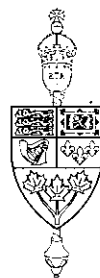


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## **Hélène Laverdière**

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Hon. Stéphane Dion  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Global Affairs Canada

March 8, 2016

*Subject: Khalida Jarrar*

Dear Minister Dion,

I write to you today concerning the case of Khalida Jarrar, a Palestinian parliamentarian who was arrested by Israeli authorities in 2015.

As you are no doubt aware, Ms. Jarrar was elected to the Palestinian Legislative Council in 2006. She was arrested in Ramallah in April 2015 and put under administrative detention in Israel, without charge or trial. Her conviction in December 2015 followed multiple irregularities in the proceedings, as well as testimonies that were apparently obtained under duress. She is currently serving a sentence of 15 months in prison.

Ms. Jarrar's case has been raised by EU Members of Parliament, human rights groups including Amnesty International, and parliamentarians around the world.

In January 2016, the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians of the InterParliamentary Union adopted a decision on Ms. Jarrar, expressing its deep concern regarding Ms. Jarrar's conviction in light of multiple irregularities surrounding her arrest, detention and prosecution.

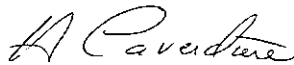
I note that Ms. Jarrar has family in Canada: one daughter is a permanent resident of Canada and law student, and another daughter is a student who hopes to do graduate studies in Canada, and as such the Canadian government has an important role to play in this case.

Finally, I am deeply troubled by reports that Ms. Jarrar is in poor health and that she has been denied regular access to her doctor and to her family while in prison.

Minister, I hope you will agree with me that Canada must uphold the rights of parliamentarians to peacefully pursue political work free from prosecution in all parts of the world.

Consequently, I urge you to raise Khalida Jarrar's case with relevant Israeli authorities without delay, to ensure that her rights and due process are respected.

Sincerely,



**Hélène Laverdière**

MP, Laurier - Sainte-Marie

NDP Critic for Foreign Affairs