

His Excellency Dr. Hassan Rouhani
President of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Your Excellency:

We, the undersigned, respectfully urge you to order the immediate and unconditional release of Dr. Mohammad Hossein Rafiee-Fanood, who is unlawfully imprisoned for expressing his political views in a peaceful and legal manner.

Dr. Rafiee, aged 71, is a retired professor of polymer chemistry at the University of Tehran, and a prolific writer. He has been a vocal supporter of the nuclear negotiations between Iran and the P5 +1, and through his writings and speeches he has advocated a negotiated and peaceful solution to the problem that would respect Iran's national, international and sovereign rights.

Restricting Dr. Rafiee's rights to freedom of expression through arrest and detention, the conditions of his prosecution, and his inhumane conditions in Evin Prison represent violations of both the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to which the Islamic Republic of Iran adheres.

In furtherance of respect for human rights of scholars, scientists, and all citizens of Iran, we urge you to ensure that the guarantees embodied in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iran's obligations under international law are upheld.

Sincerely,

Signatories (in alphabetical order):

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364. Jonathan Wyrzten, Assistant Professor of Sociology and International Affairs, History, Yale University
365. Miu Chung Yan, Professor, The University of British Columbia, School of Social Work
366. Byeong-uk Yi, Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto
367. Michael Young, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin

368. Deborah Zamble , Professor, Departments of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Toronto
369. Hans-Peter Zenner, M.D., Distinguished Professor & Chairman, Department of ORL/Head&Neck
Surgery, The University of Tübingen, Germany
370. Rolf Ziegler, Professor of sociology emeritus, University of Munich

CC: Ayatollah Sadegh Larijani - Head of the Judiciary