



THOMSON REUTERS
FOUNDATION

London, November 7, 2017

**STATEMENT FROM THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION CEO
MONIQUE VILLA IN RESPONSE TO THE LATEST NEWS
FROM THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE ON NAZANIN
ZAGHARI-RATCLIFFE**

“We welcome UK Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson’s clarification of his comments about our colleague Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, in which he accepts he ‘could have been clearer’ about her work at the Thomson Reuters Foundation. Nazanin has never trained journalists in Iran and we are pleased that he has admitted to the Iranian Foreign Minister that she was in Iran purely on holiday.

It’s time now for the Foreign Secretary to meet Nazanin in jail, as he proposed last week, and to bring her back home. It may also be useful for him to finally meet with Nazanin’s family, and myself, to fully appreciate the situation. This would be the first time he would have met us since Nazanin was jailed 19 months ago.”

Monique Villa, Thomson Reuters Foundation CEO