

1000 ASHRAF
PARIS 2018



FREE IRAN

THE ALTERNATIVE

A Special Report Prepared by The Washington Times Special Sections Department

National Council of Resistance of Iran Paris gathering shows dissident group's growing clout

By THE WASHINGTON TIMES

PARIS — Iran's largest dissident group is getting a fresh burst of support in its decadeslong push for regime change, as pressure builds on the Islamic regime in Tehran from the inside as well as the outside.

A large, boisterous rally here over the weekend was led by the largest opposition organization in Iran of exiles, the National Council of Resistance of Iran, a well-connected group that has found new prominence and influence in the strongly anti-Iran Trump administration.

The pressure in Iran has been mounting in the weeks since the U.S. pulled out of the 2015 nuclear deal. President Trump announced a tightening of oil and other economic sanctions, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo unveiled a string of demands to increase the pressure on Tehran, and advocates of regime change such as National Security Adviser John R. Bolton were brought into the administration's inner circle.

Saturday's rally also was held amid a string of large street protests in Iran over the country's faltering economy, including traders in the conservative Grand Bazaar in Tehran incensed over a plunge in the value of the currency and persistent workers strikes.

Many in Paris insisted that the Iranian regime is at its weakest point in decades.

In one measure of the NCRI's growing clout, some three dozen current and previous officials from the U.S., Europe and Middle East attended the gathering. One of the most prominent U.S. notables was Rudolph W. Giuliani, now the personal attorney for President Trump and a veteran of many NCRI events.

Mr. Giuliani made a strong call to ramp up sanctions as the protests in recent months have spread to more than 140 cities.

"When they do that, and when these protests continue to grow and grow, this threatens to topple the regime, which means freedom is right around the corner," he said. "This is the time to put on the real pressure. The sanctions will become greater and greater."

Red and green confetti rained on the crowd, which organizers estimated to be 100,000, right before NCRI leader Maryam Rajavi spoke.



SARAH WACHTER/SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON TIMES

JUBILANT: The National Council of Resistance of Iran, which has found new prominence in the Trump administration, rallied in Paris.

The stage became a waving sea of red tulips in homage to the 30,000 MEK members, an NCRI faction, who were executed by the Iranian regime in 1981, still a searing memory in the MEK's checkered and tragic history.

The floral tribute was a nod to an Iranian folk song about red tulips rising from the blood of martyrs.

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, a Republican, urged European nations that have balked at Mr. Trump's tough line against Iran to get on board to tighten the economic vise.

"We need to insist that [European governments] join the sanctions once again," Mr. Gingrich said at the rally.

The NCRI backed the ouster of the Shah of Iran with other revolutionary groups in 1979 but clashed with the Islamist forces led by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini afterward. After losing a vicious power struggle, NCRI leaders now say they renounce violence.

On stage at the rally were photos of "ashrafs," or cells of resistance in Iran. Covert activists inside Iran appeared with their faces covered because many face arrest and imprisonment from a regime that views the group as one of the prime

challenges to its authority.

.... Many consider the group to be the only credible and organized opposition force outside of Iran, with extensive contacts inside the country. The NCRI has pursued its objective of regime change with discipline and laserlike focus.

Emblazoned along the stage was a giant banner, in English and Farsi for the #RegimeChangeIran, a hashtag that emerged right after Mr. Pompeo last month laid out a long list of conditions and concessions Iran would have to meet to escape future U.S. pressure.

Former Sen. Robert Torricelli, New Jersey Democrat, speaking to The Washington Times on the sidelines of the huge Paris gathering, praised the NCRI's organizational strength and persistence.

"It's their intensity, it's their strength, it's their willingness to sacrifice, and it's the appeal of their messaging," he said.

Ms. Rajavi inspired intense fealty from her large cohort of followers.... On Saturday, clad in her customary turquoise blue hijab and suit, she reiterated the NCRI's plan for freedom and democracy in Iran, which includes separation of church and state, gender equality and freedom of expression

in an Iran free of nuclear weapons.

After Ms. Rajavi spoke, the people in the crowd, wearing yellow vests to symbolize the sun in the Iranian crest, stood up to show the sign on their backs, which read, "Every moment for the uprising."

The strong showing of dignitaries from leading Western countries included former French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner and Stephen Harper, a former prime minister of Canada.

Among the U.S. officials present were Bill Richardson, a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations; former FBI Director Louis J. Freeh; and former Attorney General Michael Mukasey.

Donya Jam, a 23-year-old graduate student studying human rights and European history at George Mason University, took time off from her studies to help plan the rally.

A Christian whose parents fled Iran because of religious persecution, she has never visited Iran. "I will not step foot in Iran until it is free," she said.

This excerpt is from a Washington Times staff-written news article that first published on June 30, 2018.

COVER PHOTO: TME

‘A brave woman’ will be the face of a liberated Iran

Rudy Giuliani

We are now, I believe, very realistic in being able to see an end of the regime in Iran... We’ve lived through this before in other oppressed countries — when the people take to the streets, and they protest day after day like they’ve done in over 142 cities in Iran, like they did the other day in Tehran ... when that happens, then freedom is right around the corner.

I say to those countries that continue to support Iran, to those countries that do business with Iran, “You are paying for a regime that deprives women of their rights, that deprives children of their rights, and that murders people because they practice a different religion. How can you do that? How much better are you than the terrorists when you are giving them money and propping up this regime?”

We all know that the economy of Iran is in freefall. It’s evaporating. That’s terrible for the people of Iran, for your brothers and sisters and your relatives and friends. But I believe it’s a price that they’re more than willing to pay, like our martyrs were willing to pay with their blood. That’s what happened to the French Revolution. And that’s what’s happening right now in your homeland.

We saw a picture of a man that held up a sign and said he was willing to sell his kidney for \$500. That’s a government on the verge of toppling. Thank God,



PHOTO: TME

my president turned his back on that very dangerous nuclear agreement with Iran. He said, “No, we’re not going to do business with the biggest state sponsor of terrorism. We’re going to reimpose the sanctions.”

Well, maybe when the greatest economic power in the history of the world stops doing business with you, you have the kind of economic collapse that you now see in Iran — and that is going to get worse because I guarantee you the sanctions will become greater and greater and greater. This president does not intend to turn his back on freedom fighters.

Many times, a very bad government is

replaced by another bad government, and maybe it’s even worse. We’ve seen some of that in the Middle East with Egypt. However, here, we’re not replacing one government with a government we don’t know. You have an alternative. You’ve got an alternative that’s built on a solid foundation of 10 principles. Democracy, human rights, a non-nuclear Iran, separation of church and state, and the rights of women and of all minorities to be protected. My goodness, that sounds like a full-fledged democracy. That’s what the NCRI stands for. That’s what Madame Rajavi stands for, and that’s what your martyrs died for.

The era of appeasement is over. Those who practice appeasement are going to find themselves shamed in world history.

What have you accomplished? What have you accomplished with a tremendous pressure put on you? Since I’ve been working with you and all of my colleagues from the United States, we fought a worldwide battle to shed the unfair label of terrorism in the United States, the United Kingdom, the European Union. That label is now gone, and you’re seen as defenders of human rights because that’s what you are. And we won that battle.

You’ve been able to form resistance units all over Iran. Those protests are not happening accidentally. Those protests are happening because they’re being coordinated now, unlike in 2009. And what it says is we have an alternative.

Suppose the face of Iran was a brave woman in a country that recently has had a history ... of treating women inhumanely. And this brave woman will be the face of the new, modern, liberated Iran.

Will it happen? (YES!) When will it happen? (NOW!) And I want next year, at this time — I want us to have this convention in Tehran!

.....
Former New York City Mayor Rudolph “Rudy” W. Giuliani is personal attorney to President Donald J. Trump.

‘Only way to safety’ in region: Replace dictatorship with democracy

Newt Gingrich

The willingness of so many people to come from so many places is a major factor in the growing support that you see worldwide for freedom in Iran. And your presence here, each one of you, helps communicate and build that support. So let me start by saying thank you.

Let me also remind you how much the last two years have changed things. Two years ago, we had an American administration committed to weakness, to actually shipping cash to the dictatorship, to easing up on the sanctions, and to deluding itself about what the dictatorship would do. Today, you have an administration which understands reality, which is determined to stop the dictatorship, which is increasing the sanctions and which I predict will every single month get tougher and tougher because, in the end, the only way to safety in the region is to replace the dictatorship with democracy, and that has to be our goal.

We need to encourage the American government to tighten the sanctions

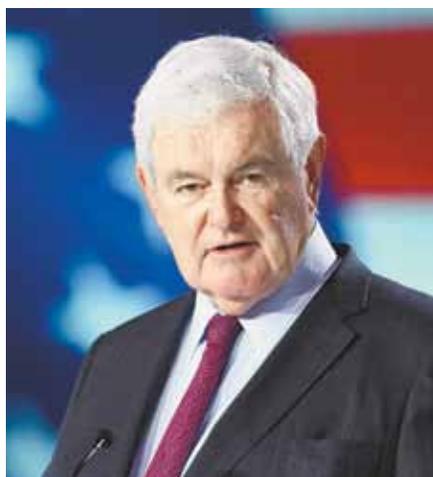


PHOTO: TME

even further. Our goal is very simple. It’s not to start negotiating. Our goal is to have a free democratic Iran that respects the rights of every individual.

Your slogan this year — Free Iran 2018 — is exactly the right slogan. Once these things start to break — as Mayor Giuliani said a while ago about the Soviet Union, the Soviet Union looked unbelievably

powerful, and then one day it disappeared. Well, the fact is that the Khomeini regime is much weaker than the Soviet Union ever was. The corruption at the top weakens the entire system. The rivalries in the government weaken the entire system. Their inability to provide prosperity, their inability to provide a decent way of life, their inability to even be honest — all of these are weakening.

And the work each of you is doing — I encourage you, not just the folks who’ve done a great job and it is always amazing to come here and see just the scale of production and to listen to Mrs. Rajavi’s speech and realize how much thought she has put into preparing for a description of where we need to go....

If you go back and look once again at the remarkable speech that Mrs. Rajavi gave, and you think about the years that she and all of her compatriots have put in, the risks they’ve run, the tragic, personal losses they have suffered, freedom will come. It has been paid for by the blood of patriots. It has been paid for by the sweat of patriots. It has been paid for

by those willing to stand up to the dictatorship. You are a key part of that.

I want you to know that all the Americans who were up here a few minutes ago are committed to communicating in our country that there is a movement, there is an opportunity for freedom, for democracy, for equal rights, and that movement is meeting right here today and it is vastly larger than any other movement trying to help Iran. And I believe this meeting, combined with what’s happening inside Iran, combined with the toughness of the Trump administration, gives us a genuine opportunity to really move much more dramatically, and to move in the right direction.

