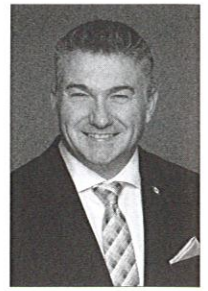




HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

21 August 2023



James Bezan

*Member of Parliament
Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman*

Charles Michel
Council of the European Union
Office of the President of the European Council
Rue de la Loi 175,
Brussels, B-1048, BE

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing to convey my strong opposition to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran's recent crackdown on the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI/MEK) and its members who are refugees.

As you know, on July 29th, 2023, the Iranian judiciary announced the issuance of an indictment against the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran, along with 104 of its members. The individually named subjects of the indictment are refugees in European countries including the residents of Ashraf 3 in Albania, who have spent the last four decades outside of Iran. The regime now intends to use these indictments to support their extradition back to Iran.

What we are witnessing is the brutal authoritarian regime in Tehran cracking down on a popular opposition to their government, both domestically and internationally, in a manner contrary to international law.

Canada is a stalwart champion of democracy, human rights, and the rule of law, and as a Canadian parliamentarian, I unequivocally oppose these indictments, and all subsequent extradition efforts.

I am therefore calling on you to undertake the following:

- Denounce and oppose the Iranian regimes indictment of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran and its 104 members.
- Prosecute those accountable for crimes against humanity within the Iranian regime in international courts.

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- Work to ensure the complete protection of Iranian political refugees in Europe including within Ashraf-3, by upholding their rights under the 1951 Geneva Convention, the European Convention on Human Rights, and international law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Bezan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

James Bezan, MP
Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman
Shadow Minister for National Defence

cc: Shahram Golestaneh, President of Iran Democratic Association