

REPORT **January 2022**



382
Migrants



1218
Collective protests



15
Cases of suicide and attempted suicide

The daily migration of women farmers in Kasserine and Sidi Bouzid:
women transported as merchandise for the sustainability of peasant
production!

Forum Tunisien pour les Droits Economiques et Sociaux

2, Avenue de France Imm Ibn Khaldoun (la Nationale),
2ème étage Apt325-Tunis Bab Bhar 1000

TEL. : (+216) 71 325 129 FAX : (+216) 71 325 128

contact@ftdes.net www.ftdes.net

January 2022 report on protest movements and social mobilization



Are we witnessing the end of the “dark myth” of January as a time when the protester would impose its demands and the authorities would adjust their policies according to these demands? January has always been, since the period before the revolution, a time of protest on which the street imposes its voice.

This situation persisted after the revolution and January was the trap that all governments tried to escape.

The month of January 2022 appeared with other different characteristics that foretell new and emerging periods for the protests. Despite the delicacy and the difficult aspect of the global crisis that the country is going through, January has not been a time for the expected social explosion, as its events have confirmed the depth and delicacy of the political and social phase that the country is going through.

January 2022 marked the beginning of an exceptional year from all points of view, be it political, economic, social or security.

On the political and communication level:



Six months have passed since President Said decided on July 25, 2021, to activate Article 80 of the Constitution to freeze all activities of the parliament and to dismiss the president of the government Hichem El-Mechichi.

Despite the formation of a new government and after more than 100 days have passed since it took office, the government has yet to issue a clear program regarding its reform intentions and policies in dealing with urgent and strategic issues. The president of the government Najla Bouden has not yet made a statement to public opinion, in a new communication environment

characterized by ambiguity and lack of clarity as the blackout reigns, information is not disseminated or even withheld.

This climate has been exacerbated by the hateful, violent, and divisive rhetoric adopted by Tunisians, whether in official speeches or in public debates on the so-called social media sites.

This ambiguity in the government's communication process increases the pressure on the citizen, especially with the recurrent rumors about the lifting of subsidies on certain basic materials, the elevated cost of certain products, the shortage of certain basic supplies, many vital medicines and other issues related to the management of the citizen's daily affairs. The absence of official, accurate and credible information in the public space opens the way to informational chaos and rumor.

The political crisis is also spreading and exacerbating the social situation. Indeed, the political climate is devoid of any participatory dialogue between the different main political actors and social parties.

The gap between the street's demands and the political approach that has existed since July 25 has widened during the month of January, including fighting corruption, stopping the hemorrhaging of public finances and finding a way to revive them, finding alternatives and solutions to the crisis of the collapse of purchasing power, the increase in the average poverty and precariousness and the re-emphasis on the claims of development, employment and social equity as the main achievements of the revolution.

On the other hand, Tunisia lives in a changing regional and international environment in which we are facing an upsurge of terrorist threats. Despite the success of security forces in anticipating terrorist operations and thwarting their plans, terrorist threats in Tunisia remain, are serious and have major economic and social repercussions. The transfer of 5,000 terrorists (ISIS) from the Middle East to Western and Eastern Africa represents a shift in the regional center of gravity of this organization and the proximity of its dangers to Tunisia, knowing that Tunisia has experienced more than 70 terrorist attacks after the revolution, during which security martyrs, military and civilians were killed.

In addition, the political crisis and social frustration create an appropriate atmosphere for terrorist groups to conduct their operations and attract new and unknown security elements to execute their plans.

On the economic and social level:



Since November 2021, prices have begun to rise, bringing the inflation rate to 6.6 percent by year's end. The Central Bank expects inflation to rise again in the coming weeks, which will impact the fragile and poor classes. At the same time, the last three years to 2021 have seen an increase in the unemployment rate to 18.3 percent, and the economic growth is still below requirements and below expectations.

The severity of the public finance crisis was also exacerbated by the lack of external funds, and this was related to several difficult reform conditions, including the removal of subsidies and the reduction of the wage bill. These conditions clash with a dramatic and tragic social reality that has affected large swathes of Tunisians after ten years of hollow political construction, which has not been accompanied by an economic and social shield.

Signs of a major social crisis are emerging, despite the relative calm that prevailed in January. The current silence is only the prelude to a coming storm, which is said to be caused by the lack of economic horizon, the continuing rise in prices and the shortage of raw materials such as oil and semolina in various regions. It should be noted that the crisis in food prices is also linked to an international context that knows a continuous rise in these products and an international oil price increase. The latter has doubled the crisis of public finances because, in general, the budget is built on bad assumptions, namely the price of a barrel of oil, which will double the price increase and the intensity of inflation.

Signs of a social explosion:



The significant deterioration of the various services provided by the state extends to the areas of health, education, transport, and market management. All these indicators have been listed in all international crises, to place Tunisia among the ten countries to watch during 2022, because we must expect a "deadly conflict" in a context of hunger and insecurity.

All the indicators confirm that we are facing a scenario of major social explosion in which the main economic and social levers are due to the increase in poverty and unemployment rates and the cycle of precariousness, i.e., an increase in the invisible poor, given that the Ministry of Social Affairs has not updated the criteria for calculating the poverty rate. But what are the alternatives? The president's speech has no alternatives. The president of the government does not address public opinion and does not speak out on all these issues, nor does her government have a clear program on the socio-economic agenda, official information is obscured, and the dominant discourse is one of violence and hatred towards all "media" i.e., towards anyone who opposes the president's project.

Knowing that violence, if combined with precariousness, means a social explosion that cannot be determined in its form or features, as it will be a storm of individual and collective violence.

Faced with the lack of alternatives, frustration, and the blocking of horizons in front of everyone, young people, teenagers and young adults, citizens have resorted to the quest for individual solutions to quick winning such as addiction to electronic gambling and engagement in irregular migration journeys, informal trade, theft and / or fraud ... in this context, cases of suicides have been recorded after losing in gambling.

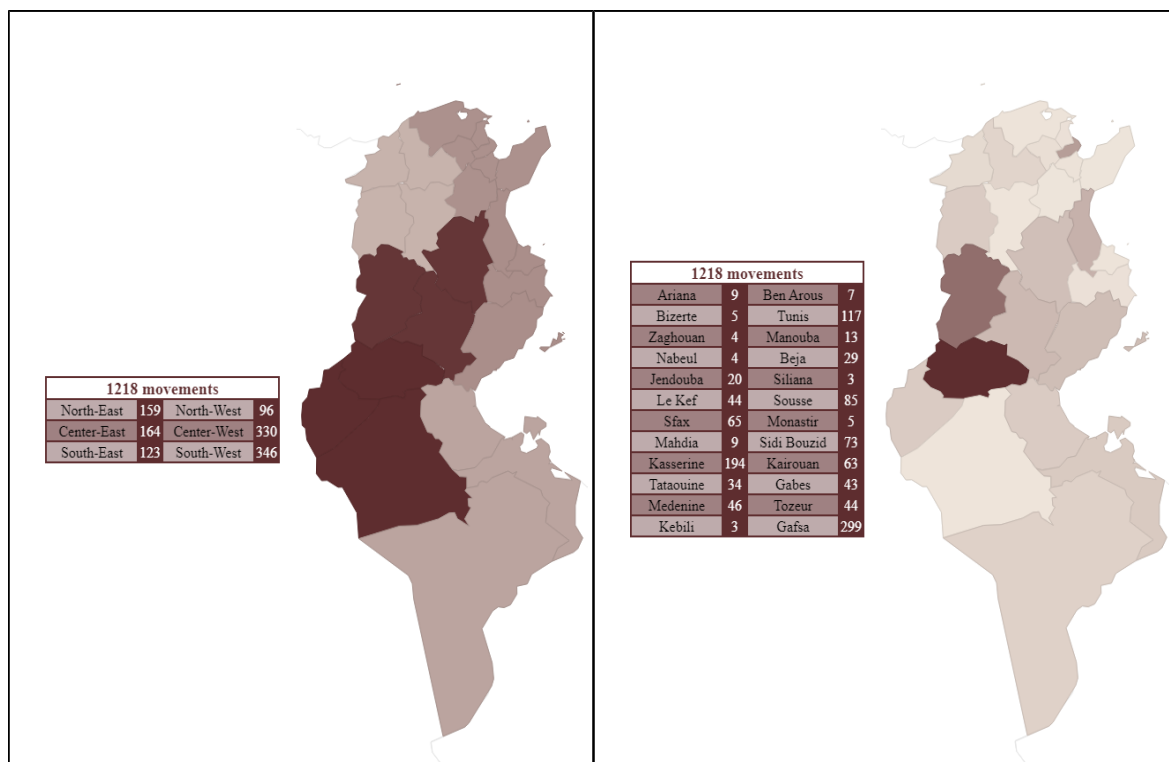
All these phenomena have turned into alternatives to the perspectives and solutions that the State is supposed to put in place within the framework of a society project and realize in supervised, controlled, and secured services that are supposed to be provided by the youth, cultural and sports centers. Thus, the gap between the State and its citizens is widening.

