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Mohammad-Javad Larijani
Secretary General of the Human Rights Committee of Iran

Brussels, 12 April 2018

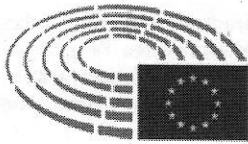
Dear Secretary-General Larijani,

I am writing to you concerning Mr Yousef Silavi, an Iranian citizen who is missing since late 2009. Mr Yousef Silavi was seen for the last time in his hometown, the city of Ahvaz, on 6 November 2009, when his wife was visiting their daughters in Damascus, Syria. Upon their return, on 8 November 2009, his family reported him missing to the police. As claimed by his family, an investigation was opened by the police at the time of Mr Yousef Silavi's sudden disappearance. However, the investigation was closed only six months after Mr Yousef Silavi was reported missing, seemingly without an adequate investigation.

During the past nine years, the family of Mr Yousef Silavi has relentlessly been looking for answers regarding his location, his whereabouts and for any conclusions that the police may have gathered in the framework of the aforementioned investigation, albeit unsuccessfully. No follow-up to this case has been ever made by the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, nor has any specific information been provided to the family until today. Strong evidence shows that Mr Yousef Silavi has been forcibly disappeared. Mr Yousef Silavi's wife has followed all the legal procedures in place in Iran to receive answers regarding the location of her husband and, in return, she saw her freedom of movement restricted by the authorities.

In light of such odd and unacceptable lack of concrete answers by both the police and the authorities of the Republic of Iran, Mr Yousef Silavi's case was presented and submitted on 1 December 2014 by his family to the United Nations Working Group on Enforced Disappearances. However, the scope of action of this Working Group on Enforced Disappearances has been thwarted, inasmuch as it is waiting, since 2004, for the Government of the Republic of Iran to set dates for a regular visit, as underlined at the latest Report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances presented in September 2017 during the 36th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council.

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In light of these facts, I hereby would like to ask you the following questions:

- Could you, as Secretary General of the Human Rights Committee of Iran, provide any concrete and substantial information regarding the location of Mr Yousef Silavi? Has Mr Yousef Silavi been arrested by the authorities of Iran? Would the authorities consider reopening the investigation to look for the whereabouts of Mr Yousef Silavi?
- Is the Republic of Iran considering replying to the calls of the United Nations Working Group on Enforced Disappearances and going to set a date for a visit to the country?

Best regards,

Anne Gomez

Member of the European Parliament

cc: **Federica Mogherini**, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission

Antonio Tajani, President of the European Parliament

Stavros Lambrinis, European Union's Special Representative for Human Rights

Janusz Lewandowski, Chair of the Delegation of the European Parliament for the Relations with

Iran