



# Thompson Rivers University Students' Union

805 TRU Way, Kamloops BC, V2C 0C8

Public Prosecutor Hamada al-Sawi  
Office of the Public Prosecutor  
Madinat al-Rehab  
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt

October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## **Egypt – Release Mahienour el-Masry and Other Prisoners of Conscience**

Dear Counsellor,

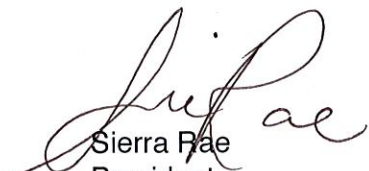
On behalf of the Thompson Rivers University Students' Union, we urge you to immediately and unconditionally **release Mahienour el-Masry**, the prominent human rights lawyer and activist. We believe that she is a prisoner of conscience being detained for peacefully exercising her right to freedom of expression.


We are deeply troubled by reports from Amnesty International that **el-Masry** has been detained since her arrest on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. She was questioned on charges that include “aiding a terrorist group in achieving its goals” and “spreading false news” and “using social media to publish false rumours” in a case related to the March 2019 anti-government protests. From an international perspective, Amnesty International considers these charges and her detention to violate her human rights. It is for this reason that **we call for not only her release but also the release of many other protesters who may have been detained under similar conditions.**

While **el-Masry** remains in prison, we call on you to respect international law by granting her access to lawyers and family and protecting her from torture and other ill-treatment. Furthermore, we encourage you to look into other detainees' situations and evaluate if their arrests or charges are just and if their rights are being respected during their imprisonment. Upon re-evaluation, if it is found that these people were detained solely for peacefully exercising their rights to freedom of expression and assembly, we call on you to release them immediately and unconditionally.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

  
Sierra Fae  
President  
TRU Students' Union

  
Brandon Hayashi  
Vice President Equity  
TRU Students' Union