

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 19, 2012

The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you know, the State Department recently released its annual report on human rights, including information regarding Iran's human rights record in 2011. The report highlights the Government of Iran's increased suppression and intimidation of opposition voices. Artists, students, activists, human rights defenders and those seeking freedom of speech and religion are increasingly persecuted, imprisoned and tortured.

On April 15, 2011, we wrote to Secretary Clinton urging the State Department to investigate 25 Iranian officials – already listed by the European Union as human rights abusers – for possible designation under U.S. law. Since that letter, your Administration designated only one individual, Esmail Ahmadi-Moqaddam, who was previously designated by the European Union. To date, the European Union has designated 77 Iranian officials as human rights abusers. Out of those, the United States lists only 12.

We strongly believe the United States should lead on the issue of human rights in Iran. That is why we are concerned that, as of today, the United States has yet to officially designate 65 Iranian human rights abusers already listed by the European Union. Therefore, pursuant to Section 105 of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions and Divestment Act (CISADA), Executive Order 13553 and Executive Order 13606, we urge you to investigate and designate the attached list of individuals already designated by the European Union for gross violations of human rights in Iran.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,


Mark Kirk
US Senator

Jon Kyl
US Senator

Joseph I. Lieberman
US Senator

Names and descriptions as published by the European Union.

1. **ABBASZADEH-MESHKINI Mahmoud:** Interior Ministry's political director. As Head of the Article 10 Committee of the Law on Activities of Political Parties and Groups he is in charge of authorising demonstrations and other public events and registering political parties. In 2010, he suspended the activities of two reformist political parties linked to Mousavi – the Islamic Iran Participation Front and the Islamic Revolution Mujahedeen Organization. From 2009 onwards he has consistently and continuously prohibited all non-governmental gatherings, therefore denying a constitutional right to protest and leading to many arrests of peaceful demonstrators in contravention of the right to freedom of assembly.
2. **AKBARSHAHI Ali- Reza:** Commander of Tehran Police. His police force is responsible for the use of extrajudicial force on suspects during arrest and pre-trial detention, as reported to Human Rights Watch (HRW) by witnesses to the post-election crackdown. Tehran police were implicated in raids on Tehran University dorms in June 2009, when according to an Iranian Majlis commission, more than 100 students were injured by the police and Basiji.
3. **AKHARIAN Hassan:** Keeper of Ward 1 of Radjaishahr prison, Karadj. Several former detainees have denounced the use of torture by him, as well as orders he gave to prevent inmates receiving medical assistance. According to a transcript of one reported detainee in the Radjaishahr prison, wardens all beat him severely, with Akharian's full knowledge. There is also at least one reported case of the death of a detainee, Mohsen Beikvand, under Akharian's wardenship.
4. **AVAAEE Seyyed Ali- Reza:** President of the Tehran Judiciary. As President of the Tehran Judiciary he has been responsible for human rights violations, arbitrary arrests, denials of prisoners' rights and an increase in executions.
5. **BANESHI Jaber:** Prosecutor of Shiraz. He is responsible for the excessive and increasing use of the death penalty by handing down dozens of death sentences. Prosecutor during the Shiraz bombing case in 2008, which was used by the regime to sentence to death several opponents of the regime.
6. **FIRUZABADI Maj-Gen Dr Seyyed Hasan:** Chief of Staff of Iran's Armed Forces. Also, a member of the Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) the highest military commander responsible for directing all military divisions and policies, including the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) and police. Forces under his formal chain of command brutally suppressed peaceful protestors and perpetrated mass detentions.
7. **GANJI Mostafa Barzegar:** Prosecutor-General of Qom. He is responsible for the arbitrary detention and maltreatment of dozens of offenders in Qom. He is complicit in a grave violation of the right to due process, contributing to the excessive and increasing use of the death penalty and a sharp increase in executions since the beginning of the year.

