

IRAN

RISING UP FOR FREEDOM



Maryam Rajavi

**1,000
International
Dignitaries,
Iranians, in 30,000
locations from
102 countries join
Free Iran Global
Summit at Ashraf 3,
Albania, online.**

#FreeIran2020

Iranian dissidents rally for regime change in Tehran

By BEN WOLFGANG

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Iran's theocracy is at the weakest point of its four-decade history and facing unprecedented challenges from a courageous citizenry hungry for freedom, Iranian dissidents and prominent U.S. and European politicians said Friday at a major international rally calling for the downfall of the dictatorship in Tehran.

The annual "Free Iran Global Summit," held virtually this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, brought together Iranian resistance groups and their allies around the world behind the common cause of pushing to replace Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's regime with a nonviolent democracy.

The summit — organized and hosted by the multinational umbrella organization the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) and its associate group, the People's Mujahedeen of Iran (MEK) — was something of a technical marvel, uniting via Zoom tens of thousands of participants from 102 countries and 30,000 separate locations around the world.

Some Iranian resistance activists were even broadcasting into the summit from inside Iran at tremendous risk to their own safety, given the Khamenei regime's history of violently cracking down on internal opposition.

Behind the logistical triumph was a simple message from the NCRI organizers that Iran's clerics and terrorist sympathizers are living on borrowed time, facing unprecedented anger from within and crushing external pressure as the Trump administration's financial sanctions campaign against Tehran continues to squeeze the Iranian economy.

"This generation is a constant nightmare for the mullahs. Indeed, the clerics have come face to face with a rebellious generation against which they are vulnerable," acting NCRI President Maryam Rajavi said during a passionate address Friday morning. "Today in Iran, one of the greatest battles and one of the greatest tests of our time rages on between freedom and religious fascism, between democracy and religious fundamentalism. This is a battle intertwined with the destiny of contemporary humanity and global peace and security."

Mrs. Rajavi delivered her address from the Ashraf-3 complex in Albania, which has become the headquarters of the movement and is home to MEK dissidents and resistance fighters dedicated to overthrowing an

oppressive government that has ruled Iran since the Islamic Revolution of 1979. Leaders of the NCRI, which is comprised of multiple other organizations, say the council has seen its stature grow to the point that Iranian officials can no longer deny its influence.

The NCRI has many American supporters, including some with close relationships to Mr. Trump, such as former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, one of the president's personal lawyers. They say the organization not only has galvanized tens of thousands of Iranians behind its cause but also has fashioned itself into something of a

from both political parties participating represented a who's who list of American "formers," including former Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman of Connecticut, former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge, former Attorney General Michael Mukasey, retired Marine Commandant James T. Conway and others. Several current U.S. officials also delivered remarks, including Sen. Martha McSally, Arizona Republican, and Rep. Brad Sherman, California Democrat.

Mrs. Rajavi, Mr. Giuliani and other speakers said the wave of popular protests inside Iran over the past three years prove

has proven it can't deliver for its people.

"The Iranian people want change, to have democracy, finally to have human rights, to finally have economic wealth, no more hunger. The will of the people is much stronger than any oppressive measure of an Iranian regime," said Martin Patzelt, a member of German Parliament.

Whether it was the Iran nuclear deal or other policies, all efforts to reform the government in Tehran have failed and the only remaining option is for the Iranian people to rise up and install new leadership, said former U.S. Sen. Lieberman.



SHAVOSH HOSSEINI/THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Maryam Rajavi, president-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI), waves the traditional Iranian flag as she prepares to speak at the "Free Iran Global Summit: Iran Rising Up for Freedom" on July 17.

shadow government that could potentially step into power in Tehran if the regime falls.

"We know the truth and they know the truth: They know this organization is a total threat to them," Mr. Giuliani said during a speech delivered to Friday's virtual summit.

"When they see today, this gathering of people taking advantage of Zoom and the new modern methods of communication," he said. "They realize they have a formidable foe. They realize and can foresee how this group could easily stand up an interim government that could be a bridge to a permanent, democratic, free, prosperous and wonderful Iran."

Other prominent American figures

that the time is ripe for dramatic change. In 2017, 2018, 2019, and again in January, swarms of protesters took to the streets to demonstrate against Iran's leaders and their policies.

Thousands of those protesters, the NCRI and others have estimated, were killed or imprisoned as a result, though the Iranian government denies those claims.

"They'd rather send people to bomb us in Paris or to kill some of you in America than to feed their people," Mr. Giuliani said Friday.

Even across Europe, where the Iran nuclear deal was much more popular than it was in the U.S., officials say Iran's leadership

"We have reached a point where we can conclude, after all that has been tried with this criminal syndicate that is holding the people and history and culture of Iran hostage, that everything that has been tried has not worked," he said. "It will come from the resistance fighters in Iran ... and when they do turn their resistance into rebellion, we and the rest of the world — particularly the United States — must stand with them and support them. I am convinced that is a day that is coming."

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Q&A: National Council of Resistance of Iran President-elect Maryam Rajavi

By THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Maryam Rajavi, President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, the world's largest Iranian dissident organization, which seeks to replace Iran's theocratic regime with a democracy, provided the following exclusive answers to questions from The Washington Times.

The Washington Times: In what way is your organization's gathering this year different from the previous gatherings it has held over the past 17 years? What does the organization's leadership, and what do the participants in this year's convention hope to achieve and what message do they have for the International Community and the United States?

Mrs. Rajavi: The annual gathering this year is taking place in the aftermath of major developments that unfolded over the course of the previous year. Among those are: the major uprising in November 2019, where the people demanded the regime's overthrow; the January 2020 uprising, in which in their slogans people rejected both the Shah's (monarchy) and the mullahs' regimes, and instead demanded the establishment of a republic based on universal suffrage; the regime's parliamentary elections were dismissed through a nationwide boycott; the coronavirus catastrophe has

claimed the lives of 70,000 of our compatriots as a result of the regime's criminal policies; the deepening economic crisis has continued, with a 50% inflation rate and a 30% decline in the value of the national currency over the past few months alone.

In short, the regime is in a much weaker and more vulnerable position compared to last year; it is much more exposed, and the society writ-large is on the verge of a real explosion. So, the regime is closer to being overthrown more than ever before.

In such circumstances, this gathering carries three primary messages.

First, it sends a message to the clerical regime that despite all its attempts to physically eliminate the Iranian Resistance, coupled with its extensive and well-funded demonization campaign, today the Resistance is stronger, more cohesive, and more determined than ever before to overthrow the regime in its entirety.

Second, it sends a message to the Iranian people that the Mujahedeen-e Khalq (PMOI/MEK) and the Resistance, particularly the Resistance Units inside Iran, are standing with them and are supporting their uprising to overthrow the theocracy and to win ultimate victory while standing shoulder-to-shoulder with each other.

And, third, it sends a message to the international community that there is a strong alternative that ensures Iran's transition from a theocracy to a democratic, non-nuclear republic based on the separation

of religion and state and gender equality.

The international community must recognize and acknowledge the right of the Iranian people for resistance against this medieval regime and for uprooting it once and for all.

The Washington Times: Do you think the Trump administration policy of "Maximum Pressure" is working to change the behavior of the Iranian regime domestically, and is it working to curb Iran's malign influence in the Middle East? More specifically, is the current U.S. policy working to limit Iran's use of terrorism against its opponents, and to limit Iran's ballistic and nuclear programs, and other nefarious activities?

Mrs. Rajavi: The experience of the past four decades has taught us that the only effective and productive policy against the clerical regime is a firm and resolute policy. Denying the regime access to resources and opportunities, and preventing it from obtaining economic and political concessions, are indispensable to confronting its terrorism and aggression, as well as its attempts to obtain nuclear weapons.

This is in line with the Iranian people's interests as well. Replenishing the regime's financial coffers is tantamount to more suppression against the Iranian people and an escalation in exporting terrorism and warmongering in the region.

We have always said and reiterate that

the regime must not be allowed to get its hands on a single bullet. It must not be allowed to reap the financial benefits of the sale of even a single barrel of oil, which belongs to the Iranian people.

An hour after the announcement on the signing of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on July 14, 2015, I declared that the termination of the provisions of the six UN Security Council resolutions will not prevent the regime from obtaining the bomb.

Rather, what is imperative for preventing the regime from obtaining a nuclear weapon can be summed up in snapback sanctions, re-imposition of the six UN Security Council resolutions, the full elimination of the regime's enrichment capabilities, shuttering the regime's nuclear sites, and instituting anywhere anytime inspections.

Let me highlight another aspect as well. Court proceedings for a regime diplomat will soon commence in Belgium. He was the mastermind of a large terrorist plot in June 2018. This is perhaps the first time that a diplomat is facing trial for being involved in a terrorist plot. He has spent the last two years behind bars, along with three other terrorist accomplices.

He is a senior officer of the Iranian regime's Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS) and was the commander of a plot to bomb the Iranian Resistance's

» see **Q&A** | **C4**

annual gathering in Paris. The targets were myself and senior European and American dignitaries in attendance. If the plot were not discovered and thwarted at the last minute, it would have led to the largest and deadliest terrorist act on European soil.

Of course, terrorism has been part of the regime's survival strategy and its most important foreign policy instrument since day one. But in recent years, the situation has changed, creating a greater need for the regime to resort to terrorism, especially against its legitimate and powerful alternative, because the regime has grown increasingly weak and vulnerable. That is why, in the aftermath of the 2017 uprising where it heard its death knell, the regime plotted two significant terrorist operations against our movement, one planned to take place in Paris, and another planned to take place at a New Year celebration of thousands of MEK members in Albania in March 2018, a gathering in which myself and Mayor Giuliani were also present. Would leniency and appeasement toward this kind of a regime be anything but fueling its terrorism? A resolute policy is the only response.

The Washington Times: What is the status of the "opposition" movement inside and outside Iran, and specifically the "resistance" in Iran in view of the developments in the past year? In recent months, senior government officials have voiced alarm about the younger generation of Iranians joining the ranks of the resistance. Has there been an increase in arrests of Iranians, including two elite, award-winning students, for having ties with the Mujahedeen-e Khalq (MEK)? If so, how do you explain this renewed attention towards your movement?

Mrs. Rajavi: The MEK has led a struggle against the two dictatorships of the Shah and the Sheikh (mullahs), sacrificing over 100,000 martyrs. The MEK's members are selfless individuals with an unflinching focus on the ideal of freedom and liberty. They do not want anything for themselves. For this reason, they have a special place for the Iranian people. The rise and spread of Resistance Units over the past few years, and especially the role that they played in the 2017 and 2019 uprisings, have turned these units into an instrument of hope and inspiration for the Iranian people. The plans and platforms introduced by the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI), which has the MEK as its central component, have made the Iranian people hopeful toward Iran's democratic future.

At the same time, the Iranian people, and particularly the younger generation, have realized that as long as this regime remains in power, the country's problems will never be solved. There is no other option but to overthrow this regime, and the MEK stands at the forefront of implementing this policy.

That is why despite the regime spending billions of dollars to advance its dark and evil propaganda against the MEK, the message of this resistance movement continues to resonate inside Iran. Not a single day goes by without the regime producing a movie or setting up an exhibition or writing a book to slander and demonize the Iranian Resistance.

Nevertheless, the generations born after the revolution, regardless of the regime's propaganda, have oriented toward and are attracted to the MEK and the

were either executed or in prison, lending Khomeini and the mullahs the opportunity to seize the anti-monarchic revolution's leadership without paying the slightest price for it. In contrast, today, there is a powerful opposition and an alternative such as the MEK and the NCRI does exist in the political landscape.

Owing to its reactionary nature, deep-seated state corruption, sheer incompetence and factional feuding at the helm, Tehran has never been and is unable to alleviate the numerous political, eco-

the scene, this bedrock will be removed and there is no one else left that can simply replace him. This eventuality will spawn more discord and tensions within the regime and it will particularly lead to a more extensive and accelerated wave of defections among the regime's forces, especially in the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and the paramilitary Bassij Force. This is because these forces acquire their perceived legitimacy and *raison d'être* from the supreme leader. Khamenei's death will undoubtedly and



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

LED screens showing 30,000 locations from 102 countries connected virtually.

Iranian Resistance. In 1988, 30,000 political prisoners, 90% of whom were MEK members, were massacred on the orders of Khomeini. That was a genocide. Yet, today, the children of that very generation are following in the footsteps of their fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters.

The Washington Times: There is substantial evidence showing that the uprising in November 2019 was suppressed violently by the Iranian government, with many reports claiming at least 1,500 people were killed and some 12,000 arrested. In view of such brutality and oppressive actions by the regime, what do you think are the chances of the opposition in overturning the regime?

Mrs. Rajavi: The uprising that peaked in November 2019 has neither been suppressed nor has it vanished. The root causes that contributed to the outbreak of those protests are not only still in place, but they have been intensified and strengthened. There is an explosive tendency and widespread disenchantment within the society, there is a strong opposition and an alternative, and the regime is bankrupt, crisis-ridden, and reeling under sanctions. No amount of repression or killings can prevent an uprising. Just as the corrupt dictatorship of the Shah (preceding the mullahs' regime) was unable to prevent social uprisings and its ultimate overthrow through a bloody suppression. Today's conditions bear a substantial difference in comparison with those of the 1970s. During the 1979 revolution, due to the Shah's crackdown and its secret police SAVAK, democratic forces like the MEK

and social ills and problems gripping today's Iranian society. These days, many of the regime's officials repeatedly warn about more uprisings and protests by the millions-strong army of hungry and deprived people.

The Washington Times: In light of recent parliamentary elections in Iran, what is your view of supreme leader Ali Khamenei's future influence? Do you anticipate that the current regime will survive if Khamenei dies? What implications would such a development have for your movement?

Mrs. Rajavi: There is no doubt that the three major uprisings that broke out in December 2017, November 2019 and January 2020, in which millions of people displayed their full determination to overthrow the regime, have substantially weakened the supreme leader's position more than ever before, to the extent that even members of the regime's own factions no longer take his words and orders seriously. The parliamentary elections marked a significant defeat for Khamenei and his regime because they were confronted with an unprecedented boycott by all Iranians. At the same time, by closing ranks and pushing aside the rival faction, Khamenei has further contracted the regime's social base, rendering it weaker and more vulnerable. It is certainly true that Khamenei's death will generate an insurmountable crisis for the regime, since all of the regime's domestic and foreign policies were based on the principle of the *velayat-e faqih* (absolute clerical rule) and Khamenei's absolute rule. Without him on

substantially accelerate the trend of the regime's collapse, bringing closer the prospect of its overthrow.

The Washington Times: According to Iran nuclear deal, the arms embargo against Iran will be lifted this fall. Is there a specific action, in your view, that the international community and the Trump administration should be taking in this regard and in response to Iran's ongoing ballistic missile tests and its non-cooperation with the IAEA?

Mrs. Rajavi: We have always stated and repeat once again that this regime must not be allowed to acquire even a single bullet. It must not pocket profits from a single barrel of Iranian oil. And, it must not spend for its own survival even a single dollar from revenues that belong to the Iranian people. The Iranian Resistance calls for the re-imposition of the six UN Security Council resolutions against this regime. We stress the need to extend international sanctions regarding any form of weapons trade with the regime. Moreover, in the Iranian Resistance's view, the global community must recognize and acknowledge the right of the Iranian people to struggle against religious tyranny. The regime's leaders must be put on trial in international tribunals for their killing of 120,000 people in Iran, including the massacre of 30,000 political prisoners in 1988, and the murder of 1,500 Iranians in November 2019.

This excerpt is from a Washington Times staff-written news article first published online on July 15, 2020.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 17 - Mrs. Rajavi raising her fist in front of a monument dedicated to the November 2019 uprising as the honor guard stands at attention.

Inspired by historic summit and solidarity

Zohreh Akhyani,
Former Secretary General of
the MEK and Mayor of Ashraf 3

Dear friends, supporters, and attendees of the Free Iran Global Summit, please accept our warmest greetings from the Mojahedin-e Khalq in Ashraf 3, the epicenter of resistance and perseverance. Hello to all of you, who have joined us live in this historic summit from 30,000 connections around the world.

On behalf of the MEK, we express our highest respects to the more than



1,000 honorable dignitaries from five continents of the world who are taking part in this summit. Your presence and expression of solidarity with the Iranian people's uprising is a source of inspiration for the arisen people of Iran who are committed to overthrowing the terrorist religious fascism ruling Iran.

We send our greetings to the courageous young protesters who rattled the regime's foundations in December 2017, and November 2019, by setting ablaze the clerical regime's evil centers across Iran.

We send our greetings to the heroic Resistance Units who keep these red

flames alive and spread them on a daily basis; those who in the difficult conditions of suppression, prison, and torture, demonstrate the power, righteousness, and validity of the strategy of the Iranian people's organized resistance, and show the world more than ever what is happening in Iran, especially the final stages of this regime before its overthrow.

Among this summit's goal is to support the Resistance Units. We now begin the Free Iran Global Summit along with Iranians and supporters joining online from 30,000 locations across the world.

'Ruling criminals terrified of being overthrown'

Rabi'eh Mofidi,
Deputy Secretary
General of the MEK

Hello to you all, rebellious supporters of the Resistance across the world, and to our esteemed friends of the Iranian people and Resistance, supporters of democracy and human rights who have joined us from five continents in the world. Welcome to you all!

Hello to all sisters and brothers, who have joined Iranians around the world in a glorious symbol of willpower; a coming together that is building a future, heralding the spring, and breaking the spell of the night.

What kind of a seed is this that has grown so miraculously, branching out like a forest, in sync with the tune of the spring.



Our warmest greetings from Ashraf 3 to supporters of Ashraf across Iran, Resistance Units, rebellious forces and fiery spirits; to those who make sacrifices to liberate Iran; to those who have

built a human chain that joins the 2020 summit to every part of Iran; shining like a light that passes through the depths of the clerical regime's dark dungeons, along the uprisings of December 2017, and November 2019, making the ruling criminals terrified of being overthrown, and paving the way for triumph in the light-filled Iran of tomorrow.

As we approach July 21, the anniversary of the historic uprising of the Iranian people against reactionary ideology and colonialism and for restoring the nationalist and democratic government of Dr. Mohammad Mossadeq, the Free Iran Global Summit is the renewal of our commitment with the martyrs of the July 21, 1952, those shining stars in the dawn of a bright morning.

Moreover, on the anniversary of the foundation of the National Council of

Resistance of Iran (NCRI), the only independent and democratic alternative, in 1981, the Free Iran Global Summit is an expression of the Iranian people's commitment and determination to overthrow the current ruling criminals.

As the Iranian Resistance's Leader said in March, if "Khamenei and Rouhani have adopted a strategy of causing mass casualties by sending people to the minefields of coronavirus in order to ward off the threat of being overthrown during the times of coming under sanctions, a strategy along the same lines of the unpatriotic war and the massacre of political prisoners," where "every death is an opportunity and gift" for them, for our part, we will turn this situation "into the death knell of overthrow and tick tock of uprising through rebellion and reinforced battle." And we chant: "Rebels will win victory."

Regime fears 'formidable foe'

**Rudy Giuliani,
Former Mayor of New York City**

The people of Iran, through their protests starting in November 2019, and almost every day, have demonstrated their great desire for freedom, and have put their lives on the line by demonstrating. That is a very powerful demonstration of just how strong the desire for freedom is in Iran. In the early days of those protests, over 1,500 people were killed by the murderous regime of terror. The people of Iran have made it clear to the whole world that they want a free, democratic, and peaceful Iran ruled by law, an Iran where people can practice their religion, and in which women are treated the same as men. Those are precisely the goals of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, the MEK, and they are the goals enunciated by Maryam Rajavi in her very brilliant and universal 10 principles.

Two protest slogans show how the people of Iran feel. These are, "Reformists, hardliners, the game is now over," and "Down with the dictator."

As stated in the letter that was signed by the 31 U.S. dignitaries to set forth our belief, we say as a group there is a beacon of hope in this dark landscape. The one organization that has done more than any other, including government, to free Iranian citizens from tyranny and the world from fundamentalist-inspired terrorism, is the National Council of Resistance of Iran, NCRI. The NCRI strives relentlessly to ensure that hope for democracy and an end to injustice and tyranny remains alive in Iran.

The NCRI is under the leadership of Maryam Rajavi, a woman who has the respect of all of us. She has been a hero. She is a dedicated leader with tremendous understanding of the plight of the Iranians and what's needed to bring Iran to a democratic alternative for the regime. Can you imagine when this terrible regime falls, and it will fall, and she's the interim leader, to have a woman as the head of state? I believe it will completely transform a great deal of the Middle East and a great deal of the world.

The NCRI, under Madame Rajavi, offers us the universal vision of freedom. The MEK is the main component of the NCRI and, with its network, is the driving force for change. That is the reason why it is singled out for murder by the regime.

There are Iranian apologists here in America and in the West, people who are paid by the Iranian regime, who say the NCRI and the MEK do not amount to much. They claim it is a cult with very few followers and no chance to replace the



Can you imagine when this terrible regime falls, and it will fall, and [Mrs. Rajavi is] the interim leader, to have a woman as the head of state? I believe it will completely transform a great deal of the Middle East and a great deal of the world.

regime. But, listen to the words of the Ayatollah and his puppet, Rouhani, just over the last year, who said several times that the only threat to their regime, the only organization that has any chance to put together a government to replace them, is the NCRI and the MEK. It is equally amazing that the corrupt Western press suppresses that. I can only attribute that to the power of the lobbying organizations for Iran who have sold their souls to the regime of terror. They know that this organization is a total threat to them. When they see today's gathering of people taking advantage of new modern methods of communication, and our ability to broadcast all throughout Iran, despite their best efforts to block us, they realize they have a formidable foe. They realize and can foresee how this group could easily stand up an interim government that could be a bridge to a permanent democratic, free, prosperous, and wonderful Iran, because

the Iranian people deserve that.

The economy in Iran is collapsing. That is a tragedy. No one wants to see that. People are starving. Even when the regime was getting a flow of money like the \$1.7 billion in cash that was delivered to Iran as the price of the ill-fated nuclear agreement, people in Iran were starving. Now, with the much more effective sanctions that have been in effect since the new administration came into power in Washington, the sanctions have been crushing.

The regime is on the brink, particularly with its handling of coronavirus, in which they allowed 70,000 or more of their people to die, without any help. Everybody in Iran knows that the reason that the people of Iran are suffering is not only the sanctions, it's not only coronavirus, it's the fact that they still allocate tremendous sums of money to terrorist groups all over the world. They would rather send people

to bomb us in Paris or to kill some of you in America than to feed their people.

They would rather allocate money to renegade criminal groups that want to wreak havoc in Europe or in the United States than feed their people. That is why they are not only religious maniacs, they are just plain, common criminals, crooks, thieves. To me, the mullahs are like the people who ran the mafia, the people I prosecuted who ran the mafia and extorted their people, extorted the Italian-American people, and subjugated them, except this is on a much bigger scale. The Ayatollah is like the head of the mafia. No man can be a man of God who is a mass murderer.

Experience has shown that dictatorship does not change on its own. The old saying, a leopard does not change its spots, is quite true - particularly a dictator. Despite all the concessions provided under the JCPOA, the Iranian regime didn't change one bit. In fact, it got worse. It continued its oppression of the Iranian people. It continued its march to becoming a nuclear power. It continued to be the single biggest state sponsor of terrorism in the world.

Regime change in Iran is within reach. Do not listen to the pessimists and to the Iranian apologists who are paid to say that.

The goal of the NCRI and of Maryam Rajavi is very simple: a free Iran that will be a contributing nation to peace in the world, to a better world. This is the heritage of the Iranian people. This is one of the great civilizations that goes back to time, immemorial. The goal of Maryam Rajavi and all of us here is not to impose anyone on the Iranian people. The goal is to see regime change.

There is a shadow government to handle the interim so we don't have the situation that we had in Iraq several years ago, so the government can continue, and the people can start to prosper immediately. The goal is to have free and fair elections, to establish a rule of law from day one, to make sure that women participate in the government and society to the same extent as men, to practice your religion as you see fit or not practice religion, to immediately end the nuclear program, and to make clear that Iran is to rejoin the community of civilized nations. Then the Iranian people will decide who they want, what kind of constitution they want. That is the goal of this organization and the millions of people that support it, and the people that are watching today.

The regime is teetering right now. When it falls, you are going to have your name etched in that great book of liberators. The one whose name will be in the largest, boldest print will be Maryam Rajavi. Stand with Maryam Rajavi.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19 - MEK members holding up pictures of the late Iranian Prime Minister Dr. Mohammad Mossadeq.

Race to openness and prosperity

**Newt Gingrich,
Former Speaker of the U.S.
House of Representatives**

Thank you for allowing me to take just a moment to share my support for the leadership that you have shown, particularly Mrs. Rajavi has shown, in continuing to stand up to the dictatorship in Tehran, to stand for the right of the people of Iran to have a freely elected government of their own choice, and to have a chance at a better future, a prosperous future, a free and democratic future.

I think we have the strange moment in history where, on the one hand, the dictatorship is clearly getting weaker, the sanctions are beginning to have a deep effect, the drop in the price of oil had a



deep effect. There are many things going on that I think are convincing people. You see this in demonstrations, concerns, and the degree to which the regime feels it is under pressure. On the other hand, the more pressure put on the dictatorship leads it to be more aggressive internationally, more aggressive in Syria and in Lebanon, more aggressive in trying to find ways to get to weapons that will enable it to threaten its neighbors and to blackmail the region. So, I think we are in a race between those of us who believe in freedom and believe that the Iranian people have every right to be free, and those who would ultimately use some kind of a war or a military adventure to try to arouse nationalism to save what is a decaying, weaker, and, I think, steadily

more in danger dictatorship.

I want to thank each of you for staying involved. I am sorry I could not be with you for this great meeting, but I know that it will be remarkable as always and that it will have a great number of people involved. And I want you to know that for me, as a private person, I am totally committed to doing everything I can to help the people of Iran have the kind of freedom, the kind of openness, the kind of decent society, and the kind of positive, healthy economy we want them to have. So, I hope you have a great meeting, and I want you to know that you have my support for continuing to do everything we can to help the Iranian people achieve the future they deserve.

‘World stands united as never before’

**Robert Torricelli,
Former U.S. Senator**

First, a special recognition to some of the people I admire most, the point of the spear in the struggle for Iranian freedom, the residents of Ashraf, who also spend their every waking hour thinking about how to maneuver the Iranian people into a new, prosperous, and free future. We are now writing the last chapter in this struggle for freedom.

Mayor Giuliani cited that before the great wisdom of struggles often comes, not from its leaders, but from the streets, from people themselves, who are putting themselves on the line. You can hear in cities and towns all across Iran today a common message, “Reformers, hardliners, the game is up.” It is over. Or simply, give us our country back. The Shah, the mullahs, dictators all, give us our country back. The people are speaking to us. As in the past, we had to speak to them, now the voice is theirs across the country.

In every struggle, we look for milestones. Are we closer this year than last year? How is this year different than times before? The evidence is overwhelming, and sometimes captured in single events. For many people in Iran, the inability of the mullahs to speak the truth even about the destruction of the Ukrainian airline, getting caught lying to desperate families, the people of Iran, the people of the world, other governments. If you can’t tell the truth to a mother and father about the loss of their children in shooting down an airliner, can you be telling the truth



about government resources? Can you be trusted with the future of a nation?

And then the pandemic. At a time when the world is spending trillions of dollars, marshalling all of its resources to save people from the pandemic, in Iran with tens of thousands of deaths, money is not going to protect them or their families or hospitals or buying medical equipment. Rather, it is going to revolutions and terrorist attacks in Lebanon and Yemen, to building an atomic weapon which has done nothing but ostracize Iran from the civilized nations of the world, and to pay the salaries of the Revolutionary Guards. This is how you would spend your resources? Not medical care? Not food? Not keeping employment? But, even in the face of the pandemic, maintaining terrorist attacks?

These are your priorities? This is how what was clear to many of us years ago has become clear now to people across Iran. The game is up. We see you now for who you are.

Today, the international community has probably the most effective embargo and economic isolation of Iran in history. This is not an American problem. The Iranian government has reached out to the Europeans, and they have said no. They have reached out to regimes across the world. Today, for the first time in human history, repressive regimes denying all freedom, all economic opportunity, all prosperity, is limited to but a handful of nations: North Korea, Cuba, and the largest among them, Iran. These few regimes are all that stands between general recognition of economic

opportunity and some modicum of freedom at least, and global opportunity. The world stands united as never before.

Yet, as my country was reminded in a time of peril of our own, to some generations much is given, of this generation much is expected. I know it is not fair for young Iranians. Other generations of Iranians in a long and proud history have lived free and in prosperity. Indeed, Iranian civilization and the Persian kingdoms were the center of world progress.

Today in Iran if you are hearing our words, take a quiet moment. Everyone can do something. Decide upon your role, how you will stand with Maryam Rajavi. If you’re an oil worker, do you really want the product that you are pulling out of the earth to go to fueling the corruption of the mullahs who are sending billions of dollars to Swiss bank accounts? Or fueling terrorist attacks across the world? Is this what you want of your labor? You can do something to slow down production. If you are a student, even among your studies, you have a moment you can take to the streets. If you are a shopkeeper, can you not withhold some taxation that is going to fund the Revolutionary Guards? Everyone can. If you are retired, if you are unemployed, if you are at home, a simple slogan printed on a wall can inspire other Iranians. Choose what you want to do.

Thousands have died. Tens of thousands have been imprisoned. We are not asking you to do that. We are asking you to do something. Stand with Maryam Rajavi. Take a stand. We will never abandon you. We are all with you until the end. Iran will rejoin the family of nations.

‘Your enemy is our enemy’

**Joseph Lieberman,
Former U.S. Senator**

I am really honored to be with you here today. I bring greetings from my wife Hadassah who was thrilled to be with me in Ashraf last year. And I must say it was humbling because, when we left, I was convinced that Hadassah was much more popular than I was. But she sends her love and her support to you.

