# Your Excellency

More than six years ago, in June 2012, Raif Badawi, the founder of a online forum for political and social debate, has been arrested.

Besides Raif Badawi, dozens more outspoken activists remain behind bars, simply for exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly. The authorities have targeted the small but vocal community of human rights defenders, including by using anti-terrorism laws to suppress their peaceful actions to expose and address human rights violations.

I am extremely concerned about the intensified crackdown on freedom of expression in the country and I am calling on King Salman and the Saudi Arabian authorities to immediately and unconditionally release Raif Badawi and all the other prisoners of conscience.

Yours Sincerely