

Casablanca, on 12.01.2007

To the President of the Republic
Giorgio Napolitano
To the President of the Parliament
Fausto Bertinotti
To the Foreign Affairs Minister
Massimo D'Alema
To the Justice Minister
Clemente Mastella

I am Abou Elkassim Britel, an Italian citizen, and I write to express my disappointment and my frustration because I am still locked up in prison in Morocco, after the statement in Parliament by the Undersecretary for Justice expressing firm support for the pardon of 31 December and after the investigation and clear conclusions of the TDIP Commission of the European Parliament, I thought that Italy would finally make an effort to definitively resolve my case.

Unfortunately, I have been abandoned in the most absolute indifference in spite of the numerous pieces of evidence of the injustice that I have suffered and the statements made by European members of parliament and the parliamentary question posed by the Honourable Ezio Locatelli and the timely answer by Undersecretary Luigi Li Gotti.

I repeat that my detention does not have anything to do with Morocco, as I was released without charges in February 2003 after the kidnapping and the transfer from Pakistan, and after having spent eight and a half months in secret detention in Temara. By the way, Italy was aware of everything.

I care about reminding you that since my disappearance, I have undergone such ferocious torture that the marks remained on my skin for over a year.

And when I was taken to prison, I was intentionally left for months in an isolation cell in a draught, and I now suffer, and think I will always suffer, from terrible pain in my bones, I have other damage to an eye and an ear, and a scar on my forehead.

I still remember that after having obtained my travel document in May 2003 from our Embassy in Rabat, I was stopped again and disappeared once more into secret detention for another four months – and Italy was also aware of this, while my family was desperately looking for me. There was nothing against me in Morocco, so why was I tried after having tried to return to my home in Italy? And sentenced on the base of charges lacking any sense?

Why does Italy now not make a REAL effort to free me? Why am I told that there are rules that must be respected when no one EVER worried about the illegal acts that I have suffered from the start, with the arbitrary arrest, the kidnapping, the torture, the transfer and the unfair trial and the hard detention? Four years of continuous injustice and suffering, in the absence of basic rights, have already passed; how much more must I withstand before returning to a life that may be described as such?

Now that matters have been clarified concerning my case, I am only waiting to return to Italy as soon as possible.

Awaiting your intervention, I send you my greetings.

[signature]

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[unofficial translation by Statewatch, emphases are in the original]