



RED HELMETS FOUNDATION

Report of Activity
2009/2010

FOR RED HELMETS AT THE UN



There is no doubt that 2010 has been marked by the terrible Haitian tragedy. Some will keep in mind the images of thousands of victims who died under the rubbles; others will remember the unprecedented mobilisation of the international community and the peoples' incredible generosity. For the humanitarian community, it is again the disorganisation of relief that will be one of the main lessons of this catastrophe.

On the day following the earthquake, I went to Port-au-Prince to accompany the deployment mission of our telecommunication container, Emergesat. Despite NGOs massive efforts, Haiti was plunged into chaos for several weeks. The Haitian President, first witness of humanitarian action's lack of coordination, immediately joined my cause for the creation of Red Helmets at the UN. His call, launched on the grounds of the most symbolic places of the disaster, was rapidly rallied. It won the adhesion of the Vatican, the African Union, and of the Gabonese, Burkinabe, Malian, Togolese, Cambodian, Slovak and Lebanese Presidents, who all wish to carry the Red Helmets to the UN's rostrum.

Consciousness has arisen in face of evidence. No single place on earth is sheltered from upcoming catastrophes. As long as the necessary measures will not be taken, the issue of coordinated emergency relief will never be settled.

Before we forget Haiti and until the next Tsunami, we will continue to advocate in favour of the creation of an international humanitarian force under the umbrella of the UN, in order to guarantee everyone's right to be rescued. Next time, we will not be forgiven for not coping efficiently with the emergency of a humanitarian disaster.

In order to reinforce the capacities of humanitarian actors, the Red Helmets Foundation relentlessly innovates and proposes innovative technological performances. Thanks to the Internet, we are currently developing a global search engine for missing people. MISSING will be released in late 2010 and will facilitate the search by centralising testimonies.

In the next months, we will again invite young students to make use of their creativity to win the Challenge Humanitech. Authors will also be honoured as they will share their unique experiences during the next Humani'BOOK fair.

We are determined to bring humanitarian action into a new era.

Nicole Pécot

SUMMARY



ZOOM on...Haïti

« We could have saved many more lives thanks to coordination in Haiti [...] »

On January the 12th, a 7.3 magnitude earthquake devastated Haiti causing the death of more than 230 000 persons. Despite an unprecedented mobilisation of the international community, we observed the most important disorganisation of emergency relief in recent years. Haitian President, René Préval, first witness of this chaos, therefore launched a « Call for Red Helmets » during Nicole Guedj's visit in Port-au-Prince.

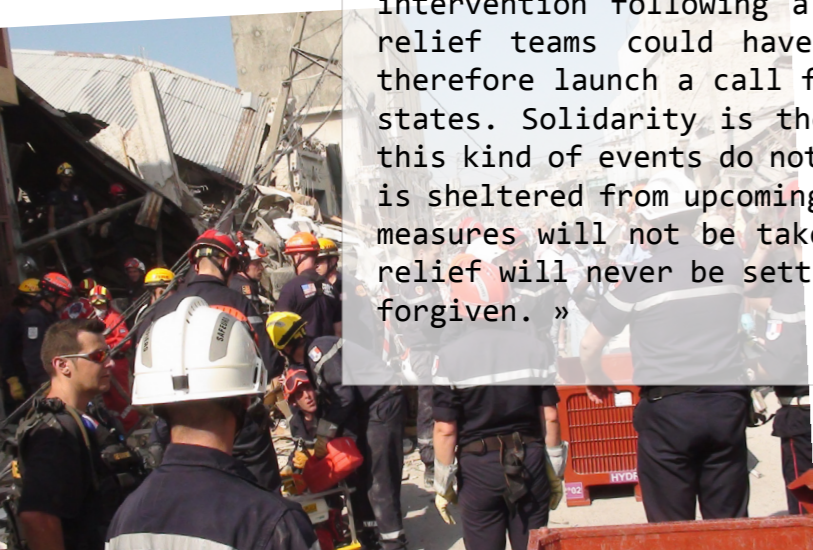
A month later, international headlines relayed the Haitian President and Nicole Guedj's advocacy for the creation of Red Helmets at the UN.

the humanitarian action has to be coordinated at the UNO scale »

Nicole Guedj.



