



*Mission Permanente
de la République Islamique d'Iran
auprès des Nations Unies
et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève*

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

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The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and with reference to the UA IRN 10 / 2024 dated 23 May 2024 enclosed with the Joint Urgent Appeal from Special Procedures, has the honor to transmit herewith, comments from the High Council for Human Rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran to this regard.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.



Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Human Rights
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In the Name of God

In response to the claims made in the joint correspondence of May 23, 2024 by some of the Human Rights Council Experts regarding the anti-Iranian network "International", some points are mentioned to be considered:

1. The anti-Iranian networks, which spared no efforts, apparently in the guise of news agency and in fact to incite and encourage riots during the riots of September 2022, after the failure in their desperate efforts, with the same technique of "distortion and reversing the facts", applying false claims of harassment and extrajudicial actions regarding the employees of this network and their families, have now resort to the United Nations Human Rights Mechanisms!
2. While rejecting the allegations made about the threats or kidnapping plans against the agents affiliated with the aforementioned news agencies, regarding the incompatibility of their anti-security and terrorist activities with the mission of the news agency and information providing, it should be noted that on October 27, 2022, regarding the so-called Iran International network and while pointing to the efforts of some countries to change the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Economist Magazine stated: "... they established this news network to cover the news of protests in Iran with flair and to give an emotional cover even to a small demonstration in remote cities".
3. Unprofessional methods of the media, such as using fake news, distorting the words of officials, reversing issues, and violating neutrality, have always been the dominant approaches of Iran International Network, but at the early days of riots, this satellite network, through activities such as direct and indirect training to promote terrorism, violence and disorder; conducting interviews with members of separatist terrorist groups such as Komala and Democrat; and encouraging rioters to confront officers, attack military and policing facilities, and destruct public and private property, adopted methods that have nothing to do with the duties of the media and are in conflict with the international media covenants and even the internal rules of media regulation in Britain (Ofcom)

and the principles of professional ethics declared by Iran International itself. Therefore, the banning of this apparently media by the Islamic Republic of Iran is due to their deliberate actions in supporting terrorism and terrorist groups; promoting and inciting terrorism, violence and hatred; and violating human rights within the framework of related legal rules and mechanisms.

4. It is reminded that since its establishment in 2016, the terrorist International Network, through gathering hostile agents with a bad history, including those with separatist crimes and crimes against national security, has put on the agenda the promotion of actions based on hatred and violence, such as armed riots, conflicts and attacks against the police and training of making incendiary and explosive weapons, using the technique of producing and disseminating false news and providing a platform to the leaders of terrorist groups. Therefore, the principle of "neutrality" stated in the fifth section of the Ofcom Broadcasting Regulations and the International Network's Statute has been absolutely violated in relation to this network. Falsifying 3 terms (self-defense - honorable vandalism - civil disobedience), during the riots of 2022, the aforementioned Network organized and directed its criminal actions against the national security of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Republishing statements under the fake title of "Collective Statement of the Youth of Tehran's Neighborhoods" prepared by a person with the identity of Mr. "Alan Tofghi", the Network brought about incitement and persuasion to murder, assassination and extensive physical and mental injuries against foreign nationals, citizens and police forces as well as extensive damage to governmental, private and public centers, places and properties of the country. Despite these actions, its employees are also trying to project and hide the facts with the intention of misleading, through publishing false news, examples of which, as in the correspondence of May 23 and the press release of the Special procedures on May 30, 2024, are mentioned below:

- ❖ Intimidation and death threats against the employees of the International Network: The beating of Pooria Zara'ati, the intimidation and harassment of the employees of the Network since its establishment in 2017 and the intensification of these acts since the riots of 2022 are

basically fake claims. To the Islamic Republic of Iran, this anti-Iranian Network and its operatives are terrorists, they will be dealt with according to the relevant laws and will be tried in a fair court, as the case against some agents of this network is being processed. It should be noted that according to the news quoted by the staff of the International Network, Pooria Zara'ati received a minor scratch during an incident, referred to the hospital and was treated as an outpatient, and despite his favorable condition, based on his personal request, he was hospitalized for some days. In this regard, the failure to arrest and even identify the assailants despite the claims of establishing the most modern city surveillance tools in the UK, is a strong proof that the proposed claim is unfounded.

- ❖ The beating and insulting of one of the journalists of International in 2023 in a hotel in New York: It was a personal argument and a two-sided quarrel and had nothing to do with Iran.

Accordingly, some documents revealing the terrorist nature of the International Network during the 2022 riots from the territory of the U.K, which is also a gross violation of Code 2 and 3 of the Ofcom Broadcasting Regulations, are mentioned as follows.

1. Violation of the 1961 and 1963 Vienna Conventions and the 1973 New York Anti-Terrorism Convention by perusing and inciting people to carry out terrorist acts against diplomats and diplomatic places of the Islamic Republic of Iran abroad:

- ✓ Ms. Masoumeh (Masi) Alinjad stated on Iran International satellite channel on September 20, 2022 during a video call with the host of the Channel, Mr. Fardad Farahzad: Iranians abroad should go and seize the embassies. ... we go and seize the embassies. This is the time for the people outside the country to show that they are ready to take risks just like the people inside the country. We are ready to pay, we are ready to be imprisoned. We are ready for the same disaster that happened to us inside the country. What are political groups afraid of?! Do not be scared...".

