

Statement No. 33: A Call for the Immediate Cessation of Military Attacks and Support for the People of Iran in Their Pursuit of Liberation and Democracy

To: The International Community, the United Nations, the Human Rights Council, and All Responsible International Bodies

We, a collective of civil society actors, political activists, and representatives of the Iranian people's voice, find it imperative to speak out at this critical juncture in our nation's history. For decades, the people of Iran have lived under the grip of a regime whose legitimacy stems not from the will of the people but from systematic repression, censorship, and violence.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, as a governing apparatus divorced from the genuine will of the nation, has for years pursued destabilizing policies in the region. These actions have dragged the country into chronic tensions and now to the brink of full-scale war—one that bears no relation to the will or interests of the Iranian or Israeli people.

We unequivocally and on humanitarian and pro-democracy grounds condemn the military strikes by Israel on Iranian soil. These attacks cannot be justified as a legitimate response to the Islamic Republic. Evidence, including unofficial reports and civilian testimony, suggests that the operations have far exceeded declared military objectives, resulting in the destruction of civilian infrastructure, the deaths of innocent people, and the devastation of Iran's national assets. It is equally clear that the Islamic Republic has, in response, endangered Israeli civilians—yet again placing innocent people on both sides in harm's way.

Calling for an immediate end to this war must not be misconstrued as support for the Islamic Republic. Quite the contrary: the people of Iran have, time and again, called unmistakably for the end of this regime. However, foreign military action does not hasten that end. On the contrary, it weakens the internal civic capacity of Iranians to organize, resist, and reclaim their country through democratic means. It risks replacing one form of dictatorship with another.

We firmly believe that liberty and democracy must arise from the will of the people—not from military intervention or foreign imposition. Any viable path to Iran's future must emerge from within the country, through the agency and participation of its citizens. Military attacks imperil that path and threaten to destroy what fragile hope remains.

We further caution that continued conflict risks igniting a broader regional war, one that would claim civilian lives on all sides and further destabilize the Middle East.

We call upon the international community to:

- 1. Take immediate and concrete steps to halt military operations on Iranian territory.
- 2. Distinguish clearly between the people of Iran and the repressive Islamic Republic regime.
- 3. Support the Iranian people in their peaceful transition to democracy—without military intervention.
- 4. Prevent further violations of human rights, civilian casualties, and destruction of national infrastructure.

With hope for a more just, free, and humane world.

Freedom for Iran Solidarity Council

June 22nd, 2025