The month of January was then a time of confusion for the Tunisian as to the political, economic, and social future.

January protests

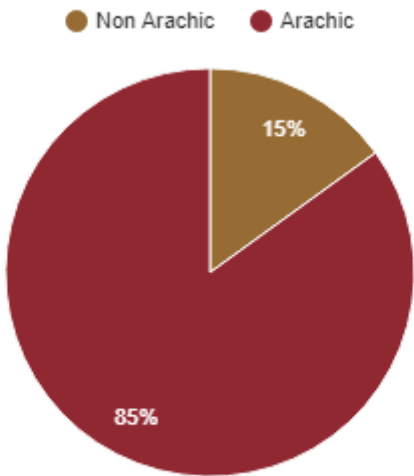
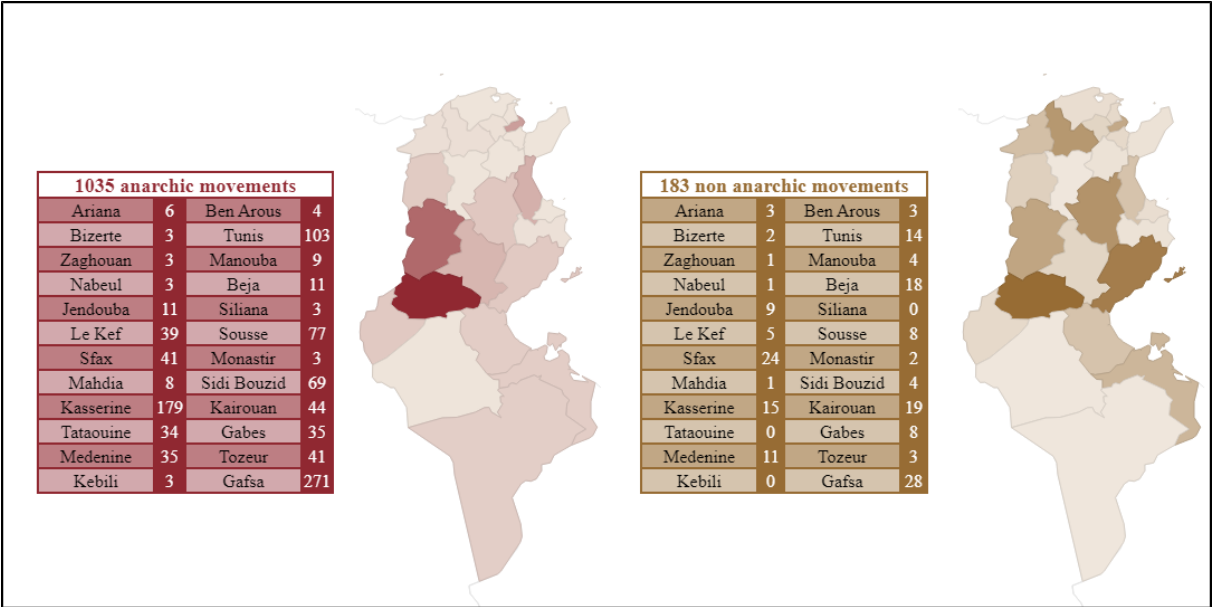


The mapping of the protest movement has developed during the month of January 2022, since the Southwest (the governorates of Gafsa, Tozeur and Kebili) was at the forefront of protest areas with 346 protest movements out of a total of 1,218 protest movements recorded throughout the month of January, or 28.4%. This region is followed by the Center-West region (the governorates of Sidi Bouzid, Kairouan and Kasserine) with 330 protest movements, nearly a quarter of the total demonstrations observed, then the Center-East region (the governorates of Sousse, Monastir, Mahdia and Sfax) with 164 protest movements, then the Northeast region (the governorates of Greater Tunis, Nabeul, Zaghouan and Bizerte) with 159 protest movements and finally, followed by the Northwest (the governorates of Jendouba, El Kef, Siliana and Beja) with 96 protest movements.

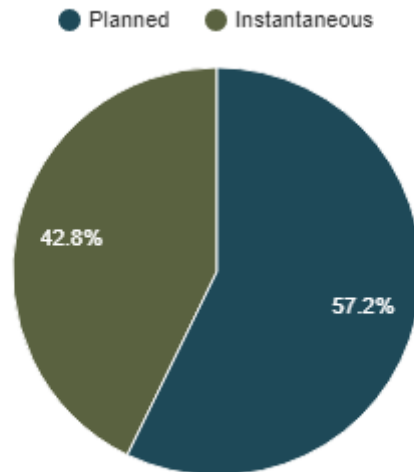
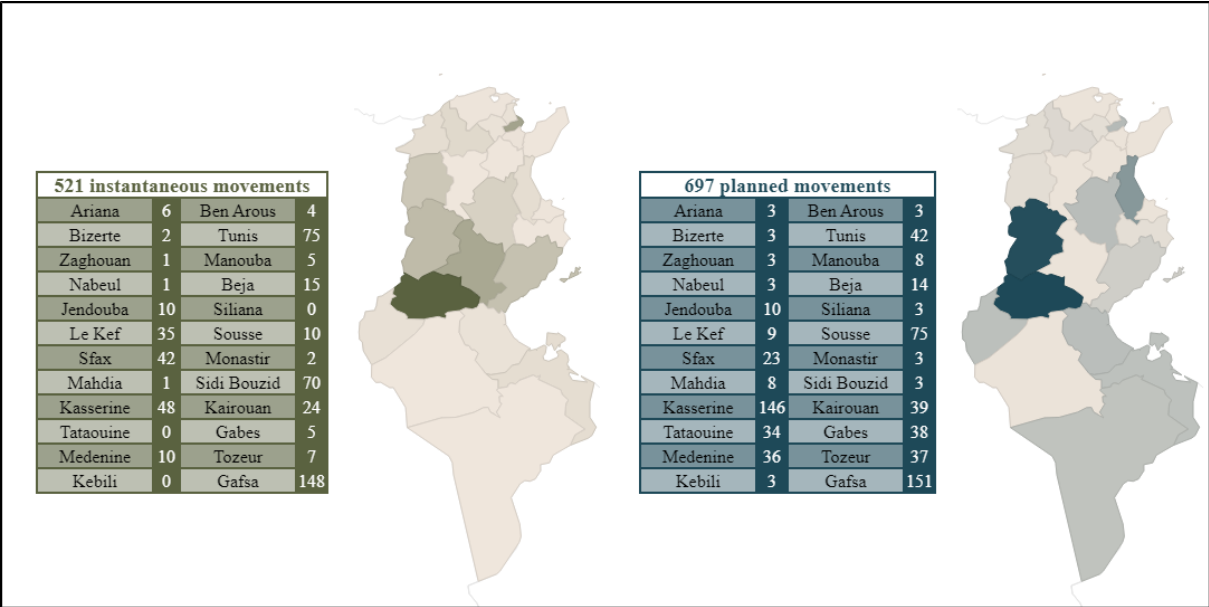


The number of anarchic protests amounted to 1,035 demonstration movements, or about 85% of the total protests recorded. Anarchic protests are those that tend towards violence and disrupt the activities of citizens or institutions. The trend towards anarchy in the protests since April 2020 would be explained by the way the authorities interact with the protesters, as the central and regional

authorities adopt a strategy based on ignoring and exhausting the movements and therefore the protester has changed his protest strategy and adopts the mechanisms with which the authority interacts, such as blocking the road and closing the institutions.



