Draft Resolutions

To be discussed at YES Bureau Meeting, 02-04/12/2022, Istanbul, Turkey

WOMEN. LIFE. FREEDOM. SOLIDARITY WITH IRANIAN AND KURDISH PROTESTORS SINCE THE ASSASSINATION OF MAHSA JINA AMINI

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Last September, in Tehran, Iran, Mahsa Jina Amini, a Kurdish woman, was detained by the so-called "morality police", the Iranian patrol that monitors compliance with the Islamic Republic of Iran's dress code, generally regarding the hijab. The reason for her arrest was that the hijab she was wearing did not completely cover her hair. At the time of the arrest, Amini, 22, was on the underground with her brother. In the two-hour's time with the Iranian patrol, she suffered a brain and heart attack due to a beating and a very acute state of anxiety, caused by the Iranian patrol. Shortly afterwards, Amini fell into a coma and was rushed to a nearby hospital, where she died two days later.

Mahsa Jina Amini, like so many other women around the world, was murdered by an Islamist regime based on hatred and oppression of women. A regime that forbids women's rights, subjecting them to a life of silence, inequality and no freedom to make their own decisions.

However, after this unjustified attack, just like cutting the hair, taking off and burning the hijab in public has become a symbol of resistance as a sign of self-determination and freedom for the protesters against the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we as Young Socialists stand behind the citizens of Iran, in particular young women and men as well as ethnic and religious minorities standing together fighting for a system change considering a free democratic society. The courageous protesters in Iran are breaking the one-dimensional patriarchal logic of the Islamic regime by breaking the chains of its subjugation. With this revolution, they are wrestling with archaic-religious dogma to bring their country to a new century of enlightenment free from the theocratic dictatorship.

If we look back, we find the social changes that Iran has gone through, which once was an example of progress in relation to its neighboring countries in 1979, when the Islamic Revolution took place. This process of social mobilization led to the overthrow of the Pahlavi Dynasty and the establishment of the Islamic Republic as we know it nowadays. That year marked a turning point in the way of life in Iran and, above all, in the rights of women, whose autonomy was curtailed and who were relegated to a new authoritarian and theocratic regime imposed by Ayatollah Khomeini. A regime in which fundamental human rights, especially of women and marginalised groups are systematically violated.



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The brutality of this authoritarian regime came to its worst the last month with the unjustified assassination of Mahsa Jina Amini, an event that has brought thousands of people onto the streets in protest. Iranian society is tired of abuses of power, and of police impunity for those who spread terror and injustice. There have already been more than 339 deaths according to the UN (52 of whom are children), and in most cases, relatives are not told where protesters who have been abducted and detained are being taken or whether they are even still alive.

Nevertheless, Social media are an important part of the protest movement. They are a means of both connecting the protesters and overcoming and correcting state propaganda that defames the protests as incursions by foreign powers. Internationally through videos, pictures and reports shared on social media that act as loudspeakers for the protest movement and raise awareness about the grievances in the Islamic Republic. In turn, expressions of solidarity from all over the world can also reach the protesters in Iran in this way. Control over the internet is central to the Iranian regime's control over the population and the controlled flow of information.

Thus, YES condemns:

- The violation of the right to freedom of press and information. This has resulted in the imprisonment of the journalist Nilufar Hamedi, as well as the other journalists imprisoned for reporting on the death of Amini and we demand their release.
- Any legislation that makes the veil or any other clothing compulsory, as it infringes on women's freedom.

And YES urges:

- The international community and the European Union to impose sanctions on the economic, political and military elites of Iran, which do not respect fundamental human rights, in order to end repression. In view of the situation in Iran, we consider the current communication of the EU to be too quiet. The protesters in Iran who are taking to the streets against the oppressive theocratic regime have our full solidarity. This solidarity must also be expressed in practice. Especially with regard to gender-specific violence and persecution in Iran, the EU cannot look the other way all member states of the Council of Europe are obliged to act by the Istanbul Convention. Also, to provide humanitarian aid: as being an example of full democracy, we have to reach out to those societies whose most fundamental rights, such as freedom and dignity as human beings, are threatened and often trampled upon.
- 2. Sanctions must be imposed onto members and supporters of the regime immediately and company assets frozen for European companies that continue to



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cooperate with Iran's regime or that are linked to the Iranian dictatorship. There must be no possibility for the Iranian regime to circumvent EU sanctions via foreign companies. The current situation in Iran requires resolutely more determination on the part of the EU member states government, as well as the European Union. Additionally, we call for the freezing of all assets belonging to the Iranian regime, the Revolutionary Guards and their organisations abroad.

- 3. We call on every EU member state to suspend deportations to Iran until further notice. Everyday life in the Islamic Republic of Iran is characterised by rules, prohibitions and surveillance - as well as repression and persecution in case of disregard. Due to the ongoing brutal violence and the disastrous human rights situation in Iran, deportations there are unacceptable. For that, We demand safe escape routes and simplified entry regulations for Iranian citizens as well as simplified access to residence permits for critics of the regime. The European countries must become a safe haven for people fleeing the theocratic regime or campaigning for democracy and human rights in Iran.
- 4. We call on global society as a whole, and especially young people, to play an active role in the fight against authoritarian regimes.