



Journalists Without Protection

Arrests of journalists

From January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020

June 2020

**A Report from the Forum for
Development and Human Rights
Dialogue**



Arrests of journalists from January 1 to May 31, 2020

In cases monitored during this period, the charges varied between joining a group founded contrary to the provisions of the Constitution and the law, spreading false news, insulting the judiciary, filming without a permit, and disturbing of security and public peace.

Following is a table showing the number of cases monitored:

No.	Date of Arrest	Case number	Journalist's Name	The Newspaper	Type of Accusation	The Arrest and its Cause	What Happened in it
1	June 24, 2020	---	Noura Younis	Editor-in-Chief of almanassa site	Managing a website without a license	She was arrested from the website's office on Wednesday, June 24, 2020	She hasn't been investigated
2	June 16	---	Aouni Nafi	Journalist and sports critic	-----	He was arrested after returning from Saudi Arabia while in quarantine in a university city	He hasn't been investigated yet
3	June 15	535 for 2020 حصر امن دولة عليا	Mohamed Munir	Journalist-Editor-in-Chief of ElDyar, former Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Youm7	Participation of a terrorist group in achieving its objectives, spreading false news, and abusing social media sites	He was arrested from his home in Sheikh Zayed area.	He was interrogated on June 15, 2020 and held for 15 days pending investigation.
4	May 20	حصر امن دولة عليا 535 for 2020	Shaimaa Samy	Freelance journalist	Participation of a terrorist group, publication and broadcast of false news and statements and the use of a social media account	She was arrested from her home in Alexandria on May 20th	She was interrogated on May 30th and the prosecution decided to detain her for 15 days pending investigation
5	May 17	8009 for 2020 Maadi Misdemeanours	Lina Atallah	Mada Masr Editor-in-Cheif	Military facility photography	She was arrested in the vicinity of Tora prison during an interview with Laila Suef, the mother of Alaa Abdel Fattah	Released on May 17, 2020 on bail EGP2000 pending the case



No.	Date of Arrest	Case number	Journalist's Name	The Newspaper	Type of Accusation	The Arrest and its Cause	What Happened in it
6	April 28	558/Supreme State Security Prosecution for 2020	Khaled Ghonem	Journalist and broadcaster for Masr AlHayah Channel	Spreading false news and the improper use of social media	For publishing criticisms about Corona	April 28, 2020. 15 days imprisonment
7	April 27	558/Supreme State Security Prosecution for 2020	Ahmed Allam	AlKarama journalist and a TV editor	Joining a terrorist group, spreading false news and the improper use of social media	He was arrested from his home in Ayyat for his connection with a program broadcast on Al Jazeera	Imprisoned on April 27, 2020 for 15 days
8	April 14	558/Supreme State Security Prosecution for 2020	Atef Hassab Allah	Editor-in-Chief of Al-Qarar al-Dawli Newspaper	Joining a terrorist group and spreading false news	For a post he wrote on his Facebook page commenting on the numbers Corona cases, and criticizing the official numbers from the state	Imprisoned on April 14, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation
9	April 7	558/Supreme State Security Prosecution for 2020	Ashraf Ramadan Hijazi	YouTuber	Spreading false news and the improper use of social media	Publishing comic videos about the streets on a YouTube channel	Imprisoned on April 11, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation
10	April 7	558/Supreme State Security Prosecution for 2020	Abdullah Jumaa Abdul Ghani	Photographer	Spreading false news and the improper use of social media	Publishing comic videos about the street on YouTube channel	Imprisoned on April 11, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation
11	May 11, 2020	586/Supreme State Security Prosecution for 2020	Haitham Hassan Abd Al-Aziz	Almasry alyoum Journalist	Joining and financing a terrorist group and spreading false news	Working with Qatar's Al Jazeera	Imprisoned on May 13, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation
12	May 5	586/Supreme State Security Prosecution for 2020	Moataz Allah Abd Alwahab	Producer	Joining and financing a terrorist group and spreading false news	Working with Qatar's Al Jazeera	Imprisoned on May 11, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation
13	May 16	586/Supreme State	Sameh Hanen	Journalist and Director	Participation of a terrorist group in	Preparing a documentary about	Imprisoned on May 16, 2020



