

Adala UK

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Rt Hon Hamish Falconer MP
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan, and Pakistan
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

Dear Minister Falconer,

I am writing to you as a British citizen and on behalf of **Adala UK**, a British non-governmental organisation dedicated to documenting and raising awareness of human rights violations committed against the Sahrawi people in the Occupied Territories of Western Sahara. Our work is supported by a growing network of activists across the region and in Morocco, who provide firsthand testimonies of the grave injustices faced by the Sahrawi population.

I am writing to express our deep concern regarding the ongoing detention of **Mr. Aziz Ghali**, a Moroccan human rights defender, currently held by Israeli authorities. We respectfully urge the UK Government to take immediate diplomatic and humanitarian measures to address this urgent matter.

According to reports from the **Moroccan Human Rights Coalition**, Mr. Ghali and fellow activist **Mr. Abdelazim Ben Diraoui** are on hunger strike following the interception of their humanitarian vessel, part of the "Flotilla of Steadfastness", which aimed to deliver essential aid to Gaza via international waters. The interception and detention of these humanitarian actors constitutes a clear violation of international law and fundamental human rights.

Mr. Ghali has long demonstrated unwavering commitment to justice, including his courageous defense of the Sahrawi people's rights under Moroccan occupation, despite facing significant personal and political risks. Credible reports indicate that he has been subjected to denial of legal representation, verbal and physical abuse, forced transfers without notice, and deprivation of basic necessities such as water and medical care.



On behalf of Adala UK, we respectfully request that the UK Government:

- 1. **Engage urgently with Israeli authorities** to secure the immediate and unconditional release of Mr. Ghali and Mr. Ben Diraoui;
- 2. **Issue a public statement** reaffirming the United Kingdom's commitment to the protection of human rights defenders and opposition to the unlawful detention of humanitarian actors.

The continued detention of Mr. Ghali represents a serious breach of international humanitarian and human rights standards. We trust that your leadership and urgent intervention can play a decisive role in securing his release.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter and for your ongoing commitment to human rights across North Africa.

Yours sincerely,

Sidi Ahmed Lyadasi,

Chair of Adala UK, Representative to the United Nations

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