

Submission to the United Nations Universal Periodic Review of

## The Arab Republic of Egypt

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Human Rights Council  
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Submitted by:<sup>1</sup>

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COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE  
COMITÉ DE JUSTICE  
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COMITATO PER LA GIUSTIZIA  
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<sup>1</sup> A description of the submitting organizations is on page 2. Contact information for submitting organizations is in Annex 1.

**The Committee for Justice**

The Committee for Justice (CFJ) is a non-governmental organization established in Geneva, Switzerland in 2015 with the aim of defending victims of human rights violations across the Middle East and North Africa region.

**Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights**

Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights (RFKHR) is a non-governmental organization founded in 1968 by the family and friends of former United States Attorney General and Senator Robert F. Kennedy to continue his legacy of fighting for a more just and peaceful world. The international advocacy and litigation team works to protect human rights across Africa, the Americas, and Asia, with a particular emphasis on protecting civic space. RFKHR participates directly in strategic litigation of emblematic cases at the international and regional level.

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## **I. Introduction**

1. In this submission, CFJ and RFKHR analyze Egypt's fulfillment of its human rights obligations since Egypt's prior Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in November 2019. The submission assesses Egypt's implementation of recommendations received during its previous cycle, and provides specific recommendations for Egypt to consider based on its response and actions over the past five years.
2. In particular, this submission aims to provide information on restrictions to civic space and human rights violations as they relate to journalists, lawyers, and human rights defenders (hereinafter "HRDs") in Egypt. Journalists, lawyers, and HRDs are at particular risk of being targeted by the Egyptian government due to their role as prominent actors in civil society.<sup>i</sup>

## **II. Background and Recent Developments**

3. Since 2019, civic space and human rights in Egypt have severely deteriorated, exacerbated by several recent developments related to presidential elections and Israel's war on Gaza.<sup>ii</sup>
4. President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi was elected to a third term in December 2023 in an election marred by arrests, intimidation "and onerous requirements for candidates that effectively prevented any meaningful competition."<sup>iii</sup> Leading up to the election, "security forces curtailed peaceful protests and harassed, detained, and prosecuted dozens of journalists as well as political and human rights activists."<sup>iv</sup> In response, the European Parliament passed a resolution calling for the Government to "stop stifling opposition" and "uphold the rule of law, freedom of expression, press, media and association, and judicial independence."<sup>v</sup>
5. Following Israel's war on Gaza in October 2023, Egyptian authorities "detained and prosecuted dozens of protestors and activists in pro-Palestine protests"<sup>vi</sup> across the country.<sup>vii</sup> Between October 7, 2023 and May 2024, authorities arrested and detained at least 120 protesters supporting Palestine.<sup>viii</sup>

## **III. Implementation of Prior UPR Recommendations**

6. Egypt's third cycle UPR took place in November 2019 and was adopted by the Human Rights Council in March 2020.<sup>ix</sup> Egypt received 40 recommendations on freedom of expression and the press, 21 on detention, 19 on HRDs, 14 on civil society, 14 on freedom of association and peaceful assembly, and 7 on enforced disappearance – 115 total.<sup>x</sup>
7. Despite accepting 66 recommendations, there is no evidence to show Egypt has implemented them. Instead, Egypt has been accused of "deceptive" engagement with the UPR process and has continued to commit violations, "blatantly disregarding UN and

member state recommendations.”<sup>xi</sup> For example, it supported the recommendation to “[t]ake the necessary measures to guarantee the freedom of expression and opinion of the population, in particular for [HRDs] and journalists, and investigate and punish cases of threats, reprisals and other acts of violence,” but in the intervening period has in fact continued to violate the rights to freedom of expression and opinion, and use internet censorship to restrict freedom of the press.<sup>xii</sup>

8. Egypt rejected approximately 43% of these recommendations, primarily those that entailed taking specific actions. For example, Egypt did not accept a recommendation to “[r]efrain from all forms of reprisal against [HRDs],” and continues to enact reprisals as evidenced by examples of arbitrarily detaining HRDs as described in this submission.<sup>xiii</sup>

#### IV. Attacks on Civic Space

##### *Freedom of Expression and the Press*

9. The rights to freedom of expression and the press are well established under international law.<sup>xiv</sup> Egypt is obligated to uphold these rights under treaties it has ratified, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)<sup>xv</sup> and the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights (hereinafter “African Charter”), as well as its own Constitution.<sup>xvi</sup>
10. Nevertheless, the state of press freedom in Egypt is one of the worst in the world.<sup>xvii</sup> Egypt is currently ranked 170 out of the 180 countries in Reporters Sans Frontières’s (RSF) annual press freedom index, its worst ever ranking.<sup>xviii</sup> Internet access is likewise heavily restricted, with Freedom House labeling Egypt as “not free” in its 2023 annual internet freedom report.<sup>xix</sup>
11. Laws enacted in recent years have facilitated the restriction of freedom of expression and the press.<sup>xx</sup> For example, the **Law Regulating the Press, Media, and the Supreme Council for Media Regulation (Law No. 180/2018)**<sup>xxi</sup> (hereinafter “SCMR law”) has been widely criticized for “creat[ing] a restrictive media regulatory scheme that grants authorities broad discretion to censor or block content that is found to meet a number of vaguely phrased prohibitions.”<sup>xxii</sup>
12. Similarly, the **Anti-Cyber and Information Technology Crimes Law (Law No. 175/2018)**<sup>xxiii</sup> (hereinafter “cybercrime law”) permits the authorities to “block websites without a judicial order on national security or economic grounds, which are vaguely defined,”<sup>xxiv</sup> to punish individuals who visit banned websites with up to one year in prison, and to surveil internet users without judicial oversight.<sup>xxv</sup> Combined with problematic national security legislation,<sup>xxvi</sup> Egypt has a “formidable” arsenal of legal tools available to

oppress the media.<sup>xxvii</sup>

13. Egypt has used this legal arsenal to repeatedly block hundreds of websites, including foreign media outlets like the *Huffington Post Arabic*, and initiate spurious investigations into others, thereby negatively impacting press freedom and the right to access to information.<sup>xxviii</sup>
14. On **June 24, 2020**, authorities arrested **Nora Younis**, the editor-in-chief of the news platform *Al-Manassa*, after agents from the National Security Forces raided the website's headquarters.<sup>xxix</sup> She was charged with several cyber-related crimes under Case No. 9455/2020.<sup>xxx</sup> In **October 2020**, the Government blocked *Al-Manassa* as well as 100 other news media websites.<sup>xxxi</sup>
15. In **July 2021**, authorities blocked "180 Investigations" permanently without reason or due process.<sup>xxxii</sup> In **November 2021**, the Government blocked Disclose, a nonprofit investigative journalism organization, "after it revealed that French companies had sold surveillance systems to Egypt."<sup>xxxiii</sup>
16. In **July 2022**, *Al-Manassa* was targeted again when authorities blocked three separate links to the website,<sup>xxxiv</sup> and several staff members were "interrogated after publishing an article criticizing the lack of oversight mechanisms to hold the president accountable."<sup>xxxv</sup>
17. In **June 2023**, the authorities cited the SCMR law to temporarily block the websites of two media outlets, *Al Sulta Al Rabba* and *Masr 360*, most likely due to their publication of political content and reports of human rights violations.<sup>xxxvi</sup>
18. Throughout 2023, the Government targeted prominent independent media outlet ***Mada Masr***.<sup>xxxvii</sup> In addition to charging *Mada Masr's* journalists,<sup>xxxviii</sup> in **October 2023** authorities officially blocked their website for six months and referred the case to the Public Prosecution after it published a story indicating that the Egyptian government was preparing to accept Palestinians fleeing Gaza.<sup>xxxix</sup> In **November 2023**, the authorities summoned editor-in-chief, **Linah Attalah**, for investigation on charges of publishing false news that could harm national security and operating a site without a license.<sup>xl</sup> Attalah was summoned again in **February 2024** after the outlet published an investigative report on an Egyptian businessman's role in moving people and goods between Egypt and Gaza during Israel's war on Gaza.<sup>xli</sup>
19. In addition to these violations, the media landscape in Egypt has experienced a "**hostile takeover**" of state-owned media outlets, further repressing free and independent news sources.<sup>xlii</sup> The situation is so pervasive that it has been termed the "Sisification of the media."<sup>xliii</sup>

20. The Egyptian government also intensified its use of **transnational repression** by targeting the families of journalists living abroad and using defamation campaigns to silence opposing voices.<sup>xliv</sup>
21. On **August 22, 2023**, the **father of Ahmed Gamal Ziada**,<sup>xlv</sup> an Egyptian Belgium-based journalist, was arrested outside Cairo and forcibly disappeared for 24 hours before being presented before the Supreme State Security Prosecution (SSSP).<sup>xlvi</sup> He was interrogated about his son's journalism, including Ziada's independent news website, Zawya3, and his coverage of Egyptian human rights issues.<sup>xlvii</sup> Ziada's father was charged with "spreading fake news," "harmful use of social media," and "membership of a subversive organization" before being released from pretrial detention on September 22, 2023.<sup>xlviii</sup> As of the time of his release, he was still subject to ongoing legal proceedings.<sup>xlix</sup>
22. In **February 2024**, government and pro-government actors enacted an aggressive smear campaign against **Ahmed Salem**, a UK-based Egyptian founder of the Sinai Foundation for Human Rights, in response to the Foundation's independent reporting on the Egyptian government's plans for receiving refugees from Gaza.<sup>l</sup> Salem received threats that "he would be brought back to Egypt" if he did not drop his work.<sup>li</sup> One threat warned Salem that he "is not far from reach, even abroad."<sup>lii</sup>

*The Right to Privacy, Digital Rights, and Cyber Surveillance*

23. The right to privacy is central to the enjoyment and exercise of fundamental freedoms and is protected under international human rights law.<sup>liii</sup> The Egyptian constitution likewise protects this right, stipulating that "private life," defined as all forms of communication, "is inviolable, safeguarded and may not be infringed upon."<sup>liv</sup>
24. Nonetheless, the Egyptian government uses the cybercrime law, amongst others, to justify the mass surveillance of HRDs, journalists, lawyers, and the public without judicial oversight or due process.<sup>lv</sup> Companies may be compelled to furnish the authorities with comprehensive data on user voice calls, text messages, website visits, and app usage across devices.<sup>lvi</sup> The cybercrime law further grants national security authorities "extensive powers to obtain user data, without limitation or standards."<sup>lvii</sup>
25. Evolutions in digital surveillance technologies,<sup>lviii</sup> such as Predator and Pegasus spyware, have facilitated the authorities' ability to monitor and censor social media and electronic communications,<sup>lix</sup> and to subsequently use this information to prosecute journalists, lawyers, and HRDs.<sup>lx</sup>
26. For example, in **June 2022**, journalist Donia Samir was arrested and charged with "joining a terrorist group" and "spreading false news" through social media under Case No. 440/2022

after she published a video on Facebook showing herself being harassed by the governor of South Sinai.<sup>lxi</sup> Several other journalists, bloggers, and online content creators were also charged under the same case and Case No. 441/2022.<sup>lxii</sup> Samir was later released in October 2023.<sup>lxiii</sup>

27. In **February 2024**, the US government placed Canada-based company Sandvine Inc. on a trade restriction list for supplying “deep packet inspection technology” to the Egyptian government, which it found the Egyptian authorities had used for “mass web-monitoring and censorship to block news as well as target political actors and human rights activists.”<sup>lxiv</sup>

