



## Iran's Machinery of Execution

How War Accelerated Repression and Executions

May 2026

The execution of protesters and political prisoners in Iran has reached an unprecedented pace. Since the start of the military war by Israel and the United States on Iran, 38 prisoners charged with political and security-related offenses have been executed in Iran.

Fifteen of those executed were detainees from the [January protests](#) in Iran. They were sentenced to death through opaque judicial processes, and their sentences were carried out in less than three months after their arrest.

Saleh Mohammadi, Mehdi Ghasemi, Saeed Davoudi, Amirali Mirjafari, Erfan Kiani, Sasan Azadvar, Ali Fahim, Amirhossein Hatami, Shahin Vahedparast, Mohammadamin Biglari, Ebrahim Dowlatabadi, Mohammadreza Miri, Mehdi Rasouli, Mohammad Abbasi and Abbas Akbari FeyzAbadi, are the fourteen protesters who were executed in connection with the January protests.

Six of those executed, Vahid Baniamerian, Abolhassan Montazer, Mohammad Taghavi, Akbar Daneshvarkar, Babak Alipour, and Pouya Ghobadi, were executed on charges of membership in and activity for the Mujahedin-e Khalq Organization (MEK).

The death sentences for these prisoners were initially issued in December 2024 on the charge of “armed rebellion through membership in anti-regime groups.” However, in July 2025, Iran’s Supreme Court overturned the ruling and referred the cases to a parallel branch for retrial. In late November 2025, the prisoners were retried in Branch 26 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Iman Afshari. Their death sentences were reissued by the same branch on December 7, 2025, and formally communicated to their lawyers.

Soltanali Shirzadi was also executed in early May 2026 on charges of membership in and ties to the Mujahedin-e Khalq Organization (MEK). This was despite the fact that he had left the group years earlier and had returned to Iran voluntarily. Nevertheless, despite the existence of information and documentation confirming that he had severed ties with the organization, the Islamic Republic’s judiciary arrested him and later executed him during the war.

**Mehrab Abdollahzadeh**, a Kurdish citizen from Urmia and one of those arrested during the “Woman, Life, Freedom” protests, was also executed on May 3, 2026. He had originally been arrested by security forces in October 2022. The judiciary announced that the prisoner, born in 1997 in Urmia, had been sentenced to death on charges of “corruption on earth” in connection with the killing of Abbas Fatemieh, a member of the Basij resistance base in Nushinshahr.

In a letter from prison published on social media shortly before the start of the war on February 28, 2026, Mehrab Abdollahzadeh wrote:

“I was arrested during the 2022 protests by the IRGC in Urmia, and I was 25 years old when I was imprisoned. From the very first day of my arrest, they extracted confessions from me through torture and threats, all of it false. None of the accusations they made against me are true. They know it themselves, and God knows, that I am innocent.”

Amnesty International announced in its latest [annual report](#) on May 18, 2026, that the Islamic Republic carried out at least 2,159 executions in 2025, giving Iran the highest recorded number of executions in the world — a figure described as more than double that of 2024.

Amnesty International stated that the sharp global increase in executions was largely driven by executions carried out by the Islamic Republic in Iran, adding that the Iranian government alone accounted for “the main share of this statistical surge.”

The widespread wave of executions and repression in Iran continues, and reports received by Femena indicate that the scale of the crackdown inside the country is far greater than what has been reported in the media. Due to internet shutdowns, many arrests are never reported. A journalist in Iran told Femena:

“People are being stopped at checkpoints that have been set up across the city under the pretext of the war, and their phones are being searched. A 27-year-old man was arrested at one of these checkpoints while on his way to work because of content found on his phone, and he has now been held in Tehran Greater Prison for a month.”

The journalist also told Femena: “Military forces and heavy weapons are visible throughout the city. In Vanak Square, in Tehran, they have stationed three DShK heavy machine guns on three sides of the square in order to impose fear and terror on society.”