« Haiti could have been avoided and it will not have needed much time to realise that we have not remembered the lessons of the Tsunami. Through lack of organisation and coordination [of emergency relief], we lost time and too many human lives. (...) A command structure assessing precisely what resources were available would have been needed to manage the emergency properly. A rapid reaction force that would have organised the intervention following a scheme and coordinated the action of relief teams could have made a significant change. (...) We therefore launch a call for consensus, directed to all heads of states. Solidarity is the reason why they have to ensure that this kind of events do not happen again. No single place on earth is sheltered from upcoming catastrophes. As long as the necessary measures will not be taken, the issue of coordinated emergency relief will never be settled. However, next time, we will not be forgiven. »



The Red Helmets Foundation restores telecommunications in Haiti

AFP. 13/01/2010

On request of the French Ministry of Foreign affairs, within a few hours after the disaster, the Red Helmets Foundation sent its communication container, Emergesat, to Port-au-Prince. Thanks to this humanitarian tool, realised in partnership with the «Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales» and «Thales Alenia Space», no less than 19 178 phone communications were established; the equivalent of more than 1 352 hours of communication.



Sandrine Bacquet, member of the « Pompiers Humanitaires Français » NGO stated :

« I was in Haiti. Thanks to the Red Helmets' communication system, I could make use of a computer and could communicate. This, in turn enabled better relief coordination. A great Thank You! »



INTERNATIONAL DONORS' CONFERENCE TOWARDS A NEW FUTURE FOR HAITI



« Nations' generosity has to be disciplined. »

René Préval, in his opening speech of the International Donors' Conference towards a New Future for Haiti.



Three months after the earthquake which devastated Haiti, Nicole Guedj wished to express her support to the Haitian people. She did so by participating to the international conference of countries donating in favour of the reconstruction of Haiti, which took place in New York, on March 31st 2010.

At the United Nations' stand, in front of all member states, the Haitian President reaffirmed the « necessity to create an international humanitarian task force, under the umbrella of the UN, in order to coordinate the response to upcoming natural catastrophes. »

« International aid has to be coordinated upstream to be efficient. »

In parallel to the international conference which enabled to gather 5 billion Euros for Haiti, Nicole Guedj and René Préval met with the UN's General Secretary to evoke the Red Helmets project.

Ban Ki moon showed a particular interest for this proposition and declared that it needed to be studied:

« We need to improve this coordination. [...] There need to be an immediate assistance. »



ON THE SIDE OF PUBLIC OPINION...

THE MANIFEST

FOR RED HELMETS AT THE UN

NICOLE GUEDJ



POUR DES CASQUES ROUGES À L'ONU

In an Opinion Way poll commissioned by the Red Helmets, French public opinion massively denounced the bad management of the Haitian humanitarian crisis. These findings were later published in one of France's major newspapers, *Le Figaro*.

In this book, published on 10 September 2009, the author exposes the means towards the invention of efficient and long-term humanitarian action, so as to face the consequences of environmental upheavals.

94%

of Frenchmen say to be in favour of the creation of an international humanitarian reaction force placed under the leadership of the UN.

91%

The natural catastrophe which struck Haiti and its population has profoundly moved the French. 91% declared to feel concerned by the situation and are interested in the relief brought to the populations in great suffer.

« From the Tsunami in Myanmar, to hurricane Katrina in Louisiana, to the earthquake in Sichuan, the international community has assisted to the rise of a real humanitarian phenomenon. Beyond the engagement of field workers and the availability of more and more means, it is time to optimise resources to avoid waste. Lack of communication? Lack of information? Absence of coordination? »

In the foreword, written by Abdou Diouf, the General Secretary of the International Organisation of the Francophonie underlines the « remarkable » audacity of the project:

« One of the greatest ethical and political advances marking the evolution of nowadays' international relations is the recognition of the concept of human security and of the responsibility to protect. It is clear that these important progresses are still confronted to issues arising frequently from the non-interference principle. Such problems occur in the framework of conflicts, as in Darfur, or in the context of natural catastrophes, as in Burma. (...) The battle engaged by Nicole Guedj is of great importance; it has my full support and I will continue to advocate indefatigably with all my strength in its favour. »



For Red Helmets at the UN is a "warning", a manifest drafting a new humanitarian governance.

The organisation and coordination problems that considerably slowed the relief during the first and crucial hours after the catastrophe, was perfectly perceived by an increasingly well informed public opinion. 63% estimated that international help has not been well coordinated and another 60% stated that it was poorly organized. 80% thought that the coordination of relief teams on the crisis spot was either difficult or even chaotic.

يכול جيدج توقع كتابها في الجناح الفرنسي



ات جيدج توقع كتابها في الجناح الفرنسي، الدوحة - العرب

Thanks to this publication, Nicole Guedj was invited as a guest of honour at the Doha International Book Fair, in January 2010.

In Qatar, the President of the Red Helmets Foundation met Khaled Bin Mohammed Al-Attiyah, Minister for International Cooperation, and the President of the International Federation of Red Crescents. They both warmly welcomed the creation of an international humanitarian force of the UN.