It is an honor to be with the National Council of Resistance of Iran, the MEK, and particularly with your great leader, my dear friend, Maryam Rajavi. This is an historic event. I think we’ve made it into the Guinness Book of World Records, I don’t believe there has ever been this large a global meeting on Zoom in history. So, it is really impressive. And let me tell you that an event like this does not happen without hard work and an organization such as the NCRI that once again has proven its determination, its competence, and its persistence to do things that others would never try to do. And that happens because of the commitment to principle and purpose that’s part of the NCRI.

Of course, no organization succeeds without a strong leader. This organization has the strongest of leaders in Maryam Rajavi, a woman of faith and principle and intellect, a modern woman, a woman of strength, and someone who most of all loves the people of Iran and works with a tremendous determination for that day that is coming soon- the purpose of our gathering today - when the people of Iran will be free. So, I am proud to join you in saying I stand with Maryam Rajavi.

Now I want to say to all of you who are a part of this historic meeting that you have also joined the journey of history. This is the struggle that has gone on since creation between tyranny and freedom, and you have joined the side of freedom,



freedom fighters all. I say it started with creation because from the creation every person on earth was given the birthright, the right by birth to be free. This is what the patriotic founders of America put into the first words they wrote in their Declaration of Independence in 1776, that there are self-evident truths. One of them is that every person has the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, not as a result of the great men who wrote that document or the philosophers of the Enlightenment, but as an endowment from our Creator, an endowment from God. That is what motivated them, the heroes, the patriots of the American Revolution, to take on a fight that no one thought they could win. They were fighting for their freedom from the most powerful empire of the day, the British Empire. The same was true for the French Revolution in the 19th century, the tremendous resistance to Nazism and fascism during the 20th century, and of course people fought against all odds against the tyranny of the Communist Soviet Union and prevailed. All of you who are here today around the world and particularly the heroic resistance fighters in Iran have put yourself in

the path of those who preceded, fighting against odds that others thought were insurmountable, and yet emerging victorious as you are today.

You know, a great American leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, famously said the arc of the moral universe bends slowly, but it bends toward justice.” But he also understood that each of us has the capacity to bend that arc more quickly toward justice and freedom than it otherwise would bend. And that is what you are doing today. I am proud as an American to stand with the NCRI, the MEK, and Maryam Rajavi. Your enemy, this fanatical, aggressive, oppressive, tyrannical, terrorist-supporting, corrupt regime, in Iran is our enemy. As America looks for ways to change this regime, to end this threat to our security from the regime in Iran, there is no better ally, there is no more natural alliance than with the NCRI. Is there another opposition group, frankly are there many groups in the world who could have organized a meeting like this globally? I do not think so. Is there another group in opposition to the Iranian regime, on behalf of the Iranian people, with support in Iran, anywhere near

the NCRI? No. So, I say to the skeptics and the doubters and the paid lobbyists against the NCRI, what we are doing in America, those of us who so strongly support the NCRI and Maryam Rajavi, who you will hear during this day, is doing what is not only the interest in our universal values of freedom as expressed in the Declaration of Independence, but in the interests of the security of the American people today whose security is threatened every day by the fanatical regime that controls Iran today.

The increasing courage and protests from the Iranian people give us hope that the day that we’re dreaming of is coming. There are still people who will say to you here in America, until we defeat their arguments, “Okay, let’s go back to the table and negotiate with this regime in Tehran.” But they have not learned. We tried that, and the regime in Iran still brutally suppresses the human rights of their people. The regime in Iran still steals the wealth of the Iranian people, still sponsors terrorism around the region and the world, still acts aggressively throughout the region and the world, still builds nuclear missiles and the weapons to attack their neighbors, Europe, and yes, the United States of America.

Therefore, we have reached a point where we can conclude after all that has been tried with this criminal syndicate which holds the people, history, and culture of Iran hostage, everything that has been tried has not worked. And since the regime in Tehran has proven it will not change, we must together act to change the regime. It will come from the resistance fighters in Iran, so many of whom we have seen today. When they turn their resistance into rebellion, we, and the rest of the world, particularly in the United States, must stand with them and support them. I am convinced that is a day that is coming. And I am ready for that day.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19
- Mojahedin-e Khalq (MEK)
members display the original
Iranian flag during the Free Iran
Global Summit.

‘Regime never looked weaker, deception no substitute for strength’

**Stephen Harper,
Former Prime Minister
of Canada**

Governments and people may be united in the fight against coronavirus globally, but the regime and the virus are united against the people in Iran. We will never know the real number of coronavirus infections and deaths in the mullahs’ regime. What we do know is that no country was so quickly overwhelmed by the cases and so unable to genuinely help its people. It was unable because it is unwilling. The regime’s priorities remain, not the health and welfare of its citizens, but the spread of its ideological hatred, the backing of its regional terror network, and, of course, the furthering of its apocalyptic nuclear program. What greater proof can there be of the regime’s evil and unreformable nature than its fanatical adherence to nuclear weapons ambitions during a pandemic devastating its population. But, that’s what has happened.

The Ayatollah’s regime has breached almost all of its commitments under the JCPOA nuclear deal, accumulating low enriched uranium, continuing its work on nuclear missile delivery systems, keeping its nuclear facilities operational, and refusing to grant access to inspectors, no doubt to cover up the true scale of its deception.

But, deception is no substitute for strength. And the regime is not strong; it is weakened. Today, its allies in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and Gaza are experiencing enormous economic pain and popular unrest. Of course, with the economic situation deteriorating at home, corruption rampant with explosions and fires widely reported, street protests continue to break out in Iran itself. They do so despite the real risk of death for the protestors and despite the disinformation campaigns that the regime wages against its opponents, including most frequently against this organization.

Still, the regime has never looked weaker than at the very moments when it has tried to show strength. Yes, it was able to shoot down a defenseless commercial airliner, killing 63 of my fellow Canadian citizens and many others in the process. But, its attempt to hit back at those who can defend themselves, at America and Israeli and Saudi assets, those have been brushed away like annoying insects, with its supposedly



all-powerful terror leader Soleimani eliminated in the blink of an eye. The regime is ready to fall, and the regime is

ready to be replaced.

This organization, the National Council of Resistance of Iran has adopted a

10-point plan including democracy and free elections, pluralism and human rights, justice and the rule of law, peaceful coexistence and gender equality, private property and a market economy, the separation of religion and state, and of course, a non-nuclear Iran. Friends, I’ve never claimed to be able to tell the Iranian people who their government should be, only that it is the Iranian people themselves who have the right to choose it. But surely this 10-point plan is what all people of good faith wish to see in a reformed and reborn Iranian nation. So, I say stand with Maryam Rajavi and with all those people and organizations around the world who seek a free, democratic, and peaceful future for Iran and its people. Friends, continue your struggle, keep hope alive, and prepare for the new Iran that will come to pass through your efforts.

‘Bright future’ awaits Iran

**John Baird,
Former Minister of Foreign
Affairs of Canada**

It is a real pleasure and honor for me to bring greetings from Canada to the millions of people who share your struggle for freedom and democracy and promote human rights all across Iran. A special hello to my good friend Madam Rajavi and my friends both in Iran and around the world who are joining this incredible celebration. I’m so thrilled to associate myself with this great struggle. I had the great honor and privilege for the last five years to work with the NCRI, and I have to tell you their plans for the bright future of Iran are incredible. Their organizational capacity is second to none, the significant popular support that it enjoys in Iran and with the Iranian diaspora around the world is incredible and is an inspiration. I am inspired by their sophisticated use of technology. But, most importantly, I admire the determination for freedom inside the heart and soul of every Iranian in Iran and around the world. So much that is discussed, with respect to Iran, is the deteriorating human rights record, the nuclear program, and the governments and mullahs’ support for terrorism around the world. But, what really matters is the freedom



and the dignity of the Iranian people. What really matters is their prosperity, their capacity to be able to raise a family in peace, freedom, and to be happy. And what we have seen from this regime has been nothing but mismanagement and incompetence. But since then we have seen COVID-19 grip around the world, and what we have seen is that the Iranian government has mismanaged this crisis perhaps worse than any other government in the world. And the people of Iran paid a heavy price.

We look forward to the day where we can gather in a future Iran to celebrate the

success of the NCRI and to celebrate the success of the Iranian people in Tehran next year. We are tremendously privileged to support this great cause and the people of Iran seeking a better day and a brighter future. Let me tell you the people of Canada strongly stand with you, and we’ll fight for you. You will remember who stood with you in these dark, dark hours. So, I say to the mullahs, your time has come. I say to the mullahs, it’s time for you to go. Hazar, Hazar, Hazar. God bless the people of Iran. God bless the people fighting for this struggle. God bless the leadership of Maryam Rajavi.

Accountability for suppression

**James Bezan,
Member of Parliament
of Canada**

It's an honor to participate in the Free Iran Global Summit, Iran rising up for freedom. I want to acknowledge the bravery and tenacity of Iranian freedom fighters as they stand up against one of the world's worst oppressive regimes, the Islamic Republic of Iran. You have my full support, along with the tens of thousands of others, as you continue the fight for freedom, democracy, and human rights in Iran.

Canada can and must do more to defend freedom and democracy in Iran and hold the Khamenei regime accountable for the blood it has on its hands.

I was horrified by the atrocities against innocent protestors in Iran and Iraq in November and December, and the lack of empathy or response from many governments.

The coronavirus pandemic came on the heels of the shooting down of [Ukraine International Airlines] Flight PS752 and has caused much loss of



life in Iran, including many Iranian Canadians. I sympathize with all those affected by the virus and the shooting down of the flight.

Canada's conservatives are calling for the following: use Magnitsky Act sanctions to freeze the assets of high ranking regime officials responsible for shooting down the commercial passenger flight;

list the IRGC as a terrorist organization; impose sanctions on high ranking Iranian officials for being the biggest state sponsors of global terrorism in the world; and finally, slam the door shut on the question of renewing official diplomatic relations with the Iranian regime. Appeasement must stop.

Holding to account and sanctioning

of the regime's leadership is necessary not only for the shooting down of Flight PS752, but also for the mullahs' ongoing state sponsorship of global terrorism and destabilizing the political and security sphere in the Middle East. This includes the 1988 massacre of political dissidents and religious and ethnic minorities, which included Kurds, Christians, Jews, Baha'i, but overwhelmingly targeted and slaughtered tens of thousands of innocent members of the People's Mujahedin Organization, MEK.

Ayatollah Khamenei, President Rouhani, and the regime's cabinet ministers must be held responsible for their crimes against humanity.

I want to thank Madame Rajavi. Your tireless efforts and your ten-point plan to bring independence, democracy, freedom, and human rights to Iran should inspire each and every one of us.

We stand shoulder to shoulder with you as you carry on the relentless battle to save Iran for the people of Iran and snatch it back from the grasp of the blood-soaked tyrants who have held it hostage for far, far too long.

'None of these sacrifices are in vain'

**Judy Sgro,
Member of Parliament of Canada**

To my dear friend Madame Rajavi and your team, to all of the followers of NCRI and MEK, it's a great pleasure to be with all of you and the thousands of people who have joined us today from around the globe.

For those of us who have known your movement, your courage and dedication have become more than ever obvious. All of us who have supported your quest for freedom, democracy, and the rule of law, have experienced firsthand the demonization campaign waged against your movement in various forms.

In Canada, we have had our share of atrocities committed by the Iranian regime leaders against our own citizens. Just to name a few, the torture and killing of [photojournalist] Zahra Kazemi, the death of Professor Kavous Seyed-Emami, the imprisonment of dual Iranian-Canadians, and most recently the tragic death of 57 Canadians onboard [Ukraine International Airlines] Flight PS752, shot down by the IRGC missiles. I want to finish with a positive note, continuing to recognize the tremendous leadership of Madame Rajavi and her whole team. None of these sacrifices are in vain. The



pure presence of such a continued, organized movement gives not only the people of Iran hope, but to all who have long advocated for a free and democratic Iran much hope for victory soon. Let's accelerate that by joining our voices to that of the defying youth in Iran chanting, "Freedom is our inalienable right."



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 17 – A monument in tribute to the late, and revered, Iranian Prime Minister, Dr. Mohammad Mossadeq, on the anniversary of a nationwide uprising in Iran. The tulips are a tribute to 120,000 dissidents executed by the Iranian regime over the past four decades.

'Your voice matters in the world'

**Michèle Alliot-Marie,
Former French Minister of
Foreign Affairs, Defense,
Justice, and the Interior
and Home Affairs**

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all here, and I would like to thank Maryam Rajavi for her words today, even if the circumstances are a little unique and there is a large distance between us. I would like to publicly voice both my admiration and my great trust towards her. My dear Maryam Rajavi and I have known each other for almost 10 years, and throughout this whole period, I have seen you continuing to show courage and determination, through whatever challenges and risks you face, in your fight for freedom, for democracy, for secularism, for women's rights, alongside those of men, too. All of this deserves our admiration. Your voice matters in this world.



I'd also like to thank those around you. It was a real challenge to get us all here together today – but you did it, and I think it is a huge success.

We are all here together because we have something in common – our desire to defend human rights, to defend

democracy, to defend the values of freedom, to defend the values in the search for peace. That is what we want for Iran. We want the people of Iran to be able to, like we are able to ourselves in our own countries, benefit from being allowed to think freely, exercise religious beliefs, and for women to be able to do everything they are capable of, and help their country.

Yes, we are here to say that we love Iran. We regret to say today that this nation cannot benefit, that all of its citizens cannot benefit from what we have, freedom, democracy, and free speech.

Today, when we saw that the Belgium judicial system questioning an Iranian diplomat for events which could fall under the realm of terrorism, it is a true concern for our well-being. That is why it is now time for us to condemn what is happening, and call to arms all the people of Iran to show what makes humanity so rich and what makes the greatness of your nation.

We wish that Iran, by combining all

of the qualities that we share across our diversities, can play its part.

As a woman, I want to see the females of Iran following their dreams as citizens; to see Iranian women be able to chase their ambitions and use them for their country, for their fellow citizens, and for them to be able to put their huge capabilities, intelligence, and willingness to act to good use. I am lucky to live in a country, France, where women are effectively able to have any position and any responsibility. It is true that I was very fortunate to be able to hold high positions that I was entrusted with.

Of course, I think it is very important that all Iranian women can follow the example of Maryam Rajavi, and are able to fight for their freedoms, respect, human rights, and democracy. Maryam Rajavi can serve as an example for those women, and, I think, it is important for us to let them know that they are doing the right thing by following the example of your fight.

NCRI and MEK leadership unifies, 'opens way to democracy'

**Ingrid Betancourt,
Former Senator, Presidential
Candidate of Colombia, and
former hostage**

In the anti-regime protests in January this year, people were chanting, "Down with dictators, be it the Shah or the Supreme Leader." It could seem odd for outsiders to see Iranians bringing back today from the ashes of history the name of the Shah, simultaneously with the name of the leader of the today's dictatorship. This is more than a historical parallel, they are referring to an ongoing alliance. During the 1953 coup d'état against Prime Minister Mossadeq, a liberal reformist who was opening a Democratic path to Iranians, the religious leader at the time, Ayatollah Kashani, acted in alliance with the Shah to bring down Mossadeq, accusing him of being a Communist and putting an end to this early Iranian Spring. Today, the mullahs are in power, but the monarchists, despite all their enmity with this regime, prefer this regime to the free and democratic option that Iranians in the streets are planning for.

Recently, Ardeshtir Zahedi, a former Iranian minister and an ambassador to the United States from the Shah era attacked Washington for the military operation against Qassem Soleimani.



He said in an interview that the United States were the real terrorists and added, "I have always been and will always be proud of Qassem Soleimani. He was the one who sacrificed his life for his country, unlike those who sell themselves for money." What was Ardeshtir Zahedi talking about as a follower of the Shah? Who was he trying to fool?

The objective alliance between theocrats and monarchists is also visible in the way they both attack the Iranian democratic forces, the NCRI and, especially, the MEK. They can see how people in Iran are recognizing NCRI and

MEK leadership as a unifying organized force to defeat the regime and open the way to democracy. For years, the mullahs' regime has campaigned to portray the MEK as a terrorist organization and it has failed. Every single time their accusations have been brought to a court of justice, an independent judge has made a point of honor, be it the States, in Britain, in Europe, to clear the name of the Iranian resistance and of its leaders from all the dirt the regime tried to pile up against them.

Today, they want to divide protestors inside Iran and within the resistance with the false allegation that the MEK in Ashraf are prisoners of their leaders unable to make their own decisions. This is precisely what the tyrannical regime of the mullahs is guilty of. The regime holds Iranian population as its prisoners, trying to brainwash them with lies and threats and even using the name of God to do evil. It's a well-known strategy to accuse your accusers of what you're guilty of, turning tables, putting the blame on the other.

The members of the MEK are women and men who have suffered torture both in the Shah's and in the mullahs' prisons. They have seen their families and friends executed. They have stayed together in Iraq, in Paris, in Tirana, and other areas, fighting together because

they know that they are the spearhead of the Iranian warriors for freedom. Their choice is to remain together, but knowing that they will be welcomed anywhere they wish to go because they are recognized and admired for their struggle, their skills, their high education, their proficiency, and their values in anything they undertake.

Being an Ashrafi is not a second-best choice in life. It's not a solution against solitude or unemployment. It's not an escaping strategy or transitional mode. It's not being the puppet of anyone. Maryam Rajavi is leader of a movement who has suffered and sacrificed as much or more than any of its members. A woman who cannot be bought, intimidated, or even silenced because she's the voice and hope of millions. She's not the prison guard, but the key to freedom, a justice fighter. Being like her, an Ashrafi, is the closest we can imagine today to being an apocalyptic warrior. It's the stuff for heroes. It's the destiny chosen by women and men who don't give up. It's the transformer's option of the dreamer becoming the winner. Iran knows. They know where the truth is standing and who is flying its banner. Iranians understand that the best way to have the criminals accountable for their 40 years of crimes is to overthrow this tyranny, to win this war for freedom.

Regime 'wolves down enormous budgets in the weapons and nuclear industries'

Philippe Gosselin,
Member of the French National
Assembly and Vice President of
the Parliamentary Committee
for a Democratic Iran

Like all the French deputies in the Parliamentary Committee for a Democratic Iran (CPID), I believe in a free Iran, a democratic Iran, a respected Iran, and an Iran, where finally, life will be good.

This Iran is not simply the Iran of my dreams, or that of yours, but it is, above all, the Iran that you have been working fiercely for, with so much fire, for all these years!

Two years ago, in June 2018, I was present at a large meeting in Villepinte. Already, just like others there, I denounced the drifting and violent nature of the mullahs' regime. An attack was foiled that very day, which was aimed at all of those present at the meeting. A diplomat was arrested abroad. France itself deported them, and the same in Paris.

The diplomat in question will soon be judged by a competent jury in Belgium.

All of these links upheld by Iran show how, if necessary, the ambiguities of the regime in place, make Tehran a state



that could be classified as a terrorist state. Yes, the current regime is an unforgiving religious dictatorship, and recent events underline this even further:

- Assassination is the fitting term for the fate of the 1,500 protestors in the 2019 November riots.
- The crash of a commercial airliner hit by Pasdarans missiles at the start of 2020, and the death of the 176 innocent passengers onboard.
- Tens of thousands of deaths

caused by the bad handling of the Covid outbreak.

These are all markers of a regime that continues to survive through terror, which wolves down enormous budgets in the weapons and nuclear industries.

More than ever, the time has come for France and for all of Europe to come together and turn over the page.

We must be, without reserve, in solidarity with the Iranian people, at their sides, for a democratic Iran.



'Mullahs fear another widespread uprising'

Gilbert Mitterrand,
President of France
Libertés Foundation

The mullahs' regime in Iran is a dictatorship that rules through terror, and by denying the value of human life.

It massacres, as was the case in 1988, but also represses, imprisons, tortures, and executes on a daily basis.

Furthermore, the Iranian regime has executed two Kurdish political prisoners in the Urmia prison on July 14. They were held in the corridor of death for seven years.

Again, last Wednesday, the death sentence was given to three protesters from the uprising of last December; and on July 8, a young prisoner was hung for having consumed alcohol.

Iranians have been protesting heavily for the last few years to show their rejection of this tyrannical theocracy.

The mullahs govern through terror because they are scared, fearing another widespread uprising which could overthrow them.

Each time this happens, asking the High Commission of Human Rights to take action against this religious regime in Iran is no longer enough.

Today's meeting shows an alternative for universal values, especially the abolition of the death penalty, free elections, female, ethnic and religious equality, separation of the church and the state, and a foreign political standpoint based on a peaceful coexistence with a non-nuclear Iran.

This is why we support the 10-point plan proposed by Maryam Rajavi for the free Iran of tomorrow.

The light of hope in Iran

Jean-François Legaret,
Regional Counsellor of the
Ile de France Region and
Former Mayor of the 1st
Arrondissement of Paris

Recently, with Italian and Albanian mayors, we signed the declaration of support for the 10 key points of Maryam Rajavi, confirming the pact signed a year ago in Achraf with your mayor, rendering your city the twin of the 1st arrondissement of Paris.

We also wish to shed light on an important piece of support for your fight, which is symbolic, and brotherly, and which precedes the upcoming victory which will put an end to the religious dictatorship of the mullahs.

For more than a decade, thousands of French mayors and officials, many of whom are present at this meeting today, alongside many Italian mayors, support your fight and morally share your goals. Ashraf 1, Ashraf 2 to freedom, Adhraf



3: you have demonstrated to the entire free world your unbreakable resistance despite blackmail, torture, and massacres.

Today, the free world looks at Iran, beaten by the terrible coronavirus crisis. The mullahs' regime shows its incompetence, its ignorance, its corruption, and intensifies the blind repression of

a violent dictatorship that is on its last legs, being dragged down by an economy on the verge of collapse.

Your courage, the example of Ashraf 3, the willingness of Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, represent an alternative democracy, the light at the end of the tunnel on the journey towards hope and freedom.

Long live the free Iran of tomorrow.

Don't lower the flag on human rights

Rama Yade,
Former Secretary of State for
Human Rights of France

Yes, Madame President Rajavi, dear friends, in the history of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, July 17th will be special. Today, we are participating in the world's largest virtual gathering, 102 countries, 30,000 different locations, 200 meetings sizing from 50 to 3,000 participants. Our characteristics of this annual gathering show determination to continue the fight. This organization proves the technical, logistical, and technological capacity of a structure that knows how discipline and method are necessary conditions for the mobilization and success of its old dream for a free and democratic Iran. Because that is the driving force behind this unprecedented event.

Justice, freedom, democracy, this is what it once again demands here today. In this world of uncertainty where everything can change, the



Iranian resistance must take its place. It is a major player, a key to the solution. The international community, particularly Europe, must understand that. The Europe I'm talking from and about must be once again with you.

It is time for the European Union to take a firm stand condemning human rights violations, particularly in Iran, the highest number of executions, and by subjecting trade with Iran to an end to human rights violations. May we be

more determined to lead this essential change by supporting the Iranian people's desire for regime change and the settlement of a republic based on the separation within religion and the state, based on gender equality, based on freedom of expression.

It is about morality, but it is about security also for us, for Iranian people, and for the region. Here we are not sweet dreamers, we are and have been mayors, congressmen or women, ministers, head of states, head of governments. We know that neither Rome nor Tehran were made in one day. We want our businessman to get richer through commercial contracts. We want our citizens to get jobs through these contracts. But, we know that we will not get any of this by lowering the flag on the human rights front. We must choose the side of humanity. It is with you. Iranians should not fight alone. If we do not react, the heroes of the resistance who have paid so much for the commitment would be isolated.

Uniting against 'barbaric actions'

Henri Leclerc,
Lawyer and Honorary President
of Human Rights League

My dear friends, I cannot forget the fight that we have led since 2003. These meetings started a little after, and more or less every year, we have gathered to discuss the scandal of persecution against a certain number of people, including Maryam Rajavi, in France.

This fight has been ongoing for a long time, and I think about when, ten years on, the anti-terrorist judge Marc Trévidic said that terrorism should not be confused with resistance to oppression, and that we certainly couldn't prosecute these men and women for acts of violence towards. Some violence occurred, but these were more of a reaction, a protection, a resistance to the oppression which came from a regime that terrorized its own people. I believe that is the first thing: we succeeded, at least, to secure this anti-terrorism justice, which had unfairly come after a number of men and women for diplomatic reasons, and it has now been recognized that the this was all in the name of resistance towards repression from a tyrannical regime.

You know, France is a country proclaimed the human rights declaration two centuries ago. This declaration concerned



France at that specific period in time. The authors stated that the forgetting of and contempt towards human rights were the causes of the corruption of governments, and all of the problems within a country.

We know that there are certain places, Iran particularly being one of them, where it is not permitted to speak out, and where belief is used as a weapon. When I think about how people are sentenced to death for being "enemies of God": how do they define enemies of God? It is solely because they resisted oppression.

It is evident that when we look back on the massacres of 1988, we know of all

the executions that occurred. We see a level of crimes against humanity which keeps occurring, and men and women are executed. This is not stopping. There are those of 1988. Not just those who were condemned to death, but those who disappeared, which is terrible. Because when someone disappears, we do not even know where they lie, their place of rest. It is in our memory, and this ongoing fight, in which we partake, is their tomb.

Nothing is changing in Iran: death sentences, they happen non-stop. We don't stop tallying them, hearing about them. At the start of January, there was one, then another a little later, and then again another. Then, the two deaths of July 14, the two Kurdish militants who we're condemned to death solely based on confessions that we know were made following torture. Within this case, there are multiple pieces of evidence to prove their innocence. Furthermore, they were arrested in 2013 and executed in 2020. Condemned in 2015, executed in 2020, facing agony and atrocious pain in prison so well described by our great poet Victor Hugo in *The Last Day of the Condemned*. They suffered by being made to wait.

We need to keep fighting because the death penalty is above all else a horror, and we need to fight it in all countries of

the world. But, with an old fighter like me, we started in Iran as campaigners, and Iran held us in their heart. We were all young when we started campaigning to defend freedoms in Iran. Following this, for a long time, we fought, denounced, and intervened against the awful Savak of the Shah of Iran. After this, we saw revolution. We rejoiced, and our friends, the Iranian fighters in France, were thrilled with us when they returned to Iran. Then, we watched them get executed one after the other.

Therefore, the fight must continue. We need the international community to intervene. We need to push the U.N., the security council, the human rights council, and get them to act. Iran is being ravaged by the same illness which we are experienced here, and maybe they are less capable there, I do not know. But, that is not the problem. It's that this doesn't stop the tortures, but exacerbates them.

There are now, at this very moment, many Iranians who are on their way to prisons, to be subjected to atrocious tortures, and tomorrow they will be dead. We need to act and we need to not stop, we need to not lower our arms. We need to come together and denounce, so that at least the whole world knows what is going on in these countries so that this abomination can be stopped.



‘Our nation has paid the price of its freedom’

Maryam Rajavi, President-elect, the National Council of Resistance of Iran

*Excerpts from a speech to the Free Iran
Global Summit*

Voice of resistance units and rebellious cities

This summit echoes the voice of the Iranian people’s 40-year Resistance against religious dictatorship and fascism and for freedom and democracy.

This is the voice of the largest, the longest-standing, most sophisticated, and most serious organized resistance in Iran’s history, with the roaring river of its martyrs’ blood, and the moving chants of massacred Mojahedin who continued to insist on their belief to the end, against the most murderous and cruel rulers.

This summit echoes calls for the clerical regime’s overthrow, which were heard during successive uprisings from December 2017 and January 2018 to November 2019 and January 2020. It is the people’s calls for the regime’s overthrow after the conclusion of “reformer vs. principlist” theatrics that was aimed at preserving this very regime.

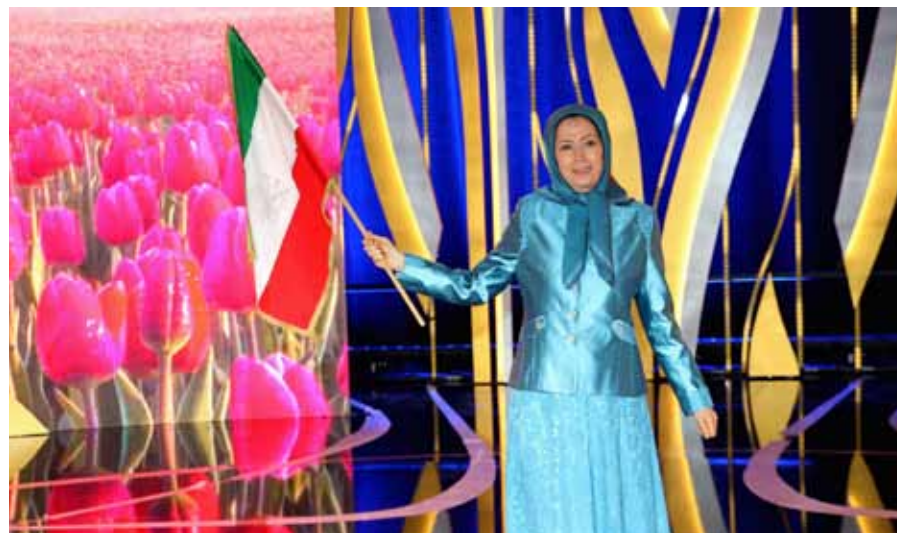
This summit is the voice of Resistance Units and rebellious cities across Iran who have put an end to a history of despair, incredulity, and inaptitude, replacing it with the pledge of “we can and we must.”

Today’s summit represents our enchained homeland in three of its most prominent features:

- A rebellious and revolutionary Iran;
- An Iran united in solidarity;
- And a free and democratic Iran of tomorrow.

Three major pledges of the Iranian Resistance

We have come together to underline three monumental and historic commitments that we have pledged to accomplish.



Our first commitment is that we, the people of Iran and the Iranian Resistance, will overthrow the clerical regime and will reclaim Iran.

Our second commitment is that we, the people of Iran and the Iranian Resistance, will build a free and democratic Iran.

And our third commitment is to remain faithful to our people’s sovereignty and their vote; to not seek power at any cost, but to establish freedom and justice at any cost; to never return to the dictatorships of the Shah and the mullahs. We want to establish a democratic, secular and non-nuclear Iran, as the majority of elected lawmakers in the U.S. and Europe have pointed out.

