



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

Pro-Vice-Chancellors' Office

**Professor Eilis Ferran FBA**  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Institutional  
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Mr Paolo Gentiloni  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation  
Piazzale della Farnesina, 1  
00135  
Rome  
[ministero.affariesteri@cert.esteri.it](mailto:ministero.affariesteri@cert.esteri.it)

15 April 2016

Dear Mr Gentiloni,

We write to you on behalf of the University of Cambridge, Girton College and the Department of Politics and International Studies. We read with interest your article in L'Unità and we note your Government's withdrawal of the Italian Ambassador from Egypt in protest at the less than satisfactory investigation carried out by the Egyptian regime into Giulio Regeni's death. You will know that Giulio was a PhD student at the University of Cambridge. Our community was horrified and outraged by his murder.

We support your Government in its continuing pursuit for the truth and its desire to see a thorough and rigorous investigation. We, like you, are concerned at the conclusions that have been put forward so far by the Egyptian authorities. We find the reported failures of the Egyptian authorities, in supplying you with satisfactory information very disturbing. And we share your concern at the wild and unfounded rumours that have circulated, which we believe – as you do – have been detrimental to understanding what happened. As a community mourning the death of a friend and valued colleague, the University, Girton College and The Department of Politics and International Studies have struggled to understand the barbaric nature of Giulio's death and the lack of clarity coming from the Egyptian authorities.

As a University, we do not have the investigative ability or mandate of a police force or state and therefore we are dependent on the work of the Italian, British and Egyptian authorities. However, not only for the family and their desire for closure, but also in the interests of academic freedom, we need to find out the truth of what has happened.

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We would very much like to be kept informed of the investigation and offer our continued support and thanks.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Elis Ferran  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Institutional and International Relations



Professor Susan Smith  
Mistress, Girton College



Professor David Runciman  
Department of Politics and International Studies

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