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		Security Prosecution for 2020			achieving its objectives	Tholathy Adwa'a El Masrah and selling it to Al Jazeera	for 15 days pending investigation
14	April 12	1530/Supreme State Security Prosecution for 2020	Mustafa Saqr	Editor-in-Chief of Al Borsa website	Participation of a terrorist group in achieving its purposes, spreading false news and improperly using social media	He was arrested on April 12 from his home	Imprisoned on April 13, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation
15	January 14	277 for 2020	Hussein Al-Qabbani, Hussein Abbas, Abdul Salam Mohammed	Anadolu Agency Journalists	Joining the Muslim Brotherhood, spreading false news and improperly using social media	They were arrested on January 14 from their headquarters in Anadolu Agency	They were released on bail of EGP10,000 on January 19th
16	-----	1898 for 2020	Moataz Wednan	Huffington Post Arabi journalist	Promoting terrorist acts	Investigated for another case	Imprisoned on May 9, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation
17	-----	1898 for 2020	Mustafa Al Aser	Freelance journalist	Promoting terrorist acts	Investigated for another case	Imprisoned on May 9, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation
18	December 23	1306 for 2020 (Bulaq)	Yahya Khalafallah	Head of Yqeen News Network	Joining a group established contrary to the provisions of the law, preventing state institutions and authorities from carrying out their work, and spreading false news about the political and economic conditions in the	Arrested on December 23, 2019	Imprisoned on February 7, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation



No.	Date of Arrest	Case number	Journalist's Name	The Newspaper	Type of Accusation	The Arrest and its Cause	What Happened in it
					country with the intention of disturbing public peace		
19	February 29	----	Immed Suba'a	Journalist, former director of al-Aqsa Tv office	Spreading false news and belonging to the Muslim Brotherhood terrorist group	He was arrested in front of al-Hamad Mosque in the fifth settlement during the funeral prayers on Dr. Mohammed Amara on February 29	Imprisoned on March 2, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation
20	January 1	-----	Mohammad Haidar Imad Qandil	Photojournalist at Al-Dustour newspaper	-----	Arrested from his home in Al Gharbia province on January 1, 2020	He hasn't been investigated yet
21	February 16	---	Mohammed Al Sayed Attia (Mohammed Al-Attar)	UltraSawt	-----	Arrested from his home in Pyramids Gardens on February 16, 2020	Detained in the custody of unknown cases
22	April 20	-----	Wael Abbas	Photographer and blogger	-----	Filming tourist places in Wadi Degla	April 20, 2020 Released
23	March 9	-----	Basma Mustafa	Journalist in several websites, Mada Masr	-----	Detained for photographing the crowd waiting to get their PCR test in front of central laboratories of the Ministry of Health	She was released several hours later

The following is a brief statement of each case in order in order of the table.

Tower 101, Al-Amal Extension, Autostrad, Maadi, Second Floor, Apartment 24, Cairo



1. **Nora Younis**, editor-in-chief of the almanassa site, was arrested on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 from inside the website's office, and charged with managing a site without a license, according to her lawyer, which has not yet been investigated.
2. **Aouni Nafi**, a journalist and sports critic, was arrested on June 16, 2020 after returning from Saudi Arabia while he was quarantining in a university city for criticizing the Ministry of Emigration's treatment of detainees returning from abroad, and has not yet been investigated.
3. **Mohammed Munir**, editor-in-chief of El-Dyar and former Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Youm7, was arrested from his home in Sheikh Zayed area on June 15, 2020, accused in case No. 535/Supreme State Security Prosecution of 2020. The prosecution charged him with aiding a terrorist group in achieving its objectives, spreading false news and misusing social media websites. He was interrogated on June 15 and the prosecution decided to imprison him for 15 days pending investigations.
4. **Shaimaa Sami**, a freelance journalist, was arrested on May 20, 2020 from her home in Alexandria. She was accused in the case no. 535/Supreme State Security Prosecution of 2020, and was investigated on May 30 by the Supreme State Security Prosecution in case No. 535 of 2020 and the prosecution charged her with the participation of a terrorist group and the publication and broadcast of false news and statements in addition to using an account on a social media platform to spread and broadcast false news. The prosecution decided to imprison her for 15 days pending investigation.
5. **Lina Atallah**, journalist and editor-in-chief of Mada Masr, was arrested on Sunday, May 17, 2020, from the vicinity of Tora prison during an interview with Laila Suef, the mother of Alaa Abdel Fattah. She was accused in case No. 8009 of 2020 of Maadi misdemeanours, interrogated in the prosecution of Maadi and was charged with photographing a military facility. She was released on bail of EGP2,000 pending investigation.
6. **Khaled Ghoneim**, a journalist and presenter for Masr AlHayah Channel, was arrested from his home in Alexandria on April 13. He is accused in case No. 558/Supreme State Security Prosecution of 2020, and accused by the prosecution of joining a group founded in violation of the law and spreading false news and misusing of social media in connection with publications



he wrote on the social networking site Facebook related to the Coronavirus. The state security prosecution decided on April 28, 2020 to imprison him 15 days pending investigations.