TRADUCTION

Nicole GUEDJ signs her book at the French stand (Al Arab, the 9th of January 2010)

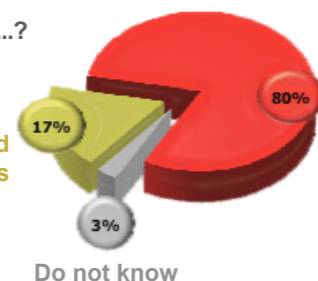
The political activist and former French Minister of Human rights, Miss Nicole GUEDJ, has met the visitors of the French Pavilion at the Doha International book fair and has signed her book « For the Red Helmets in the UN » published in France by « Le Cherche midi » in 2009. The French Pavilion has experienced an increasing success by the francophone people during the whole period of the book fair and has recorded important sales.

For Miss GUEDJ, this book represents her ten years engagement in human rights and the concretisation of the Red Helmets project. Nicole GUEDJ is the chairman of the Red Helmets Foundation that militates for the setting up, as soon as possible, of an international humanitarian task force to coordinate the rescue teams on environmental disasters' fields. The organisation's issues are still arising as far as humanitarian assistance is concerned.

Reminder: Nicole GUEDJ has been Minister in the third government of Jean-Pierre RAFFARIN and has been member of the Council of State since 2006. She is also a member of the board of the French organisation for the Protection of stateless refugees.

Would you consider that coordination on the field....?

works well, on the whole, aid is well coordinated by involved actors



faces difficulties, the situation is chaotic and some actors want to impose their leadership

89%

of Frenchmen think that if Red Helmets had been deployed in Haiti, « help would have been more efficiently delivered. »

Without organisation nor coordination, efforts made by governmental and non-governmental organisations, lose considerable efficiency. Enlightened by the situation in Haiti, the French are fully aware of this reality. This is why 94% of them support the creation of an International Humanitarian Reaction Force, placed under the umbrella of the UN, to coordinate the action of relief teams intervening in major catastrophes.

THE WORLD MOBILISES FOR THE RED HELMETS

Aware of the necessity to establish a new humanitarian governance in order to guarantee the right to be rescued to every population in the world, several chiefs of states have decided to join the Red Helmets' cause.



Togo

For President Faure Essozimna Gnassingbe, « *such a device is needed, since the international community goes through difficult times* ». He is committed to ensure that the Red Helmets Foundation will always get « *the support from [his] country, necessary to the fulfilment of its mission.* »



Burkina Faso

Blaise Compaoré, President of Burkina Faso, is « *pleased to welcome the implementation of this instrument of peace and stability promotion* » and « *felicitates Misses Guedj Nicole for the fulfilment of this initiative* ». He also reminded that « *questions linked to human security have always been at the heart of [his country's] preoccupations* ». Only a few weeks later, in a letter addressed to Nicole Guedj, the President reiterated « *his deep gratitude for her contribution to the search of durable solutions to the consequences of climatic changes.*»



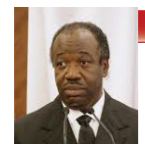
Mali

It was with obvious pleasure that Mali's President, Amadou Toumani Toure, expressed his backing of the Red Helmets' project to Nicole Guedj. He ensured the Red Helmets Foundation with « *his availability and that of Mali's government, to back this initiative.* »



Lebanon

According to the Lebanese president, the creation of Red Helmets « *answers to a real need* ». After Africa and Asia, it is the Middle East's turn to be involved in favour of the implementation of a new model of humanitarian governance.»



Gabon

For President Ali Bongo, « *the use of the most innovative and efficient technologies on grounds that have suffered from natural and anthropogenic disasters ensured*» Gabon's support. He subscribes « *entirely to the objectives of creating an International Humanitarian Rapid Reaction Force* » and he notified his adherence to Nicole Guedj's project.



Federico Mayor Zaragoza

In a tribune published on 11 June 2010, the former director of the UNESCO has pointed at the « *difficulties met by the international community to manage natural catastrophes* ». By recommending the implementation of important changes, Federico Mayor Zaragoza suggested that we were encouraging « *the creation of Red Helmets, an exclusively humanitarian and supranational force.*»



Slovak Republic

President Gasparovic assured that his country « *supports the effort to reinforce and render more efficient the UN's capabilities in the specific fields of peace building, conflict prevention, but also to reinforce the coordination in regions facing humanitarian crises.*»



Cambodia

It is on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia that Prime Minister Hun Sen ensured the Red Helmets Foundation of his « *support and the solidarity of Cambodia for [its] noble determination to answer the needs of victims of conflicts and natural disasters.*»



Jean Ping

The President of the African Union and the President of the Red Helmets Foundation co-signed a tribune in *Le Figaro*, on 5th April 2010, advocating for the creation of an International Humanitarian Reaction Force. For Jean Ping, it is decisive to mobilise the African continent in the renewal emergency humanitarian action: « *In the end, why would it not be Africa, united, that consciously carry the Red Helmets to the rostrum of the UN's General Assembly ? United Africa could engrave the « Right for Relief » in the marble of the African Union's charter.* »



