

Head of judiciary, Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei
c/o Embassy of Iran to the European Union
Avenue Franklin Roosevelt No. 15, 1050
Bruxelles, Belgium

Dear Mr Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei, Swedish-Iranian academic and medical doctor Ahmadreza Djalali, arbitrarily detained in Tehran's Evin prison, is at imminent risk of execution following reports in several Iranian state media outlets on 4 May 2022 that his death sentence is to be carried out before the end of the Iranian month of Ordibehesht 1401 (21 May 2022). Eighteen months ago, on 24 November 2020, Ahmadreza Djalali was told his execution would be carried out in a week which led to international calls to halt Ahmadreza Djalali's execution. On 2 December 2020 after global interventions, his execution was stopped. From late November 2020 to early April 2021, Ministry of Intelligence agents tortured and otherwise ill-treated Ahmadreza Djalali while he was in incommunicado detention in prolonged solitary confinement in section 209 of Evin prison, which is under the control of the Ministry of Intelligence, including by keeping a bright light on in his cell 24 hrs a day, which he said caused him great mental distress, and forcing him to sleep on the floor on a thin blanket for over five months.

Ahmadreza Djalali was sentenced to death for "corruption on earth" (efsad-e fel-arz) in October 2017 after a grossly unfair trial before Branch 15 of the Revolutionary Court in Tehran. The court relied primarily on "confessions" that Ahmadreza Djalali says were obtained under torture and other ill-treatment while he was held in prolonged solitary confinement without access to a lawyer. Amnesty International has consistently held that the offence of "corruption on earth" fails to meet requirements for clarity and precision needed in criminal law and breaches the principle of legality and legal certainty. On 9 December 2018, his lawyers learned that Branch 1 of the Supreme Court had upheld his death sentence without granting them an opportunity to file their defence submissions on his behalf.

The Supreme Court has rejected at least three requests for a judicial review of Ahmadreza Djalali's case. Ahmadreza Djalali has several health conditions for which he has not receive adequate medical treatment and medication. He underwent surgery on 21 January 2022 for his chronic back pain, but was transferred back to prison just one day afterwards, where he has been forced to again sleep on the floor, leading to worsening back pain.

I ask you to immediately stop any plans to execute Ahmadreza Djalali, and quash his conviction and death sentence, and immediately release him and accord him an enforceable right to compensation, as per the recommendation of the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. Pending his release, ensure that Ahmadreza Djalali is provided with adequate medical care, protected from torture and other ill-treatment, and order a prompt, independent, effective, and impartial investigation into his allegations of torture and other ill-treatment, bringing to justice anyone found responsible in fair trials and without recourse to the death penalty. I call on you to establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty.

Yours sincerely
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[Din e-mail]