

DISCLOSE

2 0 2 5
IMPACT
R E P O R T

Turning the spotlight on instances of injustice is not enough. This needs to lead to tangible changes, with democracy coming out stronger and living organisms protected.

This is what we, at Disclose, have been doing year after year. In 2025, our revelations led one of France's main private universities to drive out far-right billionaire Pierre-Edouard Stérin. French-made military equipment was stopped as it was about to be delivered in Israel. France's favourite brand, Decathlon, had to sever links with a supplier involved in a major forced labour scheme in China.

We identified 559 such repercussions last year, including legal proceedings, parliamentary debates and our reports being picked up by social and traditional media. We theorised "impact journalism" in a freely accessible guide we created together with independent outlet Rembobine. Ours is a promising approach, witness the success of the Impact Journalism Festival we staged in September 2025, the first of its kind in Europe.

But barriers to our mission were erected in quick succession over a few months. The French state is intent on having our journalist Ariane Lavrilleux convicted rather than acknowledging what we revealed in 2021: crimes against humanity were committed in Egypt with French army resources. We have also had more insidious threats from multinationals as Disclose strives to expose their failure to deliver on their social and environmental pledges. But we remain steady on our feet. Since Disclose was set up in 2018, it has never been convicted in connection with its investigations.

In spite of obstacles, we need to stand together. To that end, we enjoy unprecedented support: more than 5,000 people donated to our association in 2025, contributing 80% of our budget. These are ordinary citizens who are determined to uphold impact journalism for the common good. The following report could not have been written without their help. Our thanks go to them.

Mathias Destal

DISCLOSE CO-FOUNDER AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

EDITORIAL	P. 2
TABLE OF CONTENTS	P. 3
OUR 559 IMPACTS IN 2025	P. 4
IMPACTFUL INVESTIGATIONS	P. 7
FOLLOWING UP ON OUR INVESTIGATIONS	P. 15
AT THE FOREFRONT OF IMPACT JOURNALISM	P. 18
OUR FINANCES	P. 21

OUR 559 IMPACTS IN 2025

29

investigations
released

40 000

subscribers
to newsletters

263 000

social media
followers

559 IMPACTS IDENTIFIED IN 2025

446

**mentions of our stories
in the public sphere**

our investigations were mentioned by
media outlets, NGOs,. trade unions and
high-profile people

64

institutional repercussions

official reactions from the government,
public authorities and the companies
investigated, including 25 mentions in
Parliament (National Assembly, Senate
and European Parliament).

38

collective actions

demonstrations, symbolic actions,
opinion pieces, open letters and awards
for investigations.

11

judicial impacts

complaints, judicial investigations and
court orders.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH MEDIA OUTLETS AND CIVIL SOCIETY

In order to increase the reach of our investigations and to enhance our expertise internationally, Disclose entered 19 partnership agreements in 2025.

France	International
France 2 - Cash Investigation France 2 - L'Œil du 20 heures France 3 Index La Topette Le Monde Mediacités #NousToutes (collective) Reflets.info Reporterre	France 24 Follow the Money Investigate Europe Environmental Chemistry Laboratory at the University of Montreal led by Sébastien Sauvé Liminal – University of Bologna RFI Reporters United The Ditch The Guardian

HOW DISCLOSE ASSESSES ITS IMPACT

We monitor 20 types of impact which show that our investigations have led to tangible changes. For instance, if an NGO goes to court on the basis of our revelations, we record one impact. If a member of parliament challenges the government in connection with our investigation, we record another.

To identify these impacts, we use primarily online sources: search engines, social media, institutional sites, etc. Some are brought to our attention by readers or associations. We called on non-profit media outlet Rembobine to help us monitor our impacts in 2025.

For the sake of transparency, all the repercussions of our work are collated in a freely accessible database:

[Access the Disclose impact database](#)

IMPACTFUL INVESTIGATIONS

JANUARY

Charges against Ariane Lavrilleux are dropped, state authorities persist

PARTNERS



On 17 January 2025, our colleague Ariane Lavrilleux walked free from the Paris judicial court after being questioned about “disclosing a national defence secret”. The court acknowledged that our revelations on Operation Sirli had been in the public interest. The operation involved secret military cooperation between France and Egypt that led to the slaughter of dozens of civilians. The Justice Ministry appealed, paving the way for the case against the Disclose newsroom to be re-opened.

FEBRUARY

Standing up for the freedom to inform

PARTNERS



In the face of threats to the confidentiality of journalists’ sources, Disclose and its partners sent a letter to the Prime minister with five recommendations to be implemented urgently. As many as 106 organisations joined us.

The investigation that shook Decathlon

PARTNERS



The sports brand has built its empire on exploitation of human beings and the planet. Underpaid teenagers in Bangladesh, Uighur farmers doing forced

labour in China, etc.: our revelations compelled Decathlon to end its contract with the Jifa group's problematic factories in China. Under pressure from associations and the UN High commissioner for human rights, the company pledged improved traceability of the cotton used in its clothing. A Disclose journalist also appeared before a National Assembly working group on repression against the Uighur people.

