Types and results of intervention

2. Events

National Conference for the rights of the Refugees from Syria, including the most vulnerable groups - 21 March 2014

CLDH organized a national conference on the International Day for the Elimination of Discrimination, tackling the issues of the refugees from Syria in Lebanon, as well as the specific issues of the most vulnerable groups. The conference was organized by CLDH and gave the floor to the main institutional and non-institutional stakeholders. An online publication followed, which included recommendations and conclusions of the conference.

The national conference, as planned, gave the opportunity to Lebanese officials, civil society activists and international institutions to sit together and share their perception of the current humanitarian crisis in Lebanon.

The conference consisted of four panels:

- Refugee Rights (with accent on Women Rights and LGBT rights);
- Relations with the host community;
- Palestinian refugees from Syria;
- Difficulties and challenges of activists.

Each panel consisted of:

- Local NGO representative (NGOs specialized in abovementioned issues)
- International Organization representative (UNRWA, UNHCR, NRC, Human Rights Watch, etc)
- Lebanese authorities representatives

Each panel was followed with a Q&A session, where the audience had the chance to interact with the panelists.



3rd session of the National Conference

The audience included Government representatives, local media^{xi}, embassy representatives as well as international organizations representatives.

Solidarity Statement with Palestinian Refugees from Syria - May 20, 2014

The Lebanese Center for Human Rights together with Alkarama Foundation, Anti-Racism Movement - Lebanon, Euro - Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN), Euro - Mediterranean Federation against Enforced Disappearance (FEMED) and Working Together for Human Rights (AEDH - France) signed an appeal and expressed their deep concern over the new policy of the Lebanese Government towards Palestinian Refugees from Syria.

The statement^{xiii} followed a violation of article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 3 of the Convention Against Torture by the Lebanese Government when it expelled Palestinian refugees from Lebanon on May 04, 2014. This was followed with measures by the Lebanese Government to prevent Palestinian refugees from Syria to access and stay in Lebanon. The statement was featured in various newspapers^{xiii}.

Press Conference - "Syrian refugees in Lebanon: The right to a better protection" - June 03, 2014

Following the "National Conference for the rights of the Refugees from Syria, including the most vulnerable" held on March 21, 2014, a press conference was held on June 03, 2014 where "Conclusions and recommendations" report was launched.

The report^{xiv} summarized the discussions during the conference and gives a number of recommendations to the Lebanese authorities and to the international community for a better management of the humanitarian crisis.

The recommendations aim at protecting the Lebanese's rights and at improving the refugees' rights with regards to the refugees from Syria in general as well as to the most vulnerable groups - namely the Palestinian refugees from Syria, the LGBTs, the SGBV victims and the activists like the journalists and the human rights defenders.

Q&A session followed the statement of Mr. Wadih Al-Asmar, where the media^{xv} and other attendees gave a full support for the recommendations and conclusions. They also condemned the recent deportation of Palestinian refugees from Syria by the Lebanese Government.



Syrian refugees in Lebanon: The right to a better protection - Press Conference

Workers' Day Parade and Festival for Migrant Domestic Workers - May 2, 3, 4, 2014

The Lebanese Center for Human Rights was part of a coalition of NGOs that organized the 4th Annual Workers' Day Parade and Festival for Migrant Domestic Workers in Lebanon. This year, the coalition held a series of events that marked the Workers' Day and asked for a better legal protection for Migrant Domestic Workers.

The coalition consisted of: CLDH, Anti-Racism movement, KAFA, Insan Association, Amel Association, Migrant Community Center, and Migrant Workers Task Force.

Day 1 - The first day of the three day series of events, featured a book launching by KAFA titled "If not for the System...Migrant Domestic Workers in Lebanon Tell their Stories". The event included story telling by domestic workers, followed by Q&A session in the presence of the President of the International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF) - Ms. Myrtle Witbooi.

Day 2 - The second day, a cultural festival was organized in Hamra, and featured:

- Photo Exhibition;
- Crafts & Food Market;
- Sudanese & Ethiopian Concert;
- Ethiopian Coffee Corner;
- Interactive Advocacy Corner.

Day 3 - The third day, a Workers' Day Parade and Celebration was organized. The parade was led by the Migrant Domestic Workers from Dora to the train station in Mar Mikhael. At the train station in Mar Mikhael, final celebration took place. During the parade, the Migrant Workers chanted and cheered for



Cultural festival in Hamra



Workers' Day Parade

their better legal protection and called for abolition of the “kafala” system.

July 18, 2014 On the occasion of Nelson Mandela International Day, a sit-in of solidarity with the Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Migrant Workers detained and tortured at the General Security detention center in Adlieh, was organized. The sit-in was also supported by: Anti-Racism Movement, Nasawiya, ACAT – France, Alkarama for Human Rights.

