

**Sudan Action Group
PRESS RELEASE**

**Sudanese migrants in Belgium have been caught between two fires:
urgent need for protection**

Hundreds of Sudanese in transit migration phase, *living in inhuman situation in Maximilian park and indoors North train station in Brussels*, have been deliberately arrested by the federal police and kept in closed centers since the last couple of weeks; including unaccompanied minors.

Sudan Action Group is very concerned about the security of the Sudanese migrants in general, *who are currently traumatized hiding no where from the police*, and particularly about those who have been detained in different closed centers as they are under pressure to forcibly be deported to Sudan where they most probably will be arrested, tortured, or even being killed. Sudan Action Group condemned the support of the Sudanese official delegation, *who arrived in Brussels a few days ago*, aiming to assist the General Secretary of Asylum and Migration in verifying the identity of the Sudanese migrants. A number of Sudanese migrants expressed their shock and frustration about the sudden visit of the Sudanese delegation to the closed center 127bis attempting to put pressure on them to return back home. Furthermore, a number of Sudanese migrants mentioned that the delegation has tried to manipulate them with money conditioned with going back to Sudan. This collaboration between the Sudanese regime and the General Secretary of Asylum and Migration has increased the level of vulnerability of the Sudanese migrants significantly and definitely would undermine dramatically the credibility and the role of Belgium as a safeguard for the values of human rights internally and internationally.

Most of these Sudanese migrants are vulnerable young people came from war zone areas, Darfur, Nuba Mountains, Blue Nile, and from many other parts of Sudan too where the regime in power is unwilling or/and unable to protect them. Sudan current regime failed to provide safety for its citizens and to stabilize the country for the last twenty eight years, eventually Sudan is now characterized by: grave violations of human rights and freedom of expression, violations of international human rights laws, torture crimes, use of chemical weapons, destruction of the Sudanese civil services, manipulation of the economy, impoverishment of the Sudanese people, destruction of health care and education systems, mismanagement and destruction of the Sudanese public property, misleading of the Sudanese public opinion, creation international unnecessary hostilities. Shortly, the induction of president Omer Al Bashir by the International Criminal Court (ICC) on war crimes and crimes against humanity is a clear evidence that Sudan regime has been terrorizing its citizens deliberately by different means. Consequently, the international migration has been for long years the destiny of millions of Sudanese people seeking protection, dignity, and peace outside their home land.

Sudan Action Group calls upon the Belgium government to work together at different levels of power to provide the appropriate and needed protection for the Sudanese migrants and to step back from collaborating with the Sudanese authority. To provide international protection means they should not be expelled but also not to practice any form of pressure against them to return where their lives would be threatened. We also urge the Belgium authority to protect Sudanese minors as stipulated in the Convention of the Rights of Child and to exert an effort to free those who are still in closed center.

Sudan Action Group
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