*Freedom of Association and Assembly*

28. The rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly are enshrined in the ICCPR<sup>lxv</sup> and the African Charter,<sup>lxvi</sup> both ratified by Egypt, as well as the Egyptian constitution.<sup>lxvii</sup> Nevertheless, the Egyptian government has enacted legislation that formally prohibits them.
29. Two laws, in particular, criminalize the right to peaceful assembly in Egypt: the **Law on Assembly (Law No. 10/1914)**,<sup>lxviii</sup> and the **Law on Protest (Law No. 107/2013)**.<sup>lxix</sup> Under both, the gathering of five persons or more may be deemed illegal.<sup>lxx</sup> Heavy penalties are set for assembly, ranging from two to five years of imprisonment and a fine of 30,000 and 100,000 Egyptian pounds.<sup>lxxi</sup> Concerningly, the security forces hold absolute power to ban protests and to use force against peaceful protesters, a force which has historically proven excessive and lethal.<sup>lxxii</sup>
30. Similar laws impose obstacles to the exercise of the right to freedom of association. The **2014 amendments to the Penal Code**, through Presidential Decree No. 128/2014, imposes harsher penalties on organizations receiving foreign funding that authorities suspect of undermining “national interest,” “national sovereignty,” or public peace, terms which are not precisely defined.<sup>lxxiii</sup>
31. The **Law on Regulating the Exercise of Civil Work (Law No. 149/2019)**<sup>lxxiv</sup> imposes stringent regulations on civil society organizations (CSOs), including legal and administrative restrictions on their formation,<sup>lxxv</sup> activities,<sup>lxxvi</sup> access to resources,<sup>lxxvii</sup> and interaction with international entities.<sup>lxxviii</sup> This law not only conflicts with international legal standards, but also entrenches excessive government control over CSOs by interfering with their operations and enabling the arbitrary cessation of their activities if deemed “sensitive” by the government.
32. Egyptian authorities use this legal framework to justify interfering with the exercise of the rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly.<sup>lxxix</sup> There are numerous examples of this occurring since Egypt’s last UPR, only a portion of which are highlighted in this



report.<sup>lxxx</sup>

33. In **October 2023**, at least 100 people were arrested during peaceful pro-Palestinian demonstrations that were held outside of sites pre-approved by the Government.<sup>lxxxi</sup> Security forces violently dispersed the protests and the Public Prosecution summoned at least 14 of the arrested protestors for investigation.<sup>lxxxii</sup>
34. On **October 15, 2023**, authorities detained at least 13 people who were part of a gathering of teachers outside the Education Ministry east of Cairo that were peacefully protesting the mass disqualification of teachers who applied for jobs at public schools.<sup>lxxxiii</sup> Security forces reportedly “beat protestors, used water cannons to disperse them, and forced female teachers into buses to remove them from the protest.”<sup>lxxxiv</sup> The authorities ordered 14 of the protestors to be held in pretrial detention on charges of “joining a terrorist group,” participating in an illegal assembly, and “spreading false news” in connection with Case No. 2333/2023.<sup>lxxxv</sup> Their detention was renewed using a highly criticized remote video conference system<sup>lxxxvi</sup> on October 24, 2023.<sup>lxxxvii</sup>
35. On **April 23, 2024**, authorities violently arrested and detained several lawyers, journalists, and HRDs for holding a peaceful demonstration in solidarity with the women of Sudan and Gaza outside the UN Women’s regional office in Cairo.<sup>lxxxviii</sup> At least 19 people were arrested and detained in an unknown location overnight, before presenting 16 of them before the SSSP.<sup>lxxxix</sup> Defense lawyers were prevented from entering the premises to counsel their clients while they were being questioned, in clear violation of the detainees’ right to counsel.<sup>xc</sup> The detainees were released on bail after the SSSP charged them with joining an illegal group and unlawful assembly.<sup>xcii</sup>

## V. Arbitrary Arrests, Detention, and Enforced Disappearances

36. Under international human rights law<sup>xcii</sup> and its own constitution,<sup>xciii</sup> Egypt is prohibited from arbitrarily depriving individuals of their liberty. Nevertheless, the Egyptian government notoriously contravenes these obligations by using arbitrary arrests, detention, and acts of torture and other cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment,<sup>xciv</sup> as tools of repression to silence journalists, lawyers,<sup>xcv</sup> and HRDs, among others.<sup>xcvi</sup>
37. In **2023**, CFJ’s Justice Watch Archive documented a total of 3,537 violations occurring within at least 49 detention centers: 3,185 cases of arbitrary deprivation of liberty, 174 cases of enforced disappearance, 106 cases of poor detention conditions, and 36 cases each of torture and deaths inside detention centers.<sup>xcvii</sup>
38. As the number of violations are too numerous to fully recount in this submission, the following sections detail a few emblematic examples of journalists, lawyers, and HRDs who

have been targeted and subjected to these measures by the authorities.<sup>xcviii</sup>

*Counter-Terrorism Legislation & the Egyptian Security Apparatus*

39. The Egyptian domestic legal framework facilitates these gross violations of human rights. Among the most potent legal weaponry at the Government's disposal are the **Anti-Terrorism Law (Law No. 94/2015)**<sup>xcix</sup> and the **Terrorism Entities Law (Law No. 8/2015)**,<sup>c</sup> which provide the legal basis for surveillance, travel bans, asset freezes, and the designation of individuals and organizations as terrorist entities. These laws broaden the definition of "terrorists" and "terrorist entities" by vaguely referencing terms such as disruption of public order and the endangering of the security of society.<sup>ci</sup>
40. The SSSP, a special branch of Egypt's Public Prosecution, functions in practice to silence anyone perceived to be critical of the regime – often using the Anti-Terrorism and Terrorism Entities laws.<sup>cii</sup> An Amnesty International investigation into the SSSP found that it "is responsible, on a significant scale, for arbitrary detention on the basis of misuse of vague national security legislation."<sup>ciii</sup> It also found the SSSP is complicit in enforced disappearances and ill-treatment of detainees.<sup>civ</sup> Meanwhile, due process violations within the SSSP are rife: the SSSP does not inform suspects of their rights and "systematically denie[s] the right to effective legal representation."<sup>cv</sup>
41. Egyptian authorities also frequently abuse pretrial detention as a method of prolonged, often indefinite, detention, despite the Criminal Procedure Code stating it is an exceptional legal measure that cannot exceed two years for the most serious offenses, as prescribed under Article 143.<sup>cvi</sup>
42. A 2022 New York Times investigation revealed that some 4,500 people were held in pretrial detention during a single six-month period, many of them on bogus Anti-Terrorism Law charges.<sup>cvi</sup> Public data from between 2018 and 2022 indicates that 4,773 individuals have been held in arbitrary pretrial detention for longer than the maximum two year period, of whom 1,418 were held for longer than four years.<sup>cviii</sup>
43. In addition, the SSSP regularly practices "**recycling**" or "**rotation,**" a process in which a person who is released from pretrial detention is questioned and detained in connection with a new case, often on identical charges.<sup>cix</sup> This process allows Egyptian authorities to restart the clock on maximum pretrial detention time. The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UNWGAD) expressed concerns about the SSSP's practice of "nominally ordering [pretrial] detention pending further investigation but in practice enabling indefinite detention without prospect of trial."<sup>cx</sup>

44. Officials from the NSA first arrested **Hoda Abdel Moneim**, a lawyer and HRD,<sup>cxix</sup> on November 1, 2018, at her home in Cairo and forcibly disappeared her for 21 days.<sup>cxii</sup> On November 21, 2018, the authorities presented Abdel Moneim before the SSSP in connection with Case No. 1552/2018 under charges of joining a terrorist organization and receiving funds in order to carry out the aims of a terrorist group, and ordered her to be held in pretrial detention.<sup>cxiii</sup>
45. On **January 17, 2021**, the Cairo Criminal Court held a hearing to consider the renewal of Abdel Moneim's detention, despite her pretrial detention exceeding the mandated two-year limit.<sup>cxiv</sup> The authorities denied her demands for medical care and renewed her pretrial detention.<sup>cxv</sup>
46. Abdel Moneim has been the subject of several communications submitted to the Egyptian government by UN special procedures.<sup>cxvi</sup> In addition, on **November 15, 2021**, the UNWGAD found Abdel Moneim's deprivation of liberty to be arbitrary.<sup>cxvii</sup>
47. In **October 2023**, the SSSP again ordered the detention of Abdel Moneim on the final day of her previous sentence and referred her case to an Emergency State Security Court (ESSC).<sup>cxviii</sup> On **March 5, 2023**, the Terrorism Circuit of the ESSC sentenced her to five years in prison on the charge of joining an unspecified terrorist organization and acquitted her on the charge of receiving foreign funds.<sup>cxix</sup>
48. Upon completion of her sentence, Abdel Moneim was again brought before the SSSP in connection with a new case, No. 730/2020, and again charged with "joining and financing a terrorist organization."<sup>cxx</sup> She was also charged for a second time with committing a terrorism financing crime, despite being acquitted of the same charge by the ESSC.<sup>cxxi</sup>
49. On **April 22, 2024**, Abdel Moneim marked 2,000 days of Egyptian authorities holding her in arbitrary detention, where she remains as of the date of this submission.<sup>cxxii</sup>
50. **Ibrahim Metwally**, a lawyer and HRD,<sup>cxxiii</sup> was first arrested on September 10, 2017.<sup>cxxiv</sup> The NSA arrested and forcibly disappeared Metwally from the Cairo airport as he was preparing to travel to Geneva for the 113th session of the UN Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearance at the UN Human Rights Council.<sup>cxxv</sup> On September 12, 2017, Metwally was referred for investigation before the SSSP in connection with Case No. 900/2017 on charges of "assuming leadership of a group established in violation of the law," "publishing false news and statements," and "communicating with foreign parties."<sup>cxxvi</sup> On **September 26, 2019**, the UNWGAD confirmed the arbitrary nature of his detention.<sup>cxxvii</sup>

51. On **October 14, 2019**, the Cairo Criminal Court acquitted Metwally on Case No. 900/2017 after the authorities had held him in pretrial detention for two years.<sup>cxxviii</sup> Following this release, the authorities forcibly disappeared Metwally for two weeks.<sup>cxxix</sup>
52. On **November 5, 2019**, Metwally was presented before the SSSP in connection with a new case, No. 1470/2019, based on identical charges to his previous case.<sup>cxxx</sup>
53. On **September 10, 2023**, Metwally marked six years of imprisonment by the Egyptian authorities as retaliation for his human rights advocacy.<sup>cxxxi</sup> The authorities continue to renew his pretrial detention.<sup>cxxxii</sup>
54. On **September 29, 2019**, Egyptian authorities arrested **Mohamed El-Baquer**, a lawyer and director of the Adalah Center for Rights and Freedoms, without a warrant while he was representing his client, journalist and HRD Alaa Abdel Fattah, at the SSSP in the 5th settlement in Cairo.<sup>cxxxiii</sup> While Baquer was handcuffed and in the absence of a lawyer, the SSSP interrogated him about his engagement with Egypt's UPR.<sup>cxxxiv</sup> He was later charged under Case No. 1356/2019, the same case as Abdel Fattah, with "publishing false news," "belonging to a terrorist group," and "receiving funds to carry out the goals of this group."<sup>cxxxv</sup> The authorities ordered him in pretrial detention and later forcibly disappeared him for 24 hours.<sup>cxxxvi</sup> On October 1, 2019, Baquer was transferred to the notoriously brutal Tora prison.<sup>cxxxvii</sup>
55. On **August 31, 2020**, Baquer was again presented before the SSSP and put under a new case, No. 855/2020, and accused of "joining a terrorist organization" and participating in a criminal agreement with the intention of committing a terrorist crime.<sup>cxxxviii</sup> He was then ordered to be held in pretrial detention.
56. On **November 8, 2021**, Baquer was presented before an ESSC under Case No. 1228/2021, the charges for which were essentially copied from the initial Case No. 1356/2019.<sup>cxxxix</sup> On **December 20, 2021**, an ESSC sentenced Baquer to four years in prison on false news charges.<sup>cxli</sup>
57. On **July 19, 2023**, President al-Sisi granted Baquer a presidential pardon related to Case No. 1228/2021, and he was subsequently released from detention on July 20, 2023.<sup>cxlii</sup> At the time of his release, Baquer had been held in pretrial detention for almost four years, and he is still subject to ongoing legal proceedings in the other two cases against him (Nos. 855/2020 and 1356/2019).
58. On **May 29, 2021**, **Ezzat Eid Taha Fadl** (also known as Ezzat Ghoneim), a lawyer and HRD,<sup>cxliii</sup> was charged for the third time under a new case, No. 1552/2018, with "joining a terrorist group," "spreading false news inside and outside of Egypt," and "threatening

national security with the objective of weakening public trust and defaming the State image.”<sup>cxliii</sup>

