



ATUC Condemns the Use of Violence against Teacher Trainees in Morocco

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AMMAN— The Arab Trade Union Confederation (ATUC) denounced the use of violence in Morocco to disperse protests organized by teacher trainees on Thursday in several cities of the country.

Thousands of police personnel interfered in these protest using force which resulted in many injuries among teacher trainees who were protesting peacefully.

Teacher trainees, have been protesting since the beginning of the current school year- three months ago- after the government refused to meet their demands.

Police “used excessive force” to disperse teachers who were holding placards that read “no to the two decrees.”

The first decree that teachers were against entails that teachers’ scholarships should be reduced from MAD 2000 to MAD 1200 per month. The second decree implied that the training would not allow the trainees to join the teaching profession. According to the same decree, teachers will have to sit for another qualifying exam. If they fail, trainees will only earn a diploma, which will not help them get a job as teachers in public sector.

In addition to teachers, their families and supporters from other sectors took to the streets in different cities of the country before being disbursed by the police.

According to reports, 100 protesters were injured in Enzekan city that witnessed the most violent act, 15 in Casablanca and Tanja and 10 in Fes.

As the ATUC condemned the use of force against protesters, it also expressed its support to the Moroccan trade union confederations in their calls to hold those responsible for this act accountable.

The ATUC represented by all its networks- media, women and youth- also announced its full support to the teacher trainees and stressed that the use of violence is against international human rights conventions.