

Press Release

Carter-Ruck

Date: 13 October 2020

Carter-Ruck Solicitors

T +44 (0) 20 7353 5005
F +44 (0) 20 7353 5553
DX 333 Chancery Lane
www.carter-ruck.com

Al Arab pays substantial damages and costs to Rached Ghannouchi

Rached Ghannouchi (the leader of the Tunisian Ennahdha Party and Speaker of the Tunisian Parliament) has received damages and payment of his costs following the recent settlement of his claim against Al Arab Publishing House Limited in respect of an article published on their website, alarab.co.uk, on 5 July 2019. London-based Al Arab published a statement on 10 October 2020 confirming the settlement, which is available [here](#). They also provided an undertaking to Mr Ghannouchi not to repeat the allegations.

The Al Arab article contained wholly false allegations which were substantially the same as those published on another website, Middle East Online, on the same day. Mr Ghannouchi had also brought a separate claim against Middle East Online in relation to those allegations, following which he obtained judgment in the High Court of Justice in London and was awarded damages in the sum of £45,000.

Mr Ghannouchi continues to strongly deny these allegations, which are entirely false and gravely defamatory. We refer to our previous press releases dated [28 May 2020](#) and [28 July 2020](#) which set out the baselessness of these allegations. Mr Ghannouchi also wishes to take this opportunity to reiterate that both he and his Party are deeply committed to the democratic process and have been at the forefront of establishing a democratic system in Tunisia based on pluralism and the sharing and peaceful alternation of power.

For further information, please contact Nigel Tait (Nigel.Tait@carter-ruck.com) or Mathilde Groppo (Mathilde.Groppo@carter-ruck.com).