The Vatican backs the creation of a civil protection under UN authority

The Osservatore Romano wrote on 2 March 2010, that « *A permanent UN structure (...) could define intervention protocols in order to guarantee the coordination of relief during the first hours of emergency situations* ». Vatican's daily newspaper adds that « *it is evident that goodwill is not enough to relieve suffering populations from their pain.*»



Paris supports Red Helmets

In February 2010, Paris' Council has unanimously adopted UMP's wish to establish a partnership between the city of Paris and the Red Helmets Foundation. Paris' Mayor, UN's partner, now supports Nicole Guedj in her battle for the creation of an International Humanitarian Reaction Force.



Abdou Diouf

Patron of the Red Helmets Foundation, the former President of the Senegal Republic and actual General Secretary of the International Organisation of the Francophonie is currently an important spokesman of the Foundation. After prefacing the manifest « For Red Helmets at the UN », he personally addressed all French speaking leaders to gather their support for the Red Helmets :

« *Nicole Guedj, French Republic's former State Secretary for Victims' Rights, mobilised with great audacity, but also with lots of realism, for the creation of a new prevention, scouting, coordination and intervention device in the framework of the UN. Called « Red Helmets », they would intervene on the grounds of humanitarian catastrophes. During recent years, we noticed that her project, already supported by several personalities and institutions, answered to a real need (...). It seems to me that it is necessary to encourage and support [this project], to promote its adoption and its fulfilment by the concerned international institutions.* »

MISSING :

The global search engine for missing people

Each major humanitarian catastrophe leads to the disappearance of many people: 150 000 individuals after the Tsunami in South-East Asia, over 10 000 after hurricane Katrina, no less than 40 000 after hurricane Nargis that devastated Myanmar in 2008.

During the recent Haitian earthquake, more than 100 000 victims have stopped giving signs of life during several days. In less than 24 hours, the internet actually became the world's international search centre. Hundreds of internet sites and individual blogs were put online, several thousands of tweets and Facebook posts were exchanged, maps dedicated to the crisis were created, and so on and so forth.

To centralise the enormous amount of information and thus optimise the mobilisation of potential witnesses (families, NGOs, rescue centres, embassies...), the Red helmets Foundation proposes the creation of Missing, a search engine dedicated to the search for missing people in cases of natural disasters.

« Our wish is to bring the humanitarian sphere into a new era, an era to which each citizen can contribute. To achieve this goal, we rely on cutting edge internet technologies: social and collaborative medias, GIS, crowdsourcing... »



Nicole Guedj, President of the Red Helmets Foundation.

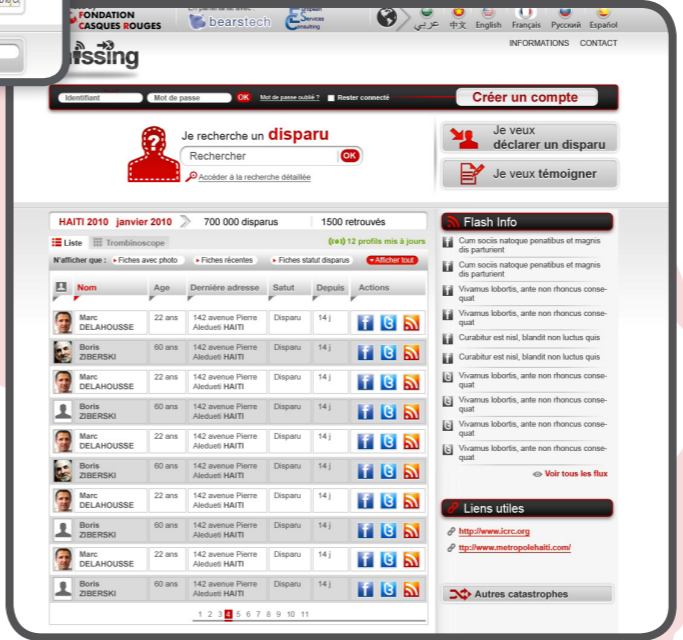
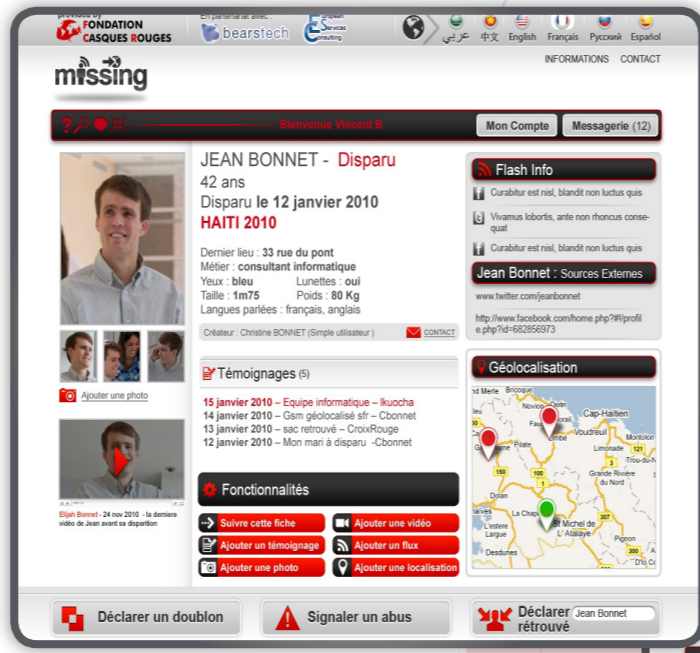
Missing has been selected in the framework of the call for projects « Web innovant », launched by the State Secretariat to Digital Economy in July 2009. At the occasion of a press conference organised by Nathalie Kosciusko-Morizet, in June 2010, the Red Helmets Foundation presented the Alpha version of its search engine for missing people.



