



THOMSON REUTERS
FOUNDATION

London, November 9, 2017

**STATEMENT FROM THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION CEO
MONIQUE VILLA IN RESPONSE TO THE REPORT ABOUT
NAZANIN ZAGHARI-RATCLIFFE ON IRANIAN STATE
TELEVISION LAST NIGHT**

“Following the broadcast on Iranian State TV Evening News in which several accusations are made against Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe and the Thomson Reuters Foundation, I would like to re-establish a few facts.

- 1. Nazanin is not a human rights activist with Thomson Reuters Foundation. She is a project manager in our Media Development team. At the Foundation, we don't do advocacy work: we are ruled by the [Trust Principles of Thomson Reuters](#) which impose freedom from bias, independence and impartial reporting. Nazanin has never been a journalist, hence could never have trained journalists.*
- 2. In regards to her travels for the Foundation –and I repeat here that she was on holiday at the time of her arrest– it is correct that she has been to Lebanon, Georgia and Morocco **to run the logistics of workshops** organised by the Foundation for local journalists. None of these workshops were attended by Iranian journalists. Nazanin didn't have any role in delivering the trainings and had no say in evaluating the work produced by the journalists trained.*
- 3. Thomson Reuters Foundation is an independent charity which receives core funding from Thomson Reuters and abides by the same Trust Principles. Thomson Reuters is a publicly listed company operating globally with no political affiliation or agenda.”*

Monique Villa, Thomson Reuters Foundation CEO