

20 December 2019

Egypt: ECRF board member Ahmed Abdel Fattah Ibrahim in incommunicado detention

On 10 December 2019, human rights defender **Ahmed Abdel Fattah Ibrahim** was arrested and arbitrarily detained by the Egyptian police in Cairo and taken to an undisclosed location. The place of his detention is still unknown.

Ahmed Abdel Fattah Ibrahim is a human rights defender and board member of the Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms (ECRF). He principally carries out his activities in Upper Egypt, where he has coordinated several workshops and trainings on a variety of human rights issues. He works to promote health care rights and the rights of persons with disabilities, and he actively seeks protections for the rights of the Nubian ethnic minority group in Egypt.

On 10 December 2019, Ahmed Abdel Fattah Ibrahim was stopped and detained by the Egyptian police in the Nasr district of Cairo. Although witnesses saw police officers arrest him, police denied detaining him, and they refuse to disclose his whereabouts. His family have not heard from him since his arrest.

The staff of the ECRF are constantly under harassment from the authorities. In June 2019, researcher at the ECRF, [Ibrahim Ezz El-Din](#), was disappeared for 167 days before he reappeared on 26 November 2019. In addition, the a lawyer for ECRF, [Haytham Mohamadeen](#), has been under preventive detention since May 2018.

Front Line Defenders is deeply concerned about the continual harassment of human rights defenders in Egypt. It strongly condemns the Egyptian authorities' arbitrary detention and disappearance of ECRF staff members. Front Line Defenders believes that Ahmed Abdel Fattah Ibrahim and other members of ECRF are being targeted for their legitimate human rights work.

Front Line Defender urges the Egyptian authorities to:

1. Immediately and unconditionally release Ahmed Abdel Fattah;
2. Ensure that the treatment of Ahmed Abdel Fattah, while in detention, adheres to the conditions set out in the *'Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment'*, adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988, and grant him unfettered access to his lawyer and family;
3. Cease all further harassment of ECRF staff members;
4. Take all necessary measures to guarantee the physical and psychological integrity and security of ECRF staff members and all human rights defenders in Egypt.