

URGENT ACTION

NO HOUSES YET FOR ALL EVICTED FAMILIES

The forced eviction of an informal settlement near Bobigny, on the outskirts of Paris, has left about 180 people homeless. Sixty are temporarily living in two social care centres in Paris after having slept several days in a gymnasium. The others were not given any temporary shelter.

On 21 October more than 300 Roma people living in the informal settlement of Bobigny were forcibly evicted. Only 134 people were offered any alternative housing solutions. About 120 people left the informal settlement shortly before the eviction. They had not been provided with any housing solutions and preferred to avoid any encounters with the police in charge of carrying out the eviction. Shortly after the eviction, the authorities followed the remaining people to ensure that they left the municipality of Bobigny. On 22 October at 1am, around 60 people, including children and infants, were eventually offered temporary shelter in a gymnasium by the local council of the 10th district of Paris. They were then moved into two accommodation and social rehabilitation centres in other areas of Paris.

Please write immediately in French, English or your own language:

- Urging the Prime Minister to provide adequate alternatives to all those who were forcibly evicted from the Bobigny informal settlement and are currently either homeless or living in temporary accommodation;
- Reminding the Prime Minister that according to international human rights standards, as well as the Inter-ministerial Circular adopted by the French government on 26 August 2012, no one should be made homeless after eviction;
- Urging him to respect international standards and take measure to prevent any future forced evictions.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 25 DECEMBER 2014 TO:

Prime Minister

M. Manuel Valls

Hôtel de Matignon

57, rue de Varenne, 75700 Paris

Fax: +33 1 42 75 75 04

Twitter: @manuelvalls

**Salutation: Monsieur le Premier
Ministre**

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the second update of UA 261/14. Further information:
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR21/007/2014/en>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

According to the authorities, the eviction was justified on the basis of safety concerns, in particular regarding the electrical supply. In February 2014, a fire destroyed part of the informal settlement and killed a child. However, the authorities failed to address or improve the safety of the settlement. On 2 July 2014 the High Court of Bobigny highlighted that the eviction would violate the right to family life of the occupants of the informal settlement, considering that no alternative housing solutions had been devised and concluded that there was no urgency in carrying out the eviction.

On 5 August a social assessment of the temporary settlement in Bobigny was carried out. However, many families from the settlement were away when it was carried out, as it was during the school holidays. As a result, many of the families were not consulted prior to the eviction and their needs had not been taken into account. In addition, most of the alternative housing solutions proposed by authorities were inadequate, as they relied on accommodating families in residences designed for single migrant workers and were located hundreds of kilometres away from Bobigny.

Name: More than 300 Roma inhabitants

Gender m/f: both

Further information on UA: 261/14 Index: EUR 21/008/2014 Issue Date: 13 November 2014

