



June 13, 2016

The Honourable Dr. Hassan Rouhani
President of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Pasteur Street, Pasteur Square
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
c/o His Excellency Gholam Ali Khoshroo, Iranian Ambassador to the UN iran@un.int

RE: Dr. Homa Hoodfar

Your Excellency:

On behalf of the Canadian Anthropology Society/Société Canadienne d'Anthropologie (CASCA), I am writing with regard to the situation of Dr. Homa Hoodfar, Professor of Anthropology at Concordia University, Montréal, Québec. As the association that represents anthropologists from across Canada, CASCA is deeply concerned about the well-being of Dr. Hoodfar, who was arrested in Iran on June 6 in connection with her professional activities.

Dr. Hoodfar is an internationally respected scholar, and her research has contributed immensely to social scientific research. In particular, her research has done much to promote the understanding of Islam in the West and internationally. In this regard it should be noted that she is a scholar, not a political activist. Based on international news sources, Amnesty International, and other academic societies in the USA and elsewhere, we support all efforts to ensure her immediate release. We are particularly concerned that she has been detained without access to her lawyer, family, or much-needed medication.

It is our understanding that you are currently engaged in discussions with the Government of Canada on this matter and that you have also been receiving communications from around the world in support of our colleague. We wish to encourage you to exhaust all avenues at your disposal to secure Dr. Hoodfar's timely release and return to Canada. We firmly believe that this is a matter of great importance not only to our academic and scientific community but also to the global community as a whole.

Respectfully yours,

Dr. Donna Patrick
President, Canadian Anthropology Society (CASCA)
Professor of Anthropology, Carleton University
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Carleton University
Ottawa ON K1S 5B6