



Hon. Judy A. Sgro

Member of Parliament for
Humber River-Black Creek



December 5, 2024

Hon. Volker Turk
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Re: Death sentences for 6 PMOI members and several other political prisoners

Dear Hon. Turk:

I am deeply worried about the death sentences issued against six political prisoners affiliated with the opposition group PMOI on November 30, 2024. These individuals, Abolhassan Montazeri (65), Pouya Ghaebadi (32), Vahid Beni-Amrian (32), Babak Alipour (33), Ali-Akbar Daneshvar Kar (57), and Mohammad Taghavi (58) were sentenced by the Iranian criminal judiciary in a sham trial.

Iran stands the number one executioner per capita in the world. I urge you to take immediate action to save the lives of these prisoners and secure the release of all political prisoners in Iran on the eve of International Human Rights Day.

I believe that resorting to the cruellest form of punishment against political prisoners and the spike of executions in recent months that average to one execution every four hours, is a form of revenge against a restless population who wants to enjoy its basic rights as stipulated in the UN Charter.

It is high time for the international community to hold Iranian leaders accountable for their massive domestic suppression including issuance of death sentences.

Sincerely,

Hon. Judy A. Sgro, P.C., M.P.