

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENT

21 March 2023 Index number: MDE 13/6566/2023

IRAN: UN EXPERT'S REPORT TO HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL PROVIDES FURTHER EVIDENCE OF WIDESPREAD VIOLATIONS IN IRAN

Amnesty International welcomes the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at the 52nd session of the UN Human Rights Council.¹ The organization further welcomes that the draft resolution on Iran at this session goes beyond a technical renewal of the mandate, and urges the Human Rights Council to adopt this resolution by consensus.

Amnesty International also fully endorses the Special Rapporteur's conclusion that the scale and gravity of violations in the context of the crackdown on protests that began six months ago rises to "the possible commission of crimes under international law, including the crimes against humanity of murder, imprisonment, enforced disappearance, torture, rape and sexual violence, and persecution".²

In their attempt to crush the uprising, the Iranian authorities have unlawfully killed hundreds, including at least 44 children, and carried out mass arbitrary detentions. Child protesters as young as 12, as well as adult men and women, have been forcibly disappeared and tortured, including through beatings, flogging, electric shocks, death threats, rape and other sexual violence.

The authorities have intensified their use of the death penalty as a tool of political repression, particularly against ethnic minorities and protesters. More than a dozen people risk execution following sham trials and scores of others are under investigation or charged with crimes carrying the death penalty, all in relation to protests.

The Iranian authorities have also introduced new regulations to further punish women and girls for defying abusive and discriminatory compulsory veiling laws by depriving them of their economic, social and cultural rights.

Amnesty International underscores the Special Rapporteur's recommendations that the international community support efforts to promote accountability for recent and long-standing violations carried out with impunity, including ongoing crimes against humanity arising from the 1988 prison massacres.³

¹ UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Report: *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Javaid Rehman*, 7 February 2023, UN Doc. A/HRC/52/67.

² UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Javaid Rehman* (previously cited), para. 75.

³ Amnesty International, *Iran: Blood-soaked secrets: Why Iran's 1988 prison massacres are ongoing crimes against humanity* (Index: MDE 13/9421/2018), 4 December 2018, [amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/9421/2018/en/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/9421/2018/en/).