Press Conference at the sit-in^{xvi}

The Lebanese Center for Human Rights and the other signatories called upon the Government of Lebanon to^{xvii} :

1. Close immediately the General Security detention center in Adlieh
2. Put an end to discrimination and slavery by abolishing the sponsorship (kafala) system
3. Stop using administrative detention as a method of torture against migrants, asylum seekers and refugees
4. Release immediately any asylum seeker or refugee detained for the sole reason of his/her illegal entry or stay
5. Stop immediately deporting refugees to countries where they are at risk of

September 03, 2014 Following few documented reports of children of Migrant Workers being deported to their country, CLDH and other local and international NGO's issued a press release . The press release was signed by: Anti-Racism Movement (ARM), Lebanese Association for Education and Training (ALEF), Human Rights Watch (HRW), Insan Association, Legal Agenda, Migrant Community Center (MCC), Migrant Workers Task Force (M WTF), The Association Justice and Mercy (AJEM).

The press release recapped Lebanon's

commitment to: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

On **October 01, 2014** a report entitled “Stateless Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon” was published where Ms. Marie Daunay (Director of CLDH) made her contribution. The report was published by Danish Immigration Service.

3. Participation of CLDH team members at other events

January 14, 2014 CLDH team member attended “Promoting the rights of migrant domestic workers by addressing the migration continuum between origin countries and Lebanon” - an event organized by KAFA.

December 10, 2014 CLDH team member attended the event titled “No Place for People like you” organized by Heartland Alliance. At the event an analysis was published which reflected on the rights of LGBT Syrian Refugees in Lebanon.

December 10, 2014 CLDH team member attended a press conference organized by ALEF – Act for Human Rights. At the press conference a working paper was published which included possible solutions to the Syrian Refugees crisis in Lebanon, taking into consideration human rights standards.

December 10, 2014 CLDH team member attended a launching of report titled “Unprotected Childhood: The Experiences of Lebanese and Non-Lebanese Children in Abuse, Maltreatment & Discrimination in Lebanon” which was published by Insan Association.

December 15, 2014 CLDH team member attended the launching of the “Lebanese Crisis Response Plan” which was held under the patronage of H.E. Tammam Salam, President of Council of Ministers and in the presence of H.E. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary – General of the United Nations.



Overview of the Human Rights situation, capacity building and networking

Objective: Provide a clear and complete overview of the Human Rights situation in Lebanon, and to be an active partner along with the other Lebanese Human Rights NGOs

During the reporting period, the Lebanese Center for Human Rights continued to compile a daily press review, gathering all articles on human rights issues as published in the Lebanese press.

Currently, CLDH manages a press review blog (www.cldhpressreview.blogspot.com) and a press review website (www.rightsobserver.org).

The press review blog has 220.000 all-time page views.

To this date, the press review website has more than 140.000 views and 4150 articles.

Both the website and the press review blog are updated on a daily basis. CLDH also continued to maintain and to add new publications to its open library. A report titled “Civil and Political Rights” is also being prepared and will be launched in 2015. The research done is with the support of the Netherlands Embassy.

1. Human Rights Journalism campaign

In November 2014, CLDH started a new project titled “Promote a culture of Human Rights in Lebanon”. The project’s goal is to promote democracy and Human Rights in Lebanon through the organization of activities targeting journalism students. A series of workshops, an internship program for students in journalism, Human Rights events at Lebanese Universities, the organization of a press conference and an open library day along with documentary screenings will bring together key stakeholders in order to foster an accurate Human Rights media reporting and to promote access to Human Rights information for the general public.

On **December 15, 2014** a Workshop was organized at the Beirut Arab University to

which 43 journalism students in their last year of studies participated. Mr. George Ghali (ALEF – Act for Human Rights) and Ms. Roula Mikhael (Maharat Foundation) facilitated the workshop.

2. Social Media

During the reporting period, CLDH was active daily on several Social Media sites. The Lebanese Center for Human Rights Fan page on Facebook^{xx} counted at the end of 2014 980 likes. CLDH’s Facebook group^{xxi} is also daily active and it has 1869 members at year end.

