P E T I T I O N

For: [43 foreign and Egyptian NGO workers](https://wpyadmin.ne.cision.com/l/akkprbju/www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2013/06/egypt-must-overturn-jail-sentence-for-ngo-workers)

EGYPT

**To:** President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, Office of the President, Al Ittihadia Palace Cairo, ÄGYPTEN¸ Fax: 00 202 - 23 91 14 41, E-Mail: [p.spokesman@op.gov.eg](mailto:p.spokesman@op.gov.eg)

**Copy to:** Botschaft der Arabischen Republik Ägypten, S. E. Herrn Badr Ahmed Mohamed Abdelatty, Stauffenbergstraße 6-7, 10785 Berlin; Fax: 030 - 477 10 49, E-Mail: [embassy@egyptian-embassy.de](mailto:embassy@egyptian-embassy.de)

Februar/März 2017

Your Excellency,

I am greatly concerned about the human rights situation in Egypt.

In June 2013 [43 foreign and Egyptian NGO workers](https://wpyadmin.ne.cision.com/l/akkprbju/www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2013/06/egypt-must-overturn-jail-sentence-for-ngo-workers) were sentenced to prison terms of between one and five years and a series of international NGOs were closed down, including Freedom House and the International Centre for Journalists, in relation to the Case 173.

In the past year investigative judges have brought increasing pressure to bear on Egyptian human rights groups, using arbitrary travel bans, arrests and freezing of assets to curtail freedom of expression, association and assembly in what appears to be an effort to weaken the country’s human rights movement and repress dissent. Leading human rights defenders are at risk of life imprisonment if convicted of the politically motivated charges brought against them.

I respectfully urge you to close Case 173 of 2011.

I appeal to you to ensure that the harassment and intimidation of human rights defenders ceases. Methods of intimidation include arbitrary arrest, interrogation, travel ban, freezing of assets, closure orders and trumped-up charges. Please ensure that the assets of human rights defenders and organisations which were frozen in relation to Case 173 are immediately unfrozen.

I am seriously concerned that the proposed NGO bill if passed into law would force human rights groups to seek official approval to conduct field research, publish their findings and seek funding. I appeal to you to reject the new NGO bill which contravenes Egypt’s 2014 constitution as well as international law and standards on the right to freedom of association.

Yours faithfully,

**Vorname, Name Straße Nummer PLZ Ort Unterschrift**

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