Another journalist in Tehran told Femena: “The wartime conditions and internet shutdowns have caused the arrests related to the January protests to receive little public attention, while most of those detained remain in prison under harsh conditions and are receiving severe sentences.”

Over the past three months, following the outbreak of war, the Islamic Republic has not only executed detainees connected to the January protests and others facing political charges, but has also executed additional individuals accused of “spying for Israel.”

Many of the cases involving those executed on espionage charges are filled with judicial ambiguities, and it remains unclear on what basis the accusations against them were made. Among those executed were Kouros Keyvani, Yaghoub Karimpour, Nasser Bakerzadeh, Mehdi Farid, Mohammad Masoumshahi, Hamed Validi, Amer Ramesh, Kouros Keyvani, Ehsan Afrashteh, Abdoljalil Shahbakhsh, and Erfan Shakourzadeh, Gholamreza Khani Shekarab, Ramin Zalleh and Karim Maroofpour.

In this report, we examine in detail the cases of those executed in connection with the January protests in Iran. In the second section of the report, we highlight the cases of individuals whose death sentences have been upheld by the Supreme Court and who are at imminent risk of execution. In another report, Femena will examine the cases of protesters who have been sentenced to death in initial courts or who are facing charges that could potentially result in death sentences.

### **The Case of the Killing of a FARAJA Officer in Nabovat Square, Qom**



**1. Saleh Mohammadi**, a 19-year-old wrestler and resident of Qom, was arrested by security forces on January 15. He was later sentenced to public execution by hanging on charges of “premeditated murder” by Branch One of the Criminal Court of Qom Province, presided over by Judge Seyed Mohammad Ebrahim Pour-Mousavi.

Saleh Mohammadi was accused of being the main perpetrator in the killing of a FARAJA special forces officer on the night of January 8, 2026, in Nabovat Square in Qom. According to the forensic medical report, 29 injuries were recorded on the victim’s body, and injury number eight was identified as the fatal wound. That injury was attributed to Saleh Mohammadi.

The basis for attributing the charge to him was confessions obtained during interrogation. However, he later denied the murder charge and stated that the confessions had been extracted under pressure and torture.

Reports also indicated that none of the security cameras captured or identified his face. The court relied on testimony from unidentified individuals in issuing the sentence, while refusing to summon witnesses who claimed that Saleh had been at his uncle's house at the time of the killing.

Only two months and three days elapsed between Saleh Mohammadi's arrest and the implementation of his death sentence. This occurred despite the fact that, under Iranian law, defense lawyers are entitled to seek a stay of execution and request a retrial even after a death sentence has been upheld by the Supreme Court.

On March 18, 2026, Saleh Mohammadi was publicly executed, as specified in the original sentence. After the execution, his body was not returned to his family. On the evening of Friday, March 19, security agents informed the family that their son had been buried at Behesht-e Masoumeh cemetery in Qom.

### Reconstruction of the crime scene

**2. Saeed Davoudi** was arrested during the January protests in Qom and was executed two months and ten days later during the war. Even his name had not appeared in the media or on social networks before his execution, and the only image available of him comes from a court video. He was a co-defendant in the same case as Saleh Mohammadi and was tried in Branch One of the Criminal Court of Qom.

In [footage](#) from the trial, where Saeed Davoudi stands as a defendant, the representative of the Qom prosecutor's office does not allow him to speak in his own defense and only seeks confirmation from him regarding statements about carrying a "samurai sword" during the protest.

The court report stated that Saeed was being tried on charges related to the killing of a FARAJA officer. However, according to the judiciary's final announcement, he was ultimately sentenced to death not for murder, but on charges of *moharebeh* ("waging war against God"). He was executed three days before his 22nd birthday, which would have fallen on March 21, 2026.