At the regional level, the rate of anarchic protests exceeded 88% in Kef, Tunis, Sousse, Kasserine and Gafsa and went up to 94% in Sidi Bouzid. Note that 95% of the protests in Sidi Bouzid were instantaneous, meaning immediate reactions, which then slip into anarchy, that is, disrupt the interests of citizens and institutions.



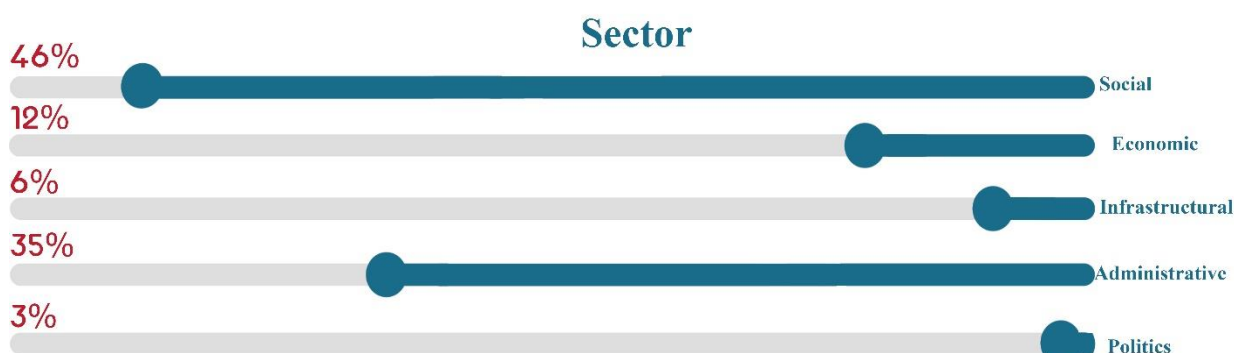
Claims and forms of protest



78.2% of the demonstrations observed throughout January were of mixed gender, while the percentage of demonstrations led by the male gender was 17.8% and 4% by women.



Claims of economic and social origin accounted for 58% of the total protests, followed by claims related to the administration at 35%, then claims related to the improvement of infrastructure and claims of political origin at 3%.



57% of the protests were related to the right to work, 36% to the right to regularize the professional situation and the rights of workers, 31% to the non-activation or application of agreements and 13% to the improvement of working conditions.

The right to development accounted for 6% of total protests in January 2022 and protests over failed negotiations accounted for 6%.

Protests demanding the right to clean water, the right to access and improve the quality of health services, the right to connect to the sewage system, and other basic rights of citizens were also noted.

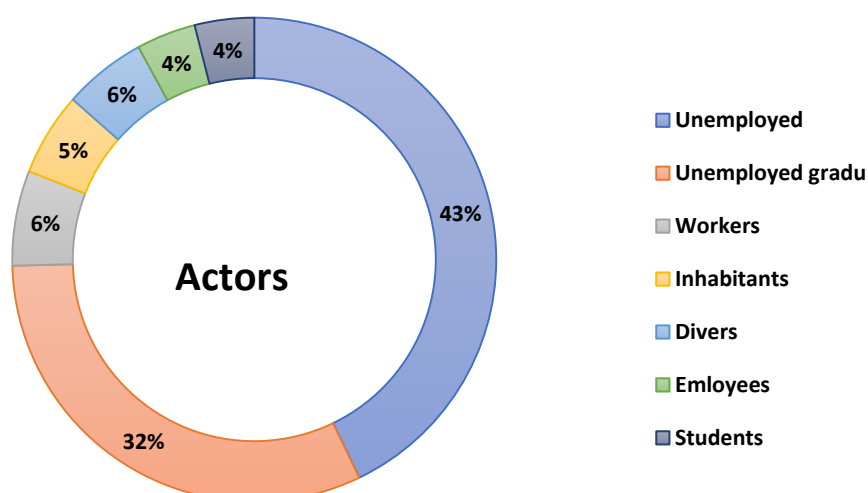
Typologie



The sit-in remains the most important form of protest carried out by the applicants, with a percentage of 51.1%, followed by strikes with 9.5% and protest rallies with 8%.

Protest Actors

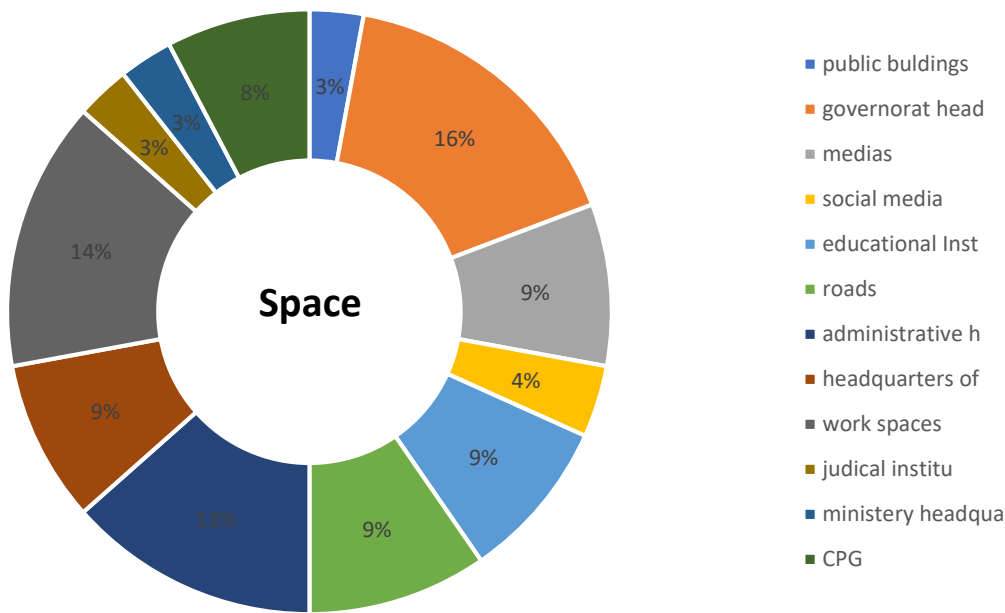
The unemployed were the most important actors in the protests recorded during the month of January 2022 (54%), including the unemployed with higher education (40%), followed by workers (8%), employees (5%), residents (7%), drivers (7%), then students (5%), urban construction workers (3%) and people with special needs (1%).



The protesters employed all platforms to express their demands, including media (9%) and social networks, mainly Facebook and Tik Tok (4%), as well as blocking certain activities or issuing distress calls, blocking roads, and burning wheels.

The governorates' headquarters represented the most important spaces of protest (17%), followed by workplaces (15%), administrative offices (14%), seats of delegations (9%), roads (10%), public places (4%) and sovereignty headquarters (3%).