The uprisings are a brilliant model for the larger operation of overthrowing the regime

From all indications, the ruling theocracy is at the point of being overthrown.

Although the virus of the ruling religious fascism and its accomplice, the coronavirus, have joined forces to demoralize and pacify our people and society, we saw during the November 2019 uprising that the protests suddenly erupted in 900 locations across the country. This

created a brilliant model for the great uprising that will overthrow the regime.

The uprisings that spanned from December 2017 and January 2018 to November 2019 and January 2020 were not about reforming the regime and had nothing to say to the mullahs. They did not ask anything from the mullahs. Rather, these uprisings sought to overthrow the clerics.

In the midst of these uprisings, this generation delivered the thunderous chants of “Death to the oppressor, be it the Shah or the [supreme] Leader.” “We don’t want the Shah or the Leader, we don’t want a choice between bad and worse.”

This generation has “turned its back to the enemy while facing the nation.” It chants “Our enemy is right here. They lie when they say it’s America.”

This generation is a constant nightmare for the mullahs. Indeed, the clerics have come face-to-face with a rebellious generation against which they are vulnerable.

The Iranian Resistance relied on precise and well-documented reports to register the figure of 1,500 martyrs during the November 2019 uprising. The actual figure is much higher.

These uprisings checkmated the Iranian regime’s political apologists, advocates, lobbyists, and paid operatives, by completely discrediting their deception and lies.

The regime’s puppets kept saying that it would be inconceivable for the people of Iran to turn to uprisings and revolution to overthrow the mullahs.

They kept saying that change in Iran will not happen except from within the regime itself.

And time and again, they repeated the mullahs’ false claim about the PMOI/MEK’s lack of popular support. They were searching for young and teenage MEK members when suddenly they saw with their own eyes throngs of young people overwhelming the streets of Iranian cities. And they were irritated when they saw that two progressive students [who supported the MEK] were detained.

This explains why the mullahs and their mob of interrogators and functionaries have unleashed propaganda against the Resistance and the PMOI/MEK. They see themselves about to be overthrown and are in agony over the fact that these uprisings and rebellious youth have adopted the roadmap and the strategy of the PMOI/MEK.

A force capable of overthrowing the regime is living in the heart of Iranian cities

The volcanic uprising in November washed away all unfounded claims.

It was proven that it is possible to inspire and organize protests.

It was proven that despite all the repression and crimes, our people have a spectacular desire and readiness to continue their uprising.

It was proven that the masses of people, particularly workers, destitute people and the youth, stood face-to-face against the regime.

And it was proven that a force

» see **RAJAVI** | **C15**

capable of overthrowing the regime has emerged and is lurking in the hearts of Iranian cities. This is the very force the regime's Interior Minister described as "a fighting force of about 600,000-strong" who, he said, destroyed regime centers one after another during the November uprising.

It is this rebellious force which, despite unrelenting arrests, empowers resistance units to constantly regroup, reproduce, and multiply themselves.

Over the past two years, the emergence of rebellious cities and the operations of resistance units against repression, aimed at breaking the suppressive atmosphere, fueling the engine of the uprisings, and mobilizing the people, have made the regime feel the danger clearly and vividly.

Over the past two years, the Resistance Units have overcome martyrdoms and many arrests and have challenged the enemy face-to-face with its closed-circuit cameras and agents in various cities across Iran. They have carried out an average of 20 operations a day to confront the repression, to publicize the resistance or to expose the regime. These very activities serve as the spark for the uprisings and have overwhelmed the regime.

These are telltale signs of the great Army of Freedom. Out of the countless who are suppressed, the force which will save and free Iran is rising up.

Yes, the sun is rising and the blood-drenched caravan of martyrs sings:

Rise up now friends,
Fearlessly soar like an eagle,
Charge against the enemy,
onwards to victory, onwards to prosperity!

In the final analysis, the mullahs have no solutions

In the wake of the uprisings in December 2017 and January 2018, Massoud [Rajavi] said: "To contain this uprising, the mullahs' supreme leader has no other option but to solve a number of economic, social, political, and security problems, in which case it would pave the way for his own regime's overthrow."

This is precisely the focal point of vulnerability for the mullahs. If they continue to pursue their current path and course of action, namely their belligerence, missile launches, terrorism, intimidation and closing ranks, they will inevitably crash headfirst.

If they make the slightest retreat, namely, if they change their behavior and abandon their suppression, terrorism and belligerence, then they would undermine the very existence of the rule of the velayat-e faqih (absolute clerical rule).

For this reason, [the mullahs' supreme leader, Ali] Khamenei calls for the creation of "a young and Hezbolahi government" and sees a monolithic

Parliament and a murderous Judiciary as the only way out of the vortex of crises and the only way to preserve the regime.

The mullahs and their Revolutionary Guards had made a vital bet on the termination of the arms embargo on October 18, as was stipulated in the JCPOA. For this reason, the international community's decision to activate the snapback mechanism, would be the coup de grace shot to the regime's windfall achievements under the JCPOA and the policy of appeasement. Before all else, snapback would blow up the bubble of the regime's longevity and will ensure its downfall.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 17 - Mrs. Rajavi waving the victory sign to MEK Resistance Units inside Iran who joined the Free Iran Global Summit online.

The strategy of inflicting mass human casualties during the coronavirus pandemic to fend off popular uprisings and overthrow threat

To date, the accelerating outbreak of the coronavirus has taken the lives of at least 72,000 people in Iran.

More than any other time, this carnage uncovered the appalling reality of how the mullahs have destroyed the country's healthcare, nutrition, and social welfare foundations, leaving our people vulnerable to the virus more than any other country in the world.

One must absolutely refrain from comparing the coronavirus crisis in Iran with the situation in other countries. In March, Khamenei admitted that he sought to create an opportunity and a blessing out of the coronavirus crisis.

The abnormal surging trend of the number of coronavirus victims in Iran is a product of the criminal policies of Khamenei and Rouhani. The strategy of launching mass casualties as a barrier against the threat of an uprising and eventual overthrow is exactly designed to pacify and demoralize the Iranian society, rendering it hopeless and paralyzed.

In these critical circumstances, the ruling mullahs have refused to allocate any considerable budget to fight the disease, and even to pay the nurses' salaries.

During the breathtaking coronavirus

crisis, the mullahs continued to launch expensive satellites into space. Concurrently, they pursued their belligerent and terrorist activities in Iraq and Syria and escalated their ominous nuclear activities to a new level. The regime's Defense Minister recently told the mullahs' parliament, "The number of missiles we manufactured over the past four years was equal to our production in the prior ten years combined."

The question is, where do they get the money to spend on such activities? Obviously, by emptying the baskets of our deprived people.

The ruling mullahs must answer why the value of the country's official currency has plunged so much? Why is there no ability to create jobs? Why is Iran one of the four countries in the world with the highest inflation rates?

By the way, you must tell us what ended up happening with the three trillion dollars' worth of oil revenues under Khamenei's rule?

And you must say where did Khamenei amass 100 billion dollars in his executive headquarters?

Where have the IRGC, the State Security Force' (SSF), Astan-e Qods, and the Mostazafan Foundation get their hundreds of billions of dollars?

The 15 institutions and foundations under Khamenei's control have a total of one trillion dollars' worth of assets.

Yes, this is the direct outcome of driving at least 60 million Iranians under the poverty line.

The mullahs' depraved and criminal regime must be cursed.

Our commitment before the Iranian people and history

We pledged to overthrow the regime, take back Iran and restore all the violated and plundered rights of the people of Iran.

Our people must enjoy the right to be healthy, have shelter, employment,

organize and have syndicates, autonomy for ethnic minorities, equal participation in running society's affairs, gender equality and popular sovereignty.

They must be free of religious slavery and sexual exploitation. They must enjoy freedom of expression, opinion, and choice. They must be pulled out of poverty and be free from fear; this means ending torture, executions, and social and economic insecurity.

We have pledged to restore all these freedoms and rights. We make this pledge before the Iranian people and history. This is our pledge to 120,000 martyrs who fell for freedom.

Today, in Iran, one of the greatest battles and one of the greatest tests of our time rages on between freedom and religious fascism, between democracy and religious fundamentalism. This is a battle intertwined with the destiny of contemporary humanity and global peace and security.

We urge all governments and international bodies to stand with the people of Iran in this historic showdown against the greatest threat to world peace and security.

The trial of the regime's diplomat-terrorist in Belgium

The Iranian regime's leaders planned to launch a major terrorist attack against the Free Iran Grand Gathering in Paris, in 2018. The terrorists in possession of the bomb were arrested by the Belgian Police. The regime's terrorist diplomat, who delivered the bomb, has been in jail for more than two years.

For the first time, a serving diplomat faces trial in Europe for direct involvement in terrorism. This is a great disgrace for the regime, and it shows that the regime spares no effort to commit any crime and pay any price to annihilate its alternative.

Enjoying diplomatic privileges, the arrested regime diplomat directed this plot under the supervision of the senior Intelligence Ministry officials.

The trial of the four detained terrorists as the perpetrators of this terrorist act is a necessary step. But the real decision makers were Khamenei, Rouhani, Zarif, and Intelligence Minister Mahmoud Alavi. This is indispensable to stop the mullahs' unbridled terrorism.

The mission of our generation is to overthrow the mullahs' criminal regime and to restore the trampled rights of all the people of Iran. To accomplish this mission, we have had to endure nothing but torture, flogging, executions, and slanders.

As I have reiterated time and again, we have not come to gain something for ourselves; we have come to sacrifice and pay the requisite price.

We are determined to restore freedom and people's sovereignty in Iran, and this will happen.

Long live freedom

God bless the people of Iran

‘Voices of freedom grow louder’

**Tom Ridge,
First U.S. Secretary of
Homeland Security, Former
Governor of Pennsylvania**

At the outset, I do want to recognize the leaders of Albania, several of whom who spoke previously. I've had the good fortune of knowing many of them. They're united in providing home, support, and protection to Ashraf 3 is something that's very important to their friends in the United States. So, I simply want to express my appreciation and that of the United States delegation present with us today in thanking you for your sustained support and commitment, not just to human rights, but to the men and women of Ashraf. We thank you.

Madame Rajavi, I must tell you that in meetings such as this, I am often reflecting on the words of that fundamental document that set America on its course to freedom, our Declaration of Independence. And if you'll permit me to edit those first few words just a bit, consistent with your goal for the Iranian people, I'll remind everyone of those solemn and powerful words, "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and all women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, and in among these are life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness." It is your pursuit, that is, so pursuit of the men and women of Iran, it is our pursuit. I stand with Maryam Rajavi.

At this point, in this very unique and unprecedented global summit, I think we should take a moment and consider what we've accomplished to date and the



The voices of freedom grow louder and stronger and more powerful every day. And this unique and unprecedented gathering demonstrates, in the most poignant and powerful way possible, that global support for you, for regime change, for the NCRI and MEK gets stronger, larger, and louder every day.

message that we are sending to the Iranian regime by gathering today. All of us, united by technology, say to the regime, say to the people of Iran and freedom-loving people everywhere around the world, that all of us stand with Maryam Rajavi, and all of us stand in support of the goal of regime change. Think about this for a moment, ladies and gentlemen, how unique this is and how important it is to the rest of the world to have individuals in 100-plus countries, in over 30,000 locations, nearly 1,000 parliamentarians, political dignitaries, and human rights activists, all joining in this global

summit. It's a rather remarkable achievement, but it's an even greater reflection of a growing worldwide commitment to the cause of freedom in Iran.

Think about this as well: a global pandemic, COVID-19, could not deter the world from gathering in support of your cause. We've come together, Madame Rajavi, to publicly, proudly, and loudly profess our support for you for the NCRI, for the MEK, and for the cause of freedom. We all stand with you, Maryam Rajavi. If a global pandemic—if Mother Nature is ill-equipped to silence us, to keep us from gathering in support, you

know that the mullahs can't possibly do it. They have tried again and again, and they have repeatedly failed. They tried last year to disrupt the meeting in Paris, and they failed. Over the years, they've used harassment. They've used intimidation. They have used fear to control, soften, or eliminate the voices of freedom. They have failed. Over decades and decades, they've imprisoned, tortured, and murdered thousands and thousands of your fellow citizens to silence their voices, to silence the call for freedom, to silence the call for regime change. Again and again, they have failed.

The hardliners have been confronted time and time again, because of the global support for the principles for which you stand: universal suffrage, gender equality, a non-nuclear Iran, freedom of speech, and separation of religion and church. As recently as November of last year, and January of this year, citizens have again risen in protest, many sacrificing their lives to express their support for the cause of freedom, and again, and again, they have failed. They will continue to fail Madame Rajavi. They will continue to fail. Their grip of oppression grows weaker every day. The voices of freedom grow louder and stronger and more powerful every day. And this unique and unprecedented gathering demonstrates, in the most poignant and powerful way possible, that global support for you, for regime change, for the NCRI and MEK gets stronger, larger, and louder every day. I'm certainly privileged and honored to be working with you and in concert with the extraordinary group of men and women who support you, Madame Rajavi, for almost 15 years. I look forward to the day when I can join all of you in Tehran.

‘Agenda of freedom, liberty, and economic change’



**Ambassador Marc Ginsburg,
Former U.S. Ambassador to
Morocco and White House
Middle East Adviser**

We have never lost sight of the importance of reaching across the oceans to unite with our friends around the world in the goal of changing the regime in Iran and ridding the people of Iran of the mullahs' awful military dictatorship.

Let us not forget that over the years the National Council of Resistance of Iran led by Madam Rajavi has been a beacon of hope and aspiration for the Iranian people. Those of us in the

United States, who have come to know her, respect not only her leadership, but the important agenda of democracy, hope, and freedom that the NCRI has promised the Iranian people.

The military dictatorship that is still in power must no longer exist. It is important that all of us understand that, during this pandemic, the regime has inflicted even more hardship on the Iranians People. Economic losses, the disease running rampant, the inability of any government authority inside the regime to offer hope and aspirations for beleaguered people, all point to why it's time the regime comes to an end.

Iran regime is a danger to the world. The NCRI offers hope in an agenda of freedom, liberty, and economic change in Iran that would finally end the long nightmare that the regime has inflicted on the world since it came to power in 1979.

I believe this year will bring about a new opportunity to take out what essentially is a regime that is under duress and unable to offer any hope to the Iranian people. As this event continues, those of us supporting the aspirations of Madam Rajavi and the NCRI will find even more strength and fortitude to be able to lend more help to the Iranian people.

All eyes on diplomat-terrorist trial

**Michael B. Mukasey,
Former U.S. Attorney General**

Mrs. Rajavi, conferees at this extraordinary record-setting conference, and residents of Ashraf 3, it's true that we are meeting and conferring in a virtual way, but make no mistake about it—the challenge and the threat that NCRI represents to the mullahs in Tehran isn't just virtual. It is actual.

We've seen evidence that an Iranian diplomat was arraigned in a Belgian court, along with three of his co-defendants, and charged with plotting to bomb NCRI's annual gathering near Paris in June of 2018. This is the first time that a diplomat has been charged in Europe with participating in a terrorist act. The motive for this foiled plot was fear. Fear of Mrs. Rajavi, fear of the NCRI and the threat that they represent to the regime. In November 2019, and January 2020, the people of Iran



demonstrated their contempt for the regime and its terrorist activities, and their determination to break free of the restrictions on their freedom. The slogans that they chanted made it entirely clear that the reported difference between

hardliners and purported moderates in the regime is a sham and a fraud, and the belief of the people that the regime entirely is rotten to the core. We should continue to press our own governments to continue their embargo on Iran, their

arms embargo, and to see to it that the most restrictive sanctions are snapped back in place. The regime's continued maintenance of a ballistic missile program whose only purpose would be the delivery of a nuclear weapon shows that its ongoing efforts to develop a nuclear weapon have not abated. Its continued support for terrorism in the Middle East and around the world shows that this regime is not willing to behave like a normal government.

The only way to end the regime's behavior is to end the regime. There is already an available democratic alternative to the corrupt and terrorist regime of the ayatollahs, and it is the NCRI with its 10-point program for a democratic, secular, non-nuclear republic that guarantees equal rights for all men and women. We are here to rally support for that alternative, and for the efforts of Mrs. Rajavi and others, to end the nightmare that Iranians have been living since 1979.

'Achieving milestones toward a free Iran'

**Louis J. Freeh,
Former Director of the FBI**

It is a great honor to be with you here today from Washington, D.C. The cry for liberty and our support for you, Madame Rajavi, and all of your colleagues, could not be stronger and could not be louder. We thank you for your leadership, your courage, your vision, and your faith, which has inspired us very greatly. Especially pleased that we are able to address the freedom fighters in Iran who are in harm's way every moment and who are not hiding, but are in open resistance on the streets of Iran. We have enormous respect for you. Your welfare and safety are our primary objective.

You know, what is amazing about this meeting this year is not just the technology, and Madame Rajavi and your colleagues, I commend you for the ability to communicate the way we are communicating under all the challenges that you have overcome. So, wonderful job and congratulations to all the many people who have worked on it. To all our international friends and colleagues, again, we are honored to be with you here today.

One of the amazing things about this event is it is not an anniversary. We are not memorializing a past event. What we are doing is looking to the future. We are pursuing a goal and achieving new milestones every year towards a free and democratic Iran. Today, we take another



step in that direction. I want to echo Governor Ridge's comments thanking the Albanian officials, the president, the prime minister, whose, in Pandeli's words, actions speak louder than words. The heroic work that the Albanian people and its leaders have done to protect the MEK is legendary. Goes back to what they did during World War II, and we thank them and honor them for the safety, leadership, and courage that they have provided.

We look at some of the positive things, again, that have been noted by many of the speakers: the Congressional resolution here in Washington just a short time ago, bipartisan, as the support for freedom in Iran has always been; and, the trial that started yesterday in Belgium

for Assadollah Assadi who takes on the new title of diplomat-terrorist. You would have to leave it to a criminal enterprise like the regime in Tehran to actually inaugurate the role of a diplomat-terrorist. And that is only one of many active against the forces of freedom. But the fact of his trial in Belgium as we speak here today is very significant. It goes to the accountability issue which I would like to return to in a moment.

The other event, just a few weeks ago in June, was a finding by the International Atomic Energy Administration, which is really the U.N., and I quote, "Iran has continued to increase its stockpile of enriched uranium and remains in violation of its deal with world powers." That is not the United States speaking, that is not the MEK speaking, that is the United Nations. No great surprise that the regime that signed that agreement could not be trusted.

I would like to close by just returning, Mrs. Rajavi, to something that you said. You talked about the crimes of this regime and its members: 120,000 people massacred, MEK members; 30,000 political prisoners killed; terrorist attacks on Ashraf 1 and 2, thousands and thousands of people wounded and killed and maimed. And you said something which I know is very close to you but also close to every one of us on this conference. There has to be accountability. Someone has to make the decision and have the resources

and the willpower to hold these criminals responsible. This is a crime of such magnitude that it cannot be written off with a truth commission. It cannot be written off with a book or a footnote or a movie. These are crimes of the most serious nature. They rival by their evil and intent Nazi Germany, what happened in Bosnia, Rwanda, and many, many other places.

We should establish a world-class crimes against humanity documentation center. We should analyze the evidence that you have already collected. In fact, I have seen some of it in Ashraf 3. We should record the testimony of victims and eyewitnesses. There needs to be a systematic forensic examination, recording and documentation, with video and digital evidence. Like our technology here today, the people who committed all these crimes, who murdered thousands and thousands of people, they did not do it secretly. They did not even do it very cleverly. They did it with great arrogance. The arrogance that highlights evil. So, the documentation is very available. Their emails, their texts, their statements, pictures, photographs, videos. That all should be put together in a documentation center, maybe even by a third party to enhance its credibility. And at some point, as we mark more and more milestones, these people should be brought to justice like the individual now being tried in Belgium. Thank you very much, Mrs. Rajavi. Thank you for your leadership and your inspiration.

Mullahs' 'days are numbered'

**Robert Joseph,
Former Undersecretary of
State for Arms Control and
International Security**

It's always a privilege to be part of this incredible annual gathering of freedom fighters. Each year, we come closer to our goal of a free Iran. The end of the religious dictatorship is in sight, and the mullahs know it. They know their days are numbered. You can see it and you can feel it in their acts of desperation and their inability to reform. The mullahs know the economy is in shambles, driven to bankruptcy by systemic corruption, by incompetence, and by international sanctions imposed on the regime for its sponsorship of terrorism, its pursuit of nuclear weapons, and its foreign adventurisms that have robbed the Iranian people of their prosperity and their very livelihood. The regime has nowhere to turn to reverse this economic freefall.

The mullahs know that they have lost all legitimacy. The Iranian people have now become the principal threat to the regime. The mass killings in the



streets across Iran are acts of desperation by a dying regime. Again, there is nowhere to turn. There is nowhere to hide for those on the wrong side of history. The mullahs know that the people will never forgive them for their role in the human tragedy that is caused tens of thousands of deaths from the coronavirus pandemic. While the mullahs may try to hide the truth, the people

know. And the mullahs know that the people know.

We must keep the pressure on the regime from the outside. It's working, and it must not be relieved by a return to policies of appeasement. We must not throw the regime a lifeline by pursuing new fatally flawed agreements in exchange for more old false and broken promises. We must work to

cut off access to arms by extending the arms embargo. As Mrs. Rajavi has said, not a single bullet, not a single bullet. We must deny the regime any legitimacy by keeping the focus on its reign of terror over the past 40 years. The recent House of Representatives resolution with wide bipartisan support is an important step, as are the growing calls to hold those members of the regime responsible for crimes against humanity.

Most important, we must support the democratic opposition, the NCRI, the MEK, and especially, the brave resistance units inside Iran. We must also continue to fight against the false narrative surrounding the MEK that had become deeply ingrained given the regime's massive and sustained disinformation campaign, served by an echo chamber of regime apologists who often masquerade as journalists and thinktank experts. We know that regime change must and will come from within. Mrs. Rajavi and the 10-point plan provide the vision for effective action and the means to ensure a peaceful transition to a secular, non-nuclear, democratic and free Iran. Mrs. Rajavi, I stand with you.

'Push the mullahs into the dustbin of history'

**Patrick Kennedy,
Former Member, U.S. House of
Representatives**

Hello, all my friends in Tirana in the new Ashraf. It is so good to be with you virtually. What a great inspiration you have all been in carrying on this message of freedom and hope because you have literally had to rebuild your culture and your home many times over after the bombings in Iraq by the Iranian puppets. And now that you are in Tirana, how beautiful it is that you are in Tirana, but the future Ashraf will be in Tehran. And that is where we will meet next time, provided we can extinguish the virus.

The virus of religious fascism has made the people of Iran very sick and has cost the lives of millions of Iranians. The virus of the mullahs of religious fascism needs to be extinguished. We know that the principles of Madame Rajavi, the principles of NCRI, MEK are going to provide that vaccination to bring a hope and a future to the people of Iran. Because it is that 10-point plan, it is that inspired leadership of Madame Rajavi, that is really going to bring democracy, freedom, human rights, all of the things



that are going to extinguish this awful, insidious virus of religious fascism and help replace it with the kind of society that will allow the great people of a historic civilization of Persia to thrive and to once again lead the world in literature, in art, in thought and democracy. How great it is that we have an organization like NCRI and MEK that is helping to bring that day about.

I think it can be said for my generation, for the young people in Iran particularly,

that their generation is going to turn the page of this generation's biggest test for freedom. That is, whether we can push the mullahs into the dustbin of history, and we can bring the great people of Iran back to the world stage with their human rights back, a great economy, and a great power that will allow all of our world to flourish. Because, you see, this is not just a fight for Iranians and the Iranian diaspora, this is a fight of all human beings. Because as Martin Luther King, Jr., said,

"injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." And certainly, we know, as the leading state sponsor of terrorism that Iran is a threat to justice and peace and stability everywhere in the world. And that is why it is so incumbent upon all of us who are gathered around the world in over 100 countries and 30,000 locations, that we join together. It's really the NCRI, MEK, that's going to permit that day to come about where we can transition from this terrible period in history, which has been dominated by the Shah and the mullahs who really extorted the people of Iran for their own personal gain, for us to go back to a time of a great civilization where people who are the most educated in the world came from Iran.

I am so honored to be with all of you again as I have been so many times before. But let us make sure next time we get a vaccination. And when we get that vaccination and have NCRI and MEK and all of those who are fighting for freedom in Iran help to deliver it for the people of Iran for a free Iran, we will be able to meet in person in a new and free Iran. And we will go from Tirana to Tehran. When we do, I join with all of my friends in saying that we're all ready.

Efforts to demonize the MEK exposed

**Amb. Lincoln Bloomfield, Jr.,
Former U.S. Assistant
Secretary of State for
Political-Military Affairs**

Thank you very much. Greetings to the members of the resistance and to Madame Rajavi. Congratulations on your amazing virtual rally on Friday. Thank you for including me in this event. I was asked nine years ago by a law firm to look at the MEK and study them and the NCRI.

I became very interested in the deeper story. I wanted to know the history of this group, the MEK. The more I looked, the more I found that the story of this group, the true story of the MEK, has been erased. It has been entirely misrepresented. The MEK, I learned, was advocating democracy, freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, and the practice of Islam that is consistent with modern life, not to a grotesque abuse of religious faith to support political tyranny. Ayatollah Khomeini wanted Masoud Rajavi's support for his new constitution in 1979, and Mr. Rajavi refused to accept. Mr. Rajavi and President Banisadr led large democracy demonstrations in Iran in 1981. Ayatollah Khomeini sent his forces, his guns, into the street to kill his own citizens, just as Bashar al-Assad did in 2011 in Syria, just as the Chinese Communist party did during the Tiananmen Square protest. The MEK was not a radical Marxist group, as many people in Washington say. This is propaganda started by the Shah, referring to violent extremists who conducted terrorist acts in the 1970s and tried to steal the prestige and the identity of the PMOI. The MEK, that I am addressing today, is not connected in any way to the extremists who killed Americans in Iran. In fact, it was Khomeini who brought in the Russian KGB advisors from the Soviet Union to help advise his new dictatorship on how to keep control against a population.

The MEK never fought in the Iran-Iraq war. There was a U.N. ceasefire in place at the time of the MEK's operation Eternal Light in 1988. It is very striking to me that the regime repeats this falsehood to try to portray the MEK as traitors to their own country rather than as steadfast defenders of the Iranian people's rights and their sovereignty. Let them explain why Saddam Hussein held on to MEK prisoners of war who had been captured at the start of the war defending Iran, why did he keep them until 1989? Similarly, allegations that the MEK was a cult were promoted by Iran's ministry of intelligence as part



of its demonization campaign. There were many more falsehoods amplified by the Western media and analysts.

So, in 2013, I wrote a brief 50-year summary of this untold story, with the help of the University of Baltimore and Professor Sheehan. And part of the story, as you know, is what was done to these brave people. Incredibly, here we are seven years after this book came

protests all across Iran and is tracking the casualties of the coronavirus pandemic. We will know soon which numbers are correct, the regime numbers which are low or the NCRI numbers which are over 70,000 dead. We will know soon who is corrupt.

But in the West, where I am sitting, news reports are saying the same old, false, discredited things about the MEK.

The regime leaders, including Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, are openly complaining about the effectiveness of the MEK, which has helped to organize protests all across Iran and is tracking the casualties of the coronavirus pandemic.

out and Western media and thinktank reports still repeat the allegations that were debunked entirely and officially by court challenges in France, the European Union, the UK and the United States years ago. Why do they keep repeating these allegations, these falsehoods? My conclusion is the same, no matter what the regime does the reason is the same. The reason is always the same, to keep a weak, illegitimate regime in power.

So, one year ago, I wrote a monograph explaining in detail the politics and the heritage of this movement called *The Ayatollahs and the MEK: Iran's Crumbling Influence Operation*. This was an attempt to show why the MEK is misunderstood, how they championed the legacy as you heard from Madame Rajavi today of Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadeq. But today, many things have changed. The regime leaders, including Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, are openly complaining about the effectiveness of the MEK, which has helped to organize

Why are they doing this? The resistance has consistently advocated for free elections since the 1979 revolution. Mrs. Rajavi has never failed, from what I have heard, to point out that the NCRI's goal is to give back sovereignty to the people of Iran, not to seize power themselves. On Friday, just two days ago, Madame Rajavi said, "We the people of Iran and the Iranian resistance will build a free and democratic Iran." She pledged, "a commitment to remain faithful to our people's sovereignty and their vote, not seek power at any cost, but to establish freedom and justice at any cost, and never return to the dictatorships of the Shah and the mullahs." And as the majority of elected lawmakers in the United States and Europe have pointed out, "We want to establish a democratic secular and non-nuclear Iran."

Is there any other resistance group advocating universal democratic values in Iran? Is there any other resistance group standing for gender equality against a brutal and corrupt regime 100

percent controlled by men? Is there any other resistance group that is capable of organizing a worldwide virtual meeting with thousands of people in over 100 countries? You will recognize that picture. It is a remarkable sight. The world has never seen anything like that. The regime sees these events and they know the NCRI and the MEK more than anyone else are fully capable of organizing a democratic transition to legitimate constitutional government after the fall of the regime.

The group was on terrorism lists around the world. Today, I believe the tables have turned. As we say in America, the shoe is on the other foot. The Iranian diplomat, Assadollah As-sadi is facing charges of terrorism in the Belgian court. His plot to bomb the NCRI rally in Villepinte in 2018 involved Iranian Embassies in several countries. How many journalists have asked Foreign Minister Zarif to explain why he's using diplomatic privileges to support terrorism, while authorities in Denmark, France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, and Albania have all encountered state-sponsored Iranian terror activity on their soil in the past two years? And for those who may not be aware, I have said this many times, no member of the MEK or NCRI has ever been prosecuted and convicted of terrorism in a democratic country with an independent judiciary observing the rule of law.

So now, when I read Western news reports of Friday's virtual rally and the Twitter criticisms that try to prevent anyone from mentioning the resistance, it is the reporters and the analysts whose motives must now be questioned. Are they on Tehran's payroll? Are their relatives being threatened (of harm)? Are they agents of the regime following the 80/20 tactic? I am sure you know what the 80/20 tactic is. You should criticize the regime 80 percent of the time but make sure that 20 percent you criticize the NCRI and MEK, so it looks more authentic and credible.

