

Pierre Laurent
Paris Senator

Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian
Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs
37 quai d'Orsay
75007 Paris

Paris, 12 June 2019

Dear Mr. Minister,

I would like to draw your attention to the human rights situation in the Kingdom of Bahrain in general and to the threats of execution against Mr Ahmed Al-Malali and Mr Ali Al-Arab, which have been referred to me.

At the request of the Bahraini authorities, an independent commission of inquiry, the Bassiouni Commission, issued a report in late 2011 denouncing numerous human rights violations in that country, including torture and numerous violations of freedom of expression.

The authorities stated at the time that they accepted almost all the recommendations of this report and those of the UN Human Rights Council held in September 2012.

It must be noted that despite these commitments, the incarceration, torture and death sentences of opponents are increasing in this autocracy.

It is in this context that the death sentences of Mr. Ahmed Al-Malali and Mr. Ali Al-Arab are being handed down, pending ratification by the King, who may arrive at any time.

I would be grateful if you could tell me, Minister, what France intends to do to renew with the Bahraini authorities its concerns about the deteriorating human rights situation and, more immediately, to intervene with King Hamed Ben Issa Al Khalifa on behalf of Mr. Ahmed Al-Malali and Mr. Ali Al-Arab.

Please accept, Mr. Minister, the expression of my most distinguished greetings.

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Mr. Muhammad Abdul Ghaffar Abdulla
Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain
3 bis place des États-Unis
75016 Paris

Paris, 12 June 2019

Excellency,

I would like to draw your attention to the threats of execution against Mr. Ahmed Al-Malali and Mr. Ali Al-Arab, which have been referred to me.

Their death sentences are pending ratification by your sovereign, who may take place at any time.

In the spirit of the recommendations of the Bassiouni report and those of the United Nations Human Rights Council held in September 2012, which the authorities of your country have undertaken to respect, I would be grateful if you would convey my wish that Mr. Ahmed Al-Malali and Mr. Ali Al-Arab not be executed.

At the same time, I would like to remind you, Excellency, of my commitment against the death penalty throughout the world.

Please accept, Excellency, the expression of my most distinguished greetings.

Pierre Laurent