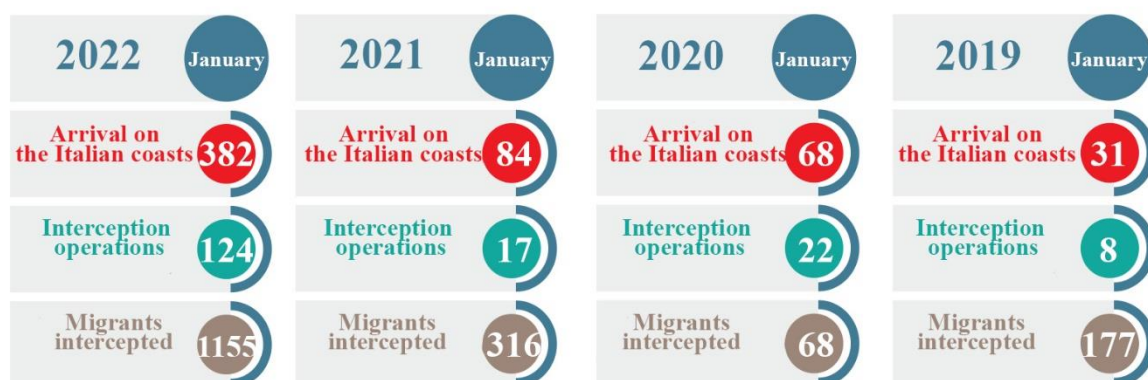
Demonstrators addressed their messages to central authorities, including the presidency (7%) and the government (72%). The Ministries of Interior and Education were the most prominent parties to which protesters addressed their demands within the government team. Regional authorities were the target of 13% of the protests.



Irregular migration during January 2022

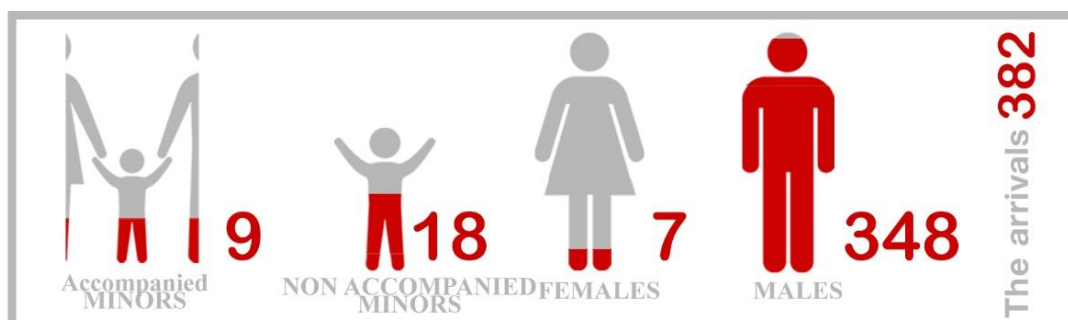


COMPARATIVE DATA DURING THE SAME PERIOD 2018-2020-2021



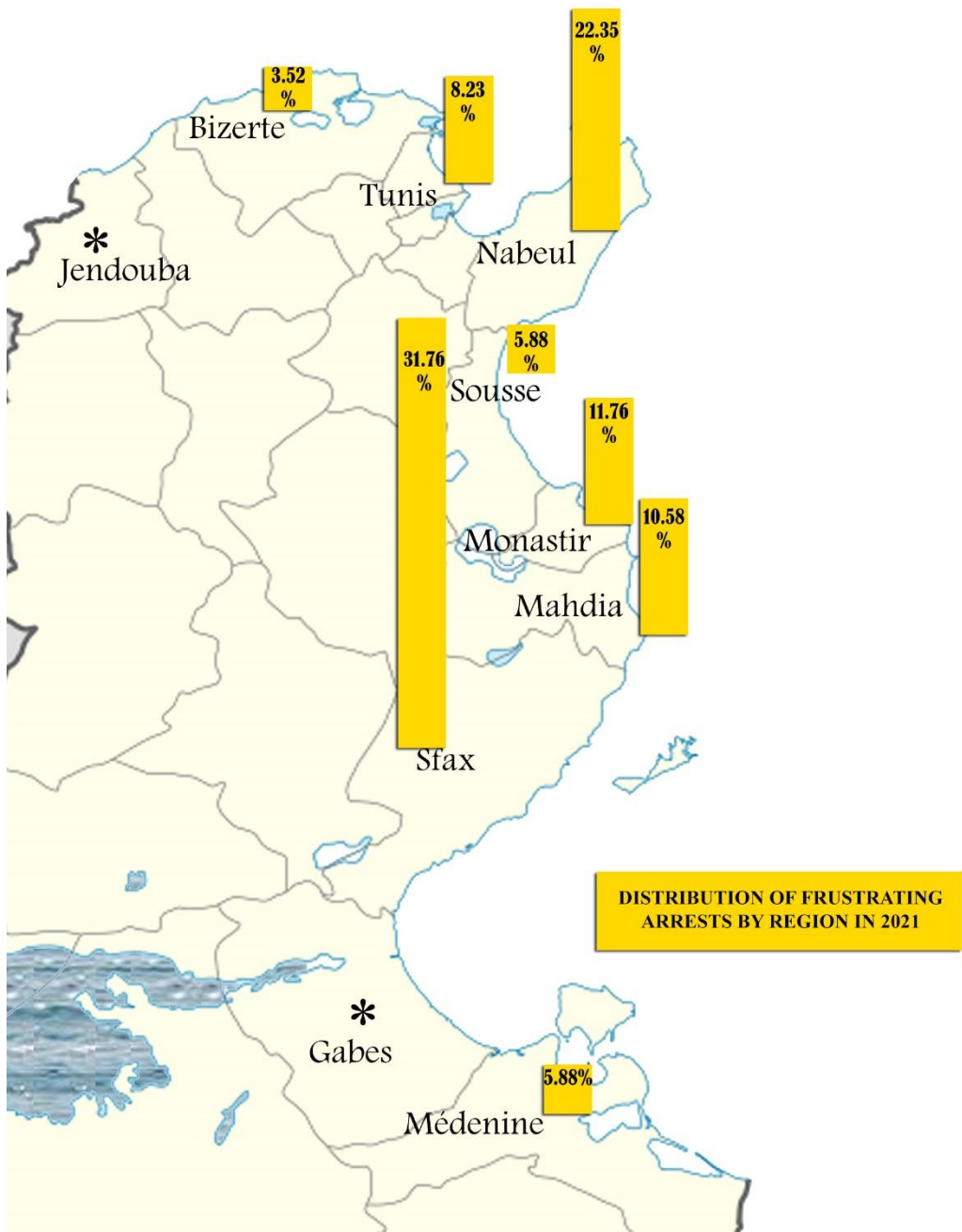
Despite the climatic fluctuations, the month of January recorded the arrival of 382 Tunisian migrants on the Italian coasts, an increase of about 11% compared to January 2021. Tunisians accounted for 11% of total arrivals in Italy during January. 1155 migrants were prevented from reaching the Italian coast and 124 crossings were intercepted, which is a massive number for one month that is not usually known in terms of migration. The political, economic and social situation overshadows and is a major driver of migration projects that are simmering in the minds of large groups, which will make the coming months, with the improvement of climatic factors, the scene of massive departures from the Tunisian coast.

Arrivals on the Italian coasts according to the month of January 2022



Males above the age of 18 dominated the number of arrivals on the Italian coast due to the crossing conditions, considered to be the most difficult at this time of the year. It is expected that 2022, as in recent years, will witness an intense participation of minors and families in the irregular migration processes.