152

mentions of our investigations into Decathlon in the media.

MARCH

● — ArcelorMittal: the justice system uses our reports

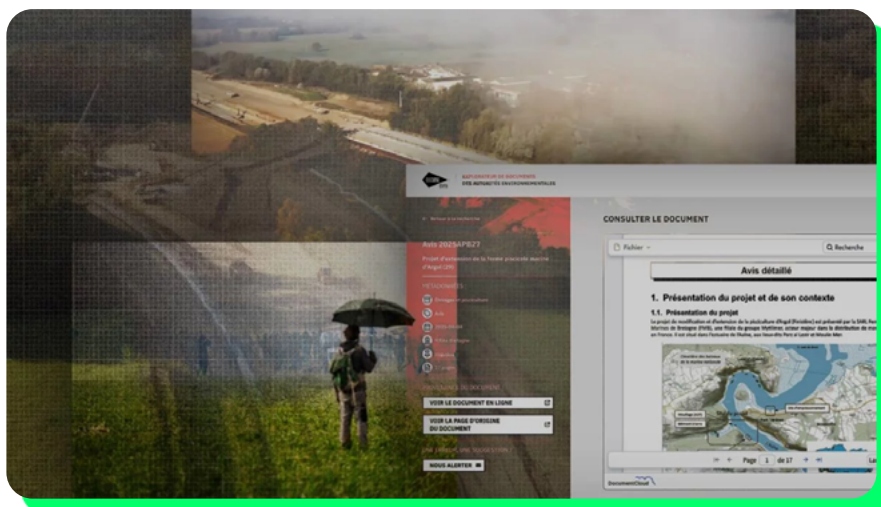
PARTNERS



Disclose exposed the system implemented by ArcelorMittal to work around air pollution standards near its steel plants. The company forged inspection statements, among other tricks. Our investigation, based on confidential documents and interviews with staff, has been used for the inquiry conducted by the environmental unit of the Marseille court. This led to the steel multinational being indicted for “causing danger to life” and “forgery and falsification of records”. The case will soon be brought before the court.

APRIL

Launch of Disclose Data



Monitoring industrial projects that harm the environment is the pledge made by Disclose Data, our dedicated platform for collected and archived documents released by the environmental authorities that record the impact of major projects such as motorways, wind turbines and factory farming. Disclose Data is an exceptional monitoring tool which provides information about potentially harmful projects before they are implemented.

122 000

documents saved between April 2025 and June 2026.

JUNE

Israel: an arms delivery remains docked

PARTNERS

the d  itch

Gun tubes and parts for machine guns: in June 2025, Disclose revealed the imminent delivery of French-made equipment to Israel, a country that is committing “genocide in Gaza,” the UN says. A few hours after our investigation was released, dock workers in the port of Fos-sur-Mer (near Marseille) stopped the cargo. They were supported by some 100 demonstrators and a petition signed by close to 60,000 people. Armed Forces Minister Sébastien Lecornu, who had little choice but to comment, said that the equipment, made by the Aubert & Duval and Eurolinks companies, was “re-exported” to third countries. His manoeuvre failed to convince political leaders who called for a comprehensive embargo on arms

exports to Israel. Meanwhile, Eurolinks, whose deliveries to Israel between 2023 and 2025 had already been revealed by Disclose, is the subject of a complaint for “complicity in war crimes”.

“Dock workers will not take part in genocide”

RELEASE FROM THE CGT UNION’S DOCKER SECTION, FOS-SUR-MER, MAY 2025.

#MeTooPolice

PARTNERS

france.2

Fellow workers, plaintiffs, people in custody, etc.: following an investigation over a year, Disclose identified as many as 429 survivors of sexual violence by police officers and gendarmes. On five occasions, Interior Minister Bruno Retailleau and his successor Laurent Nuñez were challenged in Parliament and a suggestion was made to the National Assembly for a commission of inquiry to be set up. A bill to combat sexual violence was submitted in December 2025 to make it mandatory for forces to be trained to guarantee the “mental and physical safety” of plaintiffs. After we issued a call for testimonies together with collective #NousToutes, Disclose heard from another 163 survivors. Several said they had read our investigation and filed a complaint recently.

JULY

PFAS: the most serious water contamination in France

PARTNERS

france.3

Disclose and France 3 released reports on alarming concentrations of PFOA, a PFAS carcinogenic pollutant, in drinking water in the Ardennes and Meuse departments in northeastern France. At the same time, a first, the state authorities banned more than 3,500 locals from drinking tap water, a thinly veiled attempt at concealing years of inaction – the alarm was first raised locally in 2016. Following the release of our story, locals organised, setting up groups on social media and holding public meetings. In early 2026, four collective complaints were filed in a bid to identify those behind the unprecedented pollution event in France. Our investigation is cited several times in the complaints.

