

Census of forced evictions in living areas occupied by Roma (or people designated as such) in France

(First and second quarter of 2017)

Summary

In 2017, 4,382 Romani people were evicted from 50 living areas in France; 2,689 of them were forcefully evicted by the authorities, 897 Roma from 7 settlements left their living places due to fires, 796 people left their living areas under pressure of imminent forced eviction.

During the first quarter of 2017, 1,182 Romani people were forcefully evicted by public authorities from 12 living areas. In addition, 847 people were evicted by authorities from six living places due to fires. Another 342 Romani people left their living areas before the arrival of the police under the pressure of an imminent forced eviction.

The number of people evicted by the authorities during the first quarter seems to decrease (1,182) compared to the last quarter of 2016 (2,958), but is concerning due to the conditions in which the forced evictions were executed. The figures are particularly high considering the so-called Equality and Citizenship law which entered into force on 27th January 2017¹ which applied a winter truce on the dismantling of makeshift housing, and extended the deadlines for proceeding with evictions. In general, the good intentions that came with the above mentioned law were not applied when it comes to Romani families as the figures of evictions from the first quarter have shown.

During the second quarter, 2,011 Roma have been subjected to evictions from 29 squats and slums. 1,507 have been forcefully evicted by the public authorities from 27 living areas. One evacuation, concerning fifty persons following a fire was recorded during this period. However, an increase in the number of people leaving their living areas before the arrival of the authorities has been observed, often due to the families feeling the pressure of an imminent forced eviction. Thus, 454 Roma people left their settlements before the beginning of the evacuation of the living area, which is an increase of 112 people compared to the first quarter 2017.

Since the beginning of the year, the number of evictions based on notices for health hazards or dangerous

¹ Article 143 of the law n° 2017-86 of 27th of January relative on equality and citizenship.

living conditions issued by local authorities or prefectures remains high. Hence these evictions are based only on an administrative decision. Twenty-three of these evictions were in response to summons by the landowners for illegal occupation or the establishment of squats on their properties, while the other 18 evictions were based on administrative decisions without the intervention of a judge who is able to assess their utility, methods and deadlines.

Seventeen of the total 39 evictions executed by the authorities were carried out without any alternative solutions for shelter/accommodation being offered to the evictees. Subsequently, many of the families were put on the street by the public authorities, adding to the problem and increasing the precarious situation of those families forcibly removed. Such actions harm the provisions of the circular of 26th August 2012², which established the obligation of the authorities to assess those families and individuals that had been removed and propose solutions for their accommodation according to their needs. Shelter has been proposed on 4 occasions following fires breaking out in the Roma living areas. In most of the cases, temporary shelter has been proposed to only some of the evictees.

Since January 2017, the Ile-de-France region has been the focus of the majority of operations aiming to forcefully evict Romani families with 59% evictees, followed by Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (11%) and Occitanie (11%). This situation confirms the acute crisis existing in the capital regions regarding affordable housing, shelter, and accommodation as well as the consistent failures to address the issue.

However, sustainable solutions are possible, as shown in the annual report of the “Collectif National des droits de l’homme Romeurope” which contains twenty proposals for a policy for inclusion of people living in slums and squats³. Additionally, as the Abbé Pierre foundation has emphasized in its annual report, there is a need for a redefinition of the “framework of the national mission to reduce slums, ending in December 2016”. “No matter where they come from, their administrative situation and their location, people forced to live in slums must not continue to be subjected to a security policy of repeated evictions and expulsions without any solutions rather than being targeted by a social policy for people in precarious situations, according to the circular of 2012”.⁴

²<http://www.vie-publique.fr/actualite/alaune/campements-illicites-cadre-action-pour-services-etat.html>

³http://www.romeurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Rapport_2017_20-propositions-1.pdf

⁴ Fondation Abbé Pierre, L'état de mal-logement en France, 22 rapport annuel, 2017, p.104

Note:

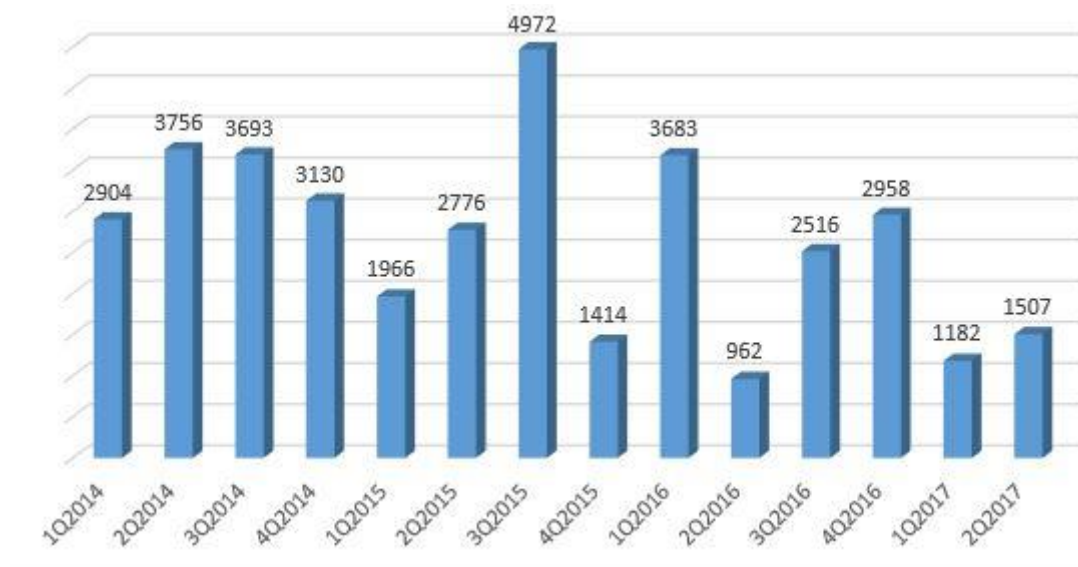
This census is the result of joint work between the League of Human Rights (LDH) and the European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC) with the cooperation of Romeurope. Due to the lack of available official data, this report does not claim to be exhaustive, but does constitute the most detailed and objective account of the current situation of evictions of Romani people in France.

2. Comparison to Previous Periods & Analysis of First Half of 2017

The following tables detail the identified number of evictees, evictions, evacuations and their trends since the first quarter of 2014.

