EL HIBLU 3, MALTA

Before they were known as the El Hiblu 3, they were three teenagers with a passion for football and basketball. Aged 15, 16 and 19 at the time, they wanted what we all do: a safer, better life.

That common goal brought them from Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire to Libya. Desperate to escape the violence and torture cells reserved for refugees and migrants there, they boarded a dinghy with over 100 others bound for Europe.



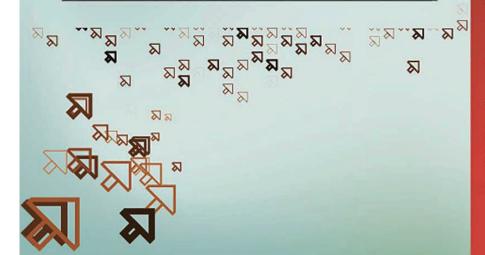
The dinghy soon ran into trouble and was rescued by the El Hiblu, an oil transporter. The El Hiblu's crew then tried to return those rescued to Libya – which was unlawful – despite promising that they wouldn't.

A protest broke out. The three youths were asked to help calm the situation. Acting as interpreters, they defended the right of those rescued not to face torture again in Libya. The crew turned the ship towards Europe.

However, as it entered Malta's waters, the Maltese authorities stormed the ship, claiming the three had taken it by force. They charged the youths with offences so serious that they could be jailed for life.

The three youths had simply tried to defend their safety and to protect those rescued with them. Now they're in the dock.

Demand justice for the El Hiblu 3.





WRITE TO MALTA'S Attorney general

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Tell the Attorney General to drop all charges against the El Hiblu 3 and close the case.

Attorney General The Palace VLT 1115 – Valletta Malta Email: ag@gov.mt Tel: (+356) 21 225 841 Fax: (+356) 21 240 738 Salutation: Your Excellency

STAND WITH THE EL HIBLU 3

Send them your messages of solidarity and hope. Be sure to take a photograph of your message and post it on your social media channels, tagging it #EIHiblu3.

El Hiblu 3 P.O. Box 39, Hamrun, Malta

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SAMPLE TARGET LETTERS



KHALED DRARENI, ALGERIA

Your excellency

I call on you to immediately and unconditionally release Khaled Drareni, an independent journalist, sentenced to prison simply for doing his job. He was reporting on a Hirak demonstration on 27 March when he was arrested. He has been detained ever since.

Khaled just wants a fairer, better Algeria that cares for and benefits everyone. He is held on the sham charge of inciting an unarmed gathering and "harming the integrity of the national territory".

Khaled should be back on the streets, reporting the news, not locked up for his principled journalism.

Please, release him without delay.

Yours sincerely

Abdelmadjid Tebboune President of the Republic EI-Mouradia – B.P 16000 Algiers Algeria

EL HIBLU 3, MALTA

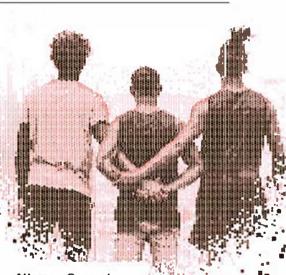
Your Excellency

I urge you to drop all charges against the EI Hiblu 3 and close the case.

These youths, two of whom were just 15 and 16 years old at the time of the alleged incident, could be jailed for life for opposing their return to suffering and torture in Libya. Yet there is little to no evidence to support the serious charges against them.

The youths had acted as interpreters on the El Hiblu, an oil transporter, to help preserve their lives and those of their fellow passengers after they were rescued at sea.

They have been through grave hardship and trauma. Deliver justice: drop the charges, close the case.



Attomey General The Palace VLT 1115 – Valletta Malta

Yours sincerely