Yes, it is a different world, ladies and gentlemen. I know what the facts are. The NCRI's critics are trapped in a web of propaganda and falsehoods. As a former American official who deeply believes we need to know the truth about all these matters, I urge you to keep challenging the world media to tell the truth. Because, my friends, the truth about this regime is now available for the whole world to see at Ashraf 3, with the personal testimony of brave survivors and detailed evidence on display. I am confident that the truth will come out and, when it does, the truth will set Iran free.

Iranian bravery shifts momentum: 'Wind at your back'

General (ret.) John M. 'Jack' Keane, Former Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army and Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient

I'm honored to be with the National Council of Resistance of Iran and your exceptional, courageous leader Maryam Rajavi. I join my American colleagues and leaders around the world in fully supporting your resistance movement and your drive for a free Iran.

The wind is truly at your back. The momentum shift just in the past year is significant and dramatic. We can see it. We can feel it. The United States government maximum pressure campaign is working. The regime is much weaker, more isolated, and more vulnerable than at any time in the 40-year tyrannical rule of the Iranian regime. Civil unrest and uprisings are taking place not just in Tehran, but throughout the country through different socioeconomic groups. The people



are holding the mullahs responsible for what is happening. Tragically, 1,500 Iranian people were killed demonstrating against the regime in November alone.

The regime funding support for foreign wars in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and Afghanistan, is less than what it used to be. The architect of those wars and the

regime's number one terrorist, Qassem Soleimani, is dead. The momentum is gaining. We can see it, we can feel it.

The regime has mismanaged the coronavirus with an inadequate hospital infrastructure and a lack of vital supplies and equipment. And of course, predictably, they lied about it.

The people of Behbahan, an oil rich region of Iran, were in the streets chanting: "Shame on you Khamenei, leave our country alone. No to Gaza. No to Lebanon. We sacrifice our lives for Iran." Nothing is more inspiring than to see every day people willing to die for freedom. I'm always in awe of it. These brave people don't want to die, but what makes them so special is they are willing to.

We in America are inspired by Iranian people's raw courage and by Maryam Rajavi's leadership. The momentum is gaining. We can see it. We can feel it. I say to you, my dear Iranian friends, in the words of your own people, mullahs get lost. Free Iran, free Iran.



Firsthand account of Iran's 'profound destabilizing force'

General (ret.) George W. Casey, 36th Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, Commander of the Multi-National Force in Iraq

Some of us in U.S. military have a unique perspective on Iran from our time in Iraq. As the coalition commander there, I saw firsthand how Iran used terror to foment and sustain the sectarian violence that in 2005 and 2006 resulted in the death of hundreds of coalition forces and thousands of Iraqis. And so, I firmly believe that this regime will continue to be a profound destabilizing force in the region and around the world as long as it remains in power.

Here's what I saw during my time in Iraq. I saw Iran buy political influence through financial payments to Iraqi political parties and political leaders. I saw them buy public support through economic assistance to communities in the southern part of the country. I saw them use terror to provide training to Iraqi Shia militias. What I'm saying is not supposition, we had the facts. We had hard evidence about the weapons and technologies that they were bringing into the country. We had hard evidence of the militia training camps that they had in Iran. And we had hard evidence of Qods Force presence in Iraq.

The Qods Force was then and is now a terrorist organization. And it is used by Iran to meddle in and destabilize countries around the region. They're at it today in Iraq, in Syria, in Yemen, and in Lebanon. The Iranian regime is not going to change, and it's going to be a destabilizing force in the region and around the world until it is removed from power.

NCRI up, regime's economy down, Soleimani gone

General (ret.) James T. Conway, 34th Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps

Greetings to the patriots of Iran and their supporters from throughout the globe. The regime has had a tough year. The sanctions, unfortunate as they are for the good people of Iran, have had dire effect on the regime. Gross domestic product is off 15 percent. Oil exports are down over 250 percent. The rial is at 50 percent of its previous value and inflation is at 45 percent. Other speakers have talked about the brave protestors in the street in November and January. I won't repeat their courageous story, but I would challenge all of us in attendance here to name one other civilized nation that when its people go to the streets to express displeasure, shoot them dead in the streets. The answer is there is no other country that does that except for Iran.

Madame Rajavi and others have spoken about the hearings that are now



underway in Belgium. I won't elaborate except to say that it should be an embarrassment to a nation every day that those hearings convene.

The NCRI has done much over the years to correct what's happening in Iran. I would encourage you to reach out to the mothers in Iran. Women are centerpiece and, in some ways, the

strongest part of your movement now. Those mothers are concerned about the future for their children and even for their grandchildren, and, if they understand your approach, I am convinced you can win them to your side. I'll quote a great American humorist who said, "Men will be moved to action when women make up their mind."

On 3 January of this year, your movement was handed what I think was a tremendous gift, and that gift was the death of Qassem Soleimani. The man had the mentality of an assassin and he was incredibly vicious in carrying out his duties. But none can argue that he was also extremely efficient and effective at what he did. It's said that he was the second most powerful man in Iran. Certainly, I think he may have been the most notorious in the government and in the military.

When your fellow Iranians take to the streets for what will be the last time, they will not have to face Qassem Soleimani at the head of the Revolutionary Guard.

Pandemic spotlights Mullahs' disregard for Iranian people

**Theresa Villiers,
Former Secretary of State for
Environment, Food, and Rural
Affairs, Member of Parliament
of the United Kingdom**

Thank you so much for the opportunity to join you today at this very important online conference in support of human rights, democracy, and freedom in Iran. It's incredible that this event is coming from 30,000 locations, 100 countries, and includes a thousand parliamentarians and other dignitaries. I want to send my very best wishes to NCRI and to President-elect Maryam Rajavi for her inspirational work on the international scene on behalf of the people of Iran at this very, very difficult time.

We all know that the human rights situation in Iran continues to be appalling, and, on top of this, we now have seen the disastrous handling of the COVID-19



emergency by the Iranian government. It appears only too clear that the mullahs have placed their own political priorities ahead of efforts to keep people safe from COVID-19. The outbreak has been used as an excuse to intensify domestic repression. In the COVID-19 crisis, consistent with

their approach over decades, the mullahs seem entirely lacking in care or compassion for the people of Iran. And they seem disastrously lacking in competence as well. The survival of the regime appears much more important to them than saving lives in the health outbreak.

Amid all of this, the commander-in-chief of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard responsible for so many atrocities is reported by the media as saying that the regime will use all means to manage and control the consequences of any potential uprising or opposition. Now, we all know that that can only mean more killings and more mass arrests of activists campaigning for democracy and human rights, including of course PMOI supporters.

So that's why our conference today is so important. It's a crucial opportunity for us in Western democracies to urge the international community, including the UK government, to keep up the pressure on this brutal and oppressive regime. It is also an opportunity to send a message of support and solidarity to the people of Iran so that they know we stand with them at this terrible time, and that we share their goal for free and democratic secular Iran, where the rule of law is observed and human rights are respected.

'Tehran is losing ground'

**Dr. Matthew Offord,
Member of Parliament
for the United Kingdom
and leading member of
the British Committee
for Iran Freedom**

Allow me to begin by sending my regards to the people of Iran who are currently suffering under their regime, and express my solidarity with them as they are faced with a vicious crackdown, persecution, as they simply demand change in their country.

In a recent statement on Iran, 120 members of the House of Commons and the House of Lords declared their support for the popular protest in Iran against corruption and suppression and supported a 10-point plan for a future free Iran presented by NCRI president-elect, Mrs. Madame Rajavi. Tehran's destabilizing activities in Syria, Lebanon and Yemen; its support for terrorism; the actions against Iranian dissidents in Europe; and the pursuit of a nuclear and ballistic missile program, all which violates the



U.N. Security Council Resolution 2231, the U.N. armed embargo against Iran, the nuclear deal, and counterterrorism laws in the United Kingdom. They are all well-documented in recent statements by the U.N. Secretary General, the IAEA, and many Western governments. That is why I call on the UK government to join the maximum pressure of this campaign on the regime. This campaign has already denied Tehran billions of dollars they could have used otherwise

to destabilize parts of the Middle East and further afield. But thanks to this pressure, Tehran is losing ground in places like Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon.

But the UK government should also work with allies in the EU and the U.N. in order that we support an immediate extension to the U.N. arms embargo against Iran, as well as the reimposition of international and U.N. sanctions against Tehran that were lifted as part of the nuclear deal. Furthermore, the UK should proscribe the entirety of the IRGC as a foreign terrorist organization to deny it the funds it needs to suppress the people of Iran and to export terrorism abroad. The international community has a responsibility and the means to deny Iran's regime the funds it needs to continue its unacceptable and malign behavior both at home and abroad. To muster the political courage to do that, the international community should look to the Iranian people and to their resistance movement led by Mrs. Maryam Rajavi who has shown the way.

So, the time is now here. The time is now ready for change.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

July 17 - Mojahedin-e Khalq (MEK) members watch the Free Iran Global Summit on LED screens in different locations at Ashraf 3.

Path 'against monstrous tyranny' carved by legacy

**David Jones,
Member of Parliament of
the United Kingdom, Former
Secretary of State for Wales
and Former Brexit Minister**

It's a huge pleasure and privilege to be here today at this great annual gathering which this year is taking place both physically and virtually. People in 30,000 locations, in over 100 countries, all joined together to support freedom in Iran and Madame Rajavi's 10-point plan.

Last month, President Macron of France traveled to London to mark a special event—the 80th anniversary of the arrival of General Charles de Gaulle in Britain. President Macron said, "After arriving in London on June the 17th, De Gaulle was immediately received by Winston Churchill, and the royal family offered asylum to the man whom they recognized almost by instinct as the legitimate ambassador of French values." And President Macron continued, "Winston Churchill personified the spirit of fighting on. He said he had nothing to



offer but blood, toil, tears, and sweat. And yet he offered so much more—determination, faith in victory, honor, and pride." Churchill was the man who stood firm against a monstrous tyranny, and thus, he made London the capital of the free world.

And now, in the great annual Free Iran gathering of 2020, where the international community gathers together to back the

Iranian people's legitimate struggle for democracy, human rights, peace, and security, we call on the British government, especially our Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who is Churchill's biographer, to stand firm, as Churchill did, against the regime that is ruling Iran. We dearly wish our government to show the same determination, faith in victory, honor and pride to the world as Winston Churchill did in 1940. Churchill did not stand aside. Rather, he offered his support of the people of France by recognizing Charles de Gaulle as their legitimate ambassador.

Today, Maryam Rajavi is the legitimate ambassador of the Iranian people, and I believe she should be recognized as such by the British government.

Last month, President Macron also said the BBC opened its airwaves to French speakers and conveyed the spirit of French resistance. And today, we want the BBC to open its airwaves not to the mullahs, but to the Iranian speakers who convey the desire of the Iranian people for freedom. That is what the British people and their representatives in the British Parliament want to see happen.



'Brave and bold' governments need to stand up to regime

**Lord Alex Carlile of Berriew,
CBE, QC,
Member of the British
House of Lords**

Congratulations to Mrs. Rajavi and the NCRI for their effective exposure of the Iranian regime's dreadful ill-deeds. I'd like to congratulate the NCRI also on their clear representation of what an alternative democratic government would look like in Iran. Unfortunately, under the current regime, Iran has become the leading state sponsor of terrorism and is responsible for a large number of terrorist plots around the world since 1979.

The NCRI, through its network, has been instrumental in exposing the regime's terrorism and terrorist activities abroad. Last year, it published a report, Iran's Emissaries of Terror, which explains the extent Tehran's embassies and diplomats are involved in planning and executing international terrorism.

I want to pay tribute to NCRI members who are in Tirana, Albania and to the Government of Albania. The Albanian government has been brave and bold, even under a great deal of

» see **CARLILE** | **C23**

End religious persecution and human rights abuses

**Bishop John Prichard,
Former Bishop of Oxford
and Former Member
of House of Lords**

I'm very grateful for the opportunity to join this very significant summit again. It's a remarkable achievement, so well done.

I have a particular take on the struggle we're involved in. I want to take the opportunity to highlight a recent statement by Dr. Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, and supported by 40 British Bishops of whom I'm one, expressing a really deep concern about the deteriorating human rights situation and the persecution of religious minorities in Iran. At the end of June, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard conducted a coordinated operation in Tehran and two other cities, aimed at disrupting the country's house church movement and sweeping up members of the Iranian Christian community. I think those arrests could be an early



example of Tehran's implementation of new laws, passed in May, that have been highlighted by supporters of Iranian Christians and other religious groups as broadening the judiciary's authority, making it easier to prosecute a group of people on arbitrary charges like working to undermine national security

or committing to enmity with God and other ridiculous things. And all of these are punishable with harsh prison sentences and possibly even execution. In a statement for the United Nations Universal Periodic Review this year, the United Kingdom government referred to the popular protests in Iran, the ones last year in particular as they got going again, and said, I quote, "In November last year, we saw the most deadly crackdown against its citizens for decades. While persecution and discrimination towards religious minorities continues unabated."

We do applaud the UK government's decision to classify Iran as a human rights priority country and to commit to hold it to account for its human rights abuses. We now call on the UK government and the Foreign Commonwealth Office to do more at the United Nations and internationally [to] end the impunity that the perpetrators of serious human rights violations enjoy in Iran. [This is] a challenge we put to all governments dealing with this Iranian regime.

Regime 'tried and failed to kill the messenger'

**Bob Blackman,
Member of Parliament of
the United Kingdom**

It is a pleasure joining you on a virtual basis. Congratulations to Maryam Rajavi on her excellent speeches, and to all those who have attended this wonderful virtual conference. My appreciation to all the organizers and everything that's taken place. I also think we should express thanks to the leadership of all the political parties in Albania who have given home to the people at Ashraf 3 and provided facilities for PMOI and the NCRI to meet, ensuring that the true voice of the Iranian people is heard loud and clear across the world.

Last year, we had the privilege to join the PMOI members in Ashraf 3 in Albania for the Free Iran rally. In June 2018, I was part of the prominent UK delegation attending the NCRI's grand gathering in Paris, along with 100,000 people. We know the regime tried to bomb that gathering using an Iranian diplomat who was arrested for providing the would-be terrorists



with explosives, but is now awaiting prosecution in Belgium. So, while the regime is unable to stop the NCRI's message of hope and democratic change from spreading in the Iranian society, it tried and failed to kill the messenger: the NCRI and Madame Rajavi. I'm one of the plaintiffs in the trial against the arrested regime diplomat

in Belgium, so I'm encouraged to hear that finally, after a two-year investigation, the first closed door court hearing will start soon.

This is a significant step to bringing the regime to justice for its terrorism in an independent court. There's no doubt that the Iranian regime will want to escape justice, but we will not allow this to happen. We have evidence to show this regime's heavy involvement in terrorist activities on European soil and will ensure that this so-called diplomat will be held accountable for the malicious crime he was planning to commit at the order of his boss, Javad Zarif, as well as Khamenei himself.

I hope that the trial in Belgium is just the start for a series of accountability processes against this regime, something the international community has failed to do in the last 40 years. It is also of great importance because it should and will be a turning point in the foreign policy adopted by European governments, vis-à-vis the Iranian regime so far. So, I also hope my government, the UK government, will soon join our American ally in

proscribing the IRGC in its entirety as a terrorist organization, which is the real description of the paramilitary organization that only answers to the supreme leader. In addition, I hope to see Iranian Embassies shut down in all European capitals and the diplomats returned to Iran.

So, I send my regards to everyone participating in this excellent international conference which, I believe, is a world record. It demonstrates the world backing for the NCRI, the PMOI, and the free Iranian people to return Iran to democracy under President-elect Maryam Rajavi.

'Bring meaningful democratic change'



**John Perry,
Former Irish Minister**

It is an honor to join prominent speakers and parliamentarians for today's online summit in support of a free and democratic Iran. The NCRI has shown it is truly a viable alternative to the despotic regime ruling Iran. It has grassroots support among Iranians in and outside Iran. It enjoys international support. The organized opposition led by NCRI President-elect Madame Rajavi is capable of shouldering the responsibility and leading the Iranian people to achieve their freedom, human rights, and bring about meaningful democratic change to Iran. We know that the regime

is stealing billions of dollars from Iran's national wealth to advance its nuclear projects and ballistic missile program, in violation of the U.N. Security Council resolutions. Funds that belong to the Iranian people are squandered by the regime to buy more weapons to suppress the Iranian people are sent to terrorist proxies in the region.

I urge the Irish government and the new prime minister to begin this work right away by supporting an extension to the U.N. weapons embargo against Iran which will expire in October. Furthermore, the Irish government should take the lead and assist in reimposing international sanctions on the regime that were lifted as part of the Iran Nuclear Deal.



Continue the 'sacred struggle'

**Magnus Oscarsson,
Member of Parliament
of Sweden**

I would like to express my support for the tens of thousands of Iranians who are participating in this large gathering for a free Iran from all over the world. I hope that you will achieve your desire of a new government in Iran. I want to urge the Swedish government to strongly distance itself from the ruling regime in Iran, which is engaged in massacring and killing a people whose only aspiration is freedom, human rights, and democracy. I salute the thousands of people who are attending this summit today from around the world, especially those in Iran. I would like to tell all of you in Iran who are engaged in this sacred struggle to continue your struggle.

CARLILE

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pressure from the Iranian regime. It has expelled the regime's diplomats and, indeed, the Ambassador from the

country for conspiring to commit terrorist acts against the PMOI members in Albania.

I would welcome clearer action against the Iranian regime by the European Union itself, by the governments of the European Union, and by the United Kingdom. There seems to

be a tendency towards compromise which I do not support. There is strong cross-party support for the 10-point plan for the future of Iran, which Mrs. Rajavi has published. That has been developed into something that is like a government program, which I regard as a very important step.



'You are part of our family'

**Pandeli Majko,
Minister of State for
Diaspora, Former Prime
Minister of Albania**

Today, I stand before you not only as Albanian, I speak to you as a friend. I am here to speak for all those voices which cannot be heard: mothers, daughters, fathers, sons, and Albanian families. I want to say that Camp Liberty in Albania, you are part of our family. You are in our faith. The Mujahedin (MEK) are not the problem of Iran, they are a standard bearer of the future freedom of their country. They are the unwritten rule of freedom. This is a reason why they are the flag of hope where the choices reflect their bravery.

The day to be in Tehran together will be a good day, too. Thank you and best wishes for all of you.

**Fatmir Mediu,
Leader of the Republican
Party, former Minister of
Defense of Albania**

I am really honored to be one of the first Albanians, with some other friends, to support the transition from Ashraf to Albania. All political parties in Albania support MEK and Iranian resistance. Albanian political leaders are behind you and supporting you all.

I want to start with what former Prime Minister Berisha mentioned, it is time that Albanians take a decisive step

**Lulzim Basha,
Leader of the Opposition and
the Democratic Party of Albania**

It is an honor to address this event on behalf of the Democratic Party of Albania. We have and continue to remain committed to and in solidarity with the Iranian people's aspiration for freedom, democracy, and respect for fundamental human rights and liberties.

The Iranian government has shown, throughout the last decades, a repeated behavior of unprovoked aggression and violence against its own people, against its neighbors, and indeed against the global community of nations. The consequences of such conduct, from murder to torture targeting ordinary Iranian citizens; to the violent suppression of political manifestations in 1999, 2009, and 2017; the killing of countless Iranian protestors in November, 2019; to targeting U.S. personnel from Lebanon to Iraq; to harboring, aiding and launching terrorist organizations, have taken its toll. The Iranian regime has confirmed that it is willing to do whatever it takes to maintain its grip



on power at the cost of innocent lives and regional stability. Today's event, however, is yet another testimony that strengthens the international community's resolve to counter these threats.

Our position is clear. We stand firmly against the Iranian regime continuously reverting to illegal and terrorist practices on our soil and to

its structured drive to export fundamentalism in Albania and our region. We support the Iranian people in their goal for a democratic, secular, and non-nuclear republic of Iran. We support the Iranian people's desire for change and commend Madame Rajavi's 10-point plan for the future of Iran, which offers the people of Iran a free, secular and democratic country. I and the Democratic Party of Albania stand with the people of Iran who are continuing to hold legitimate and peaceful protests against an oppressive and corrupt regime.

The future is born through sacrifice and, in Albania, we know very well that the price of freedom weighs heavy on suppressed nations. But, there is no other way to secure a better future than the way of resistance and struggle for the fundamental features of the human being: dignity and liberty. We have faith that a better future is within reach for all the people of Iran. For that, we thank you, Madame Rajavi, and all of you sacrificing for that future. You can continue to count on our fullest measure of support.

'Albanians stand for freedom, liberty, and a free Iran'



to halt relations with the Iranian regime. They tried to carry out a terrorist attack on our soil. So, they should take the

responsibility to face the situation.

The second point is the proposition from Mayor Rudy Giuliani and Judge Louis Freeh on how we can work to bring to court some of the crimes that the Iranian regime is committing against its own people, atrocities, killing people, sending people to jail.

I also think it's the time for the Albanian Parliament to act in the same way as the Congress of the United States acted with a joint resolution, majority and the opposition, condemning what the Iranian regime is doing in Iran. Iran is presenting a threat to our security. We are a NATO country. So, we have the authority to start talking about the situation in NATO meetings with the leadership of our Minister of Defense and Minister of Foreign Affairs. This should become a subject of discussion to the biggest organization, the U.N. General Assembly.

It's time that Albanians should think that if we gave shelter to you and make you feel at home, then you are fighting for the right cause. We should join you in actions. Not just joining you in conferences, but also in certain activities that will give both of us the ability to raise this issue to another level in international organizations. I think we will have more support from the EU because it will understand the situation better.

Action which will prove that Albanians stand for freedom, liberty, and a free Iran. So, I will close with words from President Lincoln: government of the people, by the people, for the people, that's what Iran needs. And you have a wonderful plan of 10-points of Madame Rajavi that everybody's appreciating around the world. We should be part of explaining this 10-point plan to everybody and join you as a team to do the best for Iran and the Iranian resistance.

Promise of future summit in Tehran

Sali Berisha,
Former Prime Minister and
former President of Albania

Honorable Madame President Rajavi, distinguished senior officials, parliamentarians, congressmen, senators, and prominent friends of the Iranian resistance, freedom fighters participating in the Free Iran Global Summit, ladies and gentlemen, it is a special honor and privilege for me to greet Madame President Rajavi and all leaders of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, members and supporters of your strong movement for a free Iran, all those who participate in this event from dozens of countries around the world, and I wish the Global Summit of Free Iran complete success in its work.

Dear friends, 2020 is one of the most difficult years for humanity since the time of the Second World War, due



to the COVID-19 pandemic, from which 14 million people have suffered until today and nearly 600,000 lost their lives. This year has been more severe

than all the others for your compatriots in Iran who face the uncontrolled pandemic and the mullahs' savage oppression with killings, torture, and imprisonment of hundreds and thousands of members and supporters of your movement. But, with all this, I think this summit finds your resistance as the only real hope for the liberation of your strong nation and closer to the realization of its major goal: a free Iran.

The uprising of November 2019 with 1,500 sons and daughters, the free martyrs of your nation who fell to become immortal, deeply shook the foundations of the mullahs' regime. The well-deserved punishment of the notorious terrorist leader, Qassem Soleimani, dealt a fatal blow to the regime. The latest U.S. Congressional resolution and the resolution submitted to the U.N. Security Council have raised to a new level the international condemnation of Iran's dictatorial

regime and the international support for the NCRI and Madame Rajavi's free democratic, secular and non-nuclear Iran. Likewise, the recent acts of psychological war and demonization campaigns by the mullahs prove that today the mullahs' regime is weaker than ever and that it is heading toward the end it deserves.

For all this, your nation's trust in the NCRI and President Rajavi, and the regime's horror at your freedom movement are greater than ever. I am proud to support your movement and that Albania is your second home today. I applaud the expulsion of the Iranian ambassador from Tirana. The complete severance of diplomatic ties with the mullahs' regime would be the most necessary response to the terrorist acts planned against you. In conclusion, I wish that in the near future the summit will be held in Tehran, the capital of a free Iran.

Standing against 'fundamentalism in Albania and abroad'



Edmond Spaho,
Member of Parliament of
Albania for Elbasan

It is an honor to be with you in this great conference as the vice chair of the Democratic Party of Albania. Iran, home to one of the oldest civilizations, today is facing a very critical moment of its history. The last 40 years, Iran has been transformed and four decades of confluence of challenges such as political and cultural repression, menacing authorities, controlling ideas and

speech from the regime, and indeed, controlling life itself has been enduring.

We condemn the killing of thousands of the Iranian people, including thousands of children. The massacre of political prisoners and the killing of over 1,500 Iranian protestors in November 2019, and ask that those responsible receive justice.

The time for change in Iran has come. The international community is supporting the Iranian people and its resistance to establish freedom and democracy in their own land, Iran. Iran diplomatic missions in some capitals, including Albania, have been involved in the activities that are contrary to their diplomatic status.

We stand firm against any kind of terrorism and export of fundamentalism in Albania and abroad, and we support the Iranian democratic alternative. The opposition in Albania has supported the expulsion of two Iranian diplomats, including its ambassador for planning terrorist acts in Albania. Representatives of the Iranian intelligence and security agencies should not be allowed in our country, and we will support, if needed, similar actions in the future.

Madame Rajavi's 10-point plan for the future of Iran offers the people of Iran a free, secular and democratic

country. Political pluralism, free and fair elections, freedom of expression and human rights, rule of law and justice, separation of religion from the

state, and an Iran free of weapons of mass destruction are what the Iranian people want and are fighting for. God bless Iranian opposition.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 17 - MEK members joining the Free Iran Global Summit, as Resistance Units inside Iran join the Summit.

Admiration for 'Iranian women calling for change and democracy'

Elona Gjebrea,
Parliament Foreign Affairs
Committee Secretary and
Former Deputy Minister of
Interior of Albania

It's my pleasure to be with you at this very critical situation in Iran. The dictatorship in Iran fears the great uprising of November 2019, and the scenario of an escalation of the next uprising. The international community, as well as Albania, must recognize the right of the Iranian people and the resistance to establish freedom and democracy in Iran. The Albanian government has taken a very strong position against the Iranian regime's terrorist activities. I'm so happy to be part of the Albanian government that, with the leadership of our Prime Minister Edi Rama, has helped and supported the relocation of MEK people here in Albania. We officially announced that these are serious threats to international peace



and security and expelled the Iranian regime ambassador, as well as three diplomats in the Iranian Embassy for their engagement in terrorist plots. The dossier of human rights abuses by Iran includes the killing 120,000

children of Iranian people, massacre of 100,000 political prisoners, and killing over 1,500 Iranian protesters in November 2019, must be referred to the U.N. Security Council.

I support Madame Rajavi for her 10-point plan for the future of Iran. She's a respected leader, an impressive woman, and a very good friend. The plan offers the people of Iran a free and democratic country. I am proud to support Iranian women who are calling for change and democracy. I admire their courage and determination.

All of us in Albania from different political parties are united about freedom and democracy for Iran. We stand firm with Madame Rajavi, the people of Ashraf, and the Resistance Units fighting for freedom in Iran. You have so many friends across the globe. Of course, many of those are Albanians, and I'm also one of those helping and supporting you in different situations, and I will remain always and forever your friend.



'Noble combat' stirs European leaders

Anna Fotyga,
Member of European
Parliament, Former Minister
of Foreign Affairs of Poland

Dear friends of Free Iran, dear Iranian friends, dear members of Ashraf community, and first and foremost, dear Madame Maryam Rajavi, I would like to thank all of you once more for your leadership and inspiring all of us, in particular all of us in the European Parliament, and all parliaments of European Union, with the principal values of your love of your country and your admiration of its ages, centuries, thousands of years' worth culture and tradition of stateship.

Be sure that within European Parliament, you have a large group of admirers and supporters who monitor this situation in Iran on a daily basis. We know that your fight for liberation of your country from the kleptocratic cruel regime of mullahs is a noble combat, that even under very difficult circumstances, conditions exacerbated by COVID-19, you maintain courage, determination, and resolve to fight for your own country.

I know that there's still much to do, that European policies were not entirely successful, we should be more firm, more determined, and more decisive in pushing for changes in Iran.

Role models in Ashraf 3

Valentina Leskaj,
Member of Albania's Socialist
Party Leadership, Former Vice
Chair of the Council of Europe
Assembly and Former Vice
Speaker of Albanian Parliament

It's a human obligation to join the voices with the Iranian resistance and the people who fight for democracy, human rights, and a non-nuclear country.

Iran now is in the most critical situation not only because of the pandemic fatalities, but also because of the mullah regime's atrocities.

On June 17, 2020, U.S. Congress adopted resolution 374 which was very important because it supports the people who are fighting for democracy and who aspire for Iranian democracy, a secular, and non-nuclear Republic of Iran. The Resolution calls on nations to prevent malign activities of some diplomatic corps of the Iranian regime as in Albania, where the Albanian government expelled the



ambassador and some diplomats who were engaged in terrorist plots.

The people living here in Albania in Ashraf 3 camp are courageous. They are people who didn't wait for others to build their houses or their community when they came here.

They are role models in that they built the true community and live in harmony with the Albanian people, despite the fact that they are Muslim or Christian.

These people have shown that they respect human rights, they respect women's rights and they have shown example by electing a woman as the leader of the resistance. A woman like Madame Rajavi in front of the mullahs' regime is a very strong message not only for Iran, but for the region and beyond. I support NCRI, and I support Madame Rajavi's 10-point plan for the future of a free, secular and democratic Iran.

I believe that the international community and Europe will recognize the right of the Iranian people to establish freedom and democracy in their own land. When you go to Ashraf 3, you can read something that I like very much. They say that victory is ours, the future is ours. I believe their slogan, and say that it's time for a change in Iran.