8. **HABIBI Mohammad Reza:** Deputy Prosecutor of Isfahan. Complicit in proceedings denying defendants a fair trial – such as Abdollah Fathi executed in May 2011 after his right to be heard and mental health issues were ignored by Habibi during his trial in March 2010. He is, therefore, complicit in a grave violation of the right to due process, contributing to the excessive and increasing use of the death penalty and a sharp increase in executions since the beginning of the year.
9. **HEYDARI Nabiollah:** Head of the Iranian Airport Police Authority. He has been instrumental, since June 2009, in arresting at Imam Khomeini International Airport - including inside the international zone - Iranian protesters who were trying to leave the country after the crackdown started.
10. **JAVANI Yadollah:** IRGC Political Bureau Chief. He was one of the first high-ranking officials to demand Moussavi, Karroubi and Khatami's arrest. He has repeatedly supported the use of violence and harsh interrogation tactics against post-election protesters (justifying TV-recorded confessions), including ordering the extrajudicial maltreatment of dissidents through publications circulated to the IRGC and Basij.
11. **JAZAYERI Massoud:** Deputy Chief of Staff of Iran's Joint Armed Forces, in charge of cultural affairs (aka State Defence Publicity HQ). He actively collaborated in repression as deputy chief of staff. He warned in a Kayhan interview that many protesters inside and outside Iran had been identified and would be dealt with at the right time. He has openly called for the suppression of foreign mass media outlets and the Iranian opposition. In 2010, he asked the government to pass tougher laws against Iranians who cooperate with foreign media sources.
12. **JOKAR Mohammad Saleh:** Commander of Student Basij Forces. In this capacity he was actively involved in suppressing protests in schools and universities and extrajudicial detention of activists and journalists.
13. **KAMALIAN Behrouz:** Head of the IRGC-linked "Ashiyaneh" cyber group. The "Ashiyaneh" Digital Security, founded by Behrouz Kamalian, is responsible for an intensive cyber-crackdown both on domestic opponents and reformists and foreign institutions. On 21 June 2009, the internet site of the Revolutionary Guard's Cyber Defence Command 32 posted still images of the faces of 26 people, allegedly taken during post-election demonstrations. Attached was an appeal to Iranians to "identify the rioters."
14. **KHALILOLLAHI Moussa:** Prosecutor of Tabriz. He is involved in Sakineh Mohammadi-Ashtiani's case and has opposed her release on several occasions and is complicit in grave violations of the right to due process.
15. **MALEKI Mojtaba:** Prosecutor of Kermanshah. Responsible for a dramatic increase in death sentences, including seven hangings in one day on 3 January 2010 in Kermanshah's central prison, following Judge Maleki's indictment. He is, therefore, responsible for the excessive and increasing use of the death penalty.

16. **OMIDI Mehrdad:** Head of the Computer Crimes Unit of the Iranian Police. He is responsible for thousands of investigations and indictments of reformists and political opponents using the Internet. He is thus responsible for grave human rights violations in the repression of persons who speak out in defence of their legitimate rights, including freedom of expression.
17. **SALARKIA Mahmoud:** Deputy to the Prosecutor-General of Tehran for Prison Affairs. Directly responsible for many of the arrest warrants against innocent, peaceful protesters and activists. Many reports from human rights defenders show that virtually all those arrested are, on his instruction, held incommunicado without access to their lawyer or families, and without charge, for varying lengths of time, often in conditions amounting to enforced disappearance. Their families are often not notified of the arrest.
18. **SOURI Hojatollah:** As head of Evin prison, he bears responsibility for severe human rights abuses ongoing in this prison, such as beatings, and mental and sexual abuse. According to consistent information from different sources, torture is a common practice in Evin prison. In Ward 209, many activists are being held for their peaceful activities in opposition to the ruling government.
19. **TALA Hossein:** Deputy Governor-General of Tehran Province until September 2010, in particular responsible for the intervention of police forces and therefore for the repression of demonstrations. He received a prize in December 2010 for his role in the post-election repression.
20. **TAMADDON Morteza:** IRGC Governor-General of Tehran Province, head of Tehran provincial Public Security Council. In his capacity, he bears overall responsibility for all repressive activities, including cracking down on political protests since June 2009. He is known for being personally involved in the harassing of opposition leaders Karroubi and Moussavi.
21. **ZEBHI Hossein:** Deputy to the Prosecutor-General of Iran. He is in charge of several judicial cases linked to the post- election protests.
22. **BAHRAMI Mohammad-Kazem:** Head of the Judiciary branch of the armed forces. He is complicit in the repression of peaceful demonstrators.
23. **HAJMOHAMMADI Aziz:** Former judge at the first chamber of the Evin Court and now judge at branch 71 of the Tehran Provincial Criminal Court. He has conducted several trials of demonstrators, inter alia that of Abdol-Reza Ghanbari, a teacher arrested in January 2010 and sentenced to death for his political activities. The Evin court of first instance had recently been established within the walls of Evin prison, a fact welcomed by Jafari Dolatabadi in March 2010. In this prison some accused persons are confined, mistreated and forced to make false statements.

