



May 26, 2021

File: 20907-F02

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Langevin Block
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
By email: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

I am writing today, on behalf of three million Canadian workers, to express concern regarding the case of Dr. Hassan Diab and respectfully request the Canadian government take immediate action to put an end to this long odyssey of injustice.

The Cour de cassation upheld the French Court of Appeal's decision to refer the Canadian professor to trial, despite the serious flaws, contradictory reasoning and misstatements of evidence in the appeals court's ruling.

After his extradition from Canada in 2014, largely on the basis of a handwriting analysis report ("Bisotti report") that was discredited by five world renowned experts from Britain, Canada, Switzerland and the United States, Hassan languished for over three years in a French prison, away from his family and home and in near solitary confinement, while French authorities investigated him. There was no trial and there were no formal charges laid. In 2018, the investigating judges in charge of the case dismissed the case and released Hassan in light of "consistent evidence" of his innocence.

Since Hassan's return to Canada in early 2018, evidence in support of his innocence has grown even stronger. In 2019, the French Court of Appeal ordered yet another review of the Bisotti report that had originally been used to extradite Hassan. The latest French handwriting analysts delivered strong criticism and rebuke of Bisotti's report, observations, methodology and conclusions that mirrored the findings of the five world-renowned experts.

Hassan, his spouse and their two young children have suffered enough. The decision by the Cour de cassation is a continuation of the scapegoating of an innocent man.

.../2

The victims of the 1980 Rue Copernic bombing and their families deserve justice. However, justice cannot be achieved by dragging an innocent man through a trial when the charges against him have been discredited time and again. Official documents and testimonies of numerous witnesses show Dr. Diab was not in France at the time of the bombing, and there is overwhelming evidence, which exculpates Hassan from this crime, including exculpatory fingerprint and palm print evidence.

Mr. Prime Minister, in 2018 you stated, "I think, for Hassan Diab, we have to recognize first of all that what happened to him never should have happened. This is something that obviously was an extremely difficult situation to go through for himself and for his family, and that's why we've asked for an independent external review to look into exactly how this happened and make sure that it never happens again."

I call on you and your government to honour your words by taking action to put an end to Dr. Hassan Diab's long and troubling ordeal. To further prolong this miscarriage of justice is an offence to Canadian values and a manifest failure to protect the fundamental human rights of Canadians. Therefore, I ask that you take two clear steps:

1. Give immediate assurances to Hassan Diab that Canada will not accept nor accede to a second request for his extradition.
2. Urge France to put an immediate end to this continuing miscarriage of justice.

Yours sincerely,



Hassan Yussuff
President

cc: CLC Officers and Executive Committee
The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, P.C., M.P. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
The Honourable David Lametti, P.C., M.P. Minister of Justice and Attorney General
The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P. Minister of Foreign Affairs
Hassan Diab Support Committee