Egyptian authorities remove from the travel ban list, the name of Nasser Amin while the Executive Director's name remains







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After 13 years of security pursuit and eight years under a travel ban, the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) has been informed by the Egyptian Prosecutor-General's Office and the Passports and Immigration Department of the Ministry of Interior that the Egyptian authorities have decided to remove the name of the Center's President, Mr. Nasser Amin, from the travel ban list -- in effect since August 2016. However, the travel ban imposed on the Center's Executive Director, Ms. Hoda Abdel Wahab, a lawyer, remains in effect since June 2016, until the date of this statement.

On December 28, 2011, the ACIJLP along with five other foreign organizations engaged in human rights advocacy were subjected to security raids that resulted in the closure of their headquarters. These actions were part of what came to be known as Case No. 173 of 2011, concerning civil society organizations. The case ultimately concluded with the acquittal of all defendants affiliated with the foreign organizations involved.

However, starting in 2015, the security prosecution of Egyptian civil society organizations was reignited. In June 2016, the Executive Director of the ACIJLP, Ms. Hoda Abdel-Wahab, was subjected to a travel ban, a measure that was subsequently extended to other Egyptian civil society activists. While the travel bans on all other Egyptian activists have since been lifted, Ms. Abdel Wahab remains prohibited from traveling.

The ACIJLP has repeatedly appealed this decision before the Egyptian Prosecutor-General's Office, most recently through grievance No. 21353, submitted on April 2, 2024. Following this, the ACIJLP received verbal notification that Mr. Nasser Amin's name had been removed from the travel ban list, while Ms. Abdel Wahab's name remained.

It is important to note that the ACIJLP has not yet received any official documentation or formal response confirming the termination of the legal proceedings against the ACIJLP and its employees in connection with Civil Society Organizations Case No. 173 of 2011.