	Number of evictions executed by the authorities	Fire/flood/personal initiative taken under pressure (number)	Number of evacuated living areas	Shelter proposed to some of the evictees	People evicted by the authorities	Number of people evicted because of fire/flood/personal initiative taken under pressure	Total
1Q2014	27	9	36	17	2904	524	3428
2Q2014	38	2	40	18	3756	51	3807
3Q2014	41	2	43	21	3693	74	3767
4Q2014	32	4	36	15	3130	317	3447
Total	138	17	155	71	13483	966	14449
1Q2015	18	2	20	7	1966	110	2076
2Q2015	25		25	6	2776		2776
3Q2015	47	1	48	11	4972	100	5072
4Q2015	21	2	23	5	1414	200	1614
Total	111	5	116	29	11128	410	11538
1Q2016	25	1	26	13	3683	100	3783
2Q2016	13	1	14	4	962	50	1012
3Q2016	21	1	22	13	2516	30	2546
4Q2016	17	4	21	10	2958	165	3123
Total	76	7	83	40	10119	345	10464
1Q2017	12	9	21	9	1182	1189	2371
2Q2017	27	8	29	26	1507	504	2011

Number of people forcefully evicted by the authorities per quarter



Note: These estimates **do not include** removals from a territory following an administrative decision or repatriation by charter ordered by the Office Français de l'immigration et de l'intégration (OFII).

The data collected during the first quarter of 2017 shows that forced evictions executed by the authorities remain extremely high despite the winter period, with 1,182 evictees. Shelter was also proposed on five occasions, although this was only for a limited period. In other words, several hundred people were put on the street without any alternative solutions for shelter during challenging winter conditions. Moreover, 847 people were forced to leave their living areas due to fires as a consequence of the poor living conditions. Thus, a significant increase has been observed compared to the 165 people evicted due to fire during the last quarter of 2016. Temporary shelter was offered on four occasions.

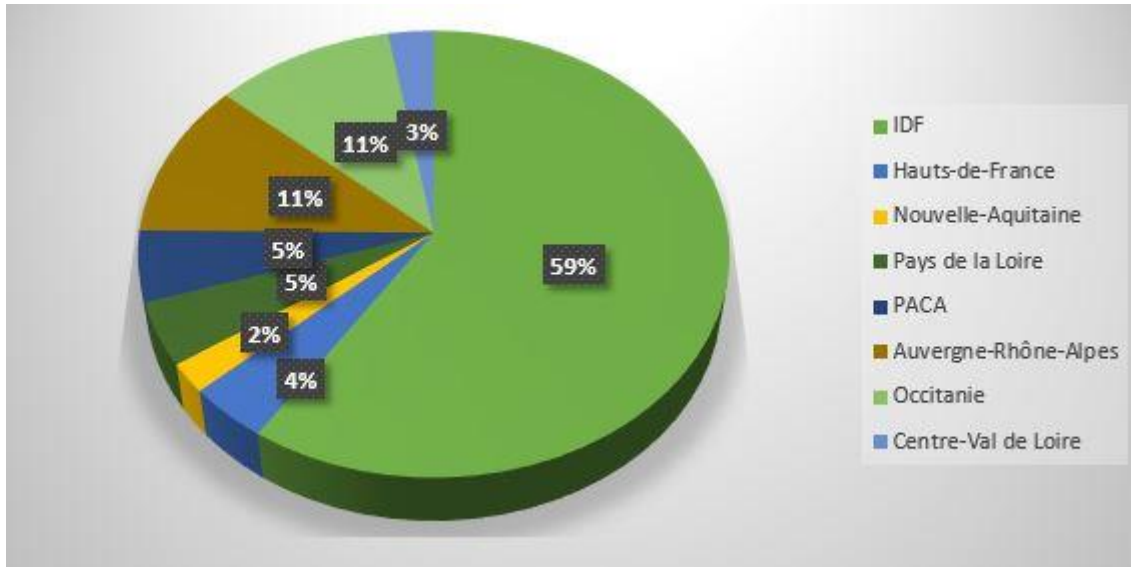
Eleven of the total eighteen evictions observed between January and March were executed following an administrative decision issued by a mayor or Prefect. Eight evictions were carried out based on court decisions. On three occasions, the families left their living areas under pressure of imminent eviction before the arrival of the police.

It should be noted that only in four of the living areas were planned construction projects cited as justification for urgent eviction. The other living areas were not affected by any projects of the landowners.

The second quarter is characterised by a decrease in the number of evictions due to fire, as only one has been reported. However, the number of forced evictions executed by the authorities has significantly increased, to 27 evictions in France during the period, 15 of which were carried out in Île-de-France. Temporary solutions for housing have been proposed on 17 occasions. Fifteen evictions have been carried out following legal decisions, compared to 7 evictions based on health hazard notices issued by mayors or prefects due to dangerous living conditions or insalubrity. Nevertheless the number of public lands (13) subjected to an evacuation remains higher than those one owned by private persons (11). During the second quarter, Roma were evicted from 6 locations because of construction projects.

3. Geographical representation of the evictees by region

From the beginning of the year, the highest number of forced evictions was observed in Ile-de-France region with 27 of the total 50 areas subjected to forced evictions concentrating 59% of the total evictees on national level, followed by Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (11%) et Occitanie avec 11%.



Geographical representation of the evictions according to the number of the operations per region



4. Incidents of Hate Crime & Hate Speech (harassment, rejections, endangerments, threats) and Counter-Statements made by International Bodies

The list below is not exhaustive and provides only a few examples of the acts of violence, hate speech and various forms of discrimination which occurred since the beginning of 2017.