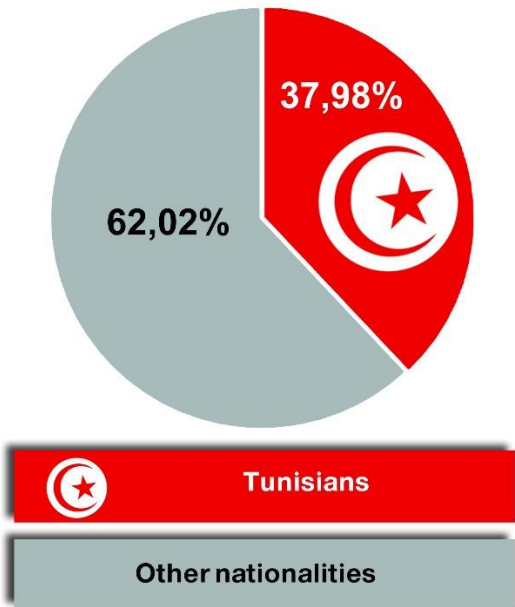
DISTRIBUTION OF FRUSTRATING ARRESTS BY REGION IN 2021



The governorate of Sfax tops the list of intercepted crossings with a rate of 31.76%, followed by Nabeul with 22.35%. Despite the intense security presence this year, the governorate of Nabeul could experience a development of

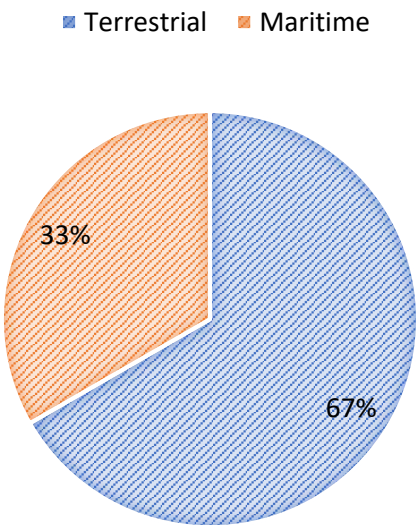
migration operations from its coast for various reasons, including the concentration of networks of smugglers of migrants in this region.

MIGRANTS BY NATIONALITY IN 2021



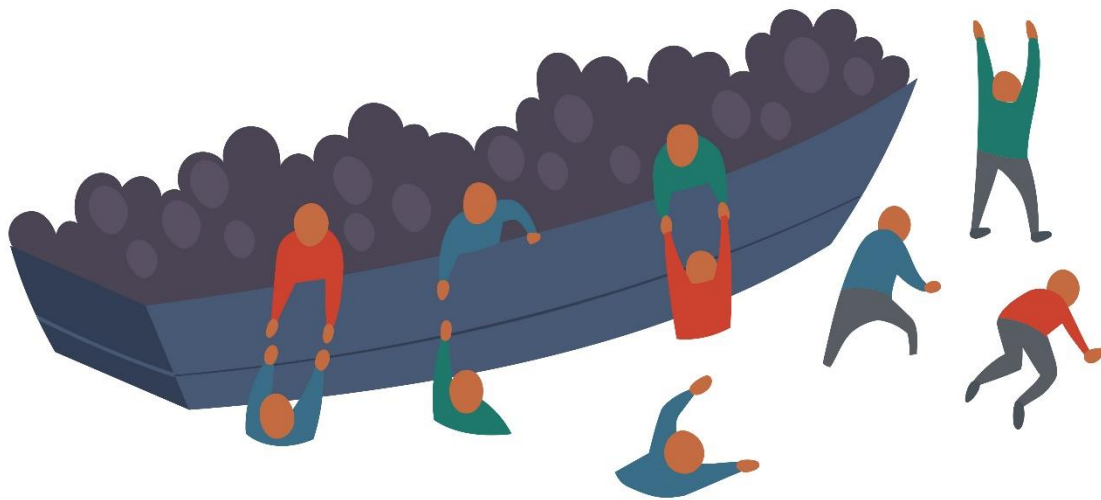
Migrants of non-Tunisian nationalities accounted for 62.02% of the total number of migrants intercepted crossing to the Italian coast. This coincides with intense security campaigns targeting sub-Saharan African migrants in several governorates. Smuggling networks take advantage of the vulnerability and marginalization of sub-Saharan migrants in Tunisia and the abuses to which they are exposed, which reinforces their desire to leave.

OPERATIONS INTERCEPTED IN Janvier 2022



Intercepted land crossings accounted for two-thirds of intercepted crossings, confirming that the Ministry of the Interior attaches great importance to the issue of irregular migration. The concerns persist, whether based on an internal reordering of national priorities, or in response to continuing European pressure.