Let me just say in closing, I’m going to be an optimist. I look forward to the day that this meeting can be in Tehran, in a free country.

.....
Newt Gingrich is a former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

'You are the source of change in Iran'



PHOTO: TME

Bill Richardson

Are you ready for regime change in Iran? [applause] Are you ready for Madame Rajavi as president of Iran? (crowd chanting YES, YES, YES) Are you ready for the dictatorship to end?

You know, all you read about is water shortages, corruption, lack of free elections, executions, pensions disappearing, enormous political unrest. Do you know why? Because the end is near. And what you're seeing is enormous change.

Like many of my colleagues here — and you see in back of me

Democrats, Republicans, senators, generals, activists, political leaders from around America — I want you to know that as Senator Torricelli said, "America stands behind you."

And I see in the back leaders from around the world — legislators, prime ministers, leaders from almost every Western European, African nation, Asian nation behind you.

There are a lot of distinguished leaders here, but do you know what this event is about? This event is about you. You are the source of change in Iran. The young people, the women, the resistance, the youth, the young people here. And I want to

tell you a lot of people ask, "Is there an alternative to the mullahs, to the dictatorship?" And the answer is, "Yes, it's the resistance. It's the MEK. It's Mrs. Rajavi. But it's you."

And I say to you, "Why?" Because you're the ones that have fought against the Shah. You fought against the dictatorship, and against the religious dictatorship. You were there in the trenches, fighting and dying. And you represent a platform, a democratic platform of freedom and democracy. You stand for gender equality. You stand for the U.N. Charter of Human Rights. You stand for free and fair elections. You stand for the private sector. You stand for the end of Sharia law. You stand for democracy and young people having an opportunity for a future with jobs.

So I say to you here, as your friend, the power is with you. The power is with everyone in this room and each one of you represents thousands in Iran that are saying, "No dictatorship." The end is near. The end is near.

So are you for a free Iran? Will you vote for Mrs. Rajavi as President of Iran? (crowd chanting YES, YES, YES)

Ambassador Bill Richardson is a former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, U.S. Energy Secretary and Governor of New Mexico.

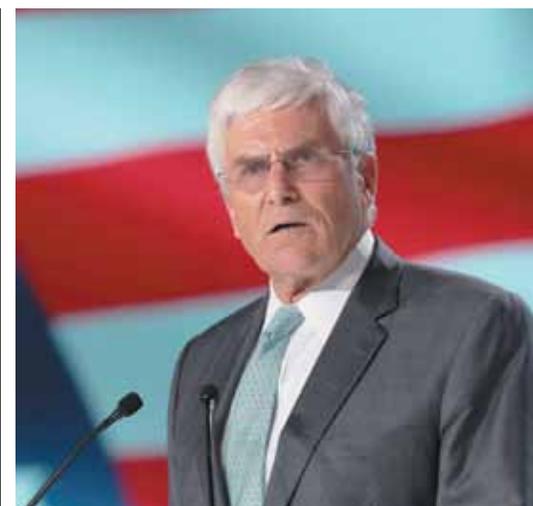


PHOTO: TME

'I can only come to one conclusion: Change'

Gen. George Casey

Our Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, was asked by a journalist, "What is the U.S. goal with respect to Iran?" And here's what he said: "Our goal is to push Iran to act like a normal country." He said, "Don't support terrorism, don't launch missiles into international airports, and don't be the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism.... We're asking them to do the things that normal nations in the international community should do." That sounds simple, doesn't it? Yet today, Iran, through its terrorists on the Quds Force, continues to support terrorism and destabilize not only its neighbors but the entire region, and that's not normal behavior. And I firmly believe that no government that actively imports and exports terror can be a productive player in the world today. Change must come to Iran.

And I said, direct experience here from our time in Iraq, many of us in the U.S. military have seen firsthand how Iran uses terrorism to accomplish its political objectives. And as coalition commander, I certainly saw that in Iraq when the regime used terrorism to sectarian violence and to frustrate the goals of the United States and Iraqis to establish a representative democracy.

They fostered sectarian violence by providing training and equipment to the Shia militia organizations. And I firmly believe that Iran bears responsibility because their training and equipping of the Iraqi militia groups was a major factor in sustaining the sectarian violence that swept Iraq in 2006 and 2007. And to me, that makes Iran directly responsible for the deaths of hundreds of coalition forces and thousands of Iraqis.

As I look back on that now — I say that was 12 years ago — and today, they are still destabilizing the region.

I can only come to one conclusion — that change must come to Iran before Iran can behave as a normal country.

Retired U.S. Army Gen. George Casey served as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army and Commander of the Multi-National Force in Iraq.

No stopping until Iran is 'peaceful and free'

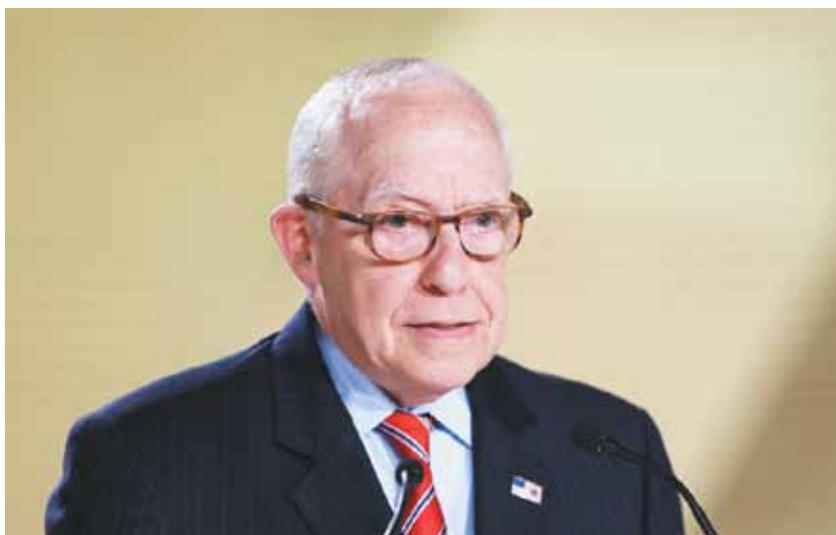


PHOTO: TME

Michael Mukasey

We have heard — and we will hear — that, finally, the stars seem to be aligned to accomplish what we all want to accomplish, which is the downfall of the mullahs' regime

...We hear that the economic rot in Tehran and the political rot in Tehran finally matches the moral rot that has always been at the core of the mullahs' regime.

And as we pause to thank Mrs. Rajavi, who has devoted decades of

her life to bringing this about, and the people who died, and the people who were mutilated to help bring it about, and the residents of Camp Ashraf who suffered tremendously, and the Albanians who welcomed them gallantly, we all are aware and you are aware and your presence here shows you're aware that there is nothing inevitable in human affairs.

We hope that the mullahs will topple, but it's going to take more effort. But you are here to show that that effort is going to be forthcoming. And I promise you, on my own behalf and on behalf of the others in the American delegation, that we know that — and that our efforts will not stop either, until the day comes when we can greet each other in a peaceful and free Iran. Thank you very much.

Former U.S. District Judge Michael Mukasey served as U.S. Attorney General under President George W. Bush.

International courts await Iran's criminals, oppressors

Louis Freeh

It's a warm day in Paris, it's a hotter day in Iran. But do you feel the winds of change blowing over Iran? And you, you are the people, your brothers and sisters in Albania and your brothers and sisters in Iran, who are blowing that wind with an ever-increasing force. When I was growing up, there was a song by Bob Dylan, and it said you don't have to be a weatherman to know which way the wind is blowing. Well, we don't have to be weathermen to know that the winds — the force of change — is not only irrevocable in Iran but it is blowing with increasing force to a logical conclusion.

Although things are changing around and under the regime, the regime's agenda of terrorism has not changed.... What has changed, however, is what's going on in the hearts and minds and on the streets and bazaars



PHOTO: TME

in Iran. What's going on? The value of the rial is dropping faster than the power of the regime.

I have two very brief messages. The

one message is to the freedom fighters in Iran. We support you, we're there for you, we can move. We are amazed at your courage and your bravery. We

can move satellites to help you communicate. We can shut down companies on secondary sanctions violations. We can't carry the fight as you have because you are the tip of the spear for liberty...

My second message, my concluding message, is to the oppressors in Iran, to the terrorist regime, to the criminals who are arresting, torturing, and murdering their citizens. This is not a hundred years ago. We have the ability, and will maintain the ability, to bring those criminals to justice.... The day will come when not only democratic change will be brought to Iran, but the criminals who have committed crimes against humanity will fill the criminal courts of the international community. They will be brought to justice.

.....
Former U.S. District Judge Louis J. Freeh served as FBI Director under President Bill Clinton.



PHOTO: TME

Iran's women are 'defying the mullahs'

Frances Townsend

I look out and I see all the amazing women here who are part of the movement, led by the very inspiring Mrs. Rajavi. History tells us that women have led this resistance. And at all levels of the NCRI, women have led this movement. And we see that continuing today in the streets of Tehran where women are refusing the mullahs' directive to wear the veil and, despite being hurt, they are taking off the veil.

They are defying the mullahs, and they continue to need your support to do that. Women will continue to lead this movement. And it is among the greatest threats to the current regime.

And for a moment, let me just say this to the young women. Mrs. Rajavi in her remarks spoke about the roses. The young women in the audience today, your mothers, your grandmothers have led this fight. You are the roses of the future that will lead us to a free Iran. I could not help but be inspired

by seeing the Ashraf 3 women on the screen today speak to us from there. To them, we say we are proud of your courage, we are inspired by your courage, and women will continue to lead the way and fight for you and fight for the women in Tehran.

.....
Frances Townsend was former Homeland Security Advisor to President George W. Bush.



PHOTO: TME

Coming soon: 80 million 'free Iranians'

Robert Torricelli

Following Rudy Giuliani and Newt Gingrich, let us make this fundamentally clear — on behalf of myself, Bill Richardson, and Patrick Kennedy, who has been delayed here today, we stand here as Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives. We may have our differences, but listening to my voice in Tehran, make no mistake — every one of us stands behind Donald Trump in seeing the destruction of the mullahs to the end!

So to the mullahs, let's make the situation clear — you are in the fighting

ring of history. We stand with the people of Ashraf. We stand with the MEK. We stand with the people in the streets of Iran fighting for freedom. You stand to defend your corruption, your oppression, the denial of freedom. One of us will win. One will lose. One will die, one will live, and I'm betting on us every day of the week. And if you think that our internal divisions mean that a Democratic Party one day will return to power to save you, you are betting on the wrong horse. We stand with President Trump in destroying the regime.

