Following a proposal by the Rector Francesco Ubertini and by mutual agreement of
the board of governors, the directors of Departments, the Campus Presidents, the
Administrative and Technical Staff Council and the Student Council, the Academic
Senate, at the special session of February 12, 2020, passed the following motion
regarding the arrest of Patrick Zaky, a young student enrolled in the "GEMMA" Master
at the University of Bologna:

"As members of the scientific and academic community of the Alma Mater Studiorum
- University of Bologna, we were and still are deeply touched and upset by the recent
news of Patrick Zaky's arrest, as he is a member of our community and a student of
the Erasmus Mundus Master of Arts "GEMMA" in Women's and Gender Studies. We
hereby urge representatives of our Government and of the European Union, who
have already taken prompt action, to keep monitoring this matter with close attention
so that Patrick Zaky's fundamental rights are safeguarded from any violation. With
the high values characterizing our academic community at every level, such as
freedom of thought, the centrality of critical thinking, and social responsibility and
commitment, we adamantly reaffirm the importance of protecting human and
political rights and, more specifically, the right to individual freedom and to the
freedom of speech, everywhere and by any means. We are deeply committed to
Patrick Zaky's safe and quick return to Bologna, so that he can resume attending his
classes. Until then, it is our duty to make sure that the Italian Government and the
European Union continue to do their utmost for ensuring Patrick's return to our
community".

Bologna, February 12th 2020