ADVOCACY DOSSIER

MOHAMED JOÔ

محمد جو

At liberty **Tunisia**

Mohamed Joô was detained in Tunisia from 13 May 2024 until his release in January 2026. He was the administrative and financial director of Terre d'Asile Tunisie; on 5 January 2026 a Tunis court convicted him of sheltering people who entered or left Tunisia irregularly and of facilitating the irregular entry or stay of foreigners, and gave him a two-year suspended sentence.

HuMENA.

Prepared by HuMENA for Human Rights and Civic Engagement · 8 November 2026

Case reference HM-TN-2024-003

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THE CASE AT A GLANCE

Mohamed Joô was detained in Tunisia from 13 May 2024 until his release in January 2026. He was the administrative and financial director of Terre d'Asile Tunisie; on 5 January 2026 a Tunis court convicted him of sheltering people who entered or left Tunisia irregularly and of facilitating the irregular entry or stay of foreigners, and gave him a two-year suspended sentence.

STATUS	**At liberty**
ARRESTED	**13 May 2024**
COUNTRY	**Tunisia**
CHARGES	**Sheltering persons entering or leaving Tunisian territory illegally** **Knowingly helping or facilitating the irregular entry, exit, movement or stay of a foreigner in Tunisia**

WE CALL ON THE AUTHORITIES TO:

WHAT WE ASK

01 Quash the conviction and drop any charges that remain on record against Mohamed Joô in connection with peaceful human rights work.

02 Confirm publicly that Mohamed Joô faces no residual travel, financial, or professional restriction arising from this case.

03 Guarantee that Mohamed Joô can resume that work without surveillance, summons, or further reprisal.

04 Provide effective remedy for the period of deprivation of liberty already served.

Latest updates on this case
Scan the code or visit:
https://humena.org/defenders/mohamed-joo/

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DOCUMENTED VIOLATIONS

	INTERNATIONAL STANDARD
Arbitrary detention	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 9
Criminalisation of solidarity	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Articles 21, 22 UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, Article 5
Judicial harassment	UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, Articles 9, 12
Prolonged pretrial detention	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 9(3)
Unfair trial	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 14

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HOW THE CASE UNFOLDED

13 May 2024

ARREST

Arrested in Tunisia

Mohamed Joô, administrative and financial director of Terre d'Asile Tunisie, was arrested in the May 2024 crackdown on organisations assisting migrants and refugees, and placed in pretrial detention.

February 2025

CHARGE FILED

Indictment chamber confirms charges

On the prosecution's appeal, the indictment chamber confirmed charges under Law 75-40 against the Terre d'Asile Tunisie staff, including him.

15 December 2025

HEARING

First hearing held; release requests rejected

The trial opened before the Tunis Court of First Instance. The court rejected requests for release and adjourned the case to 5 January 2026.

5 January 2026

CONVICTION

Convicted; two-year suspended prison sentence

The Tunis Court of First Instance convicted him, with Sherifa Riahi, Yadh Bousselmi, Mohamed Iqbal Khaled and Imen Ouardani, of sheltering people who entered or left Tunisia irregularly and of facilitating the irregular entry or stay of foreigners. He received a two-year suspended sentence. Eighteen other defendants were acquitted.

6 January 2026

RELEASE

Released the night of the verdict

Released on the night of 5 to 6 January 2026, after the verdict. He had been held in pretrial detention since May 2024.

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THE FULL STORY

Background and Work

Mohamed Joô was the administrative and financial director of Terre d'Asile Tunisie, an organisation supporting migrants and refugees.

The Arrest

Mohamed Joô was arrested on 13 May 2024 in Tunisia. He was arrested in the May 2024 crackdown on organisations assisting migrants and refugees.

Legal Proceedings

In February 2025, on the prosecution's appeal, the indictment chamber confirmed the charges. The trial opened on 15 December 2025; the court rejected release requests and adjourned to 5 January 2026. He was held in pretrial detention until 5 January 2026, when the Tunis Court of First Instance convicted him of sheltering people who entered or left Tunisia irregularly and of facilitating the irregular entry or stay of foreigners, and gave him a two-year suspended sentence. Whether he was granted access to legal counsel has not been confirmed.

Detention Conditions

The facility where Mohamed Joô was held until his release in January 2026 has not been identified. No information about his health, access to family visits, or conditions of detention is available.

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SAMPLE LETTER

Copy it, adapt it and send it from your own address.

Your Excellency,

I am writing about the case of Mohamed Joô, administrative and financial director of Terre d'Asile Tunisie, an organisation supporting migrants and refugees in Tunisia, who has been released. I am writing to ask that the case be closed properly and that no further reprisal follows.

In brief: Mohamed Joô was detained in Tunisia from 13 May 2024 until his release in January 2026. He was the administrative and financial director of Terre d'Asile Tunisie; on 5 January 2026 a Tunis court convicted him of sheltering people who entered or left Tunisia irregularly and of facilitating the irregular entry or stay of foreigners, and gave him a two-year suspended sentence.

I respectfully urge your authorities to:
1. Quash the conviction and drop any charges that remain on record against Mohamed Joô in connection with peaceful human rights work;
2. Confirm publicly that Mohamed Joô faces no residual travel, financial, or professional restriction arising from this case;
3. Guarantee that Mohamed Joô can resume that work without surveillance, summons, or further reprisal;
4. Provide effective remedy for the period of deprivation of liberty already served.

I will continue to follow this case until the record against Mohamed Joô is cleared and no reprisal remains.

Respectfully,

[Your name]
[Your city, country]
8 November 2026