59. The authorities had already placed Fadl under two separate cases, Nos. 441/2018 and 1118/2019, with identical charges to those in his most recent case.<sup>cxliv</sup> The NSA first arrested him on March 1, 2018 in Giza, Egypt and then forcibly disappeared him for three days before presenting him to the SSSP.<sup>cxlv</sup> Although he had been ordered released from pretrial detention on September 4, 2018 with precautionary measures, the authorities subjected him to a second period of enforced disappearance for five months.<sup>cxlvi</sup>
60. The latest case the authorities placed Fadl under in May 2021, Case No. 1552/2018, is the same case that other staff members of Fadl’s organization, ECRF, are accused under.<sup>cxlvii</sup> In **March 2023**, Fadl was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment by an ESSC under that case.<sup>cxlviii</sup>

#### *Attacks Against Journalists*

61. According to RSF and the Committee to Protect Journalists, Egypt is one of the biggest jailers of journalists in the world.<sup>cxlix</sup> The majority of journalists held in pretrial detention are incarcerated for longer than the maximum two-year period mandated by the Criminal Procedure Code.<sup>cl</sup>
62. On **June 10, 2024**, the arbitrary detention of **Tawfik Ghanem**, a journalist and former news agency bureau chief, was renewed; he has now been imprisoned without trial for 1,020 days – in violation of the Criminal Procedure Code.<sup>cli</sup> On **May 21, 2021**, Egyptian authorities arrested him at his home and forcibly disappeared him for five days.<sup>clii</sup> He was subsequently charged with belonging to a “banned organization” and spreading “false information.”<sup>cliii</sup> Since then, his pretrial detention has been systematically renewed.<sup>cliv</sup> The Egyptian authorities previously targeted him for his journalism and initiated a travel ban and asset freeze against him in 2017.<sup>clv</sup>
63. On **August 19, 2023**, the Egyptian authorities arrested **Karim Asaad**, a journalist with the fact-checking platform *Matsa Daash*.<sup>clvi</sup> Security forces assaulted Asaad and his wife before confiscating their devices.<sup>clvii</sup> He was detained for two days after posting an article about an Egyptian plane detained in Zambia.<sup>clviii</sup>
64. In **September 2023**, prominent blogger and independent journalist **Mohamed Radwan Mohamed**, known as “Mohamed Oxygen,” began his fifth year in detention after Egyptian authorities first arrested him on April 6, 2018 following his reporting on anomalies in the presidential elections.<sup>clix</sup> On July 31, 2019, Mohamed Oxygen was released with conditional measures requiring him to report to the police station twice a week for two hours and refraining from blogging.<sup>clx</sup> On **September 21, 2019**, when he reported to the police station,

the authorities detained him for a second time for posting videos about a series of protests and charged him with “endangering state security” and “spreading false news.”<sup>clxi</sup> On **December 21, 2021**, Mohamed Oxygen was sentenced to four years in prison, which went into effect in January 2022.<sup>clxii</sup> During this period, Mohamed Oxygen endured horrific conditions in detention and, in July 2021, he attempted suicide.<sup>clxiii</sup> Between **April 13, 2024 and May 2, 2024**, Mohamed Oxygen was on a hunger strike citing the inhumane conditions in detention.<sup>clxiv</sup>

65. On **September 9, 2023**, poet **Galal al-Behairy** attempted suicide in detention, where the authorities have held him for the last five years.<sup>clxv</sup> His suicide attempt came four days after he resumed a hunger strike in protest of his prolonged arbitrary detention.<sup>clxvi</sup> On March 3, 2018, Behairy was arrested after he released *Balaba*, a song that indirectly satirized President al-Sisi, alongside the song’s director, **Shady Habash**.<sup>clxvii</sup> Habash died in the Tora prison on **May 1, 2020**, after being held in pretrial detention for two years.<sup>clxviii</sup> In **July 2021**, Behairy was found guilty of “blasphemy,” publishing “false news,” and “insulting the military establishment,” by a military court for writing a book of poetry allegedly criticizing the Egyptian army.<sup>clxix</sup> Behairy was due to be released in 2021 but was “recycled” under a new case, No. 2000/2021, on charges of “joining a terrorist group” and “spreading false news.”<sup>clxx</sup>
66. On **October 12, 2019**, journalist and HRD **Esraa Abdel Fattah**<sup>clxxi</sup> was arrested and forcibly disappeared for 24 hours.<sup>clxxii</sup> The authorities presented her at the SSSP in connection with Case No. 488/2019 on charges of “spreading false news” and “joining a terrorist group.”<sup>clxxiii</sup> On **August 31, 2020**, the authorities placed her under another case, No. 855/2020, accusing her of conducting the same activities as the charges from Case No. 488/2019.<sup>clxxiv</sup> On **July 17, 2021**, the Public Prosecution ordered her to be released after holding her in pretrial detention for nearly 22 months.<sup>clxxv</sup>

#### *Attacks Against Human Rights Defenders*

67. **Alaa Abdel Fattah** is a prominent HRD and co-founder of the popular blog aggregator, *Manalaa*, which promotes free speech and human rights.<sup>clxxvi</sup> The Egyptian authorities have repeatedly arrested and detained him for his involvement in peaceful protests.<sup>clxxvii</sup>
68. On **September 29, 2019**, Abdel Fattah was arrested at the El-Dokki Police Station while fulfilling his probationary requirements for a previous case where he was accused of illegal protesting.<sup>clxxviii</sup> The authorities presented him before the SSSP in connection with Case No. 1356/2019 under charges of “belonging to a terrorist group,” “spreading false news and undermining national security,” “misusing social media,” and “funding a terrorist group.”<sup>clxxix</sup> The SSSP ordered him to be placed in pretrial detention, after which he was transferred to the Tora prison and tortured by prison officials.<sup>clxxx</sup>

69. In **October 2021**, the authorities referred Alaa Abdel Fattah to the ESSC Misdemeanor Court in Cairo connected with Case No. 1228/2021 without informing his lawyers and thus preventing him from presenting a defense.<sup>clxxxi</sup> He was charged with “publishing false news that harm the country’s interest on their social media pages,” and sentenced to five years in prison.<sup>clxxxii</sup> Because of the nature of the ESSC, he is prevented from seeking an appeal.<sup>clxxxiii</sup> At the time of this submission, Abdel Fattah remains imprisoned.
70. On **June 17, 2020**, **Dr. Ahmed Shawky Abdelsattar Mohamed Amasha**, a trade unionist and HRD,<sup>clxxxiv</sup> was arrested and forcibly disappeared for 25 days in connection with Case No. 1360/2019 under charges of “joining a terrorist group.”<sup>clxxxv</sup> He was recycled into that case after the authorities first arrested him on March 10, 2017 in retaliation for his activities as an HRD, including documenting cases of enforced disappearance for UN special procedures.<sup>clxxxvi</sup> At that point, they forcibly disappeared him until presenting him before the prosecution nearly a month later on April 1, 2017 when he was charged with “belonging to a banned group” in connection with Case No. 316/2017 and transferred to the Tora prison.<sup>clxxxvii</sup> During his enforced disappearance, the authorities subjected him to torture and ill-treatment.<sup>clxxxviii</sup> He was released on bail on October 4, 2019 before being arrested again in June 2020.<sup>clxxxix</sup>
71. On **February 15, 2022**, the Cairo Criminal Court renewed Dr. Amasha’s pretrial detention.<sup>exc</sup> As of the date of the submission, the authorities continue to hold Dr. Amasha in pretrial detention, now in connection with Case No. 4743/2022 under charges of “joining a banned group” and “possessing publications.”<sup>excii</sup>

#### *Travel Bans and Asset Freezes*

72. The ICCPR<sup>exciii</sup> and the African Charter<sup>exciii</sup> provide that everyone has the right to leave any country, including their own, without arbitrary interference, while the Egyptian constitution also guarantees freedom of movement.<sup>exciv</sup>
73. Despite these obligations, the Egyptian government commonly uses travel bans and asset freezes as another measure to intimidate and silence journalists, lawyers, and HRDs.<sup>excvi</sup> Travel bans are regulated by a **1994 decision by the interior minister, No. 2214**, regarding “regulating (travel) bans list,”<sup>excvi</sup> which “gives security agencies sweeping powers to impose travel bans without court orders for a renewable three year period.”<sup>excvii</sup> Often, the bans are not formally announced and there is no clear way to legally challenge them.<sup>excviii</sup> Placing individuals on the terrorism list also effectively constitutes a travel ban and suspension of assets.

74. On **May 8, 2020**, **Waleed Khalil el-Sayed Salem** was informed he had been placed on a travel ban when attempting to board a flight to the United States at Cairo airport, after which the authorities confiscated his passport.<sup>ccix</sup> This was despite the cancellation in March 2019 of probationary measures imposed on him following his release from 7-months of pretrial detention in December 2018.<sup>cc</sup> At the time, Salem was a PhD candidate in the department of Political Science at the University of Washington in the US.<sup>cci</sup> It is believed his research into the Egyptian judiciary is what prompted the authorities to arrest and detain him.<sup>ccii</sup> Due to the travel ban, Salem was unable to complete his PhD and has been separated from his daughter since his arrest in 2018.<sup>cciii</sup>
75. On **September 2, 2021**, the Cairo Criminal Court added **Hoda Abdel Moneim** to the terrorism list for five years following the end of her sentence.<sup>cciv</sup> Abdel Moneim was placed under precautionary measures for police monitoring.<sup>ccv</sup>
76. In **November 2020**, the Cairo Criminal Court added **Alaa Abdel Fattah** and **Baqer** to the terrorist list in Case No. 1781/2019.<sup>ccvi</sup> On **January 18, 2022**, the Court of Cassation, the country's highest court, upheld the decision.<sup>ccvii</sup> Although he received a presidential pardon in July 2023, Baqer is still subject to the restrictions imposed by being on the terrorist list, including a travel ban, an asset freeze, and prohibition from engaging in political or civic work for five years.<sup>ccviii</sup>

## VI. Recommendations

The signatories of this submission issue the following recommendations to the Government of Egypt:

1. End, investigate, and prosecute all threats, judicial harassment, and attacks against journalists, lawyers, and HRDs, and establish an independent body to oversee these investigations to ensure accountability and transparency;
2. Immediately and unconditionally release and drop all charges against journalists, lawyers, and HRDs who have been arbitrarily detained for exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly;
3. Repeal or amend vague and restrictive laws that are used to target and limit the activities of journalists, lawyers, and HRDs – including the SCMR (No. 180/2018) and cybercrime (No. 175/2018) laws, the laws on assembly (No. 10/194) and on protest (No. 107/2013), the law on regulating the exercise of civil work (No. 149/2019), the anti-terrorism (No. 94/2015) and terrorism entities (No. 8/2015) laws, and relevant presidential decrees – to ensure that they align with international human rights standards;
4. Respect the rights to freedom of expression and the press and ensure that journalists, bloggers, and social media users, are able to carry out their work and express their opinions without reprisal;



5. Ensure that all Egyptians have open access to free, independent information, and halt practices of media censorship and the blocking of websites critical of the government;
6. Respect the right to privacy and end the use of mass cyber surveillance without judicial oversight or due process;
7. Ensure lawyers and HRDs are able to effectively carry out their work without fear of reprisal or intimidation, both online or offline;
8. Respect the rights to association and peaceful assembly, and lift all restrictions not in-line with international human rights standards;
9. Create a safe and enabling environment for all CSOs, and facilitate their registration, access to funding, and operation without undue restrictions, in-line with international human rights standards;
10. End the use of arbitrary arrest, pretrial detention, “recycling” and prolonged detention, and ensure any arrests are in compliance with ICCPR obligations;
11. Eradicate torture and enforced disappearances and hold all perpetrators accountable;
12. End the use of travel bans and asset freezes as a form of reprisal against journalists, lawyers, and HRDs;
13. Establish regular and meaningful consultations with journalists, lawyers, and HRDs to address their concerns and integrate their input into the policy-making process;
14. Fully cooperate with regional and international human rights mechanisms, and allow mandate-holders to conduct visits and assessments freely;
15. Implement recommendations related to the rights to freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly from previous UPR cycles and other international human rights reviews.

