Dear Prime Minister,

We are writing to you about Canadian citizen Omar Khadr. As you know, Omar Khadr was captured by US forces in Afghanistan at the age of 15. He has been detained without trial in Guantanamo Bay for over 5 years, and is due to face a Military Commission on allegations of war crimes.

All those suspected of involvement in terrorism deserve the protections of the law. Neither Guantanamo Bay, where Omar Khadr has been held for a quarter of his life, nor the newly created Military Commissions provide these protections. They contravene established principles of law and the requirements of a fair trial.

In a case such as this, involving a person who was a child at the time of his alleged offence, the application of due process takes on particular significance. The prosecution of Omar Khadr by the US administration is inconsistent with its international obligations under the Optional Protocol (Children in Armed Conflict) to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We therefore call on the Canadian government to follow the example of the UK, other allies of the United States, and other western nations, and request the
repatriation of its citizen Omar Khadr to face due process in Canada. The Canadian justice system is a more appropriate place to determine the guilt or otherwise of this Canadian citizen, taking into account his age at the time of his alleged crimes, and the profound unfairness and illegality of Guantanamo Bay and the US Military Commissions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signatures]

LORD CARLILE OF BERRIEW QC

RT HON KENNETH CLARKE QC MP

RT HON THE LORD GOLDSMITH QC
CHRIS MULLIN MP

ANDREW TYRIE MP