During the first quarter:

- “Please, let us stay here until March-April, we have nowhere to go” said the inhabitants of the slum located at boulevard Ney in the 18th district in Paris. Without other solutions for accommodation the Roma families released an open letter on 27th January 2017 calling on the French authorities for an extension of the deadline for dismantling the slum.⁵
- On 27th of January, Marine Le Pen, a candidate in the French presidential elections and a member of the European Parliament, blamed the Roma population for the alleged insecurity in Denain during a formal visit as part of her election campaign. In a press conference which took place the same day, Le Pen claimed there was a “securityproblem⁶” in Denain “because there are 1,000 Roma over the city”.⁷
- “We really live from day to day, we do not know if we will succeed in eating properly the next day ...” One inhabitant of the slum located near Porte de la Chapelle in Paris alerted the public to the living conditions of more than 500 Roma people who lived in extreme poverty, in makeshift housing, without access to drinking water and any sanitary facilities.⁸
- In its annual report, Abbé-Pierre Foundation highlights the need for a redefinition of the “framework of the national mission to reduce slums”, which has come to an end in 2016. “No matter where they come from, their administrative situation and their location, people forced to live in slums must not continue to be subjected to a security policy of repeated evictions and expulsions without any solution rather than to be subjected to a social policy in regards with people in precarious situations, according to the circular of 2012”.⁹
- On 7th February, the Court of Cession upheld the conviction of Luc Jousse, the former mayor of Roquebrune-sur-Argens for his statements against the Roma, which he had held in 2013. The former

⁵ Open letter, 27 January 2017 : https://paris-luttes.info/home/chroot_ml/ml-paris/ml-paris/public_html/IMG/pdf/2017-01-23_lettre_des_habitants_du_bidonville_boulevard_ney.pdf

⁶ Europe 1, 27 January 2017 : <http://www.europe1.fr/politique/securite-a-denain-nord-marine-le-pen-met-en-cause-1000-roms-2962583>

⁷ France 3, 27 January 2017 : <http://france3-regions.francetvinfo.fr/hauts-de-france/nord-pas-calais/nord/denain/securite-denain-marine-pen-met-cause-1000-roms-1184947.html>

⁸ RFI, *Le quotidien d'un bidonville en France*, 8 February 2017 : <http://www.rfi.fr/hebdo/20170203-roms-paris-porte-poissonniers-roumanie-bidonville-France>

⁹ Fondation Abbé Pierre, *L'état de mal-logement en France*, 22 rapport annuel, 2017, p.104

mayor was sentenced to € 10,000 fine and one year of ineligibility.¹⁰

- “Young Romanian girls” are subjected to different treatment by the court compared to other girls accused of similar acts. “While girls generally avoid prison, this is not the case for Romani adolescents. In some prisons they constitute as much as three-quarters of all incarcerated minors” as shown in the results of the study on the impact of gender stereotypes in the juvenile court conducted by the sociologist Arthur Vuattoux.¹¹
- Education is one of the main factors for successful integration of the Romani population and combating poverty. However, for Roma in France, education remains “an elusive path to integration” because of “systematic discrimination” that Roma face, causing numerous obstacles for the integration of this population.¹²
- Marie-Carole Ciuntu, mayor of Sucy-en-Brie, who was prosecuted for discrimination following the refusal to enroll Romani children in school who have lived in a slum, was relieved when the Court of Appeal reversed this decision, much to the disappointment of the parents who claimed their children are being denied access to education.¹³
- On 7th February a fire broke out in a slum located in Rungis destroying 8-10 shacks. This fire caused considerable losses for several families living in a precarious situation in makeshift shelters.¹⁴ On 16th February the Collectif National des droits de l’homme (National network for Human rights, CNDH in French) published its annual report.¹⁵ The report calls on French presidential candidates to emphasize the need of combatting slums as forms of substandard housing. “After twenty-five years of badly coordinated and destructive public policies for those who concerned, the CNDH calls on the state as well as the public authorities to join forces to create an ambitious and rights-respecting policy for the dismantling of slums”.¹⁶
- Four Romani children have been denied access to education by the municipality of Premesque. Pascale Alliot, (LR party), a deputy mayor in charge of school enrolment justified the refusal for school

¹⁰ Val Matin, 7 February : <http://www.varmatin.com/justice/condamne-pour-ses-propos-sur-les-roms-les-peines-de-lancien-elu-luc-jousse-confirmees-112825>

¹¹ Paris, Street Press, 7 February 2017: <http://www.streetpress.com/sujet/1486463469-prison-filles-roms>

¹² New York Times, 9 February 2017: https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/09/world/europe/for-roma-in-france-education-is-an-elusive-path-to-integration.html?_r=1

¹³ Europe 1, *Une maire accusée d'avoir refusé de scolariser des Roms mise hors de cause*, 10 February 2017: <http://www.europe1.fr/societe/une-maire-accusee-davoir-refuse-de-scolariser-des-roms-mise-hors-de-cause-2974883>

¹⁴ Le Parisien, Rungis : les Roms nettoient leur camp après l’incendie, 8 February 2017: <http://www.leparisien.fr/rungis-94150/rungis-les-roms-nettoient-leur-camp-apres-l-incendie-08-02-2017-6665913.php>

¹⁵ “Twenty proposals for a policy regarding people living in slums and squats, available at: http://www.romeurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Rapport_2017_20-propositions-1.pdf

¹⁶ CNDH Roemurope, press release, 17 February 2017.

enrolment with pending proceedings against the family living without authorisation in an abandoned building: “We are waiting for the results of the proceedings to see if it is worth it or not to enrol the children in school”.¹⁷

- The Court of Appeal of Aix-en-Provence has confirmed the sentence¹⁸ of Jean-Marie Le Pen, President of honour for the National Front party, who was previously sued for his statement against Roma in 2013, claiming the presence of Roma was “urticating” and “odorous”.¹⁹
- “No French family is evicted from his house because its child commits a theft”- claimed Dominique Plancke, an activist member of the Collectif de solidarité Roms (a grassroots NGO) in Lille conglomeration, regarding the eviction of Romani families living in Saint-André. This eviction was carried out after a jogger was attacked near the Romani settlement where Romani teenagers were suspected of being the perpetrators. “I do not endorse the attack, but [I think] the sentence is discriminatory”, said the activist.²⁰
- Franck Sinisi, a local official from the far-right National Front in the Fontaine municipality stood before the disciplinary commission of his party for a statement that he had made on 27th February. During a formal session of the City Council, he had suggested to “remove the gold teeth of Roma” so they could provide “self-funding” of their accommodation in Fontaine. He proposed “the conglomeration should pay the dentist [to remove their gold teeth]”²¹, which was deemed as “unacceptable” but was claimed to be a “bad joke” by Nicolas Bay, the General Secretary of the National Front.²²
- Radost Zaharieva argued that ‘evacuations’ provide the pretext for forced evictions of Roma in France, in an article published on the ERRC Blog, 3rd of March.²³
- On the night of 4th to 5th March, a seventy-year-old man was severely injured after a fire broke out in

¹⁷ France 3, 27 February, Prêmesques: la commune s'oppose à la scolarisation d'enfants roms: <http://france3-regions.francetvinfo.fr/hauts-de-france/nord-pas-calais/nord/lille-metropole/premesques-commune-s-oppose-scolarisation-enfants-roms-1204213.html>

¹⁸ Le Progrès, Roms: Jean-Marie Le Pen condamné à 5 000 euros d'amende en appel, 27 February 2017: http://www.lepoint.fr/justice/roms-jean-marie-le-pen-condamne-a-5-000-euros-d-amende-en-appel-27-02-2017-2107955_2386.php

¹⁹ Le Progrès, Roms: Jean-Marie Le Pen condamné à 5 000 euros d'amende en appel, 27 February 2017: http://www.lepoint.fr/justice/roms-jean-marie-le-pen-condamne-a-5-000-euros-d-amende-en-appel-27-02-2017-2107955_2386.php

²⁰ 20 Minutes, Agressions à la Citadelle, un premier camp démantelé, 2 March 2017.

