

## **130 Academics express their solidarity with: Mozn Hassan and Nazra for Feminist Studies**

We, the undersigned individuals, denounce the summoning and charging of Mozn Hassan, the founder and executive director of Nazra for Feminist Studies in Egypt, in the Case 173 of the year 2011. Mozn Hassan is the first civil society activist to be officially interrogated as a defendant in the Case 173 of the year 2011, known in the media as the “NGOs Foreign Funding” Case. On 20 March 2016, Nazra for Feminist Studies announced that it was included in the official interrogation in Case 173, as three of Nazra staff members were summoned for an interrogation that took place on 22 March, as part of the investigation. Following the interrogation, Mozn Hassan was officially summoned by the investigation judge to be interrogated on 29 March, as a defendant in the case.

As academics, university professors and scholars, who are socially and politically engaged and concerned, we consider the investigation with Mozn Hassan a direct threat to the feminist and activist engagement of Nazra for Feminist Studies, whose work has focused on contributing to the continuity and development of the feminist movement in Egypt. We also view the investigation as part of the larger crackdown on civil society organizations, and on fundamental freedoms and rights in Egypt, including academic freedoms.

Since its foundation in 2007 and legal registration with the Egyptian Ministry of Social Affairs, Nazra for Feminist Studies, headed by Mozn Hassan, has been working towards mainstreaming gender and women’s rights through engagement with the social and political processes that affect women’s lives in Egypt. Nazra’s main aim has always been to contribute to the strengthening of an Egyptian feminist movement that is able to respond to social and political factors that attempt to hinder women’s active participation in both the public and political spheres. The organization’s continuous work on combating sexual violence is one example of a feminist commitment towards supporting

women's right to a safe public sphere. Nazra has been also critically engaged with contemporary social and political debates, and thus contributing to the production and propagation of feminist knowledge.

For this work to continue, and for that mobilization to develop, we strongly express our solidarity with Nazra for Feminist Studies. And we call upon fellow academics, scholars, activists, groups and everyone who is concerned with freedoms and rights in Egypt to stand with Nazra for Feminist Studies and Mozn Hassan against this and all forms of harassment and crackdown on civil society organizations in Egypt.

### **Signatures:**

1. AbdelAziz Ezz Al-Arab, Professor, History, AUC.
2. Adam Talib, Assistant Professor, Arabic and Islamic Studies, AUC.
3. Adel Osama, History, Student, AUC.
4. Ahmed Badawy, Center for North African and Middle Eastern Politics, Free University of Berlin.
5. Aida Seif El-Dawla, Professor, Medicine, Ain Shams University.
6. Alaa Moustafa Attia, MA Teaching Assistant, Sociology-Anthropology, AUC.
7. Alexandra Parrs, Assistant Professor, Sociology, AUC.
8. Alya El-Marakby, Antropology, Student, AUC.
9. Amina Elbendary, Assisitant Professor, Arab and Islamic Civilizations, AUC.
10. Amira Agameya, Professor, Applied Linguistics, AUC.
11. Amira Mahmoud, MA Teaching Assistant, Sociology-Anthropology, AUC.
12. Atef Botros, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies/CNMS, University of Marburg, Germany.
13. Atef Said, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA.
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16. Azza Baydoun - independent researcher.
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18. Dalia El-Seguini, Lecturer, French Literature, Cairo University.
19. Dalia Said Mostafa, Lecturer, University of Manchester, UK.
20. Dan Tschirgi, Professor, Political Science, AUC.
21. Dana Alawneh, MA Gender and Women Studies, AUC.
22. Diana Magdy Abdelfattah, MA Teaching Assistant, Middle East Studies, AUC.
23. Dina Amin, Associate Professor, Drama and Theatre, Cairo University.
24. Dina El-Khawaga, Associate Professor, Economics and Political Science, Cairo University.
25. Dina Heshmat, Assistant Professor, AUC.
26. Dina Sharnouby, MA Sociology-Anthropology, AUC and PhD Freie University in Berlin.
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28. Ellis Goldberg, University of Washington.
29. Emad Abou-Ghazi, Professor Emeritus, Cairo University.
30. Enrico de Angelis, Assistant Professor, Sociology, AUC.
31. Eve Demange, University of Paris Ouest, France.
32. Faten Morsi, Professor, English Literature, Ain Shams University.
33. Ferial Ghazoul, Professor, English and Comparative Literature, AUC.
34. Francesca Biancani, Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna, Italy.
35. Germeen Riad, MA Teaching Assistant, Psychology, AUC.
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44. Hani Sayed, Associate Professor, Law, AUC.
45. Hania Sholkamy, Associate Professor, Social Research Center, AUC.

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48. Hany Hosseiny, Lecturer, Mathematics, Cairo University.
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50. Hind Ahmed Zaki, PhD Candidate, University of Washington in Seattle, USA.
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63. Kiven Strohm, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, AUC.
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65. Laila Soueif, Lecturer, Mathematics, Cairo University.
66. Lamia Moghnieh, University of Michigan.
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68. Lamis El-Nakkash, Lecturer, Comparative Literature, Cairo University.
69. Louise Bertini, Assistant Professor, Egyptology, AUC.
70. Lucia Sorbera, The University of Sydney.
71. Madiha Doss, Professor, Linguistics, Cairo University.
72. Mahmoud Farag, Professor, Mechanical Engineering, AUC.
73. Malak Roushdy, Assistant Professor, Sociology, AUC.

74. Manar El-Kholy, Professor, Medicine, Cairo University.
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76. Mariz Kelada, MA Sociology-Anthropology, AUC and PhD Brown University.
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105. Ramy Aly, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, AUC.
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