

The Rt Hon Keir Starmer MP  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1A 2AA

20 May 2025

Dear Prime Minister,

We are writing about the case of Alaa Abd el-Fattah, the British-Egyptian political prisoner who should have been released at the end of his prison sentence in September 2024, and who has now been on hunger strike for more than 80 days. We are requesting an urgent update on progress, given the serious risks both to his health and that of his mother Laila Soueif, who has been on hunger strike in support of him since September 2024.

We welcomed your assurance to the House on 26 February that you would do everything you could to ensure Alaa's release, and your recognition that this was an "incredibly difficult situation" for his family. We were pleased to see that on 28 February, you pressed President Sisi for Alaa's release and agreed to speak to him again soon, and that on 2 March the National Security Adviser spoke to the Egyptian Foreign Minister about Alaa's case.

We were relieved that following these developments, Laila Soueif agreed to ease her hunger strike somewhat by accepting 300 calories per day, in recognition of these hopeful signs of progress, and was discharged from St Thomas' hospital.

However, we write with mounting concern about the lack of concrete progress on Alaa's case, more than two months after your call with President Sisi. Time is in desperately short supply in this case. Alaa has been acutely unwell in prison, experiencing vomiting, stomach pains, dizziness and blurred vision. Meanwhile, Laila's health continues to deteriorate. She has not eaten proper food for more than seven months.

Prime Minister, we remain gravely concerned about the implications for Alaa's family if the path to resolve his case and secure his release cannot be found very soon. There is also no doubt in our minds that if the health of Laila or Alaa is further damaged by this ordeal, this would have serious long-term implications for the British-Egyptian bilateral relationship. We urge you to deploy every tool at your government's disposal at this vital stage.

We offer our support to your efforts on behalf of Alaa and his family in any way needed.

Yours sincerely,

The undersigned

Brendan O'Hara MP, Interim Chair of the APPG  
Tim Roca MP, Deputy-Chair of the APPG  
Baroness Helena Kennedy LT KC, Vice-Chair of the APPG

Diane Abbott MP  
Shockat Adam MP  
Baroness Altmann  
Lord Alton of Liverpool  
Órfhlaith Begley MP  
Apsana Begum MP  
Alison Bennett MP  
Baroness Bennett  
Sian Berry MP  
Baroness Blackstone  
Olivia Blake MP  
Baroness Blower  
Baroness Brinton  
Jess Brown-Fuller MP  
Richard Burgon MP  
Ian Byrne MP  
Baroness Chakrabati  
Wendy Chamberlain MP  
Danny Chambers MP  
Ellie Chowns MP  
Jeremy Corbyn MP  
Stella Creasy MP  
Pat Cullen MP  
The Rt Hon David Davis  
Marsha de Cordova MP  
Carla Denyer MP  
Lord Dholakia  
Baroness D'Souza  
The Rt Hon Sir Iain  
Duncan Smith MP  
Neil Duncan-Jordan MP  
Colum Eastwood MP  
John Finucane MP  
Mary Kelly Foy MP  
Andrew George MP  
Rachel Gilmour MP  
Olly Glover MP  
Marie Goldman MP

Sarah Green MP  
Lord Peter Hain  
The Lord Hannay of  
Chiswick GCMG CH  
Monica Harding MP  
Chris Hazzard MP  
Baroness Healy of  
Primrose Hill  
Lord Hendy  
Chris Hinchcliff MP  
Dayre Hughes MP  
Baroness Angela Harris  
Baroness Janke  
Liz Jarvis MP  
Christine Jardine MP  
Kim Johnson MP  
Clive Jones MP  
Ben Lake MP  
Ian Lavery MP  
Brian Leishman MP  
Baroness Lister  
Rebecca Long-Bailey MP  
Baroness Ludford  
Douglas Macallister MP  
Brian Mathew MP  
Ben Maguire MP  
Cathal Mallaghan MP  
Blair McDougall MP  
John McDonnell MP  
Andy McDonald MP  
John Milne MP  
Calum Miller MP  
Layla Moran MP  
Graeme Morris MP  
The Rt Hon Lord  
McNally  
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Edward Morello MP  
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Kate Osamor MP  
Kate Osborne MP  
Dr. Simon Opher MP  
Adrian Ramsay MP  
Martin Rhodes MP  
Lord Rooker  
Anna Sabine MP  
Lord Prem Sikka  
Vikki Slade MP  
The Rt Hon Sir Desmond  
Swayne MP  
Nadia Whittome MP  
Sir John Whittingdale MP  
Baroness Whitaker  
Paul Kohler MP  
Chris Law MP  
Bell Ribeiro Addy MP  
Freddie van Mierlo MP  
Caroline Voaden MP  
Zarah Sultana MP  
The Rt Hon Valerie Vaz  
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Steve Witherden MP  
Munira Wilson MP  
Claire Young MP