



*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*

Ref. 2050/2392868

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 1 / 2025 dated 6 February 2025 enclosed with the 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.

Geneva, 21 February 2025



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High Commissioner for Human Rights  
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CH-1211 Geneva 10  
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### In the Name of God

In response to the joint correspondence by a number of mandate holders of the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council on February 6, 2025, regarding Mr. Mehdi Hasani and Mr. Behrouz Ehsani (UN IRN 1/2025), it is stated that:

#### 1. Description of the criminal acts leading to the arrest of the defendants:

Mr. Mehdi Hasani has been prosecuted for a series of criminal acts, including the following:

1. Membership in the terrorist group of the MKO and establishing direct contact with its members.
2. Effective propaganda and harassment activities in order to support this group.
3. Chanting anti-regime slogans and insulting the country's officials.
4. Collecting classified information and transmitting it to other individuals.
5. Preparing and sending videos to the MKO.
6. Participating in live programs of networks affiliated with this group.
7. Providing the terrorist group with the items it needs inside the country and setting up team houses in Dolatabad to hide and keep rebel elements.
8. Receiving money from the MKO group for actions he has taken.
9. Firing mortars at the country's military headquarters in Tehran and documenting these actions through filming.
10. Destruction of public property.

No:

Date:

He was arrested by judicial officers on October 23, 2023, while crossing the border into Turkey, upon the order of a judicial authority and in full compliance with Islamic law and the regulations of Code of Criminal Procedure. After being charged with membership in opposition groups (the terrorist group of the MKO), destruction of public property, and effective efforts to advance the goals of groups that have launched an armed uprising against the Islamic State, he was arrested and transferred to Evin Detention Center.

Mr. Behrouz Ehsani has also been prosecuted for the following acts:

- 1) Membership in the terrorist group of the MKO and establishing direct contact with members of this group.
- 2) Carrying out effective propaganda and harassment activities in favor of the terrorist group of the MKO.
- 3) Collecting classified information and providing it to other individuals.
- 4) Providing the terrorist group with the items it needs inside the country.
- 5) Making and firing launchers and mortars at military and administrative headquarters in Tehran, including the central building of the Judiciary, the Ministry of Communications, and the Prisons Organization.
- 6) Destruction of public property.
- 7) Carrying an unauthorized firearm (two Colts and other equipment).

He was arrested by judicial officers on November 29, 2023, after a judicial order was issued, while he was armed with firearms (two Colts and other equipment). After being informed of his charges, which include membership in opposition terrorist groups, destruction of

public property, and attempting to advance the goals of groups that have launched an armed uprising against the Islamic State, a temporary detention order was issued for him and he was introduced to Evin Detention Center.

## 2. Investigation and indictment stages

All stages of investigation and interrogation of the defendants with the aim of clarifying the dimensions of their actions and activities have been carried out completely under the supervision of the judicial authority and within the framework of current laws and regulations. In this process, all of their defense rights, including the right of access to a lawyer, the right to remain silent, and other rights stipulated in Articles 190, 194, 195, and 199 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, have been strictly observed. Finally, after a thorough examination of undeniable evidence and documents, including the defendants' explicit confessions, judicial officers' reports, documentary images and films, etc., and receiving the latest defenses, the investigation of the case was completed, and on May 4, 2023, a final order was issued to summon the defendants to trial and an indictment was issued against the 2 individuals, and the case was sent to the competent court for consideration. This process reflects strict observance of legal principles and reliance on documented and verifiable evidence in preparing the indictment. Also, all fair trial principles, including the standards set forth in Article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, have been fully respected throughout all stages of the case.

## 3. The proceedings of the defendants' case

After the case of the defendants being referred to the court, the case was examined in accordance with legal regulations and international standards, including the principles of due process enshrined in Article

14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. These principles include the possibility of appeal of decisions, the examination of charges by a panel of judges, the principle of innocence, and other legal standards.

After hearing the defendants' final defenses, the court, taking into account current laws and all the documents in the case, declared the proceedings closed and found the defendants guilty. Accordingly, the court issued the following rulings for the defendants:

1. Death penalty for committing the crime of rebellion (Baqi).
2. Five years of imprisonment for membership in the terrorist group of the MKO with the aim of disrupting the security of the country.
3. Five years of imprisonment for collecting classified information and providing it to others with the aim of disrupting the security of the country.
4. Going into exile to Kahnouj for ten years for "*Muharebeh*" by destroying public property with the aim of disrupting the security of the country.
5. Five years of imprisonment for gathering and colluding to commit the aforementioned crimes.

The verdict was communicated to the convicts and their lawyers. In accordance with legal regulations and following an appeal, the case was sent to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court, with the presence of three high-ranking judges and after a thorough examination of the case, determined that the verdict was in accordance with international fair trial principles, Islamic law standards, and domestic laws. As a result, the aforementioned verdict was confirmed and communicated for execution on November 18, 2024.

#### 4. Access to lawyer and denial of torture claims

Based on the documents and content of the case, the claims made regarding lack of access to a lawyer and deprivation of contact with family are completely unfounded. The defendants have enjoyed the right to access to an official lawyer at all stages of the proceedings, and their lawyers have been present at the hearings and defended their clients, while presenting their defense briefs.

Also, in the preliminary investigation stage and in accordance with the note to Article 48 of the Code of Criminal Procedure approved in 2013, in crimes related to internal and external security as well as organized crimes that are subject to the penalties stipulated in Article 302 of this law, the defendants were required to choose a lawyer from among the official lawyers approved by the Head of the Judiciary. In this case, all these regulations were observed and the defendants enjoyed their legal rights at all stages.

Furthermore, the claim of torture and coercion of the convicts to confess is completely baseless and contradicts the case documents. The verdict was issued based on the undeniable evidence and documents in the case, and there is no reason to believe that torture was used to obtain forced confessions. According to Article 38 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, any torture to obtain confessions or information is prohibited and the confessions obtained in this way are void of any validity. Furthermore, in accordance with Articles 570, 578, 579, and 587 of the Islamic Penal Code, as well as the clauses of Article 1 of the Law on Respect for Legitimate Freedoms and Protection of Citizens' Rights, perpetrators of such acts will face severe punishments.

In order to monitor the proper implementation of these laws and prevent any violations, the Central Supervisory Board, in cooperation with the provincial supervisory boards, continuously conducts the necessary inspections and, if any violations are observed, they take appropriate legal measures.

#### **5. Status of detention and access to medical services**

Regarding the place where the convicts are kept in prison and the provision of medical and health services, it is announced that the individuals are subject to clinical monitoring upon arrival and, like other defendants and convicts, have easy and quick access to the prison's medical services and doctor 24/7 during their detention and imprisonment. Also, in the event that the institution's medical facilities and equipment are inadequate, in accordance with Article 137 of the Executive Regulations of the Prisons Organization, there have been no restrictions on sending the individuals to medical centers outside the prison.

According to the prison medical file, Mr. Mehdi Hasani has visited the health center in the prison many times and has benefited from medical services, including ten physiotherapy sessions. Also, according to the documents in the file, on September 28 and October 21, 2024 an order was issued to send him to a hospital outside the prison to examine the condition of his spine. At present, he is not facing any particular physical problem.

Also, according to the prison medical file, Mr. Behrouz Ehsani has also visited the health center in the prison many times and benefited from medical services. In this regard, on July 30, 2023 and August 20, 2024, he was sent to Taleghani Hospital for a thyroid ultrasound, an