

An international group of mental health professionals, including psychiatrists, researchers and educators, who have committed their careers to global social justice and mental health, released the following statement calling for the release of Sarah Shourd, Josh Fattal and Shane Bauer:

We are writing to express our grave concern regarding the continued detention - now close to one year - of Sarah Shourd, Josh Fattal and Shane Bauer in Evin Prison in Tehran, Iran. These young people have been detained in conditions that pose severe risks for their mental health.

As mental health professionals, we know that the combination of the injustice and isolation they are experiencing threatens their mental health. Their continued imprisonment without due process, including the lack of charges against them and denial of access to their lawyer or other advocate, in combination with extremely limited contact with their families and isolation from the world around them, is a very serious attack on their mental health.

As their colleagues in social justice and global health, we share their commitment to global social justice. Their record of global social justice work speaks clearly of their integrity.

We urge Iranian authorities to follow due process of law and release these outstanding young people.

Sincerely,

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