- ✓ Mr. Yazdan Shohada'ee (the Deputy for the so-called Transitional Management Council), a resident of the city of Cologne in Germany, guest of the Channel on September 23, 2022 at 18:34 (16:04 London time) in a video communication with the anchor of the International Network (Ms. Sharareh Azizi) stated: "We must occupy the streets outside the country. The embassies of the Islamic Republic of Iran outside the country must be occupied by women us..."
- ✓ Mrs. Soraya Shahabi (Member of Worker-communist Party of Iran – Hekmatist); A resident in London, U.K, a guest of the International Network on September 26, 2022 at 22:20 (19:50 London time) in a video call with the host of the Network (Nader Soltanpour) said: "The embassies of the Islamic Republic must be ruined on them, they should not dare to keep the door of any embassy open, they should not dare..."

2. Guiding and encouraging people to commit violent and terrorist acts through the use of weapons and explosives:

- ✓ Mr. Saeed Sakoui, as a guest of the International Network on October 21, 2022 at 09:12, urged and encouraged the people to use weapons against the law enforcement officers, and in a video call, he said: "These young people, if needed, even bring cannons and tanks in the street. The response to a bullet is a bullet. The response to a fist, is a fist. The response to tear gas is the Molotov cocktail. Today, one of the greatest things that the people of Iran and the youth of my country can do is to use Molotov cocktails instead of tear gas. ... I can provide them with the address of some places inside my country where they can get weapons".

3. Encouraging people to carry out acts of sabotage as well as terrorist acts against law enforcement officers:

- ✓ Ms. Golsa Golestaneh as a guest of the Network on December 2, 2022 at 21:00 said, "supporting and expanding strikes, now both business and labor strikes and student strikes and the discussion of boycotting mid-

semester exams and things like that are discussed. I think these things are of great importance and must be somehow with the overall goal of conquering the streets, otherwise, the conquest of power is not practical. Now the steps that lead to this goal are honorable sabotage. It is civil disobedience. In a way, individual and group movements should be connected to a collective thing. In war, one cannot adhere too much to certain moral qualities. It means recognizing the fact that we are at war with the Islamic Republic... I think even that desire for revenge is a moral desire. That means, to me personally, I can't sit down and tell you not to act oppressive. Because I can fully understand that sometimes confrontation is the only way to continue... now in this situation even if someone kills someone else, I think even killing the officer who kills is moral and if you can and you don't, it's immoral.”

- ✓ Ms. Shokria Bradoost as a guest of the Network on October 11, 2022 at 20:21 (Tehran time) stated: “What is happening now is that people are trying to identify those who are cooperating with the regime, which is in my opinion, a very good tactic that you use on the battlefield to convey fear to the enemy, and the fear of this identification will cause those who are cooperating with the regime to stop cooperating because based on the result we have seen so far in Bukan and other cities, the result for such people was the same as the others. That is, the killing of those who collaborated with the regime”.
- ✓ Mr. Voria Amiri stated as a guest of the Network on October 28, 2022 at 21:00: “You do not have legitimacy, now that you do not have legitimacy, what role are you playing? You are playing the role of a hostage-taker. When we say that they are hostage-taker, it means someone who has chained someone else at his home, torturing him, abusing him and doing whatever he wants with him. Then the chained person has the right to break the chain and also has the right to strangle, beat, kill, and set the hostage taker on fire.”

- ✓ Mr. Arash Joudaki, as a guest of the Network, stated on October 28, 2022 at 21:00: “for people who are coming in the street protesting, even if they hit the officers, it is not called violence.”

4. Encouraging and inciting people to disrupt national order and security through blocking roads, attacking and setting fire to government centers, public services, etc.:

- ✓ Mr. Hossein Ali Ghazizadeh stated as a guest of the Network on October 31, 2022 at 09:15: “The complete conquest of the street has not yet been completed, the conquest of the street is the point where you can be in different parts of different cities, settle down, put up tents, take control of part of the cities permanently, we are moving in that direction. We have not yet reached that stage, but what have happened is the fact that the street is no longer under the control of the government. In some parts of the streets they (the government) do not enter at all, you see people coming and chanting slogans, and some parts are completely abandoned when the crowd of people enters the street. Taking control of important parts of the city and many government centers is not a difficult task at all. It is this large population that reduces the cost and intimidates the repression forces.”
- ✓ Mr. Amin Soufiamehr, as a guest of the Network on October 14, 2022 at 07:08, stated: “If we consider success as grounding the repressing body and also capturing the streets and government centers, anyway, that is the last stage of victory and it is necessary to adopt non-traditional methods of protest, including methods such as honorable sabotage for the repressing body, and raising the cost of repression for the repressing officers, as well as lowering the risk of protests for the people. There are still many things that can be done in this field that have not been done. If we want to achieve that success, it seems that the protesters are moving in the right direction”.
- ✓ Ms. Shima Babaei (so-called human rights activist) as a guest of the Network on December 4, 2022 at 00:10 (Tehran time) said: “People

should know the weak points of the repressing forces. The fact that they use the special line to transfer their forces, if people can limit those lines or damage the weak points of the repressive forces by any means, it will make them act much stronger and achieve their goal”.

- ✓ A person named Saman, as a guest of the program on December 24, 2022 at 21:00, said: “In order for the people or the gray group to join the strikes and protests, the street where the blood of our youth has been spilled must smell of war. It means that our protesting friends should really set fire to gas stations and banks.”