<sup>i</sup> See, e.g., *Under Siege: The Dismal State of the Press in Egypt*, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (May 3, 2024), <https://timep.org/2024/05/03/under-siege-the-dismal-state-of-the-press-in-egypt/> [hereinafter “Under Siege”]; *Egypt: Violations, Repression Upstage Presidential Vote*, HUM. RTS. WATCH (Dec. 18, 2023, 9:00 AM), <https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/12/18/egypt-violations-repression-upstage-presidential-vote> [hereinafter “Egypt: Violations, Repression Upstage Presidential Vote”].

<sup>ii</sup> *Egypt: Authorities step Up Repression Ahead of Presidential Elections*, AMNESTY INT’L (Nov. 23, 2023), <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/11/egypt-authorities-step-up-repression-ahead-of-presidential-elections/> [hereinafter “Egypt: Authorities Ste Up Repression”].

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*(Chairman of the National Elections Council: Al-Sisi Won a New Presidential Term by Obtaining 89.6% of the Total Valid Votes)*, MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY (Dec. 18, 2023, 12:50 PM), <https://www.mena.org.eg/ar/news/dbcall/table/textnews/id/10495928>; Egypt: Violations, Repression Upstage Presidential Vote, *supra* note i.

<sup>iv</sup> Egypt: Violations, Repression Upstage Presidential Vote, *supra* note i.

<sup>v</sup> European Parliament Resolution of 5 October 2023 on Egypt, in Particular the Sentencing of Hisham Kassem, EUR. PARL. DOC. P9\_TA(2023)0451 (Oct. 5, 2023), [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2023-0351\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2023-0351_EN.html).

<sup>vi</sup> *World Report: Egypt: Events of 2023*, HUM. RTS. WATCH <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2024/country-chapters/egypt> (last visited June 13, 2024) [hereinafter “HRW Egypt World Report 2023”]; e.g., *Egypt: Students Violently Detained for Supporting Pro-Palestine Movement*, MIDDLE EAST EYE (May 13, 2024), <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/egypt-students-violently-detained-supporting-global-palestine-movement>.

<sup>vii</sup> Egypt: Authorities Ste Up Repression, *supra* note ii.

<sup>viii</sup> Lara Gibson, *How Egypt’s Crackdown on Gaza Protests Shows the Fragility of Sisi’s Regime*, THE NEW ARAB (May 6, 2024), <https://www.newarab.com/analysis/egypts-crackdown-gaza-protests-shows-regimes-fragility>; <https://eipr.org/press/2024/05/%D9%85%D9%86%D8%B0-%D8%A8%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%8A%D8%A9->

[https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/upr/midtermreports/ngosmidtermreports/2022-09-26/Egypt\\_Mid-term-UPR\\_Final.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/upr/midtermreports/ngosmidtermreports/2022-09-26/Egypt_Mid-term-UPR_Final.pdf) (last visited June 13, 2024) [hereinafter “Protracted Impunity”].

<sup>x</sup> *Universal Periodic Review: Egypt*, UPR.INFO <https://upr.info/en/review/egypt> (last visited June 13, 2024) [hereinafter “UPR: Egypt”].

<sup>xi</sup> *Egypt: Government’s deceptive UPR engagement called out by CIHRS at Human Rights Council*, CAIRO INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES (Mar. 13, 2020), <https://cihrs.org/egypt-governments-deceptive-upr-engagement-called-out-by-cihrs-at-human-rights-council/?lang=en>.

<sup>xii</sup> UPR: Egypt, *supra* note x; Protracted Impunity, *supra* note ix; see e.g., *Egypt bans Mada Masr website for 6 months over report on Israel-Gaza*, COMM. TO PROTECT JOURNALISTS (Oct. 31, 2023) <https://cpi.org/2023/10/egypt-bans-mada-masr-website-for-6-months-over-report-on-israel-gaza-war/> [hereinafter “Egypt Bans Mada Masr”].

<sup>xiii</sup> UPR: Egypt, *supra* note x.

<sup>xiv</sup> The UN Human Rights Committee has stated that the right to freedom of expression is expansive and includes, for example, discussion of human rights and journalism. See General Comment No. 34 - Article 19: Freedoms of Opinion and Expression, Hum. Rts. Comm’n, ¶ 11, U.N. Doc. CCPR/C/GC/34 (2011), <https://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/docs/GC34.pdf>. See also, G.A. Res. 217 (III) A, Universal Declaration of Human Rights art. 19 (Dec. 10, 1948), <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights> [hereinafter “G.A. Res. 217”]; *The Right to Freedom of Expression Under International Law*, MEDIA DEFENCE, <https://www.mediadefence.org/ereader/publications/introductory-modules-on-digital-rights-and-freedom-of-expression-online/module-1-key-principles-of-international-law-and-freedom-of-expression/the-right-to-freedom-of-expression-under-international-law/> (last visited June 14, 2024).

<sup>xv</sup> International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights art. 19, Dec. 16, 1966, 999 U.N.T.S. 171, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-covenant-civil-and-political-rights> [hereinafter “ICCPR”].

<sup>xvi</sup> African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights art. 9, June 27, 1981, 1520 U.N.T.S. 217 [https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/36390-treaty-0011\\_-\\_african\\_charter\\_on\\_human\\_and\\_peoples\\_rights\\_e.pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/36390-treaty-0011_-_african_charter_on_human_and_peoples_rights_e.pdf) [hereinafter “African Charter”]; CONSTITUTION OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT, 18 Jan. 2014, arts. 57, 65, 68, 70-72, [https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Egypt\\_2014](https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Egypt_2014) [hereinafter “Egyptian Constitution”].

<sup>xvii</sup> See, e.g., Under Siege, *supra* note i;.

<sup>xviii</sup> *Egypt*, REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS, <https://rsf.org/en/country/egypt> (last visited June 13, 2024) [hereinafter “Egypt, RSF”].

<sup>xix</sup> *Freedom on the Net 2023: Egypt*, FREEDOM HOUSE, <https://freedomhouse.org/country/egypt/freedom-net/2023> (last visited June 13, 2024) [hereinafter “Freedom on the Net 2023”].

<sup>xx</sup> See, e.g., *Egypt Tightens Restrictions on Media, Social Networks*, AL JAZEERA (Mar. 19, 2019), <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/3/19/egypt-tightens-restrictions-on-media-social-networks>; Mai El-Sadany, *Egypt’s New Media Regulations: Legislating State Control over Information*, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (July 6, 2018), <https://timep.org/2018/07/06/egypts-new-media-regulations-legislating-state-control-over-information/>.

<sup>xxi</sup> Law No. 180 of 2018 (Law Regulating the Press, Media, and the Supreme Council for Media Regulation), *al-Jaridah al-Rasmiyah*, vol. 34 bis (e), 27 Aug. 2018 (Egypt) [https://www.scribd.com/document/387536769/34%D9%85%D9%83%D8%B1%D8%B1-%D9%87%D9%80%D9%80%D9%80%D9%80-%D8%AA%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86#download&from\\_embed](https://www.scribd.com/document/387536769/34%D9%85%D9%83%D8%B1%D8%B1-%D9%87%D9%80%D9%80%D9%80%D9%80-%D8%AA%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86#download&from_embed).

<sup>xxii</sup> *TIMEP Brief: The Law Regulating the Press, Media, and the Supreme Council for Media Regulation*, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (May 15, 2019), <https://timep.org/2019/05/15/timep-brief-the-law-regulating-the-press-media-and-the-supreme-council-for-media-regulation/>.

<sup>xxiii</sup> Law No. 175 of 2018 (Anti-Cyber and Information Technology Crimes Law), *al-Jaridah al-Rasmiyah*, vol. 32 bis (c), 14

Aug. 2018 (Egypt), <https://cybercrime-fr.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Egyptian-cybercrime-law-pdf> [hereinafter “Law No. 175 of 2018”].

<sup>xxiv</sup> The law broadly defines “national security” as “anything that is related to the independence, stability, and security of the homeland and its unity and territorial integrity,” and all affairs “related to the Presidency of the Republic, the Defense Council, the National Security Council, the armed forces, military production, the Ministry of Interior, the General Intelligence, the Administrative Oversight Authority, and the organs affiliated with those bodies.” Law No. 175 of 2018, *supra* note xxiii.

<sup>xxv</sup> *Freedom on the Net 2022: Egypt*, FREEDOM HOUSE, <https://freedomhouse.org/country/egypt/freedom-net/2022> (last visited June 13, 2024) [hereinafter “Freedom on the Net 2022”]; *Egyptian Parliament Approves Cybercrime Law Legalizing Blocking of Websites and Full Surveillance of Egyptians*, ACCESS NOW <https://www.accessnow.org/egyptian-parliament-approves-cybercrime-law-legalizing-blocking-of-websites-and-full-surveillance-of-egyptians/> (Jan. 13, 2023) [hereinafter “Egyptian Parliament Approves Cybercrime Law”]; Elissa Miller, *Egypt Leads the Pack in Internet Censorship across the Middle East*, ATLANTIC COUNCIL (Aug. 28, 2018), <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/menasource/egypt-leads-the-pack-in-internet-censorship-across-the-middle-east/>; *TIMEP Brief: Cybercrime Law*, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (Dec. 19, 2018), <https://timep.org/2018/12/19/cybercrime-law-brief/>.

<sup>xxvi</sup> See, e.g., Law No. 94 of 2015 (Anti-Terrorism Law), *al-Jaridah al-Rasmiyah*, vol. 33 bis, 15 Aug. 2015 (Egypt), [https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Egypt\\_Anti-Terror\\_Law\\_Translation.pdf](https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Egypt_Anti-Terror_Law_Translation.pdf) [hereinafter “Law No. 94 of 2015”]; *Freedom on the Net 2023*, *supra* note xix; *WJWC Press Freedom Report on Egypt*, WOMEN JOURNALISTS WITHOUT CHAINS (Apr. 12, 2023), <https://wjwc.org/reports/wjwc-press-freedom-report-on-egypt> [hereinafter “WJWC Press Freedom Report on Egypt”]; *Egypt: New Crimes Added to Penal Code*, LIBRARY OF CONG. (Jan. 11, 2021), <https://www.loc.gov/item/global-legal-monitor/2021-01-11/egypt-new-crimes-added-to-penal-code/>.

<sup>xxvii</sup> WJWC Press Freedom Report on Egypt, *supra* note xxvi.

<sup>xxviii</sup> *Freedom on the Net 2022*, *supra* note xxv; U.S. Dep’t of State, Bureau of Democracy, H.R. and Lab., 2023 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Egypt (2024), <https://www.state.gov/reports/2023-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/egypt/> [hereinafter “US Dept. of State, 2023 Country Report: Egypt”]; *Human Rights Organizations Condemn the Blocking of Soultia 4 and Masr 360 Websites and Call on the Egyptian Authorities to Guarantee Freedom of the Press*, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (June 22, 2023), <https://www.cfjustice.org/human-rights-organizations-condemn-the-blocking-of-soultia-4-and-masr-360-websites-and-call-on-the-egyptian-authorities-to-guarantee-freedom-of-the-press/>; Salma Hindy, *Sabeeh Masr Under Investigation for Exposing Electoral Media Censorship*, MADA MASR (Dec. 11, 2023), <https://www.madamasr.com/en/2023/12/11/news/u/sabeeh-masr-under-investigation-for-exposing-electoral-media-censorship/>.