24. **BAGHERI Mohammad-Bagher:** Vice-chairman of the judiciary administration of South Khorasan province, in charge of crime prevention. In addition to his acknowledging, in June 2011, 140 executions for capital offences between March 2010 and March 2011, about 100 other executions are reported to have taken place in the same period and in the same province of South Khorasan without either the families or the lawyers being notified. He is, therefore, complicit in a grave violation of the right to due process, contributing to the excessive and increasing use of the death penalty.

25. **BAKHTIARI Seyyed Morteza:** Minister of Justice, former Isfahan governor-general and director of the State Prisons Organisation (until June 2004). As Minister of Justice, he has played a key role in threatening and harassing the Iranian diaspora by announcing the establishment of a special court to deal specifically with Iranians who live outside the country. With the Tehran Prosecutor's assistance, two branches of the courts of first instance and appeal courts and several branches of the magistrate courts will be assigned to deal with expatriate affairs.

26. **HOSSEINI Dr Mohammad:** Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance since September 2009. Ex-IRGC, he is complicit in the repression of journalists.

27. **ALLAHKARAM Hossein:** Ansar-e Hezbollah Chief and Colonel in the IRGC. He co-founded Ansar-e Hezbollah. This paramilitary force was responsible for extreme violence during crackdown against students and universities in 1999, 2002 and 2009.

28. **FAZLI Ali:** Deputy Commander of the Basij, former Head of the IRGC's Seyyed al-Shohada Corps, Tehran Province (until February 2010). The Seyyed al-Shohada Corps is in charge of security in Tehran province and played a key role in brutal repression of protesters in 2009.

29. **HAMEDANI Hossein:** Head of the IRGC's Rassoulollah Corps in charge of Greater Tehran since November 2009. The Rassoulollah Corps is in charge of security in greater Tehran, and played a key role in violent suppression of protesters in 2009. Responsible for the crackdown of protests through Ashura events (December 2009) and since.

30. **KHALILI Ali:** IRGC General, Head of the Medical Unit of Sarollah Base. He signed a letter sent to the Ministry of Health June 26 2009 forbidding the submission of documents or medical records to anyone injured or hospitalized during post-elections events.

31. **MOTLAGH Bahram Hosseini:** Head of the IRGC's Seyyed al-Shohada Corps, Tehran Province. The Seyyed al-Shohada Corps played a key role in organising the repression of protests.

