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#### **CASE OF LOUAY HUSSEIN: A POLITICAL ACTIVIST ARRESTED**

Your Excellency,

By this letter, I would like to indicate that I am very worried about the case of **Louay Hussein**. He is a political activist and writer and was arrested by immigration officials on the Syrian side of the Lebanese-Syrian border on 12 November. He faces charges of "weakening national sentiment" and "weakening the morale of the nation". He is currently being held at 'Adra prison. Since **Louay Hussein** is the head of *Building the Syrian State*, a pro-democracy political movement, and an outspoken opposition writer it is believed that **Hussein** has been detained merely for exercising his human rights to freedom of expression and freedom of association.

I call on you to release **Louay Hussein** immediately and unconditionally as he is detained solely as the result of the peaceful exercise of his rights to freedom of expression and freedom of association.

I urge you to immediately grant him access to his family, a lawyer of his choice and any medical attention he may require.

Furthermore I urge you to ensure that he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment.

Yours sincerely,

Copies to:

Minister of Interior in Syria, Major General Mohamad Ibrahim al-Shaar, Fax: +963 11 311 0554

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