

# Reporters Without Borders

<http://www.rsf.org/egypte-alarm-about-al-jazeera-journalist-13-05-2014,46275.html>

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Middle East/North Africa - Egypt

Health fears

## Alarm about Al-Jazeera journalist on hunger strike since January

13 May 2014

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Reporters Without Borders is extremely concerned about the fate of **Abdullah Al-Shamy**, an *Al-Jazeera* reporter who has been [held since 14 August 2013](#) and who, according to his lawyer, was transferred to another location yesterday that is being kept secret.

Shamy's physical condition is very worrying because he has been on hunger strike for more than three and a half months. He stopped eating on 21 January in protest against his arbitrary detention and the fact that no formal charges have been brought against him since his arrest.

"We fear the worst following his transfer because Shamy is in more need of proper medical attention than ever," said Reporters Without Borders research director Lucie Morillon. "We urge the authorities to tell his family and lawyer where he has been transferred. He must quickly be given appropriate medical treatment before being freed. The authorities are responsible for his life and state of health."

[Shamy's brother told \*Al-Masry Al-Youm\*](#): "The medical report attests to the fact that my brother's health has deteriorated considerably and does not allow him to be transferred to another prison (...) He needs to be transferred quickly to a hospital outside the prison."

According to [this report](#), by Dr. Mohamed Osama Al-Homsi, Shamy is suffering from chronic anaemia, a fall in the level of red corpuscles in his blood, and kidney failure, and "could die within a few days."

[Abdullah Al-Karyuni](#), a former member of the doctors' union, told *Al-Jazeera*: "The type of care that Abdullah Al-Shamy needs cannot be found in Egyptian prisons because they do not respect human rights."

Shamy's wife, [Jihad Khaled, has begun a hunger strike](#) in support of her husband that has resulted in a marked deterioration in her own health.

Shamy's lawyer, Shaaban Saeed, told *Agence France-Presse* that he is accused of joining a "terrorist group" and spreading false news. "My client is paying the price for working for a channel that opposes the ruling regime," he said.

On 3 May, a judge ordered Shamy held for another 45 days.

A total of [17 journalists](#), including four *Al-Jazeera* employees, are currently detained in Egypt.

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You can download those documents on our website :

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