

Question for written answer E-005867/2020

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 138

Assita Kanko (ECR)

Subject: Life-threatening situation of Dr Ahmadreza Djalali, who is unlawfully imprisoned in Iran

After more than 1600 days of unlawful imprisonment in Iran, involving psychological and physical torture and the denial of proper medical assistance, the state of health of Swedish-Iranian doctor Ahmadreza Djalali has deteriorated dramatically, making him even more vulnerable to the second wave of COVID-19 infection in what is an overcrowded Iranian prison.

In its Opinion No 92/2017, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the UN Human Rights Council identified serious breaches of the right of Dr Djalali to a fair trial and concluded that his immediate release, combined with an enforceable right to compensation in accordance with international law, is the appropriate remedy. The European Parliament has also repeatedly called on the Iranian authorities to release Dr Djalali unconditionally.

What tangible steps will the Vice-President / High Representative take, in what is a life-threatening situation for Dr Djalali, to ensure that he is immediately and unconditionally released and can return to his wife and two children in the EU?