

LIDU Newsletter: for human rights in Italy and worldwide

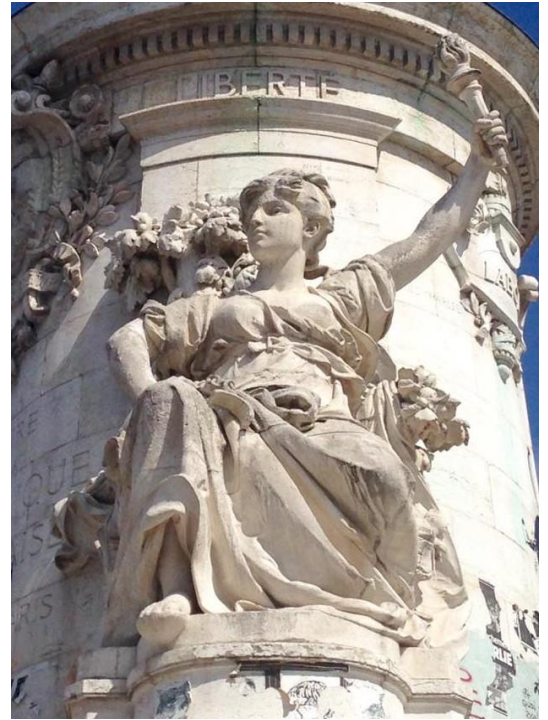
This monthly newsletter lists most of LIDU's activities in the last few weeks. Further information is regularly updated on our website: www.liduonlus.it

Standing with France and with all countries hit by terrorism

Rome, July 14th, 2017 – On the day that France devotes to the “immortal principles” of *Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité*, LIDU commemorates also the victims of terrorism, which exactly one year ago in Nice perpetrated one of its cruelest massacres. About that tragic event, we suggest the interview by Domenico Letizia to our current National President, who in that period was living in France as Coordinator of the World Congress Against the Death Penalty for “*Ensemble contre la peine de mort*”: www.liduonlus.it/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Francia-19-07-2016.pdf

Marching for freedom and justice in Turkey

After one year from the attempted *coup d'état* in Turkey and the following repressive measures adopted by Erdoğan (over 50,000 prisoners and 150,000 purges), a great non-violent march for law, justice and State secularism has gone 430 kilometers crossing Turkey from Ankara to Istanbul in 25 days. In Istanbul hundreds of thousands of people have taken part in the final non-violent demonstration. LIDU commends the organizers, all the people that have participated in the march and the fearless opposition leader Kemal Kiliçdaroğlu, and thanks its member Hon. Pia Locatelli, President of the Permanent Committee on Human Rights of the Italian Chamber of the Deputies, for her participation in the event.



Welcome and good job to LIDU's Local Committees of Teramo, Pescara, Padua and Terni

LIDU is one of the few Italian human rights organizations which have also a territorial structure, based on Local Committees currently active in about 30 Italian cities. In a few weeks, from June 24th to July 14th, four new LIDU's Local Committees have been established. Here are the names of their just elected leaders.

Teramo

Mariantonietta Cerbo (sociologist and criminologist) President; Claudia Simeoni (architect) Treasurer; Andrea Marra Secretary; Rosita del Coco (professor of Criminal Procedure Law) in charge of the "Prisons conditions project"; Emidio Zarro in charge of the "School / Human Rights Education Project".

Pescara

Stefania Centorame (attorney) President; Cesare Nevoso Treasurer; Massimiliano Michetti Secretary; Quintino Marcella in charge of the "School / Human Rights Education Project"; Valentino Di Bartolomeo in charge of the "Prisons conditions project".

Padua

Fabio Menegazzo President; Michelangelo Gionfriddo Secretary; Mauro Marini Treasurer; Lucia Martina in charge of the "School / Human Rights Education Project"; Stefano Righetto in charge of the "Prisons conditions project".

