Iranian diplomatic mission outreach to help Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali

1. Identify the phone number and email of your country's Iranian diplomatic mission

2. Requesting the meeting

3. Your meeting with the embassy

1. Identify the phone number and email of your country's Iranian diplomatic mission

If you are aware of additional contact information of the below missions or missions not listed, we encourage you to email them to scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu. Thank you for your help!

Country	Iranian Mission Phone Number	Ambassador
Australia	+61-6290 2430 +61-6290 7000 cbr.visa@mfa.gov.ir cbr.student@mfa.gov.ir	Mr. Fereidoun Haghbin
Belgium	(+32) 2 627 03 50 secretariat@iranembassy.be	Mr. Gholamhossein Dehqani
Canada	(+1) 613 235 4726 (+1) 613 240 6755 iranemb@salamiran.org	Mr Kambiz Sheikh Hassani
Finland	(+358) 686 9240 embassy@iran.fi	Mrs. Forouzandeh Vadiati
Germany	(+49) 30 84 35 30 info@iranbotschaft.de	Mr. Mahmoud Farazandeh
Ireland	(+353) 1 288 5881 (+353) 1 288 0252 iranembassy@indigo.ie emb.dublin@mfa.gov.ir	Dr. Masoud Eslami
Italy	(+39) 06 863 28 485-6-7 In Italian: info@ambaciatairan.it In English: iranemb.rom@mfa.gov.ir	Mr. Hamid Bayat

Netherlands	(+31) 70 338 40 01 iranemb.lhy@mfa.gov.ir	Mr. Ali Reza Kazemi Abadi
Norway	(+47) 23 27 29 60 info@iranembassy.no	Mr. Alireza Yousefi
Poland	(+48) 22 617 15 85 secretary@iranemb.pl	Mr. Masoud Edrisi Kermanshahi
Sweden	+(46) 08 63 63 600-30-60 (+46) 8 63 63 677 Ambassador@iran.se iranemb.sto@mfa.gov.ir	Mr. Ahmad Masoumifar
Switzerland	+(41) 313510801 secretariat@iranembassy.ch ambassador@iranembassy.ch	Mr. Mohammad Reza Haji Karim Jabbari
UK	+44 (20) 72254200 iranemb.lon@mfa.gov.ir	Mr. Mohsen Baharvand
US	(202) 965-4990 info@daftar.org	Contact Embassy of Pakistan, Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Other	Please find your embassy here or here	

2. Requesting the meeting

We suggest you send a formal email requesting a meeting with the ambassador, and follow up by phone if you do not get a response.

Template Email

Dear Ambassador [last name]:

On behalf of [university/institution/association/organization], I am writing to respectfully request a meeting with you to discuss concerns surrounding disaster medicine scholar Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali, who faces the death penalty in Iran, in the context of our countries' longstanding higher education and scientific partnerships. I expect to be joined in this meeting by [names and titles].

I will be in [city] between [date] and [date] and would like to meet with you on any of those days for 20 minutes, if possible, between [time and time]. Alternatively, I am available to meet over Zoom or speak on the phone at those same times. If you are not available, I would be happy to work with your staff to find a more convenient time.

I can be reached by phone at [phone number] or email at [email address]. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from your office.

Sincerely,

[Name]
[Title/Institution]

Follow-up phone call
After submitting a meeting request by email, follow-up on that request with a phone call one week later. Call the embassy, identify yourself, where you are from, the university or other organization you represent. If you can't reach anyone, leave a clear, concise message.

An example of a conversation would be:

"Hi, my name is [name], and I'm calling from [university/organization/association/organization]. I am following up on a scheduling request I emailed on [date] requesting to meet with Ambassador [last name]. I would like to talk with him/her about my concern for Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali's deteriorating health. Is there a time the Ambassador would be available to meet with me on [date] or [date] to discuss these concerns?"

Template language for follow-up email
This email should only be used if you receive no reply to your outreach, as it allows you to lodge your concerns.

Your Excellency:

I write to express grave concern for the well-being of Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali, an Iranian-Swedish scholar of disaster medicine wrongfully sentenced to death and in dire need of medical care. I respectfully urge you to call on the appropriate authorities to secure Dr. Djalali's immediate release so he may receive the medical care he urgently needs.

Dr. Djalali has held academic positions at universities in Belgium, Italy, and Sweden. In December 2020, he was awarded a Scholars at Risk (SAR) Fellowship at Harvard University, in the United States. Most recently, Dr. Djalali has been recognized as the recipient of SAR's 2021 Courage to Think Award.

I understand from SAR that Iranian authorities arrested Dr. Djalali in April 2016 while he was traveling to participate in a series of workshops hosted by universities in Tehran and Shiraz. On October 21, 2017, Dr. Djalali was convicted and sentenced to death for "corruption on earth" (*ifsad fil-arz*), based on unsubstantiated allegations that he had provided intelligence to the Israeli authorities. Dr. Djalali has disputed the allegations, asserting that his ties to the international academic community are the basis of his prosecution. The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention found in a 2017 opinion that he was arbitrarily detained and called for his immediate release. SAR understands that Dr. Djalali has been denied the right to appeal his conviction and sentence.

On November 24, 2020, Iranian authorities moved Dr. Djalali to solitary confinement in preparation to carry out his death sentence. Dr. Djalali spent five months in solitary confinement, awaiting imminent execution, until April 14, 2021, when authorities transferred him to a multiple-occupancy cell.

