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Mr. Horst Seehofer

The Federal Minister of the Interior, Building and Community of Germany

Brussels, 22 November 2018

*Minister,*

I would like to bring to your attention the case of Mr. Sheikh Ahmed Nawar, a political refugee from Bahrain.

Mr. Sheikh Ahmed Nawar is a member of one of Bahraini's opposition party, Al-Wefaq. This is the reason why he had to leave Bahrain, since he faced prosecution, torture and jail. He has been in Germany since 2015 and asked for asylum, which was very recently denied.

However, the situation in Bahrain makes it unsafe for Mr. Sheikh Ahmed Nawar to return there. There are several indicators that he would be tortured and detained if he were to return. Not only did this happen to other political refugees that were handed over to the Bahraini authorities, such as the case of Sadiq Jafar al Shaabani, but the political situation in light of the upcoming elections is very grim. In fact, major opposition groups such as Al-Wefaq and Wa'ad were forcibly dissolved and their leaders threatened, intimidated and arrested.

In light of these facts, I urge you and the German local authorities to grant asylum to Mr. Sheikh Ahmed Nawar, since it is not safe for him to return to Bahrain.

*Best regards,*

*Ana Gomes*

Ana Gomes

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