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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(2.3.2026)

The EU has reacted swiftly, strongly and in a united fashion to this unprecedented violence. On 9 January 2026, on behalf of the EU27, the High Representative/Vice-President firmly condemned¹ the use of violence, arbitrary detention, and intimidation tactics by security forces, and expressed the solidarity with the Iranian people.

The Foreign Affairs Council on 29 January 2026 reached the political agreement² to list the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist organisation, sending a strong political message that there can be no impunity for the brutality which with peaceful demonstrations have been suppressed. The EU has also imposed new restrictive measures on several individuals and entities directly involved in the repression and the internet censoring, among them the Minister of Interior and several members of the IRGC. With those listings, more than 290 individuals and entities directly involved in human right violations in Iran are now listed under the dedicated Iran human rights regime.

The Council also imposed restrictive measures on four persons and six entities under the EU sanctions regime related to Iran's military supports to Russia's war of aggression, with a specific focus on the Iranian state-sponsored programme for the development and production of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

The EU is ready to continue to send strong and clear messages to Iran, including, if necessary, through additional targeted sanctions. There will be zero tolerance for abuses and violations of human rights by the Iranian authorities. At the same time, open channels with Iran should also remain part of the toolbox, to safeguard critical EU interests.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/01/09/iran-statement-by-the-hr-on-behalf-of-the-eu-on-the-situation-in-the-country/>.

² <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2026/01/29/>.