<sup>xxix</sup> *Human Rights Organizations Call for Shelving the Investigation with the Editor-In-Chief of “Al-Manassa,”* COMM. FOR JUSTICE (July 4, 2020), <https://www.cfjustice.org/human-rights-organizations-call-for-shelving-the-investigation-with-the-editor-in-chief-of-al-manassa/>.

<sup>xxx</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xxxi</sup> *Freedom on the Net 2022*, *supra* note xxv.

<sup>xxxii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xxxiii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xxxiv</sup> *Id.*; 28 Civil Society Organizations Condemn the Continued Blocking of Al-Manassa Website and Call On the Egyptian Authorities to Lift the Blocking of Dozens of News Websites, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Aug. 1, 2022) <https://www.cfjustice.org/blocking-of-al-manassa-website/>.

<sup>xxxv</sup> *Freedom on the Net 2023*, *supra* note xix.

<sup>xxxvi</sup> البيان الصادر عن منظمات حقوق الإنسان في 22 يونيو 2023 (Statement: Human Rights Organizations Condemn the Blocking of the Fourth Estate and Egypt 360 Websites and Call on the Egyptian Authorities to Guarantee Freedom of the Press), EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE FOR PERS. RTS. (June 22, 2023),

<https://eipr.org/press/2023/06/%D8%A8%D9%A%D8%A7%D9%86-%D9%85%D9%86%D8%B8%D9%85%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%AD%D9%82%D9%88%D9%82%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%AA%D8%AF%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%AD%D8%AC%D8%A8-%D9%85%D9%88%D9%82%D8%B9%D9%8A-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%84%D8%B7%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%A8%D8%B9%D8%A9-%D9%88%D9%85%D8%B5%D8%B1-360-%D9%88%D8%AA%D8%AF%D8%B9%D9%88-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%84%D8%B7%D8%A7%D8%AA->

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<sup>xxxvii</sup> Under Siege, *supra* note i.

<sup>xxxviii</sup> 32 Civil Society Organizations Condemn the Referral of Mada Masr Journalists to Trial, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (Mar. 16, 2023), <https://timep.org/2023/03/16/32-civil-society-organizations-condemn-the-referral-of-mada-masr-journalists-to-trial/>.

<sup>xxxix</sup> Egypt Bans Mada Masr, *supra* note xii; Under Siege, *supra* note i; *Israel-Palestine War: Egypt's Media Regulator Blocks Mada Masr over Coverage of Israel's Bombing of Gaza*, MIDDLE EAST EYE (Oct. 29, 2023), <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/egypt-israel-gaza-bombing-mada-masr-blocked>.

<sup>xl</sup> Under Siege, *supra* note i; Lina Attalah Summoned for Questioning by Appeals Prosecution, MADA MASR (Nov. 28, 2023), <https://www.madamasr.com/en/2023/11/28/news/u/lina-attalah-summoned-for-questioning-by-appeals-court/>; Egypt: Authorities Must Stop Targeting Independent News Website Mada Masr, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Dec. 6, 2023), <https://www.cfjustice.org/egypt-authorities-must-stop-targeting-independent-news-website-mada-masr/>.

<sup>xli</sup> Under Siege, *supra* note i; Mada Masr مدي مصر (@MadaMasr), X (FORMERLY TWITTER) (Feb. 20, 2024, 7:20 AM), <https://twitter.com/MadaMasr/status/1759916017432613318>; Egypt: CFJ Condemns the Summons to the Editor-in-Chief of Mada Masr Website and Declares Solidarity with Her, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Feb. 21, 2024), <https://www.cfjustice.org/egypt-cfj-condemns-the-summons-to-the-editor-in-chief-of-mada-masr-website-and-declares-solidarity-with-her/>.

<sup>xlii</sup> *Sisification of the Media - A Hostile Takeover*, REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (Jan. 25, 2019), <https://rsf.org/en/sisification-media-hostile-takeover> [hereinafter “Sisification of the Media”]; Egypt, RSF, *supra* note xviii.

<sup>xliii</sup> *Sisification of the Media*, *supra* note xlii; Mostafa Al-A’sar, *Via Samsung: Journalists Trapped in Egypt’s Security Machine*, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (Mar. 28, 2024), <https://timep.org/2024/03/28/via-samsung-journalists-trapped-in-egypts-security-machine/>.

<sup>xliv</sup> Under Siege, *supra* note i; US Dept. of State, 2023 Country Report: Egypt, *supra* note xxviii; Saskia Brechenmacher, *Civil Society Under Assault: Repression and Responses in Russia, Egypt, and Ethiopia*, CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE (May 18, 2017), <https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2017/05/civil-society-under-assault-repression-and-responses-in-russia-egypt-and-ethiopia?lang=en>.

<sup>xliv</sup> Ziada himself was arrested in Egypt in 2013 and 2019. See Under Siege, *supra* note i; *Egypt: Recent Arbitrary Practices Show No Intent to Improve Human Rights Situation or Release Political Prisoners*, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Aug. 25, 2023), <https://www.cfjustice.org/egypt-recent-arbitrary-practices-show-no-intent-to-improve-human-rights-situation-or-release-political-prisoners/>.

<sup>xlvi</sup> Under Siege, *supra* note i; *Egyptian Authorities Try to Silence Exile Journalist by Arresting Father*, REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (Aug. 25, 2023), <https://rsf.org/en/egyptian-authorities-try-silence-exile-journalist-arresting-father> [hereinafter “Egyptian Authorities Try to Silence Exile Journalist”].

<sup>xlvii</sup> Under Siege, *supra* note i.

<sup>xlviii</sup> Under Siege, *supra* note i; *Egyptian Authorities Try to Silence Exile Journalist*, *supra* note xlv.

<sup>xlix</sup> *Egyptian Authorities Try to Silence Exile Journalist*, *supra* note xlv.

<sup>i</sup> *Egypt: Human Rights Group and Its Director Threatened and Smeared*, AMNESTY INT’L (Feb. 26, 2024), <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/02/egypt-human-rights-group-and-its-director-threatened-and-smeared/> [hereinafter “Amnesty Int’l Feb. 2024”]; CFJ and African Defenders Urge UN Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders to Condemn Targeting and Defamation of Director at “Sinai Human Rights Foundation”, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Mar. 11, 2024), <https://www.cfjustice.org/37990/>; Mary Lawlor UN Special Rapporteur HRDs (@MaryLawlorhrds), X (FORMERLY TWITTER) (Feb. 22, 2024, 8:36 AM), <https://x.com/MaryLawlorhrds/status/1760659936806121669>.

<sup>ii</sup> Amnesty Int’l Feb. 2024, *supra* note i.

<sup>iii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>iiii</sup> *International Standards*, OFF. OF THE HIGH COMM’R FOR HUM. RTS., <https://www.ohchr.org/en/privacy-in-the-digital-age/international-standards#:~:text=Article%2012%20of%20the%20Universal, his%20or%20her%20honor%20and> (last visited June 13, 2024); Human Rights Council Res. 42/15, U.N. Doc A/HRC/RES/42/15, at 1 (Sept. 26, 2019), <https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FHRC%2FRES%2F42%2F15&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False>; G.A. Res. 217, *supra* note xiv at art. 12; ICCPR, *supra* note xv, at art. 17. Although the African Charter does not explicitly contain a right to privacy, it has been argued that this right “can be read into the African Charter through the right to respect for life and integrity of the person, the right to dignity, and the right to liberty and security of the person.” *Scope and the Right to Privacy*, MEDIA DEFENCE <https://www.mediadefence.org/ereader/publications/advanced-modules-on-digital-rights-and-freedom-of-expression-online/module-4-privacy-and-security-online/scope-and-the-right-to-privacy/> (last visited June 13, 2024).

<sup>liv</sup> Egyptian Constitution, *supra* note xvi, at art. 57.



<sup>lv</sup> Ragheb Malli, *Heightened Digital Oppression in Egypt*, (Jan. 27, 2023), SMEX <https://smex.org/heightened-digital-oppression-in-egypt/> [hereinafter “Ragheb Malli”]; Association for Freedom of Thought and Expression (AFTE), *Egypt: Judicial Authorities Employ Mass Surveillance to Censor Citizens*, IFEX (Aug. 17, 2021), <https://ifex.org/egypt-judicial-authorities-employ-mass-surveillance-to-censor-citizens/> [hereinafter “AFTE 2021”]; Joey Shea, *Global Tech and Domestic Tactics: Egypt’s Multifaceted Regime of Information Controls*, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (Jan. 31, 2020), <https://timep.org/2020/01/31/global-tech-and-domestic-tactics-egypts-multifaceted-regime-of-information-controls/> [hereinafter “Joey Shea 2020”]; Egyptian Parliament Approves Cybercrime Law, *supra* note xxv.

<sup>lvi</sup> Article 2 of the cybercrime law requires telecommunications companies to retain and store users’ data for 180 days, including data that can identify users, their IP addresses, and the devices they use, as well as “metadata” about the content of their communications. Law No. 175 of 2018, *supra* note xxiii; Egyptian Parliament Approves Cybercrime Law, *supra* note xxv.

<sup>lvii</sup> Egyptian Parliament Approves Cybercrime Law, *supra* note xxv.

<sup>lviii</sup> See generally *A Dangerous Alliance: Governments Collaborate with Surveillance Companies to Shrink the Space for Human Rights Work*, AMNESTY INT’L (Aug. 16, 2019), <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/research/2019/08/a-dangerous-alliance-governments-collaborate-with-surveillance-companies-to-shrink-the-space-for-human-rights-work/>.

<sup>lix</sup> US Dept. of State, 2023 Country Report: Egypt, *supra* note xxviii (“Surveillance by the government was a significant concern for internet users. There were credible reports the government monitored private online communications without appropriate legal authority, including using cyberattacks to gain access to devices and accounts belonging to human rights defenders, other civil society members, and actual or perceived critics of the government.”).

<sup>lx</sup> Ragheb Malli, *supra* note lv; AFTE 2021, *supra* note lv; Joey Shea 2020, *supra* note lv; Frank Bajak, *Leading Egyptian Opposition Politician Targeted with Spyware, Researchers Find*, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS (Sept. 24, 2023), <https://apnews.com/article/spyware-predator-cytox-egypt-apple-iphone-6e5ab454bff94e1712c94b20b0756f7f>; Bill Marczak et al., *Pegasus vs. Predator: Dissident’s Doubly-Infected iPhone Reveals Cytox Mercenary Spyware*, THE CITIZEN LAB (Dec. 16, 2021), <https://citizenlab.ca/2021/12/pegasus-vs-predator-dissidents-doubly-infected-iphone-reveals-cytox-mercenary-spyware/>.

<sup>lxi</sup> *Egypt: Human Rights Organizations Condemn Authorities for Targeting Journalists, Bloggers, and Online Content Creators, and Demand Immediate Release of Those Detained*, ASSOCIATION FOR FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND EXPRESSION (AFTE) (Aug. 1, 2022), <https://afteegypt.org/en/advocacy-en/2022/08/01/31673-afteegypt.html>.

<sup>lxii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>lxiii</sup> *Egypt Releases a New Batch of 60 Pretrial Detainees*, AHARAM ONLINE (Oct. 1, 2023), <https://english.ahram.org.eg/News/509352.aspx>.

