

I am writing this to express my grave concern on a blogger Hossein Ronaghi Maleki who has been told he must return to prison, to resume serving his 13-year sentence. He has been on medical leave since mid-June, for urgent specialized medical care. If he returns to jail, he would be a prisoner of conscience.

I respectfully call on the Iranian authorities to allow Hossein Rouaghi Maleki to remain free and have urgent specialized medical care in hospital outside prison.

His conviction and sentence must be quashed as they stem from peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression and association.

I strongly call on the authorities to ensure that his allegations of torture and other ill-treatment while in solitary confinement are independently and impartially investigated.

Sincerely yours,