**3. Mehdi Ghasemi** was executed on March 19, 2026, two days before the Iranian New Year. He had been arrested during the January 8 protests in Qom and was held in the Nasr detention center, which is affiliated with the IRGC Intelligence Organization.

According to reports by the Committee for Tracking Detainees, Mehdi Ghasemi initially faced charges of *moharebeh* (“waging war against God”). However, he was ultimately convicted both of *moharebeh* and of *qisas* (retribution-in-kind) on charges of participating in the killing of a law enforcement officer.

He was tried alongside Saleh Mohammadi and Saeed Davoudi in a joint case before Branch One of the Criminal Court of Qom Province.

### The Case of the Basij Base “185 Martyr Mahmoud Kaveh”



**4. Amirhossein Hatami**, a protester who was 18 years old at the time of his arrest, was executed on April 3, 2026. He was arrested on January 8 in Tehran along with six others on charges related to the burning of a Basij base — the “185 Martyr Mahmoud Kaveh Basij Base” — located near Namjou Street in eastern Tehran.

From the time of his arrest, he was held in solitary confinement in Qezel Hesar Prison and was denied access to a lawyer of his own choosing. He was later tried by Branch 15 of the Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Salavati, on charges of “*moharebeh* (waging war against God), corruption on earth, arson of public-use facilities and equipment, and assembly and collusion to commit crimes against internal and external national security,” and was sentenced to death. His death sentence was issued on February 8, exactly 30 days after his arrest.

According to a report published by Persian-language [Deutsche Welle](#), after the initial verdict was issued, the families of the defendants in the case were able to hire independent human rights lawyers to represent them before the Supreme Court. The report states that after reviewing footage showing that the defendants had not participated in setting the Basij base on fire, the Supreme Court judge initially refused to uphold the death sentences. However, under pressure from security officials on other judges, the death sentences of four of the seven detainees were ultimately confirmed and carried out.

Amirhossein Hatami was one of those four. He was 19 years old at the time of his execution.

According to video recordings of forced confessions broadcast by Iran's state television, the defendants stated that there was no fire at the base when they entered it. They said that after they entered, others set fire to the entrance, leaving them with no way to escape.

The seven individuals, unable to leave the building, reportedly took refuge on the rooftop and were eventually arrested there after firefighters and security forces arrived.

**5. Shahin Vahedparast Kalour**, 30 years old, was arrested on January 8, 2026. He was one of the seven defendants in the case related to the burning of the "185 Martyr Mahmoud Kaveh" Basij base and was executed on April 5, 2026.

He was sentenced to death by Branch 15 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Abolqasem Salavati. Very little information about his case has been made public. Like the other defendants in this case, he was held for 35 days by the IRGC Intelligence Organization following his arrest and was then transferred to solitary confinement in Qezel Hesar Prison. Until the time of his trial, he was denied the right to visits and contact with his family. He was also denied access to an independent lawyer during the initial court proceedings.

**6. Mohammadamin Biglari**, another defendant in the same case, was 19 years old at the time of his arrest and was his family's only child. He too was arrested by IRGC Intelligence forces and, following his detention, spent 35 days under interrogation at an IRGC Intelligence detention facility before being transferred to solitary confinement in Qezel Hesar Prison.

Mohammadamin Biglari was tried alongside the other defendants in the case before Branch 15 of the Revolutionary Court, presided over by Abolqasem Salavati, and was sentenced to death. His case was later referred to the Supreme Court, and ultimately his execution was carried out on April 5, 2026.

The extremely short period between arrest and execution in the cases of protesters detained during these demonstrations confirms that Iran's judiciary denied them due process and fair trial standards.

None of the defendants were allowed access to lawyers of their own choosing during the preliminary trial phase, and independent human rights lawyers were only able to enter the case after the initial death sentences had already been issued.

**7. Ali Fahim**, another January protest detainee and the fourth defendant in the case concerning the fire at the Kaveh Basij base, was executed on April 6. He was 23 years old at the time of his arrest.