<sup>lxiv</sup> Additions of Entities, Revisions of Entries, and Removal of an Entity from the Entity List, 15 C.F.R. § 744 (2024), <https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2024-03674.pdf>; *More Accountability: U.S. Blacklists Sandvine for Enabling Digital Repression in Egypt*, ACCESSNOW (Feb. 27, 2024), <https://www.accessnow.org/press-release/us-blacklists-sandvine-for-digital-repression-in-egypt/>; Karen Freifeld, *US Restricts Exports to Canada’s Sandvine over Egypt Censorship*, REUTERS (Feb. 26, 2024), <https://www.reuters.com/business/us-adds-sandvine-chengdu-beizhan-electronics-restricted-trade-list-notice-2024-02-26/>.

<sup>lxv</sup> ICCPR, *supra* note xv, at arts. 21, 22.

<sup>lxvi</sup> African Charter, *supra* note xvi, at arts. 10, 11.

<sup>lxvii</sup> Egyptian Constitution, *supra* note xvi, at arts. 73, 75.

<sup>lxviii</sup> Law No. 10 of 1914 (Law on Assembly), *al-Waqa’i’ al-Misriyah*, 18 Oct. 1914 (Egypt), <https://manshurat.org/node/7505>.

<sup>lxix</sup> Law No. 107 of 2013 (Law on Protest), *al-Jaridah al-Rasmiyah*, vol. 47 bis, 24 Nov. 2013 (Egypt), <https://manshurat.org/node/6547>.

<sup>lxx</sup> *Id.* at art. 1.

<sup>lxxi</sup> *Id.* at art. 21.

<sup>lxxii</sup> See, e.g. *Egypt After the Rabaa Massacre: Ten Years of Repression, Collective Punishment, and Impunity*, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Aug. 14, 2023), <https://www.cfjustice.org/egypt-after-the-rabaa-massacre-ten-years-of-repression-collective-punishment-and-impunity/>.

<sup>lxxiii</sup> *Egypt: Presidential Decree Enhances Punishments Against Legal persons and Individuals Receiving Foreign Funding*, LIBRARY OF CONG. (Sept. 26, 2014), <https://www.loc.gov/item/global-legal-monitor/2014-09-26/egypt-presidential-decree-enhances-punishments-against-legal-persons-and-individuals-receiving-foreign-funding/>.

<sup>lxxiv</sup> Law No. 149 of 2019 (On Regulating the Exercise of Civil Work), *al-Jaridah al-Rasmiyah*, vol. 33, 19 Aug. 2019 (Egypt), <https://www.icnl.org/wp-content/uploads/law149eng.pdf> (English), <https://www.icnl.org/wp-content/uploads/Egypt-Draft-Law-on-CSOs-July-2019-ARABIC.pdf> (Arabic).

<sup>lxxv</sup> E.g., *id.* at art. 3.

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lxxvi *Id.* at arts. 14, 68.

lxxvii *Id.* at arts. 24, 27.

lxxviii *Id.* at art. 15(k).

lxix See, e.g., Egypt: Dozens of Peaceful Protestors Detained, ZAWYA (Nov. 1, 2023), <https://www.zawya.com/en/press-release/africa-press-releases/egypt-dozens-of-peaceful-protesters-detained-lygsnx11> [hereinafter “Egypt: Dozens of Peaceful Protestors Detained”].

<sup>183xx</sup> See, e.g., Thaer Mansour, *Egypt Detains Activists After Joining Pro-Gaza Protest Outside Journalists' Syndicate*, THE NEW ARAB (Apr. 4, 2024), <https://www.newarab.com/news/egypt-detains-activists-after-joining-pro-gaza-protest>; *Egypt Charges Pro-Palestine Protesters with 'Spreading Fake News'*, OZ ARAB MEDIA (Apr. 5, 2024), <https://ozarab.media/egypt-charges-pro-palestine-protesters-with-spreading-fake-news/>.

<sup>lxxxix</sup> *More Than 100 Detained in Egypt After Pro-Palestinian Protests - Lawyers*, REUTERS (Oct. 24, 2023), <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/more-than-100-detained-egypt-after-pro-palestinian-protests-lawyers-2023-10-24/> [hereinafter “More Than 100 Detained in Egypt”]; *43 Arrested After Palestine Solidarity Protests Briefly Reach Tahrir*, MADA MASR (Oct. 20, 2023), <https://www.madamasr.com/en/2023/10/20/news/u/43-arrested-after-palestine-solidarity-protests-briefly-reach-tahrir/>; Egypt: Dozens of Peaceful Protestors Detained, *supra* note lxxxix.

<sup>lxxxii</sup> Egypt: Dozens of Peaceful Protestors Detained, *supra* note lxxix; More Than 100 Detained in Egypt, *supra* note lxxxi.

lxxxiii Egypt: Dozens of Peaceful Protestors Detained, *supra* note lxxix.

lxxxiv *Id.*

lxxxv □□□□□□ □□□□□□ □□□□□□ □□□□□□ □□□□ □□□□□□ □□□□□□ (The Egyptian Initiative  
Condemns the Arrest of Teachers Excluded from Appointment and Demands Their Release and the Abolition of Discriminatory Selection  
Criteria), EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE FOR PERS. RTS. (Oct. 24, 2023),  
<https://eipr.org/press/2023/10/%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%B5%D8%B1%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%AA%D8%AF%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%82%D8%A8%D8%B6-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%A8%D8%B9%D8%AF%D9%8A%D9%86-%D9%85%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%B9%D9%8A%D9%8A%D9%86-%D9%88%D8%AA%D8%B7%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8-%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5%D9%81%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AC-%D8%B9%D9%86%D9%87%D9%85>; Egypt: Dozens of Peaceful Protestors Detained, *supra* note lxxxv.

lxxxvi *Egypt: Pretrial Detention Renewals by Video*, HUM. RTS. WATCH (May 26, 2023, 12:00 AM), <https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/05/26/egypt-pretrial-detention-renewals-video>.

lxxxvii Egypt: Dozens of Peaceful Protestors Detained, *supra* note lxxix.

lxxxviii *Egypt: RFK Human Rights Condemns the Arrest of HRA Laureat Ragia Omran and Other 15 Defenders and Calls for the Charges Against Them to be Dropped*, ROBERT F. KENNEDY HUM. RTS. (Apr. 30, 2024), <https://rfkhumanrights.org/our-voices/egypt-rfk-human-rights-condemns-the-arrest-of-hra-laureate-ragia-omran-and-other-15-defenders-and-calls-for-the-charges-against-them-to-be-dropped/>.

<sup>lxviii</sup> Ahmed Bakr & Mohammed Ezz, *Demonstrators Presented to State Security Prosecution After Arrests from Women-Led Palestine, Sudan Solidarity Protest*, MADA MASR (Apr. 24, 2024), <https://www.madamasr.com/en/2024/04/24/news/u/demonstrators-presented-to-state-security-prosecution-after-arrests-from-women-led-palestine-sudan-solidarity-protest/>.

<sup>XC</sup> *Id.*

<sup>xcii</sup> *Detainees Released After at Least 16 Arrests from Protest in Solidarity with Women in Gaza, Sudan*, MADA MASR (Apr. 24, 2024), <https://www.madamasr.com/en/2024/04/24/news/u/detainees-released-after-at-least-16-arrests-from-protest-in-solidarity-with-women-in-gaza-sudan/>.

<sup>xcii</sup> G.A. Res. 217, *supra* note xiv, at art. 9; ICCPR, *supra* note xv, at art. 9; African Charter, *supra* note xvi, at art. 4.

<sup>xciii</sup> Egyptian Constitution, *supra* note xvi, at art. 54.

<sup>xvii</sup> U.S. Dept. of State, 2023 Country Report: Egypt, *supra* note xxviii (“In October [2023], eight international and local human rights groups released a report concluding torture represented part of an institutionalized culture of violence used against detainees and enabled by a legal framework focused on counterterrorism, incommunicado detention, and widespread impunity. The report documented the use of torture against lawyers, journalists, bloggers, academics, human rights defenders, activists, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or intersex (LGBTQI+) individuals, among others.”).

<sup>xcv</sup> Concluding Observations on the Fifth Periodic Report of Egypt, Comm. Against Torture, ¶ 33, U.N. Doc. CAT/C/EGY/CO/5 (Dec. 12, 2023) (The U.N. Committee Against Torture expressed its concern that “lawyers, in

particular those involved in political activities or politically sensitive cases, are allegedly often subjected to threats, harassment, intimidation and reprisals and, in some cases, to prolonged pretrial detention, arbitrary detention, torture, other ill-treatment, and enforced disappearance”). Lawyers who attempt to represent individuals prosecuted by the SSSP are also routinely threatened and harassed, with many being arrested in reprisal for their work. *See* AMNESTY INT’L, EGYPT: PERMANENT STATE OF EXCEPTION: ABUSES BY THE SUPREME STATE SECURITY PROSECUTION 9 (2019), <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde12/1399/2019/en/> [hereinafter “Permanent State of Exception”].

<sup>xvii</sup> *See* US Dept. of State, 2023 Country Report: Egypt, *supra* note xxviii; *Egypt: Human Rights Defenders Held Incommunicado, Face Spurious Charges, Says UN Expert*, OFF. OF THE HIGH COMM’R FOR HUM. RTS. (July 15, 2021), <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2021/07/egypt-human-rights-defenders-held-incommunicado-face-spurious-charges-says>; *Egypt: Harsh Sentences Against Rights Activists*, HUM. RTS. WATCH (Mar. 8, 2023, 1:00 AM), <https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/03/08/egypt-harsh-sentences-against-rights-activists> [hereinafter “Harsh Sentences”]; *CFJ Issues Justice for HRDs Fourth Quarterly Bulletin for October to December 2023*, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Feb. 13, 2024), <https://www.cfjustice.org/cfj-issues-justice-for-hrds-fourth-quarterly-bulletin-for-december-to-october-2023>; *Egypt: Over 2,700 Human Rights Violations Committed in 1 Year*, MIDDLE EAST MONITOR (Jan. 6, 2024, 10:35 AM), <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20240106-egypt-over-2700-human-rights-violations-committed-in-1-year/>; *Ten Years of Power for Sisi: Egypt Has Become One of the World’s Biggest Jailers of Journalists*, REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (June 30, 2023), <https://rsf.org/en/ten-years-power-sisi-egypt-has-become-one-world-s-biggest-jailers-journalists> [hereinafter “Ten Years of Power for Sisi”]; Arlene Getz, 2023 Prison Census: Jailed Journalist Numbers Near Record High; Israel Imprisonments Spike, COMM. TO PROTECT JOURNALISTS, <https://cpij.org/reports/2024/01/2023-prison-census-jailed-journalist-numbers-near-record-high-israel-imprisonments-spike/> (last visited June 14, 2024) [hereinafter “Arlene Getz”]; *see also* *Egypt: Big Jail for Press Freedom*, WOMEN JOURNALISTS WITHOUT CHAINS (Apr. 12, 2023), <https://www.wjwc.org/news-en/egypt-big-jail-for-press-freedom>.

<sup>xviii</sup> *Egypt committed 3,537 human rights violations against detainees in 2023, says CFJ*, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Mar. 21, 2024), <https://www.cfjustice.org/egypt-committed-3537-human-rights-violations-against-detainees-in-2023-says-cfj/>.

<sup>xix</sup> *See e.g., Egypt: Terrorism Charges and Arrest Warrants Issued Against Human Rights Lawyers Mahmoud Mohamed Abdelmajeed and Mohamed Issa Rajeh (joint communication)*, UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS SPECIAL PROCEDURES: SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS, INDEPENDENT EXPERTS & WORKING GROUPS (May 31, 2024), <https://srdefenders.org/egypt-terrorism-charges-and-arrest-warrants-issued-against-human-rights-lawyers-mahmoud-mohamed-abdelmajeed-and-mohamed-issa-rajeh-joint-communication/>.

<sup>xx</sup> Law No. 94 of 2015, *supra* note xxvi.