7. **Ahmed Allam**, a journalist for al-Karama newspaper and a television editor who was arrested from his home in Ayyat, Giza governorate, on April 21, 2020 in connection with a program broadcasted on Al Jazeera. He was accused in case No. 558/Supreme State Security Prosecution of 2020, for joining a terrorist group, spreading false news and misusing social media. The prosecution decided on April 27, 2020 to imprison him 15 days pending investigation.
8. **Atef Hassallah**, editor-in-chief of Al-Qarar al-Dawli Newspaper, was arrested in front of his home in Aswan province on March 18, 2020. He was accused in case No. 558/Supreme State Security Prosecution of 2020, and charged by the prosecution with charges including joining a terrorist group and posting false news on a post he wrote on his facebook page commenting on the number of people infected with Coronavirus, and criticizing the official numbers received from the state. The prosecution decided on April 14, 2020 to imprison him for 15 days pending investigation.
9. **Ashraf Ramadan Hijazi**, a YouTuber who was arrested on April 7, 2020 in front of his home in Demira village in al-Daqahliya governorate for publishing comic videos about the streets in his channel "Ashraf Reda" on YouTube. He was accused in the case No. 558/Supreme State Security Prosecution for the year 2020, and the prosecution charged him with spreading false news and misusing social media sites. On April 11, 2020 the prosecution decided to imprison him for 15 days pending investigation.
10. **Abdullah Juma Abdul Ghani**, a photographer, was arrested on April 7, 2020 in front of his home in al-Daqahlia. He was accused in case No. 558/Supreme State Security Prosecution of 2020. The prosecution charged him with several charges including spreading false news and misusing social media because of his participation in the filming of comic videos in the streets with YouTuber Ashraf Ramadan Hijazi, and on April 11, 2020. The prosecution decided to imprison him for 15 days pending investigations.
11. **Haitham Hassan AbdelAziz**, a journalist for **Almasry alyoum** newspaper, was arrested on May 11, 2020, accused in case No. 586/Supreme State Security Prosecution of 2020. The prosecution charged him with joining a terrorist group and publishing and broadcasting false



news in connection with his cooperation with the Qatari channel Al Jazeera, and the prosecution decided on May 13, 2020 to imprison him for 15 days pending investigations.

12. **Moataz Allah Abdul Wahab**, a producer, was arrested from the headquarters of his company in Maadi on May 5, 2020, accused in case No. 586/Supreme State Security Prosecution of 2020. The prosecution charged him with participating with a terrorist group and radio and spreading false news, on the basis of working with the Qatari channel Al Jazeera. The prosecution decided on May 11, 2020 to imprison him 15 days pending investigation.
13. **Sameh Hanin**, a journalist and the director of the film The Life of the Pope, was arrested on May 16, 2020. He was accused in case No. 586/Supreme State Security Prosecution of 2020. The prosecution charged him with aiding a terrorist group in reaching its purposes after preparing a documentary about Tholathy Adwa'a El Masrah and selling it to Al Jazeera. The prosecution decided to imprison him for 15 days pending investigations.
14. **Mustafa Saqr**, editor-in-chief of Al Borsa website and owner of Business News, was arrested on April 12, 2020, accused in case No. 1530/Supreme State Security Prosecution of 2020. The prosecution charged him with joining an unknown group and decided on April 14, 2020 to imprison him for 15 days pending investigations.
15. **Hussein al-Qabbani, Hussein Abbas, and Abdessalam Mohamed**, journalists of the Anadolu Agency, were arrested on January 14, 2020 from the agency's headquarters and accused in case No. 277 of 2020. The prosecution charged them with joining the Muslim Brotherhood terrorist group, spreading false news and abusing social media sites. They were released on bail of EGP10,000 on January 19, 2020.
16. **Moataz Wednan**, Huffington Post Arabi journalist, accused in case No. 1898 of 2020, charged by the prosecution on May 9, 2020 with promoting terrorist acts. The prosecution decided to imprison him for 15 days pending investigations, two days after his release under guarantee of their place of residence pending case 441 of 2018.
17. **Mustafa Al-Assar**, a journalist, accused in case No. 1898 of 2020, was charged by the prosecution on May 9, 2020 with promoting terrorist acts. The prosecution decided to imprison him for 15 days pending investigation, two days after his release under guarantee of their place of residence pending case 441 of 2018.



