



Kungl. Vetenskapsakademien har till uppgift att främja vetenskaperna och stärka deras inflytande i samhället.  
The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has as its aim to promote the sciences and strengthen their influence in society.

Stockholm 2 May 2018

Elisabeth Rachlew /ch

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed  
bin Rashid Al-Maktoum  
Vice President and Prime Minister  
Office of the Prime Minister  
P.O. Box 212000  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Your Highness,

The Human Rights Committee of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities, the Swedish Academy and the Young Academy of Sweden respectfully seek your assistance with the case of Ahmed Mansoor, a respected Emirati engineer and human rights defender who has been in detention since his arrest more than a year ago. Reliable reports indicate that he is being held incommunicado in an unknown location without access to his family or legal counsel.

Mr. Mansoor is a long-time advocate for peaceful political reform and human rights in the United Arab Emirates. We understand that, in March 2017, following his public calls on social media for the release of political prisoners in the Middle East, State Security officials arrested Mr. Mansoor at his home. We further understand that he was being held at al-Wathba Prison. It has come to our attention that Mr. Mansoor was brought to trial in March 2018. We find it unsettling that he continues to be denied legal counsel while his case proceeds in the courts and that the charges brought against him have yet to be disclosed.

We are concerned about Mr. Mansoor's prolonged isolation. Reliable reports indicate that he has been subjected to periods of solitary confinement and has been allowed only two short supervised visits with his family since his arrest, the last one in September 2017. We understand that his family's requests to visit him since then have been denied. A delegation of Irish lawyers reportedly sought to visit Mr. Mansoor in February 2018 but were unable to locate him. Officials from the Ministry of Interior told the lawyers that they did not know where he was being held and advised them to ask the police, who, in turn, were not able to provide information about Mr. Mansoor's whereabouts. Authorities at al-Wathba Prison reported that he was not held at their institution. Given this lack of information, we fear that Mr. Mansoor is at high risk of ill-treatment.

We respectfully request that you use your good offices to ensure that Mr. Mansoor's whereabouts, as well as the charges against him, are made public. We also ask that his conditions of confinement are brought into compliance with the U.N. Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules)—including that he be allowed regular access to his family and legal counsel and that he be provided with all needed medical care. Inasmuch as Mr. Mansoor's detention stems from his peaceful and legitimate human rights work, which is protected under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we respectfully urge you to use your good offices to help secure Mr. Mansoor's immediate and unconditional release from detention.



KUNGL.  
VETENSKAPS-  
AKADEMIEN

THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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Thank you in advance, Your Excellency, for your attention to this important matter.  
Respectfully yours,

Elisabeth Rachlew  
*Professor, Chairman of the Human Rights Committee*

Copy: His Majesty Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi  
Embassy of United Arab Emirates in Stockholm, Sweden  
The Embassy of Sweden in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates





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His Highness Sheikh Saif bin  
Zayed Al-Nuhayyan  
Minister of Interior  
Ministry of Interior  
Zayed Sport City, Arab Gulf Street  
Near to Shaikh Zayed Mosque PO  
Box: 398 Abu Dhabi,  
United Arab Emirates

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