<sup>c</sup> *Verdict Before Conviction... A Reading in the Application of the Terrorist Entities Law*, ASSOCIATION FOR FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND EXPRESSION (AFTE) (Jan. 10, 2021), <https://aftegypt.org/en/legislations-en/legislative-analysis-en/2021/01/10/20657-aftegypt.html>; Law No. 94 of 2015, *supra* note xxvi.

<sup>d</sup> Law No. 8 of 2015 (Terrorism Entities Law), *al-Jaridah al-Rasmiyah*, vol. 7 bis, 17 Feb. 2015, art. 1 (Egypt), <https://menarights.org/sites/default/files/2016-11/EGY%20-%20Law%208%20of%202015%20-%20Organizations%20lists%20of%20terrorist%20entities%20and%20terrorists%20-%202002.2015%20%28EN%29.pdf>.

<sup>ii</sup> Nourhan Fahmy, *The Egyptian Prosecution: A Fact Sheet*, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (May 4, 2020), <https://timep.org/2020/05/04/the-egyptian-prosecution-a-fact-sheet/>; Permanent State of Exception, *supra* note xcv, at 14.

<sup>ciii</sup> Permanent State of Exception, *supra* note xcv, at 7-8.

<sup>civ</sup> *Id.* at 9.

<sup>cv</sup> *Id.* at 8.

<sup>cvi</sup> *See Criminal Procedure Code*, Law No. 150 of 1950, Amended Law No. 83 of 2013, Art. XX, <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/554109b8e4b0269a2d77e01d/t/554b9890e4b029f0ef3a188d/1431017616683/Egypt+Criminal+Procedure+Code+English+Final.pdf> (unofficial English translation), <https://manshurat.org/node/14676> (Arabic). The Criminal Procedure Code states that pretrial detention cannot be extended for more than one-third of the maximum penalty for the possible charges: a maximum of six months for misdemeanors, 18 months for felonies, and two years for crimes carrying death or life imprisonment. *Id.* at art. 143. *See also* Amr Ahmed Ibrahim, *The Façade of Dialogue and Political Openness: Egypt’s Increasing Repression and Arbitrary Detention*, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (Jun. 21, 2023), <https://timep.org/2023/06/21/the-facade-of-dialogue-and-political-openness-egypts-increasing-repression-and-arbitrary-detention/#:~:text=By%20looking%20at%20the%20number,for%20more%20than%20 for%20 years>.

<sup>cvi</sup> Vivian Yee et al., *Egypt’s Revolving Jailhouse Door: One Pretrial Detention After Another*, THE NEW YORK TIMES (July 16, 2022), <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2022/07/16/world/middleeast/egypt-prisoners.html?searchResultPosition=9>.

<sup>cviii</sup> Amr Ahmed Ibrahim, *The Facade of Dialogue and Political Openness: Egypt's Increasing Repression and Arbitrary Detention*, THE

TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (June 21, 2023), <https://timep.org/2023/06/21/the-facade-of-dialogue-and-political-openness-egypts-increasing-repression-and-arbitrary-detention/>.

<sup>cix</sup> Yasmin Omar & Mai El-Sadany, *Indefinite Pretrial Detention in Egypt: Rotation and Detention Pending Multiple Cases*, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (Feb. 9, 2021), <https://timep.org/2021/02/09/indefinite-pretrial-detention-in-egypt-rotation-and-detention-pending-multiple-cases/>; *The Practice of "Rotation": How Egypt Keeps its Dissidents in Indefinite Detention*, MENA RTS. GRP. (Dec. 14, 2021), [https://menarights.org/en/articles/practice-rotation-how-egypt-keeps-its-dissidents-indefinite-detention#\\_ftn11](https://menarights.org/en/articles/practice-rotation-how-egypt-keeps-its-dissidents-indefinite-detention#_ftn11).

<sup>cx</sup> Opinion No. 14/2020 concerning Amal Fathy, Mohamed Lofty and a minor whose name is known to the Working Group (Egypt), Hum. Rts. Council, Working Grp. on Arbitrary Det., Opinions adopted by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention at its Eighty-Seventh Session, 27 April-1 May 2020, ¶52, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/WGAD/2020/14 (June 18, 2020), [https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session87/A\\_HRC\\_WGAD\\_2020\\_14\\_Advance\\_Edited\\_Version.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session87/A_HRC_WGAD_2020_14_Advance_Edited_Version.pdf).

<sup>cxi</sup> See *Egypt: 2,000 Days of Arbitrary detention for Human Rights Defender Hoda Abdel-Moneim*, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Apr. 29, 2024), <https://www.cfjustice.org/egypt-2000-days-of-arbitrary-detention-for-human-rights-defender-hoda-abdel-moneim/> [hereinafter "2,000 Days of Arbitrary Detention for Hoda Abdel-Moneim"]; *Hoda Abdel Moneim: Forcibly Disappeared with Daughters Fighting for Release*, DEMOCRACY FOR THE ARAB WORLD NOW (DAWN), (Sep. 30, 2020), <https://dawnmena.org/abdel-moneim-forcibly-disappeared-with-daughters-fighting-for-release/> [hereinafter "DAWN 2020"].

<sup>cxii</sup> Abdel Moneim's enforced disappearance is the subject of a communication before the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and, as of March 2024, is still outstanding. See Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders et al., U.N. Doc. AL EGY 7/2023 (Jan. 22, 2024), <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=28706> [hereinafter "SR on HRDs Jan. 2024"].

<sup>cxiii</sup> While in detention, the authorities consistently refused to provide Abdel Moneim with medical treatment despite a condition of kidney failure and a suspected heart attack. SR on HRDs Jan. 2024, *supra* note cxii, at 1. In December 2020, Abdel Moneim's family submitted a demand to the Public Prosecutor and the Attorney General to allow her to undergo treatment, but it was denied. DAWN 2020, *supra* note cxi.

<sup>cxiv</sup> Opinion No. 45/2021 concerning Mohamed Hassan Mohamed Salaheldin el-Baker, Mahinour Mohamed Abdel-Salam Mohamed el-Masry, Amr Mohamed Adel Imam Mohamed Mostafa, Hoda Abdel Moneam Abdel Aziz Hassan (Egypt), Hum. Rts. Council, Working Grp. on Arbitrary Det., Opinions Adopted by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention at Its Ninety-Second Session, 15-19 November 2021, ¶ 49, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/WGAD/2021/45 (Jan. 12, 2022), [https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/A\\_HRC\\_WGAD\\_45\\_2021\\_Egypt\\_AEV.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/A_HRC_WGAD_45_2021_Egypt_AEV.pdf) [hereinafter "Opinion No. 45/2021"].

<sup>cxv</sup> *Id.* at ¶ 49.

<sup>cxvi</sup> See e.g., SR on HRDs Jan. 2024, *supra* note cxii, at 1-2.

<sup>cxvii</sup> Opinion No. 45/2021, *supra* note cxiv, at ¶ 109.

<sup>cxviii</sup> US Dept. of State, 2023 Country Report: Egypt, *supra* note xxviii.

<sup>cxix</sup> DAWN 2020, *supra* note cxi; *Egypt: UN Raises Concerns Over Sentences of Human Rights Defenders and Their Listing on Terrorism Lists*, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Aug. 13, 2023), <https://www.cfjustice.org/egypt-un-raises-concerns-over-sentences-of-human-rights-defenders-and-their-listing-on-terrorism-lists/>.

<sup>cxx</sup> US Dept. of State, 2023 Country Report: Egypt, *supra* note xxviii; 2,000 Days of Arbitrary Detention for Hoda Abdel-Moneim, *supra* note cxi.

<sup>cxxi</sup> 2,000 Days of Arbitrary Detention for Hoda Abdel-Moneim, *supra* note cxi.

<sup>cxxii</sup> *Id.*

<sup>cxxiii</sup> Metwally is the founder of the Association of the Families of the Forcibly Disappeared in Egypt, an initiative established after the forcible disappearance of Metwally's son, Amr Ibrahim Metwally, in July 2013 during clashes between supporters of President Mohamed Morsi and Egyptian armed forces in Cairo. Amr's whereabouts remain unknown to this day. See *Ibrahim Metwally: Six Years of Imprisonment for Searching for His Son, Who Has Been Forcibly Disappeared for Ten Years*, CAIRO INST. FOR HUM. RTS. STUD.(CIHRS) (Sep. 10, 2023), <https://cihrs.net/ibrahim-metwally-six-years-of-imprisonment-for-searching-for-his-son-who-has-been-forcibly-disappeared-for-ten-years/?lang=en> [hereinafter "CIHRS 2023"].

<sup>cxxiv</sup> *Id.*; *Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy: A Trip to Geneva Rerouted to Maximum Security Prison*, DEMOCRACY FOR THE ARAB WORLD NOW (DAWN), <https://dawnmena.org/metwally-hegazy-trip-to-geneva-rerouted-to-maximum-security-prison/> (Feb.



25, 2022) [hereinafter “DAWN 2022”].

<sup>cxxv</sup> DAWN 2022, *supra* note cxxiv; UN Rights Experts Dismayed by Arrest of Egyptian Lawyer Ebrahim Metwally en Route to Meet Them, OFF. OF THE HIGH COMM’R FOR HUM. RTS. (Sep. 15, 2017), <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2017/09/un-rights-experts-dismayed-arrest-egyptian-lawyer-ebrahim-metwally-en-route>.

<sup>cxxvi</sup> Egyptian Human Rights Defender Ebrahim Metwally detained Since September 2017, MENA RTS. GRP. <https://menarights.org/en/caseprofile/egyptian-human-rights-defender-ebrahim-metwally-detained-september-2017> (Sept. 29, 2022).

<sup>cxxvii</sup> Hum. Rts. Council, Working Grp. on Arbitrary Det., Opinions Adopted by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention at its eighty-fifth session, 12-16 August 2019, Opinion No. 41/2019 concerning Ebrahim Abdelmonem Metwally Hegazy (Egypt), ¶ 54, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/WGAD/2019/41 (2019), <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-arbitrary-detention/opinions-adopted-working-group-arbitrary-detention-its-85th-session>.

<sup>cxxviii</sup> CIHRS 2023, *supra* note cxxiii.

<sup>cxxix</sup> *Id.*; Ibrahim Metwally, COP CIVIC SPACE, <https://copcivicspace.net/ibrahim-metwally/#moreinfo> (last visited June 10, 2024).

<sup>cx</sup> CIHRS 2023, *supra* note cxxiii.

<sup>cx</sup> CIHRS 2023, *supra* note cxxiii.

<sup>cxix</sup> US Dept. of State, 2023 Country Report: Egypt, *supra* note xxviii; DAWN 2022, *supra* note cxxiv.

<sup>cx</sup> EGYPT: International Rights Organizations Call for the Release of Rights Defender Mohamed El-Baqer, EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE FOR PERS. RTS. (Sept. 29, 2021), <https://eipr.org/en/press/2021/09/egypt-international-rights-organizations-call-release-rights-defender-mohamed-el-baqer>.

<sup>cx</sup> Opinion No. 45/2021, *supra* note cxiv, at ¶ 6.

<sup>cx</sup> Global Coalition Calls for Release of Mohamed el-Baqer and Alaa Abdel Fattah on Three Year Anniversary of their Arrests, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Sept. 29, 2022), <https://www.cfjustice.org/global-coalition-calls-for-release-of-mohamed-el-baqer-and-alaa-abdel-fattah-on-three-year-anniversary-of-their-arrests/> [hereinafter “CFJ 2022”].

<sup>cx</sup> Opinion No. 45/2021, *supra* note cxiv, at ¶ 6.

<sup>cx</sup> Release of Detained Human Rights Defenders Mohamed El-Baqer and Patrick George Zaki Following Presidential Pardon, FRONT LINE DEFENDERS, <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/case/release-detained-human-rights-defenders-mohamed-el-baqer-and-patrick-george-zaki-following> (last visited June 14, 2024) [hereinafter “Front Line Defenders 2024”].

