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## TRIALWATCH TO MONITOR LIBEL TRIAL OF ALEKSEY NAVALNY IN RUSSIA

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### February 3, 2021 – Statement by George and Amal Clooney

The Clooney Foundation for Justice will be monitoring the upcoming trials of Aleksey Navalny. Mr. Navalny is currently imprisoned on the basis of a conviction that the European Court of Human Rights determined was “arbitrary and manifestly unreasonable” and for which Russia was required to pay Mr. Navalny compensation.

Given this concerning context, our TrialWatch team will be monitoring all further proceedings against him and we will report on their compatibility with international law, including the right to a fair trial and the right to freedom of expression.

We also note that Navalny was poisoned and nearly died, with evidence pointing directly to the Putin regime. This crime must be independently investigated and those involved must be brought to justice as soon as possible.

#### Background

TrialWatch shines a light on injustices by monitoring criminal trials and advocating for the rights of victims. It is currently operating in over thirty countries.

We will monitor and assess the upcoming libel trial of Aleksey Navalny, as well as other proceedings that may arise in the future as a result of the fraud investigation recently announced by the authorities. Mr. Navalny has been charged with libel under Article 128.1 of the Russian Criminal Code for statements he made on Twitter criticizing individuals who appeared in a video supporting constitutional amendments that permitted President Putin to seek additional terms as President.