

**Statement from Anwar E. El Sadat,
Former Member of the Egyptian Parliament,
Chairman of Human Rights Committee – People's
Assembly**

Cairo, July 4, 2013¹

Dear Friends of Egypt,

This is a Correction; Not a Coup!

Over the past year, Mohamed Morsi and his colleagues in the Brotherhood had a great chance to listen to the peoples' will after the January 25 revolution. As a President, your allegiance becomes that of the good will of the people, not of your party or interests. Unfortunately, as much as I and others in the political field tried to collaborate with Morsi and others, the less they listened and the more arrogant they became. It was our responsibility to act in the best interest of the people and the country, so we tried many times to engage in dialogue, to make concessions, and to bring leaders of all sides together. They were more concerned with consolidating power than including partners from the January 25 revolution.

Egypt was driven to a point of demolition; our country was no longer that with which Egyptians were familiar. Our identity was about to be demolished. We were plagued with sectarian violence, extremism,

¹ Anwar E. El Sadat ist einer der führenden politisch aktiven Intellektuellen Ägyptens und Neffe des 1982 ermordeten Präsidenten Anwar El Sadat. In seiner Erklärung stellt er sich hinter die Absetzung Mohamed Mursis, weil dieser mehr an der Konsolidierung seiner Macht interessiert gewesen sei, statt das Volk vor dem Ruin zu bewahren. Deshalb sei sein Sturz kein Militärputsch, sondern eine „revolutionäre Korrektur“ des Vermächtnisses vom 25. Januar 2011 gewesen – dem Beginn der Demonstrationen gegen Hosni Mubarak.

poverty and political paralysis. Those in charge sought to mix religion and government in a way that made many Egyptians uncomfortable.

Millions of Egyptians, from all over Egypt and abroad, made their minds up on June 30th. They have had enough, and believed that the government and direction of the country was not what they wanted - not worth the martyrs' blood that was spilled, not worth the rising cost of food and gas, not worth immobility and no hope for the future.

What happened yesterday, July 3rd, was not a military coup - it was a revolutionary correction. I ask our friends abroad to honor the will of Egyptians. The celebrations over the last few days, where millions of Egyptian families from all walks of life cheered and celebrated in the streets day in and day out, in all our city squares and villages, show that the military honored the will of the people.

In 2011, the military also stood with the people, and helped us transition to a new government; this was not called a "coup", it was the peoples' revolution. Now, they are prepared to do the same. They will work with a military and civilian cooperation to formulate a road map which will call for new free & fair elections, and honor the goals of the revolution and the Tamarod youth; they have no intention to exclude any parties or act as an authoritarian regime. We have even seen statements from the Salafi party in support of this road map and action. The military's actions on July 3rd saved the country from a civil war. Any arrests made were temporary and necessary to prevent further violence and extremism, particularly in this sensitive time. Together we will all work on national dialogue and reconciliation. We will find a way forward.

We ask friends of Egypt to understand: while our revolution is not perhaps exactly what they pictured for us, that perhaps it is difficult to accept military intervention on behalf of the people as per their values and understanding of democracy, this is what we asked for and needed as engage in the process of crafting a democratic Egypt.

We urge our friends not to break the bridges of confidence and trust that have been built by taking a strong position against the will of the people. Now is not the time for conversations about government aid or military relations; let us have your support in the promotion of a road map to a better Egypt, one that reflects the will of all Egyptians and does not leave any group marginalized.
