

Sir Richard Roberts
Chief Scientific Officer
1993 Nobel Laureate
for Physiology or Medicine

November 17, 2017

Ambassador Gholamali Khoshroo
Mission of Iran to the United Nations
622 Third Ave., 34th Floor
New York, NY 10017

Re: Plea for Ahmadreza Djalali

Dear Ambassador Khoshroo:

As members of a group of people (and organizations) who, according to the will of Alfred Nobel are deeply committed to the greatest benefit to mankind, we cannot stay silent, when the life and work of a similarly devoted researcher as Iranian disaster medicine scholar Ahmadreza Djalali is threatened by a death sentence.

According to reports by the international weekly journal of science Nature (23 October 2017) <https://www.nature.com/news/iranian-scholar-sentenced-to-death-1.22875> and other sources, Ahmadreza Djalali was accused of collaboration with a hostile government and sentenced to death on 20 October.

Dr. Djalali, a resident of Sweden with his family, works on improving emergency responses of hospitals to armed terrorism and radioactive, chemical and biological threats. Dr. Djalali is affiliated with the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, and the University of Eastern Piedmont in Novara, Italy. He was arrested in April 2016 on an academic visit to Tehran.

While the conditions of his detention and trial have already given reason to great concern, a document based on a handwritten text by Dr. Djalali has now raised the suspicion that it was his refusal to work for the Iranian Intelligence Services, which led to this unfair, flawed trial.

Thus, we join in the several existing petitions:

<https://www.change.org/p/hassan-rouhani-urgent-justice-and-freedom-for-ahmadreza-djalali-md-emdm-phd>
<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2017/10/iran-prominent-academic-sentenced-to-death-after-grossly-unfair-trial/>
<https://www.scholarsatrisk.org/2017/10/disaster-medicine-scholar-sentenced-death-iran/>

and respectfully urge the Iranian authorities to let Ahmadreza come back home to his wife and children, and to continue his scholarly work for the benefit of mankind.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Richard Roberts Ph.D., F.R.S.
Representing 75 Nobel Laureates

75 Nobel Laureates

Name	Category	Prize Year
Peter Agre	Chemistry	2003
Robert J. Aumann	Economics	2005
Barry Clark Barish	Physics	2017
Francoise Barre-Sinoussi	Medicine	2008
J. Michael Bishop	Medicine	1989
Gunter Blobel	Medicine	1999
Thomas R. Cech	Chemistry	1989
Martin Chalfie	Chemistry	2008
Aaron Ciechanover	Chemistry	2004
Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clezio	Literature	2008
J. M. Coetzee	Literature	2003
Robert F. Curl Jr.	Chemistry	1996
Johann Deisenhofer	Chemistry	1988
Shirin Ebadi	Peace	2003
Gerhard Ertl	Chemistry	2007
Andrew Z. Fire	Medicine	2006
Edmond H. Fischer	Medicine	1992
Joachim Frank	Chemistry	2017
Jerome I. Friedman	Physics	1990
Leymah Roberta Gbowee	Peace	2011
Andre Geim	Physics	2010
Walter Gilbert	Chemistry	1980
Sheldon Glashow	Physics	1979
Carol W. Greider	Medicine	2009
Robert H. Grubbs	Chemistry	2005
Roger Guillemin	Medicine	1977
Sir John B. Gurdon	Medicine	2012
John L. Hall	Physics	2005
Oliver Hart	Economics	2016
Dudley R. Herschbach	Chemistry	1986
Avram Hershko	Chemistry	2004
Tim Hunt	Medicine	2001
Louis J. Ignarro	Medicine	1998
Elfriede Jelinek	Literature	2004
Takaaki Kajita	Physics	2015
Tawakkul Karman	Peace	2011
Klaus von Klitzing	Physics	1985
Brian K. Kobilka	Chemistry	2012
Roger D. Kornberg	Chemistry	2006
Finn E. Kydland	Economics	2004
Yuan T. Lee	Chemistry	1986
Anthony J. Leggett	Physics	2003
Jean-Marie Lehn	Chemistry	1987
John C. Mather	Physics	2006
Craig C. Mello	Medicine	2006
Robert C. Merton	Economics	1997
Paul L. Modrich	Chemistry	2015

Edvard Moser	Medicine	2014
May-Britt Moser	Medicine	2014
Herta Muller	Literature	2009
Robert A. Mundell	Economics	1999
Ferid Murad	Medicine	1998
Erwin Neher	Medicine	1991
Arno Penzias	Physics	1978
John C. Polanyi	Chemistry	1986
Stanley B. Prusiner	Medicine	1997
Venkatraman Ramakrishnan	Chemistry	2009
Jose Ramos-Horta	Peace	1996
Sir Richard J. Roberts	Medicine	1993
Richard R. Schrock	Chemistry	2005
Phillip A. Sharp	Medicine	1993
Hamilton O. Smith	Medicine	1978
Wole Soyinka	Literature	1986
Thomas A. Steitz	Chemistry	2009
John E. Sulston	Medicine	2002
Jack W. Szostak	Medicine	2009
Kip Stephen Thorne	Physics	2017
Harold E. Varmus	Medicine	1989
J. Robin Warren	Medicine	2005
Arieh Warshel	Chemistry	2013
Steven Weinberg	Physics	1979
Eric F. Wieschaus	Medicine	1995
Torsten N. Wiesel	Medicine	1981
Oliver E. Williamson	Economics	2009
Michael W. Young	Medicine	2017