THE TRAGEDDIES OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION ON TUNISIAN COASTS IN JANUARY 2022

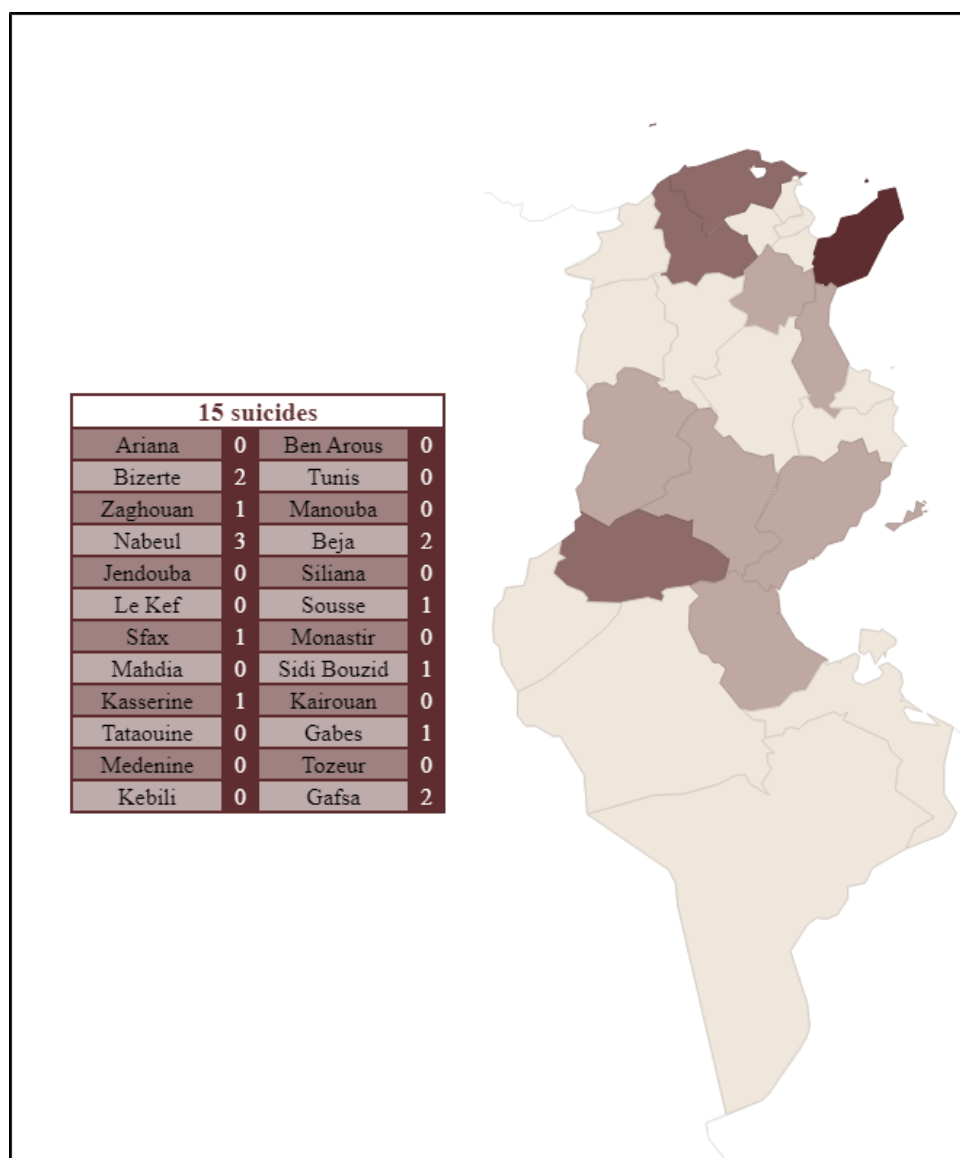


number of victims and missing persons 46

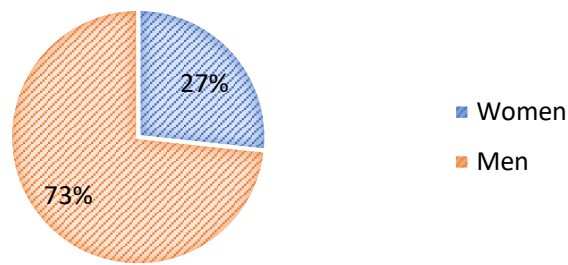
The year 2022 has started tragically, as 46 cases of death and missing persons have been recorded in two maritime disasters on January 20 and 27. These tragedies impose on the Tunisian authorities the need for a real and concrete commitment to save the lives of migrants in Tunisian territorial waters by launching a proactive mechanism of assistance and maritime rescue aimed at saving lives and integrating all structures and stakeholders along Tunisian territorial waters. Moreover, it is necessary to mobilize sufficient capacities of the marine units to carry out urgent intervention missions when receiving distress calls and the need to set up a permanent framework under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Affairs for information, search for missing persons and support for their families.

suicide and attempted suicide

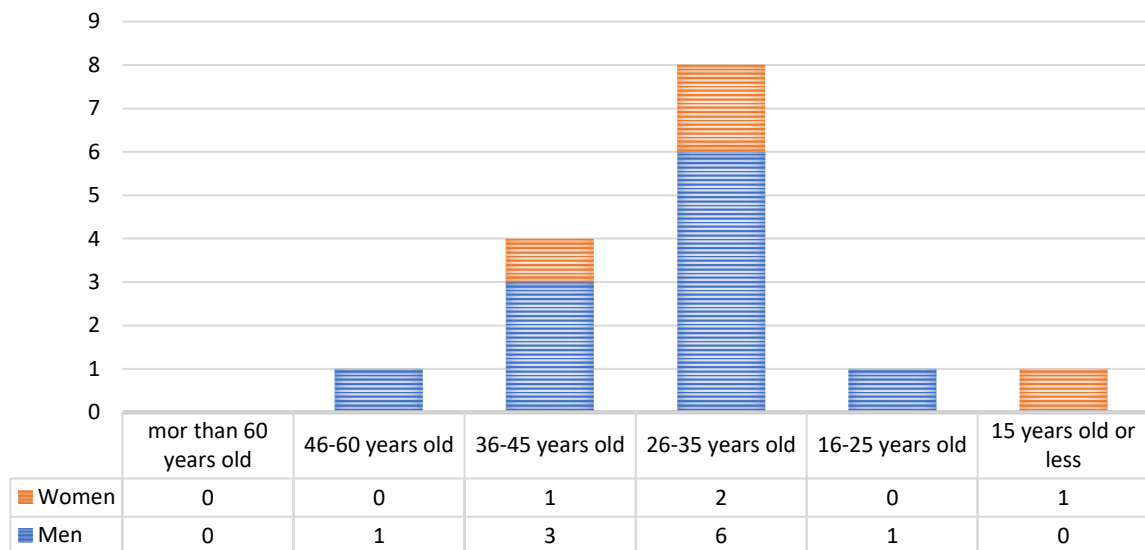
During the month of January, 15 acts of suicide and attempted suicide were recorded, distributed as follows: 3 cases of suicide and attempted suicide in Nabeul and 2 cases of suicide or attempted suicide in Bizerte, Gafsa and Beja. One case of suicide or attempted suicide in Zaghouan, Sfax, Kasserine, Sousse, Sidi Bouzid and Gabes.



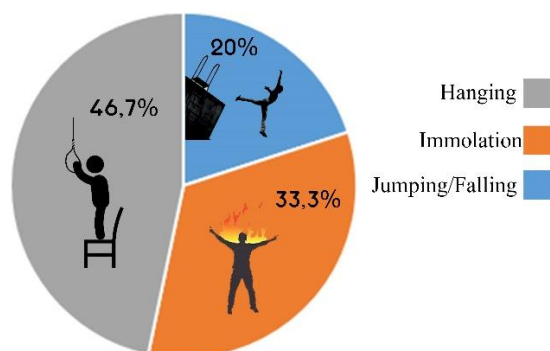
Women accounted for 26.7% of the total victims.



The age group of 26-35 years old represented 53% of the observed cases victims (8 victims). This age group mirrors the critical situation of young people due to the fragile economic and social situation in which they live.



Suicide by hanging was the most important form of suicide observed with a rate of 46.7%, followed by suicide by immolation with 33% and jumping and leaping with 20%. All these forms are regarded as self-harm and a first step towards self-destructive behavior and suicide.



January 2022 Violence Report



January 2022 has not shown any significant changes in the grounds for the spread and extension of the phenomenon of violence in Tunisian society and it was marked, as the months that preceded it, by a high rate of violence in the public space and in family and private spaces. The general, health, economic and social environment is unstable and dominated by uncertainty, lack of clarity and loss of confidence.

Again, the Tunisian Social Observatory alerts on the threat of the state structures' indifference to face such social phenomena and the risks of its exacerbation, especially since violent behaviors have progressively become one of the citizens' habits and thus a means of communication with the other. The individual or the groups adopt it to defend themselves and to claim their rights and to gain new influences or areas of control.



Individual and collective Violence Rates In January

The findings of the Tunisian Social Observatory team during the month of January 2022 showed an escalation of male violence where it accounted for 80% of the total violence contained in the sample of observed media, which includes daily and weekly newspapers, the most important websites, radio stations, tv stations, and social networks, compared to a high of 13.3% of mixed violence and 6.7% of female violence

Gender violence Rates



To date, no indicator, program, or general trend indicates that the Tunisian state intends to dismantle the phenomenon of violence, on the contrary, we can say today that its communication policy has become one of the catalysts of the phenomenon. This appears in the communication blur of state institutions. It can be highlighted on 3 fundamental aspects that characterized the month of January and that are:

- Is the incident of injecting children a rumor or a fact and can it be classified as an organized crime targeting children ? Given the lack of information and communication policy of the state structures, this opens the door to interpretation and makes the citizen act irresponsibly, either treating this event as a rumor and endangering children, or taking it as a fact, preventing his children from going to school. Even the statement issued by the Ministry of Interior was a vague notification open to all possibilities with a general and unclear recommendation to "be careful".

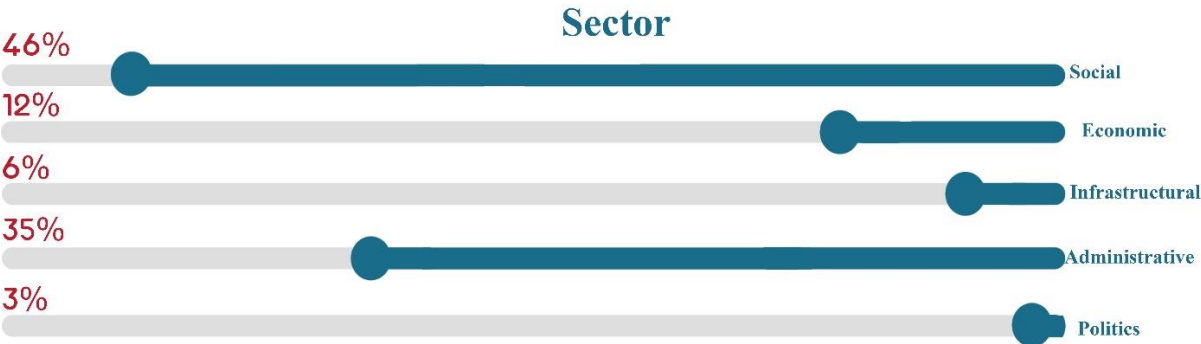
- The lack of information and the weak communication policy of the Presidency of the Government and the Presidency of the Republic, put psychological pressure on the citizen, especially with the sudden and improvised decisions that are issued at each period by officials, such as the increase in food prices and the cut in the salaries of pensioners ... It is a form of state violence against the citizens.

