



Plenary sitting

B9-0170/2023

14.3.2023

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for a debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 144 of the Rules of Procedure

on **Iran: in particular the poisoning of hundreds of school girls,**
(2023/2587(RSP))

Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias
on behalf of The Left Group

**European Parliament resolution on Iran: in particular the poisoning of hundreds of school girls,
(2023/2587(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. Whereas, since November 2022, thousands of girls have suffered chemical attacks in schools across the Islamic Republic of Iran; whereas schoolgirls have reported respiratory problems, headaches, nausea, dizziness and temporary paralysis of their limbs; whereas hundreds of students and staff have been hospitalised; whereas 11-year-old Fatemeh Rezaei has died, allegedly from gas poisoning at her school;
- B. whereas the attacks are believed to come from religious groups that oppose education for girls, and are seen as a response to the protests led by women and girls since the death of Mahsa Amini in September 2022;
- C. whereas parents have been keeping their daughters home to protect them; whereas parents are also protesting over the attacks, and security forces have reportedly dispersed the protests, including by firing tear gas;
- 1. Strongly condemns the attacks against schoolgirls; calls on the Iranian authorities to conduct a prompt, transparent and impartial investigation into the poisonings and to hold those responsible to account;
- 2. Calls on the UN fact-finding mission on Iran to conduct an independent investigation into the incidents;
- 3. Calls on the Iranian authorities to protect girls' right to education; recalls that depriving girls of education has a devastating impact on their future, as they become more vulnerable to poverty, forced marriages, domestic violence and sex trafficking; whereas the lack of education also compromises girls' reproductive and sexual autonomy, as well as their opportunities to participate meaningfully in political, cultural and social life; whereas this comes at great personal cost for girls, and is also a loss for society at large;
- 4. Calls on Iranian authorities to target the structural oppression of women and girls by protecting, promoting and respecting their human rights in law and in practice, notably their rights to life, to health and to a life without violence; in this regard, calls on the Iranian authorities to repeal the “Youthful Population and Protection of the Family” law, and to ensure safe, legal and public abortion services; calls on Iranian authorities to criminalise all forms of violence against women and girls, including child marriage and marital rape;
- 5. Condemns the repression of protests in Iran, particularly the killings of hundreds of peaceful protestors, including children; calls on Iranian authorities to respect the rights to freedom of expression, opinion, association and peaceful assembly, including the rights of women and girls to protest and to choose not to wear religious veils;
- 6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the authorities of Iran, the EU Member States, the Council, the Commission, the High Representative for Foreign

Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the Commission, the EEAS, the UN and the US.