

URGENT ACTION

CANADIANS RELEASED FROM EGYPTIAN PRISON

Canadian nationals Tarek Loubani and John Greyson were released on 5 October. They had spent 50 days in detention.

Tarek Loubani and **John Greyson** were released from Tora Prison on 5 October. They wanted to fly to Canada the next day, but the Cairo International Airport authorities prevented them from boarding the plane because they were on a “no-fly list”. They returned to Canada on 11 October after the Public Prosecution finally dropped accusations that they were involved in violent protests, according to a statement by Egypt’s Foreign Ministry.

In a letter smuggled out of Tora Prison in September, the men said they had at first had to share a cell measuring 3m by 10m with over 30 other prisoners, and had been forced to sleep on the concrete floor of the cell, where there were cockroaches, and the sanitation was poor. They said that after they were arrested and detained they had been ill-treated and verbally abused: this had included being slapped and beaten by the police, and being accused of being “foreign mercenaries”. They also said they were repeatedly denied phone calls to contact their families and lawyers.

In a statement following their release, the men thanked those who had campaigned on their behalf: “Thank you so much for all of your support, thank you so much for all of your help, [and] thank you so much for all you have done for us.”

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

Names: Tarek Loubani, John Greyson

Gender m/f: m

This is the third update of UA 248/13. Further information: <http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE12/057/2013/en>

Further information on UA: 248/13 Index: MDE 12/059/2013 Issue Date: 16 October 2013

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