²¹ Conseil municipal Fontaine, 27 February: <http://ville-fontaine.fr/vie-municipale/conseils-municipaux>

²² Le Monde, Un élu FN en commission de discipline pour avoir proposé de « récupérer les dents en or » des Roms, 21 March.

²³ Radost Zaharieva, ERRC blog, 3rd of March : <http://www.errc.org/blog/bearing-witness-how-evacuations-provide-the-pretext-for-forced-evictions-of-roma-in-france/161>

a slum in Roubaix.²⁴

- “Children living in slums and squats - mainly from Romania and Bulgaria and of Roma ethnicity - are often victims of 'counter refusals' when they submit requests for school enrolment in the city hall. These ‘counter refusals’ are only the visible part of the iceberg: numerous administrative pretexts, delays and abusive requests [for documents] prevent families from having their requests for school enrolment completed. Moreover, once they [Romani children] are enrolled in school, the precarious situation of their families (the poor living conditions, but also repeated forced evictions from slums) does not allow them to follow a continuing education or to study under correct conditions; The societal rejection which they undergo finally pushes the majority of them towards school dropout”.²⁵
- On the night of the 7th March a car parked “only a few meters from the Romani settlement [...]” located at Chazy street in Hellemmes was burned with a Molotov cocktail. A few weeks before this incident “a caravan was burned just after a quarrel occurred between Romani families and some young non-Roma young coming ‘to play’” in the Romani settlement. The inhabitants were forcefully evicted on the morning of 8th March.²⁶
- More than one hundred Roma people were put on the streets due to fire which broke out in their squat in Villeurbanne, reported Lyon Capitale on 14th March.²⁷
- Jean-Luc Munro, a local official from EELV (the so-called ‘green party’) in Loos and an activist supporting Romani families in that municipality, denounced an “attempt at intimidation” for a “solidarity crime” following the court decision of 15th March, condemning the local official for “hurting a police officer with his bike” when he went to the Romani settlement the day the families were evicted.²⁸
- On 16th March the Administrative court cancelled the decision of the mayor of Ris-Orangis to enrol Romani children in a separated class where only Romani children can attend school and ordered him to enrol them in a regular school.²⁹ However the court failed to investigate ethnic discrimination.³⁰

²⁴ La Voix du Nord, 5 March : <http://www.lavoixdunord.fr/127424/article/2017-03-05/feu-de-caravanes-dans-un-campement-precaire-un-homme-grievement-brule>

²⁵ Livre blanc « Pour une République garante des droits de l’enfant », Collectif Agir ensemble pour les droits de l’enfants, March 2017, p.31

²⁶ La Voix du Nord, 13 March: <http://www.lavoixdunord.fr/131908/article/2017-03-13/la-friche-h2d-est-toujours-un-gruyere-d-ou-les-roms-entrent-et-sortent>

²⁷ <http://www.lyoncapitale.fr/Journal/Lyon/Actualite/Actualites/Accident/Villeurbanne-150-Roms-a-la-rue-apres-l-incendie-d-un-entrepot>

²⁸ La Voix du Nord, 15 March: [http://www.lavoixdunord.fr/132805/article/2017-03-15/jean-luc-munro-condamne-pour-avoir-fonce-velo-sur-la-police-une-forme-d](http://www.lavoixdunord.fr/132805/article/2017-03-15/jean-luc-munro-condamne-pour-avoir-fonce-velo-sur-la-police-une-forme-d%20http://www.lavoixdunord.fr/132805/article/2017-03-15/jean-luc-munro-condamne-pour-avoir-fonce-velo-sur-la-police-une-forme-d)

²⁹ Administrative court of Versailles, court decision N°1300665 of 16th March 2017.

³⁰ ERRC, GISTI, LDH, ASEFRR, Press release, 11 May: <http://www.errc.org/article/does-separating-romani-schoolchildren-in->

- On 18th March the Collectif de solidarité Roms in Lille Conglomeration sent a letter of concern to the editor-in-chief of the daily newspaper La Voix du Nord. The NGO expressed its outrage following a press article published by the newspaper called “*La friche H2D est toujours un gruyère d’où les Roms entrent et sortent*” (*The wasteland H2D is still a Gruyère [cheese] from which the Roma enter and go out*).³¹ According to the NGO it is “[...] a violation of the human dignity of the concerned people”. Also the organisation emphasizes the use of the term of "Roma" which is “global and stigmatising” as “some Roma” individual may be involved in the incident reported by the newspaper, not “the Roma”.
- A report released by European Roma rights centre reveals “choking disparities” in access to water and sanitation between Roma and the rest of the population.³² The research conducted in 18 Romani living areas in France has shown that Romani people living in slums and squats often do not have access to drinking water and sanitation.
- In its annual report published on 30th March, the National Consultative Commission for Human Right highlighted the presence of “intensified racism” leading to violations of fundamental rights. Antigypsyism is expressed both by “rejection of the cultural differences” as well as the perception of Roma as a “threat to the national [security] order [...]” powered by political discourse tending to justify the failure of integration initiatives “by the mere attitude of the beneficiaries”. Another example of the rejection of the Roma community is the “ambiguous policy towards slum dismantling, in which the repressive approach being favoured [...]” leading to “organized wandering”.³³
- On 30th March a member of the Gitan community died during his arrest in Seur where he lived with his family. He was “killed”³⁴ during an operation by the police and elite forces called GIGN when he was hit with seven bullets. Police sources say the investigation does not exclude “the possibility of an eventual training” explaining the joint operation of National Police and elite forces leading to the death of the young man.³⁵

During the second quarter:

- On 5th April a French comedy was launched that has sparked many debates because of its stereotypical

[france-violate-the-equality-principle-or-establish-ethnic-discrimination/4574](#)

³¹ La Voix du Nord, 13th of March.