32. **RAJABZADEH Azizollah:** Former Head of Tehran Police (until January 2010). As Commander of the Law Enforcement Forces in the Greater Tehran, Azizollah Rajabzadeh is the highest-ranking accused in the case of abuses in Kahrizak Detention Center.
33. **SAJEDI-NIA Hossein:** Head of Tehran Police, former Deputy Chief of Iran's National Police responsible for Police Operations. He is in charge of coordinating, for the Ministry of Interior, repression operations in the Iranian capital.
34. **SHARIATI Seyed Hassan:** Head of Mashhad Judiciary. Trials under his supervision have been conducted summarily and inside closed sessions, without adherence to basic rights of the accused, and with reliance on confessions extracted under pressure and torture. As execution rulings were issued en masse, death sentences were issued without proper observance of fair hearing procedures.
35. **DORRI-NADJAFABADI Ghorban-Ali:** Former Prosecutor General of Iran until September 2009 (former Intelligence minister under Khatami presidency). As Prosecutor General of Iran, he ordered and supervised the show trials following the first post-election protests, where the accused were denied their rights, an attorney.
36. **HADDAD Hassan:** Judge, Tehran Revolutionary Court, branch 26. He was in charge of the detainee cases related to the post election crises and regularly threatened families of detainees in order to silence them. He has been instrumental in issuing detention orders to the Kahrizak Detention Centre.
37. **Hodjatoleslam Seyed Mohammad SOLTANI:** Judge, Mashhad Revolutionary Court. Trials under his jurisdiction have been conducted summarily and inside closed session, without adherence to basic rights of the accused. As execution rulings were issued en masse, death sentences were issued without proper observance of fair hearing procedures.
38. **HEYDARIFAR Ali-Akbar:** Judge, Tehran Revolutionary Court. He participated in protesters trial. He was questioned by the Judiciary about Kahrizak exactions. He was instrumental in issuing detention orders to consign detainees to Kahrizak Detention Centre.
39. **MOGHISSEH Mohammad:** Judge, Head of Tehran Revolutionary Court, branch 28. He is in charge of post-election cases. He issued long prison sentences during unfair trials for social, political activists and journalists and several death sentences for protesters and social and political activists.
40. **PIR-ABASSI Abbas:** Tehran Revolutionary Court, branches 26 and 28. He is in charge of post-election cases, he issued long prison sentences during unfair trials against human rights activists and has issued several death sentences for protesters.

41. **MORTAZAVI Amir:** Deputy Prosecutor of Mashhad. Trials under his prosecution have been conducted summarily and inside closed session, without adherence to basic rights of the accused. As execution rulings were issued en masse, death sentences were issued without proper observance of fair hearing procedures.
42. **SALAVATI Abdolghassem:** Judge, Head of Tehran Revolutionary Court, branch 15. In charge of the post-election cases, he was the Judge presiding the “show trials” in summer 2009, he condemned to death two monarchists that appeared in the show trials. He has sentenced more than a hundred political prisoners, human rights activists and demonstrators to lengthy prison sentences.
43. **SHARIFI Malek Adjar:** Head of East Azerbaidjan Judiciary. He was responsible for Sakineh Mohammadi-Ashtiani’s trial.
44. **ZARGAR Ahmad:** Judge, Tehran Appeals Court, branch 36. He confirmed long-term jail warrants and death warrants against protesters.
45. **YASAGHI Ali-Akbar:** Judge, Mashhad Revolutionary Court. Trials under his jurisdiction have been conducted summarily and inside closed session, without adherence to basic rights of the accused. As execution rulings were issued en masse, death sentences were issued without proper observance of fair hearing procedures.
46. **BOZORGNIA Mostafa:** Head of ward 350 of Evin Prison. He unleashed on a number of occasions disproportionate violence upon prisoners.
47. **ESMAILI Gholam-Hossein:** Head of Iran’s Prisons Organisation. In this capacity, he was complicit to the massive detention of political protesters and covering up abuses performed in the jailing system.
48. **SEDAQAT Farajollah:** Assistant Secretary of the General Prison Administration in Tehran - Former Head of Evin’s prison, Tehran until October 2010 during which time torture took place. He was warden and threatened and exerted pressure on prisoners numerous times.
49. **ZANJIREI Mohammad-Ali:** As Deputy Head of Iran’s Prisons Organisation, responsible for abuses and deprivation of rights in detention center. He ordered the transfer of many inmates into solitary confinement.
50. **ZARGHAMI Ezzatollah:** As Head of Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB), he is responsible for all programming decisions. IRIB has broadcast forced confessions of detainees and a series of "show trials" in August 2009 and December 2011. These constitute a clear violation of international provisions on fair trial and the right to due process.

