

Who is Hassan Diab?

Hassan Diab is a Canadian citizen and sociology professor who lives in Ottawa. He is wrongly accused by the French authorities of involvement in a bombing near a Paris synagogue in 1980.

Hassan is fighting extradition to France to face allegations based on secret intelligence and deeply flawed handwriting analysis.



Dr. Hassan Diab has always maintained his innocence, and he strongly condemns all ethnically, racially, and religiously motivated violence.

Since November 2008, Hassan has suffered months of detention, the loss of his university employment, the depletion of his financial resources, and oppressive bail conditions that include house arrest and paying for an exorbitantly expensive GPS monitoring device.

The contemporary climate of ethnic, racial, and religious profiling means that Hassan, like many other Canadians of Middle-Eastern descent, is yet another victim of the global "War on Terror".

What is extradition?

Extradition is the forced removal of a person from one country to another to face criminal charges.



The **first step** in the extradition process is the receipt of a note from the requesting state. Following this, the person sought is arrested. The person may be released on bail or held in custody pending the extradition hearing.

The **second step** is the extradition hearing which takes place in front of a Canadian judge who decides whether to commit the person sought for extradition.

At the end of the extradition hearing, the judge must either release the person or order his/her committal for extradition.

The **third step** of the extradition process involves the Minister of Justice who has final authority to surrender the person to the requesting state. This step can be very political.



What is wrong with Canada's Extradition Law?

- The standard for extradition is so low that Canada hands its citizens over to other countries more or less for the asking, based on the flimsiest of evidence that would not be accepted in a Canadian criminal trial.
- Canada's extradition law places the burden of proof on the person sought to show that the evidence against him/her is "manifestly unreliable". The test for unreliability is so high that no one can meet it.
- At the extradition hearing, full *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* rights are not afforded to the person sought. For example, the person sought does not have the right to full disclosure of all the evidence that the prosecutor has.
- Canada has extradition treaties with countries that allow secret intelligence—including intelligence obtained from torture—to be used as evidence.
- Canada extradites its citizens to a large number of countries, including France. France, on the other hand, does not extradite its own citizens.



The Kafkaesque Case of Dr. Hassan Diab

Canada's extradition law has:

- Allowed Hassan to be committed for extradition based solely on deeply flawed handwriting analysis which would not be accepted in a Canadian criminal trial.
- Allowed the case to go forward despite numerous serious contradictions and misrepresentations in the Record of the Case and despite the reliance on secret intelligence from unknown sources.
- Allowed the suppression of evidence showing that Hassan's finger and palm prints do not match those of the suspect.



If extradited to France, Hassan will face anti-terrorism proceedings that Human Rights Watch has criticized for violating due process and fair trial standards.

At trial in France, Hassan will not be able to challenge the use of unsourced intelligence and flawed handwriting analysis as evidence against him.

Hassan is appealing the judge's decision to commit him for extradition. In the meantime, Hassan awaits a decision from the Minister of Justice on whether to surrender him to France.



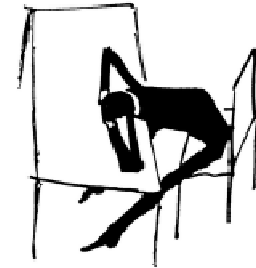
How you can help

1. **Write** to Canada's Minister of Justice, Mr. Rob Nicholson (rob.nicholson@parl.gc.ca), urging him **not to surrender** Hassan.
2. **Write** to your Member of Parliament about Hassan's plight and urge him/her to reform Canada's unfair extradition law.
3. **Donate** to Hassan's legal defense fund or to help cover the cost of the GPS monitoring device he is required to wear. For information on how to donate, visit www.JusticeForHassanDiab/donate

For more information:

www.JusticeForHassanDiab.org
diabsupport@gmail.com

Take a Stand Against Canada's Unfair Extradition Law!



Imagine one day...

- You are sought by a foreign country for a crime committed 30 years ago — a crime you know nothing about.
- The allegations against you are based on secret intelligence from unknown sources that you cannot challenge and that may have been the product of torture.
- Your finger and palm prints show that you are innocent, yet this information is suppressed by the authorities.
- A judge commits you for extradition to the foreign country based on handwriting analysis which the judge himself described as "very problematic", "very confusing", and with "conclusions that are suspect".