³² ERRC, press release, 21 March: <http://www.errc.org/article/thirsting-for-justice-new-report-reveals-depth-of-discrimination-faced-by-europes-roma-in-accessing-water/4561>

³³ National Consultative Commission for Human rights, report on fighting against racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia, 2016, p.18.

³⁴ Le Parisien, Homme tué dans le Loir-et-Cher : la garde à vue des deux gendarmes levée, 1 April 2017:

<http://www.leparisien.fr/faits-divers/gitan-tue-dans-le-loir-et-cher-la-garde-a-vue-des-deux-gendarmes-levee-01-04-2017-6816342.php>

³⁵ Libération, Emoi après la mort d’un détenu en cavale, 27 April 2017: http://www.liberation.fr/france/2017/04/27/emoi-apres-la-mort-d-un-detenu-en-cavale_1565873

representation of Roma through the movie.³⁶ The comedy called “Warmly Welcome” represents Roma community based on existing stereotypes common in France³⁷. “This movie, full of racist clichés and stigmatizing prejudices, is [like] a mirror showing the different treatment to which Roma are subjected in France³⁸” - says Romeurope in a press release. The comedy has been qualified as racist and dangerous³⁹ promoting a racist caricature of Roma community and stigmatizing this population in France.⁴⁰

- On 8th April, members of the Roma community as well as an Iraqi family accommodated in a church in Roubaix were subjected to a gun attack by “young people from the neighbourhood”.⁴¹ First, they launched stones into the church’s doors and injured one person. Later, two BMW cars came in front of the church where the families were targeted by a gun attack. The authorities opened an investigation.
- NGO’s in Marseille call on the authorities to take measures allowing the local Roma families to benefit from the stabilisation needed for their integration into the French society. “We can try to propose them solutions for insertion through education and employment instead of evicting them from these unoccupied areas”, suggests Caroline Godard from Rencontres tsiganes NGO.⁴²
- “Repeated forced evictions from living areas put the evictees in a vicious circle of poverty, undermine other processes [for social inclusion] (medical care, education, training, employment) and force evictees to only maintain short term objectives and suffer communal feelings of insecurity” says the Belgium newspaper La Libre about slums and squats in Marseille where Roma migrants live, in most of the cases, without access to basic facilities such as drinking water or toilets.⁴³
- On 13th of April Roma families living in slums and squats in Montpellier organised a protest in the city hall of the municipality calling on local authorities to adopt a policy based on the human rights respect making possible social inclusion of the Romani families in Montpellier.⁴⁴
- On 27th April local officials from the Socialist party organised a protest blocking the national road N315 near the Roma slum in Gennevilliers calling on the state authorities to dismantle the slum. This protest was facilitated by an order taken previously by the mayor aiming to close the national road

³⁶http://www.huffingtonpost.fr/valerie-rodrique/a-bras-ouverts-ne-ma-pas-fait-rire-il-ma-ecoeuree_a_22025048/

³⁷<http://www.leparisien.fr/flash-actualite-culture/a-bras-ouverts-la-comedie-sur-les-roms-qui-ne-fait-pas-rire-tout-le-monde-05-04-2017-6828210.php>

³⁸ Romeurope, press release 5th April : <http://www.romeurope.org/a-bras-ouverts-esprit-ferme-communique-cndh-romeurope/>

³⁹http://www.lemonde.fr/cinema/article/2017/04/05/a-bras-ouverts-racisme-a-doses-allopathiques_5106367_3476.html

⁴⁰ Politis, 12 April, 2017 : <https://www.politis.fr/articles/2017/04/un-film-affreux-sale-et-mechant-36679/>

⁴¹ La Voix du Nord, 8 April : http://www.lavoixdunord.fr/145247/article/2017-04-08/une-enquete-apres-des-coups-de-feu-tires-pres-de-l-eglise-saint-paul%23utm_medium=redaction&utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=page-fan-vdn

⁴² 20 Minutes, Marseille: Les associations pour la défense des roms poussent un coup de gueule, 10th April:

<http://www.20minutes.fr/marseille/2047351-20170410-marseille-associations-defense-roms-poussent-coup-gueule>

⁴³ La Libre, Les bidonvilles, une triste réalité de la France de 2017, 11 April 2017 :<http://www.lalibre.be/culture/arts/les-bidonvilles-une-triste-realite-de-la-france-de-2017-reportage-photo-58ecad11cd70e80512c7c1b7>

⁴⁴ Midi Libre, Montpellier : les roms investissent la mairie, 13 April 2017:

N315. Moreover, the protesters used vehicles to block the road provided by the municipality as reported France Soir⁴⁵.

- A protest has been organised in Blois following the murder of Angélo Garand, member of the Gitan community who died during his arrest in Secur. Protesters and the victim's family call for "justice and true" for "everyone".⁴⁶ Aurélie Garand, the sister of the victim states that "often Travellers, face violence [...]" in regards with the death of his brother after who died by "[...] seven bullets, without expecting it, without any possibilities to escape..."⁴⁷
- On 5th May, a fire broke out in a Roma slum located in Wasquehal. The mayor proposed a forced eviction of the "illegal camp" as response to the accident probably caused by the poor living conditions in the settlement.⁴⁸
- On 5th May, the European Roma Rights Centre released a video calling on Emmanuel Macron, candidate for the Presidential elections reaching the second round, for changing the approach toward Roma people living in slums and squats, focusing on forced evictions and anti-Gypsyism. "Short term coercive responses make no-long term sense; discrimination and exclusion is costly and counter-productive. And it brings shame to the Republic", says the organisation.⁴⁹
- One Roma family living in an abandoned farm in Premesque (Nord) has been evicted the day before the proceedings in appeal in regards with an eventual eviction. The French authorities evicted the family before the court issue a judgement, denying them their right to an effective remedy before a national authority (art.13, ECHR).⁵⁰
- A Roma slum located in the 18th district of Paris underwent unlawful evictions. The inhabitants were evicted from on 22th February 2017, facing an eviction for the second time, the first took place one year previously. Without any sustainable solutions for housing, they have come back to the slum at boulevard Ney.⁵¹