51. **TAGHIPOUR Reza:** Minister for Information and Communications. As Minister for Information, he is one of the top officials in charge of censorship and control of internet activities and also all types of communications (notably mobile phones). During interrogations of political detainees, the interrogators make use of the detainees' personal data, mail and communications.

52. **KAZEMI Toraj:** Colonel of the technology and communications police, he recently announced a campaign for the recruitment of government hackers in order to achieve better control of information on the internet and attack "dangerous" sites.

53. **LARIJANI Sadeq:** Head of the Judiciary. The Head of the Judiciary is required to consent to and sign off every qisas (retribution), hodoud (crimes against God) and ta'zirat (crimes against the state) punishment. This includes sentences attracting the death penalty, floggings and amputations. In this regard, he has personally signed off numerous death penalty sentences, contravening international standards, including stoning (16 people are currently under stoning sentence), executions by suspension strangulation, execution of juveniles, and public executions such as those where prisoners have been hung from bridges in front of crowds of thousands. He has also permitted corporal punishment sentences such as amputations and the dripping of acid into the eyes of the convicted. Since Sadeq Larijani took office, arbitrary arrests of political prisoners, human rights defenders and minorities have increased markedly. Executions have also increased sharply since 2009. Sadeq Larijani also bears responsibility for systemic failures in the Iranian judicial process to respect the right to a fair trial.

54. **MIRHEJAZI Ali:** Deputy Chief of the Supreme Leader's Office and Head of Security. Part of the Supreme Leader's inner circle, responsible for planning the suppression of protests which has been implemented since 2009.

55. **SAEEDI Ali:** Representative of the Guide for the Pasdaran since 1995 after spending his whole career within the institution of the military, and specifically in the Pasdaran intelligence service. This official role makes him the key figure in the transmission of orders emanating from the Office of the Guide to the Pasdaran's repression apparatus.

56. **RAMIN Mohammad-ali:** Main figure responsible for censorship as Vice-Minister in charge of the Press up to December 2010, he was directly responsible for the closure of many reforming newspapers (Etemad, Etemad-e Melli, Shargh, etc), closure of the Independent Press Syndicate and the intimidation or arrest of journalists.

57. **MORTAZAVI Seyyed Solat:** Deputy Interior Minister for Political Affairs. Responsible for directing repression of persons who speak up in defence of their legitimate rights, including freedom of expression.

58. **REZVANI Gholomani:** Deputy Governor of Rasht. Responsible for grave violations of the right to due process.

59. **ELAHI Mousa Khalil:** Prosecutor of Tabriz. Responsible for directing grave human rights violations of the right to due process.
60. **FAHRADI Ali:** Prosecutor of Karaj. Responsible for grave violation of human rights in demanding the death sentence for a juvenile.
61. **REZVANMANESH Ali:** Prosecutor. Responsible for grave violation of human rights in demanding the death sentence for a juvenile.
62. **RAMEZANI Gholamhosein:** Commander of IRGC Intelligence. Responsible for grave human rights violation of persons who speak up in defence of their legitimate rights, including freedom of expression. Heads Department responsible for the arrest and torture of bloggers/journalists.
63. **SADEGHI Mohamed:** Colonel and Deputy of IRGC technical and cyber intelligence. Responsible for the arrests and torture of bloggers/journalists.
64. **JAFARI Reza:** Head of special prosecution of cyber crime. In charge of arrests, detentions and prosecutions of bloggers and journalists.
65. **RESHTE-AHMADI Bahram:** Deputy Prosecutor in Tehran. Evin prosecution centre. Responsible for the denial of rights, including visits and other prisoner's rights, to human rights defenders and political prisoners.