

OPEN LETTER TO THE NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT

Wellington Action Against Executions in Iran

Community Statement - Tuesday, 4 August 2026**11:00 AM - 12:00 PM****Outside the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran,
Wellington****12:30 PM - 1:30 PM****Outside the New Zealand Parliament, Wellington**

A call for urgent, cross-party action

We are members of the Iranian community in New Zealand - citizens, residents and families who call this country home. We ask New Zealand to use its public, diplomatic and parliamentary voice urgently to help prevent executions and protect people facing the death penalty in Iran.

On Tuesday, 4 August 2026, our community will gather peacefully in Wellington, first outside the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and then outside the New Zealand Parliament. We are gathering to call for concrete action against executions, political repression and grossly unfair proceedings.

The scale of the crisis is severe. Amnesty International recorded at least 2,159 executions in Iran during 2025, the highest annual figure it has recorded for the country since 1981. In late July 2026, Amnesty International reported the public execution of two protesters following the execution of at least three other protesters the previous week, and warned that at least 60 others remained at risk of execution, including three people arrested as children.

The United Nations Fact-Finding Mission has also called on Iranian authorities to halt the executions of 10 young men sentenced to death after participating in a protest in Isfahan. Separately, UN experts condemned death sentences imposed on 12 young men for their involvement in the January 2026 protests after a single hearing.

Our Wellington action is intended to ensure that people facing execution are not reduced to anonymous statistics. We will bring a community petition, documented case information and a clear set of requests directly to the attention of New Zealand's Government, Parliament, political parties and media.

International attention does not guarantee protection. However, publicly naming people at risk, raising their cases through diplomatic channels and maintaining international scrutiny can increase the political cost of carrying out executions and strengthen efforts to prevent them.

Preventing imminent executions must be treated as a cross-party human-rights matter, not a partisan one.

What we ask New Zealand to do

1

Publicly condemn the executions

Call on the Iranian authorities to immediately halt protest-related executions and establish a moratorium on the death penalty, with particular attention to protesters and people who were children at the time of the alleged offences.

2

Raise the named cases

Raise documented cases through every available diplomatic channel, with relevant United Nations mechanisms and in New Zealand's international human-rights advocacy.

3

Receive the community petition and case information

Meet representatives of the Iranian community, formally receive the petition and documented case information, and ensure that those cases are placed on New Zealand's governmental and parliamentary record.

4

Support international accountability

Support credible international efforts to document serious human-rights violations in Iran and hold those responsible for executions, torture and grossly unfair proceedings accountable.

A matter of human dignity

This is not a party-political request. Preventing imminent executions and defending fundamental human rights should command support across New Zealand's political spectrum.

New Zealand has a proud record of opposing the death penalty and speaking for human dignity and international law. At this critical moment, its voice should be clear, public and urgent.

STAND AGAINST EXECUTIONS. STAND WITH THE PEOPLE OF IRAN.

Issued by Iranian Gatherings New Zealand

For the Wellington Action Against Executions in Iran

irancnz.org

30 July 2026

Sources

1. Amnesty International, 18 May 2026, [Death Sentences and Executions 2025](#)
2. Amnesty International, 29 July 2026, [Iran: End escalating campaign of arbitrary executions and death sentences against protesters](#)
3. Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 23 July 2026, [Iran: UN Fact-Finding Mission urgently calls on Iran to immediately halt protest-related executions](#)
4. Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 27 July 2026, [UN experts urge Iran to quash death sentences of 12 protesters after a single hearing](#)