AMENSTY FREEDOM
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PUBLIC STATEMENT

LATEST DEVELOPMENT
December 6, 2022

The killing of Jamal Khashoggi demands transparent accountability

Amnesty Freedom calls for transparent accountability for the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul in October 2018.

What we know

The UN Special Rapporteur's investigation concluded that Jamal Khashoggi was the victim of a deliberate, premeditated killing for which Saudi Arabia bears state responsibility. A later U.S. intelligence assessment concluded that the Saudi crown prince approved an operation to capture or kill him. These findings come from separate processes. The transfer of proceedings from Türkiye to Saudi Arabia and the December 6, 2022 dismissal of a U.S. civil lawsuit left important questions of accountability unresolved. [1–5]

Our position

The killing of a journalist inside a consulate is among the gravest attacks on freedom of expression. Accountability depends on transparent proceedings, access to evidence, and respect for the rights of the family. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights protects the right to life and the freedom to seek and share information. [6–7]

Our calls

Amnesty Freedom calls on the authorities to:

1. Preserve evidence and cooperate with independent investigators.
2. Hold transparent proceedings that meet international standards.
3. Give Khashoggi's family meaningful access to information.
4. Provide credible protection for journalists threatened across borders.

Supporting information

1. UN Special Rapporteur, investigation into the unlawful death of Jamal Khashoggi
2. U.S. ODNI, assessment of the Saudi government's role in the killing
3. JUSTICE FOR JAMAL - Committee to Protect Journalists
4. CPJ condemns decision to move Jamal Khashoggi murder trial from Turkey to Saudi Arabia - Committee to Protect Journalists
5. U.S. District Court, Cengiz v. Bin Salman, memorandum opinion (December 2022)
6. OHCHR, Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death
7. UNESCO, UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity

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Note to editors: *This statement is based on the public sources listed above. The date shown is that of the most recent development recorded in those sources; later developments may not be reflected.*

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