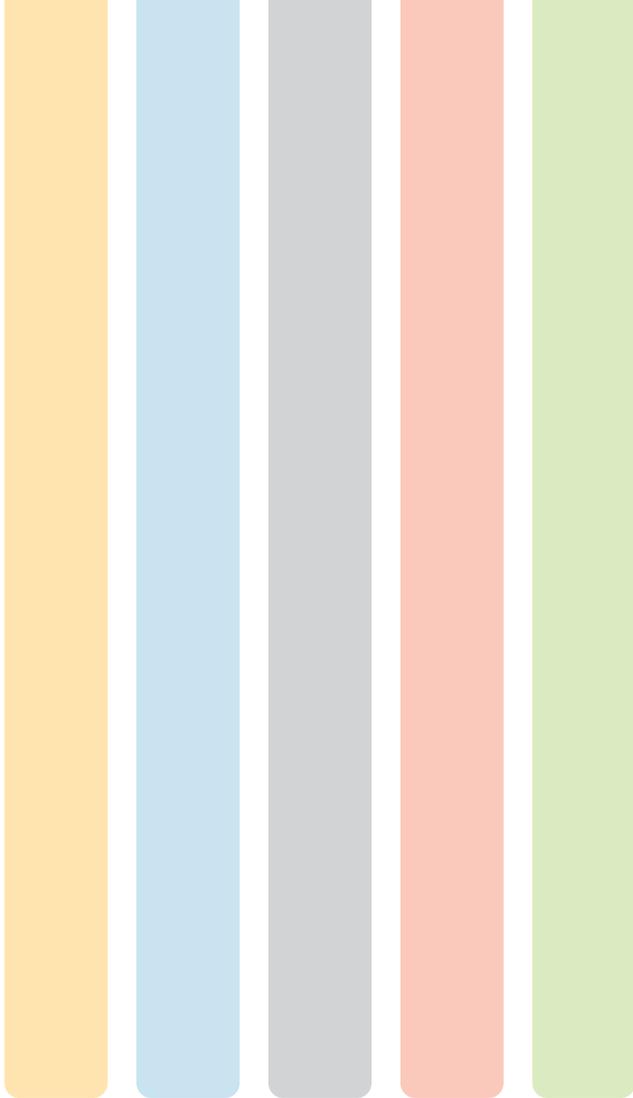
CLDH also uses Twitter^{xxii} to engage with its followers and counted 631 followers in 2014.

New Instagram^{xxiii} profile was created for CLDH with 103 followers.



Human Rights Journalism workshop at the Beirut Arab University (BAU)

- i http://www.rightsobserver.org/files/Legal_Aid_in_Lebanon_EN.pdf
- ii <https://www.facebook.com/events/496848307114107/>
- iii <http://goo.gl/TVAKqc>
- iv <http://www.rightsobserver.org/news/world-day-against-death-penalty>
- v NNA - <http://goo.gl/1naZwa>
Lorient le jour <http://goo.gl/a2VD3F>
An-Nahar - <http://goo.gl/4h4iUj>
Ad-Diyar - <http://goo.gl/JFbqh3>
Embassy's Portal - <http://goo.gl/Rpu6vh>
- vi Press Release - <http://goo.gl/6ehCmy>
- vii Al-Anwar - <http://goo.gl/TDaWT9>
Al-Mustaqbal - <http://goo.gl/YLEise>
As-Safir - <http://goo.gl/8kmFPa>
Lorient le jour - <http://goo.gl/RgEJKb>
- viii Al-Liwaa - <http://www.aliwaa.com/Article.aspx?ArticleId=229545>
An-Nahar - <http://goo.gl/B9gNRD>
Al-Mustaqbal - <http://goo.gl/7dM1SH>
Lorient le jour - <http://goo.gl/l8clnA>
- ix <http://www.rightsobserver.org/news/letter-to-his-excellency-mr.-tamam-salam>
- x <http://www.rightsobserver.org/news/sharing-best-practices-in-advocating-for-legislation-against-enforced-disappearances>
- xi Al-Mustaqbal - <http://goo.gl/QzQZ6l>
Al-Akhbar - <http://goo.gl/QLWhGC>
- xii Statement - <http://goo.gl/4CJUUh>
- xiii The Daily Star - <http://goo.gl/ob0nn8>
Loubnan - <http://goo.gl/dPKEQe>
NNA - <http://goo.gl/lXeb3u>
Al-Mustaqbal - <http://goo.gl/kQXvf2>
- xiv Report - <http://goo.gl/FetC7Z>
- xv Al-Mustaqbal - <http://goo.gl/DJypdY>
An-Nahar - <http://goo.gl/vObihk>
NNA - <http://goo.gl/UQEFGT>
- xvi Al-Mustaqbal - <http://www.almustaqbal.com/v4/article.aspx?Type=NP&ArticleID=625216>
El-Nashra - <http://goo.gl/Bn1Fx9>
NNA - <http://goo.gl/ti9OSA>
Panet - <http://www.panet.co.il/Ext/PrintOut/107/106/831441.html>
SaidaCity - http://www.saidacity.net/_NewsPaper.php?NewsPaperID=159379&Action=Details
- xvii <http://www.rightsobserver.org/news/press-release-sit-in-of-solidarity-with-the-migrants,-asylum-seekers-and-refugees-detained-and>
- xviii <http://www.rightsobserver.org/news/lebanon:-migrant-workers%E2%80%99-children-expelled>
- xix http://www.rightsobserver.org/files/Stateless_Palestinian_Refugees_in_Lebanon.pdf
- xx <https://www.facebook.com/cldh.ngo>
- xxi <https://www.facebook.com/groups/107869015821/>
- xxii <https://twitter.com/HumanRightsCLDH>
- xxiii <http://instagram.com/cldh.ngo/>



www.cldh-lebanon.org



Registration 2008/218
Dora, Mar Youssef st, Bakhos
Bldg, 7th floor. Beirut, Lebanon
01.24.0023 | 01.24.0061