MANUAL

Developed in the six languages of the United Nations, MISSING offers the following functionalities :

- Creation of a file dedicated to the missing person with all the information necessary to the search (photography, civil status, last known address of the missing person, distinguishing marks...)
- Search for a missing person thanks to the dedicated search engine
- Identification of victims thanks to the face book
- Possibility to leave testimonies, to post photos, videos, to geolocalise the victim, to aggregate feeds related to the disappearance...
- Aggregation of all information related to the disappearance and stemming from any social network in the world.



WHAT BLOGS WRITE ABOUT IT

LE BLOG DU MODÉRATEUR

Le blog du modérateur, n°8 High-Tech
« You can only applaud when the Web is useful to humanitarian action. Beyond the search engine, the MISSING project will equip relief teams, it will also include a Web agent to optimise the scouting on missing people. »

BE GEEK

BeGeek n° 12 High-Tech
« Since the results of the call for projects in September 2009, efforts have paid off and after testing the alpha version of the search engine; I think that it is important to congratulate the team behind this service. »

FRED CAVAZZA

Fred Cavazza
Fred Cavazza, influent blogger refusing to appear in rankings and 24th most followed French on Twitter :
« I can only praise the work of this foundation and invite you to follow their project on their blog: missing-project.org. Bravo! »

MISSING'S PARTNERS



Bearstech is a young firm specialised in open software and services with high added value hosting and system administration.
More on: www.bearstech.com

European Consulting Services is the former IT branch of the SATIM Group. Specialised in project management assistance, European Consulting Services accompanies its customers with full diagnostics and also offers viable solutions to help fulfil their technological projects.
More on : www.european-cs.com

MISSING is also supported by Google which provides its technical expertise and its communication power to warn as many persons as possible of the disappearances of victims after natural disasters.

Cécile Montagne & Olivier Laurelli

Bearstech



Cécile Montagne

Why did you decide to get involved in the development of Missing ?

Bearstech regroups several particularities, the first one is to be a cooperative of socially implicated engineers. The ethical dimension of the Missing project matches perfectly the type of projects we like to work on. The R&D part of this project is important and bears love innovation, especially when it is useful.

What are the technological innovations realised in the framework of Missing ?

There are three types of innovations. The first one is the web platform, which might become the default portal, internationalised, accessible and capable of withstanding the important traffic during the first hours of a disaster.

The second one is a material one. Tablet PCs will be made available to relief teams and will have the ability to communicate together. Encrypted data will then be replicated from Tablet PC to Tablet PC. This device will help to achieve greater efficiency in both the collection and restitution of data from the field.

The third one is the web agent that will collect data on missing people on social networks. The huge amount of collected information will be automatically and manually processed before being returned on the web portal.



Olivier Laurelli

Will it be necessary to be computer literate to make use of the Missing platform?

For end users no particular competence is required. The aim is to avoid technical, linguistic or ergonomic barriers.

Is this tool easily mobilisable?

Yes, and here again it is a key to the project's success. We intend to write an API to allow developers of mobile platforms to make their own applications. One has to understand that the first information coming from the field is quite systematically relayed by mobiles and it is impossible for us to ignore this point.



THE FRENCH « AMBER ALERT » MOBILE APPLICATION

In 2004, after the kidnapping of a child, Nicole Guedj, then State Secretary to Victims' rights, decided to implement the American device, Amber Alert, in France. Since its launch in 2006, the French version, Alerte Enlèvement, has been activated nine times and saved the lives of ten children.