Finally, to those brave souls on the streets of the cities of Tehran, look to

Ashraf. Being an Iranian does not mean you have to be poor. It doesn't mean that your children cannot have a future. It doesn't mean that you have to live in oppression. Being Iranian still means you can be prosperous and free and happy and have a future for your children in your lives. There are free Iranians. There are 3,000 of them in Albania, and there's going to be 80 million of them soon.

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Robert Torricelli served as U.S. Senator from New Jersey for six years and U.S. Representative for New Jersey's 9th Congressional District for 14 years.

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR A FREE IRAN

‘Yours is a noble cause’



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Sen. Robert Menendez, New Jersey Democrat

Good afternoon, Salam, Dorood. I am pleased to have the opportunity to address the organization of Iranian American communities of the United States. Every day, you highlight the plight of Iranians who remain silent under an oppressive, brutal regime. And I share your vision for a brighter future for Iran. A future in which all Iranians live lives without fear and enjoy a government that incredibly represents the will of Iranian citizens, respects human rights and commits to abiding by the rule of law.

Around the region with Russia's support, Iranian leaders are seeking to

increase their footprint in Syria and Iraq, and we know that Hezbollah continues to sow discord around the region.

Across the region, Iran continues to threaten the national security and trust of the United States. It continues to pursue a belligerent, ballistic missiles program. It continues to align itself with Putin and it continues to supply weapons and technical know-how to the Houthis in Yemen. And Bashar al-Assad's brutal regime in Syria is totally depending on its lifeline from Tehran. And even as it continues to supply terrorists across the region with money, weapons and resources, the people of Iran suffer under a repressive regime with absolutely no respect for basic human rights and no economic investment in their welfare.

Your support was critical last year when I introduced the bipartisan Countering Iran's Destabilizing Activities Act of 2017. Our bill not only holds Iran accountable for its ongoing ballistic missiles development and continued support for terrorism, it expands the scope of human rights and arms embargo violations eligible for sanctions.

Thank you for coming together and making your voices heard. I will always support justice and human rights, peace and security and above all else, the rights of all Iranians to fundamental freedoms.

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Sen. Menendez is the Ranking Member on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Sen. John Boozman, Arkansas Republican

Thank you very much for asking me to speak at this event, and I apologize that I am unable to make the gathering in Paris, France, on June 30, 2018. As you know, I am an active member of the Iran Human Rights and Democracy Caucus, which aims to shed light on the efforts of the

Iranian people to bring change and democracy to their country.

I am disturbed by the rising number of human rights violations in Iran and the fact that the Iranian regime has been holding its own citizens at gunpoint. The U.S. remains committed to democracy, human rights, civil liberties, and the rule of law, and supports the Iranian people in their calls for a democratic government that respects these rights and freedoms. I also remain committed to preventing Iran from developing a nuclear weapons program and providing them to non-state actors. Yours is a noble cause and it is very important that we continue the dialogue on this matter. I hope it is a productive gathering, and I wish you all the best of luck.

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Sen. Boozman is Chairman of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Sen. David Perdue, Georgia Republican

Welcome to the 2018 International Convention for a Free Iran. You represent Iranian American communities across the entire country.

For years, you have worked to expose the Iranian regime's systemic human rights violations. This year, Iranians have

taken to the streets to protest their government on several occasions, including this week. Even as the regime tries to stifle their voices, you have relentlessly supported freedom for the people of Iran. The Iranian American community of Georgia has been a major part of that effort. Your commitment, hard work and support of this cause have not gone unnoticed.

My message to you today is simply I hear you and I appreciate so much all your efforts. Having served in the United States Foreign Relations Committee and now in the Armed Services Committee, I am committed to doing all I can to advance and defend basic freedoms in human rights for Iranians and others around the world. You have been a crucial part of this effort, and I know you will continue to be in the future. Again, thank you for all you do.

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Sen. Perdue is Chairman of the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry subcommittee on Nutrition, Agricultural Research, and Specialty Crops, and serves on the Senate Armed Services Committee.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Sen. Benjamin L. Cardin, Maryland Democrat

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all attending this year's free Iran convention held in Paris. The well-being of the Iranian people is a critical issue to me, and that is why I am pleased that this event exists to spread awareness and build support for change in Iran.

In the decades since the revolution of 1979, millions of Iranians have struggled under the weight of an oppressive and hard-line regime. While I am proud that the United States and

many others have continuously stood up for the freedom of the Iranian people, I know that there is still much we can do to demand change. Advocates such as you make it clear to all that the Iranian people have had enough and are eager for reform.

It is tragic that the people of your homeland have had to endure numerous abuses of fundamental human rights and freedoms in recent decades. Thanks to efforts such as yours, the challenges facing Iranians have been brought to international attention. I commend each of you for all you have done to strengthen ties among the regime's opposition and for all you have done to fight for a government that represents the interests of its people. Please know that I will always remain a friend of the Iranian people and be their champion in the U.S. Senate.

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Sen. Cardin is the Ranking Member on the Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee, and Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues.

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR A FREE IRAN

‘America stands in solidarity’ with a free Iran

Excerpts from video messages by Members of Congress



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Eliot Engel, New York Democrat

I stand with those in Iran who seek a more prosperous and peaceful future. The United States stands with you. I look forward to a day when the people of Iran have the greatest say in their own government, their laws and their future. And I look forward to one day walking in a free Iran.

Rep. Engel is the Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, California Democrat

Hello, it is my pleasure to send my warm regards to advocates and friends to a free Iran. This year, the world has watched men and women bravely stand up for their rights in peaceful protests across the country. Their courage and determination inspires all to recommit to our shared mission, to build a democratic, free and non-nuclear Iran. America stands in solidarity with every Iranian man and woman and child as they fight for the right to speak freely without fear of persecution.

House Minority Leader Pelosi represents the 12th Congressional District of California and has served in Congress since 1987.



PHOTO: TME



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, California Republican

Together we send this message to the people of Iran. As you take to the streets to protest the brutality and corruption of the mullah dictatorship, we are on your side. Freedom will prevail in Iran. The people struggling there have the support of people throughout the world... You are also making sure that institutions and plans are made and available so that when the mullah regime collapses, there will be an Alternative, where people with democratic ideals and a concept of freedom will be able to put these things in place to replace the mullah dictatorship.

Rep. Rohrabacher is Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Ted Poe, Texas Republican

For many years, MEK has been in the forefront of calling out this despicable regime. Madam Rajavi, you are a hero to many, including my daughters and my granddaughters, and I have always been proud to stand with you. The cause of freedom in Iran is just and righteous.

Rep. Poe is Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade.

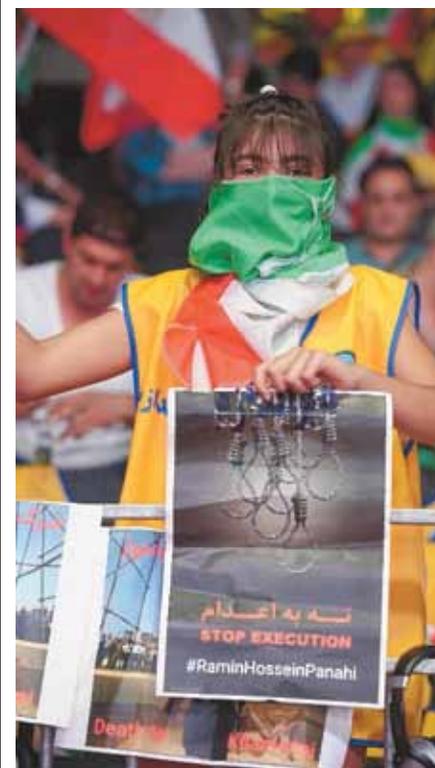


PHOTO: TME

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR A FREE IRAN

Democracy, equal rights ‘belong to all people’

Excerpts from video messages by Members of Congress



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Brad Sherman, California Democrat

We stand with solidarity with the brave Iranians fighting for this new chapter. Your fight is our fight... I want to commend Madam Rajavi for continuing her advocacy for democracy, women's rights and minority rights in Iran. Democracy and equality are not just principles we hold here, they are rights that belong to all people — and we hold these ideals by showing our support for the brave protesters in Tehran and Mashhad and across Iran.

Rep. Sherman is Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

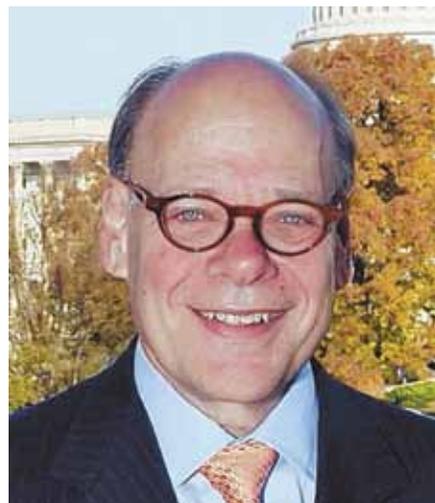


OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, Texas Democrat

I want to express my commitment and my support of a secular, democratic, non-nuclear Republic of Iran as addressed; and Mrs. Maryam Rajavi's 10-point plan. I believe that democratic change within Iran is within our reach. I believe under the leadership of Madam Maryam Rajavi, our friend, the leader of this great cause, who's been working to bring about a tolerant, non-nuclear Iranian republic based on the separation of religion and state and respect for human and dignity of all Iranians... I believe that freedom is coming.

Rep. Jackson Lee is the Ranking Member of the House Judiciary subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

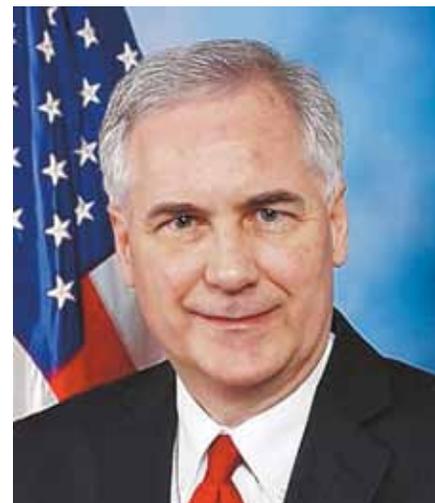


OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Steve Cohen, Tennessee Democrat

I strongly support a free Iran that is democratic, secular and non-nuclear. The Iranian people deserve a government that respects their fundamental rights and freedom, including freedom of speech and assembly, gender and religious equality... Your courage is an inspiration to me and all members of Congress, and I will stand with you and hopefully visit a free Iran.

