

**His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin  
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VEREINIGTE ARABISCHE EMIRATE**

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Your Highness

I am deeply concerned about the situation of **Ahmed Mansoor**. On 31 December 2018, the prominent human rights defender had his 10-year prison sentence upheld by the State Security Chamber of the Federal Supreme Court in Abu Dhabi. He was convicted on charges that include "insulting the status and prestige of the UAE and its symbols", including its leaders, "publish[ing] false information to damage [the] UAE's reputation abroad" and "portray[ing] the UAE as a lawless land". Ahmed Mansoor is a prisoner of conscience.

Ahmed Mansoor is a blogger, a poet, as well as a prominent human rights defender who received the prestigious Martin Ennals Award for Human Rights Defenders in 2015. He is a member of the advisory committee of the NGO Human Rights Watch's Middle East and North Africa Division, as well as of the advisory board of the organization Gulf Centre for Human Rights (GCHR). He has documented the human rights situation in the UAE since 2006 and has publicly spoken out in defence of international human rights on his blog, via social media and in interviews with international media.

As a member / sympathizing of amnesty international, I urge you to quash the conviction and sentence and release Ahmed Mansoor immediately and unconditionally, as he is a prisoner of conscience detained solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression, including through his human rights work.

Sincerely

Cc:

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