



Canadian Association of University Teachers Association canadienne des professeures et professeurs d'université

June 29, 2017

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland Minister of Foreign Affairs 125 Sussex Drive Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2

By Email: Chrystia.Freeland@international.gc.ca

Dear Minister Freeland:

On behalf of the 70,000 academic staff members of the Canadian Association of University Teachers, I am writing to request that you urge the Israeli government to issue an exit visa for Bissan Eid and her newborn baby, Sarah.

Ms. Eid, a Canadian graduate student from Concordia University in Montreal, has been awaiting permission from Israeli authorities to leave Gaza since December 2016.

The undue delay to Bissan Eid's return to Canada has taken a toll on her and her family and interfered with her university education. After successfully completing a bachelor's degree in science and civil engineering from Concordia in 2015, she is now pursuing a Masters in civil engineering. She has already completed one year of studies in her program but was unable to enroll in the winter semester due to the delay in receiving a permit to exit Gaza.

Ms. Bissan Eid requires your active support to secure an exit permit from the Gaza Strip. She deserves to have her right to freedom of movement fully protected.

The Canadian Association of University Teachers calls upon the Canadian government to take every action possible to ensure the prompt and safe return of Bissan Eid and her daughter to their home in Montreal.

Sincerely,

David Robinson Executive Director