⁴⁵<http://www.francesoir.fr/societe-faits-divers/gennevilliers-des-elus-de-gauche-bloquent-la-n315-pour-faire-demanteler-un-camp-insalubre-roms-autoroute-a15-paris-asnieres-sur-seine-enfants-non-scolarises-patrick-leclerc-gauche-pcf>

⁴⁶ La Nouvelle République, Blois : 250 personnes dans la rue réclament justice pour Angelo, 22 April: <http://www.lanouvellerepublique.fr/Loir-et-Cher/Actualite/Faits-divers-justice/n/Contenus/Articles/2017/04/22/Blois-250-personnes-dans-la-rue-reclament-justice-pour-Angelo-3076003>

⁴⁷ La Nouvelle République, Mort d'Angelo : pourquoi une telle violence ?, 31 May: <http://www.lanouvellerepublique.fr/Indre-et-Loire/Actualite/Faits-divers-justice/n/Contenus/Articles/2017/05/31/Mort-d-Angelo-pourquoi-une-telle-violence-3117934>

⁴⁸ La Voix du Nord, La maire redemande «l'expulsion du camp illégal» de Roms après un incendie, 5 May 2017: <http://www.lavoixdunord.fr/157912/article/2017-05-05/la-maire-redemande-l-expulsion-du-camp-illegal-de-roms-apres-un-incendie>

⁴⁹<http://www.errc.org/article/macron-election-call-out/4573>

⁵⁰ La Voix du Nord, 10 May 2017: <http://www.lavoixdunord.fr/160393/article/2017-05-10/la-famille-rom-expulsee-la-veille-de-sa-convocation-devant-le-tribunal>

⁵¹ Le Monde, Dans le dernier bidonville de Paris, 20 May 2017: http://www.lemonde.fr/societe/article/2017/05/20/dans-le-dernier-bidonville-de-paris_5130863_3224.html

- On 17th May 2017, a new study has been released by Trajectoires⁵² regarding slums in France and access to common law for those who live in such places. This study includes a survey which shows that 98% of people living in slums come from Romania and 90% of them identify themselves as Roma.⁵³ According to this research, 30 % of the children living in slums and squats have never been enrolled in school, “which can be explained with the process of ghettoization and/or commuting involving the family. This situation of early school leaving or total absence of school enrolment seem to be totally neglected by public authorities”.⁵⁴
- On 18th May, an open letter has been published by the organisation *Terre d’errance* calling on the French president for a “moratorium” on forced evictions affecting people living in slums and squats, to avoid increasing poverty among the affected individuals as well as to “give sufficient deadlines to local officials, public authorities, inhabitants and organisation [...] to find adapted and human rights respectful solutions”.⁵⁵
- In response to a letter sent in May by Romeurope, the French party “En Marche!”, whose candidate Emmanuel Macron, won the French presidential elections stated: “Destroying [slums] without any alternative solutions is a hypocritical, expensive and inefficient method. Public authorities together with inhabitants, neighbours and NGOs have to find solutions before destroying [slums] or evicting [people], as it leads to the creation of a new camp”.⁵⁶
- On the night of 20th to 21st May, Romani migrants, refugees and asylum seekers originating from Kosovo, Albania and Montenegro, living in a camp near the Alpes stadium at Avenue Valmy in Grenoble, were subjected to an attack by several motorcyclists armed with baseball bats and sticks⁵⁷, who threatened the Romani families and ordered them to leave the place.
- On 22nd May, Roma migrants, refugees and asylum seekers from Kosovo, Albania and Montenegro were subjected to an arson attack in a camp called Valmy in Grenoble⁵⁸. Unknown individuals threw a Molotov cocktail, causing a fire in the camp, burning a car. In a video published by *France 3*, witnesses suspect members of the far-right movement who held a meeting on 20 May near Grenoble.⁵⁹

⁵² <http://www.trajectoires-asso.fr>

⁵³ La Croix, Comment on vit dans les bidonvilles en France, 17 May 2017: <http://www.la-croix.com/France/Exclusion/Comment-vit-bidonvilles-France-2017-05-17-1200847748>

⁵⁴ Trajectoires, Habitats des bidonvilles en France, connaissance des parcours et accès au droit commun, May 2017, p.5.

⁵⁵ Terre d’errance, open lettre, 18 May 2017 : <http://www.romeurope.org/lettre-ouverte-president-de-republique-plus-dexpulsion-solution/>

⁵⁶ <http://www.romeurope.org/reponse-candidats-a-presidentielle-2017/>

⁵⁷ Alpes 1, Grenoble, 22 May: <http://grandgrenoble.alpes1.com/news/locales/18146/grenoble-le-camp-de-valmy-attaqu-de-nuit>

⁵⁸ Place Gre’Net, 23 May: <http://www.placegrenet.fr/2017/05/23/agression-de-migrants-incendie-riverains-excedes-tension-monte-autour-camp-valmy/139137>

⁵⁹ France 3, Nouvelle tentative d’intimidation des migrants installés au camp de Valmy à Grenoble, 23 May: <http://france3-regions.francetvinfo.fr/auvergne-rhone-alpes/isere/grenoble/nouvelle-tentative-intimidation-migrants-installes-au-camp-valmy-grenoble-1259331.html> ; Media Presse-Info, 26 May: <http://www.medias-presse.info/meeting-de-civitas-a-saint-martin-dheres->

- On 13th June, the Court of Appeal in Montpellier condemned the local official M.Domergue to a 1000-euro fine for his statement against Roma that he has made in 2014 during his election campaign. The court qualified it as hate speech targeting “a specific group: the Roma”. The Ligue des droits de l’homme recalls the need of respecting Human rights which are “universal”. “Tolerating violation of the rights of a Roma or other individuals harms Human rights at all”.⁶⁰
- “In Gallieni and elsewhere in the town the Bulgarian Roma or others occupy the sidewalks armed with their false crutches; they go to Paris to beg without paying their tickets [in public transportation] and strip [steal] from [all] French people and Foreigners that they can reach”.⁶¹ This racist statement targeting Roma communities has been published in the municipal newsletter of Bagnolet City on 24th June in an article signed by Mr. Jacques Nio, a local official from the party Les Républicains⁶².
- On 26th June, Romeurope released a paper addressing illegal forced evictions of Roma in France. “We hope to contribute [...]to the Human rights defence of those who continue to be subjected to decision ordering evictions which are not in accordance with the International law standards”.⁶³

