

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 130/00 (MDE 30/11/00, 23 May 2000) and follow-up (MDE 30/12/00, 7 June 2000) - health concern/prisoners of conscience

TUNISIA Abdelmoumen Belanes
 Fahem Boukaddous
 Taoufik Chaieb
 Sadok Chourou
 Samir Dillou
 Fathi Karraoud
 Abdellatif Mekki
 Fathi al-Ouarghi
 dozens of others

Abdelmoumen Belanes and Fahem Boukaddous were released on 10 June, after they were granted a presidential pardon. Abdelmoumen Belanes immediately called Amnesty International to thank all the organisation's members for their support and help. He said that he would end his hunger strike, which he had kept up for 33 days, under medical supervision.

Taoufik Chaieb stopped his hunger strike after he was given the dental care he needed. Fathi al-Ouarghi also reportedly stopped his hunger strike at the beginning of June.

Some of the other political prisoners are reported to have stopped their hunger strikes for medical reasons, while others have decided to continue. As their families are not allowed to visit prisoners on hunger strike, it is very difficult for Amnesty International to check these reports.

Many thanks to all who sent appeals. No further action is requested from the Urgent Action network. Amnesty International will monitor closely the situation of political prisoners in Tunisia.