



Plenary sitting

B9-0477/2023

21.11.2023

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 latest attacks against women, women's rights defenders in Iran, and its arbitrary detention of EU nationals
(2023/2979(RSP))

Cornelia Ernst

on behalf of The Left Group

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on latest attacks against women, women's rights defenders in Iran, and its arbitrary detention of EU nationals (2023/2979(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. Whereas women and girls in Iran are subjected to gender apartheid; whereas the Parliament recently passed the Chastity and Hijab Bill, which imposes severe punishments for non-compliance with the discriminatory dress code;
- B. Whereas, since July 2023, morality police have been redeployed to monitor the dress code; whereas women and girls defying veiling laws have experienced intensified oppression, including harassment, violent attacks, cruel judicial sentences, along with denial of access to employment, education and healthcare; whereas in October, an alleged assault by a veiling law enforcer caused the death of 16-year-old Armita Geravand;
- C. Whereas nationwide protests following the death in custody of 22-year-old Jina Mahsa Amini have been brutally repressed, claiming the lives of over 500 protesters; whereas women's rights defenders continue to face significant security risks;
- 1. Expresses its unwavering support for the women and girls of Iran; admires their courage and the powerful display of resistance against Iran's sustained repression and intensified assault on their rights;
- 2. Condemns in the strongest terms the deaths of Jina Mahsa Amini and Armita Geravand and the killings, repression and arbitrary detentions of women's rights defenders together with the human rights abuses against women and girls defying veiling laws; criticises the lack of any impartial and effective investigation into these abuses;
- 3. Calls on Iranian authorities to ensure, in law and in practice, a safe and peaceful environment for women's rights defenders and to immediately and unconditionally release all those imprisoned for defying compulsory veiling and for defending women's rights, including Narsin Sotoudeh, and Narges Mohammadi, and to immediately provide them with full access to medical treatment and health care services;
- 4. Calls on the UN fact-finding mission in Iran to conduct independent investigations into all deaths in the context of veiling laws and women's rights protests;
- 5. Calls on the Iranian authorities to immediately repeal existing gender discriminatory laws, notably regulations imposing and controlling dress codes, and to criminalise all forms of violence against women and girls, including forced marriages and female genital mutilation;
- 6. Calls on Iranian authorities to ensure women's and girls' human rights, including their

rights to life, a life free of violence and discrimination, to participation in public and political life and to access social, educational and health services;

7. Is highly concerned by the Iranian trend to arbitrarily arrest foreign and dual nationals for leverage, including EU nationals; demands their immediate and unconditional release; reiterates its call on the Iranian authorities to withdraw the death sentence against Dr Djalali, and to allow him to return to Sweden; calls on the Iranian authorities to abolish the death penalty, to ensure the rights of all defendants to a fair trial, and to respect the rights to freedom of expression, opinion, association and peaceful assembly;
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the authorities of Iran, the EU Member States, the Council, the Commission, the VP/HR, the EEAS and the UN.