

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei
Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran
c/o H.E. Mr. Gholamali Khoshroo
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations
Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations
622 Third Avenue, 34th Floor
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12 December 2017

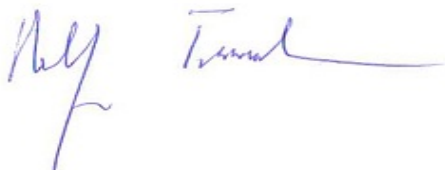
Your Excellency:

Once again, I write on behalf of the European University Association (EUA) to express grave concern over the death sentence issued against Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali, a scholar of disaster medicine who was arrested in April 2016 in apparent retaliation for peacefully exercising his right to academic freedom. We have recently been informed that the death sentence against Dr. Djalali, initially issued on 21 October, was re-confirmed on 9 December, and that he would now be executed. We have also learned that, in an extremely worrying development, Dr. Djalali's appears to have been denied a proper appeal.

The European University Association and its members strongly condemn this egregious violation of accepted judicial norms and Dr. Djalali's rights, which demonstrates a troubling disregard for international standards of academic freedom, due process, fair trial, and humane treatment of prisoners, as guaranteed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Iran is a party. We respectfully call on you to intervene immediately, by urging the relevant authorities to reverse Dr. Djalali's capital sentence, to ensure his unconditional release from prison, and to drop all charges against him as soon as practicable.

I appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



Professor Rolf Tarrach
EUA President

CC:

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