



THOMSON REUTERS
FOUNDATION

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THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION CEO CALLS ON PM JOHNSON TO PRIORITISE SECURING NAZANIN ZAGHARI-RATCLIFFE'S RELEASE

We call on Prime Minister Boris Johnson to treat Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe's case with the utmost urgency and seriousness, as her dire condition calls for.

As the Prime Minister is well aware, Nazanin continues to suffer appalling treatment and her situation is steadily deteriorating. We were horrified to hear news of her hands and ankles being cuffed to a bed in a 2x3m private room when she was finally admitted to a mental health hospital for treatment on July 15.

During the week that followed in the psychiatric ward of Imam Khomeini hospital, Nazanin was kept under armed guard day and night and denied the right to see or phone her family. She has now been transferred back to Evin prison.

This traumatic experience is one of an endless series of ordeals that Nazanin and her family have endured since her arbitrary detention in Iran more than three years ago.

Given Mr. Johnson's misstatement as Foreign Secretary on the nature of Nazanin's reasons for travel to Iran and her role at the Thomson Reuters Foundation in November 2017, we urge the new Prime Minister to take responsibility for Nazanin's case and bring renewed energy and dedication to resolving it from Downing Street.

It is high time that we saw Nazanin released so that she and her family may turn this page of their lives and begin their recovery. We hope to see Mr. Johnson lead the charge in securing this outcome during his tenure as UK Prime Minister.

Antonio Zappulla, CEO of the Thomson Reuters Foundation