WHAT’S HAPPENING?

→ On October 2, 2018, Saudi Arabian journalist Jamal Khashoggi entered the Saudi Arabian Consulate in Istanbul. Two weeks later, it was reported that he had been killed that day inside the consulate. Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, of whom Khashoggi had been critical, denied having ordered the murder.

→ Because the USA and Saudi Arabia have political and financial relationships and because Khashoggi was a US resident, many have called on President Trump to respond to the murder. On November 20, 2018, he put out a statement affirming our relationship with Saudi Arabia.

THE ARGUMENT FOR

→ President Trump has pointed out the monetary value of America’s relationship with Saudi Arabia. In his statement (right), he describes how the country has invested in America, combating extremism in the region, and keeping oil prices low.

→ Saudi Arabia’s deputy public prosecutor is seeking the death penalty in the case of five people who have been accused of being involved in the killing (though US sanctions claim 17 people were involved).

THE ARGUMENT AGAINST

→ It has been reported that the CIA found the Crown Prince ordered the killing of Khashoggi.

→ Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has stated that he believes this was an act of premeditated murder, calling for an independent investigation by the UN.

→ Several members of the House and Senate have expressed their anger over this issue and, even before Khashoggi’s death was public, called on the US to level sanctions against Saudi Arabia (see S. 3590 and H.R. 7070).

RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

→ Statement from the President on the situation

→ The US Department of State’s fact sheet on US-Saudi relations

→ S. Res. 691 (IS): a resolution which “supports an independent and impartial investigation... into the death of Jamal Khashoggi”

GET INVOLVED

→ Read the UN’s statement on the death of Jamal Khashoggi

→ Contact your elected officials to let them know how you feel about this issue

→ Share this guide with your friends and classmates to make sure they’re informed!

for more information about this issue and others, please check out the other issue guides from the Loyola Libraries, or contact Katherine Paterson, civic engagement librarian at kpaterson@luc.edu