



Tunis: 29 June 2022

STATEMENT

CONDITION OF HUNGER STRIKING JUDGES

IS APPROACHING DANGER

The Judicial Organizations Coordinating Committee has been calling on the president of the republic to rescind Decree no. 35 and abolish Order no. 516, which dismissed 57 judges, now on hunger strike, without respecting any disciplinary safeguards or the right of defense or confrontation. These demands are shared by all judges, who have for four weeks been engaged in a movement to suspend work in all courts. In response, the executive authority has only escalated, blocked dialogue, and foregone any reasonable approach to the crisis and its dangerous repercussions. This afternoon, a doctor examined the dismissed judges, who began a hunger strike on 22 June, and expressed concern about their health. They are now suffering from low blood pressure, dehydration, kidney pain, and fatigue in the case of Hamadi. The doctor clearly stated that the judge's health is not far from entering the danger zone. Based on this medical examination and to avoid the imminent catastrophe facing the striking judges, the Judicial Organizations Coordinating Committee: Renews its demand that the president rescind the dismissal decree (which does injustice to all our colleagues), rescind Decree no. 35, and open a dialogue to find a resolution to this crisis endangering the judicial institutions, the fate of striking, dismissed and all other judges. Holds the executive authority fully responsible for whatever happens to our colleagues conducting the hunger strike now that their health has reached the stage that their lives are in immediate danger.

The undersigned Members of the Judicial

Organizations Coordinating Committee:

- **Anas al-Hamadi, president of the Association of Tunisian Judges**
- **Rifqa al-Mubaraki, president of the Administrative Judges Union**
- **Wail al-Hanafi, president of the Union of Court of Accounts Judges**
- **Sayyida al-Qarishi, president of the Association of Women Judges**
- **Layla al-Dus, general secretary of the Tunisian Young Judges Association**