18. **Yahya Khalafallah**, a journalist and former director of Yqeen News Network, was arrested on December 23, 2019, interrogated in the prosecution of Boulog Al-Dakrou, charged with joining a group founded contrary to the provisions of the law, preventing state institutions from carrying out their work, spreading false news about the political and economic situation in the country with the intention of disturbing public peace. He was detained on February 7, 2020 for 15 days pending investigation.
19. **Ahmed Suba'a**, a journalist, former director of al-Aqsa TV office, was arrested in February 2020 in front of al-Hamad Mosque in the Fifth Settlement during the funeral prayer on Dr. Mohammed Amara. He was interrogated on March 2, 2020 and charged by the prosecution with the same previous charges regarding the dispersal of the Rab'a Square from spreading false news and belonging to the Muslim Brotherhood terrorist group. The prosecution decided to imprison him for 15 days pending investigation.
20. **Mohammed Haidar Imad Qandil**, a photojournalist for Al-Dustour newspaper, was arrested from his home on January 1, 2020 from his home in Al-Gharbia province, and has not yet been investigated.
21. **Mohamed El Sayed Attia (Mohammed al-Attar)**, a journalist at UltraSawt, was arrested from his home in Pyramids Gardens on February 16, 2020, and interrogated on March 17 while in custody in connection with other cases.
22. **Wael Abbas**, a blogger, photographer and owner at Misr Digital (Egyptian Awareness), was detained on April 20 for photographing tourist destinations in the Wadi Degla in Maadi, and was released on the same date several hours later.
23. **Basma Mustafa**, a journalist for several websites, was detained on March 9, 2020 for photographing the crowd waiting to get their PCR test in front of central laboratories of the Ministry of Health and was released several hours later.



Table showing the number of those arrested by gender (Males, Females)

Males	Females	Total
21	4	25

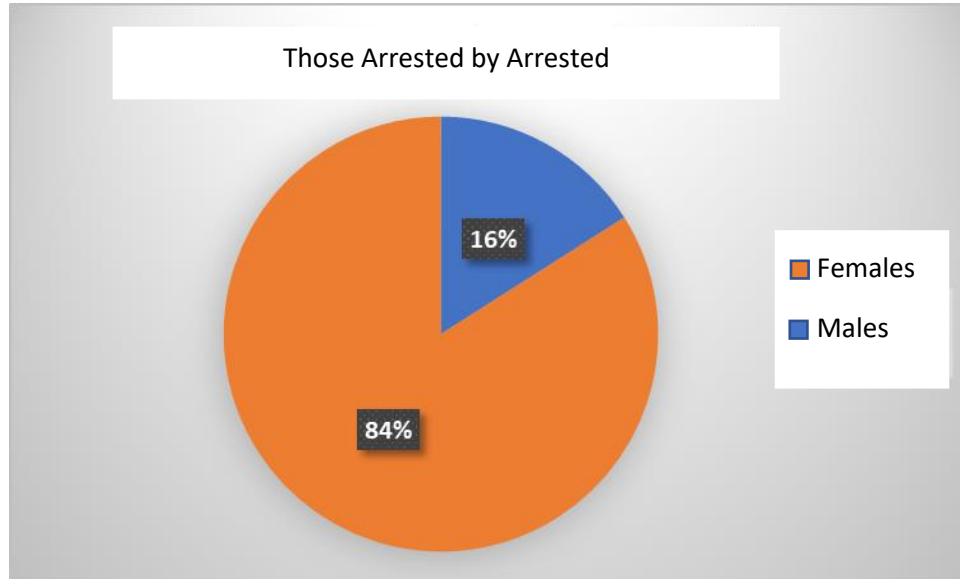


Table showing the numbers of journalists in pretrial detention and the number of released

Number of Journalists Remanded in Custody	Number of Journalists Released	Total
16	9	25

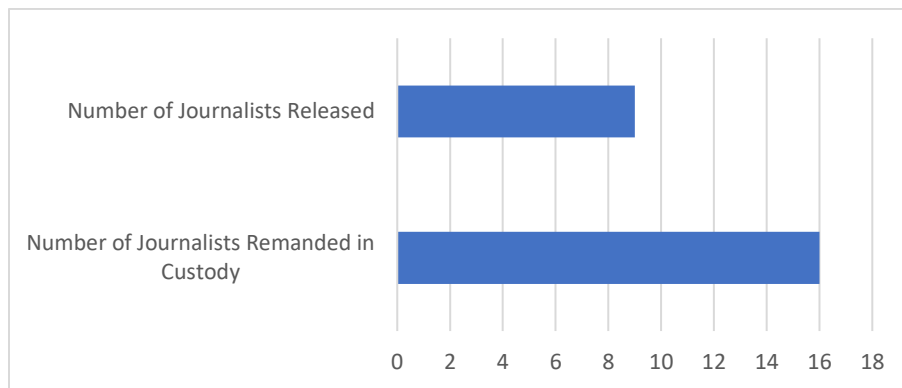




Table showing the numbers of journalists detained according to the type of accusation

Number of journalists in criminal cases	Number of journalists in issues of freedom of opinion and expression	Haven't been investigated yet (Unknown Cases)	Total
19	2	3	25

