



Plenary sitting

B9-0172/2023

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 schoolgirls

(2023/2587(RSP))

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on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

B9-0172/2023

European Parliament resolution on Iran: in particular the poisoning of hundreds of schoolgirls

(2023/2587(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Iran,
 - having regard to Rules 144 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas over the last month hundreds of schoolgirls were hospitalized following their deliberate poisoning with toxic gas emissions in schools across Iran;
 - B. whereas teenage girls and university students have been at the forefront of the country-wide protests and showed outstanding bravery;
 - C. whereas representatives of the Iranian regime have denied knowledge of or downplayed the attacks; whereas IRGC forces were dispatched to the hospitals where students were treated and harassed medical personnel; whereas on 6 March Ayatollah Khamenei called the poisoning of school girls an “unforgivable crime” and demanded authorities to “pursue the issue”;
 - D. whereas according to reports fundamentalist groups operating as self-declared guardians of their interpretation of Islam may be behind the poisoning exposing the lawless resurfacing under the unaccountable government;
1. Condemns in the strongest terms the regime’s anti-women policies and systematic poisoning of schoolgirls in schools across Iran, seeking to punish girls for their pivotal role in the peaceful protests, prevent them from receiving education;
 2. Supports the continuing peaceful women and girls-led protest movement across Iran;
 3. Calls on Iran to launch a swift and transparent investigation over the poisoning together with independent international organisations such as the WHO, to hold those responsible to account and ensure the safety of all students;
 4. Condemns in the strongest terms the brutal, intentional and disproportionate use of force by the Iranian security forces against peaceful protestors and their executions; urges the Iranian government to cease these immediately;
 5. Denounces in the strongest terms the Iranian regime’s targeted sexual violence against women and girls, including in prisons;
 6. Welcomes the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Iran, mandated by the UNHRC; calls for the investigation into the poisoning of schoolgirls to be added to the mission’s

mandate; urges Iranian regime to provide unimpeded access to the mission;

7. Calls on the VP/HR and the Council to implement and expand all EU restrictive measures, including those under its Human Rights Sanctions regime; against all Iranian entities and individuals responsible for human rights violations and violence against women and girls;
8. Reiterates its call on the Commission and Member States to increase technical and capacity support to Iranian civil society, including avenues to safe internet access;
9. Calls on the EU and Member States to facilitate the issuance of visas and asylum as well as emergency grants under the NDICI for those that need to leave the country, in particular women and girls; calls on the EU and Member States to expand opportunities for Iranian students and academics to study and work in the EU, including scholarships;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, and the Government and Parliament of Iran;