'High time' for justice and solidarity

**Ad Melkert,
Former Special
Representative for the U.N.
Assistance Mission in Iraq**

Dear friends, what a wonderful way to connect again despite the physical obstacles that are turning today's world upside down. How important that you have found this alternative way of once again bringing together the global community that wants to stand up for human rights and democracy in Iran. How urgent to send a message to the Iranian people that a campaign for justice and solidarity continues, no matter the long and winding road still ahead. Last time, we met to celebrate your new home at Ashraf 3. It was a moving moment after the terror that haunted you at Ashraf 1, at a time that I had the privilege as a special representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations to stand up for your human rights and dignity in the face of relentless attack and persecution. And it was a gratifying moment, with special thanks to the Albanian government, to know that after many years of tireless efforts, the insecurity of Ashraf 2 had been replaced by the peaceful welcome a new home offers.

This brings me to the need to remind the world of the incompetence



of the Iranian regime in dealing with the coronavirus and leaving the Iranian people on their own amidst death and fear. For a month, the public was kept away from factual information. During that period, flights to and from China continued. After the true disaster appeared, medical or financial support was far short of the needs of countless people, contrary to the efforts of many other countries across the world. Several foundations controlled by the Supreme Leader possess hundreds of billions of dollars; it's painful and shameful that no more resources were allocated to people in real pain and need. We also

know that at the same time, a considerable amount of money was given to terrorist groups in the region.

Today, we also know that those who stand up in protest are severely persecuted and are at risk to be executed. It is high time once more to raise our voices in support of human rights and to demand that the Iranian people decide their future without oppression and manipulation. This is the message that brings us together today. I wish this message be heard every day and shared across the world in support of your endeavor and aspiration to find and join, at long last, a free Iran.



United by 'faith in freedom, justice, democracy, and peace'

**Syed Ahmed Ghozali,
Former Prime Minister of Algeria**

We come together once again to express our solidarity with the Iranian people and its noble resistance. I also greet our brothers and sisters in Ashraf 3 in Albania and the allies of the noble resistance of Iran.

This gathering has become a tradition and brings together thousands of people from all over the world. They have different religious, philosophical, and political beliefs. Among them are elected officials, former members of governments, and members of civil society. What unites us is our faith in freedom, justice, democracy, and peace. What unites us here is your unbreakable faith in a cause that is right. The goal you have for Iran is the righteous goal.

Everyone knows that the Iranian government has institutionalized the establishment of the Islamic Republic in its constitution. This means that the strategy of the Iranian government is to dominate all Arab and Muslim countries by creating instability, violence, and government terrorism.

We support your goals. Your goal for Iran is our goal. The Iranian people have been oppressed by dictatorships of various forms for 70 years.

The Iranian people have an alternative called the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran and the National Council of Resistance of Iran. Therefore, when the government is overthrown tomorrow, there will be no chaos. The Iranian people are lucky enough to have an alternative that has clear goals. In the last 15 years, we have seen a specific program for Iran tomorrow with the 10-point plan announced by Ms. Maryam Rajavi.

Regime abandons its people in poverty to fund terror

**Dr. Naser al-Hariri,
Syrian Opposition Official**

We are struggling against the same enemy. We must reaffirm our commitment against the Iranian regime and its policy of hatred. The regime has consumed the resources of the people and abandoned them in poverty. They don't listen to the demands of the people. They employ terrorism to destroy the opposition.

This regime's terrorist policies are to subjugate the people of Iran and continue to waste their resources on Hezbollah and the Houthis in Yemen. This is a wealthy



nation, but many of its people are under the line of poverty. This regime is the source of international terrorism and spreads terrorism in Europe, Africa, and Latin America.

This regime has tarnished the image of the Iranian people across the world. This regime has concentrated its tyranny on people and uses propaganda against the opposition to deceive the people and the world.

The people will outlive their persecutors. The dawn of freedom for the people of Iran and Syria will arrive soon. These regimes will go to the waste bins of history.

Cyberwarfare: Regime's next weapon

**Theresa Payton,
White House Chief
Information Officer for
President George W. Bush**

I am so honored to be a part of the agenda. I want to use my time to inform and engage you on the cyber domain and what actions we must all take on behalf of the citizens of Iran. We can change their future and the world's future and see a free Iran soon.

Warren Buffet says cyberwarfare is the greatest threat to mankind, even more so than nuclear weapons. He's correct. We're under siege, deep in the middle of a new type of war. In an increasingly interconnected world where nearly all adults have access to robust devices in their pockets, the next frontier of security isn't physical, it's digital. As daunting as the thought of nuclear wars, bombs, and bullets are, the hacking of systems and the manipulation of our minds are equally alarming threats.

The Iranian regime is at the forefront of the actors in cyberwarfare and we must stop it. The current Iranian regime uses a mix of cyber intrusions, digital manipulation campaigns, and terrorist activities or threat of such as their key strategy for maintaining the regime's operational status quo and to improve their standing on the world's stage and suppress their citizenry. Iran has probed, surveilled, and, in some cases, successfully attacked critical infrastructure of countries around the globe, including the United States. Iran's regime also hides behind cyberoperatives and fake personas. They can pretend to be our neighbors and fellow citizens. They are inside our digital infrastructure and inside our social media.

Let's examine how they leverage the cyber domain to maintain control. In Iran, the crackdown on opposition and



the media is enforced by the government. Their documented history includes arrests, executions, and filtering all news through state-run media or even turning off internet access for its own citizens. They also suppress and digitally track the opposition and even the objective reporters. The Iranian regime uses a mix of these heavy-handed tactics along with subtler, more covert attacks or manipulation campaigns on social media to spread disinformation and fake news at a velocity and scale that would have been unheard of before the digital age.

Iran's goal is to drive positive news about its current regime, often manipulating its own people to ensure undying support for the mullahs' ideological and international political interests. The cyberoperatives acting on behalf of the Iranian regime seek to blunt the media's ability to investigate their false dealings. They also wish to co-opt the media narrative into shoring up their reputations at home and abroad to support their interests. Iran has been using social media influence operations to discredit the pro-democracy

movement, mainly the MEK, to their own citizens for years.

Reuters exposed in 2018 more than 70 Iranian web sites run out of Tehran that pretended to be local news organizations in other countries. The exposé found the sites were written in over 16 languages, including English, Arabic, Spanish, and Persian, to ensure readers would find their propaganda believable and hiding behind fake personas that look like news outlets, nonprofits, and grassroots organizations. Iran is known to block web sites, social media networks, censor and track mobile connectivity, threaten and socially engineer reporters, meddle with access to internet-based encrypted messaging platforms, or restrict speeds or remove access to the internet altogether.

As the internet becomes more ubiquitously available, the authoritarian regime of Iran scrambles to find ways to ensure they increase their influence over their citizens. That is why the Iranian people and protesters are becoming more creative and technical in using internet

to get their voices heard globally. This is our call to action. Fundamentally, the United States must step up to address the cyber domain issues with the same level of concern appropriate to the next Manhattan Project, harnessing a combination of government resources, national lab research, private sector industry expertise, and collaboration with educational institutions. We will never find a solution to a free Iran or safety from the regime's mix of citizen oppression, cyber intrusions, and terrorism without dedicating ourselves to a bold new approach.

I offer a few steps. Step one, we need a comprehensive strategy across countries and the private sector to enable the citizens of Iran to achieve a free Iran. Step two, we need to ensure that the people of Iran can share in real time threats that could have an impact on their anti-regime protests and call for democracy. Step three, through financial backing, expert advice, traditional media bombardment, and, yes, now, social media influence campaigns, the United States and other countries could use an amplification campaign to bypass the Iranian regime and promote regime change by the Iranian people. We must quickly evaluate the effectiveness of diplomatic measures and set up a threat-hunting team that aggressively searches for adversarial activity from the Iranian regime, especially those targeting the opposition.

Step four, act. We can't allow excuses anymore. This is the crisis of our time. If a coalition of international policy makers, technology, and citizens act now the overall future for the people of Iran and the world will take a more positive and different course. As George Washington wrote from Mount Vernon in 1799, "offensive operations, often times, is the surest, if not the only (in some cases) means of defense."



**Roberto Rampi,
Member of Parliament of Italy**

I'm so happy to be here this year, this night with you, from 30,000 locations, hundreds of parliamentarians, and many, many people from everywhere in the world. I believe that it's a very, very good demonstration of the prowess of the Iranian resistance. I was so impressed to see what you do in Albania, in Ashraf 3. And I'm so surprised about the magnificent meeting today, many people that are

together from hundreds of countries around the world and a thousand parliamentarians, and many people. Because we all believe in the possibility of a free Iran.

The Iranian people, Iranian culture, Iranian history, are so great and so very powerful, with an ancient history and a very strong culture. I ask the United Nations, the European Union, and my country to be stronger about the idea that human rights have to be preserved all around the world, and also in Iran. We know that Iran

is very dangerous to the rest of the world because it is a country that organizes terrorist organizations around the world.

So, we believe we will have soon a free Iran that, with other countries all around the world, can make a better world for our future. So, thank you very much for all you do. You have my personal support, the support of my party, and the support of many people in the Italian Parliament.

'No more appeasement of this Iranian regime'

**Kelly Ayotte,
Former U.S. Senator,
Former New Hampshire
Attorney General**

The people of Iran deserve freedom, freedom from the oppression, the evil, and the tyranny of the mullahs. We all stand with the people of Iran. It is time for regime change in Iran. It is time for the regime to go. We join together to say loudly, "The mullahs must go." It is also time for the Iranian people to be able to freely elect their own representatives. I want to thank Madame Rajavi and the NCRI for your courage and your sacrifice in opposing the mullahs and standing up for the people of Iran. Your 10-point plan rightly envisions a peaceful, democratic future for Iran based on what we would hope all countries would want: universal suffrage, gender equality, freedom of speech, separate of religion



and state, and a nonnuclear Iran.

We know that the people of Iran support your vision. We have seen and heard from Iranians from all walks of life and backgrounds. They have taken to the streets to protest the regime.

And what has happened to these Iranians who have bravely taken to the streets? Thousands horribly murdered or tortured. We will not forget their sacrifice, and we remember and honor the fact that they were willing to put their

lives on the line. But their voices have not been diminished. We hear and agree with your outrage about the illegitimate capital punishment sentences recently handed down for three innocent young Iranians whose only crime is that they dared to speak out against the mullahs.

Thank you, Madame Rajavi, for your leadership, for shining a light on this misjustice, for speaking out strongly for these three young Iranians, and for the right of all Iranians to be free from oppression and to speak their minds. There can be no more appeasement of this Iranian regime. It is time for all the free countries of the world to join together to stop the mullah's reign of terrorism inside Iran and outside Iran, to make sure that they never get a nuclear weapon. And most importantly, to support the right of the Iranian people to be free from tyranny, to determine their own destiny, and to live in peace and prosperity.

Regime fears 'strength of [Resistance] ideas'



**Linda Chavez,
Chairman of the Center for Equal
Opportunity, Former Assistant to the
President for Public Liaison**

It is a real tribute to the organizational skills of the NCRI that we could pull together in the middle of a worldwide pandemic this kind of gathering to bring together old friends and new friends in support of freedom for the people of Iran.

We've seen, again over the last few years, uprisings in big and small cities across Iran. People pushing for more food, better jobs, a better economy, but also, importantly, more freedom, for the right to be able to select their own leaders, to be able to live in a country that honored civil

liberties. We've seen the toll that the pandemic has taken, and Madame Rajavi talked about the 70,000 people who are dead in Iran from this terrible pandemic. The regime is collapsing. But the real question is, what will take its place? And who will take the place of the ayatollahs? And who will decide who will take the place? Well, we know one thing. We know who the regime fears is going to take its place. We saw no better evidence of that than in the attempted bombing of the 2018 gathering of the NCRI in Villepinte, France. That was an attempt to take out Madame Rajavi, to kill as many of the supporters as possible, and to terrorize those who would dare to stand up to the regime.

Well, why is it that the regime fears Madame Rajavi? It's for the simple reason that she stands for ideas of liberty. Her 10-point plan is the best hope for the freedom of the Iranian people. She has been a beacon in the wilderness to gather together those who support a free Iran in which the people of that country can enjoy equal freedoms, equal rights before the courts, the power to assemble, the right to express their own views, and the right to worship as they choose. So, that's what the regime in Iran fears most. And I am so proud to be here with others who have supported Madame Rajavi to say to the regime, your time is coming. We've waited a long time, but your days are numbered. And those who will replace you will do so not at the barrel of a gun, but with the strength of their ideas. And I say to all of you, hazer, hazer, hazer. Thank you very much.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albanian, July 19 - A picture of a women protester during the November 2019 uprising at the outdoor exhibition in tribute to 1,500 protesters killed during the nationwide protests.

Mullahs fear 'a tornado of public anger'

Martin Patzelt,
Member of German Federal
Parliament (Bundestag),
Member of Human
Rights Committee

The Iranian regime's officials are warning about the coming of a great uprising; a tornado of public anger. The regime is responsible for this tornado because of 40 years of crimes and corruption. Today's summit is a testament to the Iranian people's resolute determination to bring change to Iran. They seek democracy, human rights, and economic prosperity. The people's will is much stronger than any suppressive act committed by the regime. ... The Iranian people do not want the clerical regime. ... For this inhumane situation to end, the mullahs must go. For the past two years, one name has been constantly repeated more than any other: the Mojahedin-e Khalq (MEK). The regime has been trying to ignore the MEK for 40 years so that the



Iranian people forget about it and, along with it, any hope for change. But, the presence of young supporters of the MEK during the uprisings forced the regime to confess. ... To Germany and the EU, I say that we must side with all democratic forces inside and outside the country to support change in Iran. There is an alternative within reach that is not built around violence. President-elect

Maryam Rajavi represents this alternative through her 10-Point Plan. To the people of Iran and especially the young generation that is organizing the resistance movement for freedom, I want to say that I salute your courage and sacrifices. Your peaceful resistance will not be in vain. Your resistance serves the people and God, the God of freedom and humanity. We stand with you.



Uprisings have 'staying power'

Zinat Mir Hashemi,
Editor-inChief of Nabard-e Khalq and
Member of the Central Committee of
the Iranian Fedayian Organization

I hail all freedom lovers who are present at this summit today. On the eve of the anniversary of the National Council of Resistance of Iran's founding, the Iranian people, especially the impoverished and the massive army of laborers, have entered a new phase.

The Iranian people have engaged in different forms of struggle during the disgraceful rule of the religious dictatorship. The November 2019 uprising for bread, employment, and freedom was the climax of this struggle. The supreme leader Ali Khamenei is intent on using the conditions caused by the coronavirus to save the regime from being overthrown, but the Iranian people's organized resistance has resolutely continued its struggle to topple this regime despite brutal suppression. The activities and campaigns undertaken by the Resistance Units are the most striking features of this struggle.

Today, the strong currents and forces intent on bringing down the regime is more than ever before impacting the mullahs. If the ruling clerics have succeeded in maintaining their grip on power, it is because they have employed every means of suppression and conspiracies. But, rest assured, that this is not reflective of the regime's power. The protests and uprisings in the recent past, in particular the November 2019 uprising, made it palpably clear that the moribund regime is on its way out, and those who rising up for people's democratic rights have staying power and will be victorious.

The initiative, which the NCRI began inside Iran 39 years ago, is now being pursued by countless Iranians across the country. These are women and men standing up against religious despotism and heralding the establishment of a democratic, secular, and justice-seeking republic. Mrs. Rajavi's 10-point plan and the plan for the formation of the Solidarity Front are efforts aimed at bringing this prospect to fruition.

Break the silence on Iran's COVID-19 crisis

Luís Leite Ramos,
Deputy Leader in
Parliament of Portugal

I am troubled by the extent of the coronavirus in Iran. The Iranian regime is not providing legitimate figures and states that deaths have not exceeded 11,000 people. However, upon reading the statements provided by officials and doctors in Iran, we realise that the gravity of the situation is tremendous. A member of the national center of the fight against coronavirus in Iran declared that up until now, 18 million Iranians, which is 20 percent of the population, have contracted COVID-19. Another official has stated that every 15 minutes, two people in Iran die as a result of coronavirus, which is 192 people every 24 hours. Thanks to the efforts of the Iranian resistance to provide information,



we know that up until now, at least 70,000 people have died in Iran because of coronavirus.

In Iran, the defenseless population is facing this pandemic by itself. The corrupt dictatorship that governs Iran, that gains billions of dollars

from Khamenei and the pasdarans, doesn't spend a single dime for the health of the nation, but instead sends the people back to work, or in other words, to the coronavirus abattoir. It is painful to compare this situation with what other governments are doing to protect their populations. One of the questions that needs to be asked is why is the World Health Organization doing nothing? Why is the international community remaining quiet on this issue? This deafening silence is insulting to the Iranian population, who are victims to the pandemic and victims to this religious dictatorship. Why has the U.N. special report on the right to health not published a single thing about this? This is not acceptable.

Today, at this tribunal, I call to break the silence on the health crisis in Iran. I am calling for the WHO to act, alongside the U.N.

'Path of war, destruction, and violence' leads to 'humanitarian crisis'

**Dr. Mohammad Askar,
Minister of Human Rights of Yemen**

The Houthi militia, supported by the Iranian regime, turned against the popular authority in our country, represented by President-elect President Abd Rabbuh Mansour al-Hadi, in September 2014, in an attempt to transfer the Iranian version to Yemen. It detained the president, occupied the institutions in the capital, Sanaa, and seized stores and arsenals of the Yemeni army of weapons and missiles to launch proxy wars for the Iranian regime in the region. The mullahs' regime in Iran has fought the Yemeni people by pushing the Houthi militia to overthrow this democratic path and the peaceful transition process. Their goal is a path of war, destruction, and violence. As a result, Yemen has turned into a major human tragedy and is currently considered the largest humanitarian crisis in the world.

The existential and significant threat



posed by the Iranian regime to Yemen and the people of the region undermines the national state, turning it into sects and destroying the national armies for the benefit of the militias. It caused the death and injury of more than 200,000 in Yemen.

There is no doubt that the absolute

clerical rule is the source of this suffering, repression, corruption, and a threat to all democratic values and human rights not only in Iran, but throughout the whole region. For us, the continued survival of the fascist Iranian regime means wars, the destruction of societies, and the threat to international peace and security.

The lessons of life have taught us and throughout history that living peoples continue to resist oppression and darkness in pursuit of light and values of freedom, and there is no doubt that the Iranian resistance is represented by the brotherhood in the Mojahehin Movement and the National Council of Resistance of Iran led by Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, and through the 10 principles program presented by her as a frame of reference. I would like to say to Mrs. Maryam, you are an inspiration to all the free people of the world and all human rights defenders. You are a renewed school of people's struggle and resistance to oppression and tyranny.

Solidarity with the Iranian people and with you is solidarity for freedom, and it is solidarity for the dignity of the brotherly Iranian people and for the sake of preserving regional and international security and peace.



United to defeat expansionist policies

**Khaled Al-Yamani,
Former Foreign
Minister of Yemen**

Brothers and sisters in the leadership of the Iranian resistance, fighters inside Iran and all over the world who are fighting to defeat the clerical dictatorship in Tehran, brothers and sisters participating in this gathering, dear sister and brave fighter Maryam Rajavi, greetings to you. First of all, I would like to convey the greetings of millions of Yemenis and the legitimate government who are exposed to the crimes of the Houthi militias of the Iranian regime on a daily basis.

Sincere greetings to you, dear women, men, children and adults in Iran, who are leading a blessed mass uprising against the terrorist and rotten dictatorship of the mullahs.

We wish you success in this gathering to gain support for the Resistance Units, to overthrow the terrorist regime in Tehran, and to establish a democratic and free Iran for all Iranians of all races, religions, and social groupings.

The terrorism of the Iranian regime and its organized aggression against the Iranian people to prevent the realization of their democratic and legitimate goals will be defeated.



They will be defeated along with the expansionist and malevolence policies against the neighboring countries commanded by its terrorist arms, such as the Qods Force and its assassinated terrorist commander Qassem Soleimani; militia forces and illegal groups in Lebanon, Yemen, and Iraq; their successive attacks on international water passages in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz; the smuggling of weapons and missiles; and drones for Houthi militias in Yemen to kill Yemeni people and attack civilian targets in Saudi Arabia - all of them are gross violations of international law and

the Charter of the United Nations. The ruling regime in Tehran is a threat to the people of Iran and the people of the region. As long as the regime continues with its rule, the repression, corruption, poverty in Iran, terrorism and war in the region will continue at the same rate.

The Republic of Yemen called on the U.N. Security Council to fulfill its obligations and to continue the ban on sending arms to the dictatorial regime of the mullahs.

Friends, the Iranian people want the overthrow of the clerical dictatorship. They need international support for the popular resistance and the Mojahedin-e Khalq and the National Council of Resistance as an alternative to the terrorist regime in Tehran.

Today, the free and dignified people of Yemen, who are fighting against the Iranian regime's expansionist project in Yemen, stand by you in the same front and in your blessed uprising to defeat the dictatorship. From here, we declare our support for Mrs. Maryam Rajavi's 10-item plan. A program that is the foundation of the future Iran; Iran of freedom and democracy, Iran of peace and brotherhood with neighbors.

Long live the uprising of the Iranian people.

'Khomeini is synonymous with terrorism'

**Saleh AlKallab,
Former Minister of
Information of Jordan**

Our hopes were high during the Iranian revolution, and we expected that many things would change for the better from a fatal autocratic regime to a democratic system, public freedoms, a comfortable economy, and good relations with neighboring countries.

MEK members I visit with have similar expectations for Iran today, but freedom is closer.

From Lebanon to Iraq to Syria to Yemen, the regime is engaged in terrorism. It the regime its fundamental and essential, meaning the word Khomeini is synonymous with terrorism.

The regime is waging a counter-revolution against the Iranian people, thousands of people in detention facilities or executed. This was a tragedy for the Iranian people, for the region, and for the world.



Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19 – Maryam Rajavi visiting the outdoor exhibition, dedicated to the fallen heroes of the November 2019 uprising in Iran and the more than 70,000 victims of the coronavirus in Iran. Historical leaders of the democracy movement in the 20th century plus Massoud Rajavi, leader of the Iranian Resistance, and Mrs. Rajavi, are featured on the mural.

Ashraf 3, a beacon of hope



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19 - Mrs. Rajavi greeting MEK members as she enters the exhibition honoring the 1,500 protesters murdered during the November 2019 uprising and the more than 70,000 victims of COVID-19 in Iran.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19 – Mrs. Rajavi inscribing exhibition on MEK Resistance Unit activities inside Iran with, “We can and we must.”



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19 – Thousands of members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq (PMOI/MEK) taking part in ceremonies paying homage to 1,500 protesters killed by the Iranian regime during the November 2019 uprising and more than 70,000 COVID-19 Pandemic in Iran.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19 – Maryam Rajavi gesturing in solidarity with member of MEK Resistance Unit in Iran.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19 – Thousands of members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq (PMOI/MEK) taking part in ceremonies paying homage to 1,500 protesters killed by the Iranian regime during the November 2019 uprising and more than 70,000 COVID-19 Pandemic in Iran. The LED screen shows the original flag of Iran.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19 – Victims of the November 2019 uprising in Iran memorialized at an outdoor exhibition.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

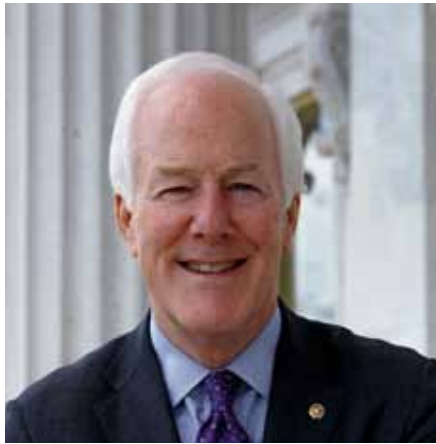
Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19 – Mrs. Rajavi saluting three female MEK Resistance Unit members in Iran.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 19 – The honor guard looks on at the exhibition paying tribute to the 1,500 protesters killed during the November 2019 uprising. The exhibition depicted various aspects of the nationwide protests in nearly 200 cities as illustrated in the map to the right.

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR A FREE IRAN



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Congress supports freedom uprisings

**Senator John Cornyn (R-TX),
Committee on The Judiciary & Select Committee on Intelligence**

What a privilege it is to speak to all of you as you continue to fight for a free Iran. America stands in full solidarity with the people of Iran and fully supports their desire to be a free people as evident in the uprisings in the last few years.

Earlier this year, I joined a number of my colleagues to sponsor a resolution that supports the people of Iran as they continue to engage in legitimate forms of protests and condemns the current regimes murderous response.

But that's just one step in the path towards a free Iran, we've got many more to go. Thank you all for having me today. And keep up the great work.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

'My fellow servicemen and women's blood on [regime's] hands'



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

**Senator Martha McSally (R-AZ),
Armed Services Committee**

Congratulations to the National Council of Resistance of Iran and the Iranian American community of Arizona. I join you here from Arizona. For my background, I served 26 years in our Air Force. I deployed six times to the Middle East and Afghanistan. I was a fighter pilot, and the first woman in U.S. history to fly in combat and command a fighter squadron in combat.

So, I say today, we are with you. The freedom-loving people of Iran, we are with you, we stand with you. God created us all with a desire to be free, and I'm so grateful for all you do to stand up for the Iranian people and their God-given freedoms. I'm also grateful for your focus on equal participation of women in the political, social, and economic future of Iran. It's time for the Iranian people to be able to have their own voice, to be able to govern themselves, and to have fundamental human rights and freedoms. The regime is the largest state sponsor of terror, and has the blood of my fellow servicemen and women on their hands through their proxy forces in Iraq. You know their nuclear ambitions and ballistic missiles and malevolence in the region, and the dangerous nature that they are in the world. But, also, their authoritarian regime and the crackdown that it's had on human rights for the Iranian people, and the imprisonment and the death of so many brave Iranians who have been standing up for their own basic freedoms and rights that everybody deserves.

I agreed with pulling out of the awful deal and the maximum pressure

campaign that President Trump and his administration have been putting on Iran. We have shown that it's working. It's squeezing off their cash. They need cash in order to continue to have repression and oppression against the Iranian people and funding their terrorist activities and proxy wars around the region.

We must continue in a unified way with our European partners to support the maximum pressure campaign. We have some European partners here today, we need you to stand with us and with the Iranian people. There needs not to be a wedge between us. We need to be unified on the snapback of sanctions, and also to ensure that the arms embargo continues into the future.

There are many actions in the United States Senate that I'm supporting, and many others are supporting on both sides of the aisle, to stand with the brave Iranian people. At least 1,500 were killed in these last protests, likely more. So many more imprisoned. You are putting everything on the line for your God-given freedoms. God bless you all, our prayers are with you, and we stand with you that you will be free.

'Stand with the people of Iran in the years to come'

**Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL),
Foreign Relations Committee
& Acting Chairman, Select
Committee on Intelligence**

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Free Iran Global Summit — Iran Raising for Freedom to recognize the deteriorating human rights conditions throughout the country.

As we gather together today virtually, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all you have done to highlight the Iranian regime's ongoing and systematic violations against the Iranian people. In addition to being the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism, the evil regime in Tehran continues to suppress the most fundamental human rights of its people. The Iranian people deserve a government that respects the rule of law, democratic norms, and places the needs of the Iranian people above funding its adventurism abroad.

It is critical for the United States and other democracies around the world to stand with the Iranian people. I will continue to advance policies in Congress that will hold the regime accountable and work to bring about a better future for Iranians.

On behalf of the people of Florida, I extend my best wishes to all virtually in attendance today and I look forward to continuing to stand with the people of Iran in the years to come.

Americans. I will continue to fight with all of you for a free and independent Iran, ruled not by radical Islamic terrorists, but instead by the people of Iran.

Oppressive regime deserves sanctions

**Senator Todd Young (R-IN),
Senate Foreign Relations
Committee & Chairman, National
Republican Senatorial Committee**

Friends, it's great to be with you today, united in the effort to support a free Iran. We need an Iran that supports the Iranian people, not one that supports the initiatives of tyrants, of radical Islam, and of clerics who don't

value human rights or the dignity of human beings.

We need an Iran that is brought into a position of better behavior. That is why I have supported sanctions against the current oppressive regime for violations of human rights, their export of international terrorism and their development of a ballistic missile system designed to terrorize its neighbors and even one day



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR A FREE IRAN

‘Glimmer of hope [for] safety, dignity and freedom’



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ), Ranking Member, Foreign Relations Committee

Participants of the Free Iran Global Summit, I am glad to stand with the Iranian people and help shine a light on the voices working to expose the aggressiveness and abusiveness of the current Iranian regime. I am pleased, as I was last year, that so many of you are safely in Albania. Your safety and security offer a glimmer of hope that all Iranian people may someday be able to live in safety, dignity and freedom. A dream that I know you will all keep working

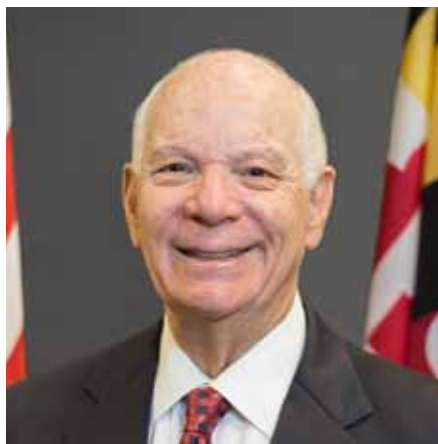
towards, and one which the United States supports.

Over the past year, we've seen Iran's leaders prove again on the world stage they are not interested in making peace with their neighbors or prioritizing the wellbeing of their people. The regime continues to support terrorists and the brutal regime of Bashar al-Assad, while continuing on its path towards a nuclear weapon.

While in Congress we may have differing approaches about the best way to address the threat from Iran, rest assured that we remain united in opposition to the regime's ongoing abuses against its

own citizens – oppressing women and denying their fundamental rights, jailing peaceful activists, and threatening journalists. Moreover, we stand united in our efforts to prevent the Iranian regime from continuing to export its ideology in the form of terrorist actors and destabilizing activities. And we are united in preventing the regime in Tehran from being able to threaten its neighbors and the world with a nuclear weapon.

