

Your ref:

Our ref: UKG-mur-JKha/pro-iahrac

The Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1A 2M

25th October 2018

Dear Prime Minister Theresa May

We write to you today as members and representatives of International Advocacy for Human Rights and Anti-Corruption (IAHRAC) and, most importantly as good citizens, to express our deep concern about the organised murder of Mr Jamal Khashoggi.

We stand in solidarity with the family of Mr Khashoggi and the most marginalised people and communities around the world to uphold our constitution – justice, equality, and liberty to put forward to you through an open letter about our dismay on the planned killing of Mr Khashoggi.

As you may be aware, IAHRAC works both for the welfare of citizens of all nations; and in empowering people to be aware of their rights as enshrined in our constitution, in accordance to the declaration proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on the 10th of December 1948 (General Assembly resolution 217A), as a common standard of achievements for all people and all nations. In upholding and supporting this declaration, “the media, civil society, and other activists like IAHRAC have helped people and government of all nations to be vigilant against transgressions”.

We did carefully listen to you on the 24th of October when you addressed the House of Commons and we were cock-a-hoop when a question relating to the planned killing of Mr Khashoggi was raised. We appreciate that you have imposed visa ban on the suspected individuals. However, we feel that alone is not exactly what the public want because this is a rather feeble sanction which is like begging the issue. The public would want a tougher sanction, as the people that ordered the killing are known even if their names have not yet appeared on the media. Our organisation would suggest that you place an embargo on the sale of arms and military hardware to the Saudi government with immediate effect.

It is expected that Saudi government should protect the rights of people and promote freedom of speech and right to live. It does not behove the government to label any and every conflicting voice as anti-national.

There is irrefutable evidence that clearly points fingers at the Saudi government on this killing. President Trump was very clear in his speech that the killing was planned and that the covering of the evidence is very flimsy.

Madam Prime Minister, this kind of dastardly act being perpetrated by the Saudi government in Turkey undermines Human Rights and freedom of speech, and it will not be appropriate for a leader like you to kowtow to the barbaric act displayed by the Saudi government.

Madam Prime Minister, it does no credit to your government to seem to be sympathetic to a government that uses its power to stifle the rights of individuals who express their views on a range of issues that directly affect their countries or citizens. An atmosphere of hostility against civil society activists in a democracy, and the uncertainty and insecurity created among communities across the country, can only be to the detriment of a society and the government.

The German Chancellor Angela Merkel has boldly announced the suspension of arms sale to Saudi Arabia. The Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau appears to be inching closer to cancelling Canada's \$15-billion deal to sell light armoured vehicles to Saudi Arabia. French government on Wednesday the 24th of October also announced it could impose sanctions on Saudi Arabia if its intelligence services find the kingdom was behind the murder of Khashoggi.

It is on record that there is an outrageous condemnation; and worldwide diplomatic action has been escalating over this gory act, but we would love to see a country like Britain in the forefront. We have heard the Saudi Crown Prince "Mohammed bin Salman" mention that the perpetrators involved in the journalist's killing would be brought to justice with Turkey's help. The whole world is awaiting the outcome of the investigation into the killing of Mr Khashoggi.

Madam Prime Minister, we hereby request your government to use its position to urgently review all orders that place restraints on Saudi citizens, and most importantly, redress the killing of Mr Khashoggi by suspending all arms sale and trade deals with immediate effect.

We look forward to your response and action on these vital issues.

Yours Sincerely

Barrister Tunde Taiwo
Secretary General, UK

Mr Oladotun Akinwole
President, UK

Dr Okoro M Akinyemi
Head of Affairs, Germany