

Thompson Rivers University Students' Union

805 TRU Way, Kamloops BC, V2C 0C8



Head of Government Saad Eddine Al-Othmani
Palais Royal-Touarga
Rabat 10070, Maroc

September 17, 2019

Journalist Detained Unjustly

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Thompson Rivers University Students' Union, we call on you to immediately and unconditionally release **Hajar Raissouni, her fiancé, her doctor, and the two detained medical staff** working at her doctor's clinic, from their unjust imprisonment. **Hajar Raissouni** and the four others were charged with abortion-related crimes after being arrested while she was leaving a doctor's clinic on August 31, 2019. **They are all still being detained.**

We are deeply concerned by reports from Amnesty International that Hajar Raissouni and the four others are being detained **despite the lack of evidence** regarding these charges. Furthermore, Hajar Raissouni has stated that she was interrogated about her political writings. Considering this and her family ties to the Mouvement de l'Unité et de la Réforme, we are concerned that her arrest may be politically motivated.

For these reasons, we reiterate our request that you release **Hajar Raissouni** immediately and unconditionally. Also, until she is free, please ensure that her detention accords with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. The criminalization of women's health services constitutes gender discrimination and violates human rights. Therefore, we call on you to reform laws that violate women's rights, including the right to bodily and personal autonomy, non-discrimination, privacy, and health.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sierra Rae".

Sierra Rae
President
TRU Students' Union

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Brandon Hayashi".

Brandon Hayashi
Vice President Equity
TRU Students' Union

cc. Her Excellency Souriya Otmani, Ambassador for the Kingdom of Morocco