

URGENT ACTION

HICHAM MANSOURI FREED, STILL FACES JAIL

Moroccan journalist Hicham Mansouri was released on 17 January after serving a 10-month prison term on trumped-up charges. He now faces up to five years in prison on separate charges.

Hicham Mansouri and his co-defendant were arrested on 17 March 2015 and each sentenced to 10 months in prison and a fine of 20,000 Moroccan dirhams (approximately US\$2,000) for complicity in adultery, after a trial which did not meet international standards.

He appears to have been punished for promoting investigative journalism and working alongside outspoken journalists and intellectuals in the Moroccan Association for Investigative Journalism (Association marocaine pour le journalisme d'investigation, AMJI). He was a prisoner of conscience.

Hicham Mansouri and six other Moroccan civil society activists have also been charged with several offences, including "threatening internal state security", for their work promoting journalism. They face up to five years in prison if convicted. Their next trial hearing is set for 27 January.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals. Amnesty International will continue to monitor the case and take further action as appropriate.

This is the second update of UA 90/15. Further information <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde29/1754/2015/en/>

Name: Hicham Mansouri

Gender m/f: m

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