

## STATEMENT NO. 02

### On the Arbitrary Detention of Trade Unionist Ali Mammeri

More than 48 hours have passed since Ali Mammeri, president of the union of public sector employees in the field of culture, affiliated with COSYFOP, was arbitrarily detained by plainclothes security officers at his workplace in the wilaya of Oum El Bouaghi.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all international organizations and human rights defenders who quickly responded by expressing solidarity with Ali Mammeri from the very first hours of his arrest.

Since the morning of March 19, 2025, his family has been unsuccessfully seeking official information about his whereabouts. The police in Oum El Bouaghi have refused to provide any details regarding his detention, further exacerbating his family's concerns for his safety. However, unofficial sources indicate that he has been transferred to the wilaya of Constantine for a "thorough investigation", though no clarification has been provided regarding the nature of this investigation or the charges against him.

What is particularly alarming is that Ali Mammeri has been denied the right to contact his family or his lawyer, depriving him of the fundamental right to inform his loved ones about his physical and mental well-being. Such practices, under international human rights standards, constitute enforced disappearance—a grave violation of international law and the conventions ratified by Algeria.

We strongly condemn these actions by the security authorities and hold the Algerian government fully responsible for these violations targeting trade union activists and human rights defenders. We will urgently send letters to the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to alert them to this critical situation and request immediate intervention to secure Ali Mammeri's release and clarify his fate.

We believe that Ali Mammeri's arrest is a direct response by the government to the complaint filed with the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Committee on Freedom of Association, following his arbitrary transfer after being elected as a representative of culture sector employees. We remind the Algerian authorities that any act of reprisal against an individual involved in an ILO complaint constitutes a blatant violation of Convention No. 87 on Freedom of Association, which Algeria has ratified.

We are committed to defending Ali Mammeri on the international stage and will coordinate our efforts with human rights organizations and international trade unions to ensure his immediate release. We are also seriously considering organizing a protest in Geneva, home to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to denounce the ongoing repression of independent unions in Algeria and draw global attention to these repeated violations.

We call on the international community and human rights organizations to stand in active solidarity and exert pressure on the Algerian government to end these systematic violations of trade union rights and fundamental freedoms. Silence in the face of such injustices is unacceptable, and we will continue to fight for truth and justice.

The Executive Committee

Trade Union Confederation of Productive Forces

Date: March 21, 2025