<sup>cx</sup> CFJ 2022, *supra* note cxxv.

<sup>cx</sup> *Id.*; Front Line Defenders 2024, *supra* note cxxvii.

<sup>cx</sup> Front Line Defenders 2024, *supra* note cxxvii; CFJ 2022, *supra* note cxxv.

<sup>cx</sup> Egypt: CFJ Applauds Presidential Pardon for Mohamed el-Baqer and Patrick Zaki, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (July 20, 2023), <https://www.cfjustice.org/egypt-cfj-applauds-presidential-pardon-for-mohamed-el-baqer-and-patrick-zaki/>; Egyptian Lawyer Mohamed El-Baqer Receives Presidential Pardon, LAWYERS FOR LAWYERS (July 20, 2023), <https://lawyersforlawyers.org/en/egyptian-lawyer-mohamed-el-baqer-receives-presidential-pardon/>.

<sup>cx</sup> Fadl is a lawyer and human rights defender, and the founder and Executive Director of the Egyptian Coordination for Rights and Freedoms (ECRF), a prominent human rights organization that monitors and documents human rights violations while providing legal aid to victims in Egypt. See *The Egyptian Coordination for Rights and Freedoms: Two Years of Arrest and Repression*, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (Dec. 2, 2020), <https://www.cfjustice.org/the-egyptian-coordination-for-rights-and-freedoms-two-years-of-arrest-and-repression/>.

<sup>cx</sup> Ezzat Ghoneim, COMM. FOR JUSTICE, <https://cfjustice.uwazi.io/en/entity/60qv71gsimt?searchTerm=Ezzat%20Eid%20Taha%20Fadl%20Ghoneim%2C> (last visited June 14, 2024).

<sup>cx</sup> *Id.*

<sup>cx</sup> *Id.*

<sup>cx</sup> *Id.*

<sup>cx</sup> Harsh Sentences, *supra* note cxvi.

<sup>cx</sup> Egyptian Lawyers Hoda Abdel Moneim, Tarek Al-Silkawi, Ezzat Ghoneim and Mohammed Abu Horeira Sentenced to Imprisonment, LAWYERS FOR LAWYERS (Mar. 7, 2023), <https://lawyersforlawyers.org/en/egyptian-lawyers-hoda-abdel-moneim-tarek-al-silkawi-ezzat-ghoneim-and-mohammed-abu-horeira-sentenced-to-lengthy-prison-sentences/>.

<sup>cx</sup> Ten Years of Power for Sisi, *supra* note cxvi; Arlene Getz, *supra* note cxvi; WJWC Press Freedom Report on Egypt, *supra* note xxvi.

<sup>cl</sup> WJWC Press Freedom Report on Egypt, *supra* note xxvi.

<sup>cl</sup> Egypt Must Free Tawfik Ghanem Who Has Been in Pretrial Detention for Two Years, Says RSF, REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS, <https://rsf.org/en/egypt-must-free-tawfik-ghanem-who-has-been-pretrial-detention-two-years-says-rsf> (June 13, 2024) [hereinafter “Egypt Must Free Tawfik Ghanem”].

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- cliii *Id.*
- cliv *Id.*; *Egypt Extends Pre-Trial Detention of Journalist Tawfik Ghanem*, MIDDLE EAST MONITOR (Jan. 3, 2024, 12:27 PM), <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20240103-egypt-extends-pre-trial-detention-of-journalist-tawfik-ghanem/>.
- clv *Egypt Must Free Tawfik Ghanem*, *supra* note cli.
- clvi “*Mohamed Oxygen*” *Begins Fifth Year in Prison in Egypt for Refusing to Stop Blogging*, REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (Sept. 20, 2023), <https://rsf.org/en/mohamed-oxygen-begins-fifth-year-prison-egypt-refusing-stop-blogging> [hereinafter “*Mohamed Oxygen Begins Fifth Year in Prison*”].
- clvii Naseem Tarawnah, *Egypt Targets Dissident Families, and Iran’s Tech-Enabled Suppression of Women*, IFEX (Sept. 7, 2023), <https://ifex.org/egypt-targets-dissident-families-and-irans-tech-enabled-suppression-of-women/>.
- clviii Mohamed Oxygen Begins Fifth Year in Prison, *supra* note clvi.
- clix *Id.*; Reporters Without Borders (RSF), *After Journalists, Egypt Arrests Bloggers*, IFEX (May 11, 2018), <https://ifex.org/after-journalists-egypt-arrests-bloggers/>.
- clx Mohamed Oxygen Begins Fifth Year in Prison, *supra* note clvi.
- clxi *Id.*
- clxii *Id.*
- clxiii *Id.*
- clxiv *Egypt: CFJ Expresses Solidarity with Activist and Blogger “Oxygen” in His Hunger Strike and Calls on Authorities to Respond to His Demands*, COMM. FOR JUSTICE (May 2, 2024), <https://www.cfjustice.org/egypt-cfj-expresses-solidarity-with-activist-and-blogger-oxygen-in-his-hunger-strike-and-calls-on-authorities-to-respond-to-his-demands/>. According to information provided to CFJ by Mohamed Oxygen’s family, on May 11, they visited him in detention, however it took place in the presence of a state security officer and he was not allowed to meet with a lawyer. His family is concerned about his health and does not know the reason for why he stopped his hunger strike.
- clxv *Egypt: Poet jailed for criticising army attempted suicide in prison*, MIDDLE EAST EYE, (Sept. 18, 2023), <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/egypt-poet-jailed-criticising-army-attempted-suicide-prison>.
- clxvi *Id.*
- clxvii *Id.*
- clxviii *Egypt: Filmmaker jailed for directing song mocking Sisi dies in prison*, MIDDLE EAST EYE, (May 2, 2020), <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/egypt-filmmaker-jailed-directing-song-mocking-sisi-dies-prison> [hereinafter “*Filmmaker Jailed*”].
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- clxx *Filmmaker Jailed*, *supra* note clxviii; *Poet Attempts Suicide*, *supra* note clxix.
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- clxxvii *Id.*
- clxxviii CFJ 2022, *supra* note cxxxv.
- clxxix *Writer and activist Alaa Abd El Fattah arrested from police probation*, MADA MASR, (Sept. 29, 2019), <https://www.madamasr.com/en/2019/09/29/news/politics/writer-and-activist-alaa-abd-el-fattah-arrested-from-police-probation/>.
- clxxx *Alaa Abd El Fattah and his lawyer recount humiliation and beatings in maximum-security prison*, MADA MASR, (Oct. 10, 2019), <https://www.madamasr.com/en/2019/10/10/news/u/alaa-abd-el-fattah-and-his-lawyer-recount-humiliation-and-beatings-in-maximum-security-prison/>.
- clxxxi CFJ 2022, *supra* note cxxxv.

JOURNALISTS, (Dec. 20, 2021), <https://cpi.org/2021/12/multi-year-prison-terms-for-egyptian-journalists-alaa-abdelfattah-and-mohamed-oxygen-unacceptable/> [hereinafter “Multi-Year Prison Terms for Egyptian Journalists”]; US Dept. of State, 2023 Country Report: Egypt, *supra* note xxviii.

clxxxiii Multi-Year Prison Terms for Egyptian Journalists, *supra* note clxxxii.

clxxxiv Amasha co-founded the League for Families of the Disappeared, which documents cases of enforced disappearance, brings them to the attention of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance, and provides relatives of victims of enforced disappearance in Egypt with legal aid. *See Human rights defender’s story: Ahmed Shawky Abdelsattar Mohamed Amasha*, ISHR (Jan. 29, 2024), <https://endreprisals.ishr.ch/en/entity/y3k45b4qy5f> [hereinafter “HRD Story: Ahmed Amasha”].

clxxxv HRD Story: Ahmed Amasha, *supra* note clxxxiv; Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders et al., at 2, U.N. Doc. AL EGY 10/2022 (Nov. 11, 2022), <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=27632>.

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clxxxviii HRD Story: Ahmed Amasha, *supra* note clxxxiv.

clxxxix *Id.*

cxc *Id.*

cxci *Id.*; □□□□□□ □□□□□□ □□□□□□ □□□□ □□□□□

(*Restructuring the Specific Committees of the Brotherhood*), COMM. FOR JUSTICE,

<https://www.cfjustice.org/ar/pcalendar/%D8%A5%D8%B9%D8%A7%D8%AF%D8%A9-%D9%87%D9%8A%D9%83%D9%84-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%84%D8%AC%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%86%D9%88%D8%B9%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D9%84%D9%84%D8%A5%D8%AE%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%86/> (last visited June 27, 2024).

cxcii ICCPR, *supra* note xv, at art. 12.

cxciia African Charter, *supra* note xvi, at art. 12.

cxciiv Egyptian Constitution, *supra* note xvi, at art. 62.

cxciiv *See e.g., Egypt: Arbitrary Travel Bans Throttle Civil Society: Life-Destroying Bans, a Key Tactic Against Lawyers, Journalists, Activists*, HUM. RTS. WATCH (July 6, 2022), <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/07/06/egypt-arbitrary-travel-bans-throttle-civil-society> [hereinafter “Arbitrary Travel Bans Throttle Civil Society”]; *see also* US Dept. of State, 2023 Country Report: Egypt, *supra* note xxviii; HRW Egypt World Report 2023, *supra* note vi; *Joint Report Launch: Abuse of Travel Bans in Egypt*, THE TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY (July 21, 2022), <https://timep.org/2022/07/21/abuse-travel-bans-egypt/>.

cxciiv *Egypt: Scores Barred from Traveling: Security Officials Turn Back Activists, Journalists, Academics*, HUM. RTS. WATCH (Nov. 1, 2015), <https://www.hrw.org/news/2015/11/01/egypt-scores-barred-traveling>.

cxciiv Arbitrary Travel Bans Throttle Civil Society, *supra* note cxciiv.

cxciiv *Id.*

cxciix *Letter regarding PhD student Walid Salem and denial of his right to travel*, MIDDLE EAST STUDIES ASSOCIATION (Nov. 4, 2020), <https://mesana.org/advocacy/committee-on-academic-freedom/2020/11/04/letter-regarding-phd-student-walid-salem-and-denial-of-his-right-to-travel> [hereinafter “Letter regarding Walid Salem”].

cc *Id.* The authorities previously arbitrarily arrested and detained Salem on May 23, 2018 without formal charge. After he was released from pretrial detention in December 2018, he was placed on probationary measures, required to report to the police station and state security offices weekly and banned from leaving the country. *See End probationary measures on PhD student Walid Salem*, MIDDLE EAST STUDIES ASSOCIATION (Aug. 14, 2019), <https://mesana.org/advocacy/committee-on-academic-freedom/2019/08/14/end-probationary-measures-on-phd-student-walid-salem> [hereinafter “End Probationary Measures on Walid Salem”].

ccii Letter regarding Walid Salem, *supra* note cxciix.

ccii End Probationary Measures on Walid Salem, *supra* note cc.

cciii Arbitrary Travel Bans Throttle Civil Society, *supra* note cxciiv.

cciv SR on HRDs Jan. 2024, *supra* note cxii, at 1-2.

ccv *Id.*

ccvi Opinion No. 45/2021, *supra* note cxiv, at ¶ 21; *Urgent Action: Activists Convicted by Emergency Court*, AMNESTY INT’L (Jan. 31, 2022), <https://www.amnesty.org/en/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/MDE1252002022ENGLISH.pdf> [hereinafter “Urgent Action”]; CFJ 2022, *supra* note cxxxv.

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<sup>ccvii</sup> Urgent Action, *supra* note ccvi.

<sup>ccviii</sup> See *Mohamed El-Baqer*, COMM. FOR JUSTICE, <https://cfjustice.uwazi.io/en/entity/oj1ugpf61f> (last visited June 14, 2024); Front Line Defenders 2024, *supra* note cxxxvii.