



German Medical Association
Federation of the German Chambers of Physicians
German Medical Assembly
President

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Minister Ahmed El-Zend
Ministry of Justice
Lazoughly Square
Downtown Cairo
EGYPT

Letter of support for Dr Ahmed Mohamed Said

Dear Minister El-Zend,

As president of the German Medical Association, I would like to express my grave concern for the safety and well-being of surgeon Ahmed Mohamed Said and four other individuals who were arrested following a brief and peaceful commemorative event in Cairo on 19 November 2015, and who have since been sentenced to two years of imprisonment by the Abdeen Misdemeanour Court.

According to his family members, Dr Said, who most recently practiced medicine in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, has been subject to torture and inhumane conditions. Some of the charges against him and the other four defendants in this case – Mostafa Ibrahim Mohamed Ahmed, Karim Khaled Fathy, Mohamed Abdel-Hamid, and Gamila Serzel-Dain – such as assembling without a permit, stand in direct violation of protected human rights. Other charges in this investigation have not been supported with physical evidence.

On 8 December, Dr Ahmed Said began a partial hunger strike. During interrogations in Abdeen Prison, he was handcuffed, blindfolded, beaten, given electric shocks and his hand was burned with cigarettes, according to his family. In addition, when Dr Said attempted to inform the public prosecution that he had been tortured, the prosecutor refused to record these incidents. Dr Said has been denied access to his family and lawyers since 14 December.

The German Medical Association calls upon you, Minister El-Zend, to take immediate action to ensure that the verdict and sentences in this politically-motivated case are reversed and that the five defendants are released immediately. We also urge Egyptian authorities to guarantee that the detainees in question are protected from torture and other ill treatment, pending their release, and that they are granted regular access to their lawyers and families.

Finally, we appeal to authorities to order a prompt, independent and impartial investigation into allegations of torture and to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice in a fair trial without resort to the death penalty.

We ask that you exert your influence to demand an immediate end to this abuse of justice. I thank you for your attention and remain at your disposal should you have any questions concerning the above.

Best regards,



Prof. Dr Frank Ulrich Montgomery
President
German Medical Association

**Cc: Dr Badr Abdelatty, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the Federal
Republic of Germany
Mahy Hassan Abdel Latif,
Deputy Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for Human Rights**