



## **Joint Statement by Nobel Laureates Addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on Human Rights Violations in Iran**

June 2026

Your Excellency Mr. Secretary-General,

We, the undersigned Nobel Laureates, with profound respect for the history, civilization, and rich culture of the people of Iran, wish to express our deep and urgent concern regarding the widespread, systematic, and ongoing violations of human rights in Iran.

Human rights are universal and inalienable. The right to life, freedom of expression, freedom of thought, freedom of assembly, the right to a fair trial, and freedom from torture are among the most fundamental principles of human dignity. Yet for decades, the people of Iran have been deprived of these most basic rights.

We are deeply alarmed by reports that the ruling theocracy in Iran has initiated a new wave of executions targeting dozens of political prisoners. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, tens of detainees have been executed since the onset of these events, including individuals accused of participating in the January 2026 protests, engaging in political activities, or affiliating with opposition, the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI/MEK). According to the same source, more than 4,000 individuals have also been arrested during this period on security-related grounds.

These developments are unfolding amid numerous reports and estimates indicating a devastatingly high number of deaths during the suppression of the January protests. Some sources speak of "several thousand" victims — a scale of tragedy to which even certain Iranian officials have alluded.

We, the undersigned, therefore, call for:

- **The immediate halt of executions, particularly in cases of a political nature.**
- **The release of political prisoners and detained protesters.**
- **Unrestricted access for international monitoring mechanisms to detention centers and independent oversight of detainees' conditions.**
- **We further urge democratic governments and institutions to reassess their relations with**

**Iran and to make the abolition of the death penalty a fundamental benchmark in all diplomatic engagement.**

International silence serves as a green light for repression; and with every passing day that this silence endures, another noose is tightened around another human life.

**On June 20, 2026 — commemorated as the Day of Martyrs and Political Prisoners — more than one hundred thousand Iranians and supporters of Free Iran will gather in Paris to raise a voice that cannot be ignored by the world: a call to save the lives of political prisoners facing execution. What will be proclaimed in Paris is precisely the message this statement seeks to convey.**

We believe that the achievement of democracy in Iran must come without war, without foreign military intervention, and without any return to dictatorship — whether under the guise of monarchy or religious absolutism. The future of Iran must be determined solely by the people of Iran through their free and sovereign will.

In this context, the plan presented by the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) for the establishment of a temporary transitional government and the transfer of sovereignty to the people — as articulated in Mrs. Maryam Rajavi's Ten-Point Plan — which has been supported by many of us before, offers a clear and democratic vision for Iran's peaceful transition toward freedom and popular sovereignty.

### **Signatories:**

1. **President Jose Ramos-Horta, Nobel Prize, Peace 1996, Timor-Leste. President of Timor-Leste Since 2022**
2. **Professor Pierre Agostini, Nobel Prize, Physics 2023, France**
3. **Professor Harvey J Alter, Nobel Prize, Medicine 2020, USA**
4. **Professor Victor Ambros, Nobel Prize, Medicine 2024, USA**
5. **Honorable Oscar Arias, Nobel Prize, peace, 1987, President of Costa Rica 2006-2010, Costa Rica**
6. **Professor Alain Aspect, Nobel Prize, Physics 2022, France**
7. **Professor Robert Aumann, Nobel Prize, Economics 2005, USA-Israel**
8. **Professor Barry C Barish, Nobel prize, Physics 2017, USA**
9. **Professor Mounji Bawendi, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2023, USA-Tunisia-France**
10. **Professor Georg Bednorz, Noble prize, Physics 1987, Germany**
11. **Mr. Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo, Nobel Prize, Peace 1996, East Timor**
12. **Professor Mario Capecchi, Nobel Prize, Medicine 2007, Italy-USA**
13. **Professor Thomas Cech, Nobel Prize, Chemistry 1989, USA**
14. **Professor Aaron Ciechanover, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2004, Israel**
15. **Professor Steven Chu, Nobel prize, Physics 1997, USA**
16. **Professor Elias Corey, Nobel prize, Chemistry 1990, USA**
17. **Professor Johann Deisenhofer, Nobel prize, Chemistry 1988, USA**
18. **Professor Gerhard Ertl, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2007, Germany**