We must engage in diplomatic efforts, in concert with our likeminded partners, and in cooperation with people who appreciate and value the role of human rights and democratic values.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), Foreign Relations Committee

Let me start by saying how heart-breaking it is to see Iran in the midst of its second wave of coronavirus infections. For the Iranian people to fight against the pandemic, as well as coping with such an oppressive regime, is an incredible burden to bear. Senate Resolution 539, which I introduced with

No more ‘silencing opponents [and] shackling free speech’

Senators Jeanne Shaheen, Tim Kaine, and Jacky Rose, expresses support for the right of the Iranian people to self-determination and condemns the regime for its violent suppression of free expression and shooting down of Ukraine International Airline flight 752. The loss of life was devastating, and shows the lengths to which the regime goes to silence opponents, both domestically and abroad.

Our resolution supports the right of all Iranians, wherever they are in the world, to peacefully assemble and protest the Iranian government without fear of violence or reprisal. It also calls on the administration to do everything possible to ensure free and uninterrupted access to the internet for the Iranian people.

Finally, the resolution urges the U.S. President and Secretary of State to work with the international community

to ensure that members of the Iranian regime be held accountable for their violations of human rights. By shackling free speech and stifling dissent, the Ayatollah not only directly oppresses his opponents, but he seeks to weaken the morale of the Iranian people.

Our message is simple: the world's most powerful democracy condemns the suppression of human rights and free expression everywhere in the world and that we stand with the people of Iran.

The fight is not over, the Iranian people are resilient and continuing to wage a heroic uprising against the regime's corruption and brutality.

A brighter future is within reach in Iran. I will keep working to ensure that the United States, in cooperation with the entire international community, helps you get there.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Nuclear weapons cannot be allowed

Senator John Boozman (R-AR), Chairman, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Appropriation Committee

Friends and participants at the July 2020 Free Iran Global Summit, I support 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 I support the Iranian people in their pursuit for peace. 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. 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.

‘Adversary we were handling too lightly’



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Senator Mike Braun (R-IN), Senate Committee on the Budget

Thank you for virtually having me at the Free Iran Global Summit, Iran Rising for Freedom.

During my 2018 campaign, I was often asked about where I stood on U.S. foreign policy.

And I always pointed to Iran as an adversary we were handling too lightly.

As a threat to our national security and a leader in human rights abuses, we must be harsh with Iran. Since coming to the U.S. Senate, I'm joined with my colleagues in supporting a

variety of resolutions that call out the Iranian government for their atrocious actions and to hold them accountable through sanctions. As a U.S. senator from Indiana, I once again condemn Iran, specifically for their human rights abuses. In the past year, Iranian citizens have been denied the freedom to peacefully assemble, freedom of speech, with hundreds of protestors killed by Iranian security forces. I will continue to speak out against Iran and stand up for the Iranian people.

Thank you again for having me, and I wish you the best of luck with your just cause.

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR A FREE IRAN

Excerpts from remarks by Members of Congress



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), Chairman, House Democratic Caucus

Thank you to the Summit for Free Iran, and I join your call in denouncing the Iranian regime's terrorism, human rights abuses, nuclear ambitions, and suppression of religious freedom. I support the democratic aspirations of the people of Iran, and we stand with you until you are able to obtain the freedom and liberty that all human beings deserve.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Ted Deutch (D-FL), Committee on Foreign Affairs

I'm proud to have authored House Resolution 752, in which we stand with the Iranian people demonstrating at peaceful protests against an oppressive and corrupt regime. This resolution condemns the Iranian leadership's human rights abuses and support for destabilizing activities abroad and calls on all democratic governments to unequivocally support the Iranian people's basic need for human rights. And I'm so pleased that this bipartisan resolution passed unanimously in the House of Representatives back in January. I'll continue to stand up against human rights abuses and repression in Iran and around the world.

'We stand with the Iranian people demonstrating at peaceful protests'



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Tom Emmer (R-MN), Chairman, The National Republican Congressional Committee

I am excited to be part of your annual summit, and I stand with your mission for a free and democratic Iran. We have common ground in our shared pursuit, to guide our governments by the principles of their people... I was proud to cosponsor a resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives which condemns Iranian state-sponsored terrorism and expresses our support for the Iranian people's desire for a democratic non-nuclear republic of Iran.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Committee on Judiciary

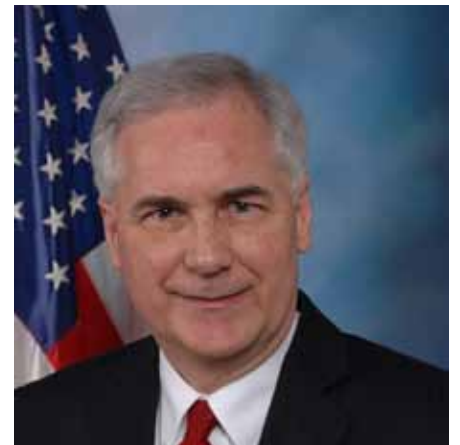
Greetings. It's a pleasure to be able to greet my dear sister, Madame Rajavi, and to greet all of you who are gathered in this most momentous occasion... I'm supporting the Albanian officials for expelling Iranian ambassador from Albania. I've been to Albania during the Albanian War. I know the good people of that great land. I know that they long for democracy as well and the protection of all groups. Urging Albania again to close Iranian regime embassy for the ongoing terror plots against Iranian opposition and members of the MEK.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL), Committee on Appropriations

The United States stands with the Iranian people for freedom, democracy, and a non-nuclear Iran. You see, the people of Iran must have the right to determine their own future and to ensure that their rights to expression, religious belief, political opinion, assembly and representative government are respected.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Tom McClintock (R-CA), Committee on Judiciary

222 members of Congress from both parties have co-sponsored my resolution, calling for the closure of the Iranian regime's embassy in Albania... I and the majority of my colleagues in the U.S. Congress support a secular, democratic and non-nuclear republic of Iran. I applaud Madame Rajavi for her leadership, for representing the proud tradition of the Iranian people, and for resisting all forms of tyranny over them.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. David Trone (D-MD), Committee on Foreign Affairs

Friends, I'm pleased to send this message to you during the virtual summit for a free Iran. The people of Iran deserve a government of their choosing, one that supports all the most basic and fundamental freedoms, one where you're free to express yourself and free to criticize policies you don't agree with, one where you're free to practice the religion of your choice or no religion at all. In short, one that upholds the ideals of democracy. I'm sorry you've been denied that for so many years. I supported House Resolution 752 when it passed the house earlier this year.

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR A FREE IRAN

Excerpts from remarks by Members of Congress



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ), Committee on Oversight and Reform

Hello friends at the 2020 Free Iran Summit in Albania. For over 40 years, the regime in Tehran has been terrorizing the people of Iran, oppressing its people, its religions and other minorities, and also terrorizing the Middle East as well as around the world by sponsoring terrorist groups. That is why I join and applaud you for convening the international summit to make sure that the global community is aware of what the people of Iran truly want: a secular, democratic, and non-nuclear republic. And I applaud Madame Rajavi for her leadership, for representing the proud tradition of the Iranian people, and for resisting all forms of tyranny.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Tim Burchett (R-TN), Committee on Foreign Affairs

I want to thank you all for asking me to participate in the 2020 Free Iran Summit. I support a free democratic government for Iran. The Iranian government cannot be trusted. They are more focused on controlling citizens than governing. The current regime sponsors terrorism, oppression against their citizens, and the Iranian citizens deserve much better than that.

‘Our goal is... Iran that respects its people... and is nuclear free’



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Lance Gooden (R-TX), Committee on Financial Services

I also want to let you know that the members of the United States Congress are fully behind you. The President is behind you. No matter what you see in the news about division in United States politics, it is true we argue and disagree on many things, but, on the one matter that we're all in agreement, is that the people of Iran deserve to be free...Thank you to Madame Rajavi for all she's doing. She is fighting alongside you and making progress that we've never seen before here in the U.S.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Don Bacon (R-NE), Committee on Armed Services

I want to thank the Iran 2020 Conference for inviting me to make a few comments.

...Our goal is to have a freedom-loving Iran that respects its people, defends human dignity, is at peace with its neighbors, and is nuclear free. And you can count on me to be a voice for just that. I am a friend of Iran, of Iran's people, but not its government today.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Donald Payne, Jr. (D-NJ), Committee on Homeland Security

I wanted to welcome everyone to the 2020 Free Iran Summit. These events are critical to keeping alive the movement for freedom and democracy in Iran.

...Summits like this one are so critical to a free Iran. They remind the world that the current government does not speak for the people, that Iranians are committed to the ideals of democracy, like free speech, public assembly and fair elections, that human rights are universal rights sought by every people and nation on earth.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Ralph Norman (R-SC), Committee on Oversight and Reform

Today, I am very proud to affirm my support for you, the Iranian community here in the United States and the freedom-loving Iranians around the world... I am deeply saddened and troubled to learn of the terrible fate suffered by the protesters in Iran who have had the courage to fight and stand against the cult leading this once proud nation... I'm proud to oppose the regime and support the brave people of Iran who yearn for freedom. Here in Congress, we have taken important steps to support the pro-democracy movement.



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PHOTO

Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL), Committee on Ways and Means

I trust that your conference is in full bloom, and so let me just congratulate you on your continuing effort to find approaches to democracy, peace, and stability in your lives and in the lives of your countrymen and women. Stay the course, keep the action moving, keep believing that not only is peace possible, but it really comes when we believe in it, press forward.



1



2



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Iranians join the Free Iran Global Summit from:

1. Brandenburg Gate, Berlin 2. Amsterdam 3. Gothenburg, Sweden
4. Washington, DC. 5. Eiffel Tower, Paris. 6. London And 7. Oslo



4



5



6



7

Shutter embassies acting as terrorism ‘launching pads’

**Giulio Terzi,
Former Foreign Affairs
Minister of Italy**

President-elect Maryam Rajavi, the crimes that the Ayatollah's regime perpetrates against its own people, the starving of an entire nation for the purpose of eliminating opposition, the support to fanatic proxies to dominate and frighten the region, and the genocidal aggression and terrorism by IRGC, make Iran the number one worst terrorist state. These are the reasons why action is needed. Justice and democracy will be very soon the reality for your country with the freedom to vote. A widely popular political and moral force has grown and even strengthened during the present crisis. The regime is very frightened. The movement is led by Madame Rajavi and inspired by her 10-point program for democracy in Iran. Your movement is invincible because



it's driven by the example of hundreds of thousands of heroes who died for freedom and democracy in Iran. We all owe to them so much.

An open wound is still bleeding after 40 years since 24th of April 1990, Iran's most renowned human rights activist, Ambassador Kazem Rajavi

was brutally murdered in Geneva. The killers, although officially tried, have still not been punished. That happened also for many other terrorist attacks commanded by the regime on European soil. The regime's embassies, which act as launching pads for terrorists, must be closed immediately.

Still worse, no one has ever been held accountable for the 1988 massacre, even as a growing number of Iranian officials have acknowledged their role as perpetrators. One of them sits at the top of the judiciary, and another is minister of justice.

The time of impunity is over. In Iran, regime change would be the dawn of a new era for human rights and freedom. A wakeup call came last May from the U.S. House of Representatives with its full support to the Iranians for a democratic, secular, and non-nuclear Iran. That must also become the European Union's firm commitment.

‘Power is shifting to the Iranian people’

**Steve McCabe,
Member of Parliament of
the United Kingdom**

It's an honor to join so many prominent speakers at today's international summit to call for justice for the martyrs of the 1988 massacre. A crime which today still remains unpunished 32 years later. On the 20th of June, I addressed a conference marking the day of martyrs and political prisoners in 40 years of resistance against the mullahs. On that occasion, I talked about the regime's attempts to demonize the resistance, a campaign launched by the intelligence ministry, the MOIS. Today, I want to make a connection between the 1988 massacre and that MOIS campaign.

On the 9th of August, 2016, soon after Mrs. Rajavi called for a campaign seeking justice for the victims of the massacre, an audio tape was published of a meeting which took place 18 days after the commencement of the mass killings on August 15, 1988. The meeting was between Ayatollah Hussein-Ali Montazeri, Khomeini's successor at the time, and full members of the death commission responsible for implementing Khomeini's decree to exterminate political opponents. The



tape clearly demonstrates that this was no mistake; the massacre was planned over several years. It also demonstrates the widespread involvement of various factions within the regime. This is an ongoing problem for the mullahs, who have always sought to deny any role in these events, and to try and cover up the extent of the massacre.

These revelations have led to a

reappraisal by Western governments. The regime's efforts to have the NCRI and the PMOI banned have now failed and, instead, active movements across America and Europe are calling for the total banning of the Revolutionary Guard and Iranian terror groups like Hezbollah. Not only does the tape raise serious questions about the involvement of high-ranking officials in this

deliberate extermination campaign, it exposes their intentions all along to eliminate opponents of the creation of a medieval theocracy in modern Iran. The 1988 massacre lays bare the mullahs' intentions, and the attempted coverup makes clear the need for a disinformation campaign by the MOIS to discredit and silence the resistance.

The revelations on the tape didn't lead to an apology from the regime. Rather, it led to Khamenei's sinister sounding warning to, "Be careful not to mix up the oppressor with the oppressed." In that respect, he was right. We would not mix up the oppressor with the oppressed no matter what propaganda or dirty tricks the agents of the regime deploy. We know who the oppressor is and what must change.

You can't lock up everyone and you can't murder everyone. Freedom survives. The power is shifting to the Iranian people. On the 32nd anniversary of the 1988 massacre, I say, let's remember those who were lost, those who died for the struggle. Their loss and sacrifice have strengthened the resistance. The exposure of the deliberate planning of the massacre casts a dark shadow over this regime. There must be justice.

Resistance 'shakes regime to its core'

Baroness Betty Boothroyd, Former Speaker of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom

Madame President, Maryam Rajavi, dear Iranian friends, honorable colleagues and distinguished personalities, it is a very great privilege to join you online for the Global Free Iran Summit. I wanted to register and thank the Iranian Resistance movement, the NCRI, for organizing this international online event to give an opportunity to come together, yet again, to express our solidarity with the Iranian people, their organized resistance, and to show our support for the cause of human rights, freedom, and a democratic Iran.

What we demonstrate is that not even a pandemic can stop us from standing with the brave people of Iran and support their just demands for change for a free and democratic nation. You know, my friends, nobody symbolizes and represents the Iranian people's struggle against the regime better than my dear



friends and the NCRI and my special friend, President-elect, Maryam Rajavi. Her name and her message of freedom shakes the regime to its core. This is

because of her 10-Point Plan, democratic platform to encompass the aspirations of the Iranian people. It provides a democratic alternative for future Iranian

generations, and it gives the women of Iran their rights and an opportunity to lead their country and to be part of the shaping of its future. This is what we aim for.

My friends, the lesson of history is that a regime that has repression and terrorism in part of its DNA is destined to fall. This means that a free and democratic Iran is within reach for the people of Iran, as Maryam Rajavi has repeatedly said in her speeches and in her statements. That is why I stand with you all—the people of Iran, the NCRI—and I call on my government in this country, on the United Kingdom government, to stand on the right side of history and recognize Maryam Rajavi as the true representative of the Iranian people and her movement, the NCRI, as the only viable alternative to the current regime, so that the people of Iran can be given a chance to choose their future leaders in a free and fair election in an open and democratic society.

'Pursue justice' over trade and politics

Alejo Vidal-Quadras, Former Vice President of European Parliament

The pain of the 1988 massacre of 30,000 political prisoners remains in the heart of families because justice has not been achieved yet. It's time that we talk about the crimes committed by the religious dictatorship ruling Iran, like the 1988 massacre or the latest case of arbitrary arrests and carnage during last November's protests in almost 200 cities in Iran.

We hear from the international community sentences like, 'we call on the Iranian authorities to make investigations' and 'punish the perpetrators.' It is clear that the regime's national courts will not investigate the massacre. The minister of justice himself was one of the perpetrators of this horrible crime. The Supreme Leader Khamenei was involved in it and defends such atrocity. So, it is incumbent on the international community to take the initiative and obtain justice over this crime against humanity.

Why are the international community, the United Nations, the Human Rights Council, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and indeed the European Union, all so hesitant to do what they should do? In some cases,



there are trade interests which overcome justice. Sometimes, it is due to political considerations as the appeasers feel shy to convey to the Iranian authorities that they cannot be tolerated by the world community. If this is the case, it should be clear that they are acting against our own democratic values and principles.

Sometimes, the international community fears the regime's retribution through terrorist activities or arbitrary

arrest of their citizens in Iran. Then we must not forget that this regime, while cruel and brutal, lies about everything, including its true strength. It has always been weaker than what it pretended to be and, right now, is at its weakest point.

There is a recent example that should convince the international community not to fear the regime, but pursue justice. We all know about the trial of Assadollah Assadi, the terrorist bomber diplomat of Iran who was to

bomb the large gathering of the Iranian resistance in Villepinte in July 2018. Over the past two years, the clerical regime made every effort, including diplomatic pressure, economic incentives, taking European nationals hostage, and even terrorist threats to prevent Assadi's trial and to secure his release. But, all these attempts proved to be futile due to the will of the relevant Belgian authorities.

Therefore, it is indeed a matter of political will of the international community to pursue justice. Then, we will see that the regime is unable to bully us and justice can be achieved. The mullahs are aggressive when they see the fear in their interlocutors. But they stand back as the cowards they are when confronted by strong and resolute opponents.

As president of the International Committee in Search of Justice, let me declare that ISJ is committed to serve justice in this case to ensure that all the perpetrators of this crime against humanity, who have remained unpunished for too long, will be held accountable in international courts and punished for committing a crime that is unprecedented in its cruelty and evil nature since the horrors of the Second World War.

THE 1988 MASSACRE, A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY, UNPUNISHED 32 YEARS AFTER

‘We must be agents of change’



**Ken Blackwell,
Former U.S. Ambassador
to the United Nations**

We're all too familiar with the laundry lists of crimes against humanity, committed by the murderous regime in Iran, crimes of terror against their own citizens and others throughout the world. We must expose this regime and their reign of terror by doing what we can, with what we have, where we are. We must demonstrate on the streets. We must work with the governing bodies of our respective countries to bring political and economic pressure on this repressive regime. We must demand that the world court try these criminals for their crimes against humanity. We must support the men and women who are

willing to do what they are able to do inside of this repressive regime in Iran. We must encourage them to take the risk from freedom by supporting them. We, in fact, give humanity and freedom a fighting chance within this great people. We must be points of light in the shadow of darkness brought about across the globe and across the great country of Iran. We must be agents of change. We must be willing to take the risk, to be supportive, to demand action internationally against this regime of darkness and terror.

I encourage you through our meeting today to ban together and to commit to one another that you will be a force for change, a point of light, and a supporter of the agents who are advancing humanity in Iran today.

**Geoffrey Robertson QC,
Human Rights Barrister
and Author**

Good evening, Madam Rajavi, I am privileged to join the commemoration with you of the thousands of martyrs of the prison massacre of 1988. Some years ago, I was asked by the Boroumand Foundation to do an investigation of what actually happened because the world didn't really know about it. I went through Europe to interview about 40 survivors of that dreadful period 32 years ago, and was staggered. I produced a report. With this book, *Mullahs Without Mercy*, I explained to the world outside Iran, the world that hadn't been aware, that this was the worst of all crimes against humanity since the concentration camps of the Second World War. It happened 32 years ago, late in July 1988 as the war with Iraq was ending in a truculent truce: prisons in Iran suddenly went into lockdown, which meant all family visits were canceled, televisions and radios switched off, the newspapers discontinued, prisoners were kept in their cells and disallowed exercise or could go to the hospital.

The only permitted visitation was from a delegation, turbaned and bearded, which came in black government BMWs to outlying jails. Nearly every prisoner was paraded before the delegation which included a religious judge, a public prosecutor, and an intelligence chief. Thousands had been jailed for adherence to the Mojahedin-e-Khaleq Organization, the MEK, and

‘Without trial, without appeal, and utterly without mercy’



the delegation had one question for these young men and women, most of whom had been detained since 1981 for merely taking part in street protests or possession of political reading material, that would determine their fate. Many of them were what is called “melikesh,” meaning they have served their sentence and were being wrongly

in jail. Those who answered that they had a continuing affiliation with the MEK were blindfolded and ordered to join a line that led straight to the gallows. They were hung from cranes one at a time or in groups of six. Some were taken to army barracks at night, directed to make their wills, and then shot by firing squad. Their bodies were

doused with disinfectant, packed in refrigerated trucks and buried at night in mass graves.

Months later, their families desperate for information about their loved ones would be handed a plastic bag with their few possessions. They were refused any information about the location of the graves and ordered never to mourn in the public. By mid-August 1988, thousands of prisoners had been killed in this manner by the state without trial, without appeal, and utterly without mercy. It got worse, Ayatollah Montazeri, a true hero, tried to stop it, but he was outmaneuvered.

There wasn't accountability because the U.N. was weak at that time... and failed them in its duty. We must hold these people accountable because many of them are still alive.

Well, is there any hope of accountability now? People are tearing down statues of slave traders, and they will tear down the statues of the ayatollahs. They will rewrite the history of Iran with the truth, the truth of the blood-thirstiness, the truth of the barbarity which future generations of Iranians will want to erase just as the German people were able to condemn and erase Nazis and their horrors. Britain, Canada, America, Australia, and the countries that have these targeted sanctions and laws should target the surviving masterminds of the 1988 barbarities.

Name them, shame them, and blame them, because, in that way, we can go on the offensive against the perpetrators of one of the worst since the war, one of the worst crimes against humanity.

Regime mocks human rights laws

**Sir Geoffrey Bindman QC,
British Solicitor, Human
Rights Law**

It is a great pleasure to be with you for this international online summit for a free and democratic Iran. I want to send my best wishes to Ashraf 3's residents in Albania and to the Iranian people.

The regime's human rights abuses are well documented and sadly continue today with a matter of state policy because of the failure of the international community, including Western democracies, to hold the regime to account. The UK government recently announced its first sanctions under a new global human rights regime. This is a positive step. But, it will be toothless if the Iranian regime officials are not included in the British list of Syria's human rights violators. They must be designated for sanctions under this newly established Global Human Rights Sanctions regulations, but they have not been included. This must be amended and altered. It is very important that the message go out from this occasion to persuade and urge the British government to amend and extend the regulations appropriately.



I believe that the United Kingdom with its allies in the EU and the U.N. have a duty and a responsibility to make sure that the next resolution on Iran adopted by the U.N. General Assembly, which has become an annual tradition since the Iranian regime's human rights abuses, should include a paragraph establishing an international

system of accountability in order to prosecute those responsible for Syria's human rights abuses in Iran. Those responsible should be arraigned before an international tribunal, an international body. The regime must be pressed to receive an international fact-finding mission. Among the serious human rights abuses, which are relevant to such an inquiry, are, of course, the 1988 massacre, a crime against humanity which remains unpunished 32 years later, and the recent carnage during the November 2019, protests numbering, we believe, some 1,500 people. Failure to deter and prevent the regime from continuing to make a mockery of international human rights standards and international human rights law should not be allowed to continue.

It is my privilege to stand with you, the Iranian people, and the legitimate resistance movement, NCRI, and by Madame Rajavi, to advocate for accountability for the leaders of the regime. I look forward to the day when they are brought to justice for their atrocities and crimes against humanity which they have committed.



'Greatness of Iran is still ahead'

**Leo Housakos,
Member of Senate of Canada**

I am proud and happy to stand with the millions of people of Iran, both in Iran and Iranians around the world who are fighting for democracy and freedom. The Iranian people deserve to have democracy and freedom. They deserve to live under a system of rule of law and the respect of fundamental human rights.

The Iranian culture is an old, traditional, and rich one. They've made great contributions to humanity, and, I believe, the greatness of Iran is still ahead of it. They will achieve that greatness with democracy and liberty and by joining the community of great democracies around the world. The people of Iran have stood up inside their country, fighting back against the IRGC and this brutal despot regime. They will not stop until they achieve what they so deservedly need.

This year, the Free Iran Global Summit is not coming together as it has in the past because of COVID-19, unfortunately. But, I can tell you that nothing will hinder this movement, nothing will prevent the people of Iran from reaching their destiny and being able to bask in that freedom and democracy.

Let's continue the fight. Freedom and democracy is worth it. The people of Iran deserve it.

Embargo should stand

**Lucio Malan,
Member of Senate of Italy**

While we are gathered here for the Free Iran Global Summit, the United Nations Security Council is discussing the possible lifting of the arms embargo from the United Nations against Iran. It has been proved that Iran does not respect international laws, but funds and directs the terrorists in many countries. We know that from international agencies, from the United States Department of State, from the Iranian people and their resistance movement.

In the latest protests in November, 2019, in Iran, the people, the crowd were shouting, "Leave Syria, think about us." People are deprived of what is needed for everyday life to protect themselves from the pandemic. They are furious about the national wealth being spent on the regime's destabilizing activities outside Iran. Therefore,



there is no reason why the United Nations should lift the embargo. Such a decision would only enable the regime to develop and export weapons to threaten the Middle East, the

international security, and even the European capitals.

It is irresponsible to trust the Iranian regime and imagine that it would behave wisely if the arms embargo ends. The Iranian people are protesting against such a move. As we speak, this regime is destabilizing Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Afghanistan, and Yemen. According to the latest reports of the International Agency for Atomic Energy, the Iranian regime has cheated about the JCPOA treaty, and has never told the truth about its nuclear activities.

I strongly believe that our European governments should encourage the United Nations to extend the embargo and give their support to the United States in this regard. We must do this for international peace, for the security of our countries, and to support the Iranian people in their resistance movement against this regime for freedom and democracy.

THE 1988 MASSACRE, A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY, UNPUNISHED 32 YEARS AFTER

‘Equal opportunities for all’



Els Van Hoof,
Member of Federal
Parliament of Belgium

Dear Mrs. Rajavi, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I send you my greetings and express my solidarity with the people of Iran who are fighting for freedom and democracy.

Justice is something you're all striving for in your work. As some of you may know, it's also something I strive for in my Parliamentary work. My first thoughts always go out to those who are suffering, to those who are not

considered equal, those who are not free.

Equal opportunities for all, especially women's rights, are of central importance to me. The systematic violence of these rights by the Iranian regime must be challenged. Women and men rotting in cells because they have a different opinion cannot be accepted in the 21st century. The greatest threat to freedom is absence of criticism. We will always be on the side of the people of Iran.

Once again, I declare my support for your movement led by Mrs. Rajavi and wish you victory in your struggle for human rights and democracy in Iran.



Rajavi is a ‘resolute and strong’ leader

Ahmed Al-Jarallah,
Editor in Chief, Al
Siyasah, Kuwait

Iran is a great country. Its people have a great history. Regrettably, a reactionary, medieval regime is ruling it. We hope that the great people of Iran would get rid of this abusive regime, which irritates its neighbors and all the world, a regime that is internationally isolated. We hope for a day when this resolute and strong woman, Maryam Rajavi, would come to power in that country, with all the cultural and civility that we have heard from her and with her ability to form a vast opposition movement that has been recognized by personalities around the world. Today, we are witnessing a gathering and an opposition program where many world personalities are attending. They are supporting Mrs. Rajavi's plans for her country. We must stand with the Iranian people in their efforts to rid the Persian Gulf, and the region and the world of this menacing and reactionary regime. It has been proven that the regime cannot be trusted with nuclear weapons. They are evil forces and cannot be trusted with any sort of weaponry.

Take crimes to courts

Taher Boumedra,
Former Chief of the
Human Rights Office of the
United Nations Assistance
Mission for Iraq

We all agree that the crime committed against political prisoners in Iran in 1988 is firmly established. It's well documented and all parties concerned have been informed. The United Nations, with all the relevant institutions, has been informed and is receiving documentations on this issue. I was a little disappointed that the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Iran is saying the same thing two years later. This follows the progress made on the first of February, 2018, when former High Commissioner of Human Rights Zeid Raad Al Hussein, who was on the point of leaving Geneva, made the declaration that the U.N. recommended the authorities in Iran investigate this crime. But we know very well that Iran, the mullah regime,



will not investigate. And it will be naïve to believe that the mullahs would investigate themselves.

So, let's address this warning message to the United Nations that enough is enough. The Iranian regime will not investigate its own crimes. But, I must also underline the fact that since 2015, at the launch of this campaign that related to the massacre of the political prisoners, we have come a long way. And the

United Nations is nowadays very aware of what happened in the summer of 1988 in Iran. The crime is already there, and everybody could see it. The United Nations is aware of it. It must not leave room for impunity. Impunity, so far, has emboldened the Iranian authorities to continue their crimes.

It's time now to probably think about a coalition of the civil society and the NGOs to lobby all together to make sure that we find a way for taking this crime to court, national courts all over the world, those courts who will accept universal jurisdiction. There is a possibility of doing so. But there is also the possibility of lobbying member states of the Security Council for a referral of the case to the ICC, to International Criminal Court.

We will continue our work with JVMI for justice for the victims of the 1988 massacre. JVMI will continue to work. We will seek arrest and prosecution in any courts that will be willing to accept universal jurisdiction. But, our work should remain to lobby for a referral to the ICC.

‘Dozens of Kurds are being executed by this regime’

Kamel Nourani Fard,
Representative of the
Organization of Iranian
Kurdistan Struggle (Khebat)

The mullahs' regime has committed many crimes against the people of Iranian Kurdistan. Any action or civil rights activity is being branded as a security issue,

and dozens of Kurds are being executed.

This regime is based on terrorism, and most terrorist activities around the world have their fingerprints. It is their method, approach, and tool for pursuing their goals and extending their existence.

Our organization and its leadership have been the target of many terrorist attacks by the regime. We need to unite

because of the tireless efforts of the Iranian Resistance and the continued uprisings in Iran and the growth of Resistance Units all over Iran. The regime is struggling under many crises, and the international community must see that this regime is against the interests of all people across the globe. This requires unity from all of us. The existence of the NCRI is very valuable. I am very happy to see that we have this alternative, which paves the correct political path. We reiterate our unity with the NCRI and the MEK. We continue this unity until the overthrow of this regime.



