

For over two months, the people of Iran have been protesting against the regime and for their freedom. The murder of 22-year-old Jina Mahsa Amini has given new fuel to the popular resistance movement that has existed in Iran since the current dictatorship took power in 1979.

The protests have been met with brutal violence, mass arrests, and sharp shooting in the open street. Amnesty confirms that over 346 people have been killed during these peaceful protests, of which at least 52 are children. In Evin prison, where thousands of protesters have been arrested, most inmates have been killed in what is believed to be a fire started by the regime. Over 15000 protestors have been arrested and the regime has started to issue death penalties.

These massive crimes against human rights must be stopped, the world must act! The sanctions decided on are an important but far from sufficient step.

I would like to ask you, as an elected member of parliament, to take your responsibility towards us who want our politicians to help the Iranian people's fight for freedom. Ensure that the current and future government act in accordance with these demands:

- Close the Iranian embassy and send the ambassador home! Bilateral relations with a dictatorship are not compatible with democracy.
- Drawing on previous examples raised by the International Court of Justice in The Hague, state that those involved in the Islamic Republic's violence should be subject to international arrest warrants.
- Act to stop the ongoing negotiations on nuclear energy. A dictatorship whose economy is supported by our means, by extension, is responsible for the dictatorship's crimes against human rights.
- Enact additional individually targeted sanctions against key actors in the leadership of the Islamic Republic. Use all tools available to point against these.
- Use this momentum to support democratization in Iran through our membership in the UN and the EU parliament whereby, among other things, stronger sanctions and investigative mechanisms are two of several options.

As our elected members of parliament, I expect you to do what is in your power to support the ongoing freedom movement in Iran.

Now is the time! The people need us. Do something.