The justice system launches an inquiry into the death of a Syrian exile during a police operation

PARTNERS



During a police operation, Jumaa al-Hasan, 27, a Syrian exile, drowned in Gravelines (Northern France) as he attempted to board a small boat to cross the Channel to England. We reconstructed the exact circumstances of his death with 3D modelling. This showed that police were directly involved in his drowning. On the day we released our report, migrant support group Utopia 56 filed a complaint for “involuntary manslaughter”. The Dunkirk public prosecutor launched an investigation to find out if the man’s death was due to police officers failing to assist him after spraying him with tear gas, or to people traffickers. The complaint was not addressed.

Gaza: MBDA missile manufacturer under pressure

PARTNERS



Europe’s leading missile company has been fitting out bombs dropped by the Israeli armed forces on civilians in Gaza. According to our calculations, at least 100 children have been killed as a result. Following the release of

our investigation, two shareholders of the Airbus group, which has shares in MBDA, asked the company in a formal notice to release a duty of care plan, which it did three months later. Given the shortcomings of the plan, which ignores the risks that the company's missiles may be used against civilians in Gaza, the two shareholders and three associations are now considering suing MBDA. Our investigation has been shortlisted for the Daphne Caruana Galizia Prize for Journalism.

SEPTEMBER

— Hundreds of people demonstrate in Marseille against arms company Eurolinks



OCTOBER

— Oil company Perenco to be tried for “environmental harm”

AVEC



Investigate
Europe



Environmental
Investigative
Forum

France's second largest oil group is to be tried for “environmental harm” following revelations by Disclose in late 2022 which led to a complaint by NGOs Sherpa and Friends of the Earth France over the 167 pollution incident reports caused by its facilities in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is the first time that the company has been sued in France.

DECEMBER

● — Arms sales to Israel: state authorities stop deliveries for drones



French company Sermat has sold parts to Israeli firm Elbit Systems, whose drones have been used against civilians in Gaza. But an imminent delivery identified by Disclose in October 2025 never took place. Shortly after our revelations, customs officers seized the equipment at Roissy airport, Paris, and the Armed Forces Ministry banned the company from making more deliveries in Israel.

**OUR ACTIONS
TO FOLLOW UP
ON OUR
INVESTIGATIONS**



ON THE GROUND

In 2025, the Disclose team gave talks at many public and professional events. In France, Belgium and as far away as Malaysia, we shared our expertise and raised the awareness of civil society about some of our investigations, including on sexual violence, fossil fuels and the far right.

IN THE MEDIA

Disclose journalists give interviews to French and foreign media outlets on a regular basis to promote our investigations and tell a wider audience about them.



AT THE FOREFRONT OF IMPACT JOURNALISM



A FREELY ACCESSIBLE UNIQUE GUIDE

In September 2025, after a year of intense work, Disclose and Rembobine released the first version of the Impact Journalism Guide. By showing how media outlets like Disclose make sure their investigations are acted upon, the guide also highlights initiatives that help reconnect the media and ordinary people.

[Download the guide](#)

WITH SUPPORT FROM
THE FREE PRESS FUND

**FONDS
POUR UNE
PRESSE
LIBRE**



DISCLOSE STAGES THE FIRST IMPACT JOURNALISM FESTIVAL

More than 200 people attended Europe's first Impact Journalism Festival in September 2025. Journalists from Mediapart, France 3, France Info and other outlets discussed with the audience how their investigations impact society. Participants, including many Disclose readers, came up with original impactful strategies for investigations into arms sales, public health and pollution, among other issues.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



OUR

FINANCES

In 2025, 80 % of our association's resources came from donations from members of the public.

€439,000 IN DONATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Of the 5,000 people who supported Disclose in 2025, some opted for monthly donations, which are key for us to be able to tackle entities more powerful than we are. Others chose to make one-off donations. Our thanks go to all.

FOUNDATIONS: ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

In 2025, foundations contributed about 13% to Disclose's budget, financial support that remains vital for our work to run smoothly. Our thanks go to The Reva and David Logan Foundation, 1% for the Planet, Muckrock, the Fund for a Free Press, The Sunrise Project, the European Centre for Press and Media Freedom as well as Media Defence.

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

The bulk of Disclose's resources is used to pay those who investigate, i.e. full-time staff and the score of freelance journalists with whom we worked in 2025. The rest is used towards investigation expenses (infographics, translation, trips, legal costs) and overheads (rent, bank charges on donations).



2025 IMPACT REPORT

WRITING: PIERRE LEIBOVICI

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: MATHIAS DESTAL

IMPACT MONITORING: ARIANE LAVRILLEUX, PÉNÉLOPE BLANCHETÊTE,
PIERRE LEIBOVICI AND TIMOTHÉE VINCHON (REMBOBINE)

TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH: BÉATRICE MURAIL

DESIGN: ÉRIC DELFOSSE

DISCLOSE

ASSOCIATION LOI 1901

61 RUE DE LYON 75012 PARIS

CONTACT@DISCLOSE.NGO