Rep. Cohen is the Ranking Member on the House Judiciary subcommittee on The Constitution and Civil Justice.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Tom McClintock, California Republican

I strongly support the Iranian people's resistance and I stand behind President Trump's strong word of backing and encouragement... The Iranian people need more than our good wishes — and the time has come to act and the time has come to stand tall with the freedom movement of Iran.

Rep. McClintock is Chairman of the House Natural Resources subcommittee on Federal Lands.



PHOTO: TME



PHOTO: TME

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR A FREE IRAN

People of conscience everywhere stand with Iran's people

Excerpts from video messages by Members of Congress

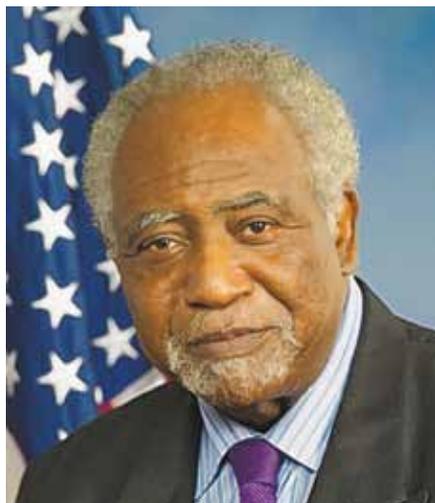


OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Judy Chu, California Democrat

From here in Washington, D.C., to all of you in Paris, I want you to know that I stand in solidarity with you in your fight for freedom, democracy and human rights in Iran... I am especially moved by the courage of Iranian women who are taking to the streets, even though it means putting themselves at risk. But they are not alone. The images of their struggle are being shared across the world, and people of conscience everywhere are standing with the people of Iran...

Rep. Chu serves on the House Committees on Ways and Means and Small Business.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Danny K. Davis, Illinois Democrat

I bring greetings to you to Maryam Rajavi and the people's movement for a free and democratic Iran... Fortunately, I was able to be with you in 2016, and I can tell you that the people of the 7th District of Illinois were also with you then and they are with you now. I leave you with the words of Frederick Douglass when he said if there is no struggle, there is no progress.

Rep. Davis is the Ranking Member of the House Ways and Means subcommittee on Human Resources.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Mike Coffman, Colorado Republican

The rallies you sponsor and host, like Free Iran Paris 2018, are a vital show of free speech of the despotic Iranian regime. I encourage you to continue to stand up for free speech, democracy and true political change in Iran... I look forward to working with you and supporting your efforts.

Rep. Coffman is Chairman of the House Armed Services subcommittee on Military Personnel.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Paul Gosar, Arizona Republican

As a U.S. Representative, I want to express heart-filled gratitude for your efforts to seek regime change in Iran... America supports you...

Rep. Gosar is Chairman of the House Natural Resources subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.



PHOTO: TME



PHOTO: TME

Villepinte, France, June 30, 2018 - Young girls hold sign, "I am the one who will overthrow the mullahs."

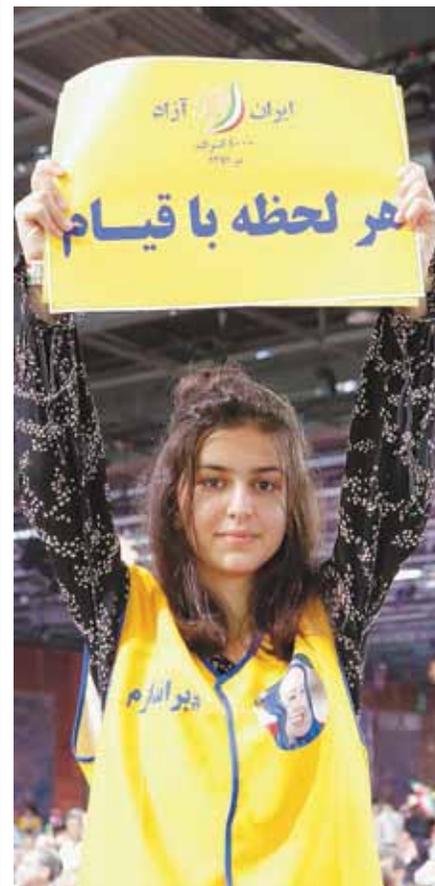


PHOTO: TME

Villepinte, France, June 30, 2018 — Young woman holding up sign, "All for the Uprising"

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR A FREE IRAN

We support a ‘democratic, secular and non-nuclear Iran’

Excerpts from video messages by Members of Congress



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Doug LaMalfa, California Republican

I am coming to you today to talk to you about supporting a free Iran, one with a democratic-elected government process, one that respects men and women, one that will not seek to proliferate in the nuclear race, one that will, indeed, give Iran back the individual responsibilities and liberties it used to have before, one that was so prosperous... What NCRI is doing I support, and that will help turn the tide and bring about a form of government that is fair to the people and one that is tailored to fit what the people of Iran need.

Rep. LaMalfa is Chairman of the House Natural Resources subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs.



PHOTO: TME



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Brian Babin, Texas Republican

We must hold tyrannical mullahs accountable for the immeasurable atrocities that they have committed. We must continue the fight for a free Iran together. Madam Rajavi's proposed plan for the future calls for the abolition of Sharia law and freedom of speech and religion, equality and a non-nuclear Iran. This is the Iran we all dream of...

Rep. Babin is Chairman of the House Science, Space and Technology subcommittee on Space.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Barry Loudermilk, Georgia Republican

I have long been an advocate for a free, democratic, non-nuclear Iran and hope that we will soon see great progress in accomplishing these goals....You, the Iranian people, are the ones who will bring real change in your country, and we stand with you and support your non-violent protests for freedom, peace, and prosperity.

Rep. Barry Loudermilk serves on the House Committees on Financial Services; Administration; and Science, Space and Technology.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Ken Buck, Colorado Republican

In 2017 and into 2018, thousands of Iranians stood up against the oppressive regime that uses brute force to silence dissident voices and remains one of the world's leading financiers of terrorism. I thank you for having the courage to stand up to the Iranian regime, to call for freedom...

Rep. Buck serves on the House Committees on Judiciary and Rules.

Rep. Raul Ruiz, California Democrat

I am heartened by the ongoing protest in Iran calling for a free, secular, nuclear-free Iranian democracy and an end to the dictatorship of the current regime. I thank the organization of Iranian American communities for the work to achieve this vision for a free Iran. Together, we can make this a reality.

Rep. Ruiz serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee.



PHOTO: TME



PHOTO: TME

Claims of future chaos ‘not true at all’



PHOTO: TME

Dr. Bernard Kouchner

Don't believe that there is any difference between the European people

and the expression of the American people and the Canadian people. We are all in agreement, we are all with you. We are all on your side for the

new battle. I'm in complete agreement with Maryam Rajavi when she was talking of the very fantastic perspective of democracy and freedom. And when she explained that there will be no chaos [in the event of regime change]... Some of your enemies are attacking you ... [saying that] if there is an uprising, a rebellion, a revolution in Iran, it will be followed by chaos — it is not true at all.

These people [here] certainly have listened to Madame Rajavi's program... I repeat, we are all in agreement to be with you, to follow you, to back you on the very clear program to get rid of the mullahs ... and to prepare and set up and build up a real democracy.

.....
Former French Minister of Foreign Affairs Bernard Kouchner, M.D., is founder of Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders) and Medecins du Monde (Doctors of the World).



PHOTO: TME

‘People want democracy, peace’

Philippe Douste-Blazy

I would like to turn our thoughts to (Tirana), in other words, to my friends in Ashraf. Your efforts, our commitment, and the United Nations support, sheltered you... The situation in Iran is changing. Yes, the Iran situation is no longer in favor of extremists. Yes, the wind is rising in favor of people. Yes, people don't want factions in power. People want democracy, peace, without corruption.

.....
Former French Minister of Foreign Affairs Philippe Douste-Blazy has also served as U.N. Under-Secretary-General on innovative financing for development.

Italian lawmakers, many more hail Iran's resistance



PHOTO: TME

Giulio Terzi

We bring our unswerving support to you, Madame Rajavi, and to all freedom fighters in Iran in the fight for regime change in Iran. We are here to tell you of our profound admiration for the values you are defending, not only in the interest of the Iranian people but in the interest of all humanity. Our unconditional support to President-elect Rajavi and to PMOI is even more determined now that a desperate and failing theocracy is trying to promote also Reza Pahlavi Jr., the son of a dictator, the last shah of Iran; they are trying to promote him among the

friends of this criminal regime. From his golden exile, the son of the last and discredited ruler of Iran speaks against the only and truly democratic resistance, which is the PMOI. Is it a family revenge? Is it anger because of the fight for democracy and freedom that the Mujahideen have always pursued against the dictator first and the mullah regime after? We refuse to fall in this new trap of the regime.

A large part of Italian society is convinced that being with you is to be on the right side of history. Thirty-eight Italian senators have issued a declaration of support of the Iranian people for the uprising, for the resistance against the regime, and for the fight for freedom and democracy. Let me quote just a couple of sentences of that declaration, which says it is nearly four decades that the religious dictatorship ruling Iran has been denounced for its continuous and gross violation of human rights. More than 120,000 Iranian defenders of democracy have been arbitrarily detained, tortured and executed. More than 30,000 political prisoners were massacred in the December of 1988, and those perpetrators must be brought to justice.

Americans and Europeans need to [bring] their common will and fundamental values together to prove their commitment, and no better

opportunity exists than an active, strong support to the Iranian resistance for a regime change in Iran.

.....
Giulio Terzi served as Italy's Minister of Foreign Affairs between 2011 and 2013.

‘We want to be the real allies’



PHOTO: TME

Matrin Patzelt

I salute and admire all those brave people who go to the streets and say let's end [this regime.]

The time for dictatorship in Iran has come to an end, and in reality, there is a democratic alternative, the National Council of Resistance of Iran. For 38 years, the NCRI has endured all the challenges and has overcome all difficulties. This Council has shown that it can resist against the regime. It is very well organized and is in a position to bring together all those discontented and freedom-lovers who are still not organized. The 10-point plan of Mrs. Rajavi presents a transparent program to the world. This shows us the reality that this resistance has a clever, sincere and heroic leader who does not deviate from her goal of fighting for the freedom of the Iranian people. We want to be the real allies of this movement.

.....
Matrin Patzelt is a Member of the German Bundestag from the Ruling Christian Democratic Party.



PHOTO: TME

Villepinte, France (June 30, 2018) — NCRI President-elect Maryam Rajavi (center), with dozens of senior former and current officials from Europe, the United States, and Canada at the Free Iran Grand Gathering.