In [images](#) released from the court proceedings after the executions of the defendants in this case, Ali Fahim was described as an “enemy agent” who allegedly intended to gain access to the Basij base’s armory.

In this case, **Abolfazl Salehi Siavashani** remains at risk of execution, and according to reports, his death sentence has also been upheld by the Supreme Court.

Two other defendants in the same case, **Shahab Zahedi** and **Yaser Rajaei**, who had also received death sentences in the initial court, remain in an uncertain situation. Due to internet shutdowns in Iran and severe restrictions on the flow of information, it is unclear at what stage their death sentences currently stand or whether their sentences have been confirmed by the Supreme Court.

### **The Alleged Burning of the Qolhak Mosque**



**8. Amirali Mirjafari** was executed on April 21, 2026. Before news of his execution was published by media outlets close to the government, no information about his arrest had ever been made public. This suggests that security pressure on the families of detained protesters is so severe that many relatives are unwilling to cooperate with human rights organizations to publicize the names of their loved ones.

According to [reports](#) by state-affiliated media, Amirali Mirjafari had participated in protests on January 8 and 9 and was accused of setting fire to the Qolhak Mosque, vandalizing a bus, and burning motorcycles belonging to FARAJA officers.

The claim that the mosque had been burned was later called into question by videos sent by citizens from the site. The videos appeared to show that the Qolhak Mosque had not been damaged and that reports of it being set on fire were false.

In a report, The Guardian stated that Amirali Mirjafari had worked as a computer technician, although the source of that claim was not identified.

The Persian-language television network Manoto TV interviewed two individuals who identified themselves as acquaintances of Mirjafari. According to them, Amirali had lived with his mother and grandmother, and one week before his execution, authorities had told the family that he would be released the following week.



**9. Erfan Kiani** was executed on April 25, 2026. News of his execution was first announced by the judiciary, while state-affiliated media in Iran described him as a “terrorist.”

In a [video](#) of his forced confessions broadcast by state media, Erfan Kiani is seen wearing handcuffs and shackles. In the recording, he says that he had participated in the protests and, along with other protesters, had carried knives and blocked streets.

However, neither the state television report nor his confessions presented any evidence that he had harmed any individuals.

According to the official report broadcast by Iran's state television, he was arrested by the Ministry of Intelligence in Isfahan. Beyond this, little information is available regarding the prison where he was held, the court branch handling his case, or the judicial process leading to his execution.

In the video published by state-affiliated media, he appears to be in his late twenties or early thirties.



**10. Sasan Azadvar**, a 21-year-old Kyokushin karate champion, was arrested in Isfahan on January 2, 2026, before the protest calls for January 8 and 9. He was later sentenced to death on charges of *moharebeh* (“waging war against God”) by Branch One of the Revolutionary Court of Isfahan, presided over by Judge Kazemzadeh.

In a report published by Mizan News Agency, which is affiliated with the judiciary, it was claimed that: “Sasan Azadvar, on one of the streets of Isfahan, while police forces were inside a vehicle, attacked a minibus carrying officers as well as public city minibuses with stones and clubs, breaking the windows of the vehicles. When security forces arrived, he fled the scene, but again proceeded to throw stones and bricks at officers.”

According to the same report, however, he did not injure any person or individuals and faced the death penalty solely for throwing stones and damaging the windows of several vehicles.

After he appealed, his sentence was referred to Branch 39 of the Supreme Court, which upheld the ruling in full. His execution was ultimately carried out on April 30, 2026, in Dastgerd Prison in Isfahan. In addition to the death sentence, he was also convicted in a separate case:

- to 15 months in prison on charges of “propaganda against the regime,”
- to 7 years in prison for “inciting or encouraging people to engage in war and killing one another with the intent to disrupt national security by encouraging unrest and riots in public and online spaces,”
- and to 25 months in prison on charges of “insulting the Supreme Leader.”

