

PRESS RELEASE

RNDDH's Pierre Esperance Re-elected Secretary General of FIDH

RNDDH's Pierre Esperance was reelected as Secretary General of FIDH. The vote was held during the 39th FIDH Congress where its 178 member organizations from 120 countries were gathered to elect the new International Board and determine the main orientations for the next three years. The newly elected board consists of 22 activists, from 21 countries, spanning five continents.

During the 39th Congress, Greek academic and activist Dimitris Christopoulos was elected president and new organizations from 15 countries were approved to join FIDH increasing its membership to 184. The Congress adopted 26 resolutions including three special motions regarding the situation in [Syria](#), [Zimbabwe](#) and [a call for the protection of human rights defenders](#) worldwide.

The FIDH 39th Congress was held in Johannesburg, South Africa from the August 23-27th, 2016.

Composition of the new FIDH International Board:

President:

Greece: Dimitris CHRISTOPOULOS, Hellenic League of Human Rights (HLHR)

Honorary President: Karim Lahidji

Vice Presidents:

Afghanistan: Guissou JAHANGIRI, Armanshahr/Open Asia

Armenia: Artak KIRAKOSYAN, Civil Society Institute (CSI)

Bangladesh: Adilur RAHMAN KHAN, Odhikar

Côte d'Ivoire: Drissa TRAORE, Mouvement ivoirien des droits humains (MIDH)

Ecuador: Elise MONGE, Comision Ecumenica de Derechos Humanos (CEDHU)

Egypt: Mohamed Aly Mohamed ZAREA, Human Rights Association for the assistance of Prisoners (HRAAP)

France: Maryse ARTIGUELONG, Lignes des droits de l'Homme (LDH)

Guatemala: Juan Francisco SOTO, Asociacion Centro Legal en Derechos Humanos (CALDH)

Kyrgyzstan: Tolekan ISMAILOVA, Bir Duino

Nicaragua: Gloria Margarita CANO LEGUA, Asociacion pro Derechos Humanos (APRODEH)

The Netherlands: Gerard J-M VAN VLIET, Dutch League for Human Rights

The Philippines: Rosemarie TRAJANO, Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates (PAHRA)

Tunisia: Hafidha CHEKIR, Association tunisienne des femmes démocrates (ATFD)

Uganda: Sheila MUWANGA, Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI)

Zimbabwe: Arnold TSUNGA, Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights)

Secretaries General:

Belgium: Dan VAN RAEMDONCK, Ligue Belge (Francophone) des droits de l'Homme (LDH)

Botswana: Alice MOGWE, DITSHWANELO - The Botswana Centre for Human Rights

Burma: Debbie STOTHARD, Altsean-Burma

Haiti: Pierre ESPERANCE, Réseau national de défense des droits humains (RNDDH)

Palestine: Shawan JABARIN, Al Haq

Treasurer:

France: Jean-François PLANTIN, Ligue des droits de l'Homme (LDH) France

New FIDH member organisations:

- CANADA (Canadian Centre for International Justice)
- ECUADOR (Accion Ecologica)
- GUINEA (Mêmes droits pour tous)
- INDIA (People's Watch)
- IRAN (Justice for Iran)
- KAZAKHSTAN (International Legal Initiative)
- MOROCCO (Association Démocratique des Femmes du Maroc)
- NORWAY (Norwegian Helsinki Committee)
- PERU (Equidad)
- POLAND (Polish Society of Anti-Discrimination Law)
- RUSSIA (Memorial HRC - Moscou)
- SOUTH KOREA (People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy)
- SYRIA (Al Marsad)
- THAILAND (iLaw)
- UKRAINE (Center for Civil Liberties)

Port-au-Prince, August 30, 2016