The regime's overthrow is certain, Iran will be free

Maryam Rajavi

Speech by Maryam Rajavi at the Resistance's Grand Gathering Paris, June 30, 2018

EXCERPTS

My fellow compatriots,
Dear friends,
Elected representatives, honorable dignitaries from across the world,

Greetings to all of you and to my dear compatriots in Iran and all over the world. The first thing that must be said today is that the flames of the auspicious and liberating uprising are again rising in Tehran and across Iran.

Indeed, the flames of the protests cannot be extinguished, and they will continue to soar without respite, indicating a constantly expanding and deepening uprising.

The thunderous voices of rebellious youths in various cities represent the beating heart of a nation immersed in the euphoria of a free Iran.

I have come here to reiterate what you seek: The time has come for the regime's overthrow. Victory is certain, and Iran will be free.

The leverage for the overthrow

Since the January uprising, the tip of



PHOTO: TME

the volcano of change and the regime's overthrow in Iran has emerged. The triumph of Iran's democratic revolution, without the sheikh (mullahs) and the Shah, are now looming on the horizon. Through their uprisings and relying on resistance units, the Iranian people are employing the leverage they need to topple this regime.

How and where can we discover these realities?

First, owing to the presence of the Resistance movement, the charade billed as the existence of a "solution" within the religious fascism has become null and void.

The rebellious population and youth have rejected both factions of the regime. These are the same fearless youth who have chosen the path of fighting on, going on the maximum offensive, and waging resistance regardless of the cost.

The persistence of the uprising and the protest movement despite maximum suppression

The second sign that the era of the regime's overthrow has arrived is that for the past six months the Iranian people have waged an uprising and a protest movement despite the imposition of maximum suppression, despite the so-called "suicides" of the detainees in the mullahs' prisons, and despite the daily arrests and executions designed to intimidate the public.

The workers at Haft-Tapeh sugar cane factory resumed their uprising. Then the workers at Ahvaz steel factory and farmers in Isfahan rose up. Worshipers in Isfahan turned their backs on Khamenei's Friday prayer leader and chanted: "My back to the enemy and facing the nation."

Isfahan Province was still on edge when our Arab compatriots in Khuzestan, especially in Ahvaz, rose up. Then came Kurdistan as the lengthy strike in Baneh aroused everyone's admiration. Then, on the roadmap to overthrow, a new role model emerged: Kazerun, the city of uprising, fire and blood, with audacious women, who alongside their brothers and rocks in hand, repelled the heavily armed enemy

» see **RAJAVI** | C13

forces, imitating the resistance we saw at Camp Ashraf.

At that moment, the uprising accelerated. The strike by toiling truck drivers and owners in 285 cities and in 31 provinces shook the regime to its foundation for 12 days.

Teachers, retirees, defrauded investors, and workers of hundreds of manufacturing units rose up day after day. And last week, the Tehran bazaar rose up and ignited an uprising in Tehran and other cities.

Iran revolted once again, with all its children, with all its nationalities and ethnicities.

Truly, where is the destination? The answer is: A free Iran, through the eradication of all the facets of dictatorship and plundering policies, and by bringing down Khamenei from power.

An explosive and irreversible situation

The third sign of the inevitable overthrow of the ruling religious fascism is that social tensions and economic crises — especially high prices, unemployment, poverty, and inequality — have reached a critical mass. Everyone senses the explosive state of society. And the mullahs can offer neither a solution nor are willing or able to resolve the problems.

The velayat-e faqih (absolute clerical rule) lacks all legitimacy. Khamenei's standing has plummeted dramatically. The regime has run out of cash. The Revolutionary Guards and the unpopular Bassij forces have been facing defections. The masquerade of “moderation” designed to preserve the regime has now been unmasked. And the regime in its entirety is drowning in the abyss of internal feuds and bickering.

The collapse of the appeasement policy

The fourth sign of the phase of the regime's overthrow is that, internationally, the mullahs have lost the most important backer of the policy of appeasement, namely the United States. The international shield safeguarding the regime has fallen by the wayside. The mullahs have practically lost their JCPOA. The avalanche of successive sanctions is hitting them hard, undercutting their ability to engage in warmongering and adventurism in the region. An arms and oil embargo, which was demanded by the Iranian Resistance since four decades ago, is now in the process of being somewhat implemented.

The blood of martyrs and suffering of those detained fuel the fire of the uprisings

The fifth and most important indication that the mullahs' regime has entered the era of being overthrown is that

the very development the mullahs have feared the most is now a reality: that is, the link and relationship between the fury of the deprived and oppressed on the one hand and the organized Resistance movement on the other. All regime leaders and junior and senior officials have repeatedly confessed to this

fueling the uprisings. As Massoud Rajavi said, “If Iran stands, the world will stand with us and by our side.”

A euphoric generation thirsting for freedom has risen up. Those taking part in the uprising joined by resistance units have now charted a new territory. Rise up and walk along this path. Join hands



PHOTO: TME

Villepinte, France, June 30, 2018 — Mrs. Rajavi pays homage to 120,000 martyrs fallen for freedom in Iran.



PHOTO: TME

fact. This is their way of admitting that the regime's rule is nearing its end.

Indeed, the regime is on the brink of overthrow.

Prior to this, in 2013, following the massacre of 52 PMOI members at Camp Ashraf, when several residents were taken hostage, Massoud Rajavi announced the roadmap for creating 1,000 Ashrafs (resistance units) inside Iran so that the organization that leads the uprising could be linked to the arisen people of Iran. Accordingly, units and councils for the national resistance became the tip of the spear of the strategy for uprising and overthrow in Iran's risen and revolting cities. This is how the blood of the martyrs and the suffering of those detained since June 20, 1981 until today, are

with them and heed their call for a free Iran; declare your readiness.

This is the Iranian nation's fight to capture the entire country and take back Iran from the occupiers, the mullahs.

The overthrow of this regime requires resistance units

These days, an industry of concocting phony alternatives has become prevalent in the political arena, of course copying and pasting aspects from others. And this in itself is another sign of the phase of the regime's overthrow. But the crux of the matter is how they are going to actually bring down this regime in practice. This question is especially relevant, as the blood of the martyrs has permanently and historically blocked the path to

reform within the clerical regime and the return of the monarchy.

Now, if one can topple this regime without an organization and leadership, without overcoming thorny trials, and without paying the price and making sacrifices, we say: Please, go ahead, don't delay.

If one can restore the people's sovereignty without a history of fighting against two dictatorships; without drawing boundaries against dictatorship, subordination and dependency; without waging a nationwide resistance and offering a galaxy of martyrs; without challenging the principle of the velayat-e faqih and phony regime “moderates,” we say: Please, go ahead, don't delay.

If one can topple the mullahs without challenging Khomeini over the unpatriotic Iran-Iraq war, forcing an end to the inferno of that war, and discrediting the regime's slogan of “liberating Qods via Karbala”; without compelling Khomeini to accept the ceasefire by launching 100 military operations by the National Liberation Army of Iran, which captured the city of Mehran and marched to the gates of Kermanshah; and without exposing the regime's nuclear weapons, missile, chemical and microbiological programs and facilities, yes, go ahead and don't delay.

If one can leapfrog a 50-year history overnight and create real change in Iran while dreaming about foreign support, we say: Go ahead, the ball is in your court.

But let me say this: Such a fantasy is only possible through an Iraq-like occupation, or in other words through a foreign intervention. The aftermath of this scenario is already known.

Over the past 40 years, all those aspiring opponents who were nonetheless unwilling to pay the price have had opportunities to test their luck. But the hard realities and real experiences have shown that this dark and evil regime will neither be reformed nor turn “green” or “velvet.”

The overthrow of this regime inevitably requires a willingness to pay the necessary price, it requires the practice of honesty and sacrifice, it requires an organization and a sturdy political alternative, and it requires the organization of resistance units and an army of liberation.

Nevertheless, as Massoud Rajavi said in the context of evaluating the January uprising: “We are not in competition with anyone seeking to assume power. On the other hand, and most certainly, no one can compete with the PMOI when it comes to practicing honesty, sacrifice and paying the price.”

National Solidarity Front to overthrow the religious dictatorship

Sixteen years ago, the Iranian Resistance adopted a plan called the National Solidarity Front for the Overthrow of the Ruling Religious Dictatorship and declared that it was prepared to cooperate



PHOTO: TME

Villepinte France, June 30, 2018 – Over 100,000 Iranians and their supporters from five continents attended the Free Iran 2018 Rally.

RAJAVI

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with all forces who want a republic, who are committed to the complete rejection of the velayat-e faqih regime and who struggle for a democratic, independent Iran, based on separation of religion and state.

Over the past four decades, the NCRI, beyond typical political rhetoric, has paid a heavy price in blood and treasure for each and every one of its declarations, ratifications and commitments.

We call for the establishment of a society based on freedom, democracy, and equality, which has clear demarcation lines against despotism and dependence as well as gender, ethnic and class discrimination. We have defended and will continue to defend gender equality; the right to freely choose one's attire; separation of religion and state; autonomy of nationalities; equal political and social rights for all citizens of Iran; abolition of the death penalty; and freedom of expression, parties, the media, assembly, unions, associations, councils and syndicates.

This is the image of the democratic

alternative, which rejects the mullahs' rule or any form of dictatorship.

On this path, the first step is to transfer sovereignty to the people of Iran. By relying on the Iranian people and a popular social base, one can avert chaos and insecurity and safeguard the integrity of Iran and Iranians, rendering it a proud nation.

According to the NCRI's program, following the regime's overthrow, a provisional six-month government will be formed whose primary task is to form a constituent assembly through free elections on the basis of popular, direct, equal and secret ballot. This constituent assembly must draft the constitution of the new republic within two years and put it to popular vote. It must also set up the principal institutions of the new republic based on the people's vote.

The violated sovereignty of the Iranian people must be revived

We believe it is possible to eradicate high prices, poverty, unemployment, shantytowns, water shortages and environmental calamities. But, before anything else, the trampled political rights, specifically the right to sovereignty of the Iranian people, must be restored and

revived. This is the aim of our Resistance and the raison d'être for the NCRI.

But the Iranian regime has benefitted the most by denying the wherewithal of this Resistance and this alternative and by using Western appeasers to suppress this movement.

Therefore, as far as Iran is concerned, without recognizing the Resistance and the right to resist, the damages that the policy of appeasement has so far inflicted on the Iranian people cannot be rectified.

As we have always stated, and I reiterate here, the task of overthrowing the regime, bringing about democratic change and establishing a free Iran rests on our own shoulders and those of the Iranian people. At the same time, we would welcome any retreat by the mullahs because 1,000 chalices of poison would ultimately serve the interests of 1,000 Ashrafs (resistance units).

