



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

ICSFT joins the international appeal to hold Saudi Arabia accountable for its gross human rights violations

The ongoing impunity for human rights violations is fuelling further widespread and systematic violations in the country. The Human Rights Council and other UN human rights avenues are inadvertently emboldening the government's violations with their silence and conformity.

Saudi Arabia has also been asked to disclose all information available and to fully cooperate with all investigations into the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, including by the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions. However all appeals for accountability and transparency have fallen on deaf ears and impunity remains to take precedent.

In real time Saudi Arabia is doubling down attack on freedom of expression and assembly through arbitrary detention of human rights defenders and political oppositions for exercising their fundamental freedoms, including women human rights defenders, and increased use of the death penalty- the kingdom executed 37 me in April any many are on death row. During this month the government went on a spree arresting dozens of bloggers , citizen journalists, and family members of women human rights defenders targeting those supporting human rights defenders and the women's rights movement. As well there is no credible and effective investigation into the allegations of torture and ill-treatment against the prisoners of conscience. This is a prime testimony of widespread impunity and the Saudi government's zero-tolerance for any form of dissent.

We urge the HRC to adopt a resolution to establish a monitoring and accountability mechanism over the human rights violations in the country. Incidentally, we urge the HRC to build on the joint statement signed by [36 states](#) during the 40th session of the HRC calling, among other things, for the release of detained human rights defenders including women human rights defenders.



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We also call up on the HRC and relevant stakeholders to pressure Saudi Arabia to facilitate the immediate and unconditional release of all human rights defenders including women human rights defenders and to drop all charges against them, including those provisionally released. In the regard we specifically urge states who champion women's rights and the protection of civil society to explicitly call out Saudi Arabia for its fake women's rights reform and push for accountability for the arbitrary detention, ill-treatment and harassment of women human rights defenders and women's rights activists, including their families. We also call for prompt, effective, thorough, independent, impartial, and transparent investigation in to the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi . Those responsible must be held to account.

Further We reiterate our call with urgency to Saudi Arabia to take meaningful steps to adhere to UN founding principles and its commitment to human rights by ensuring all members of the public, in particular human rights defenders and political oppositions can freely and fully exercise their rights to freedoms of expression and association without fear of reprisals.