

EN

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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(24.4.2026)

The EU is aware of the referred statement attributed to the Chief Justice of Iran, which however has never been communicated via official channels.

The EU has a comprehensive policy approach towards Iran and uses all tools at its disposal, including sanctions, to defend its citizens and interests. On 16 March 2026, the Council adopted new restrictive measures against 16 individuals and three entities responsible for serious human rights violations, including prominent figures such as the Deputy Minister of Interior and Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Commanders<sup>1</sup>. In addition, on 19 February 2026, the Council finalised the listing of the IRGC as a terrorist organisation<sup>2</sup>.

The regulation and supervision of non-governmental organisations operating on the territory of Member States fall primarily within the competence of the Member States, in accordance with national law and applicable EU law.

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<sup>1</sup> <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/>.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 344, 28.12.2001, p. 93, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/compos/2001/931/oj>.