The Red Helmets Foundation aims at involving as much persons as possible in the search efforts and therefore created the e-@lerte enlèvement on the internet, in may 2009, in partnership with Orange, Google, yahoo!, Free, SFR, MSN, blogSpirit, Dailymotion, the ASIC (Association des Services Internet Communautaires) and Silicon Sentier.

« Free is happy to take part in the e-alerte enlèvement device and to contribute to its improvement. »

Maxime Lombardini, Chief Executive Free.

A few months later, the Red Helmets Foundation committed to relay the Alerte Enlèvement on French cell phones. Selected in the framework of the Proxima mobile call for projects, launched by the inter-ministerial delegation for internet usages, the Alerte Enlèvement application is available on iPhone, Android and Blackberry.



The iPhone application has been downloaded on more than 70 000 iPhones and has been ranked TOP 25 in the Appstore in less than two days.



Nicole Guedj signs the Alerte Enlèvement convention of the Ministry of Justice

On 20 April 2010, the Red Helmets Foundation has officially joined the numerous partners of the Alerte Enlèvement by signing the convention proposed by the chancellery. Side by side with medias involved in the device, the Red Helmets Foundation has confirmed its willingness to relay alert messages to as much people as possible during the three first hours after a child kidnapping.



NICOLE GUEDJ*
"UN EFFET DISSUASIF"



D'où vous est venue l'idée de ce dispositif ?
En 2004, alors que je venais d'être nommée secrétaire d'Etat aux Droits des victimes dans le gouvernement Raffarin, un jeune garçon venait d'être enlevé. J'avais rencontré sa famille à plusieurs reprises, en leur assurant que tout était mis en œuvre pour le retrouver. Un mois plus tard, on le découvrait mort. Quelques jours après ce drame, j'ai eu vent d'un dispositif existant au Canada, dédié aux enfants enlevés. Je me suis rendue sur place, dans le but de transposer ce procédé à la France. Le groupe de travail mis en place m'avait rendu un avis négatif, mais j'ai décidé de passer outre, car nous avions besoin de cette Alerte enlèvement. J'ai tout mis en

"Les possesseurs d'iPhone peuvent télécharger gratuitement une application Alerte enlèvement"
NICOLE GUEDJ

place, mais j'ai dû quitter le gouvernement. Le plus important, c'est que le dispositif soit entré rapidement en vigueur. **Aujourd'hui, vous innovez en mettant à contribution les réseaux sociaux, mais aussi la téléphonie mobile...**
Oui, à la suite d'un déclenchement en mai dernier, j'ai eu l'idée de créer un groupe sur Facebook, "Alerte enlèvement". J'ai été stupéfaite de la mobilisation des internautes. Cela m'a

conduit à solliciter les opérateurs mobiles, et les moteurs de recherche Internet, afin de décliner ce dispositif sur la Toile. Et depuis ce matin, les possesseurs d'iPhone peuvent télécharger gratuitement une application dédiée à l'Alerte, qui sera rapidement disponible pour les autres smartphones. Cela donne la possibilité d'être immédiatement informé, et de témoigner – même de façon anonyme – lors d'une recherche d'enfants. C'est un nouveau pas qui aura un effet dissuasif envers les ravisseurs d'enfants. ● A.C.

*** Initiatrice du dispositif Alerte enlèvement et présidente de la Fondation casques rouges**

L'interview intégrale sur metrofrance.com/guedj

The Challenge Humanitech

Organised for the 2nd time, the Challenge Humanitech gathers students impassionate by innovation and willing to get involved in international solidarity projects.

Leaf Supply rocks the Challenge Humanitech 2010



Although it was difficult to select winners, the jury finally rewarded the "Leaf Supply" project, tutored by Jérôme Auriac, founder of Be-linked, and led by two students of the ESCP and 2 students of the Strate College Designers. This emergency bed made of carton paper can be produced everywhere in the world at a very low cost. Moreover, the jury was convinced by the "Leaf Supply" bed's modularity enabling it to be transformed in a chair or a table.



Two other projects also caught the attention of the jury. "Les Grains de Sable", led by 4 students studying home automation and tutored by Danièle Anclin, Chief Executive of IE-Club, received the second prize, an award of 1000 euro, in order to help them with their development plan of the school of Markala in Malia.

Finally, Humanimap, the project of the ENSCI-les Ateliers students, tutored by Olivier Laurelli, CEO of Toonux, won the third prize.

More on : www.challenge-humanitech.com

« Humanitarian action can take many forms: one can share food, build schools or give lessons to children from poor neighbourhoods. With this challenge, the Red Helmets Foundation proposes students to get involved by directly using their skills and experience. »

President of the Red Helmets Foundation and member of the 2010 jury.

