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Dear Ms. Lawlor,

In February of 2021, Freedom House released a report entitled, “[Out of Sight, Out of Reach: Understanding Transnational Repression](#).” As you are aware, “transnational repression” is a term used to describe the ways in which governments seek to silence their exiles and diasporas living abroad. The report documented more than 600 cases of direct, physical transnational repression since 2014, including assassinations, abductions, assaults, detentions, and unlawful deportations.

As you prepare your report on the situation of human rights defenders who work on anti-corruption, we wanted to draw to your attention two cases documented in our report of human rights defenders who experienced transnational repression. Both individuals had worked on corruption issues as part of their larger portfolio of human rights work.

Ms. Masih Alinejad, originally from Iran and now residing in the United States

- <https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/us-news/2021/07/14/masih-alinejad-on-iranian-kidnapping-plot-i-moved-between-3-safe-houses-in-8-months/>
- <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/13/nyregion/iran-masih-alinejad-kidnapping.html?action=click&module=In%20Other%20News&pgtype=Homepage>
- <https://freedomhouse.org/article/iran-plot-kidnap-american-writer-highlights-threat-transnational-repression>

Mr. Hisham Ali Mohamed Ali of Sudan

- <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/case/hrd-threatened-deportation-sudan>
- https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-8-2018-006129_EN.html

You can find more key findings from our report summarized [here](#), and our policy recommendations are available [here](#).

Sincerely,

Annie Boyajian
Vice President, Policy and Advocacy
Freedom House