



---

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 22 March 2020

Elisabeth Rachlew /ch

His Excellency Ayatollah  
Sayed 'Ali Khamenei  
Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of  
Iran  
The Office of the Supreme Leader  
Islamic Republic Street – End of Shadid  
Keshvar Doust Street  
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Your Excellency,

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 seeks your urgent attention and assistance concerning the case of Dr. Kylie Moore-Gilbert, an Australian-British political scientist imprisoned in Iran. We understand that she has been held under difficult conditions in Evin Prison for a year and a half and that her health has deteriorated significantly.

Dr. Moore-Gilbert, who has a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Melbourne, is a Lecturer in Islamic Studies. In September 2018, she was arrested while in Iran to attend an academic conference on Islam. Dr. Moore-Gilbert was subsequently charged with national security-related crimes. Reports indicate that, in late 2019, in closed proceedings before Iran's Revolutionary Court, she was convicted and sentenced to 10 years in prison. Shortly thereafter, her conviction reportedly was upheld on appeal. To the best of our knowledge, no credible evidence has been disclosed to support the charges brought against her.

We are deeply concerned and alarmed by reports that Dr. Moore-Gilbert has been held under severely restrictive conditions in Evin Prison since her arrest and imprisonment. These inhuman conditions have contributed to a serious decline in her physical and mental health. It is our understanding that she has been subjected to prolonged periods of solitary confinement and prevented from contact with her family beyond one telephone call. In protest against her incarceration and conditions of confinement, Dr. Moore-Gilbert reportedly has gone on more than five hunger strikes.

In light of the information above, Dr. Moore-Gilbert's detention appears to be arbitrary, in violation of her fundamental rights to freedom of expression and to due process of law, as well as a violation of her right to family life and the right to health. These rights are protected under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which the Islamic Republic of Iran is a State party. Having regard, in addition, to the crisis caused by the corona virus and the risk for the virus spreading among prisoners in Iran, we respectfully request your help in ensuring that Dr. Moore-Gilbert is promptly and unconditionally released from prison and permitted to return to her home and family in Australia.



We thank you, Your Excellency, for your attention to this important matter.

  
Elisabeth Rachlew

*Professor, Chairman of the Human Rights Committee*

Copy: His Excellency Ebrahim Raisi, Head of the Judiciary, c/o Permanent Mission of Iran to the United Nations

His Excellency Majid Takht Ravanchi, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Stockholm, Sweden

The Embassy of Sweden in Iran