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The Nobel Peace Prize 2015: Tunisia in the spotlight

ALDA – the European Association for Local Democracy, wishes to express its satisfaction and appreciation of today’s decision regarding the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to the **“Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet”**, made up of four Civil Society Organisations: the *Tunisian General Labour Union* (UGTT, Union Générale Tunisienne du Travail), the *Tunisian Confederation of Industry, Trade and Handicrafts* (UTICA, Union Tunisienne de l'Industrie, du Commerce et de l'Artisanat), the *Tunisian Human Rights League* (LTDH, La Ligue Tunisienne pour la Défense des Droits de l'Homme), and the *Tunisian Order of Lawyers* (Ordre National des Avocats de Tunisie).

During these last years, ALDA intensified its action in Tunisia contributing, together with the associations of the civil society, to the strengthen and the promotion of a pluralist democracy, carried out after the “Jasmin Revolution” of 2011.

“It is still a long process – declares Mr. Alessandro Perelli, Vice-President and Responsible for the Mediterranean Working Group of ALDA – but, despite the terroristic attacks to the Museum in Tunis and in Sousse, Tunisian people have shown a great maturity, as well as desire to proceed along the path of democratic and civil rights. The elections and the approval of the new Constitution represent an important moment of citizen and social participation.”

ALDA’s Governing Board approved a document which provides for the establishment of a new Local Democracy Agency in 2016, in Bizerte, together with the participation of Tunisian and European partners. Very recently the European Parliament approved a resolution consisting in the use of new European funds which will be destined to Tunisia.

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