

OCUFA

Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations
Union des Associations des Professeurs des Universités de l'Ontario

August 27, 2012

The Honourable John Baird
Minister of Foreign Affairs Canada
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0G2

Dear Minister Baird;

On behalf of the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA), I am writing to express my concern about the imprisonment in Egypt of Dr. Tarek Loubani and Professor John Greyson after their arrest by police in Cairo, on August 17, 2013.

I know you, your staff, and Foreign Affairs Canada have been investigating this matter. I thank you for your work so far, and urge you to intensify your efforts over the coming days. The unlawful detention of any Canadian is cause for serious concern and action. This case has also affected Ontario's 17,000 professors and academic librarians deeply, as Dr. Loubani and Professor Greyson are respected colleagues, outstanding educators, and committed humanitarians. At the time of their arrest, they were en route to the Gaza Strip for an academic and medical partnership with a local hospital. Securing their timely release will allow them to continue their important work.

We join with faculty associations across Canada, and the Canadian Association of University Teachers, in calling for every diplomatic effort possible to free Dr. Loubani and Professor Greyson. If OCUFA can be of any assistance in this matter, we stand ready to provide help wherever possible and appropriate.

Yours sincerely,



Kate Lawson, President
Ontarian Confederation of University Faculty Associations

cc:

H. E. Wael Aboul-Magd, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Canada
H. E. David Drake, Ambassador of Canada to Egypt
Wayne D. Peters, President, Canadian Association of University Teachers