



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Head of Judiciary, Ebrahim Raisi  
c/o H.E. Majid Takht Ravanchi  
Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
622 Third Avenue, 34th Floor  
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr Raisi,

I am writing to express my concern at the continued arbitrary detention of **Nahid Taghavi**, a 66-year-old German-Iranian national, in Tehran’s Evin prison. She is a German resident but spends several months a year visiting family in Iran and has never been detained.

Revolutionary Guards arrested Nahid Taghavi on 16 October 2020 at her home in Tehran and confiscated her personal belongings. The authorities did not inform her family of her arrest. They subjected Nahid Taghavi to solitary confinement.

It was not until 28 October 2020 that Nahid Taghavi was permitted a brief telephone call with her family. She was then denied contact with them for 35 days until December 2020 and only after that was allowed regular calls. The prosecution authorities denied her access to a lawyer of her own choosing and only allowed one from a list vetted and approved by the Head of the Judiciary. They have also refused to give any precise information to her family about the charges on which she has been detained, only citing “security” (amniyati) reasons. During interrogations in detention, Nahid Taghavi was asked about her personal history, including her activism during her student years, and the reasons she traveled to Iran.

Nahid Taghavi suffers from back problems and has high blood pressure for which she needs daily medication, which Evin prison authorities initially refused to accept. In detention, she has begun to suffer from and take medication for diabetes, a condition she had previously been able to manage through a healthy diet and exercise. Prior to her arrest she was scheduled to receive a dental surgery for the condition that causes her pain, but the authorities have refused to transfer her to a specialized facility for the treatment.

I ask you to immediately and unconditionally release Nahid Taghavi as she is a prisoner of conscience detained solely for peacefully exercising her rights to freedom of expression and association. Pending her release, give her regular access to a lawyer of her choosing, family visits and calls, as well as to any health care she needs.

Yours sincerely,

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_