



**Organisation Franco-Egyptienne  
pour les Droits de l'Homme**  
المنظمة الفرنسية المصرية لحقوق الانسان - اوفيد

**Press release: Explosion at Beirut port - OFEDH solidarity with the people of Lebanon**  
Paris August 11, 2020

**OFEDH stands in solidarity** with the Lebanese people and shares the sadness of the families of more than a hundred deaths, victims of the explosion of Tuesday, August 4, 2020. The image of the port of Beirut which recalls the disaster of the atomic bomb in Hiroshima had the effect of a shock to the whole world which will remember this day in its memory.

**We salute the international support** from several countries that come to the aid of tens of thousands of injured and ¼ of a million homeless. **French President Macron's** visit to Beirut on Thursday, August 6, his announcement of an international conference to help Lebanon, and his statement of support "France will never let go of Lebanon; will never abandon the Lebanese", aroused a broad support and fervor of the Lebanese population. On the Egyptian side, the Lebanese authorities have expressed their appreciation for the establishment, on the instruction of **Egyptian President Sissi**, of an air lift of military planes to send several tons of medical equipment and food.

**OFEDH deploras the management of the dangerous storage** of thousands of tons of ammonium nitrate, unloaded since 2014 by a dilapidated cargo ship at the port of Lebanon. Whatever the cause of the explosion, neglect or conspiracy, this event will be an opportunity for Lebanon to recover from its crisis which has lasted for several years and to rebuild confidence within the framework of a sovereign state with full powers, political and military.

The members of OFEDH, its Board of Directors, and its President express their support and encouragement to the **people of Lebanon who have already demonstrated an exceptional capacity** to overcome other serious difficulties.

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