5. Detailed results for the first quarter of 2017

[choses-vues-et-entendues/74524/](#)

⁶⁰ Ligue des droits de l’homme, press release, 23 June: <http://www.ldh-france.org/propos-anti-roms-cour-dappel-montpellier-donne-raison-ldh/>

⁶¹ <https://www.valeursactuelles.com/politique/un-elu-lr-les-roms-armes-de-fausses-cannes-depouillent-franciliens-ou-etrangers-85558>

⁶² <http://fr.calameo.com/read/001279362ed5859fc3ed4>; <http://www.ville-bagnolet.fr/index.php/le-maire-et-les-elus.html>

⁶³ Romeurope, press release, 26 June: <http://www.romeurope.org/note-droits-habitants-de-terrain-procedure-dexpulsion/>

Forced evictions of Roma living in France																			
Address	Municipality(es)	Department	Region	Date	Quarter	Total evictees	reason of the eviction				Shelter (1 = partial)	order of the Mayor/ Prefect (48h flagrancy)	Motive			type of the land owner			Source/reaction
							Number of people evicted by the authorities	nbr	Nbr of people evicted because of fire/flood	nbr			legal decision of TGI or TA	personal initiative taken under pressure	Public	building project	Private		
av. Stalingrad	St-Denis	Seine-Saint-Denis	IDF	5/01/17	1Q2017	300	300	1			1	1				1	1	Asset 93, 5 January 2017	
La Briche	St-Denis	Seine-Saint-Denis	IDF	10/01/17	1Q2017	100	100	1			1					1	1	Asset 93, 10 January	
Mont Griffard	Villiers-le-Bel	Val-d'Oise	IDF	31/01/17	1Q2017	47			47	1	1	1			1	1	1	Paris-Vox, 2 February	
Léon-Lagrange street	Noisy-le-Sec	Seine-Saint-Denis	IDF	2/02/17	1Q2017	70	70	1			1						1	Asset, 93	
Ernest-Roche street	Paris, 17th	Paris	IDF	6/02/17	1Q2017	22							22				1	20 Minutes, 7 February	
Léo Lagrange street	Dammarié-lès-Lys	Seine et Marne	IDF	14/02/17	1Q2017	80			80	1		1					1	La République, 14 February	
Berges d'Orly	Orly	Val-de-Marne	IDF	15/02/17	1Q2017	30	30	1				1		1				La Parisien, 15 February	
Formar home for elderly	Pessac	Gironde	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	16/02/17	1Q2017	23	23	1			1				1			Le Figaro, 16 February	
La Savaudière	Carquefou	Loire Atlantique	Pays de la Loire	19/02/17	1Q2017	200							200	1			1	Collectif Romeurope,	
N315	Gennevilliers	Hauts-de-Seine	IDF	22/02/17	1Q2017	100	100	1					1		1			Romeurope, 22 February	
Porte de Chapelle	Paris, 18th	Paris	IDF	22/02/17	1Q2017	200			200	1	1	1					1	Le Parisien, 22 February	
ZAC de la cartonnerie	Dammarié-lès-Lys	Essonnes	IDF	25/02/17	1Q2017	44	44	1				1			1			ASSFR, 25 February	
Porte de Poissoniers	Paris, 18th	Paris	IDF	28/02/17	1Q2017	300	220	1	80		1	1					1	Europe 1, 28 February	
Cornet of the dock Jules	Vitry-sur-Seine	Val-de-Marne	IDF	1/03/17	1Q2017	70			70	1		1					1	Le Parisien, 1 March	
Boulevard Borel	Marseille	Bouches-du-Rhône	PACA	2/03/17	1Q2017	33	33	1				1					1	Rencontres tsiganes, 2	
rue Constantine	St-André	Nord	Hauts-de-France	2/03/17	1Q2017	60	40	1	20		1	1		1				France Info, 2 March	
rue Chanzy, friche H2D	Hellemmes	Nord	Hauts-de-France	8/03/17	1Q2017	22	22	1			1	1			1	1	1	La Voix du Nord, 9 March	
impasse des Arènes	Toulouse	Hauts-Garone	Occitanie	8/03/17	1Q2017	200			200	1	1	1						Actu Côté Toulouse	
entrepôt, rue Decorps	Villeurbanne	Lyon	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	13/03/17	1Q2017	150			150	1	1		1				1	Lyon Capitale, 14 March	
Jonction A3-A86	Bondy	Seine-Saint-Denis	IDF	21/03/17	1Q2017	200	200	1				1			1			Asset 93	
friche industrielle	Nantes	Indre	Centre-Val de Loire	25/03/17	1Q2017	120						1		120	1			Ouest France, 28 March	
						Total 1Q2017	2371	1182	12	847	6	9	11	8	342	9	4	12	

