



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

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July 16, 2018

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
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Dear Prime Minister,

I write to you today to once again urge your government, on behalf of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT), to establish an independent and public inquiry into the case of Dr. Hassan Diab.

The government's recent decision to hold an external review falls too far short of what is needed in this situation. An inquiry must independently address the disturbing revelations over the conduct of Department of Justice officials in Dr. Diab's case as well as the serious concerns over minimal due process and legal protection in the Canadian extradition process. The government's decision ignores calls from Dr. Diab and his family, their supporters, civil society and other extradition and legal experts for an independent inquiry that can consider objective recommendations for reform.

We urge you to reconsider the review process to ensure the full transparency, accountability and credibility of the investigation. We are further concerned the reviewer will not have the full powers of an inquiry to compel testimony and necessary information, and the review will not include the same cross-examination of Department of Justice officials which would be allowed in a public inquiry.

The inquiry must go beyond the case of Dr. Hassan Diab and examine the serious issues with Canada's extradition law itself. Even as the presiding judge who ordered his extradition argued it was a weak case, Canadian laws failed to provide Dr. Diab with a truly fair process and to protect his rights and freedoms. To prevent this from ever happening again to any Canadian citizen, an inquiry must consider reforms to the Extradition Act and address its alarming weaknesses.

Only a full, independent, public inquiry can guarantee justice for Dr. Diab and ensure these same violations of a Canadian citizen's human rights and civil liberties are never repeated in the future.

We urge you to act immediately and set up an independent public inquiry without delay.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Robinson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Robinson
Executive Director

cc: The Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of
Canada
The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs Canada