THE 2010 EDITION



In this second edition, thirteen teams were selected. Each team gathers four to six students specialized in very different fields and coming from prestigious universities such as Delft University of Technology (Netherlands), Strasbourg School of Architecture, Ecole Centrale (Paris), Paris-Dauphine University, ENSIETA, ESCP, Corse University, ISEN Toulon, Creapôle, ENSCI-Les Ateliers...

Teams have been coached for two months by innovation and humanitarian professionals. Coaches and students have gathered on 27 May 2010, for a «working day» at Le Comptoir Général. The students used this day to finalize their projects while benefiting from professional advice, just before the final of the «Challenge Humanitech».

The day after, candidates presented their concept at «La Cantine» in front of a jury composed of: Nicole Guedj, former minister and President of the Red Helmets Foundation, Caroline Grandjean, assistant director at Crisis Centre of the Quai d'Orsay, Nathalie Boulanger, Vice President in charge of Innovation at Orange, Olivier Millies-Lacroix, Commercial Director at Eutelsat, Pierre Aliphat, General representative for the Conférence des Grandes Ecoles, Jean-Baptiste Soufron, Director of Cap Digital, Maryam Salehi, Deputy Director at NRJ, Angela de Santiago, Founder of Youphil, Laurent Dutheil, Deputy Director at Lieu du Design, Marie-Vorgan Le Barzic, General representative for Silicon Sentier, Julien Roitman, Vice President at France Compétitivité, Johanna Naon, Deputy Director at Campus Mag, Gwenaël Prié, consultant in humanitarian application of telecom technologies, Antonio guel...

Interview of Julien Sylvain

member of the « Leaf Supply » team, laureate of the 2010 Challenge Humanitech

What did you learn from Challenge Humanitech?

A key quality of Challenge Humanitech is the diversity of the candidates. Winning the challenge has helped us a lot for three reasons: first it constitutes an important acknowledgement of our achievement, especially in this kind of projects, which can be laborious to develop; then, the 5 000 euro prize as well as the communication around Challenge Humanitech are non negligible assets; finally, thanks to Challenge Humanitech, we met experts of the Red Helmets foundation and other backgrounds.

Las empresas asociadas al Challenge Humanitech 2010



Humani'BOOK

On Sunday 25 April 2010, 500 persons went to the Comptoir Général, in Paris, for the first edition of the Humani'Book fair.

By organising this humanitarian book fair, the Red Helmets Foundation wished to promote encounters between the public and humanitarian militants from all backgrounds.



« Too often are the thinkers of the humanitarian sphere put aside, we want them to be in the spotlight of cultural life. »

Nicole Guedj, President of the Red Helmets Foundation and author of the manifest For Red Helmets at the UN.

From the situation in Darfur to the impact of global warming, experts of Humani'BOOK have shared their knowledge and experiences.

Cinephiles have discovered the realisations of engaged movie makers like « 8, Le temps presse », a series of short films on the 8 humanitarian objectives of the millennium, or « Tuez les tous! Rwanda: L'histoire d'un genocide », a documentary on the Tutsi genocide.

Varios artistas, expuestos por la Galería Art & Miss, asociada a la manifestación, también se movilizaron al lado de los Cascos Rojos.

Numerous artists, exhibited by the Art & Miss Gallery, partner of the fair, have also mobilised behind the Red Helmets. A roundtable on the future of humanitarian action concluded the day: « After Haiti: how do we save lives? »

Interview of Richard Rossin Surgeon, former General Secretary of Médecins Sans Frontières General Delegate of the Collectif Urgence Darfour

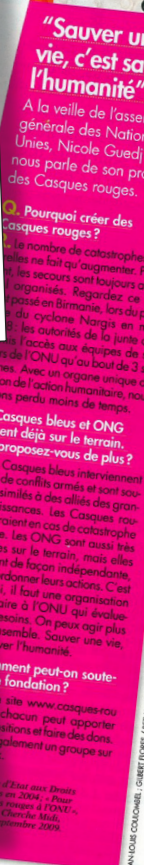


How would you assess this first edition of Humani'BOOK ?

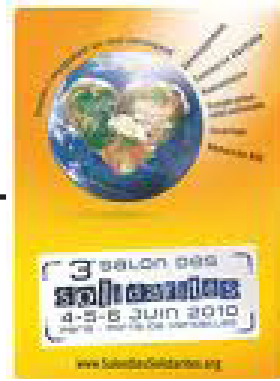
This first edition was an extraordinary success. Of course, I had the opportunity to meet again with old friends, an occasion to share old memories that we have in common and that we cherish. We went through these stories and now they unfailingly link us. As you know, knowledge can be transmitted, experience cannot. There was no nostalgia, only laughter. I also met astounding persons, filled with courage and convictions, as Patricia Lalonde alongside Afghan women and many others, Laurent Grosbois and his marvellous movies shot on the field... Amazing was the encounter with the people, they came infinitely more numerous than expected. I witnessed encounters, conversations, warmth, the immense attention to the other...