Terni

David Guiducci President; Anna Petrucci Secretary; Marco Piantoni Treasurer; Cristina Barbarossa in charge of the "School / Human Rights Education Project"; Riccardo Valentini in charge of the "Prisons conditions project".

The complete list of LIDU's Local Committees is available at: www.liduonlus.it/comitati/

An important meeting at LIDU against the persecution of dissidents in exile

On July 11th, LIDU's National President Antonio Stango received a delegation of Open Dialog Foundation (a Polish-Ukrainian NGO that works for the promotion of human rights in the post-soviet region). The meeting was devoted to three key points: the repression of dissidents in Kazakhstan and Moldova; the abuse of the Interpol's "Red Alert" system by authoritarian States for the persecution of political exiles; the report, recently adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, on the need to review the Interpol's system.



The Open Dialog delegation was composed by: Lyudmyla Kozlovska, President of Open Dialog Foundation; Alma Shalabayeva, Kazakh political refugee (who in 2013 was the protagonist of the "Shalabayeva case" in Italy as she was illegally expelled upon request of the Kazakh government, then allowed to return to Italy after an International campaign); Ana Ursachi, Moldovan attorney and activist, who spoke of some cases of political persecution in her country; and Paola Gaffurini, who works for the Open Dialog Foundation in its Brussels' office.

In the picture, from left Michele Lepore (LIDU's intern), Alma Shalabayeva, Antonio Stango, Ana Ursachi, Lyudmyla Kozlovska and Claudia Candelmo (in charge of the "School / Human Rights Education Project" at LIDU).

LIDU at the Italian MFA with the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Human Rights



Promotion of Fundamental Rights), and Filippo di Robilant (member of EUFRA's Management Board). At the end of the Conference, Dr. Antonio Stango expressed the hope that the independent National Institution for promotion and protection of human rights be established soon also in Italy, as required by International agreements and specifically by the 1991 "Paris Principles".

On July 11th, LIDU's National President has taken part, at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, in a meeting on "Communicating Rights: sharing common values and connecting people" and in the Conference for the presentation of the Annual Report of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (EUFRA).

Both events were chaired by the President of CIDU (Inter-Ministerial Committee for Human Rights), minister plenipotentiary Fabrizio Petri. Speakers included Senator Benedetto Della Vedova (Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs), Friso Roscam Abbing (Chief of the EUFRA's Department for the



LIDU's Commission on the Rights of people deprived of their liberty

On July 12th an extraordinary meeting of this Commission, chaired by Prof. Alessandro De Rossi, took place in LIDU's headquarter. The Commission's members and LIDU's National President discussed the issue of the Italian penitentiary system with Dr. Pietro Buffa, General Director of staff and resources of the D.A.P. (Department of Penitentiary Administration), and with Gabriella Stramaccioni, Guarantor of the rights of people deprived of their liberty in Rome. Speakers included, among else, Dr. Bruna Brunetti, vice-president of the Commission.

China: censorship on the death of Liu Xiaobo

On July 13th, after a long period of imprisonment, Liu Xiaobo, Chinese dissenter, a strong supporter of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, died. However, the Chinese regime did not stop the censorship on his political ideas. On the opposite, any remembrance of him has been blocked on Chinese web sites. In this way, Liu Xiaobo's opinion, that China built a "Web Great Wall", has been confirmed. Furthermore, Beijing insists that democratic governments should refrain from any critical comments.

LIDU shares the statement by Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs Benedetto Della Vedova, by confirming that, as Liu Xiaobo recommended, "a full civil modernization and institutional democratization is the only way for his extraordinary country that can allow to fully express all Chinese economic, cultural and civil potentialities", and that, "we cannot give up to the political and cultural relativism". Hon. Pia Locatelli, a prominent member of LIDU, while in New York in her capacity of Vice-President of the Socialist International, commemorated Liu Xiaobo during a demonstration in front of the UN Headquarter.