- The legal ambiguity surrounding the decisions of house arrest and the accusations and incriminations of certain sectors or individuals expressed in the

speeches of the Presidency of the Republic, without providing clear support, leads to the shaping of public opinion judgments based on what is rumored and relayed by social media pages in the absence of any compelling legal basis.

The absence of official, accurate and credible information from the public space paves the way for the spread of informational chaos, which in many cases is a starting point and motive for moral and practical violence.

As usual, criminal violence occupies the first place in the totality of the monitored violence, since it represented 81% of the incidents recorded during the month, followed by institutional violence.

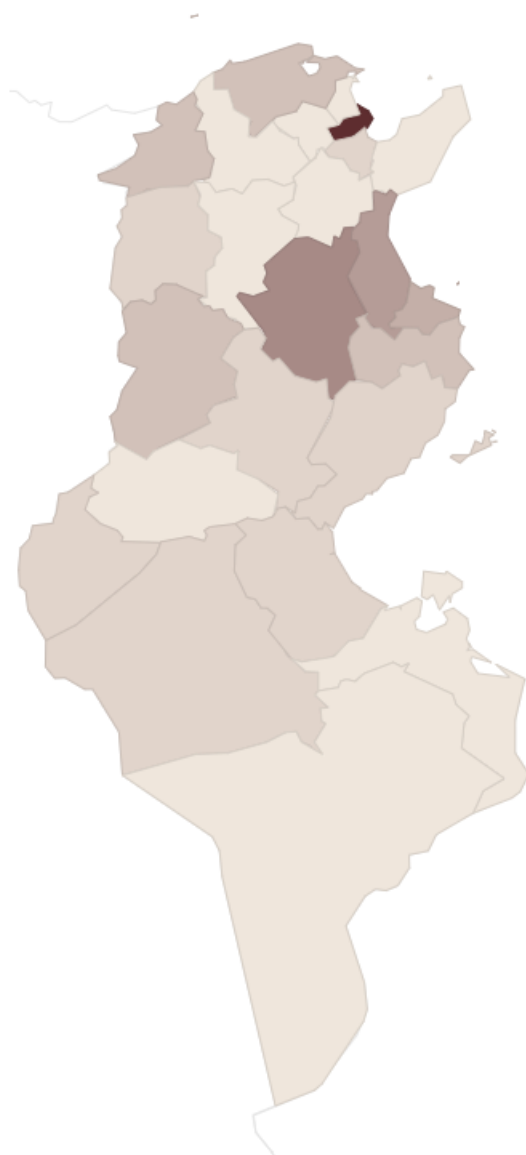


What can be noted during the month of January 2022, is the level of violence recorded within educational institutions (cases of harassment and sexual assault against students) and which accounted for 27% of the registered violence, followed by violence in the residential space, with 18.9% of the total and is mainly related to Tunisian families and relations between spouses.



The capital Tunis is also still the region with the most violent incidents recorded during the month of January 2022 and where 27% of the total violence observed took place, followed by Kairouan with 13.5% and Sousse with 10.8%.

L'Ariana	0%	Ben Arous	2.7%
Bizerte	5.4%	Tunis	27%
Zaghouan	0%	La Manouba	0%
Nabeul	0%	Béja	0%
Jendouba	5.4%	Siliana	0%
Le Kef	2.7%	Sousse	10.8%
Sfax	2.7%	Monastir	8.1%
Mahdia	5.4%	Sidi Bouzid	2.7%
Kasserine	5.4%	Kairouan	13.5%
Tataouine	0%	Gabès	2.7%
Medenine	0%	Tozeur	2.7%
Kebili	2.7%	Gafsa	0%



The spread of these behaviors reflects a state of frustration and loss of confidence in state institutions, programs, solutions, proposals, the undertakings of its policies and the perspectives of its social project... to the extent that the gap between state institutions and its citizens widens and the distance between them deepens, and violence, whether of individuals or of the state, becomes a means of communication, and it may be difficult to go back and re-establish a healthy connection on which relations and collective consciousness are built.

conclusion

Altogether, the harvest of social mobility and protest throughout January 2022 reflects a state of astonishment and expectation in light of an exceptional and ambiguous political situation in the country.

It is typical for the January protests to be linked to the beginning of the implementation of the new tax increases and provisions brought in by the finance law. But the new finance law did not create the expected social explosion as much as it brought confusion to procurement and market management because of the information circulating about the lifting of subsidies and the increase in prices of some basic products. In addition, the July 25 authorities instrumentalized the month of January by initiating, for example, the implementation of the fuel price increase in early February.

And if the price rise continues and coincides with the month of Ramadhan, which is an exceptional season for consumption, and in parallel with the government's response to the pressure of international monetary bodies by lifting subsidies and laying off employees, then direct triggers will be available for a possible social explosion that could be tainted by violence.

The daily migration of women farmers in Kasserine and Sidi Bouzid: women transported as merchandise for the sustainability of peasant production!

In the vast olive fields that cover most of the northern regions of the governorate of Gafsa, more than 200 women work in the peasant sector. In an inhumane environment, these women face difficult working conditions with low wages, and a lack of access to a health or social security system, which has worsened their situation, especially during the Corona pandemic. Female university graduates, whose fate forced them to work in the agricultural sector, came from rural areas and cities of the neighboring governorates of Kasserine and Sidi Bouzid (Hassi frid, Sidi Ali Ben Oun, Awled Horchen) to suffer exploitation and exclusion despite the central role they play in helping to maintain the food security chains in this global health crisis. A reality that can only be seen as a direct result of the visions and policies developed by the Authority resulting in the exclusion of women peasant workers, the denial of their dignity and the marginalization of their livelihoods leading to their victimization inside and outside their spheres, and almost completely depriving them of government support to help them access their rights.

In this report of the Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights, we highlight the marginalization of female peasant workers in the governorate of Gafsa and the neighboring governorates and underline the lack of governmental support to the most vulnerable categories of the society.



Female farm workers sorting vegetables ¹

¹ <https://www.facebook.com/siwar.ameidia>

Daily migration between cities: risks under the gaze of authority

At 5:00 a.m., trucks carrying female workers from their residential neighborhoods, Kasserine and Sidi Bouzid, head to the agricultural farms where they work in northern Gafsa. Exposed trucks carrying 15 to 20 female workers on a perilous internal migration ride across rough urban roads and lanes every day, before crossing the inter-governorate highway. In full view of the authorities, dozens of daily trips involving these women are frequently made, without anyone reacting to this flagrant violation of human dignity.