6. Detailed results for the second quarter of 2017

Forced evictions of Roma living in France																				
Address	Municipality(es)	Department	Region	Date	Quarter	Total evictees	reason of the eviction				Shelter (1 = partial)	order of the Mayor/ Prefect (48h flagrancy)	Motive			type of the land owner			Source/reaction	
							Number of people evicted by the authorities	nbr	Nbr of people evicted because of fire/flood	nbr			legal decision of TGI or TA	personal initiative taken under pressure	Public	building project	Private			
Fléger street	Marseille	Bouches-du-Rhône	PACA	2/04/17	2Q2017	24	24	1			1		1				1	1	Rencontres tsiganes, 2 April	
round-about A6	Grign-28-36y	Essonnes	IDF	4/04/17	2Q2017	120	120	1			1				1			1	Le Parisien, 4 April 2017	
Orly Parc	Lagny-sur-Marne	Seine-et-Marne	IDF	4/04/17	2Q2017	100	100	1			1					1			La Marse, 4 April	
parking av. 11 November	Antibes	Côte d'Azur	PACA	5/04/17	2Q2017	100	100	1			1		1					1	Nice-matin, 5 April 2017	
Graviers road	Champlan	Essonnes	IDF	6/04/17	2Q2017	200	35	1			1		165					1	Essonnes Info, 6 April	
av. Jean-Paul Sartre	Marseille	Bouches-du-Rhône	PACA	10/04/17	2Q2017	61	61	1			1	1			1			1	Rencontres tsiganes, 10 April	
Port street (slum La Dalle)	Dammarié-lès-Lys	Seine-et-Marne	IDF	13/04/17	2Q2017	120	30	1			1		90					1	Evasion, 13 April	
Frères Thibaut street	Dammarié-lès-Lys	Seine-et-Marne	IDF	13/04/17	2Q2017	58	58	1			1		1					1	Le Parisien, 13 April	
rue Bernois	Lille	Nord	Hauts-de-France	20/04/17	2Q2017	50	30	1			1		20	1				1	La Voix du Nord, 20 April	
chemin Bailou	Villenave-d'Ornon	Gironde	Nouvelle-Aquitaine	25/04/17	2Q2017	70	70	1			1		1				1	1	Sud-Ouest, 25 April	
route de Malnoue	Champs-sur-Marne	Seine-et-Marne	IDF	27/04/17	2Q2017	15	15	1											Collectif Val Maubée, 27 April	
	Vitrolles	Côte d'Azur	PACA	4/05/17	2Q2017	7	7	1			1								MRAP, 4 May	
Farm	Premesque	Nord	Hauts-de-France	10/05/17	2Q2017	10	10	1			1							1	La Voix du nord, 10 May	
Arenes street	Toulouse	Hérault	Occitanie	10/05/17	2Q2017	273	194	1			1		79					1	La Dépêche, 11 May	
	Dammarié-lès-Lys	Seine-et-Marne	IDF	15/05/17	2Q2017	50	50	1							1				ASSFR, 31	
au General de Gaule	Champs-sur-Marne	Seine-et-Marne	IDF	18/05/17	2Q2017	15	15	1			1							1	Romeurope, Val Maubée	
parcelle N332	Champs-sur-Marne	Seine-et-Marne	IDF	18/05/17	2Q2017	20	20	1			1							1	Romeurope, Val Maubée	
parcelle N6	Champs-sur-Marne	Seine-et-Marne	IDF	18/05/17	2Q2017	30	30	1			1							1	Romeurope, Val Maubée	
parcelle D49	Champs-sur-Marne	Seine-et-Marne	IDF	18/05/17	2Q2017	30	10	1			1		20	1				1	Romeurope, Val Maubée	
Gorge de Loup street	Lyon	Rhône	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	18/05/17	2Q2017	50	50	1			1								C.L.A.S.S.E.S	
quai de Bordeaux	Roubaix	Nord	Hauts-de-France	19/05/17	2Q2017	20	20	1				1						1	La Voix du Nord, 19 May	
av. Flandres	Vasquehal	Nord	Hauts-de-France	19/05/17	2Q2017	5	5	1											Intercollectif 59-62	
camp Valmy	Grenoble	Isère	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	24/05/17	2Q2017	200	156	1			1	1		44				1	Flace Gra Net, 25 May	
Motorway, Croix-Luzet	Villeurbanne	Lyon	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	3/05/17	2Q2017	50			50	1									https://www.radioscoop.com/info	
A.Chavin street	St-Ouen l'Aumône	Val-d'Oise	IDF	9/06/17	2Q2017	36							1	36					Activist	
Stadium	Villeneuve d'Ascq	Nord	Hauts-de-France	20/06/17	2Q2017	12	12	1										1	1	La Voix du nord, 20 June
Central station	Grigny	Essonnes	IDF	2/06/17	2Q2017	40	40	1			1		1					1	1	Colibri / ASEFR, 31
slum called Sibra (chemin de la Pénitence)	Annezy	Haute-Savoie	Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes	22/06/17	2Q2017	45	45	1			1							1	1	Le Dauphiné, 24 June
av. du bois Moussay	Stains	Seine-Saint-Denis	IDF	28/06/17	2Q2017	200	200	1			1							1	1	Secours Catholique, 30
						Total 2Q2017	2011	1507	27	50	1	17	7	15	454	13	6	11		

Annex

Description of the data used in the study

The study identified the name of the living site, the municipality, the number of evictees, the causes of the forced evacuation, rehousing proposals, the legal basis for the eviction (leaving proceedings initiated by the owner of the site, or notice issued by the mayor or the prefect) and the sources of information in each case.

Each forced evacuation is described in the most comprehensive manner and only verifiable information obtained from reliable sources, listed below, is recorded.

Definitions and Vocabulary:

In France, land is evacuated and the person is evicted. In terms of the law, land is evacuated as well as buildings when these measures are taken in an area; an eviction is a process in which these measures relate to a person. On the other hand, the term "living area" defines the place where people live, which could be a slum, a squat, a disused hangar or a functional or non-functional caravan. The name of the living area is mentioned in the source of information, for instance "le Hanul". The exact address is also noted when this information is available.

The municipality refers to where the living area is situated. Cases are frequent when the area overlaps several municipalities, for example: Noisy-le-Grand/Bry-sur-Marne. These cases often lead to confusion: many different reports appear describing the same living area. Particular attention has been paid to this fact in order to guarantee that the information is accurate and not duplicated.

The dates mentioned in the study refer to the day on which the forced eviction took place.

The number of evicted persons is always mentioned in the source of information.

The forced eviction might result from expulsion for illegal occupation or health hazards or an accident (fire). In many cases several events have a cumulative effect. For example, in Massy (Essonne) in 2010, there was the distribution of a OQTF (Obligation to leave the French territory document), a fire, an eviction order, confinement, voluntary returns (ARV in French), forced returns as well as the destruction of what remained of the living area by the municipal authorities.

When solutions for housing are mentioned in the source of information, it is also mentioned in the figures. They are usually partial, because in most of the cases, they separate families, and concern only mothers with

young children whom are given emergency accommodation for a few days. For this reason, they are often refused by those people they are offered to.

The nature of the decision certifying the evacuations is recorded. It can be taken by the Court (Magistrate' Court, Regional Court, Administrative Court, Court of appeal), or can be provoked by a notice for health hazards or other dangers ordered by a municipality or a Prefect.

The number of unforced departures is recorded as well. In general these are often provoked by police harassment or threats.

The owner of the land may be a private person or public body. The category "public" includes municipalities, departments, local or national authorities, as well as any other body under the State authority (for example Réseau Ferré de France). The category "private" includes private legal entities or physical persons.

The "source" is the origin of the information. The same case can be present in many sources. Each source is recorded. Only the most reliable and the most accurate were selected: press and media articles, press releases, and direct testimonies transmitted and broadcast by an NGO.