



## **PES Development Ministers Statement on Iran**

Brussels, Thursday 13 October 2022

It has been nearly over a month that the death of Jîna Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish woman, has sparked a wave of protest in Iran. Quickly, the young woman, who died in custody after having been arrested by the morality police in Tehran, became a symbol for the courageous fight for liberation and democracy in Iran.

Since then, Iranian women have stood up against the repressing authoritarian regime. What started as a protest against the state's oppression through the Islamic Sharia law and the morality police, evolved to a fight for self-determination, freedom and democracy. In addition, the brave women in Tehran have been joined by many, all over the country and quickly also around the world. Across Europe and the entire world, thousands of people came together last weekend to show their support and encourage the Iranian women to continue their fight.

The PSE family stands in unconditional solidarity with the courageous people in Iran.

As Europeans, we must do one thing above all: Openly show our support and come forward with concrete political initiatives. Therefore, at the insistence of the S&D group, there was a debate and a resolution in the European Parliament beginning of October that put forward concrete demands and tasks the Commission and Council to take action.

Also, we have to review our orientation towards Iran. The regime's structural oppression of women and sexual as well as religious minorities is unacceptable. That is why it is now even more important to support the women's rights and democracy movement in the country and around the world where we can!



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