**Leader of the Islamic Republic**

Ayatollah Sayed ‘Ali Khamenei

Your Excellency, Oslo, 3 June 2016

On behalf of the Norwegian Writers in Prison Committee and Norwegian PEN, we call on the Iranian authorities to release journalist Narges Mohammadi immediately and unconditionally, as she is wrongfully imprisoned for the peaceful exercise of her right to freedom of expression and association. We condemn the recent sentencing of Mohammadi, requiring her to serve an additional 16 years in prison.

Mohammadi is the mother of nine-year-old twins, and the wife of prominent journalist and activist Taghi Rahmani, who has spent a total of 17 years in prison. We vehemently urge the authorities to allow Mohammadi the right to make telephone calls so that she may speak to her children, who are abroad, and have regular access to her family.

Furthermore, we are gravely concerned for the health and welfare of Narges Mohammadi, and demanding that she is given all necessary medical attention as a matter of urgency; Mohammadi has been released and treated before due to her deteriorating health, and worries persist that she is not receiving adequate medicial attention in her current situation.

The WiPC and Norwegian PEN urge the Iranian authorities to ensure that the right to freedom of expression in Iran is fully respected in law and practice as provided for under Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Iran is a state party. We remind you of your obligations to protect these rights under domestic and international law, and the obligation to ensure the fundamental freedoms and safety of your citizens while they exercise their right to freedom of expression.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Brit Bildøen Ms Iva Gavanski
Chair of Writers in Prison Committee Advisor, Writers in Prison Committee
Norwegian PEN Norwegian PEN

Copy: The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Oslo, 03.06.2016