

(English version)

Question for written answer E-000084/26
to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Yvan Verougstraete (Renew)
(13 January 2026)

Subject: Iran — EU position as regards common foreign and security policy

Given the ongoing massacres in Iran and the violent repression of unarmed civilians by the authorities, the Vice-President/High Representative is invited to clarify how she intends to position the EU as regards common foreign and security policy. Reports of hundreds of deaths, of the use of live ammunition against protestors and of the lowering of a digital iron curtain point to serious and repeated violations of fundamental rights.

1. What concrete initiatives does the EU intend to take to unambiguously condemn the massacres and demand an immediate end to the crackdown by the Iranian authorities?
2. Is the Vice-President/High Representative prepared to request or actively support the urgent convening of the UN Security Council to allow for a formal examination of the situation in Iran and for those responsible for the crimes to be held accountable?
3. How can the EU assist with restoring communication, ensuring free access to information and freeing the Iranian population from digital isolation?

Submitted: 13.1.2026

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(13 April 2026)

The EU has reacted swiftly, strongly and in a united fashion to the unprecedented violence used by the Iranian authorities to suppress protests in the country.

On 9 January 2026, in a statement on behalf of the EU ⁽¹⁾, the High Representative/Vice-President firmly condemned the use of violence, arbitrary detention and intimidation tactics by security forces, and expressed solidarity with the Iranian people in their legitimate aspirations for a better life, freedom and dignity.

On 19 February 2026, the Foreign Affairs Council finalised the designation of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist organisation ⁽²⁾.

On 29 January and 16 March 2026, the Council also imposed new restrictive measures on several individuals and entities directly involved in the repression and the Internet censoring, including those responsible for Internet shutdowns, disruption of connectivity and online censorship, among them the Minister of Interior, the Deputy Minister of Interior ⁽³⁾ and several members of the IRGC.

The EU has fully supported the holding of a Special Session of the UN Human Rights Council on 23 January 2026, with a strong statement condemning the repression and supporting accountability mechanisms, including the work of the UN's fact-finding mission and of the Special Rapporteur for human rights in Iran.

The EU remains fully engaged in supporting the protection of fundamental and civic freedoms in Iran, including through support to civil society organisations (CSOs.)

The EU is also closely monitoring the restrictions on connectivity and online services, including disruptions, throttling and filtering. The EU continues to support efforts to preserve access to information and secure communication for all the Iranian population.

⁽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/press/press-releases/2026/02/19/eu-terrorist-list-council-designates-the-islamic-revolutionary-guard-corps-as-a-terrorist-organisation/>.

⁽³⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/01/29/iran-council-adopts-new-sanctions-over-serious-human-rights-violations-and-iran-s-continued-support-to-russia-s-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine/> and <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/03/16/iran-council-sanctions-an-additional-16-persons-and-three-entities-over-serious-human-rights-violations/>.