



May 17, 2022

To: His Excellency Mr. Majid Takht-Ravanchi
*Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the UN
Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations*

Cc: The Honorable Ms. Michelle Bachelet
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Mr. Morris Tidball-Binz
Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions
Ms. Irene Khan
*Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion
and expression*
Ms. Tlaleng Mofokeng
Special Rapporteur on the right to health
Diego García-Sayán
Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers
Prof. Alena Douhan
*Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures on the
enjoyment of human rights*
Javaid Rehman
Special Rapporteur on human rights in Iran

From: Katherine B. Ensor, *President, ASA*
Ronald L. Wasserstein, *Executive Director, ASA*

RE: Preventing the Imminent Execution of Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali

The American Statistical Association (ASA), the world's largest professional association of statisticians and data scientists with members in 90 countries, urges the leadership of the country of Iran to do everything in its power to immediately halt the imminent execution of Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali, an Iranian-Swedish scholar of disaster medicine wrongfully sentenced to death in Iran.

Dr. Djalali is a disaster medicine scholar and scientist who has held academic positions at Karolinska Institute, in Sweden; the Università del Piemonte Orientale, in Italy; and Vrije Universiteit Brussel, in Belgium. In December 2020, he was awarded a Scholars At Risk (SAR)

Fellowship at Harvard University, in the United States, a position he has not been able to start because of his detention.

On May 4, 2022, Iran's *ISNA* news agency reported that Iranian authorities were taking steps for Dr. Djalali's execution by May 21. Iranian authorities arrested Dr. Djalali in April 2016 while he was traveling to participate in a series of workshops hosted by universities in Tehran and Shiraz. On October 21, 2017, Dr. Djalali was convicted and sentenced to death for "corruption on earth" (*ifsad fil-arz*), based on unsubstantiated allegations that he had provided intelligence to Israeli authorities. Dr. Djalali has disputed the allegations, asserting that his ties to the international academic community are the basis of his prosecution. The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention found in a 2017 opinion that he was arbitrarily detained and called for his immediate release. SAR understands that Dr. Djalali has been denied the right to appeal his conviction and sentence, denied access to appropriate medical care for numerous health complications that worsened while he was in solitary confinement, and denied access to his lawyer and his family in Iran.

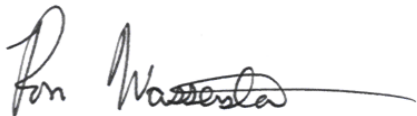
Dr. Djalali and his family have been living a nightmare for the past six years. His life must be saved. He must be released. The ASA urges the leadership of Iran to do everything in its power to prevent the execution and secure Dr. Djalali's release and safe return to Sweden and to his wife and two children.

We appreciate your attention to this life-and-death matter.

Sincerely,



Katherine B. Ensor, President, American Statistical Association



Ronald L. Wasserstein, Executive Director, American Statistical Association