



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

**Anneliese Dodds**

Member of the European Parliament for the South East of England

Brussels, 22nd June 2016

Dear High Representative Federica Mogherini,

We are extremely concerned about the situation of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe. Mrs Zaghari-Ratcliffe, who has lived in the UK since 2007, is a British-Iranian dual national. She has been arrested in Iran on the 3rd April 2016 - the day she was due to return to the UK from a holiday with her 22-month-old daughter Gabriella Ratcliffe visiting her family there. Gabriella Ratcliffe, who has British citizenship only, has had her British passport confiscated, and is stranded in Iran with her grandparents. Since her arrest Mrs Zaghari-Ratcliffe has been allowed only one family visit to see her daughter.

Mrs Zaghari-Ratcliffe has been held in solitary confinement till the 18th May. When she came out of solitary confinement, she reported weak physical conditions and was suffering from a number of health problems. She was held in a group cell till the 5th June when she was transferred to Evin prison in Tehran. Her transferral leads to concerns that she is being held in solitary confinement again which has led to health problems in the past.

Iran has ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and is legally bound by its provisions such as Article 9 and 14 which entitles everyone to liberty without arbitrary arrest and detention, and the right to a fair trial. Mrs Zaghari-Ratcliffe has not yet been granted access to a lawyer and to date, no charges have been made.

Mrs Zaghari-Ratcliffe's and her little daughter's cases raise serious concerns and we would very much appreciate you pressing the Iranian authorities to release her immediately and let them both return to the UK.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this matter. We are looking forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

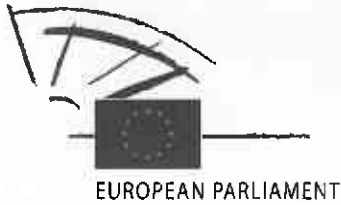
Anneliese Dodds MEP

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**Anneliese Dodds**

Member of the European Parliament for the South East of England

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