



Regarding the detention of Dr Moncef Kartas in Tunis

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

We have been following news of Dr Moncef Kartas's detention in Tunis with considerable concern. We have known Dr Kartas since 2005 and have high regard for his work as a scholar, researcher and analyst. We have read with concern reports that Tunisian authorities have detained him and are optimistic that international efforts will succeed in ensuring his quick release.

Dr Kartas worked for the Small Arms Survey from 1 May 2013 to 31 August 2015 as a researcher and project coordinator for the Security Assessment in North Africa project. He was also a post-doctoral researcher for a project funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation on Tunisian security sector reform at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) until April 2016. Both the Survey and the CCDP are based at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.

We hope that the Tunisian authorities will rapidly clarify the situation, especially since our experiences with Dr Kartas' work do not resonate with the characterizations we have read in some media accounts. In his work with our organizations he has always pursued his research on conflict dynamics with the aim of contributing to the reduction of conflict and armed violence in a fully professional fashion and to the highest ethical standard.

Signed,

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