How do you imagine the second edition of the fair?

Probably more authors, since many editors declared their wish to participate to the next edition, but it would be nice to keep the warm atmosphere. A more fundamental approach would preserve us from the risk to appear like another « charity business ». We have to think about it.



Flash news



Solidarities Fair

From the 4th to the 6th of June 2010, the third edition of the Solidarities Fair took place in the « Parc des Expositions » in Paris. Nicole Guedj took part in a forum “Humanitarian Encounters” on the reconstruction of Haiti; it was organised by *La Vie*.

Africa-France Summit

Monday 31 May and Tuesday 1 June 2010, the Africa-France Summit took place in Nice, in presence of the president of the French Republic and many African heads of state.

Nicole Guedj had the opportunity to exchange with several Presidents inclined to get involved in the creation process of an International Humanitarian Reaction Force. This determination to inscribe the Franco-African relations in a new era has long been defended by the Red Helmets Foundation.



« Global Conference »

by Les Ateliers de la Terre



Taking place on the 26th, 27th and 28th November 2009 in Deauville, this event under the high patronage of Jean-Louis Borloo, Environment Minister, intervened on the eve of the highly expected Copenhagen Summit. During a roundtable, at which Nicole Guedj was convened, she recalled that climate change was affecting the lives of civil populations and she deplored that victims were not invited to take part in the Copenhagen debates. The Red Helmets Foundation President has also participated in a workshop on the theme: “In face of constraints, are regulation policies enough?” On this occasion, she questioned the limits of regulation policies regarding their ability to face natural disaster constraints. She privileged the anticipation and adaptation policies defended in the Red Helmets project.

Ile-de-France Conference on International Cooperation and Solidarity

On Friday 20th November 2009, Nicole Guedj participated in a workshop organised by the Regional Council of Ile-de-France, in the framework of the Ile-de-France Conference on International Cooperation and Solidarity :

«Local authorities and humanitarian action. Emergency, Reconstruction: Which aid should be privileged?»

To answer this question, the Red Helmets Foundation questioned local authorities’ ability to intervene in humanitarian emergencies, when their main task is currently to foster development and rehabilitation operations.



Red Helmets interviews in Sciences-Po

In the continuity of the publication of the manifest, For red Helmets at the UN, the Red Helmets Foundation organised the first « Red Helmets Interviews» at Science Po, on 16 October 2009. Devoted to the question « Humanitarian Action in face of Climate Change », these interviews have made possible to rally in front of a large public Nicole Guedj, several humanitarian specialists including Marie Claire Daveu, Director of Nathalie Kosciusko-Morizet’s cabinet, Chrisitan Troubé, Vice-President of Action contre la Faim, Patrick Aeberhard, former President of Médecins du Monde, Marc-Antoine Pérouse de Montclos, Director of the humanitarian Action Observatory, François Gemenne, author of Geopolitics of Climate Change...



The State Secretary for Ecology, Chantal Jouanno, expressed her loyal support to Nicole Guedj as well as her adhesion to the Red Helmets project. She stated : « *Ten years ago, it was already essential to create Red Helmets. Nowadays, it is an emergency. We should not wait for disasters to strike us, to prepare for their consequences. Time has come to give the United Nations’ Assembly the means of our ambitions. I am convinced that the Red Helmets have to be part our action. We should not let us an opportunity to regret our passivity and renouncement.* »

Pañpuri supports the Red Helmets Foundation

On the occasion of the launch of its webstore, Pañpuri, the Thai cosmetic brand, established a partnership with the Red Helmets Foundation. From May to October 2010, on each order made on panpuri.com, 10% will be refunded to the red Helmets Foundation.



EMERGESAT AT THE BOURGET FAIR



The Red Helmets Foundation’s humanitarian container was exhibited at the Bourget Fair, on 30 June 2009, on the stand of Thales Alenia Space, partner of the project with the Centre National d’Etudes Spatiales.

NIGHT « HELMET

COMPULSORY »

Wednesday 10 March 2010, the support night for the Red Helmets rallied more than 700 persons. The event benefited from the mobilisation of numerous artists. After exhibiting their sculptures, paintings and photos, each of them generously offered an artwork, which was then auctioneered to the benefit of the MISSING project.



Nicole Guedj, guest of honour of the « Chambre et Sénat » association

Thursday 15th October 2009, Nicole Guedj was guest of honour of the debate-dinner organised by “Chambre et Sénat”, the national association of ministers and parliamentarians’ collaborators. The proposed subjects were well received by the audience and the multiplication of support marks constituted an additional reason to continue and amplify the battle of the Red Helmets Foundation for the creation of an International Humanitarian Reaction Force.





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