THE 1988 MASSACRE, A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY, UNPUNISHED 32 YEARS AFTER

Wake-up call for international community

Lars Rise, Former Member of Parliament of Norway

I would like to congratulate the NCRI, PMOI, and Madame Rajavi for the very successful global summit that was held two days ago with an amazing impact on everyone who heard the news inside and outside Iran. That summit was a good indication of strong internal roots of the Iran resistance movement, led by Mrs. Rajavi, as well as international support.

The topic for today's meeting—the call for justice for the 1988 massacre that remains unpunished is very important. Without accountability, the Iranian regime's crimes will continue. This is a regime that is used to having no rule of law. One of the main reasons that, in spite of over 60 United Nations resolutions condemning human rights violations in Iran, crimes of this regime still go on is because Iran's rulers have



not been held accountable and have not been punished yet for the horrible crime they committed in 1988.

There is a truth in the 1988 massacre, or I must say this genocide. The truth is

Iran's criminal rulers massacred those affiliated with the PMOI. They murdered 30,000 political prisoners, mostly of the PMOI in 1988. Then, they started telling the big lie that the PMOI was not popular in the Iranian society, and this is what we hear all the time today.

As instructed by the Nazi minister of propaganda, tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it for long enough to be believed. And unfortunately, it was believed by our governments in the West. I have spoken to many of my colleagues who have read the propaganda coming out of the Ministry of Intelligence, and especially the Department of (Hypocrisy). It has been believed by those who were eager to continue their relationship with the Iranian regime for making more profits.

Only 10 to 15 kilometers from where I'm sitting right now, there were resistance cells and my grandfather was part of this resistance movement, which we

know prevailed. In the end, they were winning over this cruel regime, and it's a good reminder today to know that those who stand for truth and justice will prevail in the end.

The Nazi philosophy is in use every day in Tehran. It is very important to bring the responsible to justice. It is a must for the international community to forcefully take up this case of the 1988 massacre to the international tribunals, to pursue justice and to let the Iranian savage rulers know that it will be held accountable. And I hope very much that the international community wakes up to see who's popular inside Iran and who is most hated by the Iranian people.

So, this brings an ethical duty for the United Nations, the United Nations Human Rights Council, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to seek justice for the 1988 massacre.

Call for Arab countries to support the Iranian Resistance

Najima Thay Thay, Former Minister of Education of Morocco

I salute the leader of the Iranian Resistance, Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, and all the attendees at this conference from five continents. The turnout and engagement show that we are united against injustice. Our vote is for democracy and against terrorism and injustice in whatever form. As a former official in His Majesty's government in Morocco, I



support the Iranian Resistance because the tyrannical regime in Iran interferes in the affairs of Arab countries. We see conflicts and blood being shed. There are scenes that have an impact and motivate us to action, like what is happening in Palestine, Iraq, Libya, Lebanon, and other countries, whether in Asia or in America, Europe or Africa.

I would like to use this platform to call on all Arab countries to support the Iranian Resistance. The Iranian people are rising up, and they have

taken to the streets.

Islam is a religion of tolerance and love. The Islamic religion does not accept bloodshed. Therefore, the Iranian people today, young and old, take to the streets and reject the policies of the mullahs, which pose a threat to all Arab countries. We urgently need a leader like Mrs. Maryam Rajavi. Arab countries need to side with the wise policy of Mrs. Maryam Rajavi to ensure Iran is trusted by other peoples so we can achieve Arab unity and Islamic unity.



Ashraf 3, Albania, July 20 – Closing ceremonies of the three-day Free Iran Global Summit, with Iranians and supporters linked from 30,000 locations in 102 countries.

THE 1988 MASSACRE, A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY, UNPUNISHED 32 YEARS AFTER

‘The world must know [and] remember my tortures’



Homa Jaber,
Former Political Prisoner

I was in solitary confinement for two years and 40 days in a disgusting complex called “residential unit,” a complex set up by the regime to break the will of female Mojahedin-affiliated prisoners in Ghezel Hesar Prison. Several of the women held in this place for a year or more lost their mental balance due to unimaginable abuse and inhuman conditions and could not recount what happened to them. A few survivors described how they were forced to make animal sounds, while crawling on their hands and knees as male torturers rode on their backs. Several were raped. This is the filthy consequence of the ideology of the mullahs.

When I came out of prison I could not stop thinking about what had happened to me and the rest of my friends

for a long time. We endured physical and psychological torture.

I will repeat these testimonies a hundred more times if necessary, and I will not be tired of saying them, because the world must know what happened to the Mojahedin in these 40 years and about the many executed. I testify so European leaders will hear, and anyone who thinks they can shake hands of friendship with this regime must remember my tortures in those moments and ask themselves how it feels to make it easy for wolves dressed as sheep?

Our people, who experience these wolves up close every day, cannot tolerate handshakes with their killers.

But let me say this: we are determined, to overthrow this regime, and we will overcome any obstacle.



‘Secrets buried with tortured bodies’

Kazem Panahi,
Former Political Prisoner

In 1979, I was a mechanical engineering student in Tabriz, but I was forced to drop out of school due to the clerical regime’s persecution of Mojahedin-e Khalq (MEK) supporters. On July 23, 1981, I was arrested in Tabriz on charges of having links with the MEK. I was interrogated and tortured four times in six days.

They asked me for information about the whereabouts of MEK supporters, and after I refused to provide the information, they sentenced me to death within just a few days under the pretext of Moharebeh (waging war against God) and supporting the MEK. On the morning of August 26, 1981, just a few hours before my scheduled execution, I managed to escape. A few hours after I escaped from prison, they executed 35 of my best friends.

There are no courts, lawyers, or a legitimate legal process in the regime’s prisons. Everything is arbitrary and the fate of prisoners is decided by interrogators and torturers. Tens of thousands of MEK members have been martyred in prisons and their secrets have been buried with their tortured bodies.

This criminal regime spends billions of dollars buying journalists, and using lobbyists outside Iran, and deploying agents calling themselves former MEK members on a demonization campaign against the freedom fighters who are the primary victims of its crimes. The regime pushes its narrative that the MEK are a “sect” and have kept their members involuntarily.

The real goal of the regime’s demonization campaign against the MEK is to persuade the world that there is no democratic alternative to the mullahs’ rule. It is clear to the regime that the MEK remains as committed to the quest of overthrowing this regime as the heroes massacred in 1988.

‘Life in prison as a child’



Damona Taavoni,
Former Political Prisoner

My father was executed during the 1988 massacre. My mother was a political activist. I was arrested with her twice and experienced life in prison as a child. I was only 6 during the second detention.

I was 10 when my mother told me that my father had been executed.

I later heard inspiring stories about the high spirits of the victims of that massacre, where each prisoner was asked just one question in a one-minute trial. The question was: Do you support the MEK? Anyone who said yes was executed. 30,000 said yes!

I want to be the voice of those who never had an opportunity to be heard, and for whose names and identities we’re still searching.

They all loved the beauty of life so much that they couldn’t tolerate enjoying it only for themselves, while others suffered. They made the decision to sacrifice their lives so no one should have to sell their body parts in exchange for food in our country.

Their blood runs in the veins of every single Iranian who stands up here in Ashraf 3 and rises up against the regime in the streets of Iran.

To Khamenei, Raisi, Rouhani, and the rest of those involved in the 1988 massacre, who are still in power today, I say: Fear these names! The 30,000 have multiplied, and you hear their echoes every day in the streets of Iran. One day soon every single one of you will be held accountable.

‘One must be ready to sacrifice’



Bahador Kiamarzi,
Former Political Prisoner

My parents were supporters of the MEK who were arrested in 1982. Because my mother was pregnant with me, I was born in Evin Prison, where I grew up for 4 years. My uncle, a 19-year-old activist, was shot dead in the street in 1981, and I was named after him to keep his name alive.

I was in prison with my mother, but I was never able to see my father. My grandmother once recounted to me one visit to my father in prison, whom I had not seen until then. I wore my best clothes and remember a door at the end of the meeting corridor where I saw a man standing. My grandmother said he was my father. I ran to him, eager to see him, but as I was about to reach him, a

guard shut the door. I hit the door and fell to the ground. This was my first and last meeting with my father, who was executed on August 2, 1988.

He is not only a hero for me, but a role model that in choosing this path one must be ready to sacrifice the best things.

I am not alone in experiencing these atrocities, but one of thousands. We are a generation that has seen this regime’s bloodshed and crimes. We will neither forgive nor forget, and this blood will never have been shed in vain, but is a guarantee to continue until the overthrow of the regime and liberation of our suffering people from the yoke of the mullahs has been won.

RESISTANCE UNITS KEY TO VICTORY



Resistance Units in Iran are organized teams of activists who galvanize and energize the Iranian people's protests against the ruling theocracy. They conduct anti-regime activities such as posting Resistance pictures, messages, and images in different cities; destroying the regime's propaganda, symbols, and centers; as well as, encouraging youth and other segments of society to carry out protests and uprisings against the clerical regime. Since 2017, when the main opposition relocated to Albania from Iraq, Resistance Units in Iran have expanded rapidly. Major uprisings, organized in part by Resistance Units, broke out in Iran in December 2017, January 2018, and November 2019. Ali Khamenei in speeches in January 2018 and January 2020 blamed the Resistance Units for organizing the protests and expressed concern over their growing influence among the Iranian public, especially with youth and women. The Resistance Units aim to break the atmosphere of repression and fear, while organizing core activities that lead to protests against the regime.





PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 20 - Mrs. Rajavi standing in front of pictures of hundreds of international dignitaries attending the Free Iran Global Summit online.

Terrorism is the essence of religious fascism; mega-terrorism after the occupation of Iraq

Excerpts from Mrs. Maryam Rajavi's Speech to the Free Iran Global Summit: July 20, 2020

The attention to the Iranian issue is motivated by the sense of responsibility about the threat against the vital interests of the Iranian people and people around the world.

This global threat is the velayat-e faqih or clerical regime as the central banker of terrorism in today's world. While carrying out suppression, executions and massacres inside Iran, and flaming conflicts in the Middle East, the regime is also pursuing a nuclear weapon.

Terrorism is the essence and fundamental nature of this regime. You may be surprised to hear that within the regime's judiciary, whose henchmen amputate limbs and stone people as punishment, there is a secretary of a council for human rights. The former Secretary of this council was Javad Larijani. He is the older brother of the speaker of parliament until May, and his other brother, Sadeq, was the head of judiciary until last February. Javad Larijani is one of the oldest theoreticians

of the mullahs' terrorism. In 1994, on the anniversary of the fatwa for assassinating Salman Rushdie, he formulated the mullahs' state-sponsored terrorism as "a sort of new power," which also includes hostage-taking and issuing orders to kill foreigners. He wrote: "To date, the thinking was that political power must be defined based on military and economic strength. ... The Imam's fatwa [to kill Rushdie] showed that the source of political power is something different."

Larijani added, "If the world is realistic, it would have to acknowledge the dignity of Islam and Islamic rule based on such power, and not the level of economic progress."

We have documented more than 450 acts of terrorism outside of Iran by this regime since 2001, including 150 cases inside Iraq against the PMOI/MEK.

Another list of the mullahs' terrorism outside of Iran relates to the killing of PMOI/MEK and other Iranian groups in Iraqi Kurdistan, Pakistan, Turkey, Switzerland, Italy, France, Germany, Austria, and Cyprus.

Now, consider cases in another category of the clerical regime's terrorism: Hostage-taking and murdering

foreign nationals in Lebanon; bombings in Beirut in 1982, killing 241 American service members and 58 French military personnel, which was conducted under the supervision of an IRGC commander who later became the current president Hassan Rouhani's defense minister; killing innocent people in the streets of Paris in 1986; killing Haj pilgrims in Mecca in 1987; bombing in Argentina in 1994, using 275 kg of explosives against a Jewish center, and killing 88 people and injuring 151 more; the Khobar Tower bombing in 1996, which resulted in the killing of 19 and wounding of 500 American service members.

The IRGC has been involved directly in the killing of at least 608 American service members in Iraq. So, you can imagine the suffering inflicted inside Iran by the regime, on women, various ethnicities, and followers of other religions.

One example is the horrific crime committed by the mullahs' former deputy intelligence minister Saeed Hajjarian, an advisor to the regime's former president Mohammad Khatami and a theoretician of the phony reformists. One of the directors of the state-run media from a rival faction said the following about Hajjarian:

"One of these folks was once interrogating one of the PMOI/MEK members in the city of Shiraz. He [Hajjarian] tied the person to a tree and used a rope to tie the person's hand to a tractor. Then he drove the tractor until the person's arm split from their body."

These are the methods used by the regime, and it is how the regime has held onto power over more than 40 years through suppression and terrorism. Vilification and demonization is the flip side of the regime's terrorism because it sets the stage and paves the way for it.

In the past two years, the clerical regime has conducted a large number of terrorist plots and operations.

The two terrorist plots pursued by the regime in the spring and summer of 2018 against the Iranian Resistance are the largest terrorist designs of the regime's 40-year history in Europe. And they show that the regime views this Resistance and democratic alternative as the main threat to its survival. And it spares no crime to confront the Resistance; even to the extent that it uses its own formal officials to move explosives.

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TERRORISM

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Merely six days after the start of the December 2017 uprisings, the secretary of the regime's Supreme National Security Council, IRGC veteran Ali Shamkhani, said that the PMOI/ MEK "will be hit by Iran's reaction where they would have no idea."

After carrying out the bombing plot at the Resistance's rally, the regime reportedly planned to claim that the explosion was the work of the PMOI/ MEK itself and the result of their internal feuds. That is why, some time before this plot, notorious agents of the regime's intelligence service in Europe started spreading lies about "mysterious murders" within the PMOI/MEK.

Now that the case for one of the regime's large terrorist plots is being investigated in a European court, the opportunity is ripe for answering several fundamental questions in this regard.

First, what is the right policy and what is the right policy with respect to the regime's terrorism?

Second, what are the most important methods of this regime for committing such acts?

And, finally, what steps should be taken to confront it?

So far, western governments have made catastrophic mistakes in this regard. For example, they have played right into the regime's hands by acknowledging that its terrorism is a sign of its power and strength. However, there has always been a direct link between the escalation of uprisings and intensification of social and economic challenges on the one hand, and its resort to terrorism on the other.

Another mistake was the western government's appeasement of the regime in previous years. In fact, it was not the power of the regime that made the expansion of its terrorism and fundamentalism possible, it was this appeasement policy.

For their part, the ruling mullahs have interpreted western governments' appeasement or their turning a blind eye as a sign of weakness, encouraging them to increase their aggression.

Another mistake has been the false hope and expectation that perhaps the religious fascism will one day abandon its terrorism if it receives concessions or incentives. Or, perhaps there will be a sudden emergence of moderates from the camp of ruling savages who would nudge the regime toward reform and moderation. The murderers making up the regime, of course, put on masks of moderation long enough to take away all the concessions, and yet refused to abandon terrorism.

So, what has been and still is the right policy? Firmness.

Now, onto the second question: what are the most important methods and tactics used by the religious fascism to

advance its terrorist objectives in Europe?

The answer is the following:

- It takes advantage of the legal, diplomatic, banking, and technological means and tools, as well as the democratic conditions, made available by western countries;
- It benefits from the silence of

way. It is time to take steps to end this ignorance about the people of the world's fate, security, and peace:

1. All of the privileges and resources that the regime relies on to carry out its terrorist acts in Europe must be taken away from it. The regime's embassies must be closed.

be expelled from European countries.

5. Western governments must prevent their security and intelligence services from communicating with or contacting the regime's notorious Intelligence Ministry or its Qods Force, an exchange that only facilitates the entry of the regime's agents into Europe.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Ashraf 3, Albania, July 20 – Mrs. Rajavi waving to MEK members during the closing ceremonies of the three-day Free Iran Global Summit which connect 30,000 locations in 102 countries.

western governments in order to have deniability for its terrorist actions;

- It deceives western security agencies through devious intelligence cooperation, and uses such communications to protect its terrorists;
- It paints its agents as "political opponents" and hides its espionage and terrorist activities under the guise of "opposing the MEK."

And, finally, it propagates the illusion that if western governments show firmness, they would pay a heavy price for it. But, even in the past two years, the world saw that after the expulsion of the regime's ambassador to Albania, the expulsion of its diplomats from France and the Netherlands, the arrest of its diplomat in Germany, and also the elimination of the commander of the terrorist Qods Force, the regime has been forced to tread more carefully and limit its activities somewhat.

Terrorism is the essence and fundamental nature of this regime, and it is inseparable from it. Therefore, the end of its terrorism is inseparable from the end of the regime itself. The regime's terrorism grows and expands under the shadow of silence, denial, ignorance, turning a blind eye and looking the other

In its annual report released in June 2019, the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution of Germany (BfV) said: "In Germany, the headquarters of the Ministry of Intelligence at the Iranian Embassy in Berlin plays an important role in intelligence operations."

In a resolution in June of this year, a majority in the U.S. House of Representatives urged governments to prevent the malign activities of the Iranian regime's diplomatic missions, with the goal of closing the embassies down, including the Iranian Embassy in Albania.

2. The front companies, cultural and educational centers, religious associations and so-called mosques that are funded and supported by the Iranian regime are all centers that sustain the regime's espionage and terrorist activities, and so they must be exposed and closed down.

3. Any form of financial transactions internationally conducted by individuals or front companies of the mullahs' intelligence ministry or the Qods Force must be completely stopped.

4. The regime's agents and operatives who function under the cover of commercial, cultural, or religious activities, or pretend to be journalists or opponents, refugees, or citizens, must

6. Reports about the regime's terrorist plots, operations, and the identities of the Intelligence Ministry and terrorist Qods Force agents and operatives active on European soil must be published in full and publicized. Similarly, the identities of the regime's front entities or lobbies must be made public.

7. We urge all parliaments in Europe and also the U.S. Congress to pass effective legislation facilitating the expulsion of operatives of the regime's Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS) and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) from their countries.

I hope that all governments respond positively to these calls.

What the Iranian people and the Iranian Resistance have asked, and continue to ask, from these government is to stand firm against devious state-sponsored terrorism and the foremost sponsor and central banker of international terrorism.

Any act of firmness against this regime and any steps taken against it, anywhere in the world, will aid the Iranian's people's struggle to overthrow the regime, and is in line with international peace and security.

'Regime falls from the bottom up'

Rudy Giuliani,
Former Mayor of New York City

Madame Maryam Rajavi, first of all, let me congratulate you on the remarkable historic achievement on Friday of the virtual conference that you held. It was well over 100 countries, over 30,000 locations, millions of people participated. And I have been getting texts and messages from all over the world about it. Most importantly, broadcasting it right into Iran so that the people who are oppressed can understand the single most important thing they need to accomplish regime change, which is hope that was deprived them for many, many years.

A combination of your steadfast leadership and courage of you, the NCRI, the MEK, and now an American government that is not a government of appeasement, but a government that seeks the best for the Iranian people, where it's starting to feel, particularly with the situation inside Iran, that freedom is inevitable. All of the conditions that I've observed in countries that make the leap from totalitarianism to freedom, this is what precedes it. You've had now two years of demonstrations and protests that have been about political oppression, but also about economic oppression and about some of the most important things in life, the ability to feed yourself, feed your children, as well as to remain safe from just arbitrarily being shot and killed.

When this began back, a year and a half ago, the regime expected to put this out in very short order. But there were a couple of things that were different.

They were met with an American administration that didn't do what President Obama disgracefully did, turn his back when people were just asking for some words of hope, failing the test that Ronald Reagan set back in the '80s when he embraced solidarity in Poland. It took another six or seven years, but the critical moment for the fall of the Soviet Union, the Berlin Wall, the liberation of many of the countries that are now your strongest supporters in Eastern Europe because they understand liberty, having experienced totalitarianism. You have those conditions now in Iran.

Up until COVID-19 happened, the sanctions that had been imposed by the Trump administration were much more onerous, they're much more biting and

much more effective than the ones in the Obama administration, which I always felt were not enforced properly. Then also there was at the very end when they entered into that very, very dangerous, I believe immoral, nuclear agreement that would have sent Iran on the path to being a nuclear power in 10 years or less. They accompany that with a shipment of \$1.7 billion in cash. My government does not transport cash. Drug dealers organized criminals, mafia, revolutionary groups transport cash. Governments deal in wire transfers. There is something very wrong with this \$1.7 billion that Obama paid to a murderous regime. Something very wrong with it when you consider that Iran does three things with its money. That agreement is now over.

President Trump in one of the bold moves of his administration rejected it, and really instituted sanctions enforced by a Treasury Department that's serious about freedom for Iran.

That led to the protests. You need that to overthrow this regime. And now, the pictures in the street and the signs about overthrowing the Ayatollah, overthrowing the mullahs, and, as importantly, the pictures of Maryam Rajavi, of MEK, NCRI, even American flags. This is what happens when a regime falls from the bottom up. The conditions are there. It is going to happen. I do not know when. I would like to accelerate it because the first day that it happens is the first day people stop being killed, and particularly our people who are fighting for freedom.

But there is something that we can add to this that would really help, and it is an effort that we all have to make. We have got to get the European governments to finally support decency, to finally support what they supposedly stand for: democracy and freedom.

There is an alternative, and that alternative is demonstrating itself every day, including on Friday, by being able to do what you did and what you did last year in Ashraf and the year before when we were almost bombed in Paris. These gigantic world meetings that have so much impact. You show that you can stand up a government. You show that we would not have to delay a day. You have written an important chapter in how human beings strive for and obtain freedom, under the leadership of a truly great woman, Maryam Rajavi.



PHOTO CREDIT: SIAVOSH HOSSEINI-THE MEDIA EXPRESS

Washington, DC, July 17 – Iranians join the Free Iran Global Summit which linked 30,000 locations in 102 countries.

Iranian Embassies: 'outposts for organizing and covering terrorist activity'

Robert Torricelli,
Former U.S. Senator

Today, we are reminded how difficult that road has been. Not simply for the tens of thousands of martyrs who have lost their lives in Tehran, but what might have been if the terrorist plots of Tehran had come to pass. First, to the people at Ashraf, who the New Year's attempt at bombing would have taken your lives, Maryam Rajavi's, my friend Rudy Giuliani's, and a host of others, but for the leadership, the courage, and the skill of the Albanian government. A government and a people to which every Iranian,

indeed, all free people, will always be grateful for the role they have played in these many years and continue to play.

But look at the history of these years. If not just the attack that would have happened on Ashraf, the attack in Paris would have killed many from my country, a former prime minister of Canada and foreign minister, a former foreign minister of France, members of the cabinet and parliament from Great Britain, members of the Bundestag, members of the government of Italy, and a host of other nations. In another time, in another place, an attempt on that magnitude, on that number of people,

would be seen as an act of war.

My country has responded by putting the Quds Force on a terrorist list, and took decisive action against its leader, Soleimani. It is time that other nations consider their own positions. How can the governments of Western Europe not take similar actions knowing that an attempt was made on the lives of their highest ranking official and a peaceful democratic assembly in the heart of France? These embassies are no longer diplomatic outposts. They are outposts for organizing and covering terrorist activity.

It is extraordinary that the skill of the Austrian and German police and, of

course, the Albanian police prevented the loss of so many lives. It is time to close the embassies, close the consulates, put the Quds Force on a terrorist list, and pursue legal proceedings against those who would lead it and take these lives.

Finally, a word to our friends in journalism. A free press is vital to the maintenance of our freedoms. There is a shadow of public relations firms, operatives, and companies, across the globe, disseminating false information.

Only yesterday, one of the most respected journalists in America, Jake

'Ideology embraces terrorism as a tool of stagecraft'



John C. Rood,
Former U.S. Undersecretary
of Defense for Policy

Thank you very much for having me to speak to you today. First, let me compliment Mrs. Rajavi on that powerful address. It is also incredibly impressive the way that the organizers have brought together so many people from so many different locations in a very interconnected way. In today's world, with all the challenges we face in putting together this type of conference, it's impressive that you have overcome those challenges. You should feel very proud of the way that you have connected everyone.

Today, the Iranian regime remains the world's foremost state sponsor of terrorism. The regime also poses the greatest threat to the United States and our allies in the Middle East. Terrorism has been at the heart of the Iranian regime and part of its ideology since the 1979 Revolution

that brought Ayatollah Khomeini to power. This ideology embraces terrorism as a tool of stagecraft. It envisions spreading this revolution across the region, and the Supreme Leader, who is in power today, remains committed to this vision. We have seen the Iranian regime using Iranian forces and utilizing its embassies and people registered as diplomats to conduct and support terrorism across the Middle East and globally in Europe, Africa, Asia, even in North America and South America.

The regime in Tehran continues to provide a great deal of financial support to terrorists around the world, despite ongoing economic troubles for the people of Iran. As the U.S. State Department Coordinator for Counter-

war, Iran has been involved in proping up the Assad regime to include providing arms, training, advisors, and combat personnel. Throughout the conflict in Syria, in which over 500,000 civilians have been killed, Iranian forces have played a key support role in this appallingly brutal conflict that has included the use of chemical weapons by the Assad regime against his own people.

In Iraq, the regime in Tehran has backed Shia militias, like the Badr organization and Hezbollah, who have long served as reliable partners for conducting attacks on U.S. military personnel in Iraq. Using Iranian-provided weapons, these groups were responsible for over 600 U.S. personnel

this malign influence across the region.

It is very important that we continue the maximum pressure campaign that has been undertaken by the Trump administration, to deplete and limit the ability of the regime in Tehran to support terrorism and export its malign influence across the region. We have seen the maximum pressure campaign substantially reduce the ability of the regime to support terrorism abroad. As Mrs. Rajavi discussed, it is very important that this complex web of cutouts, front companies, individuals, and the financial tools that are used around the world must be targeted and attacked. Private sector companies need to be very careful in understanding who they are dealing with to prevent them from supporting these kinds of terrorist or illicit actions.

We need to continue to use U.S. military forces to work with partners in the region to deter and where necessary take steps like the strike on Qassem Soleimani to restore deterrence and to deter further terrorist attacks where we see that deterrence fraying.

We need to recognize that terrorism is a part of the fabric of this regime in Tehran. It has been since the start and remains so today. This means that things like Iranian Embassies and so-called diplomats will continue to be employed in supporting terror. Countries must act accordingly to very closely monitor and surveil the activities of those Iranian diplomats posted abroad, and in some cases like we have seen in Albania, they will need to shut down embassies that support terrorism.

We have seen the Iranian regime using Iranian forces and utilizing its embassies and people registered as diplomats to conduct and support terrorism across the Middle East and globally in Europe, Africa, Asia, even in North America and South America.

terrorism Nathan Sales pointed out in late 2018, at that time Iran provided close to \$1 billion annually in support to terrorist groups around the world. Just imagine the difference that that scale of spending could have made in improving the livelihood of the Iranian people at home had it not been spent on terrorism around the world.

The regime has had a policy of promoting terrorism and supporting proxied militias around the world. In Syria, since the early days of the civil

killed in Iraq between 2003 and 2011. Elsewhere in the region, Iran maintains strong ties to the terrorist group Hezbollah in Lebanon. In 2018, Iranian operatives were arrested for planning attacks in Denmark, France, Albania. And authorities in Austria, Belgium and German arrested operatives planning attacks.

In so many areas, the regime is just not on the same page as the Iranian people, who do not support the regime backing terrorism or trying to spread

TORRICELLI

From page C49

Tapper of CNN, wrote a report, published a tweet, and later withdrew it after receiving false information from a regime operative. This is happening every day. The humiliation of *Der Spiegel*, one of the world's great publications, citing information patently false, directly from Tehran, and having to have been ordered by a German court to remove it. And I'm embarrassed to tell you the same would have happened with the *New York Times*, but for the fact that our

laws and constitution are different, and the courts cannot as readily undertake such action.

This Iranian regime will use any means to manipulate you and get false stories in print. It is happening again and again. Not simply to the embarrassment of *Der Spiegel* or the *New York Times*, their own humiliations are not the price. The price is that it prevents the proper international coalition of individuals, gathering of thoughts, building of momentum, pressure on the regime. In the end it means lives. It means lost time in the freedom of the Iranian people. Please exercise the highest standards and real caution.

Our ultimate obligation to all those who have died in these terrorist acts and may yet be victims in these final days or months of the regime before it falls is accountability. There will be. I know in Tehran many think that their acts, their criminal acts are beyond reproach. They can hide behind the Revolutionary Guards, and the long arm of justice will never find you. But Justice is coming.

The long arm of justice reaches far, and the memory is very, very long. And most of us will not rest in this life until it reaches you.

To the Albanian people and your government, God bless you. We will be grateful to you every day. To the

law enforcement officials in Germany, Austria, Albania, and a host of other countries that have thwarted these terrorist acts, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. To those of you who are administering the great governments and the extraordinary nations of Western Europe, think again about your position. Your history is too great, your culture too strong, your commitment to the law too profound to allow embassies that hide terrorists and take lives and subvert your free press be allowed to operate in these great capitals. Think again about your position.

Mullahs are 'central bank of terrorism,' embassies the 'branch banks'

**Tom Ridge,
First U.S. Secretary of
Homeland Security, Former
Governor of Pennsylvania**

I applaud Madame Rajavi. I applaud the distinguished guests. And I applaud the men and women and the patriots in Ashraf 3.

The global summit may be, at least to date, unprecedented in its scale and its mission. Think about this for a moment, the organizational creativity, ingenuity, and the technical skills that brought together individuals from over 100 countries at 30,000 locations in support of the NCRI, in support of the patriots of Ashraf, in support of the freedom-loving people of Iran, I don't believe to date that any enterprise or any organization, large or small, government or private sector, has undertaken such an extraordinary effort with such unique and powerful results. One would think that if you take that ingenuity and creativity and commitment to excellence and that positive reach and positive connection globally, if you took that mindset that exists outside of Iran and you relocate it inside Iran, what a different, positive place the country would be at this point. Particularly, you build on the history of Persia, and build on the incredible educational

capabilities and intellect of the Iranian people. You take all that and put it on the history and the foundation of the existing population within Iran, what an incredible place Iran would be and how it would reemerge in the global community as the peace-loving, intellectual leader.