### **The case of the Death of an Officer on Tabarsi Street, Mashhad**



**11. Ebrahim Dowlatabadi**, one of those arrested during the January protests in Mashhad and the father of two children aged nine and fourteen, was executed on May 3, 2026.

He was tried in Branch One of the Revolutionary Court of Mashhad, presided over by Judge Gholamreza Akbari.

In a documentary-style [video](#) released by media outlets close to the government, it is [claimed](#) that he had acted as a “leader” directing protesters in the Tabarsi area of Mashhad during the January 8 and 9 demonstrations, which allegedly led to the deaths of several security officers. However, the video contains no evidence showing his actual presence at the scene.

The same video includes segments of edited and cropped footage that appear to have been taken from his mobile phone, as well as footage from the moment of his arrest, showing security forces detaining him while he was partially unclothed and not even allowing him to dress properly.

He was also accused of “encouraging people to participate in protests.” According to reports, at the time of his arrest several members of his family — including two of his brothers and his teenage son — were also detained by security forces. His son is said to have recently been released, while his two brothers reportedly remain in detention.

**12. Mohammadreza Miri**, 21 years old, was executed alongside Mehdi Rasouli on May 4, 2026. In a [video](#) released by state-affiliated media following the announcement of his execution, a short clip is shown of him in the street, apparently recorded on his own mobile phone.

He was accused of involvement in the death of an officer named **Hamidreza Yousofinejad** on Tabarsi Street.

In a [report](#) published by the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), several references are made to videos found on his mobile phone. However, even in that report, no evidence is presented showing that he played any role in the killing of the officer.

**13. Mehdi Rasouli**, 25 years old, was executed on May 4. He was accused of involvement in the killing of an officer named Hamidreza Yousofi.

In a video released from the court proceedings involving both Mehdi Rasouli and Mohammadreza Miri, Rasouli states that he struck the officer twice in the shoulder with a knife, but that many people had been present at the scene and each had inflicted blows.

It remains unclear how the court concluded that the wounds allegedly inflicted by Mehdi Rasouli were the cause of the officer's death.

Before the executions were carried out, the only name from this case that had reached human rights organizations was that of Ebrahim Dowlatabadi — and that only after his death sentence had already been upheld by the Supreme Court and he had been placed at imminent risk of execution.

The identities of Mehdi Rasouli and Hamidreza Yousofi remained unknown until the executions took place, and even afterward, there has been little information available about them beyond what was published by state-affiliated media outlets.



**14. Mohammad Abbasi:** The death sentence of Mohammad Abbasi, 55, a protester arrested during the January protests in Malard and accused of killing Colonel Shahin Dehghaninia, was carried out on May 13, 2026. The sentence had been upheld by Branch 39 of the Supreme Court.

The trial addressing the charges against him was held on February 7, 2026. According to reports published from the court session, the judge accused the first defendant in the case, Mohammad Abbasi, of direct involvement and cooperation with Israel, the United States government, hostile groups, and their affiliated agents — accusations that allegedly led to the killing of police officer Colonel Shahin Dehghani Kakavandi through multiple stab wounds inflicted with a cold weapon. A social media [post](#) released after the execution of Mohammad Abbasi by Iranian opposition figures claimed that he was forced to confess and accept the charges against him after security forces threatened to torture his daughter.

In the same case, Fatemeh Abbasi, Mohammad Abbasi's daughter, was sentenced by Branch 15 of the Revolutionary Court to 25 years in prison. That sentence was also upheld on appeal, and she is currently imprisoned in the women's ward of Evin Prison.



**15. Abbas Akbari Feyz Abadi:**

The execution of Abbas Akbari Feyzabadi, a protester arrested during the nationwide January 2026 protests, was carried out secretly on Monday, May 25, 2026, in Isfahan Central Prison, also known as Dastgerd Prison. Abbas Akbari Feyzabadi, a young man from Naein County in Isfahan, had been convicted of “*moharebeh* (waging war against God),” “intentional destruction of public property,” “disruption of public order and security,” and “shooting with a firearm”, according to Mizan News Agency, the official media outlet of Iran’s judiciary.