Today, the brave youth of Iran have completely dedicated themselves to the task of sustaining the uprising. I hail the courageous women of Iran who are leading the way everywhere. I also hail the young people and members of resistance units who, even while in captivity, insist on declaring their PMOI identity, which terrifies the regime.

In lockstep with the uprising, every single second making sacrifices advances the uprising

I call upon all of you to provide practical support to the uprisings. All Iranians, wherever they are, can help and advance the uprising. Also, you, the Iranian youth, who are present here, can do a lot. This is our collective commitment and our collective pledge to the Iranian nation to place everything at the service of the uprisings, giving it all we have and making sacrifices on all fronts in order to advance the uprising.

Literally, every single one of us will be with the uprising every moment and every second of every day.

From the depths of the dark night
A rose blossoms
Winter will no doubt pass, and
The harbinger of spring, thousands of roses in hand, will certainly follow
Hail to freedom
Hail to the people of Iran
Hail to all of you.

.....
This excerpt is from the speech given by Maryam Rajavi at the Grand Gathering of the Iranian Resistance in Paris on June 30, 2018.



#FREEIRAN2018

The Alternative



'You have many friends' who want a new Iran



PHOTO: TME

Stephen Harper

Thank you for your long battle for a free and democratic Iran. For 10 years, the government I led chose a course in foreign policy guided by freedom, democracy and justice, human rights, human equality, and human dignity. The same values that someday soon will be embraced in Tehran.

But that is not Iran today. Iran is ruled by a regime of cruel and tyrannical mullahs that represent the opposite of the best of human values. That is why our government took a strong stand against the regime. We sponsored annual resolutions at the United Nations against Iran's human rights abuses. We used sanctions to cut off the flow of funds to the Revolutionary Guard and other regime entities. We formally listed the regime as an international

state sponsor of terrorism. We passed legislation to allow victims to sue the regime for its atrocities. And, friends, we closed the Canadian embassy in Tehran and told the mullahs to get out of Canada.

The mullahs' prisons continue to overflow with people jailed not for their crimes but for their consciences. And the executioners work relentlessly. Women and girls are still treated as property, not people. Religious minorities are still repressed. And as much as the mullahs repress them, the protests for change rise in the streets, and they will keep rising until the regime is gone.

The 2015 nuclear deal has not moderated the regime. It has made it more belligerent than ever, and, friends, that is why I was proud to sign a letter that appeared in the *New York Times* with my good friend, John Baird, with former

prime minister John Howard, with Nobel Peace Prize recipient David Trimble, and many others, supporting the American decision to pull out of the Iran nuclear deal. We stick by our principles: freedom, democracy, justice, human rights, human equality, and human dignity for the people of Iran.

...You have many friends, as today's

gathering shows, from all around the world, who want a new Iran. An Iran governed not by the hatreds of the past, but by the people's aspirations for their future. Keep up the fight.

.....
Former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper is Chairman of the International Democrat Union.

'We must not ignore the people of Iran'



PHOTO: TME

John Baird

Madame Rajavi, friends, it's a great honor and a great privilege to once again join and to stand in solidarity with all of you and with the people of Iran. We come together to support the people of Iran in their great struggle. For years, far too many Western governments have tried to

find a moderate faction within the regime in Tehran. This conciliatory approach has failed, and it has been nothing short of appeasement. We must not ignore the people of Iran, and we must not ignore their desire for change. Over the past six months, the people of Iran have shown great courage in protesting on the streets in more than 140 cities. They are desperately fighting for regime change. And friends, it is time to stand with the people of Iran and to give them our full support. Today, we join Madame Rajavi, a woman of great courage and of great determination. And we gather in Paris to stand with the people of Iran, to support them in their quest for freedom, for equality, and for democracy. Today, we join with the people of Iran to deliver a simple message to the mullahs: It's time to end the repression and corruption, it's time for change, it's time for the mullahs to go.

.....
Former Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs John Baird also served as a Member of the House of Commons in Canada.



PHOTO: TME

Ad Melkert

This is the day that we celebrate and reaffirm our common resolve. It is the annual celebration of the end of the horror that kept so many of your brothers and sisters in captivity in Camps Ashraf

'Your cause resonates far beyond' your borders

and Liberty.... I'm proud that, through many United Nations efforts, I was part of that long-lasting effort to let justice prevail. And I thank Albania for setting an example that should make many other European countries blush.

I salute the movement that never gave up, never surrendered, and continues to advocate the cause of democratic change....

Together with so many others from so many national and political backgrounds, I join you in reaffirming our common hope and determination that fanaticism and expansionism will end, that ultimately oppression implodes by its own contradictions, that free minds will never cease to demand the right to free speech, and that all Iranian citizens will enjoy a good life as they're longing for peace

instead of war. Yes, I join you in the common hope and determination that change in Iran is within reach.

Your cause is not only the cause for the future of Iran and for the future of free Iranian citizens. Your cause responds to a global concern about rivalry for regional and religious dominance, about destruction of peaceful societies, about export of terror, and most of all, about denying countless young people — men and women — a decent life in peace and prosperity. Your cause resonates far beyond the borders of your land as a goal for justice, democracy, and respect for human rights, as a universal call. It's part of a universal drive to have the voice of citizens prevail over the guns of the military and all those that seek to hide behind them.

How impressive, this platform of hope. History tells us it can take a long time to make justice happen. History has also demonstrated time and again that a principle of justice is stronger, more unbreakable, indeed, than the practice of repression that can be broken. It only takes the will of the determined people who won't give up, won't surrender. And this is the will that I see in your aspiration for change in this gathering of peaceful protests. Our common wish is that Iran will once again be a beacon of trust, a haven of stability and coexistence, and an inspiration to the world.

.....
Ad Melkert is a former Special Representative of the U.N. Secretary-General for Iraq and former leader of the Dutch Labour Party.

We Brits want ‘same freedoms’ for you



PHOTO: TME

Sir David Amess

Madame Rajavi, ladies and gentlemen, it is a huge privilege for the

British delegation to take part in this rally to free Iran.... We Brits want the Iranian people to enjoy the same freedoms that we do.... We stand united

with each and every one of you in your battle. And I'm sure that our message of a free and democratic Iran will echo all the way to Tehran and other cities and towns across Iran, shaking theocracy to its core.

So this year, I have the honor to be here with an even larger delegation from Britain than last year. We represent not only the UK Parliament in a cross-party fashion, but also Scotland, the Law Society of England and Wales, the unions, academia in the UK and Scotland, as well as religious leaders. You know many of us on this stage, as we have been supporting the NCRI and promoting democracy and human rights in Iran for many years. Our delegation this year consists of over 50 prominent people....

Madame Rajavi, dear friends, we are here to say we stand with you and the Iranian people as you strive for a better future. And we will continue to support you until Iran is free.

.....
Sir David Amess is a Member of Parliament in the United Kingdom.

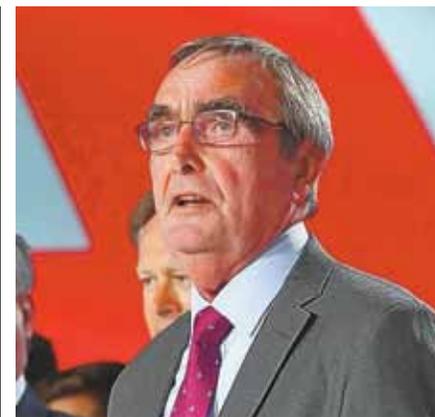


PHOTO: TME

U.N. should hold Iran accountable

Roger Godsiff

I join my colleagues from all the other parties in Parliament who are represented here today to stand in solidarity with you and the brave people of Iran who have risen up against the ayatollahs and their murderous, authoritarian regime. The time for a change of policy towards Iran is long overdue. United Kingdom and our colleagues in the European Union should join with the United States in recognizing democratic aspirations of the people of Iran and the desire for freedom and democracy. European leaders must now recognize the mullahs' regime for what it is. It's a terrorist regime which exports terrorism through Hezbollah.... It can never be a partner for peace in the Middle East. The United Kingdom and the EU must recognize the NCRI and Madame Rajavi's 10-point plan for the future of Iran. And they must also initiate a process of accountability at the U.N. to hold the regime and its leaders to account for decades of human rights abuses and for the mass-crime of thousands of political prisoners.

.....
Roger Godsiff is a Member of Parliament in the United Kingdom.

NCRI's 10-point plan achievable



PHOTO: TME

Dr. Matthew Offord

Earlier this year, we saw in Iran what I thought was a glimmer of hope as thousands of people rose up against the regime. Today, we have to be the voice and the hope and the glimmer of hope for those very same people. Those people like ourselves who want an alternative to the mullahs and the supreme leader's rulings, people who want peace, safety, security, and stability.... I commend Madame Rajavi for her 10-point plan for showing the world and the mullahs that not only is a plan available but that it can be achieved

by her. The plan offers the people of Iran a free democratic and secular Iran based on freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and respect for religious ethnic minorities, gender equality, rule of law, and peaceful coexistence in the world. So today our voices must go out through the media, our word through social media, and let the mullahs know that there is a plan and there is an alternative to their regime...

.....
Dr. Matthew Offord is a Member of Parliament in the United Kingdom.



PHOTO: TME

Theresa Villiers

I'm proud to be standing shoulder to shoulder with so many other elected representatives from around the world who have gathered here to show support for the Iranian people and their struggle for justice and for freedom. I want especially to highlight the Iranian women who are risking so much to be part of a movement that is calling for change and reform and democracy. These are women who bravely stand in the face of repressive security forces and shout, "down with the

dictator." I have huge admiration for their courage and their determination.

These women are brave enough to protest and stand up against the mandatory dress code imposed on them by the regime. They're brave enough to challenge the legal system that treats them as property and not people. And they're brave enough to stand up against all of the oppression of human rights to which they are subject. They are prepared to stand up for their right to equality and dignity, even if this could lead to harassment and the risk of reprisals from a brutal regime.

Let us all hope that one day Mrs. Rajavi is able to put into effect her 10-point plan, and finally we will see an Iran that is free of the brutal repression of the mullahs, free of the cruelty and human rights abuse to which it's been subjected for far too long, and free at last to pursue a democratic future where men and women have an equal chance to follow their dreams, make their own choices, and succeed in whichever field of life they want to.

.....
Theresa Villiers is a Member of Parliament in the United Kingdom.

‘Your future will be our future’



PHOTO: TME

Tunne Kelam

It is important to know that this is our common fight. It's not only for freedom of Iran, but for the dignity and solidarity of all of us, all European states, all the states in the world. I visited Ashraf

10 years ago when it was situated in Iraq. Ashraf survived, thanks to solidarity and support. And today, there are 1,000 ashrafs in Iran itself. And it's our job to support them.

