

Title	Amnesty International Report 2010 - Djibouti
Publisher	Amnesty International
Country	Djibouti
Publication Date	28 May 2010
Cite as	Amnesty International, <i>Amnesty International Report 2010 - Djibouti</i> , 28 May 2010, available at: http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/4c03a830db.html [accessed 21 February 2013]
Disclaimer	This is not a UNHCR publication. UNHCR is not responsible for, nor does it necessarily endorse, its content. Any views expressed are solely those of the author or publisher and do not necessarily reflect those of UNHCR, the United Nations or its Member States.



amnesty international

Amnesty International Report 2010 - Djibouti

REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI

Head of state: President Ismael Omar Guelleh

Head of government: Prime Minister Dileita Mohamed Dileita

Death penalty: abolitionist for all crimes

Population: 900,000

Life expectancy: 55.1 years

Under-5 mortality (m/f): 134/116 per 1,000

Adult literacy: 70.3 per cent

Freedom of expression was restricted. The government prevented trade unions from operating freely. Human rights defenders were harassed and intimidated by the authorities.

Background

Unemployment remained high. The global rise in food prices contributed to an increase in malnutrition among the poor. Eritrea maintained a troop presence in the disputed Ras Doumeira area and Doumeira Island.

Freedom of expression

Freedom of expression was limited. Journalists exercised self-censorship to avoid harassment by the authorities. The government imposed restrictions on the independent press. Human rights defenders' work was scrutinized by government authorities to harass and intimidate them from carrying out lawful activities.

- On 2 July, poet Ahmed Darar Robleh was arrested for writing poetry critical of the President. He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment on 19 July.

Freedom of association

The government reportedly disrupted trade union activity.

- On 13 October, police prevented the Union of Djibouti Workers (Union Djiboutienne du Travail, UDT) from holding a seminar at the People's Palace in Djibouti following instructions from the Office of the Prime Minister.

Security forces

- Soldiers reportedly extorted money from Houmad Mohamed Ibrahim, a local leader in Tadjourah district. The soldiers beat him and members of his family. They transported male family members to the military barracks at Tadjourah where they were arbitrarily detained and beaten.