According to the judiciary’s account, Abbas Akbari Feyzabadi had participated in the January 18 and 19, 2026 protests in Naein, allegedly attacking government buildings and some public institutions and firing a Colt handgun.

## Protesters at Risk of Execution:

### The Pakdasht Mosque Case



According to reports by human rights organizations, the death sentences of Ehsan Hosseinipour Hesarloo, 18 years old, Matin Mohammadi, and Erfan Amiri, 17 years old — all arrested during the January 2026 protests — have been upheld by the Supreme Court and sent for implementation, placing them at imminent risk of execution.

Ehsan Hosseinipour Hesarloo, Matin Mohammadi, and Erfan Amiri were arrested in connection with the case involving the fire at the Pakdasht mosque. In this case, they faced charges before the Tehran Revolutionary Court including “acting against internal security,” “assembly and collusion against national security,” “participation in the killing of two individuals,” “intentional arson of the Seyyed al-Shohada Mosque in Pakdasht,” and “destruction of public property.”

On February 16, 2026, attorney Milad Panahipour wrote on his Instagram page that the head of Branch 26 of the court had prevented him from officially representing Ehsan Hosseinipour in the case. This suggests that the defendants were denied the right to legal counsel of their own choosing.

Panahipour also stated that Ehsan Hosseinipour, identified as the first defendant in the case, had rejected all charges and said that the confessions attributed to him had been extracted under pressure and violence, including by “placing a gun in his mouth,” while he was handcuffed and shackled.

Rejecting claims that Ehsan Hosseinipour had participated in setting fire to the mosque — an incident that allegedly resulted in the deaths of two people — the lawyer wrote:

“Ehsan was arrested at 9:30 p.m. on January 8, 2025, while the mosque fire began at 10:30 p.m. that same night. According to him, the images released from the attack on the mosque are unrelated to this defendant, and reviews of nearby surveillance cameras do not confirm his presence at the scene. Nevertheless, a significant portion of the case has been built on forced confessions.”

The case also includes a woman named **Maryam Hadavand**, a 45-year-old mother of two, who was sentenced to death by Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court. She is currently imprisoned in the women’s ward of Evin Prison, although it remains unclear whether her sentence has been upheld by the Supreme Court.

### **The Case of the Marvdasht Protesters, Shiraz**



On April 30, 2026, the Revolutionary Court of Shiraz sentenced four detainees from the January protests to death.

According to published reports, **Hamidreza Fathi**, **Abdolreza Fathi**, **Saeed Zarei Kordshouli**, and **Hamidreza Sabet-Ra’y** were arrested in connection with the protests in Marvdasht and sentenced to death by Branch One of the Shiraz Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Seyed Mahmoud Sadati.

The Committee for follow ups the Situation of Detainees, an independent group monitoring the condition of those arrested, published a report in February 2026, regarding the situation of Saeed Zarei Kordshouli.

According to the report, he was arrested on January 22 at his sister's home in Shiraz and was subjected to severe torture during detention, suffering multiple fractures to his face, legs, and ribs.

Subsequent reports have confirmed that the other defendants in the same case were also subjected to similar conditions and torture in order to force them to confess to the killing of “five IRGC officers during the Marvdasht protests.”



**Mohammadreza Tabari**, a citizen arrested during the January protests in Tehran, was accused of injuring a Basij member and sentenced to death by Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court.

On February 7, 2026, Mizan News Agency, affiliated with the judiciary, published news coverage and video footage from the first court session in Tabari's case. The [report](#) claimed that he had been one of the “leaders” of the protests and that, while “in possession of a firearm” in the town of Baharestan, in the Orin residential area, on January 18, 2026, he had “injured a security force member.”

