

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. _____

Commemorating the seventh anniversary of the murder of Jamal Khashoggi
and calling for accountability.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. KAINE submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Commemorating the seventh anniversary of the murder of
Jamal Khashoggi and calling for accountability.

Whereas Jamal Khashoggi was a Saudi journalist, author,
and a former general manager and editor-in-chief of Al-
Arab News Channel who fled Saudi Arabia in June 2017
and went into self-imposed exile in Virginia in the United
States;

Whereas, on September 18, 2017, Jamal Khashoggi pub-
lished his first article in the Washington Post, stating, “I
have left my home, my family and my job, and I am rais-
ing my voice. To do otherwise would betray those who
languish in prison. I can speak when so many cannot. I
want you to know that Saudi Arabia has not always been
as it is now. We Saudis deserve better.”;

Whereas, on October 2, 2018, Jamal Khashoggi was brutally killed and dismembered by agents of the Government of Saudi Arabia in the consulate of Saudi Arabia in Istanbul, Turkey;

Whereas, in February 2021, the Government of the United States submitted an unclassified report to Congress, providing transparency on the killing and announced the Khashoggi Ban, a measure that allows the Department of State to impose visa restrictions on individuals who “directly engage in serious, extraterritorial counter-dissident activities, including those that suppress, harass, surveil, threaten, or harm journalists, activists, or other persons perceived to be dissidents”;

Whereas the Office of the Director of National Intelligence found that the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Muhammad bin Salman, approved an operation in Istanbul, Turkey, to capture or kill Jamal Khashoggi;

Whereas, since the brutal murder of Jamal Khashoggi, the Government of Saudi Arabia continues to crack down on free expression through the use of enforced disappearances, unjust detentions, threats, intimidation, executions, and transnational repression;

Whereas Freedom House defines transnational repression as “governments reaching across borders to silence dissent among diasporas and exiles, including through assassinations, illegal deportations, abductions, digital threats, Interpol abuse, and family intimidation”;

Whereas, according to Freedom House, the Governments of Iran, the People’s Republic of China, Egypt, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, and other states are increasingly disregarding the laws of the United States to

threaten, harass, surveil, stalk, and, in some cases, plot physical harm to individuals across the United States;

Whereas, according to Freedom House, governments that perpetrate tactics of transnational repression regularly reach beyond their borders to intimidate journalists and suppress truthful reporting;

Whereas, since 2014, 26 governments have carried out 124 incidents of transnational repression against exiled journalists;

Whereas, on June 17, 2025, the leaders of the G7 recognized transnational repression as a global threat to national security and democracy;

Whereas citizens of the United States Areej al-Sadhan, sister of detained humanitarian aid worker Abdulrahman al-Sadhan, and Abdullah Alaoudh of Virginia, son of detained scholar Salman Alodah, have been subject to intimidation and harassment in the United States;

Whereas, in August 2022, a former Twitter employee was found guilty of acting as an unregistered agent of the Government of Saudi Arabia, spying on Saudi dissidents and sharing their private information with Saudi leadership;

Whereas Saudi officials have continued to arrest, ban the travel of, and otherwise intimidate women and women human rights defenders, including Loujain Alhathloul, Manahel and Fouz al-Otaibi, Dr. Lina al-Sharif, Salma al-Shehab, and Nourah al-Qahtani;

Whereas Saudi border security systematically killed hundreds of Ethiopian migrants, including women and children, crossing the Saudi-Yemeni border between March 2022

and June 2023, subjecting others to brutal violence and sexual assault;

Whereas Saudi officials continue to unjustly imprison and ban individuals from the United States from travel, including Aziza Yousef and Saad Almadi;

Whereas Turki al-Jasser, a journalist and founder of the news blog Al-Mashhad Al-Saudi, was executed on June 14, 2025, after 7 years of arbitrary imprisonment in Saudi Arabia;

Whereas Saudi human rights abuses, including against individuals of the United States, place unnecessary strain on the United States-Saudi Arabia relationship, which is an essential element of regional stability; and

Whereas the United States has an important strategic relationship with Saudi Arabia, one based on a long history of cooperation on regional security issues and energy supply: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) acknowledges the Government of the United
3 States has sanctioned 17 Saudi individuals under
4 the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability
5 Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328;
6 22 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) for their roles in the mur-
7 der of Jamal Khashoggi; and

8 (2) calls for the Government of Saudi Arabia
9 to—

10 (A) ensure appropriate accountability for
11 all individuals responsible for the murder of

1 Jamal Khashoggi, including the individuals
2 sanctioned by the United States;

3 (B) release all individuals wrongfully de-
4 tained, including Nourah al-Qahtani,
5 Abdulrahman Alsadhan, Salman Alodah,
6 Waleed Abu al-Khair, and Sarah and Omar
7 Aljabri; and

8 (C) respect the rights of Saudi citizens and
9 ensure the protection of the freedoms of assem-
10 bly, association, and the press.