



AMARC Europe - World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters
AMARC Europe – Association Mondiale des Radios Communautaires
AMARC Europa – Asociación Mundial de Radios Comunitarias

AMARC condemns the Fascist Attack on our Member in France

Brussels, 14th May 2020

AMARC has received the information that on Sunday 10th May 2020 a group of masked persons have violently forced their way into the premises of Radio d'Ici, the local community radio station and long-term AMARC member, in Saint-Julien-Molin-Molette, Department Loire, France. During the attack the studio was vandalised, and fascist and white supremacist symbols were painted on the walls and sound, recording and studio equipment have been destroyed by the attackers.

Radio d'Ici was founded 1996 and operates three frequencies with a total technical reach of 50,000 persons and facilitates the productions of over forty volunteers. Fortunately, no radio staff has been harmed during the attack. However, the FM live broadcast via studio has been suspended due to the incurred damages, but the operations and production will continue via internet and podcasts. French Community Radio pioneer and chair of Radio d'Ici Patrice Berger states "This attack is inexplicable, but it was obviously targeted. We will continue our information and cultural work. In this difficult time, it is a work of contact, support and friendship between people. We will bounce back very quickly. "

AMARC strongly condemn the attack against its member as an attack directed against press freedom, freedom of expression, media pluralism and the whole community media movement as a platform of critical and underrepresented voices in Europe and worldwide.

In France Community Radios are key actors in the context of social cohesion, contribute to the strengthening of democratic structures and media diversity, are diverse and locally embedded sources of information, provide low-threshold access for marginalised groups and offer a platform for the acquisition of critical media information and literacy skills.

We demand a full investigation of the incident and the government's support to ensure the re-opening of the community radio for broadcasting and provide access for staff, volunteers and the local population the airwaves.

In solidarity with our members in France, Europe and around the world!

Contact for further inquiries

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En solidarité avec nos membres en France, en Europe et dans le monde!

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