According to the published report, Mohammadreza Tabari surrendered himself to the police after three days and stated during the trial that he had turned himself in because of feelings of guilt. However, on May 7, the channel Tavaana reported that his death sentence had been upheld by the Supreme Court. Mohammadreza Tabari was charged with:

- “*Moharebeh* (waging war against God) through drawing a firearm with the intent to intimidate the public and security forces,”
- “Operational action in favor of monarchist groups affiliated with the accursed Zionist regime,”
- and “creating public fear and terror through shooting at security forces.”

He is 50 years old and worked as a carpenter in Baharestan, where he lived.

According to Tavaana’s report published on May 7, 2026, in addition to Mohammadreza Tabari, two other citizens — **Mohammadreza Abdollahpour** and **Amirmohammad Zare** — who were also arrested during the January protests, are at risk of execution after their death sentences were upheld by Branch 9 of the Supreme Court.

Reports indicate that Mohammadreza Abdollahpour is an anesthesia specialist employed at a hospital in Tehran and was arrested for helping an injured person. No further details are available regarding the charges against him or the judicial proceedings in his case.

According to Tavaana, the two prisoners, along with Mohammadreza Tabari, are currently being held in Qezel Hesar Prison.

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While hundreds of individuals arrested during the January protests remain imprisoned, many continue to face heavy prison sentences or death penalties following trials that often last only a few minutes and are frequently conducted remotely by video. Internet shutdowns, combined with severe restrictions on communication, have effectively cut detainees and their families off from human rights organizations, lawyers, and independent media.

Over the past two and a half months, following the outbreak of war, many of the trials resulting in death sentences have been conducted online. Virtual court hearings first became widespread in Iran during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the practice continued afterward and has increasingly been used in politically sensitive cases. During the Woman, Life, Freedom protests, numerous detainees reported that their hearings were held remotely from prison offices, lasted only a few minutes, and provided no meaningful opportunity for defense. Frequent internet disruptions and the absence of confidential access to legal counsel further undermined defendants’ rights.

Now, amid wartime conditions and the closure or disruption of many judicial institutions, reports from inside Iran indicate that the same pattern has intensified. Young protesters facing severe prison terms or execution have, in many cases, been denied the opportunity to appear physically

before a judge, communicate effectively with their lawyers, examine evidence against them, or present a meaningful defense.

Femena expresses grave concern over the ongoing prosecution of protesters arrested during the January demonstrations. The rapid issuance and implementation of death sentences, the use of forced confessions, denial of independent legal representation, allegations of torture, and the conduct of summary and remote trials collectively represent serious violations of the right to a fair trial and due process under international human rights law.

The use of the death penalty against protesters and political detainees must immediately cease. Young detainees and all individuals accused in connection with the protests must be granted access to fair, transparent, and independent judicial proceedings, including access to lawyers of their own choosing and protection from torture and coerced confessions.

The death penalty, particularly in political and protest-related cases, should be abolished under Iranian law.

## Recommendations

Femena calls on international organizations, governments, and human rights mechanisms to:

- Urgently pressure the Iranian authorities to halt all executions related to the January protests and impose an immediate moratorium on the death penalty;
- Demand fair trial guarantees for all detainees, including access to independent legal counsel, public hearings, and protection from torture and forced confessions;
- Call for independent international investigations into allegations of torture, enforced disappearances, and summary judicial proceedings against protesters;
- Monitor and publicly report on the cases of detainees at imminent risk of execution;
- Press the Iranian government to restore unrestricted internet access and end communication blackouts that prevent documentation of human rights violations;
- Support Iranian civil society organizations, journalists, lawyers, and families of detainees working to document abuses and advocate for accountability;
- Ensure that politically motivated executions and serious human rights violations in Iran remain a priority within United Nations human rights mechanisms and international diplomatic engagements.

