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22 January 2018

Iran protests

Written declaration No. 649

This written declaration does not reflect the position of the Assembly; only of those members that have signed it. It will not be considered further by the Assembly.

We are deeply concerned by the suppression of anti-government protests in Iran since December 2017, including reports that at least 50 demonstrators were killed, some in detention under torture, and 8 000 were arbitrarily arrested for exercising their democratic right to peaceful protest. A judiciary official has publicly called for the execution of demonstrators for 'waging war against God'.

The human rights situation has deteriorated in the wake of recent protests. Iran has the highest number of executions per capita globally. The culture of impunity must end.

We condemn the use of force against the defenceless protesters and call for the immediate and unconditional release of all detainees.

We call on the member States of the Council of Europe and other relevant international organisations to take urgent action for the immediate release of detained protesters and to determine the status of those who are missing.

We call on the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to set up a fact-finding mission to investigate the situation of Iran's prisons and political prisoners, especially those arrested during the recent uprising and those killed in detention.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

EVANS Nigel, United Kingdom, EC
ALLAVENA Jean-Charles, Monaco, NR
AMORUSO Francesco Maria, Italy, FDG
ARENT Iwona, Poland, EC
ARIEV Volodymyr, Ukraine, EPP/CD
AST Marek, Poland, EC
BEREZA Boryslav, Ukraine, EPP/CD
CEPEDA José, Spain, SOC
CHITI Vannino, Italy, SOC
COAKER Vernon, United Kingdom, SOC
CORREIA Telmo, Portugal, EPP/CD
CORSINI Paolo, Italy, SOC
DESTREBECQ Olivier, Belgium, ALDE
DIVINA Sergio, Italy, FDG
EIDE Petter, Norway, UEL
ENGBLOM Annicka, Sweden, EPP/CD
GAMBARO Adele, Italy, FDG
HAIDER Roman, Austria, NR
HOLLIK István, Hungary, EPP/CD
IONOVA Mariia, Ukraine, EPP/CD
JANIK Grzegorz, Poland, EC
KIRAL Serhii, Ukraine, EC
KOPŘIVA František, Czech Republic, NR
KRONBICHLER Florian, Italy, SOC
KÜRKCÜ Ertuğrul, Turkey, UEL
MAGAZINOVIĆ Saša, Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC
NĚMCOVÁ Miroslava, Czech Republic, EC
NENUTIL Miroslav, Czech Republic, SOC
PASQUIER Bernard, Monaco
PRESCOTT John, United Kingdom, SOC
THÓRARINSSON Birgir, Iceland, NR
WOJTYŁA Andrzej, Poland, EC
YEMETS Leonid, Ukraine, EPP/CD

Total = 33

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC: European Conservatives Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
FDG: Free Democrats Group
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group