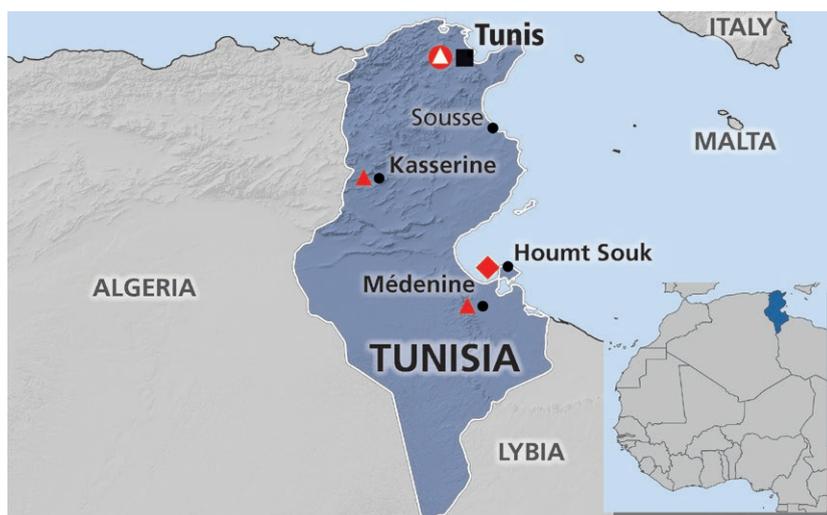


“DEMOCRACY WITHOUT BORDERS” PROJECT IN TUNISIA



CONTEXT

Since the beginning of 2014, considerable progress has been made in the political process of transformation and democratisation, including the adoption of a new constitution which must now be implemented. Parliamentary and presidential elections due at the end of 2014 will mark a further milestone. Since 2011, the media and civil society have become noticeably more open. However although considerable progress has been made there are still challenges ahead if Tunisia is to succeed in stabilising its young democracy. These include developing the economy and creating employment, providing security through a legitimate security apparatus, and consolidating the democratic institutions.

In response to the events of 2011, the Federal Council decided on 11 March 2011 to prepare a medium-term programme for Switzerland’s commitments in Tunisia. The programme for North Africa 2011-2016, based on an approach which integrates the various federal agencies, focuses on the topics of democratic transition and human rights, economic development and employment, as well as migration and protection.

Swiss Representations

-  Embassy (International cooperation division)
-  Field office
-  Honorary representation

Since the “Arab Spring” in 2011, there has been an important process of transformation and democratisation in Tunisia. Through the “Democracy without borders” project, Switzerland is supporting the promotion of women in politics, strengthening independent media coverage and helping to reform the security and justice sector.



Election posters in Tunisia.
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ACTIVITIES PLANNED WITH DEMOCRACY WITHOUT BORDERS:

The activities planned in Tunisia in the framework of the “Democracy without borders” initiative dovetail with Switzerland’s existing commitment and have the following objectives:

- To promote the role of women in Tunisian politics (e.g. by means of exchanges between selected Tunisian parliamentarians and Swiss politicians).
- To promote independent media coverage of high quality.
- To provide technical expertise and move forward with the reform of the justice and security sector.

The planning of these concrete activities is currently under way.



Promoting independent media coverage of high quality. Copyright: Fondation Hironnelle

THE PROJECT IN BRIEF

Topic: Support for democratic transition

Country/region: Tunisia

Partners: Various

Project objectives: Promoting the role of women in politics; promoting independent media coverage; reform of the justice and security sector

Target groups: Tunisian politicians, security and justice apparatus, media sector, indirectly: Tunisian citizenry

Cost: approx. CHF 100,000

Duration: As yet undetermined

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