



June 29, 2023

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

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

I am writing today, on behalf of over three million workers represented by the Canadian Labour Congress, to call upon the Canadian government to take action to protect Dr. Hassan Diab from another wrongful extradition.

In 2014, Dr. Diab was extradited from Canada to France, an extradition which was largely based on a handwriting analysis report (“Bisotti report”) that was discredited by five world-renowned experts from Britain, Canada, Switzerland and the United States. There, he languished in prison, in near solitary confinement for over three years while under investigation by French authorities. In 2018, Dr. Diab’s case was dismissed due to what investigating judges deemed consistent exculpatory evidence.

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. These findings were consistent with those of the five world-renowned experts.

Dr. Diab’s ordeal continued when the Assize Court in Paris, France ordered him to stand trial in April 2023, where he was found guilty despite the evidence supporting his innocence and the court’s reliance on outdated and discredited evidence. It is unacceptable that Dr. Diab has been sentenced to life in prison and a warrant issued for his arrest.

We believe this rushed and unfair trial led to the wrongful conviction of a Canadian citizen and that justice for the victims of the 1980 Rue Copernic bombing cannot be served by continuing to scapegoat an innocent man.

Therefore, we ask you, Mr. Prime Minister, to honour the statement you made in 2018: "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 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."

We urge you to take immediate action to protect the fundamental human rights of Hassan Diab by giving immediate assurances to Dr. Diab, his family and his supporters that Canada will not accept nor allow a second request for his extradition. Canada must do everything in its power to end this ongoing miscarriage of justice.

Dr. Diab, his spouse, and their two young children have suffered enough through this long ordeal.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bea Bruske". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bea Bruske
President

cc: CLC Officers
cc: The Honourable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General
cc: The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
cc: The Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs

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