We here represent European

Parliament. The group of friends for a Free Iran has been there for many years. Every one of 751 members of the European Parliament belongs to this group.

Just a few months ago, more than 200 members of the European Parliament supported a resolution in support of democratic change in Iran, in support of people who demonstrated even yesterday for the freedom, dignity, and social and human rights... I think the moment has arrived to understand that we have to end the hope that butchers can become more human and civilized. As freely elected members of Parliament from all around Europe, we have one choice — to support the freedom, restoration of freedom and dignity for Iranian people.

As I said, common future. Your future will be our future — to live in freedom, dignity, and solidarity.

.....
Tunne Kelam is a Member of European Parliament from Estonia.



PHOTO: TME

We understand your struggle

Ben-Oni Ardelean

We are here on the podium with some of our brothers from Moldova. We come from Romania, two former communist countries, and we very much understand what is going on in Iran right now because we lived under those conditions. When people were murdered, when people were taken from their homes during the night and brought into the prison, when people were arrested all over Romania — so many who suffered during the time, including my family. That's why we are here to say very frankly that we very much understand what is going on right now in Iran, and we very much support you as an opposition... We all want to enjoy democracy, and we all want to support human rights, and we all want to support what's going on here because we believe that we have to be a free society.... I want right now to encourage you to keep going on... because we are the ones to be on the right side of the society in our days.

.....
Ben-Oni Ardelean is a Member of Parliament in Romania and Vice Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies.

‘We are with you in every step’



PHOTO: TME

Ingrid Betancourt

Since last December 28th, we are witnessing how Maryam Rajavi has been delivering what she promised. Here in this same forum some years ago, she announced a thousand Ashrafs to topple the corrupt theocratic dictatorship in Iran. And that is happening right now. Maryam Rajavi's determination has brought this thousand Ashrafs to life inside Iran. But it is the courage, the sacrifice paid with blood, and the love of those who are fighting in the streets in all the provinces, in all the capitals, and also in Tehran, that will bring this uprising to victory.

To the thousands and thousands of women leading the protests — mothers, daughters, wives, sisters of the martyrs of the 1988 massacre — to the young people of Iran throwing stones, burning the dictators' portraits, attacking the stronghold of the corrupt regime of the mullahs, to the 80 million Iranians held hostage by the Iranian tyrants, we are with you in every step. We are with you inch by inch in the path to democracy. We are with you in every heartbeat, in every cry, in every tear, in every wound, with you until you are finally free.

.....
Ingrid Betancourt is a former Senator in the Republic of Colombia.

The resistance has shaken regime ‘to its core’



PHOTO: TME

Lars Rise

We are here as a delegation of Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, and Norway, and we even have our vice president from our Parliament. We admire each one of you, the thousands of brave women and men who took part in the uprising in Iran lately. The uprising was organized by the resistance, as we know, and has shaken the regime to its core. We have witnessed the strong and impressive organization, the efficiency and capabilities of the

resistance. And most of all, the extraordinary leadership of Mrs. Maryam Rajavi. We have seen that the resistance is in fact the strongest democratic opposition any country has abroad today. All of this shows that this movement is a powerful alternative to the religious dictatorship in Iran. This movement has the capability of bringing not only democracy and human rights to Iran but also peace and tranquility to the region, including security for Europe. Such a gathering like this, organized with the participation of more than

100,000, confirms the quality of this movement. And we enjoy bipartisan international recognition and support from the United States, from Europe, and Arab countries. With all the different plots carried out by the regime against our movement, all the efforts to produce false information about what they called insignificant work, it shows how much the regime fears its alternative.

.....
Lars Rise is a former Member of Parliament in Norway.

‘Our choice is to help you’



PHOTO: TME

Pandeli Majko

We in Albania don't speak your language. But I hope that we understand very well each other from another language, the language of the heart. And this is the reason we are making a difference in such difficult times for Iranian people.... Having the horse doesn't mean that you are a knight. Having boxes to vote — this does not mean that you are free to vote... Helping Assad that killed his people with chemical weapons or helping Iranian people that are in need — our choice is to help you. And this is the reason that 3,000 Iranians are sheltered in Albania. They are in our faith, and Albanian faith is a word large, like world. We are waiting to see you soon back in Tehran.

.....
Former Albanian Prime Minister Pandeli Majko also served as Albania's Defense Minister and a Member of Parliament.



PHOTO: TME

Only ‘dream for being free’ lasts forever

Fatmir Mediu

Many people ask why Albanians offered to help our friends from Iran. We have suffered, as you are suffering, for 50 long years under a dictatorship with people that were led by greed and hate for their own people. The same is happening today in your country: greed, hate, imprisoning and killing have replaced humanity and love of freedom. Poverty has replaced prosperity. Desperation has replaced happiness.

Since the end of 2017 and nowadays, Iran's people are standing up for their freedom and their liberty, and we are here to support them.

Many brave men and women in your country have stood up. Many have sacrificed their lives. But they do not need just the words of sorrow. They need the ones that believe in freedom and liberty, democracy and stand up to do their part. No power lasts forever. No man lasts forever. Only one thing lasts forever: the dream for being free. Dream for happiness for our lives, our families, and our children. The firm belief that what was given by God cannot be taken by man. Liberty will never perish. So never give up. Never, never, never give up.

.....
Albanian Republican Party Chairman Fatmir Mediu has served as Albania's Minister of Defense and Minister of Environment, Forests and Water Administration.

‘We remember your heroes’

Anna Elżbieta Fotyga

Invincible people of Free Iran, I really salute you. I salute your great leader, Maryam Rajavi. We in European Parliament, we in most of the EU member states, in whole Europe, we really admire her efforts to bring justice, to bring prosperity, and most of all to bring freedom to her own people. We remember your heroes, and believe me, we stand by you in promoting truth and bringing those

who are responsible for massacres in Iran to justice.

We support ordinary people of Iran, those who live there in your beautiful country in most difficult circumstances. We really admire their courage, their resolve to make their country free, and we stand by you in European Parliament.

.....
Anna Elżbieta Fotyga is a Member of European Parliament from Poland and former Foreign Minister of Poland.



PHOTO: TME

‘Iran will be free, democratic and governed by rule of law’

Marcin Swiecicki

I came from Poland, from a country where brave people with imagination organized the workers' movement, Solidarity. This movement, despite repression, despite martial law, brought freedom, democracy, and rule of law to Poland. I do believe that you can have the same. You have Maryam Rajavi, a great leader. You have your National Council of Resistance of Iran that also seems to be prepared for democracy. There will be no chaos. There will be transition to democracy and rule of law.

I could read that there are moderate people in Iran ready for dialogue. After

recent months, after all this persecution, they are not ready even to have a dialogue with their own society. Instead of dialogue, they are sending them to prisons... torturing them, killing them. So it is time to drop illusions and to organize support for the Iranian opposition.

U.S. and EU should coordinate their support for Iranian resistance and prepare and help to bring change. I am sure that you will win, and Iran will be free, democratic and governed by the rule of law.

.....
Former Polish Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Marcin Swiecicki also served as Mayor of Warsaw.

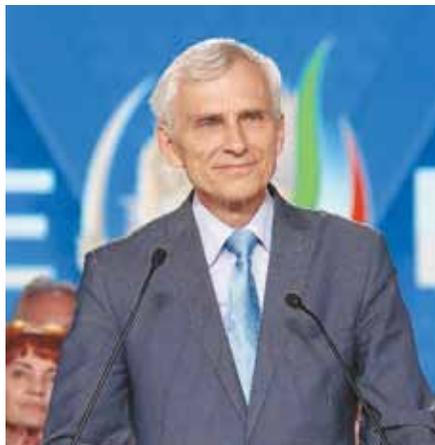


PHOTO: TME



#FREEIRAN2018

Among the tens of thousands of people who attended the June 30 Grand Gathering of Iranians were delegations of attendees from numerous nations. These delegations included (1) Great Britain, (2) French Parliamentarians, (3) French Mayors, (4) European, (5) women leaders form several nations, (6) Albania, (7) Syria, (8) Arab, (9) Palestine, (10) Romania, continued on next page (11) Iranian Scholars, and (12) Iranians Americans-Europeans.



PHOTO: TME
The three MCs for the event: from left, Alex Taylor, Dr. Ramesh Sepehrad, and Anette Burgdorf

Each one can be a ‘center of rebellion’

Pariya Kohandel

Hail to the centers of rebellion; our hearts beats with theirs, and they are at the forefront of the nationwide uprisings.

I came out of Iran three years ago, and there are some here who exited the country in the past few months.

After 30 years of vilification in history books at schools and propaganda on city walls and public places, and after 39 years of spreading lies against the most powerful opposition against the mullahs, we are still here, more than ever before, and today we have gathered here to tell the tyrant Khamenei: Look where we've gotten. Yes, you have failed to separate the MEK from their beloved compatriots.

We have made a pledge that we will fight until the end and until we regain our homeland Iran, an Iran without the



PHOTO: TME

Villepinte, June 30, 2018 - Several dozen Iranian activists who were involved in the anti-government protests and have recently left Iran, attended the #Freelran2018 rally to express support for the Iranian people. Pariya Kohandel is at the podium.

dictatorships of the monarchy or the theocracy.

We will fight to ensure that the Iranian people have a free choice, and today this fate is in the hands of each and every one of us.

We are proud to have Maryam Rajavi as a woman leading this alternative. She has been the mullahs' nightmare for all these years.

Each one of us can be a center of rebellion, a rebel seeking to overthrow the regime.

Pariya Kohandel, whose father has been imprisoned by the Iranian regime for his affiliation with the Mujahedin-e Khalq, left Iran three years ago to join the opposition movement. She was 11 years old when security forces arrested her father.



Golestan Province, north Iran - Activists holding up pictures of Mrs. Rajavi, voicing support for the Free Iran Rally in Paris.



Tehran, Azadi Square, Free Iran, Uprising with Resistance Units, Join us in Villepinte, France on June 30, 2018.



Qom, activists posting pictures of Mrs. Rajavi.



Mashhad, northeast Iran - Vakil Mosque, activist holding up placard in support of Freelran2018 Rally.



Tehran, Officer holding up placard, Free Iran with the logo of the Freelran2018 Rally.



Resistance units hold a banner in support of Freelran2018 Rally.



Tehran: Free Iran, Uprising with Resistance Units Until Victory.