For years, Dr. Djalali has been denied access to appropriate medical care for numerous health complications that worsened while he was in solitary confinement. These include leukemia, severe weight loss, chronic gastritis, low heart rate and hypotension, gallstones, partial paralysis of the right foot, indirect inguinal hernia, hemorrhoid and fissures, low blood cell count, low levels of calcium and vitamin D, malnutrition, dyspepsia, and depression. Dr. Djalali's family fears that if authorities continue to deny him access to medical care, he will die in prison.

Dr. Djalali also continues to be denied access to his lawyer and his family in Iran, and from making calls to his wife and children in Sweden. Without visitations and phone access, Dr. Djalali's family can only await state media reports to learn more about his situation.

Absent additional information, the facts as described suggest that Dr. Djalali's arrest, conviction, and sentencing suggest a flagrant disregard for international standards of academic freedom, due process, fair trial, and humane treatment of prisoners, as guaranteed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Iran is a party.

I therefore respectfully urge you to direct the relevant authorities to secure Dr. Djalali's immediate release, and, pending such action, to ensure his well-being and access to legal counsel, family, and medical treatment.

I appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

[Name]
[Title/Institution]

3. Your meeting with the embassy

In Advance

- Prepare documents:
    - Print talking points.
    - Bring a copy of your institution/section/association letter, if available, or SAR's letter.
    - Bring information on your country's (or your institutions') scientific/higher-ed relations with Iran, if appropriate.

At the beginning of the meeting

- Introduce yourself: your name; institution.
- Thank the person for the meeting.

Talking points on Dr. Djalali

Use these talking points as a reference. We encourage you to add any relevant information about issues relating to cooperation in science and higher education in your country.

- We are members of the international higher education community, and in this capacity we are concerned about our academic colleague Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali.
- [*if appropriate*] We are also concerned about our countries' academic and scientific ties.
- As you may know, Dr. Djalali is an Iranian-Swedish researcher and lecturer of disaster medicine who has devoted his career to helping governments and health

professionals prepare for and respond to emergencies. He is affiliated with several European universities as well as Harvard University, in the US.

- In March 2016, Dr. Djalali was arrested while visiting Iran to participate in academic workshops. He was sentenced to death in October 2017. Dr. Djalali is currently being held in Evin Prison.
- We are gravely concerned about Dr. Djalali's dramatically deteriorating health. He suffers from leukemia, severe weight loss, chronic gastritis, low heart rate, and hypotension, gallstones, partial paralysis of the right foot, indirect inguinal hernia, hemorrhoid and fissures, low blood cell count, low levels of calcium and vitamin D, malnutrition, dyspepsia, and depression.
- This concern for his health is heightened by reports that he has been denied medical treatment in prison, as well as access to his lawyer and family in Iran, and from making calls to his wife and children in Sweden.
- We respectfully request that you intervene and urge the relevant authorities to immediately release Dr. Djalali on medical parole.

Background on Dr. Djalali

- Dr. Djalali is an Iranian-Swedish researcher and lecturer of disaster medicine who has devoted his career to helping governments and health professionals prepare for and respond to emergencies; Iran has released no public evidence to support allegations that he has engaged in any activity besides peaceful academic research and dialogue.
- Despite international protests, in February 2018, Iran's judiciary denied his request to review the case and announced that the death sentence can be carried out at any time.
- Dr. Djalali has repeatedly maintained his innocence, and in March, did so again in a letter to the country's president.
- The information that has come to light about the proceedings against Dr. Djalali raises grave concerns about Dr. Djalali's well-being, about violations of due process, and about the impact on academics more broadly.
- <u>Concern for Dr. Djalali's Well-being</u>
    - For years, Dr. Djalali has been denied access to appropriate medical care for numerous health complications that worsened while he was in solitary confinement. These include leukemia, severe weight loss, chronic gastritis, low heart rate, and hypotension, gallstones, partial paralysis of the right foot, indirect inguinal hernia, hemorrhoid and fissures, low blood cell count, low levels of calcium and vitamin D, malnutrition, dyspepsia, and depression.
- <u>Denial of Due Process</u>

Dr. Djalali was effectively denied the right to appeal his death sentence: the Supreme Court affirmed his sentence without following the standard practice of giving Dr. Djalali's lawyers necessary information to file an appeal.
    - Dr. Djalali was denied the right to a lawyer of his choosing.
    - Dr. Djalali was held without charge for nearly 10 months after his April 2016 arrest.
    - Dr. Djalali was reportedly threatened and otherwise pressured into signing a forced confession.
- Mistreatment and solitary confinement
    - On November 24, 2020, Iranian authorities moved Dr. Djalali to solitary confinement in preparation to carry out his death sentence. Dr. Djalali spent five nightmarish months in solitary confinement, awaiting imminent execution, until April 14, 2021, when authorities transferred him to a multiple-occupancy cell.
    - Authorities continue to deny Dr. Djalali access to his lawyer and his family in Iran, and from making calls to his wife and children in Sweden.
- <u>Academic Impact</u>
    - Dr. Djalali has strong ties to universities in Sweden, Italy, and Belgium, and he was arrested while attending an academic conference in Iran.
    - In December 2020, he was awarded a Scholars at Risk (SAR) Fellowship at Harvard University, in the United States.
    - On November 9, 2021, SAR announced that Dr. Djalali is the recipient of SAR's 2021 Courage to Think Award.
    - It is critical for the international academic relationships between Iran and the rest of the world that Dr. Djalali's case be resolved favorably.

After the meeting

- Thank the ambassador in person for meeting with you.
- Ask the ambassador if they would like any follow-up information. If so, please make a note of this so that the SAR section can supply the material.
- Send the ambassador a thank you email immediately following the meeting. Please consider forwarding a copy of this email to SAR.
- Please take a minute to email SAR at scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu to let us know how the meeting went, so we can tailor our advocacy and advise other sections accordingly.