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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(3.3.2026)

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, on behalf of the EU27, High Representative/Vice President (HR/VP) firmly condemned¹ the use of violence, arbitrary detention, and intimidation tactics by security forces, and expressed the solidarity with the Iranian people. The EU stressed that the nationwide communications blackout imposed by the Iranian authorities is unacceptable. The HR/VP condemned the brutal repression against protesters in Iran again on 22 January 2026². The EU follows closely developments and has urged Iranian authorities to restore all communications, including full access to the internet, and to ensure the right of access to information.

The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) on 29 January 2026 reached the political agreement to list the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corp (IRGC) as a terrorist organisation³, sending a strong political message that there can be no impunity for the brutality which with peaceful demonstrations have been suppressed. The EU has 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. More than 290 individuals and entities directly involved in human right violations in Iran are now listed under the dedicated Iran human rights regime.

In addition, during the FAC, the Commission raised the point on continuing support to civil society organisations, and the importance of coordinated Member State action. Civil society remains key to supporting Iranians in their bid to live a life of dignity under good governance.

The EU has supported the holding of a Human Right Council Special Session, with a strong statement condemning the repression and supporting accountability mechanisms, including the work of the UN Fact Finding Mission and the Special Rapporteur for human rights in Iran.

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.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/ep-plenary-opening-statement-eu-hrvp-brutal-repression-against-protesters-iran_en.

³ <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/>.