

Statement on Kylie Moore-Gilbert's release

Attributable to the FreeKylieMG group

26 November 2020

We are over the moon that our amazing friend and colleague Dr Kylie Moore-Gilbert is on her way home after 804 days in prison in Iran. An innocent woman is finally free. Today is a very bright day in Australia indeed!

We'd like to thank the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for securing Kylie's release, and the hundreds of thousands of people from around the world who joined the fight to bring her home.

We have been blessed by the kindness and generosity of the other hostage campaigns and NGOs who guided us through our darkest days, by the moral fortitude of members of the Australian parliament who used their voices for good, by the energy of strangers who tried to move mountains to free Kylie, by the support of many journalists who fought to keep Kylie front-and-centre and keep her safe, and by the solidarity of the international academic community who understood Iran's playbook. We would also like to thank all her friends and colleagues who have helped to fight for Kylie.

We will truly never forget the goodness in every last one of you.

But let's be clear: This should never have happened. Kylie was held to ransom by the Iranian regime, which saw fit to take an innocent Australian woman hostage in order to bring its own convicted prisoners abroad home. It's a despicable business model with incalculable human consequences.

We'd like to pay our respects to the other foreign nationals who remain imprisoned in Iran today under the same nefarious circumstances and call on their governments to do everything necessary to bring them home. Lives are being needlessly destroyed by a morally bankrupt regime that knows no currency other than cruelty.

Happily, our time as a campaign has now come to an end. This is redundancy at its most welcome. We ask that the media and the public gives Kylie and her family the privacy and respect that they so very deserve to begin the healing process.

In the meantime, Kylie: We send you all our love. We think you are incredible. We never for one minute doubted your innocence. And we can't wait to see you when you're ready.

This is the last time you'll hear from us. We can't thank you all enough.

The FreeKylieMG group will not be making further comment.