



# **Unitatem et Libertas**

Association of Iranian Human Rights & Allies

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## **Statement by the Association of Iranian Human Rights and Allies**

The Association of Iranian Human Rights and Allies issues this urgent statement in response to the escalating crisis in Iran and the continued suffering of its people under the Islamic Republic.

For more than four decades, the ruling system in Tehran has systematically prioritised its own survival, ideological ambitions, and military expansion over the wellbeing of the Iranian nation. The result has been catastrophic, political repression, economic collapse, environmental devastation, war and the erosion of national sovereignty.

Recent developments have further exposed the scale and nature of this misrule. Extensive underground military infrastructure, often referred to as missile cities, alongside vast tunnel networks built beneath populated areas, including near civilian sites such as schools and hospitals, point to a model of governance that places militarisation above civilian safety. Reports regarding the enormous resource consumption required for such projects raise serious concerns about their contribution to Iran's worsening environmental crisis, including the depletion of water resources and the drying of rivers and lakes.

At the same time, credible reports indicate a renewed wave of executions targeting political prisoners and young Iranians, individuals whose only crime has been the pursuit of freedom, dignity, and a better future. This pattern reflects a longstanding strategy, the use of fear, imprisonment, and violence to silence a nation.

The current war and regional escalation reflect the direct consequences of decades of destabilising policies pursued by the Islamic Republic. Its actions across the region, including hostility towards neighbouring states and involvement in conflicts affecting critical infrastructure, have contributed to widespread instability. Disruptions linked to tensions in strategic waterways, including the Strait of Hormuz, have had global consequences, increasing energy prices and placing further economic strain on ordinary people far beyond Iran's borders.

Over 47 years, the Islamic Republic has imprisoned, executed, and suppressed tens of thousands of Iranians. It has invested national wealth not in development, but in repression, militarisation, and ideological expansion. Today, increasing indications of reliance on foreign affiliated armed elements further demonstrate a profound disconnect between the state and the Iranian people.

We state clearly, a government that systematically acts against the interests, safety, and dignity of its own people forfeits its legitimacy.

We further state that the international community, particularly European governments, cannot continue to evade their moral and political responsibilities. The principle of Responsibility to Protect was established precisely for situations in which a state fails its own people and subjects

them to sustained harm. Yet in the case of Iran, despite clear and longstanding evidence of repression and abuse, meaningful action has been absent.

This inconsistency is stark. In past conflicts, including Libya, international intervention was justified on humanitarian grounds, despite the long-term consequences that followed. In Iran, where millions have consistently called for freedom and where there is a clear demand for change, hesitation and inaction have prevailed.

We express deep concern that continued inaction risks being interpreted not as neutrality, but as tacit acceptance of ongoing repression.

We therefore call on European governments and the broader international community to publicly and unequivocally condemn ongoing human rights violations in Iran, support independent international investigations into executions, detentions, and abuses, demand the immediate release of all political prisoners, align their policies with the principle of Responsibility to Protect, and stand firmly and visibly with the Iranian people in their pursuit of freedom, dignity, and self-determination.

Iran's future must not be defined by repression, fear, or militarisation. It must be shaped by its people.

The Iranian nation has endured enough.

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