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Jeremy Corbyn MP
and
Amnesty International
invite you to

an evening of discussion with **Mordechai Vanunu**
Wednesday, 18 June, 6pm – 7.15pm
House of Commons, SW1A OAA

Also present:

Avigdor Feldman – (Human Rights) Lawyer for Mordechai Vanunu

House of Commons MAIN Entrance - Cromwell Green:

Nearest tube: Westminster:

<https://maps.google.co.uk/maps?ie=&gl=uk&hq=palace+of+Westminster&daddr=Westminster,+London+SW1A+0AA&panel=1&f=d&fb=1&geocode=FdfREQMddxj-ymZm40MxAR2SDF8H073jnp5Bw&cid=538596384900521852>

Allow 30 minutes for security clearance and please bring this invitation with you.

RSVP REQUIRED: Rachel Campbell on rcampbel@amnesty.org

Background information:

Mordechai Vanunu is a former technician at Israel's nuclear plant near the southern town of Dimona. After revealing details of Israel's nuclear arsenal to the British newspaper, *The Sunday Times*, in 1986, he was abducted by Israeli secret service (Mossad) agents in Italy and secretly taken to Israel. He was tried and sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment, in conditions that Amnesty International at the time called cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment: spending 11 of those years in solitary confinement. Ten years after serving his full sentence he still faces severe restrictions that arbitrarily infringe on his freedom of movement, expression and association. Since his release in 2004, he has been subjected to various orders from the Israeli Government and Military which - among other things - bar him from leaving Israel, and participating in internet chats and require him to seek permission to communicate with any foreign nationals, including journalists.

Avigdor Feldman was born in 1948, the son of Holocaust survivors. He studied law at Tel Aviv University, and was admitted to practice law in 1974. In 1985, he obtained his master's degree in civil rights. He has worked for the Israeli Association for Civil Rights (ACRI), founding its Litigation Center and is one of the key founders of B'Tselem (The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories) and now serves on their board. In 1991 he co-founded the Public Committee Against Torture in Israel (PCATI). In the same year Feldman received the Robert F Kennedy Human Rights Award.

Feldman has worked on many prominent criminal cases related to civil rights and of a political nature. He has petitioned the Israeli Supreme Court many times on behalf of human rights organisations, including a case calling for a judicial inquiry into the Sabra and Shatila massacres in Lebanon in 1982.

Representation of Mordechai Vanunu: Feldman represented Mordechai Vanunu shortly after he was abducted and forcibly brought to Israel in 1986 for a trial in which he was charged for leaking facts and photos of the Dimona nuclear facility to *The Sunday Times* newspaper. Vanunu was convicted of treason which the Israeli law defined as granting of assistance to the enemy during a time of war and was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. Vanunu's main defence at the trial was that he had no intention of harming state security, but acted out of genuine belief that the information dealing with Israel's military nuclear capability could not be kept secret in a democracy. Feldman continued to represent Vanunu during his incarceration especially in his prolonged struggle to get out of solitary confinement, which had a severe effect on his mental stability. Only after eleven years was he moved to a less restrictive cell.

Since Vanunu's release from prison, Feldman has represented him, mainly on matters related to the severe restrictions placed on him barring him from leaving the country, going to the Occupied Palestinian Territories and contacting non-citizens on any subject. After more than ten years of appeals to the Supreme Court, these prohibitions remain in force.