

URGENT ACTION

UNJUSTLY JAILED POLITICIAN'S SON'S HEALTH AT RISK

Anas al-Beltagy has been arbitrarily detained for nearly 11 years solely due to his family affiliation. Since his arrest in December 2013, the Egyptian authorities have subjected him to a catalogue of human rights violations including enforced disappearance, torture, and other ill-treatment. After Anas al-Beltagy took part in prison hunger strike in June 2024, authorities in the 10th of Ramadan prison placed him in solitary confinement in a so-called “disciplinary cell” for a period of three months, which led to a severe deterioration of his physical and mental health. Additionally, authorities continue to deny him prison visits from his family and lawyers. Anas al-Beltagy must be immediately and unconditionally released.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter in your own words or using the sample below as a guide to one or both government officials listed. You can also email, fax, call or Tweet them.
- [Click here](#) to let us know the actions you took on **Fourth Urgent Action 29.23**. It's important to report because we share the total number with the officials we are trying to persuade and the people we are trying to help.

President Abdelfattah al-Sisi
Office of the President
Al Ittihadia Palace
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt
Email: p.spokesman@op.gov.eg;
[X: @AlsisiOfficial](https://twitter.com/AlsisiOfficial)

Egyptian Embassy in the United States
Ambassador Motaz Mounir Zahran
3521 International Court, NW, Washington DC 20008
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Your Excellency,

I write to express my grave concern over the continued arbitrary detention of **Anas al-Beltagy** who has spent nearly 11 years behind bars solely because he is the son of prominent Muslim Brotherhood leader and former parliamentarian, Mohamed al-Beltagy. Despite courts acquitting him of all charges in four separate cases and a judge's decision to provisionally release him in a fifth case, he continues to be held in pre-trial detention pending investigations into a separate sixth case on similar spurious terrorism-related accusations. Since his arrest in December 2013, Anas al-Beltagy has been subjected to a catalogue of human rights violations including enforced disappearance, torture and other ill-treatment, and the deliberate denial of healthcare.

As Anas al-Beltagy has been banned from any prison visits and other communication since 2017, his family and lawyers only have limited information about him, obtained during online detention renewal hearings or from other prisoners' families. He is also suffering from other health problems such mouth ulcers that have made it difficult for him to speak and even drink water.

I urge you to ensure that Anas al-Beltagy is immediately and unconditionally released and all charges against him are dropped, as they are brought solely because of his family links and the exercise of his human rights. Pending his release, I call on you to ensure that he is held in conditions meeting international standards for the treatment of prisoners and granted regular access to his family, lawyers, and adequate healthcare.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Security forces first arrested then 20-year-old **Anas al-Beltagy** on December 24, 2013 during a visit with his mother to the Tora Prison Complex to see his detained father, Mohamed al-Beltagy. According to information gathered by Amnesty International, security forces surrounded and beat them, before transferring them to the Maadi prosecution where they were interrogated over accusations of assaulting prison guards. The prosecution ordered their provisional release on bail after about twenty hours of detention.

On December 31, 2013, Anas al-Beltagy was arrested and taken to Nasr City 1 Police Station, where police officers refused to acknowledge his detention and forcibly disappeared him for nearly a month, during which he was subjected to torture and other ill-treatment. After his transfer to Abu Zaabal prison in Alexandria in early 2014, the prison administration held him in prolonged solitary confinement and forced him to sleep on the bare concrete floor. He was subsequently transferred to the Tora Prison Complex where he continued to be subjected to torture and other ill-treatment.

He has been held in cruel and inhuman prison conditions, violating the absolute prohibition of torture and other ill treatment. In Badr Prison, where he was detained from November 2022 to June 2023, he was held in solitary confinement in a freezing cell with fluorescent lights switched on 24 hours a day, not permitted any exercise outdoors, and denied any contact with other prisoners. Since his transfer to 10th of Ramadan prison on June 8, 2023, he was also placed in solitary confinement. In June 2024, authorities transferred Anas al-Beltagy to a “disciplinary cell” for a period of three months to punish him for protesting his cruel and inhumane conditions of detention. Disciplinary cells in Egyptian prisons are very small rooms with poor ventilation. In September 2024, Anas al-Beltagy was removed from the “disciplinary cell” and returned to solitary confinement. This means that he is in a regular cell again but remains isolated from other prisoners for extended periods of time and is deprived of communication with others or of participation in any social activities. Prison officials continue to ban his family from bringing him any food, climate-appropriate clothes, and medicine.

During his pre-trial detention renewal hearings, which have been held remotely via video link since 2022, he complained about the deterioration of his physical and mental health and psychological condition due to his detention conditions. Such hearings erode fair trial standards and take place under coercive circumstances in the presence of prison guards and detainees are prevented from communicating privately with their lawyers.

Security forces have long targeted the family of Mohamed al-Beltagy, leading several to flee Egypt. Security forces killed Asma al-Beltagy, Anas al-Beltagy’s sister, aged 16 at the time of her death, during their violent dispersal of the Rabaa al-Adawiya sit-in on August 14, 2013, which left some 900 dead.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: Arabic, English, or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: May 21, 2025

NAME AND PRONOUN: Anas al-Beltagy (he/him).

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: <https://www.amnestyusa.org/urgent-actions/urgent-action-politicians-son-unjustly-jailed-for-a-decade-egypt-29-23/>