

Nabil Sadek
Office of the Public Prosecutor
Dar alQada Al-Ali
Downtown Cairo
ÄGYPTEN

Dear Counsellor,

Malak al-Kashef is a 19-year-old transgender woman human rights defender, currently arbitrarily detained in solitary confinement at the all-male Mazra'at Tora Prison.

On 2 April, a Supreme State Security Prosecutor extended Malak's 15-day arbitrary detention for a third time. Malak is facing the trumped-up charges of "aiding a terrorist organization" and "misusing social media to commit a crime punishable by law" in case 1739/2018. Malak was arrested along with at least 35 other people.

On 10 March, Malak was subjected to a forced anal examination at a government hospital, where she was also subjected to other forms of sexual assault by medical staff, according to her lawyer. These acts constitute a form of torture and other ill-treatment, which violate the UN Convention against Torture (CAT), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and the African Convention on Human and Peoples' Rights. Egypt is party to all three treaties. I would like to ask you to drop all the charges brought against Malak al-Kashef and immediately and unconditionally release her as she is a prisoner of conscience solely detained for peacefully exercising her rights to freedom of expression and freedom of assembly.

Please make sure that Malak is protected from torture and other forms of ill-treatment, including sexual violence, and that her detention conditions are in line with international standards.

Furthermore, please ensure that medical examinations to determine whether a suspect has engaged in anal sex are ended immediately, as such examinations constitute torture.

Yours sincerely,

Copy:

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