

**Question for written answer E-000369/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Prisoner safety in Iran following protests over the death of Mahsa Amini

The death of Mahsa Amini has sparked a wave of riots with Iranians rising up against the Islamic Republic and its repressive policies that undermine human rights, particularly women's rights. The Iranian regime has arbitrarily detained tens of thousands of demonstrators in an attempt to quell the protests and stifle dissent¹². Human rights organisations report that the detainees are being tortured and held in isolation without recourse to a defence. The death sentences handed down to demonstrators are particularly disturbing, as in the case of Mehdi Bahman, a writer arrested on charges of espionage for having criticised the Iranian regime on Israeli television. Bahman is just one of many activists sentenced to death.

1. In addition to the sanctions adopted by the Council during the past three months, does the Commission plan to propose to the Council the adoption of more restrictive measures? If so, would this include a proposal to designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organisation?
2. Will further negotiations on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action be conditional upon the evolution of the critical human rights situation in Iran?

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¹ <https://www.bbc.com/news/av/63132235>.

² <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/sep/18/mahsa-amini-dozens-injured-in-iran-protests-after-death-in-custody>.