

## PRESS RELEASE

### THE NANTES BAR ASSOCIATION'S « REFUGE » PROGRAM

Like any professional worker who commits for freedoms, lawyers are threatened, prosecuted, imprisoned for the mere fact of exercising their profession. They are targeted for vouching for freedoms and the Rule of law against the arbitrary and the authoritarian State.

**The Nantes Bar** has made a commitment to take concrete action to provide fellow lawyers with help and protection by mobilizing to support **the “REFUGE” program**.

The REFUGE program consists in offering a solution for temporary accommodation in a safe place for lawyers who are threatened in their professional activity or who face disbarment measures and ethical sanctions unfairly imposed because of the nature of the cases they are involved with.

This program aims to offer beneficiary lawyers the opportunity to move away from their countries for a limited period of time in order to flee a threatening environment and to protect them from immediate danger. The objective of the program is therefore to allow a time of respite and a safe place for these lawyers to work, rest and possibly organize a safer future without being the object of immediate threats.

This operation is carried out by the Nantes bar, in cooperation with other French bars, lawyers institutions and local authorities, to guarantee the efficiency and effectiveness of the reception of lawyers in danger.

Lawyers wishing to benefit from this program can contact : [refuge@barreaunantes.fr](mailto:refuge@barreaunantes.fr)

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