

Oral statement

35th special session of the Human Rights Council on the deteriorating situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

ECPM

24 November 2022



SITUATION OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE INCLUDING DEATH PENALTY IN IRAN

35th special session of the Human Rights Council on the deteriorating situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

24 NOVEMBER 2022 – GENEVA

Thank you Mr President,

ECPM, Iran Human Rights, and Impact Iran (a coalition of 16 NGOs including Abdorrahman Boroumand Center, Article 19, KMMK-G-, AHRAZ, All Human Rights for All in Iran, Baluch Campaign, Center for supporters of human rights, European Ahwazi Human Rights Organization, ECPM, Human Rights Activists in Iran, IHRNGO, IHRDC, KURDPA, Outright Action International, Rasank, Siamak Pourzand Foundation, United for Iran) **are alarmed by the systematic and grave violation of the right to life by Iranian authorities in the framework of the repression of current protests.**

Khodanoor Lejei, a 27-year-old Baluch man, who like many Baluchs was denied national ID documents, was shot on September 30 in Zahedan. Almost 100 others, including children, like 6-year-old Hasti Narouyi and 14-year-old Samer Hashemzahi, were killed by security forces in Zahedan that day.

These are just a few of at least 416 people, including 51 children, killed since Iranian citizens took to the streets for their fundamental human rights denied by the Islamic Republic.

Iran remains one of the top executioners in the world. More than 480 have already been executed this year. Iran's use of the death penalty systematically and gravely violates the right to life per Article 6 of the ICCPR. Since the beginning of the protests, thousands have been arrested- many facing charges punishable by death, after show trials by the Revolutionary Courts without due process.

There is a risk of mass-execution of protesters. Authorities, including the current President, have a history of committing serious and grave human rights violations. The UN has a responsibility to prevent such crimes from happening again and should establish an investigative mechanism to hold them accountable.