Khadija, 41 years old, from Hassi Frid, in the governorate of Kasserine, working in an agricultural property, in the region of Chebiba, north of Gafsa, says: "we travel every day on our own expense, being paid 15 dinars per day and we pay 5 dinars to the intermediary who transports us. (The intermediary is the driver and owner of the truck.) In terms of the conditions of transport, she says that they travel in trucks exposed to heat and cold, and they are also forbidden to sit down given the limited space available. Indeed, they have to stand for almost two hours in a vehicle that lacks the most basic means of security, as it is impossible to get a safe ride that does not expose them to death or injuries. Khadija, like other women, works to support her family (a son and a daughter) after her husband abandoned them. She spends more than 8 hours a day harvesting and picking olives or sorting vegetables and hopes, like so many other women workers, to be able to afford comfortable means of transportation such as rural buses and social security coverage that protects the rights of women workers in case of traffic accidents.



Female farm workers sorting vegetables

Women contribute to 90% of the agricultural work in the northern regions of the governorate of Gafsa (Chebiba, Guetiss Awled omrane, El faj, Rhiba) according to Moncef Salem, a member of the agricultural union. He pointed out that female agricultural workers are not members of the agricultural union for lack of a rights culture among most of them. Ben Salem puts the responsibility of protecting women victims on the state authorities, who fail to act in the face of their difficult working conditions. Despite the media outcry over the news of the fatal accidents that took the lives of many of these women, nothing has changed, according to him.

Insufficient response from government authorities

Tunisia is one of the leading countries in the field of women's rights in the Middle East and North Africa, thanks to its adoption of global conventions aimed at guaranteeing women's rights and human dignity and protecting them against all forms of discrimination and exclusion, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women². In addition to its national legislation protecting these rights, such as Article 46 of the Constitution, which states that “the State shall protect, support and develop the acquired rights of women”³. This article was part of a series of legal reforms undertaken by Tunisia from the time of independence to the present day. Although the constitution strongly guarantees women's rights and there are many laws, policies, and programs for the advancement of these rights, the Tunisian government has failed to some extent to ensure a future that lives up to its own laws and international standards, as promised to promote. Most of the rights of women have remained unfulfilled in several sectors, including the agricultural sector, and the issue of marginalization of women farmers remains a concern that needs to be brought to the public's attention since women often do not have access to reasonable levels of their constitutionally guaranteed social rights and protection, especially social rights related to their protection from the dangers of accidents that have claimed the lives of many of them.

In response to this marginalization and exclusion of the most vulnerable social groups, the state has not yet taken steps to provide a solution that addresses the

² <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/text/0360793A.pdf>

³ https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Tunisia_2014.pdf?lang=ar

causes of this exclusion, including the cultural, economic, and political factors that contribute to its expansion.

Incidents recorded in the governorate of Gafsa, including the traffic accident that occurred in late 2014 on the agricultural track connecting the village of Sidi Aich and the national road No. 3 linking Gafsa to Tunis. This accident resulted in the death of two female agricultural workers and the injury of 11 others, knowing that the truck was carrying no less than 18 female and male workers from Sidi Ali Ben Aoun of the governorate of Sidi Bouzid,

Another truck accident in 2019 involving female farm workers in the southern Tunisian town of Sabala, resulted in the deaths of 12 people (7 female workers) and raised a wave of discontent and resentment in popular circles⁴. Furthermore, seven fatalities and 85 injuries were recorded in 2015, compared to 15 injuries and 72 deaths in 2019. The number of female fatalities in this sector between 2015 and 2019 was approximately 47 victims and over 630 injuries, in the absence of any form of insurance⁵.

We read daily in newspapers and other media about the tragedies of female agricultural workers who have paid their lives to earn a decent living, and this tragedy is continuing without any positive interaction or serious action on the part of the government to stop the hemorrhaging of female labor. On the contrary, the relevant structures have often shown indifference, terrible silence, and inability to take responsibility for the ongoing violations, amid accusations of negligence and delay in finding solutions by several parties. It should also be noted that the issue of women workers in the agricultural sector is addressed in an ad hoc manner that does not meet the expectations of thousands of them who hope for decisions that will change their reality and put an end to the persecution to which they are subjected.

Appeal to stop exploitation

Rights organizations and feminist movements in Tunisia have not been left out of the picture as, after 2011, the law has produced a greater awareness of the importance of women's rights as part of human rights in general. Women's rights advocates have played a leading role in monitoring, denouncing violations, and

⁴ <https://www.independentarabia.com/node>

⁵ <https://www.hakaekonline.com/article/135797/>

advocating for radical reforms to ensure women's rights in various areas. On this basis, the Tunisian forum for economic and social rights has followed up on the case of women workers in different regions of the republic. The call was renewed more than once for the urgent need to improve the deterioration of transport conditions to avoid the recurrence of fatal accidents, in addition to the requirement of the implementation of Law No. 51 of 2019 which provides for the creation of a new category for the transport of agricultural workers and the implementation of commitments announced by the government that same year concerning the conditions and criteria for organizing this sector is in the form of decrees, including No. 724 on the components of the transport process, including the driver and the nature of the vehicle.

The calls have not ceased to be raised despite the indifference of successive governments over the past decade, many of them calling for the improvement of the situation of women workers in the agricultural sector in various parts of the republic, ranging from transport conditions to wages and other rights guaranteed by the Constitution. While the silence of the state on this sensitive issue continues, the time has come to put an end to this mistreatment of the most vulnerable social categories.

Scientific calculation Methodology

As of March, the Tunisian Social Observatory of the Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights has adopted a new methodology of scientific calculation, the bases of which are as follows:

Definitions:

Instantaneous movements: characterized by the surprise and speed of movement resulting from the anger of the crowd and the rumble it generates but are limited in time and space. This type of movement seeks to mobilize attention and social mobilization and is characterized by its peaceful nature. However, these movements vary in the parameters of protest development, including the use of violence.

Planned movements: movements which were essentially immediate but which changed and developed mechanisms of action in time and space and were able to acquire the capacity to organize and prepare for and seek to develop counter-mobilization but remain essentially peaceful. They are distinguished by their organizational means and their capacity to ensure its continuous action and mobilization for the same reasons.

They are distinguished by their organizational means and their capacity to ensure its continuous action and mobilization for the same reasons.

Violent movements: these are movements that make use of counter-violence as one of their mechanisms of action and are often direct reactions employing all means for confrontation and the achievement of their objectives, but they often lack clear organisational elements, programs and means.

The methodology of Calculation:

The uniqueness of a movement is defined by a mode of action, a place and a day.

A protest taking place in several places will be counted as several movements.

A movement taking place over several days will be counted each day.

A protest using different action modes will be counted once for each action.

Monitoring Methodology of Irregular Immigration:

Monitoring Methodology of Irregular Immigration:

The data registered in this report represent the extent to which the Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights has been able to collect from various sources and through available means. The statistics remain infinite and non-detailed. They may not fully reflect reality. However, in the absence of detailed and updated information from the Tunisian authorities (Number of arrests, number of persons who have been detained, distribution by age group and gender, identification of their origins, social status, number of missing persons...), the following report may contribute having a clearer understanding of migration dynamics and its highlighting shifts.

Aborted Crossings: The press releases of the Ministry of the Interior, as well as the statements of the spokesman of the National Guard on different platforms, do not usually contain thorough data (gender, age, origin of irregular migrants).

Irregular migrants who made it to the European coasts: Numerous structures produce statistics about irregular arrivals to Europe such as the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, International Migration Organization, the Ministries of Interior of the European States, and the European Coastal Control Agency.

The given numbers remain approximate. Their update is always recommended. They need to be in continuity with the statistics delivered by official authorities and civic structures. Indeed, those structures may publish reports in the future. They can furthermore present studies about the evolution and the changes in the dynamicity of irregular migration.

The invisible numbers:

The invisible numbers reflect the number of immigrants arriving in Europe in other ways without going through local authorities and global organizations. No trace is found of these numbers in the statistics despite their seriousness. These "invisible" numbers are untraceable and differ from each migration trafficking network because of their strategy. The figures include departures from the Tunisian coast successfully evading strict border controls. Unreported failed operations are also included.