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04 December 2020

Members of the Parliamentary Assembly ask Iran not to carry out the death penalty of Ahmadreza Djalali

Written declaration No. 714

This written declaration does not reflect the position of the Assembly; only of those members that have signed it. It will not be considered further by the Assembly.

We, the undersigned, declare the following:

Ahmadreza Djalali, Iranian-Swedish scientist and visiting professor at the Belgian Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), was sentenced to death in Iran in 2016 for espionage.

Ahmadreza Djalali has always maintained his innocence. All the international efforts for his release, including a United Nations declaration, were so far to no avail.

A few days ago we learned that Ahmadreza Djalali has been placed in solitary confinement in Karaj and risks being executed. Solitary confinement in a prison in the city of Karaj is often considered as the final step before a prisoner's execution.

The Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ann Linde, appealed for the cancellation of the execution of the Iranian-Swedish scientist. The Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sophie Wilmès, fully supports this humanitarian appeal from Sweden.

We are seriously concerned about Iran's intention to carry out the death penalty of Ahmadreza Djalali, and reiterate our opposition to the death penalty at all times and in all circumstances.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

SAFAI Darya, Belgium, NR
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
BEN CHIKHA Fourat, Belgium, SOC
BROUWERS Karin, Belgium, EPP/CD
CASTEL Laura, Spain, NR
CORBYN Jeremy, United Kingdom, SOC
COURSON Yolaine, de, France, ALDE
EDER-GITSCHTHALER Andrea, Austria, EPP/CD
EFSTATHIOU Constantinos, Cyprus, SOC
FAMELLOS Sokratis, Greece, UEL
FOURNIER Bernard, France, EPP/CD
HEINRICH Frank, Germany, EPP/CD
HUNKO Andrej, Germany, UEL
JALLOW Momodou Malcolm, Sweden, UEL
KOX Tiny, Netherlands, UEL
KRISPER Stephanie, Austria, ALDE
LACROIX Christophe, Belgium, SOC
LEYTE Carmen, Spain, EPP/CD
LOPATKA Reinhold, Austria, EPP/CD
MARTÍNEZ FERRO María Valentina, Spain, EPP/CD
MEREZHKO Oleksandr, Ukraine, SOC
NICOLINI Marco, San Marino, UEL
NOWACKA Barbara, Poland, NR
ÖZSOY Hişyar, Turkey, UEL
REISS Frédéric, France, EPP/CD
RIZZOTTI Maria, Italy, EPP/CD
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
ŚMISZEK Krzysztof, Poland, SOC
ŠUŠTAR Tadeja, Slovenia, EPP/CD
TORNARITIS Nicos, Cyprus, EPP/CD
TRASTOUR-ISNART Laurence, France, EPP/CD
VAERENBERGH Kristien, Van, Belgium, NR

Total = 32

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group