The tentacles of terrorism still reach out from Tehran. Rouhani, the mullahs, and their oppressive regime have turned their backs on the people of Iran. They probably have squandered billions of dollars, as President Bush said back in 2002, they were part of the axis of evil, spreading their evil with those tentacles of terrorism throughout the world. Instead of using those dollars that they had at their disposal to enhance the quality of life of the citizens of Iran to improve educational opportunities to help people remove themselves from the restraints of poverty, they've used it to continue to export their terrorism and repression around the world. Let us make no mistake about it. Permit me to start with the countries where their tentacles have reached and influenced. There is a hidden occupation of Iran in Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, as far as Argentina, Lebanon. And I know I am missing many more, but that's just the point.

The mullahs and Rouhani oversee the central bank of terrorism. Their

embassies in many of the countries have become branch banks. It is within those embassies that logistical support for spies and terrorists are made. It is within those embassies that they stimulate chaos and anti-government activity, specifically anti-Western activity.

We have also learned over the past several years that appeasement doesn't work. I just completed several books on Churchill. One of the chapters focused on Neville Chamberlain's multiple meetings with Hitler and his announcement that, "peace is at hand," after the final meeting concluded. And we know how appeasement to that rapacious, oppressive, individual worked out. But we have got to learn some lessons from history. Appeasement with the Iranian government will not lead to peace. It never has, and it never will. So, we need to ask these countries where they've established these embassies to rid themselves of their diplomatic corps, particularly in those countries where we can identify terrorist activity, much of it built and designed to undermine those governments in and of themselves.

It is time for the world to embrace regime change. It's time for the world to recognize that within the NCRI, this incredible organization led by a leader who has been able to generate global support for her vision, a non-nuclear Iran that understands and promotes

gender equality, freedom of speech, separation of religion and state. So, I say to those who have participated during the past three days of this unprecedented summit, for those who continue to publicly, loudly, and consistently proclaim their support for the NCRI and for the freedom-loving people of Iran, that I'm very proud to be part of this group. It grows larger and more global every year.

I will say finally to the residents of Ashraf 3. I have heard many stories about your individual acts of bravery and sacrifice. And I've known full well what you've endured at Ashraf 1 and Ashraf 2, and I'm grateful that the people of Albania and the government of Albania has embraced you and given you a place to at least call your temporary home until we meet again in Tehran. But the struggle, the sacrifice, and your commitment frankly is an inspiration to all of us who have joined together over the past decade plus to see to it that someday you have the opportunity to return and rebuild on the history and the tradition of the glorious world of Persia a new and peace-loving Iran.

I am pleased to be on that mission with you. And I plan on staying with you as all of the others who have participated in this three-day global summit to remain with you until we achieve victory, and when we'll be dancing together in the streets of Tehran.

Close 'spy network' embassies now

**Ted Poe,
Former Member, U.S. House
of Representatives**

Thank you Madame Rajavi. Thank you for your leadership. History will record you as one of the people in all of human history who stood up for freedom. You will be counted among the few leaders who stood up for freedom, never gave in, and never gave up. It's an honor to address you and other freedom fighters throughout the world. I enjoyed visiting with you some years ago and look forward to Camp Ashraf 4 in Tehran, the sooner the better.

This battle for liberty has been going on for 40 years. During all of that time, there's never been any accountability for the regime's murder, mayhem, pillage, and evil. Whether it's 1988, 2000, 2009,



or 2017, they've never been held accountable for these actions of evil throughout the world.

The embassies are being used, as

was said, as a spy network, as a forward operating base for the IRGC's terrorism. These embassies are being used as a military base. We are letting a foreign

enemy, terrorist enemy, into our countries, and all we do is send them back home. No, close them down now.

Congress' recent resolution, House Bill 374, condemns the current regime and supports the Iranian people. That's what it's all about, beginning with the Declaration of Independence: That governments are instituted among people to secure those rights. And if a government becomes destructive to those ends, it is the right, the right of the people, to alter or abolish that government. So, we have the human right to change that government when it has become destructive.

The mullahs must go. Regime is about to topple, and it's time we help it do that. And so, we must fight that virus and fight that plague. Be strong, be courageous, you daughters of democracy and you sons of liberty. Thank you.

'False narrative' against MEK proves resistance's strides

J. Adam Erel,
Former U.S. Ambassador to
Bahrain, Principal Deputy
Assistant Secretary of State for
Educational and Cultural Affairs

It's so inspiring to see that not even the world's worst pandemic since 1918 has stopped you from assembling to remind the world that not only is there an organized and strong resistance to the clerical regime that rules Tehran today, but equally importantly, there is a government ready to take over tomorrow.

The MEK has done a great deal for the people of Iran and for the world. But, perhaps the greatest testimony to your effectiveness is the fact that the Iranian regime hates you so much and will stop at nothing to destroy you. That speaks volumes. It says that they consider you a threat and, frankly, whatever's bad for the Iranian regime is good for the rest of the world.

We talked a lot during the proceedings about the Iranian government's use of embassies abroad, of diplomats, of intelligence, of civilian government tools to terrorize not only its opponents, but those who support you such as the United States and governments of Europe. Again, that's a testimony to the MEK's effectiveness and power. What has accelerated this hostility is, in addition to what you were doing outside of Iran, is what is happening inside Iran. We've seen over the past year and a half that the Iranian people are fed up with the mullahs and are rising up. Despite all their efforts to stop people from speaking out against the Islamic regime and the principles of



the Islamic revolution, the people of Iran, your relatives, are not stopping. They're going stronger than ever, and it doesn't look like anything can stop them.

I served as a U.S. diplomat in the Middle East for over 25 years and as the U.S. Ambassador to Bahrain. I can tell you that I saw firsthand, what you all know too well, that the Iranian regime has a sophisticated and coordinated plan to spread terror and violence and destabilization throughout the region. They practice what they preach, and will use the kind of repression and violence that they use against their own people against anybody who disagrees with them, whether they're Iranian or not.

The MEK and your efforts have been instrumental in exposing this conspiracy of terror by the government of Tehran over many years. You've had some very important successes, disrupting the Iranian regime's terrorist activities, so they tried to destroy, discredit and demonize

you in and out of Iran. They have funded information campaigns against you. They have tried to convince journalists, governments, and think tanks, that the MEK is an outlaw organization that doesn't represent Iranians and has no following inside Iran. Well, again, the fact that they're saying this indicates to me that the opposite is true. Otherwise, they wouldn't be spending all this money and effort to present a false narrative.

So, where should we go from here? This is maybe the fourth or fifth gathering that I've joined, and you have been waging the struggle for a whole lot longer. I will offer only a couple of suggestions, number one, the power of Iran lies in its people. The United States and the friends of Iran and the MEK in Europe and elsewhere need to do everything they can to empower the Iranian people, support their struggle for freedom, and support opposition movements on the frontlines. This is how we build a more prosperous and peaceful Iran along the lines of Madame Rajavi's 10-Point Plan. The second thing, we need to pay more attention to countering the propaganda campaign against the MEK, against what you represent, against what you're doing. In addition to trying to bomb or murder you into silence, the Iranian regime is trying to out propagandize you. What's important for us to do is to tell the truth about the Iranian opposition, to share what we see in our gatherings such as this, and to allow the rest of the world to understand that the Iranian people want something better for their country. That vision is represented by all of you, by Madame Rajavi, and by the great work you are doing.

I'll conclude by saying congratulations

for defying nature and having a gathering of this size, this importance, this significance and impact, in the most difficult of circumstances. It is a reflection of your passion, of your commitment, and of your dedication to what is a very worthy and noble cause. And thank you, Madame Rajavi for your leadership and for the example that you set for all of us.



Day coming soon that 10-point plan is in effect

Grida Duma,
Member of Parliament of
Albania and Former Deputy
Minister of European integration

Madam Rajavi represents a hope for treasure, not only for freedom of Iran, but for the freedom of each Iranian individual. Action against Iran's malign behavior is necessary. Albania expelled Iran's ambassador and intelligence attaché in 2018. The regime spends billions of dollars to support the Assad regime and its proxies in other countries.

Iranians have rejected both theocracy and monarchists. I support Madam Rajavi's 10-point plan. I have no doubt that soon the day will come that Madam Rajavi will be able to put her plan into effect. We thank you for giving us the chance to be on the right side of history.



Endri Hasa,
Member of Parliament of Albania

Mrs. Rajavi, honorable guests, dear friends, it's an honor for me to participate in this event. I would like to express my full support and solidarity for the

Regime 'left innocent people of Iran undefended against pandemic'

Iranian people's struggles and aspirations for freedom and democracy. The whole world has witnessed how many innocent Iranian people have lost their lives fighting for a free, democratic, and secular Iran. We strongly condemn the killing of thousands of innocent Iranian people from the existing regime.

Today, the world is facing huge difficulties because of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the situation in Iran has become even worse. The Iranian regime, engulfed in political, economic,

and social crises, has left innocent people of Iran undefended against pandemic. The Iranian regime must be held responsible. We stand beside the Iranian people by continuing to hold legitimate and peaceful protests against an oppressive and corrupt regime. We stand firm against all kinds of repression, terrorism, and export of fundamentalism from the Iranian regime. We will continue to advocate for an Iran that is non-nuclear, democratic, secular and free.

Overthrow 'policy of hatred'



**Struan Stevenson,
Former President of European
Parliament's Delegation
for Relations with Iraq**

Let me start by thanking the Albanian government, thanking the Albanian people, for their courage in playing host to the PMOI inside Albania. Thank you also for your decisive action against the terrorist Iranians in expelling their ambassador and first secretary. I would ask you now in one final thing, please close the embassy in Tirana and get rid of these agents of terror.

Hitler's thousand-year Reich only lasted 12 years. On that basis, the Iranian regime is well past its sell-by date. The 1979 Revolution in Iran which overthrew the despotic rule of the Shah was quickly hijacked by the mullahs and their psychotic figurehead, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Khomeini appointed himself as God's representative on earth, changing Iranian society overnight and giving birth to what is now known as Islamic fundamentalism. Khomeini's legacy of repression and corruption has been steadfastly maintained ever since. For the past 41 years, the mullahs' revolutionary creed of radicalized Islam in reality boils down to a policy of hatred.

Founded on hatred, this theocratic fascist dictatorship has wrecked the Iranian economy, plundered the people's wealth, ruined the environment, and turned this

once great nation into an international pariah. Deploying their Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corp, the IRGC, the regime's Gestapo, the mullahs have unleashed a homicidal blitz on their own population, crushing dissent, wantonly murdering and maiming thousands of peaceful protestors. Iran's jails are bursting at the seams with political prisoners, many of them young students, male and female, arrested during the most recent nationwide uprising in November 2019.

The main targets for arrest, torture, and execution are always supporters of the principal opposition movement, the People's Mojahedin of Iran, the PMOI, and their families. Over the past four decades, 120,000 of its members and supporters have been executed. Dozens more have been assassinated outside of Iran. The latest wave of arrests and hard prison sentences for PMOI supporters and their families has laid bare the mullahs' fear of the people who are now seething with rage at their criminal rulers. Iran has become a dangerous powder keg ready to explode.

Last week, the trial began in Belgium of Assadollah Assadi, a diplomat from the Iranian Embassy in Vienna. Assadi was filmed handing over 500 grams of high explosives and a detonator to an Iranian couple from Antwerp, ordering them to bomb our great annual gathering at Villepinte near Paris in June, 2018. He and his conspirators have been in jail for the past few years awaiting trial, but the question has to be asked, who gave Assadi the orders to bomb the NCRI gathering? As foreign minister, Javad Zarif is in charge of Iran's army of ambassadors and diplomatic staff. In June 2018, he was therefore responsible for the orders given to Assadollah Assadi.

And this was not the only plot involving his diplomatic staff. As we heard,

Albanian intelligence officers uncovered a plan to detonate a bomb at a Nowruz gathering of PMOI members in Tirana. Two MOIS agents, together with the Iranian ambassador and first secretary, were expelled from the country by the Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama. Even Zarif could not have taken the order to carry out such terror attacks without the consent and approval of Rouhani and the Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei. All of them must now be held to account, indicted for acts of terror, and tried before the International Criminal Courts. And all of the mullahs' embassies, which they use as bomb factories and launch pads for terror attacks, must be closed immediately.

The terrorist attacks on the NCRI and the PMOI go right to the heart of the media as well. The regime is so frightened by the truth of the PMOI's popularity inside Iran, that it goes crazy if it sees any positive media coverage. Following last Friday's huge global gathering, Mrs. Rajavi's speech was broadcast live on Iran international TV. The mullahs went mad, ordering their agents and lobbyists around the world to bully TV channels. They cannot stand the thought of Mrs. Rajavi, who is respected as a leader in Iran, to be seen or heard on television. They spewed out insults and abusive language on social media. They recognized no right for the media to decide on what they should show or who they should interview.

Now disgracefully, some newspapers and TV channels like Der Spiegel, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, and Channel 4 News, have been seduced by the regime's demonization campaign against the PMOI. So, I encourage the press to take their journalistic principles seriously. And as my colleague, David Jones, said earlier, we want the BBC to open its airways not to the mullahs, but to the Iranian speakers and convey the spirit of the Iranian

resistance. This is what the British people and their cross party representatives in the UK Parliament want to see happen.

The time has come to pull down the curtain on this murderous regime. After 41 years of tyranny, the Iranian regime's sell-by date has expired. The mullahs and their Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei have earned their place in the trash can of history every other failed tyrant.



'Freedom and democracy will return to your country soon'

**Orjola Pampuri,
Member of Parliament of Albania**

This grand gathering is an important meeting as all of you represent to the world how much the Iranian people are suffering and how much you are doing to help them, to help your country to be free.

We know that your women are doubly oppressed. We know that your children are suffering, some of them have lost one or both of their parents. Some of them have no food and no possibility to study. They survive working on the streets.

Your beautiful country is suffering for freedom, for a good living. You need someone who thinks and works for you and your welfare, and no one else can do it better than Madam Rajavi.

You should know that we are with you. We support the MEK and their goals to establish freedom and democracy in Iran. We are sure that freedom and democracy will return to your country soon. We will be so happy for your deserved victory, and your victory would be our victory.

'You are our brothers and sisters'

**Namik Kopliku,
Former Member of
Parliament of Albania**

As a representative of the Iranian-Albanian Association, I would like to emphasize that there are thousands of Ashrafs in Albania. You have support not only in Albania, but the entire

international community. This will help us, under the leadership of Madam Rajavi, to have freedom and democracy in Iran very soon. We do not consider you as temporary residents of Albania. You are our brothers and sisters. We are with you. We know what it means to fight for freedom and democracy. We will always be on your side.



Shared values of freedom and democracy

Fatbarda Kadiu,
Member of Parliament of
Albania

Greetings to all the Iranians in Iran and abroad. We are grateful that coronavirus did not prevent this event, especially at the time that Iranian resistance is closer to its final victory than ever.

Iran is a great nation with great civilization which has contributed so much to the world. Unfortunately, it has been taken hostage by dictatorial regimes. The news of arrests of those protesting in November 2019 is horrifying.

The regime has not been brought to justice for its many crimes in 1988, and is committing a new kind of massacre



against its citizens. I think that the democratic societies should never

remain silent with regimes of this kind under any kind of pretext.

Together, we should stand with the Iranian Resistance and with Iranian citizens to form a new government and make changes to establish democracy in their own country.

Albanians share core values including democracy and freedom. We support you in any of your steps in order that you can reach victory. When I say victory, I mean the freedom of Iran and a democratic government in Iran. We are with you, the people of Ashraf 3, the people of MEK, and let's hope that very soon Iran will be free and all the Iranian people will be free.



'The light of the truth can't be destroyed'

Zhani Ciko,
Renowned Albanian composer

Some outlets try to hide the truth, but they can't do it because the light of the truth can't be destroyed. We declare our solidarity with you, support the brave actions of the Albanian government to support the Iranian Resistance, and condemn the terrorist activities of Iranian regime diplomats. These actions deserve the expelling of regime authorities from our country. I express my solidarity with this conference.

'Women who sacrificed their lives for freedom will never be forgotten'



Diana Culi,
Renowned Albanian writer,
journalist, and politician

The world knows very well the atrocities of the Iranian regime, and the Iranian society is on the verge of an uprising. I had many conversations with the residents of Ashraf. I met wonderful women in Ashraf who had made the choice to fight for the freedom of their country since their youth. They love their country and want their people to be happy. The women who

sacrificed their lives for freedom will never be forgotten.

Mrs. Rajavi has a vision for a modern Iranian society based on equality. I'm happy I had the chance to understand the history of the MEK and why they never rest to bring change in their country. We stand firm against the Iranian regime's terrorism and fundamentalism in Albania and elsewhere. We stand with the MEK and NCRI, and Madam Rajavi.

'We should not be silent'



Sevim Arbana,
Nobel Peace Prize Candidate
for 2005 and women's
rights advocate

The hatred against the members of the resistance and the MEK is manifested into criminal acts against those who oppose the regime. It must stop. We should not be silent, especially the human rights activists. We call on everyone to speak up. It is time to fight for true democracy in the world and in Iran.

I have supported the Iranian Resistance for years, and am very optimistic that Madam Rajavi's program, her 10 points for equality, will establish freedom and democracy in today's Iran.

'Quest for freedom in Iran'



Drita Avdyli,
Former Deputy Minister and
Current Chairwoman of National
Chamber of Mediation of Albania

I am thrilled to be the first person to say welcome to all members of opposition who live in Tirana. We all know that Iranian diplomats have been expelled from Albania for their involvement in terrorism. These madmen tried to kill MEK members in Albania. If the regime cannot tolerate its opponents thousand kilometers away from home, you can imagine how they react to the resistance inside Iran and around them. They do threaten, terrorize, and kill to remain in

PHOTO CREDIT: SHUAK TV

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‘Eradicate this deviant policy from its roots’

**Riyadh Yassin,
Yemeni Ambassador to
France and Former Foreign
Minister of Yemen**

Let me extend my greetings and gratitude to the free people of Iran and to the National Council of Resistance and the combatant lady, Maryam Rajavi, and to the participants of today's program. On this occasion, I would like to speak about the continuation of the clear and impudent meddling of the Iranian regime, which is done aggressively in the region.

The exposed and condemned interference of the clerical regime in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Bahrain, and Yemen has added to the complexity of the problems, preventing the possibility of achieving peaceful and negotiated solutions. This regime wants nothing but to impose its domination and hegemony and to defeat the people by force and violence, and by means of supporting armed militias such as Hezbollah and the Houthis and other terrorists.

The regime continues to support the Houthi militias in Yemen unabatedly, especially since the Houthi coup and the



takeover of Yemen by force of arms. The regime supports them by launching ballistic missiles and explosive drones within Yemen and against Yemen's neighbors, in addition to threatening the most important international waterways such as Bab-el-Mandeb and the Strait of Hormuz and so on.

Khomeini's expansionist policy has taken a hostile and malevolent path with everyone. It is the highest level of violence and the use of false and

misleading slogans to cover up those lies and deceptions. Some people were deceived in the past by the pretense of the Iranian regime's policies and their hollow claims, but what is happening today is that the free people of Iran are rising up every day, giving martyrs, and making sacrifices and the regime is rotting from within. Just as the representatives of the Iranian regime, such as Hezbollah and the Houthis, are defeated and retreat, we see the situation in Lebanon and Yemen.

The important question we must ask today is what we can do to stop and rein in the Iranian regime. While the regime is trying to create crises and futile wars, and in spite of various efforts by some who are optimistic about containing the regime and giving it a chance and expressing their good faith, I believe that there remains only one solution which would eradicate this deviant policy from its roots, and that is to stand by the Iranian resistance.

We are confident that the free people of Iran, who want peace and stability, will soon prevail, and with their victory, Iranian interference will cease.



‘Mutual respect and understanding’ in Ashraf 3

**Emiriana Sako,
Mayor of Durrës**

The extensive presence of international dignitaries in this gathering shows global attention to the Iranian Resistance. I also join to express my support for the Iranian people's struggle for freedom and democracy. We, in Albania, are hosting the Mojahedin-e Khalq, as is the Albanian tradition of opening our door to people whose lives are in danger.

The Iranian dissidents have been part of our community in Manza, close to Durres municipality, for three years. During these years, they have developed friendly relationships with the local community. There is mutual respect and understanding between our communities. In these difficult times, I would like to say the Ashraf 3 has played a positive role in our area by providing humanitarian aid to the local residents. I would also like to thank Ashraf 3 for their help during the earthquake in November 2019. We are hopeful that the residents of Ashraf 3 can return to their country very soon when freedom and democracy is restored in Iran.



**Bassam Al Omoush,
Former Jordanian Minister and
former Ambassador to Iran**

Iran has a long and proud history. But from the first day Khomeini came to power, he declared its intent to export its

‘Regime must not stay in power’

“revolution.” This was not just a simple slogan; it has been implemented.

The Iranian regime entered Iraq, Lebanon, Yemen, Syria, and even peaceful countries, like Jordan, and tried to set up armed militias. They intervened in Morocco, in Algeria, and in Sudan.

Iran is a rich country, but its wealth is spent on Hezbollah and the Houthis. The Iranian people are more deserving of this money.

How would the Iranian people benefit from nuclear weapons? This is a journey into the abyss.

The regime calls itself religious, but kills children in Syria and Yemen, among other places. Islam has nothing to do

with these practices. Islam advocates production, rebuilding, and providing assistance to our neighbors. Who chose Khamenei? Who chose Khomeini? We do not accept anyone to speak in the name of God.

This regime must not stay in power. We must raise our voice and Arab governments must exert pressure and take a stand.

They lie to the Iranian people, lie to the region, lie about Islam, and lie about Palestine.

When you are strong, you will be strong in the unity of your ranks, and this is why I invite Mrs. Maryam Rajavi to unite the Iranian people's ranks.

The cruelty is a mainstay for a regime that supports and funds international terrorism. The regime wants to scare people throughout Iran to prevent another uprising to change the regime. As they did two months ago when the regime arrested eight students in the university

for supporting the MEK. Now, they want to execute these students. This is also to scare those students in Iran. We have experienced this in Albania as well. The cruelty will not work and will not silence people's quest for freedom in Iran.

Mrs. Rajavi, as you know, Albania is a

second home for Iranian opposition. Albania is happy to host the viable and democratic opposition to the Iranian regime. We know that with a leader like you, Iran will win its freedom and a democratic system. And next year, we will have a conference in a free Iran.

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power. In July, Iranian regime executed a man in Iran just for drinking alcohol.

Time to prepare for Iranian Regime accountability

Statement by American dignitaries to the July 17, 2020, rally at Ashraf III, Albania

The days of religious fundamentalists controlling Iran are numbered. These clerics have remained in power since 1979 by brutalizing all who do not embrace their extremist constitution, who demand to think and speak for themselves, including about matters of religious faith, and who desire for their fellow Iranians a future of dignity and freedom. The regime has denied its citizens that future, and the rights that, for every human being, are inalienable.

Not just the rights, but the lives of Iran's citizens are being sacrificed for the empowerment of a dysfunctional and rapacious theocracy. Just as it did in suppressing with lethal force innocent citizens expressing political dissent in 1981, 1988, 1999, and 2009, the regime has answered the country-wide demonstrations and protests since December 2017 with bullets and prison cells. Every act of defiance and protest is a courageous call for liberty, and a rebuke to an illegitimate and isolated regime.

The regime's atrocities are not limited to the Iranian citizens trapped within the country's borders. Iran has also become a staging area for hostile operations directed against governments throughout the Middle East and beyond. Every year since 1984, Iran has been the leading state sponsor of international terrorism. The list of Iranian-sponsored terrorist activities continues to grow across Asia, Europe, and North America. As we now know, the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS) attempt to bomb an anti-Iranian government demonstration near Paris in 2018 was prevented by the joint law enforcement efforts of three European nations. In the space of a few months, MOIS actions were interdicted by authorities in Denmark, Belgium, France, Germany, Austria, and Albania.

In 2019, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) was designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) by the U.S. government. The designation was long overdue. The IRGC was responsible for the Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia in 1996, which killed 19 and injured 500 U.S. service members. As documented by the U.S. Department of Defense, the IRGC was directly involved in 608 American service members' deaths in Iraq since 2003. Hezbollah, under the supervision of an IRGC brigadier who later emerged as President Rouhani's Defense Minister, conducted the 1983 Beirut barracks bombings, which resulted in deaths of 241 U.S. and 58 French service members.

Evidence implicates Iran's top leaders in the most destructive terror bombings in Argentina's history, in 1992 and 1994. The regime has conducted assassinations of its critics in the U.S., Germany, France, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Turkey, Austria, and Sweden. Commencing in 2009, Tehran's client government in Iraq and Iranian-backed proxy militias were responsible for three ground assaults on Camp Ashraf and multiple rocket attacks on Camp Liberty, where the defenseless men and women of the Iranian opposition organization Mojahedin-e Khalq (MEK) were awaiting U.N. processing as refugees, and supposedly under the protection of the Iraqi government. The most deadly event was the September 2013 Ashraf massacre, murdering 51 unarmed dissidents and kidnapping seven who were never heard from again. Analysis of the weapons, methods, and precision of strikes confirmed IRGC involvement.

Unlike many governments, the leading figures in this evil regime have been in positions of authority for years, decades even. The senior officials at whose direction police murder citizens on the streets and wrongfully arrest innocent people, prison officials torture and execute citizens whose only crime has been expressing the desire for political and religious freedom, and judges enable government tyranny and twist the rule of law, must now be held accountable. These criminals have abused the privileges of sovereignty to achieve impunity for their crimes against humanity for 43 years.

There is a beacon of hope in this dark landscape. The one organization that has done more than any other entity, including governments, to free Iranian citizens from tyranny and the world from fundamentalist-inspired terrorism is the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI). The NCRI strives relentlessly to ensure that hope for democracy and an end to injustice remains alive in Iran. Additionally, with continual media outreach, publications, and meetings, it sustains international attention on the ongoing assault against humanity.

Albert Einstein, who would have been lost to the Holocaust had he not resettled in America in the 1930s, stated, "The world is a dangerous place to live, not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who do not do anything about it." We call upon governments that live by democratic principles to act now on a coordinated initiative to bring accountability to individuals bearing responsibility for gross human rights abuses.

The NCRI and its affiliate organization, the MEK, have endured unspeakable horrors from the Iranian regime. The NCRI and MEK have kept very thorough documentation of the atrocities committed against themselves and the Iranian people. MEK's Ashraf 3 museum in Albania has compiled a remarkable display and repository of evidence, staffed by victims bearing personal witness to the depraved modalities of regime torture. The MEK's documentation is securely backed up in other countries.

While the U.S. and other governments contemplate policies to deter and contain Iranian threats and aggression, they can and must act to bring accountability to people with the blood of so many Iranians on their hands. Ample precedent exists that leaders cannot claim sovereign immunity for their crimes against humanity. We recommend countries that have been victimized by Iranian-government sponsored terrorism, including the U.S. and its European allies, send teams of experts to study the evidence at Ashraf 3 while organizing their own evidence for eventual use in international tribunal proceedings.

Justice delayed is justice denied. Einstein's admonition requires action. So do the principles by which we define ourselves as Americans. By signaling that a day of reckoning awaits the Tehran regime's most brutal actors, and that these men will never again walk free in the world, we will be sending the most powerful signal of hope and solidarity to the Iranian people, and to all who espouse freedom and justice.

Respectfully,

Amb. J. Kenneth Blackwell

*Former U.S. Representative,
United Nations Human
Rights Commission*

Hon. Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr.

*Former U.S. Asst. Sec. of State
for Political-Military Affairs*

Colonel (Ret.)

Thomas V. Cantwell

*Former U.S. Military
Commander for Camp Ashraf*

General (Ret.) George Casey

*Former U.S. Army Chief of
Staff and Commander of
Multi-National Forces - Iraq*

Hon. Linda Chavez

*Former Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison; Chairman of
the Center for Equal Opportunity*

Colonel (Ret.) John Cirafici

Former Defense Attaché, Algiers

General (Ret.) James Conway

Former USMC Commandant

Lt. Gen. (Ret.) David Deptula

*Former Deputy COS for Intel,
Surveillance, and Reconnaissance,
U.S. Air Force*

Professor Alan Dershowitz

*Professor of Law,
Harvard Law School*

Hon. Louis J. Freeh

Former FBI Director

Hon. Newt Gingrich

Former Speaker of the House

Hon. Marc Ginsberg

*Former U.S. Ambassador
to Morocco and WH
Middle East Adviser*

Hon. Rudy Giuliani

Former NYC Mayor

Hon. Porter Goss

*Former CIA Director,
Former Chairman of
House Intel Committee*

General (Ret.) James L. Jones

*Former USMC Commandant,
NATO Commander, National
Security Advisor to the President*

Hon. Robert Joseph

*Former Undersecretary of
State for Arms Control and
International Security*

Hon. Patrick Kennedy

Former U.S. Representative

Hon. Joseph I. Lieberman

Former U.S. Senator

Colonel (Ret.)

Wesley M. Martin

*Former Senior Antiterrorism
Officer, Coalition Forces - Iraq*

Lt. Col. (Ret.) Leo McCloskey

*Former U.S. Military
Commander for Camp Ashraf*

Hon. R. Bruce McCollm

*President, Institute for
Democratic Strategies*

Colonel (Ret.)

Dr. Gary Morsch

*Former Senior Medical
Officer at Ashraf*

Hon. Michael B. Mukasey

Former U.S. Attorney General

Hon. Ted Poe

Former U.S. Representative

Hon. Mitchell B. Reiss

*Former Ambassador, Special
Envoy for Northern Ireland*

Hon. Tom Ridge

*Former PA Governor, Former U.S.
Secretary of Homeland Security*

Hon. John Sano

*Former CIA Deputy Director for
National Clandestine Service*

Professor

Ivan Sascha Sheehan, Ph.D.

*Executive Director School
of Public and International
Affairs, Univ. of Baltimore*

Hon. Eugene R. Sullivan

Retired Federal Judge

Hon. Robert Torricelli

Former U.S. Senator

General (Ret.)

Charles (Chuck) Wald

*Former Deputy Commander
U.S. European Command*