



Canadian Association of University Teachers
Association canadienne des professeurs et professeurs d'université

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The Canadian Association of University Teachers is the national voice of 70,000 academic and general staff at over 120 universities and colleges across Canada.

CAUT has closely monitored Dr. Diab's case since his unjust termination by Carleton University soon after the allegations against him became public. We've since been gravely concerned by the violations of his civil liberties and human rights. We are today urging the government of Canada to intervene with French authorities in order to secure Dr. Diab's release on bail.

The Canadian government has a duty to protect the rights of its citizens and to uphold international human rights. The facts of this case clearly demand action on the part of the Canadian government.

There are serious and consistent doubts about the evidence presented against Dr. Diab. The physical evidence produced by French authorities was described during Dr. Diab's extradition hearing by the Superior Court Justice as "very problematic" and "suspect." With no reliable physical evidence, French authorities are allegedly relying upon anonymous and unsourced intelligence -- intelligence that may have been obtained by torture. The unreliability of such evidence is well documented, and yet for Dr. Diab it represents his ongoing denial of fundamental justice.

Dr. Diab has now spent more than 2 ½ years in a French prison cell, without formal charge or trial. This is a gross denial of human rights, and a failure of fundamental justice. We call upon the Liberal government and Prime Minister Trudeau to do the right thing, to defend the rights of a Canadian citizen, to uphold international human rights, and to press for Dr. Diab's immediate release.