



Women Life Freedom

Statement on 16 September 2024

Swedish Trade Union Platform Iran supports the demands and ongoing protests of women, nurses and workers in Iran.

September 16 is the anniversary of the Women, Life, Freedom Feminist Uprising in Iran, which engulfed all of Iran like a flame and ignited the anger of the people, especially the women, youth and freedom-loving forces who were at the forefront of this uprising.

This uprising not only shook the foundations of the Islamic Republic regime but set the foundation for a new movement in the struggle against the Islamic regime. A development that will undoubtedly change the situation of the popular struggle and the conditions for a different future than the prevailing socio-political conditions before the uprising.

As before, the Islamic regime mobilized its entire oppressive apparatus to violently put down the peaceful protests of women and young people. According to the regime's own news agencies, more than 580 protesters were killed and more than 19,400 students, workers, teachers, writers, journalists, political and civil activists were imprisoned.

The consequence of this rebellion reinforces the public opinion that religion must be separated from the political affairs related to how the country is governed.

The Islamic regime, through the implementation of the legislation on Chastity and Hejab, has further violated women's human rights and dignity. This is to preserve their power and rule in the country. Women and girls are raped and tortured in the regime's prisons and those who commit all these brutal acts have complete immunity.

Javaid Rehman, former UN Rapporteur about Human Rights situation in Iran, in his final report to the UN Human Rights Council, has noted a 43 percent increase in the number of executions compared to previous years, adding that Iran has the world's highest number of executions of women. He announced that in 2023 alone, 22 women have been executed in Iran. Given the many executions in the country in recent months, we are particularly concerned about the situation of Sharifeh Mohammadi, a women's and trade union activist, and Pakshan Azizi, a social worker and reporter. Both have been accused of colluding with armed groups in Kurdistan and sentenced to death.

Swedish Trade Union Platform Iran is of the opinion that as long repression, executions, torture and arrests continue, people in general and women, workers, nurses and pensioners in particular will continue to resist in various ways. The latest example shows that 60 percent of those eligible to vote boycotted the last presidential election.

At the same time, we witness with great surprise that the direct and indirect support of foreign governments to the Islamic regime in Iran continues regardless of the regime's clear violations of the international convention on human rights.

The struggle of the Iranian people and women deserves deep respect and firm solidarity from all democratic forces in speech and deed. Swedish Trade Union Platform -Iran condemns the ongoing brutal repression, torture, arrests and executions in Iran. We will continue to raise international support in cooperation with other trade union organizations, with the ITUC and via the International Labor Organization, the ILO in support of Iranian women's and the trade union's struggle in Iran. Iran shall have no place in the international community as long repression, forced veiling and violations of human and trade union rights continue.

Swedish Trade Union Platform Iran demands that the Islamic regime in Iran:

- Immediately and unconditionally release all imprisoned union activists, women teachers, writers, journalists and students.
- Immediately cancels and stops all pending executions- No to Capital Executions!
- Approves and implements International Labor Organization Core Conventions 87 and 98.
- Recognizes the free and independent trade unions as legitimate represented of workers.

Swedish Trade Union Platform Iran

Stockholm on 16 September 2024

Swedish Trade Union Platform Iran

Swedish Trade Union Platform Iran was established in 2014 by LO, the Transport Workers' Union, Municipal, If Metal and the Teachers' Union. Our ambition and goal are to be part of the international support for free and unaffiliated trade union rights in Iran and to inform the Swedish trade union movement and society about the situation of Human and Trade Union rights in Iran. Swedish Trade Union Platform - Iran condemn the Islamic regime's harassment and imprisonment of representatives of free and independent Trade Union organizations in Iran. The work is led by project manager Saied Tagavi in collaboration with Leif Isaksson, international secretary, LO.