'We are the countless'



PHOTO: TME

Zinat Mirhashemi

The reality is that the face-off between the Iranian people and the

ruling regime has entered a new phase following the January 2018 nationwide uprising. The Iranian regime is believing in themselves to change the ruling system and participate in shaping their own future. It can be said with utmost certainty that the people are seeking change not through any change within the ruling establishment nor through a foreign military intervention, but by relying on their own struggle and resistance. Those who raise the specter of Iran becoming another Syria are either inadvertently ignoring the reality of struggle of Iran's men and women or have specific interests in maintaining the status quo. The result would be prolonging the clerical regime's hold on power.

On the anniversary of the June 20, 1981, the day of martyrs and political

prisoners, we pay homage for all those who made the ultimate sacrifice to sow the seeds of resistance and perseverance. The thought of honoring the Iranian people's movement in Iran without the rule of the theocracy is magnificent. We, as the Organization of Iranian People's Fedayeen Guerrillas, a member of the Iranian Resistance, hope that we can hold this gathering in a free, prosperous, and democratic Iran next year. As Mrs. Maryam Rajavi said, victory will come. We are the countless — and will unite and organize to bring about the overthrow of the clerical regime.

.....
Zinat Mirhashemi is editor of *Nabard-e Khalq*, published by the People's Fedayeen Guerrilla Organization of Iran.



PHOTO: TME

Support full equality of Iran's men and women

Michèle de Vaucouleurs

A year ago, when newly elected and I spoke to you, France had just experienced a great political change. This year, your country has gone into a great upheaval with the popular uprisings that shook the country last January and continue across the country calling for the end of the religious dictatorship ... and in recent days at the grand bazaar of Tehran and other major cities... With my colleagues of different political sensibilities, we support the ideal and the hope of a true democracy for Iran that would put an end to the death penalty cruelly applied by this regime. [We support] a true democracy respecting the separation between religion and the state, true democracy ensuring full equality between women and men. That is why we invited President Maryam Rajavi to the National Assembly to listen to her analysis and support her initiatives for a free and democratic Iran.

As a woman politician, I welcome the prominent role of women in the Iranian resistance, and I salute the courage of these women who defy the regime's repressive forces to support the aspirations of the Iranian people and their determination to see the era of democracy in Iran.

.....
Michèle de Vaucouleurs is a Member of the French National Assembly from the Ruling Democratic Movement Party.



PHOTO: TME

Kak Baba Sheikh Hosseini

In the view of the Iranian Kurdistan's Khebat Organization, the National

Oppressors will never be welcomed

Council of Resistance of Iran is the organized and democratic alternative to the regime, and no one else can play that role. We have heard from some people speaking about the remnants of the Shah's regime as being the alternative. The people of Kurdistan will never welcome dictatorship. The town of Baneh, the home of Mamusta Ostad Jalal Hosseini, the founder of Khebat organization, will never welcome an oppressor. We, as Khebat Organization and a large part of the people of Kurdistan, re-emphasize that the NCRI is sole

democratic alternative to the clerical regime. Except for freedom fighters in Iran and in Kurdistan, no other ... party can speak on behalf of the people of Kurdistan, who will never welcome anyone who has oppressed the people of Iran.

Without doubt, this regime will be overthrown, and all of us will return to a free Iran.

.....
Kak Baba Sheikh Hosseini is Secretary-General of the Iranian Kurdistan's Khebat Organization.



PHOTO: TME

Amb. Riyadh Yaseen

It is an honor for us to be with you in these historic days and to convey to you the greetings of His Excellency President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi

'We assure you we will work together'

and the Yemeni people.

We are confident that the heroic Iranian people and President Maryam Rajavi, the a symbol of determination, will prevail in the near future. We have all the will and uphold the principles of truth, law, peace, stability, love and development, and tomorrow we will see it soon. We assure you that we will work together to curb and stop the blatant interference of the Iranian regime. The deterioration of the infrastructure and the humanitarian situation that my country has suffered since the coup of the militias and its control by force, violence, killing and threats, is exactly

the same as happened in Iran 40 years ago when the Khomeinists controlled Tehran. The success of it is mentioned only the spawning of small terrorist organizations such as the Houthis, Hezbollah and others, the popular uprisings in Iran and the liberation of Hodeidah coincide, and these promises of hope and victory are coming.

.....
Amb. Riyadh Yaseen is the Yemeni Ambassador to France and former Foreign Minister.

Statement by 33 Former Senior U.S. Officials & Dignitaries in Support of Maryam Rajavi's 10-point Plan for the Future of Iran



PHOTO: TME

Villepinte, France, June 30, 2018 — Mrs. Rajavi receives statement of support from the American delegation.

EXCERPTS:

The National Council of the Resistance of Iran (NCRI) and its principal constituent, the MEK, have long embraced democratic values. The resistance movement has demonstrated its widespread roots within Iranian society.

We, the American Delegation to the 2018 annual rally for a Free Iran, are proud to stand with colleagues from all over the world and the many friends of the NCRI, whose members have firmly stood for decades against religious dictatorship, enduring heavy personal costs. At a time when partisanship is shaping American politics, we are united in bipartisan solidarity, speaking with one voice and reflecting our common American values and principles as we join the call for liberty, justice and an end to repression for the people of Iran... Here is our vision for an American policy toward Iran:

For too long, the world has turned its back on the Tehran regime's brutal denial of the Iranian people's basic rights. We stand with Iran's citizens in calling for legitimate, accountable and honest government that serves the people.

The protests that arose across 142 cities and towns in Iran, beginning in December 2017 and have continued since then, are a plea for freedom from a captive nation... We stand with the 80 million citizens of Iran in their call for dignity and freedom...

For years many of us have attended the annual rally, and some of us stay in frequent contact with the NCRI, a relationship that has drawn criticism from some in the U.S. With this experience and exposure to the NCRI, we can clearly see that much of the American press and foreign policy community, in downplaying the NCRI's true agenda, popularity, level of organization, and support among Iranians, are either uninformed or coloring their reporting to avoid incurring the regime's disfavor. Repeated statements this year by the Supreme Leader and other regime figures clearly affirm the NCRI's role inside Iran enabling the people to communicate, organize and remain informed despite regime efforts to police the information domain and suppress dissent. We call upon the media and foreign-policy expert community to report accurately on the popularity, size, organization and above all, the political agenda of the NCRI, summarized in Mrs. Maryam Rajavi's 10-point plan for the future of Iran.

We believe that much of the commentary in the U.S. about "regime change" obscures the right, the potential, and the capacity of the Iranian people to resist tyranny and to govern themselves well if given the chance. We see no need for, nor do we recommend consideration of, foreign military intervention; indeed, no one is calling for this. The NCRI has rejected the idea of foreign intervention, stressing that ending this regime's repressive reign is the task of the Iranian people. We do not assume that change in Iran would lead to war or chaos, given the national pride and aspirations of this population. On the contrary, we believe that democratic change in Iran would do more than any other single event to enable stability and calm the fires of extremism in the region.

Our delegation is going to Paris this year to support the NCRI, firmly believing that the current regime is vulnerable to the popular movement seeking an end to tyranny and corruption. The NCRI and its principal constituent, the MEK, have long embraced democratic values. The resistance movement has demonstrated its widespread roots within Iranian society, its resilience in the face of unimaginably difficult circumstances, its impressive organizational prowess, and its ability to expose secrets that Tehran is determined to keep from the Iranian people and the world at large. This organization has spent years preparing for a calm and genuinely democratic transition of power to the elected representatives of the Iranian people — whomever the people may choose in the fullest exercise of their long-deferred freedom....

Our vision for a bipartisan U.S. policy — one that stands for the basic rights of all Iranians, demands an end to Iran's threats to peace and security, and respects the people's capacity to govern themselves competently as a free people — will only strengthen as these truths are finally brought to light.

Signatories:

Amb. J. Kenneth Blackwell - Former U.S. Representative, United Nations Human Rights Commission

Amb. Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr. - Former Special Envoy and Assistant Secretary of State

Col. (Ret.) Thomas V. Cantwell - Former Commander for Camp Ashraf, U.S. Army

Glenn L. Carle - Former Deputy National Intelligence Officer for Transnational Threats, National Intelligence Council

Gen. (Ret.) George W. Casey, Jr. - Former U.S. Army Chief of Staff and Commander of Multi-National Forces - Iraq

Linda Chavez - Former Assistant to the President For Public Liaison; Chairman of the Center for Equal Opportunity

Gen. (Ret.) James T. Conway - Former Commandant U.S. Marine Corps

Lt. Gen. (Ret.) David Deptula - Former Deputy Chief of Staff for Intel, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance, U.S. Air Force

Hon. Louis J. Freeh - Former Director, FBI

Hon. Newt Gingrich - Former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives

Amb. Marc Ginsberg - Former U.S. Ambassador to Morocco

Hon. Rudy Giuliani - Former New York City Mayor, Presidential Candidate

Gen. (Ret.) James L. Jones - Former U.S. Marine Corps Commandant, NATO Commander, National Security Advisor to the President

Amb. Robert Joseph - Former Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security

Hon. Patrick Kennedy - Former U.S. Representative for Rhode Island

Hon. Joseph I. Lieberman - Former U.S. Senator for Connecticut

Lt. Col. (Ret.) Leo McCloskey - Former U.S. Military Commander For Camp Ashraf, U.S. Army

Col. (Ret.) Wesley M. Martin - Former U.S. Military Commander for Camp Ashraf, Senior Antiterrorism Officer - Iraq, U.S. Army

R. Bruce McCole - President, Institute for Democratic Strategies

Col. (Ret.) Gary Morsch, M.D., M.P.H. - Former Senior Medical Officer at Camp Ashraf, Iraq, U.S. Army Reserve

Hon. Michael Mukasey - Former U.S. Attorney General

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) David Phillips - Former U.S. Military Commander for Camp Ashraf, U.S. Army

Amb. Mitchell B. Reiss - Former Special Envoy to the Northern Ireland Peace Process

Hon. Edward Rendell - Former Governor of Pennsylvania, former Chairman of the Democratic National Committee

Amb. Bill Richardson - Former Governor of New Mexico, former U.S. Secretary of Energy and U.S. Ambassador to the U.N.

Hon. Tom Ridge - Former Governor of Pennsylvania, former U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security

Prof. John Sano - Former Deputy Director, National Clandestine Service, CIA

Prof. Ivan Sascha Sheehan - Executive Director, School of Public & International Affairs, University of Baltimore

Hon. Eugene Sullivan - Retired Chief Judge for U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces

Prof. Raymond Tanter - Former Personal Representative of the Secretary of Defense to Arms Control Negotiations

Hon. Robert Torricelli - Former U.S. Senator for New Jersey

Frances M. Townsend - Former Homeland Security Advisor to the President

Gen. (Ret.) Charles F. Wald - Former Deputy Commander of U.S. European Command, U.S. Air Force



#FREEIRAN2018

We Are The Future Of Iran

