

ARREST CAMPAIGNS TARGETING LAWYERS IN EGYPT CONTRAVENTE THE UN BASIC PRINCIPLES ON THE ROLE OF LAWYERS



المركز العربي لاستقلال القضاء والمحاماة
THE ARAB CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF
THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION
(ACILP)



مؤسسة دعم العدالة
JUSTICE SUPPORT FOUNDATION (JSF)

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The Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and Legal Profession (ACIJLP) and the Justice Support Foundation express their profound concern and strong condemnation regarding the arrest campaign targeting lawyers and political activists following their support for the families of detainees and their calls for the release of prisoners of conscience who continue to face prolonged pretrial detention for expressing their opinions, beliefs, and ideas.

Since the evening of 24 May 2026 and continuing into the morning of today, security forces arrested two coordinators from the Defense Committee for Prisoners of Conscience, lawyer Mohamed Abul-Diyar and human rights advocate Ms. Wafaa Al-Masri, who was arrested from her home this morning, after they had organized a solidarity gathering with the families of detainees to express the ongoing suffering caused by the continued detention of their relatives.

The ACIJLP affirms that targeting lawyers because of, or during the course of, carrying out their professional duties and defending their clients constitutes a violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as the United Nations Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1990, which prohibit subjecting lawyers to threats, legal prosecution, administrative or economic sanctions, or any other forms of harassment as a result of actions undertaken in accordance with recognized professional duties, standards, and ethics.

While emphasizing its rejection of these measures and violations against Abul-Diyar and Al-Masri, the ACIJLP calls upon the Egyptian authorities to secure their immediate and unconditional release. It further calls on the Egyptian government to uphold its international commitments, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which Egypt has ratified and which, pursuant to the Constitution, forms part of domestic legislation.

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