



To the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei
Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran

Paris, April 28, 2020

Supreme Leader,

French trade unions CFTD, CGT, FSU, Solidaires and UNSA, draw your attention to the alarming situation of Ismail Abdi and Mohammed Habibi, Iranian teachers.

We have learned the re-arrest of Ismail Abdi, a member of the board of directors of the Iranian teachers' union (Tehran). Released on furlough on 17 March 2020. Mr Abdi had to report to prison on 21 April and was kept in detention. This is obviously dangerous given the spread of virus COVID19 in Iran and the particularly poor health conditions in detention centres.

Mr Abdi has been held in detention in the Evin prison since June 2015 when he applied for a visa to participate in the Education International World Congress. Education International.

We also demand for the unconditional and immediate release of another Tehran teacher association leader, Mr Mohammad Habibi, also member of the board of directors of the teachers' union of Iran (Tehran). On August 4, 2018, he was sentenced to ten and a half years in prison. His sentence also included prohibition of social and political activities for two years, a travel ban of two years, and 74 lashes. He was arrested in May during a peaceful gathering. A few days ago, the family of Habibi received his termination letter from the education service.

This is very disturbing news from Iran, on the eve of May Day, International Workers' Day.

We the French Trade-unions:

Condemn the unbearable repression and harassment of the Iranian teachers, trade-unionists, labour and human rights activists and artists;

Demand the cancellation of all unjust convictions, contrary to fundamental rights and freedoms, as well as the immediate and unconditional release, during this Covid-19 pandemic, of all activists imprisoned for their union activities.

Call on the Iranian regime to respect the international conventions ratified by its government, including freedom of association, gathering, strike and collective bargaining.

Please, Your Excellency, receive our respectful greetings.

Confédération française démocratique du travail (CFDT)

Confédération générale du travail (CGT) Fédération syndicale unitaire (FSU)

Union syndicale Solidaires

Union nationale des syndicats autonomes (UNSA)

Copies to:

Mr. Hassan Rohani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Mr. Ebrahim Raïssi, Chief of the Judiciary

Mr. Mohsen Haji Mirzaei, Minister of National Education

Mr. Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Paris