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The Rt. Hon. (The) Baroness Jenny Tonge,
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28th July 2011

Dear Baroness Tonge,

We are writing to express our immense regard for your raising the matter of the arrest and imprisonment of Sheikh Raed Salah in the Lords' Chamber during the debate on the Police Reform and Social Responsibility bill on 14th July.

We have covered the episode regarding the Conservative Party's efforts to introduce legislation effectively abrogating our commitment on universal jurisdiction at length in articles on our website, which I have enclosed for your interest.

We are all too aware of the intense lobbying that has ensued since an arrest warrant was issued against the former Israeli Foreign Minister and current leader of the Israeli opposition, Tzipi Livni, by a Westminster magistrate, in 2009.

We are greatly heartened by your rigorous, resolute and conscientious interventions in protesting against a change in the law and for raising with the Government the inconsistency of its approach evidenced by the arrest of the Palestinian Islamic Movement leader, Sheikh Raed Salah, as the Police Reform and Social Responsibility bill makes its way through Parliament. Matters which you quite rightly pointed out.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your efforts. It is of some dismay to us that HMG appears unconcerned at the condemnation of Sheikh Raed Salah's treatment by Palestinian Authority officials, including Salam Fayyad.

The impact of this disastrous affair on the UK's already impaired reputation for impartial mediation in the Middle East conflict is far too serious to be taken lightly.

It is of great comfort and hope to all those sincerely committed to peace in the Middle East, that we have in you one who is unstinting in her commitment to petitioning for a just peace in that troubled region.

With our heartfelt thanks and warm regards,

Mohammed Asif
CEO