19. Mr. Adolfo Perez Esquivel, Nobel prize, Peace 1980, Argentine
20. Professor Jerome Friedman, Nobel prize, Physics 1990, USA
21. Professor Reinhard Genzel, Nobel prize, Physics 2020, Germany
22. Professor Sheldon Glashow, Nobel prize, Physics 1979, USA
23. Professor John Lewis Hall, Nobel prize, Physics 2005, USA
24. Professor Peter Handke, Nobel prize, Literature 2019, Austria
25. Professor Oliver Hart, Nobel prize, Economics 2016, USA
26. Professor Alan Heeger, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2000, USA
27. Professor Richard Henderson, Nobel prize, Chemistry, 2017, UK
28. Professor Avram Hershko, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2004, Israel-Hungary
29. Professor Geoffrey Hinton, Nobel prize, Physics 2024, Canada
30. Professor Jules Hoffmann, Nobel prize, Medicine 2011, France
31. Professor Bengt Holmstrom, Nobel Prize, Economics 2016, Finland
32. Professor Gerardus 't Hooft, Nobel prize, Physics 1999, the Netherlands
33. Professor Sir Michael Houghton, Nobel prize, Medicine 2020, UK
34. Professor Robert Huber, Nobel prize, Chemistry 1988, Germany
35. Dr. Tim Hunt, Nobel Prize, Medicine 2001, UK
36. Professor Louis Ignarro, Nobel prize, Medicine 1998, USA
37. Sir Kazuo Ishiguro, Nobel Prize, Literature 2017, UK
38. Ms. Elfriede Jelinek, Noble prize, Literature 2004, Austria
39. Professor Brian Josephson, Nobel prize, Physics 1973, UK
40. Professor Takaaki Kajita, Nobel Prize, Physics 2015, Japan
41. Professor Brian Kobilka, Nobel Prize, Chemistry 2012, USA
42. Professor Roger D. Kornberg, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2006, USA
43. Professor Ference Krausz, Nobel prize, Physics 2023, Austria-Hungary
44. Professor Robert Lefkowitz, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2012, USA
45. Professor Jean-Marie Lehn, Nobel prize, Chemistry, 1988, France
46. Professor John Mather, Nobel Prize, Physics 2006, USA
47. Ms. Oleksandra Matvichuk, Nobel prize, Peace 2022, Ukraine
48. Professor Michel Mayor, Nobel prize, Physics 2019, Switzerland
49. Professor Craig Mello, Nobel Prize, Medicine 2006, USA
50. Professor Hartmut Michel, Nobel prize, Chemistry 1988, Germany
51. Professor Patrick Modiano, Nobel prize, Literature 2014, France
52. Professor Paul Modrich, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2015, USA
53. Professor Edvard Moser, Nobel Prize, Medicine 2014, Norway
54. Professor May-Britt Moser, Nobel Prize, Medicine 2014, Norway
55. Ms. Herta Muller, Nobel Prize, Literature 2009, Germany
56. Professor Konstantin Novoselov, Nobel prize, Physics 2010, Russia-UK
57. Professor William Phillips, Nobel prize, Physics 1997, USA
58. Professor John Polanyi, Nobel Prize, Chemistry 1986, Canada
59. Professor Sir Peter Ratcliffe, Nobel Prize, Medicine 2019, UK

60. Professor Charles M. Rice, Nobel prize, Medicine 2020, USA
61. Professor Sir Richard J. Roberts, Nobel prize, Medicine 1993, UK-USA
62. Professor Shimon Sakaguchi, Nobel prize, Medicine 2025, Japan
63. Professor Jean-Pierre Sauvage, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2016, France
64. Professor Richard Schrock, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2005, USA
65. Professor Gregg Semenza, Nobel prize, Medicine 2019, USA
66. Professor Danny Shechtman, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2011, Israel
67. Professor Vernon Smith, Nobel prize, Economics, 2002, USA
68. Professor Wole Soyinka, Nobel prize, Literature 1986, Nigeria
69. Professor Jack Szostak, Nobel prize, Medicine 2009, USA
70. Professor Joseph H. Taylor, Nobel prize, Physics 1993, US
71. Professor Olga Tokarczuk, Nobel Prize, Literature 2018, Poland
72. Professor Sir John Walker, Nobel prize, Chemistry 1998, UK
73. Professor Arieh Warshel, Nobel prize, Chemistry 2013, USA-Israel
74. Professor Eric Wieschaus, Nobel prize, Medicine, 1995, USA
75. Professor Torsten Wiesel, Nobel prize, Medicine 1981, Sweden
76. Ms. Jody Williams, Nobel prize, Peace 1996, USA
77. Professor Robert Wilson, Nobel prize, Physics 1978, USA
78. Professor David J. Wineland, Nobel prize, Physics 2012, USA